

Annex 2 | ***CACSARC-kg Leaflet***

Leaflet about CACSARC-kg activities

Mission

Revival and development of traditional crafts, consolidation of artisans' efforts for mutual cultural enrichment of Central Asian peoples and their integration into the world market.



Values

- Craftsmen as bearers of centuries-old traditions
- High quality, combining traditions and modernity
- Uniqueness of traditional culture, through which people preserve their identity and uniqueness in the context of globalization.



Organizational structure and membership

Today CACSA comprises 71 member-organizations, reaching about 7 thousand artisans in the region: Kazakhstan - 7, Kyrgyzstan - 37, Mongolia - 1, Tajikistan - 4, Turkmenistan - 4, Uzbekistan - 18. The General Assembly and the CACSA Board represented by all countries of Central Asia determine the general management policies. CACSA has the Public Advisory Council consisting of international experts in handicrafts and folk art.

History

1994 – 1998 Projects implementation in Central Asia with the support of Aid to Artisans (US-based crafts support organization), which led to establishing the network of craft organizations in the region;

1998 – 1999 Artisans' partner organizations joined together, preparing to establish the Crafts Support Association;

2000 The Association was legally registered, uniting 17 artisans' organizations from five countries of Central Asia;

2000 – 2006 Crafts support and development in Central Asia.

From 2003 Member of World Crafts Council.

Activities

- Informational support;
- Training and workshops;
- Public and government awareness and support;
- Institutional support;
- Creating conditions for the development of craft markets.



The results of CACSA activities

- Craft sector research conducted, strategic plans developed and adopted for crafts support in Central Asia,
- Regional crafts and artisans' database created;
- Material and technical support provided to CACSA members;
- Quality improved and the craft production range extended via education, training and the UNESCO project "Seal of Excellence for Handicraft Products";
- New markets explored via participating in international fairs and exhibitions, e-commerce and export;
- Artisans' social status-quo and income in the region increased;
- Partnership established with international organizations for integration into the world crafts process;
- Conditions for government's support of craft sector and lobbying artisans' interests at a legislative level created (as a result of CACSA project under the TACIS program the National Crafts Council was established in Kyrgyzstan);
- CACSA-Trade Ltd (crafts export), Raw materials bank, Handicrafts salon, Regional Resource Center (marketing, training, workshops, fairs) established with the support of Eurasia Foundation and Aid to Artisans to develop and promote regional crafts.

Prospective:

- Establishing the regional network of resource centers.
- Strengthening CACSA's educational and marketing potential.
- Further integration into the world crafts development process.



CENTRAL ASIA CRAFTS SUPPORT ASSOCIATION



Major donors

Aid to Artisans
Eurasia Foundation Central Asia
UNESCO
European Commission
Counterpart Consortium
Soros-Kyrgyzstan Foundation
and others

Contact:

Central Asia Crafts Support Association (CACSA)
162-a, Manaschy Sagynbai St
Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic, 720017
tel./fax: (+996312) 662445, 620385
e-mail: cacsa@infotel.kg
website: www.catgen.com/cacsa
www.cacsa.kg