



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

USAID Supports Early Education Opportunities for Young Children in 45 Novostroika Settlements around Bishkek

BISHKEK, KYRGYZSTAN - On March 22-31, the USAID Quality Learning Project 'Sapattuu Bilim', supported by the USAID Youth Aid for Education Program, will conduct a household survey of 45 novostroika settlements (new neighborhoods) around Bishkek to identify preschool-aged children who will enter school in September 2011, and children who dropped out of school. The children identified by the survey will be selected to participate in state-operated school preparation programs during the summer of 2011.

The 'Sapattuu Bilim' household survey will be conducted by local territorial administrations of the Bishkek City Mayor's Office in close collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic and the following non-governmental organizations: Ashar, Arysh, Centre of Child Protection, EREP, Erayim, Institute of Children and Buchur. Based on the results of the survey, the USAID Youth Aid for Education Program will provide assistance to low income families with children enrolling in school and will also provide items such as school uniforms, shoes and school materials to help ensure that children in novostroika settlements around Bishkek are prepared and have access to education.

The USAID project 'Sapattuu Bilim' has been working closely with the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Bishkek City Mayor's Office to improve the accessibility and quality of education for children in Kyrgyzstan.

This program for the novostroikas is one of many assistance projects supported by the American people through the United States Agency for International Development. For more information about USAID programs, visit our web site at:

<http://centralasia.usaid.gov/kgmap/?lang=ru>

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