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*Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan*

*June 1, 2018* **PRESS RELEASE**

**KYZYL-OKTYABR RURAL MUNICIPALITY IN CHUI VALLEY ORGANIZES TRANSPORT FOR 140 CHILDREN FROM THE SIXTH VILLAGES**

**WITH SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SWITZERLAND**

The solemn launching of “Route to the future” will be held on June 1, 2018 in the Kash-Kelen village of Kyzyl-Oktyabr aiylnyi aimak of Chui oblast. The Route means the operation of the mini-bus purchased by Aiyl Okmotu for transportation children to the school and kindergarten with support of the “Strengthening Voice and Accountability of Citizens’ Participation and Oversight of Budget Processes" project (VAP). The Route is the respond of the Local self-government to the identified needs of the local community. It is respond to the parents’ voice of 140 children from the 6 remote villages who have raised the issue on necessity during the village gatherings and meetings with LSG body and in the process of the discussions of the action plan and budget allocation plan.

Kash-Kelen, Dorojnoe, Saz-Bulak, Djel-Aryk, Cholok and Kyz-Kuyo are the small villages of the Kyzyl-Oktyabr municipality which located 18 km far from the District Administration and there is no any school and kindergarten in its territory. Every day 120 children had to reach the secondary school named after Ashirbaev and 20 kids get to the kindergarten “The future of Kyzyl Oktyabr” which are situated in the Kyzyl Oktyabr village.

*“The Kyzyl Oktyabr AO jointly with the “Temir Jolu” company had organized transportation of the children to school and kindergarten but the bus model of TARZ 1990 year was only for 22 seats. This solution was insufficient because the bus had needed repair works therefore the children had to miss school and kindergarten very often. Most of the parents have no opportunity to carry their children to school and kindergarten independently since there is no any transport and no any organized route network from and to the Kyzyl Oktyabr village. The children from the remote villages had lagged behind their peers studied in the central schools. We have conducted village gathering together with the local communities where the citizens have raised the issue of children transportation as priority. The funds previously budgeted in 2017 and allocated for purchasing the transport were not a solution due to the large the amount of children. We have applied to the competition announced by the Small Grants Programme of the project “Strengthening Voice and Accountability of Citizens’ Participation and Oversight of Budget Processes " (VAP) and could win 1 000 000 soms. Thanks to support of the VAP project our intentions to respond to citizens’ needs are realized and we could purchase additionally mini-bus model of Mercedes-Benz 223203 of 2014 year and could provide the safe transportation of 120 pupils and 21 kids. Besides, tt is good that the school operates on a double shift system.-said* ***the Head of Kyzyl-Oktyabr aiyl okmotu Sultanov C.***

The activity of the project “Strengthening Voice and Accountability of Citizens’ Participation and Oversight of Budget Processes "(VAP) aims at increasing citizen participation in decision-making process on local concerns and in solution of the local issues. The priority of the project is to increase the efficiency of the social resources management, encourage cooperating in promoting citizen priorities in decision –making on the allocation of budgetary funds, creation of the enabling environment for construction of the dialogue between citizens and local self-government bodies. The project funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and implemented by the Development policy institute.

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