

Problem Statement

Girls in rural areas of Kyrgyzstan are very vulnerable and insecure. They are targeted for bride-kidnapping, domestic violence and early marriages. According to UNDP's report in 2016 on "Violence against Women and Girls", the cases of early marriage are noted in all regions, but were most widespread in Naryn and Chui oblasts (about 13%), the least - in Bishkek (2.4%). As it is analyzed in the report, more than 20% of marriages in the Kyrgyz Republic happen through the abduction of women and girls. "The abduction of a woman/girl for marriage in rural areas occurs twice as much as in urban areas."¹.

What Do We Do?

Village Girl's mission is to empower girls in rural areas of Kyrgyzstan to enable them to reach their fullest potential and inspire them to strive for their dreams. The project was initiated to start a never-ending chain of empowerment, sisterhood and girl-power culture among the village girls. Our team consists of two organizers and four trainers. We organize trainings and workshops, and nurture girls' soft skills with a focus on leadership, critical and creative thinking, and goal setting. In 2018, 16 high school girls from four schools in the rural Naryn region were selected and subsequently conducted the workshops in their schools for about 50 school girls.

Goal Statement

To create a positive 'girl power' culture by empowering 16 9th and 10th grade girls from all four schools of the remote Kochkor village in the Naryn region, which enables them to reach their full potential and nurture their leadership skills through two-day workshops that includes panel discussions on self-development.



Partnerships and Cooperation

- Student Initiative Development Program at American University of Central Asia;
- UNICEF;
- OSCE Academy;
- American Councils for International Education;
- Jundubaeva school;
- Kalygul Bai uulu school;
- Kydyraliev school;
- Arabaeva school.

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Village Girl is a Super Girl!