



OASIS COUNTRY REPORTS





Introduction

What Oasis is doing in 11 countries to create thriving communities, and to rescue the exploited and bring them back into community, continues to be outstanding. From developing hubs of integrated support activities around our 47 schools in urban deprived communities in the UK, to rescuing children from the hands of traffickers in India, to enabling women to save together and loan each other money to set up their own businesses in Zimbabwe, these are all out-workings for our vision for community.

In order to serve this work, during 2016 we completed two key structural reforms. Firstly, we created a Global Board to govern our work professionally and efficiently, driving new ideas and keeping us to our mission. Secondly, we launched the Oasis Foundation which holds our ethos and brand and fundraises for our work, and speaks into many societal issues out of the wealth of experience that Oasis has in community transformation.

Two such reports “Faith in Public Service” (speaking to church engagement in communities), and “In the Name of Love” (a response to the Church of England report on LGBT issues), received wide coverage and acclaim.

We firmly believe that we now have the right structures in place to serve Oasis for many years to come, and we look forward with excitement to seeing what develops.

So, from the Global Board Trustee, to the young care leaver in Kyrgyzstan, the pre-school girl in Mozambique, the refugee in Belgium and the trafficked victim in India - thank you. Thank you to our very faithful funding partners who allow us to achieve the impact we do, and thank you to the thousands of our amazing volunteers and staff whose dedication and expertise allows us to make the significant impact we do around the Oasis world. We are truly a ‘One Oasis’ family.

I do hope you are inspired by the following report.

God Bless You,



Clive Dudbridge

Global Operations Director

Note: All names of beneficiaries referred to in this report have been changed, to protect their identities. Photos are used with permission.

Key Country details

Country Leader: Meerim Osmonalieva

Annual Turnover: £ 50000.00

No. of Hubs: 1 (in early stage of development)

No. of Staff: 11

No. of Volunteers: 15

Oasis in Kyrgyzstan



1. Introduction

As we look back at 2017, there is much to celebrate. We strengthened our cooperation and work with government agencies to improve legislation to enable better support of care leavers; to promote crowdfunding platform to support vulnerable children for getting professional education through Bilim Belek programme; ran a successful human rights camp; opening Oasis Youth Centre for vulnerable children; and completed communication strategy to enable us to make decisions about the development of future work.

It will also be remembered as a year with some big changes: The team began working under the leadership of a new Director due to the departure of the previous Director. There was some significant revision in personnel, instead of three case workers who left in 2017, we hired two among our volunteers who are graduates of orphanages. Optimization in personnel for sustainable development of the organization was made, which influenced to the budget and activities of the organization.

Through the highs and lows of the year our focus has remained the same as it has always been since Oasis started in Kyrgyzstan in 2008: to support some of the most vulnerable members of society. As young people leave the orphanages and institutions where they have grown up, they are starting a journey into independence that can be incredibly hard. Some will make bad decisions that have led them into trouble, and over the year our team have spent time in police stations and courts helping to make sure that the right processes are followed and the young people receive a fair hearing and appropriate punishment.

But there are also real encouragements. Through our Bilim Belek programme 5 care leavers got access to higher professional education, more than 30 graduates enrolled in colleges. We are proud of the study outcomes of Vladimir Fedorenko, who did all exam for being enrolled in IT Academy and having a decent future. His success inspired many care leavers. As a result the head of IT Academy expressed a desire to take more graduates and help them in 2018.



2. Activity reports

a. CARE LEAVERS TRANSITION SUPPORT PROGRAM

A one year project, completed in August, with funding from the Swiss Embassy, and also from Swiss Foundations 'Petram' and 'FOR'. Young people leaving orphanages (care leavers) were supported to make a good transition to living independently through case work, activities at the Oasis youth centre and visits to local orphanages. As a result of the project:

- 73 care leavers were supported through case work
- 63 care leavers were supported to enter educational institutions
- 30 care leavers were supported to find accommodation
- 30 care leavers were helped with documentation and social benefits
- we had average of 14 people a day attending the youth centre
- 5 orphanages were each visited monthly
- 10 volunteers worked alongside staff

- **The Oasis Human Rights Summer School 2017.**

Camp's goal was the formation of legal knowledge on basic human rights, life skills, safe employment processes among care leavers who graduated orphans in Chui oblast and Bishkek city.

Summer camps have always been a special time for young people and Oasis Kyrgyzstan' staff. This year we prepared different program for care leavers: trainings on basic human rights, ecofriendly behavior and professional orientation courses. 30 care leavers, along with 4 volunteers and 6 Oasis staff members spent five days at the Altyn Kum pension at Issyk-Kul Lake, having sports activities, trainings and educational sessions.

We are very grateful to our partners Innocent Voices and Oasis USA, which support us every year.



Participants of the Oasis Human Rights School 2017

- **Oasis Youth Centre**

On 22nd of September there was an Opening ceremony of Oasis Youth Centre for care leavers of orphanages, where they can participate in various courses, such as English language, cooking, vocal and sport program. 284 care leavers have already taken a part in these courses.



Activities in Oasis Youth Center

- **Oasis Sport Program**

Also, Oasis Kyrgyzstan provide **Sport program** for care leavers to bring up love to healthy lifestyle. It was formed the football team from care leavers for participation in national and city tournaments and it is empowered team spirit and discipline. Sport trainings are conducted every week by 2 case workers from elder care leavers, they were hired a few months ago Rustam Zaitov and Ruslan Murat uulu.

Rustam Zaitov is a graduate of Belovodsk Special Boarding School in 2010. He lived in transit house “Kairat”, finished school and now studies at university in social work department.

Ruslan Murat uulu is a graduate of Uch Korgon Boarding School in 2006. He worked as a volunteer in Oasis a few years, helping with sport program and while event’s preparation



Oasis Football Team

b. CARE LEAVERS ADVOCACY PROJECT

Care Leavers Advocacy Project started in 2016, financed by East West management institute, USAID was completed in May 2017. The Overall Project Goal was ‘To improve the situation of care leavers in the Kyrgyz Republic through preparation and development of processes and agreements for the implementation of legislation during 2017’.

Results of the project:

- 1) During the project questions on care leavers was included into agendas of Parliament Committee sessions, where was made a speech on the situation with care leavers in KR during a Parliamentary session. The outcome of these questions was expected to be a Government decree requiring improved social support of graduates of residential care institutions. Finally, on 29 May 2017, in a session of the Parliament Committee on Social Development, Education, Science, Culture and Health, was reported on situation with care leavers and it was voted to accept the Committee Decision.

- 2) We developed a tool (Care Leavers Simulation) to enable people to experience the situation faced by care leavers as they live after institutions. We ran this simulation for students in 3 Universities and partners
- 3) Oasis with the partnership of Our Voice Fund conducted researches, the results were 2 analyzes in both Russian and Kyrgyz Language:
 - A Preliminary Cost-Benefit Analysis to assess the costs and benefits to the government of providing better support for care leavers against the costs and benefits of not improving support
 - Analysis of existing legislation to understand the authority and responsibility of each ministry in relation to care leavers, more than 20 legal documents were analyzed (Laws, Legal acts, country strategies).
- 4) Last few months of 2017, the JK Committee on Social Development, Education, Science, Culture and Health restarted sessions to discuss the situation with care leavers and to monitor realization of the Committee Decision, that was adopted in May 29th 2017. Oasis Kyrgyzstan participated in all sessions, but unfortunately, nothing has done from that time by the government and the Committee's representatives required Ministries to show real results till June 1st 2018. Oasis Kyrgyzstan cooperates with the Ministry of Labor and Social Development to create a data base of care leavers.
- 5) Oasis works with the Parliament representatives to improve legislation, concerning care leavers, especially with the Deputy of JK KR Kanybek Imanaliev and Nikitenko Natalya from the political party "Ata Meken". The party organized a meeting for non-government organizations, that work with orphans, children without parental care and care leavers, where Oasis Kyrgyzstan was invited as experts. We shared our experience and presented the results of the project. The meeting was in Cholpon Ata, Issyk kul region.
- 6) Round table "A graduate of the orphanage - the status "nobody" was held in cooperation with Institute for War and Peace Reporting. Deputies of Parliament, representatives of the civil society and care leavers were as the participants. Current situation of children without parental care, their problems and possible solutions were discussed. It was vital for the state representatives to hear voices and stories of children, who left orphanages.
- 7) Oasis Kyrgyzstan and Ministry of Education signed Memorandum of cooperation on promoting CLAP project and creating Working Group on implementing the decision about following-up on graduates of residential institutions, where was determined measures, that should be implemented by the Ministry of Education.



We agreed that Oasis Kyrgyzstan as main partner of Ministry of Education will cooperate on developing state program on the following issues:

- to develop and implement standards for education and training on social adaptation and integration into society of children from residential institutions (orphanages, boarding schools, alternative children's homes, correctional children's colonies, foster families);
- to develop and implement training programs to build life skills and prepare children without parental care for independent life;



- to establish mandatory special courses of life and social skills, legal education for the preparation of children from orphanages and boarding schools for living independently;
- within the framework of the state social order, to plan projects and measures to develop standards for socialization of children, for education and upbringing of children for their social adaptation and integration into society, the development of curricula for development of life skills and preparation for independent life of children from residential institutions;
- while drafting legal regulations on the state educational policy, to take into consideration and needs of graduates of orphanages;
- to open courses for the retraining and advanced training of teachers and educators to work with children from orphanages and boarding schools at the pedagogical faculties of higher education institutions and the Kyrgyz Academy of Education.

A thirteen-month project, started in January 2016 and finished in May 2017, in partnership with East West Management Institute (funding) and local organisation 'Our Voice' (implementation). Anyway, Oasis Kyrgyzstan is still working on this project with state agencies providing monitoring and evaluation of the process of changing and implementation legislation on vulnerable children and young people (graduates of orphans).

Results and indicators in 2017:

- 30 participants in round table
- 11 articles in local media in 2017 period
- 4 radio / TV interviews
- 12 meetings with state agencies and other partners
- 40 people participated in simulation exercise

c. BILIM BELEK PROGRAM

A crowdfunding platform to provide practical support to young people leaving orphanages and institutions to continue their education and improve their qualifications and support to raise the funds necessary to cover the costs of education (www.bilimbelek.kg). It started working in 2017, this year is the first one, when we can see good results and points to develop.

According the results of crowdfunding platform Bilim Belek (Education as a gift), six of care leavers got access to secondary and higher education, 5 care leavers received funding for education in institutions (colleges, universities) for 4 specialties: guide, engineer, accountant, programmer and about 30 care leavers entered to professional schools.

- 1) Ubaryshev Askar – entered to Kyrgyz National University and received financing for education and a laptop,
- 2) Nestan – got admission to Kyrgyz – Korean College, received funding for education,
- 3) Rahatay – received financing for education in Agriculture University,
- 4) Vladimir – got scholarship in IT Academy,
- 5) Azamat – received financing for education in International University ждународном университете information technology,
- 6) Nikita – entered to Kyrgyz State Academy of Physical Culture and Sports.



Participants of Bilim-Belek Program

Every day increases the number of people, who are ready to support young people' education and invest in their future. In 2017 (last 6 months) we collected 38 200 som. Reports will be twice a year (February and July) after each semester.

- Oasis works with the Ministry of Education and Science according to Bilim Belek program and realization of the JK Committee Decision, concerning education in orphanages. Oasis organized working group with the Ministry to develop the program of life skills for children in orphanages and implement it into educational system. It was agreed to complete the draft version till March 1st 2018.

d. FOODBANK PROGRAM

Foodbank is a non-profit initiative that receives non-perishable food for vulnerable group of people (care leavers and single mothers with children). Oasis cooperates with non-profit organisations, bussiness and individuals, who donate food and/or money to support people in crisis. The majority of care leavers are volunteers and they help with development of the program, distribute flyers and organize some events.

Our main partners are markets Boorsok and Alma, where Oasis foodbank boxes are. The results of the program is 360 kg of food and 97 liters of liquid and more than 150 people in crisis have got support with food parcels (care leavers and women from crisis centres in Bishkek).



Also, in Oasis Youth Centre we provide cooking courses for care leavers to teach them how to cook simple dishes from that products, which young people can allow themselves. It is happened due to volunteers, who help us with food and money. For example, one lady donated meat of the whole sheep to the Youth Centre. There were 44 participants in cooking courses in 4 months.

e. Hub development

In 2017 we conducted a research on domestic violence in the vulnerable communities in Kyrgyz Republic. As a result of research to determine the problems of the vulnerable women, who are forced to give children into institutional care and suffer from violence. For providing our activities in the Kalys Ordo novostroiki (new community) on the outskirts of Bishkek we developed several projects in cooperation with Oasis Belgium. We

continue to maintain relations with community members, with a focus on the single women with children living in the area.

3. Strategic Development

2017 was the third year of a four-year strategy for the development of Oasis' work in Kyrgyzstan. During the year we accomplished the majority of the goals agreed, including: the implementation of advocacy work to improve legislation; an awareness raising campaign around the situation of care leavers in Kyrgyzstan and which has raised our public profile, we appreciate efforts of the Institute for War and Peace Reporting, which support us on awareness raising campaign ; on-going support for young people through case work and the Oasis Youth Centre; Foodbank programme and Bilim Belek programme. Additionally, there was developed communication strategy for involving local partners in our activities.

The main area where we are behind on our strategy is the development of additional income streams, particularly through the providing trainings and consultation for business.



Pic.№1 Our care leavers participating in awareness-raising campaign



Pic.№2 Oasis Team provides tournament for children without parental care and care leavers

4. The Oasis Team

In 2017, the Oasis team in Kyrgyzstan was made up of:

- Meerim Osmonalieva – Director
- Nurzhan Akhunova – legal support and food bank till August 2017 and Program Manager since September 2017
- Eliuza Kulmurzaeva – book keeper
- Oksana Shishuk – case worker
- Rustam Zaitov – case worker
- Ruslan Muratbek uulu – case worker
- Jim Currell – Assistant Director (January-May 2017)
- Bermet Djakubova –CLAP project manager till May 2017
- Maria Kolesnikova – media expert till May 2017 and Program Manager till August 2017
- Saliya Asanakykynova – finance manager (January - November 2017)
- Zhanna Zylautdinova – case worker and foodbank (January – September 2017)

Of particular note is that Rustam Zaitov and Ruslan Muratbek uulu, who were hired as case workers are care leavers and previous Oasis volunteers. They participated in all Oasis activities since they became Oasis part and member.

Nurzhan Akhunova and Eliuza Kulmurzaeva changed their position in organization and have some new challenges as a Program Manager and Accountant.



The Oasis team celebrating Christmas and New Year!

5. Finance

a. Partners

Oasis is entirely dependent on charitable giving and income from grants and donations, and during the year has received income and donations from:

- East West Management Institute, Bishkek
- Institute for Peace and War Reporting
- Innocent Voices (US Charitable Foundation)
- ICB (International Church of Bishkek)
- Tunbridge Well Church (UK church)
- GIZ team (donation for care leavers New Year Celebration)
- TBC (UK church)
- Internews, Bishkek
- Training Services provided to BPN (Business Professionals Network in Kyrgyzstan)
- Boorsok supermarkets (hosting food collection point)
- Hope Academy (food collection)
- Individual Donors in Kyrgyzstan, the UK and the US

b. Breakdown of income and expenditure for 2017

i. Income - in currency received

Project	KGS	USD	EUR	GBP
Total Income (including carried forward from 2016)				
Hub Development	101.03	1,422.16	-	-
CLAP	95,485.75	-	-	-
FoodBank	7,316	1,876.43	-	-
CL Transition	36,254.14	2,237.00	-	-
Bilim Belek	21435.58	-	-	-
Central	3,204.89	54,105.35	-	-
Total	163,797.68	59,640.94	-	-

ii. Expenditure - all expenditure in KGS, with USD equivalent at rate on 31-12-2017
(68,8395 KGS:1 USD)

Project	KGS	USD
Bilim Belek	40042	581,67
Central	3083209	44788,37
CLTR	955683	13882,77
Total	4,078 934	59252,81

iii. Total to carry forward into 2017 - in currency as received and held in bank

Project	KGS	USD	EUR	GBP
Bilim belek	13304.58	-	-	-
Hub Developemnt	101.03	-	-	-
Foodbank	-	-	-	-
Central	3190.96	6796.67	-	-
CL Transition	-	1768.24	-	-
CLAP	-	-	-	-
Total	16596.57	8564.91	0	0