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*Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan* **PRESS RELEASE**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF SWITZERLAND WILL ALLOCATE GRANTS OF 38 MILLION SOMS TO 23 MUNICIPALITIES OF OSH AND NARYN OBLASTS TO SOLVE SIGNIFICANT ISSUIES AT THE LOCAL LEVEL**

**The event dedicated to signing of the Grant Agreements between the “Voice of Citizens and Accountability of LSG: Budgetary Process” Project (hereinafter – the Project) and the local self-government bodies - winners of the Small Grants Program competition will be held on March 23, 2018 in Bishkek with participation of the representatives of the Embassy of Switzerland in the KR, the President’s and Government Administrations, the State Agency for Local Self-Governance and Interethnic Relations (SALSGIR) under the Government of KR and the Union of LSG of KR state agencies and bodies of LSG.**

On March 12, the 2018 Small Grants Program announced results of the competition that was open for all municipalities of Osh and Naryn oblasts of Kyrgyzstan in the framework of the “Voice of Citizens and Accountability of LSG: Budgetary Process” Project financed by the Government of Switzerland through the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and implemented by the Development Policy Institute (hereinafter – the Project). In total 121 applications were submitted by the municipalities of two oblasts, out of which 80 (eighty) applications met the Project’s criteria and requirements to be reviewed by Steering Committee.

*“In 2018 the grant amount is 1,000,000 som per one project. All applications submitted were aimed addressing real problems discussed and selected as priority during public hearings and village gatherings organized by the LSG bodies. The evaluation of the projects and selection of the winners were conducted by the independent Steering Committee. Local self-government bodies will implement the projects according to the national legislation. Local keneshes and local communities will directly monitor the projects implementation. Thus, LSG bodies and local communities will learn to jointly address the local priorities that exist in their municipalities and the grant funds will be allocated to finance the projects targeted at addressing the issues of local significance and improving people’s livelihoods at the local level.”*- commented **Bekbolot Bekiev, the Project Manager.**

The Steering Committee that consisted of the representatives of the President’s Administration of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Finance of KR, SALSGIR, the Union of LSG, the Development Policy Institute and VAP individually reviewed all applications and identified the following 38 winner-projects with the highest scores:

1. “Clean water is the source of health” Gulistan AA, Nookat, Osh;
2. “Water is the source of life”, Jazy AA, Uzgen, Osh;
3. “Water is the source of life”, Ylay-Talaa AA, Kara-Kulja, Osh;
4. “It is possible to change the situation on the roads!” Shark AA, Kara-Suu, Osh;
5. “Infrastructure development is the guarantee of decent human life” Kara-Suu AA, Kochkor, Naryn;
6. “Clean water is the source of life” Kyzyl-Suu AA, Kara-Suu, Osh;
7. “Future is in our hands” Mangyt AA, Aravan, Osh;
8. “Children’s future is the state future” Shark AA, Kara-Suu, Osh;
9. “For the children’s future” Ak-Jar AA, Uzgen, Osh;
10. “Kids are our future” Chaek AA, Zhumgal, Naryn;
11. “Modern education” Gulistan AA, Nookat, Osh;
12. “Healthy village is healthy state” Mangyt AA, Aravan, Osh;
13. “Bright life in the light streets” Chon-Alay AA, Chon-Alay, Osh;
14. “Children is happiness, children is life” Ylay-Talaa AA, Kara-kulja, Osh;
15. “Renovation of the concert hall in the culture center” Kochkor AA, Kochkor, Naryn;
16. “Infrastructure improvement is the guarantee of decent human life” Chaek AA, Zhumgal, Naryn;
17. “Bright life for the youth” Uchkun AA, Naryn, Naryn;
18. “Light streets is bright life” Kyzyl-Suu AA, Kara-Suu, Osh;
19. “Warm school is the way to quality education” Uchkun AA, Naryn, Naryn;
20. “Children’s safety is safety of the future” Ak-Tal AA, Ak-Talaa, Naryn;
21. “Reconstruction of the heating system and replacement of windows and doors in the kindergarten” Mady AA, Kara-Suu, Osh;
22. “Replacement of plastic windows and doors at school” Bulolu AA, Alay, Osh;
23. “Children’s safety is in our hands” Kok-Jar AA, Nookat, Osh;
24. “Children is our future” Ak-Muz AA, At-Bashy, Naryn;
25. “Reconstruction of the heating system at school” Bulolu AA, Alay, Osh;
26. “People is the treasury of talent” Ak-Jar AA, Uzgen, Osh;
27. “Access to information transparency” Kok-Jar AA, Nookat, Osh;
28. “Youth is our future” Chon-Alay AA, Chon-Alay, Osh;
29. “Bright future for the youth” Ak-Tal AA, Ak-Talaa, Naryn;
30. “Equipped school is way to quality education” Ak-Muz AA, At-Bashy, Naryn;
31. “Sport is the peace ambassador” Jazy AA, Uzgen, Osh;
32. “Opening additional groups in the kindergarten” Kochkor AA, Kochkor, Naryn;
33. “The purest water” Say-Bulak AA, Kara-Kulja, Osh;
34. “Replacement of windows at school” Bayzak AA, Zhumgal, Naryn;
35. “Children of the future” Mirmahmudov AA, Nookat, Osh;
36. “Procurement of equipment for the cultural center” Toloikon AA, Kara-Suu, Osh;
37. “Renovation of the village clinic and kindergarten” Ugut AA, Ak-Talaa, Naryn;
38. “Clean water is the source of health” Ak-Talaa AA, At-Bashy, Naryn.

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