“We can not afford ourselves to postpone investing in children, expecting, until they become adults nor we can wait until they reach school age- a time when it may be too late.”

Jack Heckman, 2001

Preschool education in the Kyrgyz Republic

Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic

Asia-Pacific Regional Policy Forum on Early Childhood Care and Education, 10-12 September 2013 Seoul, Republic of Korea
Age structure of the population of the Kyrgyz Republic in demographic terms is related to a category of the youth: at the beginning of 2011-2013, 32.3% out of total number were children and teenagers. The total number of children aged 0-6 - 880.5 thousands children.
Growth dynamics of the preschool educational institutions

- 1990: 1696
- 2000: 400
- 2008: 488
- 2012: 741
Four factors influencing the increase of indicators

- State contribution
  - 2005 - 0.3 billion soms;
  - 2011 - 1.7 billion soms (operating costs);
- Community based pre-school educational institutions (351 – established with financial support of the International Organizations and contribution of local communities);
- Extension of net private sector (38 institutions)
- High fill ratings in preschool groups (1.5 - 2 times above normal.)
Education expenditures

Percentages from total

- School Education: 63.4%
- Elementary and high school education: 9.4%
- Elementary professional education: 5.3%
- Secondary special education: 11.3%
- Higher education: 3.4%
- Others: 7.3%
In the current year prices, 25.0 billion soms of government funding is required to bring the number of enrollment in pre-school educational institutions to the level of 1990s, including:

21.6 billion soms is needed for construction of 864 kinder gardens to enroll 35% of children aged 2-6 out of total number of children.
NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- Law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On Education”;
- Law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On Pre-school Education”;
- Education Development Strategy (2012-2020);
- Decree of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic “On children support and protection”;
- State education standard “Pre-school education and children care”;
- Other legal instruments regulating the function of CEI (Decrees, resolutions, instructions, orders, programs).

LOCAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Growth dynamics of community based CEI

Community based kinder gardens (Total 351)

- переданы на баланс МСУ: 246
- не переданы на баланс МСУ: 105
Overcrowding of Kinder gardens in 2012:
100-hour program
(as an emergency measure implemented in 2007)

The implementation was realized during the summer vacation time (1.5 months), salary for elementary school teachers was remained

![Bar chart showing percentage changes from 2007 to 2012.](chart.png)
240- hour program

- Generated and realized
  **240-hour training program** preparing children for school
- Taking into account the financial possibilities of the country, at the same time, increasing the duration and content of the courses, the funds were found in the education system at the expanses of reduction of the curriculum.
Short-terms programs on preparation of children to the school

First – class 102 thousands of children (according to the current data)

Programs for preparing children for school

100-hour program

30, 2% Children

240-hour program

53, 5% Children
Implementation costs

240-hour programme

- 2011 year - **37.3 mln. soms** (2300 classes* 240 hours*45 soms*1.05* 1.22* 1.1725) taking into a count 50.8% of children

- 2012 год - **38.8 mln. soms** (2390 classes * 240 hours*45 som*1.05* 1.22* 1.1725 taking into a count 53.5% of children

- 2013 год – **64.9 mln. soms** (4000 classes * 240 hours*45 soms*1.05* 1.22* 1.1725) taking into a count 100% of children
Preliminary calculation in prices of this year showed, that additional investments for introduction and implementation of the annual program will be 65 mln. soms.

The organization of annual courses based on educational institutes

Expansion of the network of preschool institutions

According to Preliminary calculation, capital investments to take 101,5 thousands children from 5 to 7 years old, will be:

- for building of 725 objects 140 places – 18.1 blns. soms
- for supporting 101.5 thousands children * 22.7 thousands. soms = 2.3 blns. soms

Total 20.4 blns. soms

Two scenarios of increasing amount of children by programs of pre-school preparing
Equipped classrooms for preparing children in the frame of Catalytic Fund
Global Partnership:

- In the frame of Global Partnerships, aimed at the goal of Education (GPGE) and getting grants in the amount of 12.7 millions of USA dollars for further phased expansion and implementation programs for preparing children to school (annual programs), is implementing preparation of technical application;
- In 2013 year for the cost of free funds by decreasing of curriculum in high classes is planned to take 100 % of children of pre-school age by 240-hour program for preparing to school (category of children, not attending pre-school education organization);

- Planned phased implementation of annual program (480-hour):
  - 2014 year - 30 %
  - 2015 year – 60 %
  - 2016 year - 100 %
- For stability of project implementation is necessary to provide in 2014 year with additional recourses about 65 million soms. for payment for work of teachers
Achievements in the field of preschool education

- Passed law of Kyrgyz Republic «on preschool education»
- Passed State Educational standard «Preschool Education and caring for children»
- Implemented normative and legal documents in the field of preschool education
- All CEO of republic was provided by payment for food and literatures.
- Updating standards of teaching and developing children in earlier ages.

- 2204 schools of the country are provided by short-term programs, Teaching textbooks, didactic materials and educational games.
- 1365 schools was provided by furniture boxes. Till the end of the year will be provided for other schools.
- 3200 teachers took course professional upgrading
- City Educational organization and Regional Educational Organization were provided by furniture and technical equipments for methodological rooms.

- Functioning about 351 alternative models of preschool educations
- Implementation of short-term programs for preparing children to school.
- All CEO provided by programs, methodological recommendation, children literatures and CD discs of cartoons “Keremet noch”,
- CEO of Chui, Batken and Naryn regions improved material and technical base
Fundamental problems in the system of pre-school education

- Low/poor coverage of children in CEO;
- Congestion of functioning CEO;
- Legislative environment on the financial issue CEO;
- Providing educational candidates;
- Modernization of the pre-school education content (standards of training teachers, courses of professional development, educational programs, methodological and deductive materials etc);
- Material-technical support;
- Construction, full and current repairs;
- Lack of legislative execution of the Kyrgyz Republic in issues financials by municipal government
Основные приоритеты определены в СРО (2012-2020)

- Normative legal support for providing functioning of pre-school educational network organization and pre-school classes.
- Implementation of programs for preparing children to school (for children, not taking by preschool education)
- Training and retraining of cadres for realization programs for preschool education and preschool preparation improving professional competence of teachers in system of improving qualification in condition of implementation curriculum.
- Monitoring and evaluation of services of preschool education.
Thank you for attention!