

April-June 2017



Quarterly

Newsletter (#6)



Unison's 15th anniversary!

Dear partners,

I am happy to tell you that on May 31st Unison celebrated its 15 years' anniversary! The company has become a recognized organization in Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia. Since the first day, the number of our partners, friends, colleagues and beneficiaries has increased, the perimeter of our activities has expanded. Over the years, we have implemented more than 50 large-scale and small projects in Kyrgyzstan – urban and rural areas, but we have also been proactive in Russia, Armenia, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan. We have taken part in dozens of international negotiations on climate. We have worked on improving professionalism and passed dozens of training courses: analytics, legislation, information campaigns, and capacity building – this list is not exhaustive.

Today, I want to express my sincere gratitude to my colleagues and thank everyone who has been by our side since the beginning, or joined along the journey. Thank you for your participation, cooperation, interest, support, recognition and of course for your always constructive criticism. We will always be at your disposal and we look forward for the years to come!

Sincerely,

Nurzat Abdyrasulova

President of Unison Group



KYRSEFF SPRING SESSION: "HOW TO DEVELOP A BUSINESS USING GREEN TECHNOLOGIES?"

On April 29, the [KyrSEFF](#) program organized a Spring Session in the city of Osh. More than 150 business representatives from Osh, Batken and Jalal-Abad oblasts as well as media, governmental, financial and international agencies were present. The main goal of the event was to inform south of the country entrepreneurs about modern technologies for resource and energy saving, as well as to present profitable financial mechanisms through the KyrSEFF program.

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ENERGY SAVINGS IN THE HOTEL BUSINESS

Unison Group took part in the cycle of events dedicated to the development of rural guest houses. The events were organized by the international public foundation "Roza Otunbayeva Initiative" and were held in the cities of Talas (March 29) and Batken (April 21). The meetings aimed at discussing measures to support small and medium-sized businesses, creating jobs and strengthening the technical potential of local communities in the service sector, which help to increase the tourist attractiveness of the regions.

The participants of the conference were especially interested by Unison's presentation entitled "Investment mechanism for financing energy saving measures in the housing and business sectors" and held by the president of the organization, Nurzat Abdyrasulova.

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EXPO 2017 • Future Energy • Astana Kazakhstan

ASTANA EXPO 2017: THE FUTURE OF ENERGY

The energy world expo 2017 will be held in Astana, Kazakhstan, from June 10th to September 10th. More than one hundred countries confirmed their participation in the exhibition. Each of them will present technologies, projects and their vision for the development of the energy sector.

KyrSEFF provided support for the preparation of the exhibition with information materials as well as a video, which gives an overview of the Kyrgyz energy sector and relevant investment opportunities. In addition, the representatives of KyrSEFF took part in two official round tables.

[Under the link](#), you can find a list and a map of the location of the pavilions of the countries participating in the exhibition. There will also be a “Zone of Best Practices” at the exhibition site, one of the main thematic pavilions in which advanced technologies will be presented.

The pavilion is divided into five zones: renewable and alternative energy, energy efficiency and traditional energy, energy storage, energy distribution and use of energy resources. In total, 133 applications from 25 countries were received. In September 2016, [24 projects](#) from 13 countries were selected.



KYRSEFF CELEBRATES EUROPE DAY WITH A CURIOUS EXPERIMENT...

On May 12, the Kyrgyz Sustainable Energy Financing Facility (KyrSEFF) program took part in the traditional exhibition in the framework of the celebration of Europe Day. This year, the KyrSEFF team prepared a special surprise for the visitors of the exhibition: a unique opportunity to see themselves through the eye of the thermal imager (a device that tracks the distribution of temperature).

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COOPERATION WITH FOREIGN SUPPLIERS – AUSTRIA

A technical seminar was organized on April 6-7th in Bishkek. Unison Group and the Austrian company Herz Armaturen joined efforts to raise awareness on modern heating and ventilation systems among designers, installers, and technical specialists in Kyrgyzstan. In total, more than 60 people visited the seminar. The event aroused a strong interest among companies, universities, specialized organizations, construction businesses, and so on.

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G-STAR: FIRST STAGE OF THE GREEN SKILLS CAMPAIGN

The coaching team of Unison Group visited more than 30 localities in the Chuy oblast to conduct seminars aimed at getting participants skills and knowledge about energy and resource saving practices. These events were supported by local authorities, school leaders and teachers, activists and deputies. These educational events were organized within the framework of the project "Green Skills Training in the Chuy Oblast, G-STAR", funded by Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation and implemented by Unison Group with the Public Fund "AVEP", AMETiS and SEEVA.

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PARTICIPATION OF UNISON GROUP IN PARTNERS' ACTIVITIES

On April 29, Unison Group took part in the fifth anniversary of the Education Festival, organized by the international public foundation "Roza Otunbayeva Initiative" in conjunction with the Administration of Bishkek City and the Academy of Physical Culture and Sports. Citizens and guests of the capital could receive consultations and brochures with information on the benefits of energy saving, resource saving and the use of modern technologies. In addition, people could learn about the rights of energy consumers.

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On April 13-15, Nurzat Abdyrasulova, KyrSEFF's national manager took part in the conference "Regional Association of Women Entrepreneurs: Creating a Sustainable Future for Women's Business in Central Asia - Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan". This conference aimed at assisting women in their work, providing useful information and finding innovative solutions. Nurzat Abdyrasulova presented KyrSEFF's investment opportunities.



ACTION DAY IN THE BOTANICAL GARDEN, TOGETHER WITH THE CLIMATE NETWORK OF KYRGYZSTAN

On June 3, Unison Group took part in the Action Day, held at the E.Z. Gareev Botanical Garden of the NAS of the Kyrgyz Republic. The action was initiated by "MoveGreen" youth movement with the support of 350.org organization and the "Cities for Life" team. More than 30 volunteers spent their Saturday morning clearing and expanding irrigation canals to ensure proper watering of plants on hot summer days.

Their goal was to draw the attention of residents to the problems of climate change, and to show the need for joint actions to prevent climate change. "Cities for Life" is an international campaign aimed at bringing together climate activists and initiatives, facilitating the adoption and implementation of long-term climate strategies in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.

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STATISTICS ON KYRGYZ SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FINANCING FACILITY KYRSEFF

325

Consultations Provided

169

Loans Approved

30

Grants Approved



STATISTICS ON ENERGY CONSUMERS' RIGHTS PROTECTION

During Quarter I of 2017, 8 consultations were provided, including:

3

On Energy
Metering Equipment

3

On Energy Billing

2

On Negotiations
With Controllers



MONITORING OF THE PROJECT IN THE NATIONAL PARK "ALA-ARCHA"

On June 2, 2017, the Unison Group team initiated the renovation of information stands of the Ala-Archa Park, established in 2008. The team reworked and updated the content and design of information stands, and handed over to the management of the park "Ala-Archa" a memo for the park's tourists. Stands and memos for tourists were prepared in 2008 within the framework of the project "Sustainable Tourism Development in Kyrgyzstan", in a variety of events: a series of programs was produced jointly with the "Enchanted Wanderer" program, leading experts from Europe were invited, the Sustainable Tourism Strategy was prepared, and the map of the park "Ala-Archa" has been published. Also, recommendations and memos for tourists of Ala-Archa National Park have been developed.



TRAINING AND LEARNING

From May 23rd to 26th, employees of Unison Group N. Otunchieva and E. Gudkova took part in the training of the EBRD Small Business Advisory Program "Energy Efficiency in Industry". The training presented several components useful for consultants that carry out energy audits. Not only the audit methodology was considered, but also other aspects such as potential measures to improve energy efficiency.



EMPLOYEES

Two members of the team – communication specialist Aida Mambetkulova, program's "Change of climate and natural resources management" manager Zarina Abumuslimova – left the staff, and decided to pursue their career in a different company.

During their time in Unison Group, each of them made a great contribution to the development and promotion of the organization. We are grateful, we thank them for their cooperation and wish them further professional success!



Our resources



Unison Group main website
Portal for energy consumers
Kyrgyz Sustainable Energy Financing Facility



Unison Group main page
Protection of energy consumers' rights
Stay Warm, Kyrgyzstan! information campaign
KyrSEFF Program



News on climate
News on energy sector management
News on energy efficiency and RES



Our Offices:

Bishkek, 145 Abdymomunova str.
Phone: +996 (312) 901 216
E-mail: office@unison.kg

Osh, Navoi str. 32,
2nd floor
Phone: +996 (558) 90 12 17
E-mail: osh@unison.kg

Naryn, 21/27 Razzakov str.
Phone: +996 (3522) 50 989
E-mail: naryn@unison.kg