



## Gym Rehabilitation in Gyumri State Technical College (Shirak marz)

### Background

The transition period has had a negative impact on educational system in Armenia. The reduction of public spending in education resulted in a deterioration of the quality of education services. Despite the fact that in recent years positive changes were recorded not only in the legal environment, but also in state funding of education, public health, social security, physical culture, and sport sectors, healthy lifestyle of youth and especially regional youth is far from being satisfactory.

Polls indicates (Youth report, 2006) that the main instruments for leisure organization for an average Armenian youth representative include TV, music, and reading, with a corresponding percentage of 35%, 28.2%, and 18.1%. It may be presumed that the majority of youth spend their leisure time at home. 5.9% of youth prefer to organize their leisure attending internet clubs. The destructive earthquake of 1988, the war in the following years, widespread poverty, unemployment and social polarization have their negative effects on youth health and especially on regional youth health. Polls demonstrates other preferences in organizing leisure – bars, cafes (5.8%), radio (3.8%) and only 2.5% of the questioned young people prefer to visit fitness centers, if they are available. As the statistics prove, today young people have to satisfy their sport demands themselves; however they don't often succeed.

Without a highly skilled and physically trained workforce, the country's development over the long term is jeopardized. Expanding the size and upgrading the premises of schools are currently hindered by lack of funds, inadequate conditions, including, but not limited to the out-dated equipment and poor infrastructure. Thus, the establishment of enabling conditions to assure youth a healthy life style should be prioritized.

### Objective

UNDP VET Project for more than two years has been piloting a comprehensive chain of reforms in a number of VET schools across the country. One of the direct beneficiaries of the UNDP Project is Gyumri State Technical College, which was renovated and provided with a modern heating system along with educational, IT and laboratory equipment. Total funds allocated by UNDP for the College upgrade made up about USD 260,000 ([www.vet.am](http://www.vet.am)). However, due to the shortage of available resources, rehabilitation of the College's Gym has been left beyond UNDP Project's scope of activities. At the same time, it is worth mentioning that the College has a rich sport heritage and has given birth to numerous Olympic champions in the past glorifying Armenia's sport accomplishments throughout the world.

The Project Proposal addresses the rehabilitation of the College's Gym and furnishing it with necessary sport equipment. This way proper condition for exercising and physical training for more than 1,100 youth will be established enabling them to spend leisure time in a healthy way and develop a career pathway directly in the region. The Project Proposal is designed to rehabilitate Gyumri State Technical College Gym, to turn the College into an educational center of excellence in Shirak Marz and to create enabling conditions for youth to stay in and develop one of the poorest northern bordering regions of Armenia.

### Beneficiaries

More than 1,100 direct beneficiaries: students of two adjacent vocational schools (250 and 220 correspondingly) and N26 State General School (200), faculty (90), Railway employees (200) (College's major employer), students from different sport clubs (150) are trained in Gyumri State Technical College.

### Description of Project/Activities

Upgrading Gym Center Premises:

The Assignment will include the following activities: 1. Design Works; 2 Construction Works (Gym and Fitting Rooms Renovation); and 3. Acquisition of Sport Equipment

### Expected Results

Renovated Gym meeting international standards allowing year-round classes to conduct in a proper way not only for the Colleges' students, but also for more than 850 potential direct beneficiaries.

### Budget

1. Design Works – \$ 10, 000
2. Construction Works - \$ 190, 000
  - Gym Renovation Works – \$ 140, 000
  - Renovation of 3 fitting rooms with showers – \$ 50, 000
- 3 Sport Equipment- \$ 20, 000  
(Mattresses, mini football gate, Mattress, Mini football gate, Basketball shield, Volleyball net Vaulting buck, Vaulting horse, Spring-board, Horizontal bar)

**Total: \$ 220, 000**



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