

Kazakhstan the first of centralasian countries to adopt the Safe Community concept.

When it comes to the five centralasian countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgystan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) no contacts have so far been taken with Safe Communities movement. There are altogether about 55 million people in these countries- 16 million in Kazakhstan. These are all Muslim countries with languages similar to Turkish, s c Altai languages. After break down of the Soviet Union in 1989 they are now independent countries.

However through contacts from Lecturer at Kazakhstan School of Public Health Gainel Ussatayeva Leif Svanström visited Almaty to meet key persons for further development of Safe Communities during the week 16-20 October 2006.



Photo: Lecturer Gainel Ussatayeva at Kazakhstan School of Public Health.

Kazakhstan School of Public Health.

In his greeting Rector Maksut K. Kulzhanov underlined the problem of injuries as a burden on health in the country. The School has diverted the responsibility of policymaking, research and teaching in the Injury/Safety field to Dr. Ussatayeva. In a lecture for master students the Injury and safety concepts were introduced and 30 years of experience in Safe Community work was presented by professor Svanström. The students showed great interest and activity during the lecture.



Photo: Rector Massut K. Kutzhanov of the Kazakhstan School of Public Health in Almaty.

National Centre for Problems of Healthy Lifestyle Development, Ministry of Health, Republic of Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan is well prepared to meet the new health problems facing the country after independence and with a high growth of income. Growing resources from the health budget is now diverted to a special organization for health promotion. Director General Professor Kazbek A. Tulabayev assured strong support from the highest level of the Government now growing into 1% of the total health expenditure budget- more than most countries have. Dr Ussatayev- Deputy Director- assured that Safety Promotion already was on the agenda. They declared very clearly that the community level was an important target for health and safety promotion.



Photo: Professors Svanström and Tulabayev and Dr Ussatayev.

Health Promotion at the Regional(Oblast) level.

There are 14 oblasts in Kazakhstan. We visited the leadership for Health Promotion at the oblast of Almatinskaya with 1.500.000 inhabitants. They had their financing from national level. There are 8 main programs reflecting the health panorama of the country:

1. Tuberculosis
2. Food safety
3. Child/ mother protection
4. HIV/ Aids
5. Tobacco control
6. Control of alcoholism
7. Special infectious diseases like Brucellosis (rural disease related to un-pasteurized milk), Hepatitis and Diarrhea
8. Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Safety Promotion/ Injury Prevention is integrated in one of these programs each one being campaigned during one month per year.

The Central staffs were 18 out of which 5 doctors, 3 nurses, 2 teachers and one journalist. In the municipalities (16 in numbers in this oblast) there are health promotion specialists incl. responsibility for safety. In the work is also included work from volunteers.



Photo: (right to left) Director of Oblast HLS Centre Galima Muchatoreova and Director of NGO “Salanat” Ualichan Basygaraev



Photo: Vice Director of Oblast HLS Centre Saule Sarkytkarmenova

WHO Sub-office in Almaty

Dr Gaukhar Abuova is National Professional Officer for Mother & Child Health and Development. Dr Abuova is responsible for small children and recently injuries ghas been recognized as the main reason for mortality. Just now Dr Ussatayeva is describing the national pattern of injuries in a report and Dr Abuova assures that our visit is right on time. Future cooperation with the safe community movement is planned for the future.



Photo: Dr Gaukhar Abuova

Summary

It is quite obvious that at national level Injury is recognized as a mayor problem in Kazakhstan. The concerns for safety promotion has reached the regional level and community programs is the next step. There is however a lack of knowledge of technologies to be used at the community level. There the Safe Community movement has an important role in order to make Monsur- now soon 2 years old - a Safe Future.



Photo: Monsur – son of Gainel Ussatayeva and Akhmet Khairushev.

Rapporteur: Leif Svanström