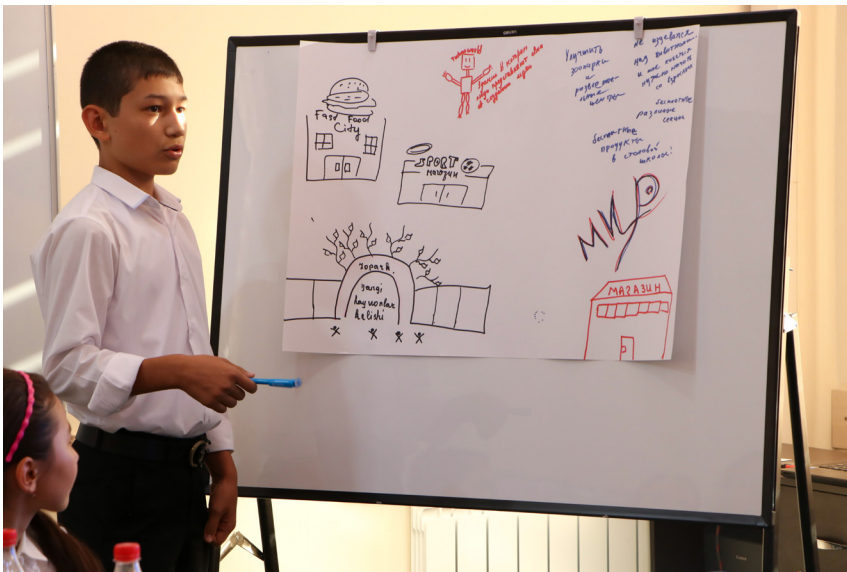




## Governance, Human Rights & Service Delivery (GHRSD) Modelling Youth and Child-Friendly Local Governance in Uzbekistan



### Rationale

Uzbekistan faces an important demographic juncture – young people constitute 55% of the population of Uzbekistan. In 15 years, today’s children and youth will form the largest labour force Uzbekistan has ever had.

The Government of Uzbekistan prioritizes youth wellbeing and empowerment. Significant financial resources have been allocated and many programmes have been created to provide young people with housing, education, employment and social support. The President of Uzbekistan continuously emphasizes the need for a constant dialogue with young people. Platforms such as “Khokim va Yoshlar” (Local Governor and Youth) and a Youth Parliament have been established by the Government. However, youth programmes are often developed centrally and are not tailored to the needs of young people, especially of the most vulnerable and marginalized. Opportunities for meaningful youth participation in decision-making processes and youth-led initiatives, especially at local level, remain limited.

In this context, with the financial support of the Embassy of Switzerland in Uzbekistan and endorsement of the national Government at the highest level, UNICEF, the Nationwide Movement “Yuksalish” and Youth Affairs Agency are modelling the Youth and Child-Friendly Local Governance Initiative (YCFLG) in six pilot cities of Uzbekistan.

### Country

Uzbekistan

### Duration

2021 – 2023

### Total budget

USD 400'000

### Partners

Youth Affairs Agency of the Republic of Uzbekistan;  
Nationwide Movement “Yuksalish”;  
Local government (khokimiyats) of 6 pilot cities

### Executing Agency

UN International Children’s Fund (UNICEF)

## **Objectives and activities**

The goal of the YCFLG initiative is to develop a local governance model that can best serve the development needs of communities by systematically addressing the needs of children and youth as key agents of change and potential-boosters in local communities. Equally, the initiative aims to empower children and youth, especially girls and the most vulnerable, to act as catalyst for local development.

## **Project outcomes**

- Children's and young people's need and rights are addressed through inclusive local policies and plans in the target cities.
- Recommendations for scaling-up of the YCFLG initiative are developed for the President's Administration.

## **Envisaged results**

Local governments in pilot cities know how to engage youth, plan, implement and monitor actions aimed at young people's wellbeing

- Young people are enabled to initiate solutions for their own and their community's wellbeing

## **Key results achieved so far**

- An initial assessment of 6 pilot cities was conducted.
- Four-days training on Results-Based Management (RBM) and Results-Based Budgeting (RBB) was delivered by the international UNICEF consultant for all local government working groups from the six participating cities.
- Twelve regional employees of Yuksalish and two national consultants completed the RBM and RBB training of trainers to be able to monitor and support the local government in finalization of their action plans.
- Youth Advisory Boards (YABs) are established in the cities through an open call based on the existing structure under the Youth Affairs Agency - Yosh Maslahatchilar Kengashi. In total, 47 young people (23 girls and 24 boys) are members of the Youth Advisory Boards in 6 cities.
- The YCFLG coordination group conducted one-day orientation sessions for the YABs in each city.
- The YABs conducted consultations of children and youth on the Action Plans developed by the local government.

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*printed in May 2023*