

EDUCATION in EMERGENCY PROGRAMME



ISSUE

The recent ethnic strife of June 2010 has directly affected the education of 83,000 students and the working conditions of 5,000 teachers in 490 schools. This situation has led to enormous uncertainty and parents were no longer confident sending their children to schools mainly due to Fear. The continuity of education was under the thread.

Right after the events, Uzbek textbooks were removed from many of the schools with Uzbek language of instruction. But, there was no replacement for this. Children in these schools suffered because of that as learning process in Kyrgyzstan is mainly based on textbooks. At the same time the overall textbook shortage in the country is about 40%.

ACTION

UNICEF used the funds of Russian Federation and The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (DFID) to minimize the impact of the emergency on children's education.

All the 585 schools of Osh province conducted community-led peace building activities including sport, art, photo-exhibitions, concerts and plays, friendship festivals, extra-curriculum classes, round-tables, debates and joint community-school social projects on improvement of the school gardens.

Children's psychosocial and developmental needs were addressed through newly created 15 pre-school children friendly spaces.

700 students of former Tolstoy secondary school were provide with transportation to and from a neighbouring Uzbek school during the winter period.

The local administrations, emergency departments and education authorities learnt how to develop education emergency preparedness, response and recovery plans.

To address a lack of textbooks in Kyrgyz and Uzbek language in schools, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Education and Science to print school textbooks both in Kyrgyz and Uzbek languages for selected secondary schools of Batken, Jalal-Abad and Osh provinces.

IMPACT

The non-interruption of the school education sped up the return to the normalcy in the community. The supplies and trainings helped every child regardless of ethnic and social background to fulfill the right to education.