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SUBMITTED BY ZHAZIRA
YESSIMOVA

UNV Report

Uzbekistan

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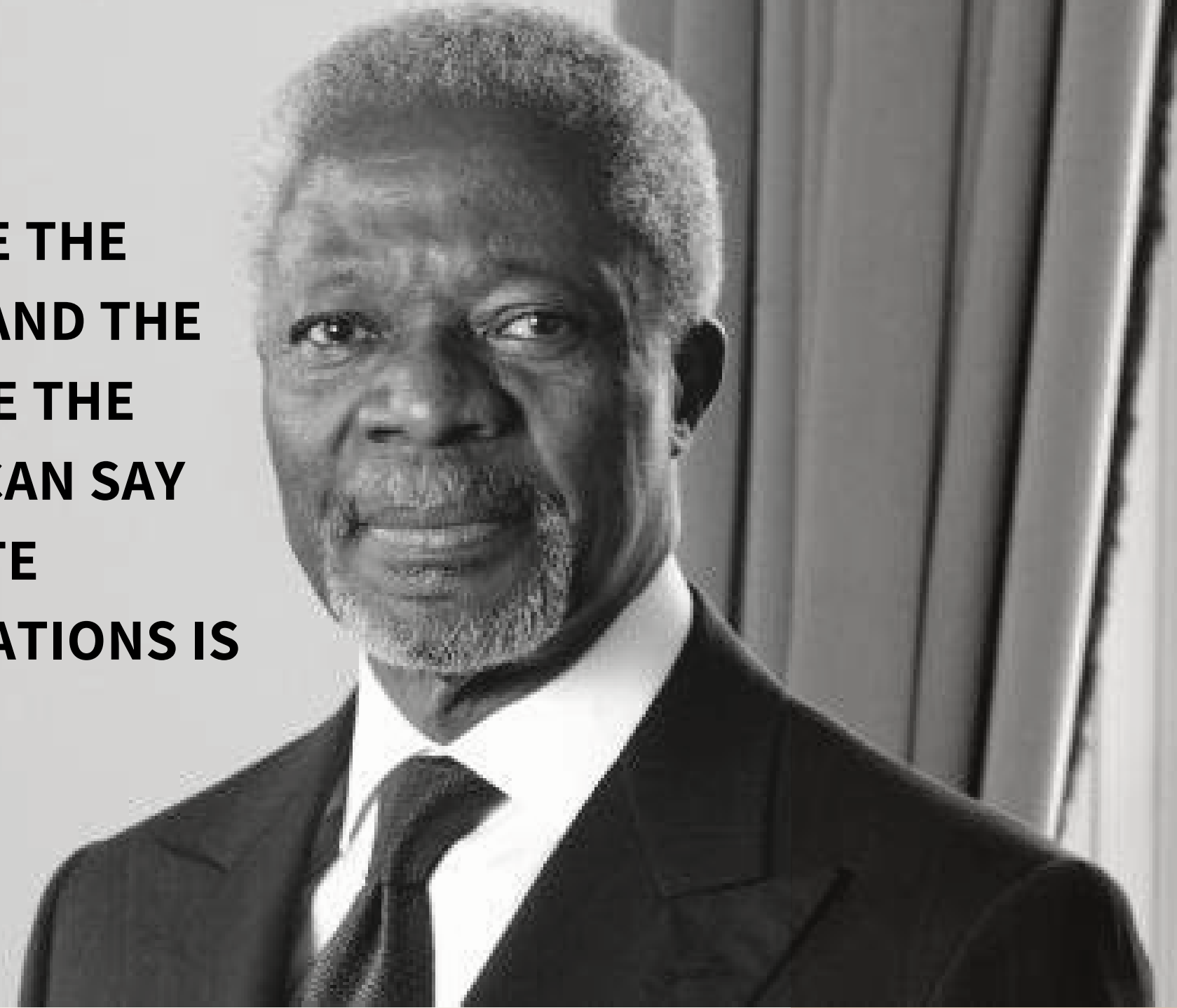
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WORDS TO INSPIRE

AT THE HEART OF VOLUNTEERISM ARE THE IDEALS OF SERVICE AND SOLIDARITY AND THE BELIEF THAT TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE THE WORLD BETTER. IN THAT SENSE, WE CAN SAY THAT VOLUNTEERISM IS THE ULTIMATE EXPRESSION OF WHAT THE UNITED NATIONS IS ALL ABOUT.



KOFI ANNAN



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

General information about the assignment

UNV: Zhazira YESSIMOVA

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Assignment title: UN University Volunteer in Youth & Education

Duration: 01 July - 31 December 2019 (6 months)

Host agency: UNESCO Office in Tashkent

Duty station: Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Unit: Education unit

Supervizor: Bakhtiyor Namazov



My colleagues

Here are my colleagues from the UNESCO Office in Tashkent. In past six months they became like a family to me. Each one of them was very friendly and supportive towards me helping out with all kind of work and non-work related issues. I felt welcomed from the very first day there and I appreciate their help and support a lot.

Our Office

UNESCO Office in Tashkent is located in a two-storey building near the city center. It has own garden, backyard and a guard dog, her name is Irina. There are 25 employees in the office. I like everything about our Office because it is very cozy and it feels like you are at home.





ENSURE EQUAL ACCESS FOR ALL WOMEN AND MEN TO AFFORDABLE AND QUALITY TECHNICAL, VOCATIONAL AND TERTIARY EDUCATION, INCLUDING UNIVERSITY.

ELIMINATE GENDER DISPARITIES IN EDUCATION AND ENSURE EQUAL ACCESS TO ALL LEVELS OF EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR THE VULNERABLE, INCLUDING PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND CHILDREN IN VULNERABLE SITUATIONS.

SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE THE SUPPLY OF QUALIFIED TEACHERS, INCLUDING THROUGH INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR TEACHER TRAINING IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES.

THE SDG TARGETS THAT MY ASSIGNMENT CONTRIBUTE TO MOST:

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ELIMINATE ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS IN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SPHERES, INCLUDING TRAFFICKING AND SEXUAL AND OTHER TYPES OF EXPLOITATION.

ENSURE WOMEN'S FULL AND EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEADERSHIP AT ALL LEVELS OF DECISION-MAKING IN POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND PUBLIC LIFE.

UNDERTAKE REFORMS TO GIVE WOMEN EQUAL RIGHTS TO ECONOMIC RESOURCES, AS WELL AS ACCESS TO OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OVER LAND AND OTHER FORMS OF PROPERTY, FINANCIAL SERVICES, INHERITANCE AND NATURAL RESOURCES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH NATIONAL LAWS.

DUTIES PERFORMED

- Assisting at all stages of preparation for the events (conferences, meetings, seminars, workshops);
- Ensuring the smooth run of the events, addressing inquiries from involved parties;
- Arranging logistics for the events, goods procurement;
- Preparing relevant documents (RFQs, RFPs, etc.), sending them out to the service providers;
- Contacting service providers, negotiating with them and providing necessary information on their requests;
- Arranging the accommodation, transportation for the visiting guests, events participants;
- Assisting in the preparation of the follow up documents, correspondence and outgoing letters from Education unit;
- Gathering and consolidating statistical information for the project related documents;
- Drafting project proposals and other project related documents;
- Preparing the budget spreadsheets for the project events, conferences, workshops and meetings;
- Filing documents, delivering letters/documents to the addressees;
- Translation, proof reading and editing correspondence and other documents;
- Preparing the materials for publications, making designs, proof reading, etc.;
- Content creation for the website, posting articles, press releases and news on the official website;
- Photo taking during the events, conducting & transcribing interviews with events participants, colleagues from HQ;
- Providing other administrative support to Education unit and other units (Science, Culture, Communications) if necessary.





ACTIVITIES

BELOW ARE THE ACTIVITIES I WAS INVOLVED IN DURING MY ASSIGNMENT WITH THE DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF MY FUNCTIONS AND CONTRIBUTION TO THEM.

1 ROUND TABLE WITHIN GENDER INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL AT TASHKENT INSTITUTE OF FINANCE

I participated in the Round table on Gender issues in Uzbekistan within the Gender International Summer School. The event was organized by the University of Sapienza (Italy), the National University of Uzbekistan and the Tashkent Institute of Finance with the assistance of the OSCE Project Coordinator in Uzbekistan and the regular Norwegian Delegation to the OSCE. The aim of this Summer School was to expand the opportunities for young scientists and researchers in Uzbekistan to identify and evaluate Gender aspects of the economy as well as to identify the different socio-economic impacts of Gender policy on society [1].

The students were the educators from all the CIS countries (Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Russia, Azerbaijan and others). During the round table we have discussed many issues related to the gender in education, the strengthening role of women in the governmental sector and done an exercise assessing the level of gender awareness in Central Asian countries. The invited guest, the head of Women's Committee, successful businesswoman, shared her story with the participants and told on what is the function

I gained a lot of insights into the Gender related topics not only in Uzbekistan, but in my own country and our neighbors. Moreover, I have approached Italian professors, who came to Tashkent to facilitate this summer school and talked to them. They shared with me that Sapienza University is strongly interested in cooperating with Uzbekistan and providing support to Uzbekistan on its way to reaching gender equality. Later I prepared the short summary of the discussed issues and shared them with all the colleagues during the staff meeting.



ACTIVITIES

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BELOW ARE THE ACTIVITIES I WAS INVOLVED IN DURING MY ASSIGNMENT WITH THE DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF MY FUNCTIONS AND CONTRIBUTION TO THEM.

2 EXPERTS MEETING “DEVELOPMENT OF UNESCO PROGRAM “MAN AND THE BIOSPHERE” IN UZBEKISTAN”

The Experts meeting “Development of UNESCO program “Man and the Biosphere” in Uzbekistan” (Promotion of the Lower-Amudarya biosphere reserve to the “Man and the Biosphere” UNESCO network and preparation of the report on Chatkal biosphere reserve) was held in late July. I was assisting the Program Officer in Science unit in translating meeting documents from Russian to English and attending the meeting to ensure the smooth run and to address upcoming inquires from participants.

This was the first event that I helped with in our office, it acquainted me with the usual practice of how the events are organised and gave me a glimpse into the administrative side of the office operation.

3 TRAINING ON DATA JOURNALISM

The Training of trainers (ToT) on data journalism was conducted in our Office in the end of September. The training is conducted within the framework of the project "Enhancing the Capacity of Uzbek Media to Serve the Public Interest - Phase 2", financed by the Government of Great Britain [2]. I was involved during all four days of the training taking photos, providing technical assistance and conducting the interviews with participants.

Personally, it was really interesting for me to attend this training and learn from the trainers, who are professional data journalists from Kyrgyzstan. I have been involved in the project related to the journalists' safety, so I was really curious to learn more about this sphere and see how journalism is developing in other Central Asian countries.



ACTIVITIES

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4 REVIEW AND ANALYSIS OF SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS ON GENDER-SENSITIVENESS TRAINING-WORKSHOP

During my assignment I was most involved in the project on "Strengthening gender equality through the Public Education system in Uzbekistan". The general objective of this project is to review all school textbook using a gender-sensitivity lenses so that all forms of bias, stereotypes and intolerance will be eliminated.

I was gathering data on the school textbooks number and presenting it in the form of tables to use during the revision process, as well as collecting metadata (number of pages, characters and etc.) for each textbook and putting it into the spreadsheet.

As one of the results of this project was the training-workshop for the textbook writers and editors from the Republican Education Center. I was helping with the arrangement of the workshop preparing the documents, arranging accommodation and transportation for the international expert, ensuring the smooth run of the event, taking pictures during the workshop and conducting interviews with national and international experts.

Through this experience I became more acquainted with the gender equality issues in education system in Uzbekistan and aware of the problems with gender issues that are common to Uzbekistan as well as other countries in Central Asia.



PROJECTS

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BELOW LISTED ARE THE PROJECTS I HAVE ENCOUNTERED IN DIFFERENT WAYS DURING MY ASSIGNMENT.

- **SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS AND COUNTERING IMPUNITY IN THE MEDIA OF UZBEKISTAN;**
- **STRENGTHENING GENDER EQUALITY THROUGH THE PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM IN UZBEKISTAN;**
- **PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM THROUGH EDUCATION;**
- **NATIONAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT ON ICT IN EDUCATION;**
- **SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FOR EMPLOYABILITY PROJECT IN RURAL AREAS OF UZBEKISTAN (TVET);**
- **STRENGTHENING AN INCLUSIVE SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION (STI) SYSTEM IN UZBEKISTAN.**

CONCLUSION

Past six months passed by so quickly, were very valuable for me. I learned tremendously about the new area for me, found new friends from all over the world, traveled around Central Asia and enjoyed my stay in UNESCO Office in Tashkent. I am grateful for this opportunity to discover new culture, learn new things, meet different people and contribute to the work of the huge international organisation. This experience equipped me with knowledge and skills to continue with my work at the UN structures. Being a person that cares about helping to the people and giving back to the society I wish to keep working on the global issues and giving a hand of help to those one in need. I like to see how the things I contribute to are helping people in real life. This perception drives me to do more and makes me feel fulfilled and accomplished.

