



Integrated Community Development Project Extension

Project Locations:	Beylagan, Bilasuvar, Fizuli, Imishli, Saatli, Sabirabad
Donors:	Mercy Corps/U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
Number of Beneficiaries:	302,638 (96,565 IDPs)
Period of Implementation:	November 1, 2003 – September 30, 2004

Project Goal:

To strengthen the capacity of Integrated Community Development Project (ICDP) target communities for sustainable self-reliance through skill consolidation and the creation of relationships among existing community structures.

Objectives:

1. To strengthen the skills and community-responsiveness of municipalities through training and joint micro-projects with Action Plan Committees (APCs).
2. To expand the ability of APCs to meet community needs in the future through the development of new Community Action Plans (CAPs) and the implementation of Integrated Community Activities (ICAs) focused on gender, environment and youth issues.
3. To sustain on-going improvements in the health status of ICDP target communities through the continued strengthening and support of existing health services and health education mechanisms, including cost-recovery, clinics, health professionals, Health Action Committees (HACs) and peer education activities.
4. To build the capacity of small enterprises created under ICDP to function as sustainable, community-minded businesses.
5. To enable Cluster Development Councils (CDCs) and Cluster Executive Boards (CEBs) in six clusters to better coordinate among sub-clusters, and to improve the availability of resources in two clusters by strengthening the Development Resource Centers (DRCs) .

Activities:

- Provide technical training to enable previously trained municipal councilors to provide training for 24 neighboring municipalities.
- Implement 12 joint municipal-APC micro-projects in trained municipalities.
- Support initiatives of 12 active APCs to implement ICAs based on gender, youth, and environmental themes.
- Provide refresher training for 8 HACs to train health educators in neighboring communities.
- Train and monitor the performance of 99 health professionals (doctors, feldchers and nurses).
- Support 6 enterprises to become more sustainable operations through advice on managing their business plans, marketing, and repayments.
- Continue collaboration with existing Development Resource Centers in two regions and assist with two DRC outreach micro-projects.
- Expand six CDCs to include more newly-mobilized communities in four regions.
- Facilitate new elections for CEBs and the development of new 2004 action plans.
- Assist six CEBs to establish sector-specific subcommittees addressing health, education, agriculture, economic development, and infrastructure issues.



The Economic Development team helps budding enterprises like this group of women who has established a sewing workshop in Imishli.

Accomplishments to Date:

- 75 Action Plan Committees have written new Community Action Plans for 2004.
- Three local NGO partners have received capacity building training in topics including finance, gender theory, strategic planning, organizational structure, and sustainability and are assisting IRC staff to implement integrated community activities addressing gender, youth and environmental issues in 12 communities.
- Municipal councilors from 11 communities have received technical training, attended a training of trainers workshop, and have trained 24 nearby municipalities in fundraising, municipal responsibilities, and finance.
- 8 HACs have received refresher technical training and TOT and are providing in 8 neighboring communities.
- Four clusters have expanded their Cluster Development Councils and 6 elected new Cluster Executive Boards.
- Two existing DRCs are planning new outreach micro-projects to expand their services.