

## **What UNICEF is doing in the CEE/CIS and Baltics in relation to *A Decade of Transition***

### **1. Chapter One: Changing Societies**

**Azerbaijan:** Primary Health Care (PHC) project in 15 districts with high concentrations of IDPs/refugees. UNICEF/UNHCR Education for Development scheme in IDP/refugee communities. UNICEF/WFP project for Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) in 34 IDP/refugee camps, for 2,500 children.

**Kazakhstan:** UNICEF provided support for Say "Yes" campaign events on 1 September. More than 3.5 million teachers, parents and children from more than 8,000 schools said "yes".

**Russia:** A UNICEF pilot project has resulted in the appointment of nine Ombudsmen for Children. UNICEF is lobbying in support of legislation for a federal Ombudsman on Children's Rights.

**Tajikistan:** UNICEF helped the Government organize the first National Conference on Child Protection earlier this year – a landmark event to further social policy for child protection.

### **2. Chapter Two: Income inequality and child poverty**

**Azerbaijan:** UNICEF, World Bank and Asian Development Bank support the Child Information Network – a project helping the State Statistics Committee to monitor household expenditure and poverty. UNICEF is helping to prepare the Government's Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper.

**Romania:** UNICEF supports the Anti-Poverty Commission's survey of poor families. Preliminary findings will form the basis of the National Anti-Poverty Strategy, 2002-2004.

### **3. Chapter Three: Health**

**Armenia:** UNICEF/Scientific Association of Medical Students of Armenia project on HIV/AIDS training for teachers and health providers in Gagharunik (an area with many HIV/AIDS cases).

**Azerbaijan:** PHC Project to improve access to and quality of health services in 25 districts is supported by funds from World Bank, USAID and the private sector – primarily oil related (AGIP) – with UNICEF managing most of a \$5 million loan from the World Bank to the Ministry of Health.

**Belarus:** UNICEF promotes healthy lifestyles among young people through youth journalism and youth TV schemes, a Youth Information Centre, a shelter for young drug addicts and peer education on HIV/AIDS prevention – all in partnership with NGOs.

**Bosnia and Herzegovina:** An HIV/AIDS Prevention Initiative for young people includes confidential testing and counseling, information and services.

**CARK Countries:** A coalition led by UNICEF and the Asian Development Bank has finalized plans to reach universal salt and flour fortification. UNICEF supported the ASPERA Project (Aral Sea Project for Environmental and Regional Assistance) from 1995 to 1999 to tackle health problems linked to the shrinking of the Aral Sea, focusing on MCH, nutrition, basic education, water and sanitation and advocacy. These are now incorporated into other programmes.

**Georgia:** Seven Mobile Immunization Teams have immunized over 4000 children in remote areas since September 2000, using vehicles provided by UNICEF. A football championship for children organized by the State Chancellery, UNICEF, a local NGO and the Football Federation of Georgia promotes healthy lifestyles. Almost 47,000 children took part this year.

**Kazakhstan:** UNICEF's first programme in Central Asia was a vaccination campaign in Kazakhstan in 1992. Since 1995 there has been a 25 per cent fall in measles and no new cases of polio.

**Kyrgyzstan:** UNICEF-supported campaigns to immunize two million children and young people against measles and rubella (12-25 November 2001), aim to reach at least 95 per cent coverage.

**Moldova:** A UNICEF-supported PHC Reform Project in the Hincesti district aims to improve PHC while making better use of resources. A first World Bank evaluation shows anaemia in pregnant women down by 26 per cent and cuts in the average distance to a health facility.

**Russia:** A National Training Centre on Youth Friendly Clinics has been established in Novosibirsk. UNICEF and its partners are now aiming for a national network of such clinics.

**Tajikistan:** UNICEF provides immunization supplies and equipment and there have been no new cases of polio since 1997. The country is close to polio-free certification. UNICEF/Action Against Hunger feeding centres in Khatlon oblast assisted more than 6,500 children in 2000-2001.

**FR Yugoslavia:** To eliminate IDD by 2005, UNICEF/Kiwanis International Foundation helped to establish the Centre for Prevention and Control of IDD at the Institute of Health Protection of Serbia in 1999.

#### **4. Chapter Four: Education**

**Albania:** UNICEF and a local NGO support the Social Reintegration of Children at Risk project for street children. Special classes in four cities -- Berat, Elbasan, Korca and Tirana – cater for around 400 children each year. Plans are underway to reach up to 1,000 children annually.

**Armenia:** UNICEF works with the Ministry of Education and Science to train staff and provide materials in 150 pre-schools, and with the Inter-ministerial Core Group on ECCD on a parental education scheme to reach the 80 per cent of children who are not in pre-schools.

**Azerbaijan:** To make schools more active and effective, UNICEF assists an Active Learning network in five Ministry of Education pilot schools and 20 schools supported by the World Bank.

**Bosnia and Herzegovina:** UNICEF supports the Child-Friendly Schools Initiative to improve the quality of education and is working to develop this as a national model.

**Romania:** UNICEF/MOE/Romani CRISS (Roma NGO) support the Good Start for School project, a summer programme launched in Vrancea County in 2000 for 25 Roma children. Results: 12 children have enrolled in first-grade, and 12 in kindergarten.

#### **5. Chapter Five: Children deprived of a family upbringing**

**Albania:** UNICEF/Don Bosco Foundation and the private sector support YAPS (Youth Albania Parcel Service), a messenger service employing 40 young people who have left institutions, have disabilities or are from minorities. Clients include Vodaphone, KPMG, Coca-Cola and embassies.

**Armenia:** UNICEF/Ministry of Education and Mission East (NGO) support services for children in institutions. UNICEF works with the Ministries of Education and Justice and MSF/France to prevent institutionalization, helping children at risk. Family reintegration is always promoted.

**Belarus:** UNICEF/Ministry of Education project, De-institutionalization of Child Care, helps families, promotes alternatives and monitors quality of care. A UNICEF/Belarusian Association of Assistance to Children with Disabilities scheme helps adolescents prepare for independent life.

**Bosnia and Herzegovina:** UNICEF's Child Protection and Participation Programme improves public care for children, supports classrooms for children with special needs in regular schools, and promotes foster care.

**Kazakhstan:** In early October, UNICEF and the Information Centre for Adoption held an international conference in Almaty on The Child's Rights to Family. UNICEF supports shelters for women and children in Kyzylorda and Semipalatinsk and plans to replicate them nationwide.

**Kyrgyzstan:** As well as launching pilot projects on foster care and de-institutionalization, UNICEF is working with the Alpine Foundation (local NGO) on the 'Out of the Institution' project, giving institutionalized children camping trips in the mountains to foster responsibility and cooperation.

**FYR Macedonia:** A UNICEF-supported process of social welfare reform launched in 2000 contributed to a national strategy for social inclusion of children with special needs; changes in legislation to promote alternative care; and a partnership with the region of Emilio Romagna in Italy on community-based support networks.

**Moldova:** Day Care Centres supported by UNICEF, local municipalities and NGOs in Chisinau, Criuleni and Cahul provide services for children with disabilities and their parents to keep families together. Preliminary findings are positive. Some children from the Criuleni Centre now attend regular schools.

**Romania:** UNICEF promotes services for families at risk in 12 counties, and is promoting new legislation to comply with the CRC and Hague Convention.

**Russia:** UNICEF concentrates on putting alternative forms of care on the agenda of social policy-makers at federal and regional levels. Six pilot foster care initiatives have been supported, as well as family support and rehabilitation centres for families caring for children with disabilities.

**Tajikistan:** UNICEF has supported three local NGOs: Open Doors (Association of Lawyers), Odamiyat, and Open Asia (Information Research Centre) in carrying out a study on the situation of children in need of special protection.

**FR Yugoslavia:** UNICEF's programme is based on prevention and support for families. Results include the creation of national and municipal teams to address this issue and the training of around 800 professionals.