



## News Digest and Resources

Issue № 1,

January- March 2010

### Evaluation of how the health system helps parents to care for and support the development of their children

Preliminary data, analysis, strengths and lessons learned have been collected from the recent evaluation of the Care for Development Module of Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses in Kyrgyzstan, and have been presented to policy makers and practitioners in the areas of health, nutrition and early childhood development. The evaluation shows the health system's role in sharing positive care and parenting messages with families.

*Please see the main presentation (available in Russian and English) on:*

[http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ru/Care-Development\\_Engle\\_Rus.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ru/Care-Development_Engle_Rus.pdf)

[http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/Care-Development\\_Engle\\_Eng.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/Care-Development_Engle_Eng.pdf)

### Research on use of vitamin and mineral powder in Talas Province

The internal and external monitorings on use of the vitamin and mineral powder *Gulyazyk* among young children in Talas Province have shown that it prevents anemia, improves physical and cognitive development, strengthens the immune system and makes children more active. Ninety percent of children aged 6-24 months in Talas Province benefit from *Gulyazyk*. The Ministry of Health presented the results to medical workers and representatives of Village Health Committees from other Provinces who discussed various possibilities for extending that initiative country wide.

*Please see three main presentations on monitoring results (available in Russian) on:*

[http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ru/Programme\\_Torobekova\\_Rus.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ru/Programme_Torobekova_Rus.pdf)

Dear Partners,

UNICEF has the pleasure of sharing with you a quarterly newsletter that highlights activities and information on resources available that we hope will support you in your work to improve the situation for families and children in the Kyrgyz Republic.

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## Study on Preschool Teacher Shortage

Following the Study of Teacher Shortage in Schools, a new study has collected and analyzed data on teacher shortage in the pre-school education sector. The project seeks to reframe the definition and correct the measurement of teacher shortage in ways that take into account the quality of teaching. It has also developed the capacity of local specialists to collect data on hidden teacher shortages, analyze and interpret the data, write a national report and make policy recommendations as well as participate in a regional analysis and report.

*Please see the Report on the Teacher Shortage Study in schools on:*

<http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/OUT-OF-SCHOOL-Eng.pdf>

*Please see the International Education Policy Studies Tentative Syllabus (available in Russian and English) on:*

[http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ru/Tentative\\_Syll\\_Jan4\\_2010\\_Rus.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ru/Tentative_Syll_Jan4_2010_Rus.pdf)

[http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ru/Tentative\\_Syll\\_Jan4\\_2010\\_Rus.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ru/Tentative_Syll_Jan4_2010_Rus.pdf)

## Developments in pre-school education

UNICEF, the World Bank and the Aga Khan Foundation, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Science, have initiated a cost analysis of early childhood development and pre-school education programmes in Kyrgyzstan to help the government in its discussions on how to develop the potential of Kyrgyzstan's children more efficiently using available funds. The report presents the current state of preschool education in Kyrgyzstan and proposes financially feasible scenarios for it to be expanded in an equitable manner.

*Please see the main presentation (available in Russian and English) on:*

[http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ru/ECD\\_Finance\\_Study\\_Rus.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ru/ECD_Finance_Study_Rus.pdf)

[http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ECD\\_Finance\\_Study\\_Eng.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ECD_Finance_Study_Eng.pdf)

## The right of children to justice

With UNICEF financial and technical support, special rooms have been equipped for investigating minors' affairs in police stations in Oktyabrski and Sverdlovski Districts in Bishkek. This is a pilot initiative of the Ministry of the Interior, which intends to develop a scheme for the whole country. This will allow minors under investigation to be separated from suspected adults. Minors will have a space to talk with their lawyers, social workers and representatives of Family and Child Support

Departments. UNICEF also supports training for representatives of the Family and Child Support Department, Inspectorates on Minors' Affairs, and investigators to provide a better protection of children. An analytical report on the effectiveness of the initiative and potential of scaling up is expected by mid 2010.

*Please see a new Pocket Guide on Juvenile Justice (available in Russian) on:*  
[http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ru/Tentative\\_Syll\\_Jan4\\_2010\\_Rus.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ru/Tentative_Syll_Jan4_2010_Rus.pdf)

### Monetary support to vulnerable families with children

UNICEF with other international partners has supported the State Agency for Social Welfare to complete analysis of monthly social benefits – state monetary support to vulnerable families with children. Preliminary results have been presented to key stakeholders and will be discussed at the next Council on Persons with Disabilities chaired by Kyrgyzstan's President. The analysis is expected to inform policy dialogue and support the reform of major social assistance schemes.

*Please see the main presentation on the analysis of social monthly benefits (available in Russian) on :* [http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ru/SMB\\_Analysis\\_Rus.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ru/SMB_Analysis_Rus.pdf)