



**“EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE RISK EDUCATION IN INTERNALLY  
DISPLACED COMMUNITIES IN AGHJABADI, AGHDAM, TARTAR AND  
GORANBOY REGIONS” PROJECT**

**REPORT**

**Starting Date:**

**Ending Date:**

**August 10, 2022**

**December 31, 2022**

**2022**

## TRAINING CONDUCTED BY ANAMA INSTRUCTORS

In order to prepare for the Great Return of refugees and internally displaced persons, the "Explosive Ordnance Risk Education" (EORE) project was launched in Aghjabedi, Aghdam, Tartar and Goranboy regions, which was implemented by the International Eurasia Press Fund (IEPF) in cooperation with ANAMA and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

First of all, the International Eurasia Press Fund started the selection process to determine the people who will be trained in the regions of the communities and identified a team of seven people.



On August 25, 2022, ANAMA's leading experts on mine danger conducted a two-day training for IEPF project employees at the Vocational Training Center of the International Eurasia Press Fund located in Tartar district. ANAMA's professional trainers fully trained the project staff on the dangers of mines for two days. On the first day of the training, the head of the International Eurasia Press Fund, Umud Mirzayev participated and wished the training participants success in their work.



## **THE FIRST TRAINING IN THE TOWN OF SHIKHARX, TARTAR**

The first meeting of the project team was held, the goals were determined and the work was divided according to the tasks to be done.

Thus, on September 12, 2022, we held our first meeting in Shikharkh town of Tartar district. In Shikharkh, our government has built 36 buildings for refugees. 1176 families and 4782 residents live in 36 buildings. There are a total of 10782 displaced people living in Tartar district.

We were very excited as it was our first meeting, our trainees included veterans who have fought for our land, as well as teachers and administrators. But we were able to overcome the excitement and start our first risk education meeting. Our meeting with residents of Shikharkh town was very interesting and productive. The main thing was that the training participants listened carefully to our speech and wanted to get more information about the dangers of landmines. Community activists were selected from the active participants of the meeting.



## TRAINING FOR SHIKHARX COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS

We invited the group of activists from the meeting we held in Shikharkh town on September 13, 2022 to the Vocational Training Center of the International Eurasia Press Fund located in Tartar district. We trained them. During the training, we informed the activists about the work they will do. Our goal is to cover all population groups within Shikharkh and Beyamsarov communities. We instructed the education company to involve women and girls more seriously, as they have little knowledge about the contamination of our territories.



It was decided that the community activists will hold their first meetings with the participation of trainers and report on the work done at the end of the day. It was also recommended that our ladies should be more involved in the meetings.

## MEETINGS WITH RESIDENTS OF SHIKHARX TOWN

In Shikharkh town, we started the first neighborhood meetings with the participation of community activists. The representatives of the Great Return welcomed us very kindly and wanted to get as much information as possible. Our people, who will return to their homeland, expressed their gratitude to us for educating them.



In the arrangement of meetings in Shikharkh town of Tartar region, Gurbanov Bekir - the head of the housing operation area of the State Refugee Committee, Nazarov Mohlat - the sector manager of the State Committee for Refugees and IDPs in Tartar region, Aliyev Vafadar - the director of the displaced general secondary school No. 107 of Aghdam region, and Musayeva Gulana - the director of the secondary school No. 2 of Shikharx town supported us throughout the process with their teams.



## MEETING WITH THE RESIDENTS OF ALIBEYLI-1 TOWN OF AGHDAM

From September 22, 2022, we started our meetings in the displaced towns of Aghdam. Najafov Matlab – the head of the Aghdam district sector of the State Committee on Refugees and IDPs, Gahramanov Jahangir - the military head of the Aghdam district music college, Ms. Valimammadova Tünzale – the director of the displaced secondary school No.2 and the teaching staff of the secondary school of Ergi settlement have always supported us. For your information, let us inform you that the main part of our displaced people in Aghdam region - 5641 families, 25106 residents, live in eighteen settlements built by our state. Some of the displaced people live in kindergartens and state offices. Their number consists of 2340 families, i.e. 8849 people. The total number of our displaced people living in Aghdam region is 33955 people.



We started holding daily meetings in the towns of Aghdam. We held our first meeting in Alibeyli 1 town. The organizer of the first event was Matlab Nazarov, the head of the State Committee on the Affairs of Refugees and IDPs of Aghdam region. He declared our event open and wished us success. The future participants of the Great Return were very interested in learning mine safety. Thus, we held our daily meetings in the towns of Aghdam and began to select community activists among the active event participants. As the number of community activists grew, the quality of our work started increasing and each resident was becoming a trainer.



## THE TRAGEDY OF A FAMILY IN AGHDAM

During the meeting held in Gasymbeyli town of Aghdam, it became known that the family members of Ali Aliyev, one of the participants of the event, were injured by a mine. We were horrified by what the child said. Ali's grandfather Huseynov Akif - a resident of Afatli village, his sons - Huseynov Razi, Huseynov Bayram, Huseynov Anar and their neighbor - Abdulov Bahruz went to visit their relatives buried in the Yusifcanli village cemetery, which is forbidden to outsiders. First, one of them fell into a mine, then all his relatives who came to save him fell into a mine.

As a result of the incident, Huseynov Razi and Huseynov Bayram were killed and three others suffered various injuries. If the right step had been taken in time, the scale of the tragedy would have been reduced. If you fall into a mine, there is no need to take any further steps, it is enough to call 102 or 112. The main goal and task of us trainers is to give our people the correct instructions about landmines. What we are trying to do is to reduce the number of landmine incidents to a minimum thanks to landmine education.



## OUR MEETINGS IN THE ERGI TOWN OF AGDAM

During meetings in Ergi town of Aghdam, residents welcomed us trainers as their dearest people. After the training, we continued our discussions over tea. During the meetings, as a IEPF family, we decided to donate balls suitable for sports to schools in order to develop sports in displaced settlements. When we presented a ball to the Ergi school, a wonderful proposal came from the teachers. The proposal was to use this ball for the first time by holding a volleyball competition between IEPF trainers and the staff of Ergi school. The proposal was accepted and we held a special game.



**IEPF 1 - Ergi 1**

**Friendship won.**



## **GENERAL MEETING WITH ACTIVISTS OF GORANBOY DISTRICT 6 DISPLACED TOWNS**

At the end of September, we started our meetings with the displaced people located in Goranboy district. Mehman Binnatov - the chairman of the Goranboy district committee on work with refugees, Chobanov Seymur - the head of the apartment utility operation area of Goranboy district of IDPs, and Huseynov Islam - the executive representative of Yeni Veysli settlement of Goranboy district, always supported in organizing the meetings. For your information, six settlements have been built for displaced people in Goranboy district. Five of them are village-type settlements and one is a city-type settlement. 1942 families, i.e. 7410 residents, live in the six settlements. Our first meeting was in a high-rise residential complex in Goranboy district. The participants in this meeting were mainly employees working in the state structures of six displaced settlements located in Goranboy district. Among the participants, we selected community activists according to the settlements and scheduled meetings with them.



## TRAININGS IN THE TOWN OF YENİ VEYSLİ

The organizer of our meeting in Yeni Veysli town of Goranboy district was Huseynov Islam, executive representative of the town. The residents of Yeni Veysli, especially Mr. Islam, stood out with their activity during the trainings, and also the main participants of the meeting were active people of the town. New community activists were selected from among the participants of the meeting.

At one of the Yeni Veysli town meetings, our attention was drawn to one of our brothers with a crutch. After the meeting, I approached our brother and asked how he is. During the conversation, it became obvious that in 2022, farmer Musayev Isa took his animals to the plateau in Kalbajar district. On the night of September 12-13, 2022, he heard a gunshot. One of the cannon shells fired by the Armenians fell near them. One of the shrapnel hit his knee. Mr. Asim was a victim of Armenian atrocity during the ceasefire period. As a result, he had to walk with a crutch due to knee injury and lost his ability to work.



## OUR TRAININGS ARE CONTINUING IN YENI VEYSLI TOWN OF GORANBOY DISTRICT

A meeting was held under the supervision of Mrs. Murtuzayeva Lamiya, the head of Yeni Veysli town kindergarten. The participants of the meeting were the teaching staff and technical workers of the kindergarten. The interesting point was that Ms. Lamiye and the employees of the kindergarten were sitting on the seats of the babies while carefully listening to the trainers. We instructed our selected ladies as community activists to educate the parents of our babies.



Teachers and students of secondary schools of Yeni Veysli and city-type settlements took an active part in education. We gave balls to the sports classes for the development of sports at school and for the healthy growth of our children.



## OUR TRAINING AT AGHJABADI DISTRICT “TAKHTAKORPU”

On October 20, 2022, we started meetings in the fourth displaced people's settlements, located in Takhtakorpu settlement of Aghjabadi district. During the meetings, Mirzayev Tural - the representative of the Lachin district of the State Committee on Refugees and IDPs, Ugurlu Shabnam - the director of Takhtakorpu settlement secondary school, the deputy organizer of the extracurricular activities of that school - Mrs. Tahmezova Gulshan always supported us. Takhtakorpu consists of six state-built settlements for displaced people and Lachin hamlets. In general, 2,719 families or 9,110 residents live in the settlements. We started our first meeting in settlement No. 552. Mr. Tural participated in most of our meetings. Throughout the events, the participants of the meeting were active and learned about the steps they would take in the event of a land mine threat during the Great Return. During the meetings, community activists were selected and fully educated to conduct risk education training with the residents.



## COMMUNITY ACTIVIST TRAINING AT TAKHTAKORPU SECONDARY SCHOOL



In connection with the organization of the director of the Takhtakorpu secondary school - Ms. Ugurlu Shabnam and her assistant Ms. Tahmezova Gulshan, educational activities are regularly conducted in the school. The ladies have created a mine risk education corner in one of the classrooms. As a community activist, Mrs. Gülşan regularly educates schoolchildren and their parents about mine safety. Our settlers from Lachin district located in Takhtakorpu are looking forward to the first migration in 2023.



## RISK EDUCATION THROUGH PROPAGANDA TOOLS

The most active part of the education was after the period of delivery of propaganda tools to us. Thanks to the joint consultation of UNHCR, ANAMA and IEPF, we got excellent propaganda tools. The timely delivery of booklets, posters, blackboards and pens helped us a lot. Every resident was interested in seeing military ammunition and mines in brochures and posters. There were cases when residents took the booklet to educate their relatives. Posters were posted at school entrances and military classrooms. After the distribution of propaganda materials, there was a turning point in the work of community activists. They could easily show the mines and military ordnance that we were talking about in brochures and posters. Everywhere we went, we heard nothing but words of gratitude. This always encouraged us.



The booklets and posters we distributed have already become study materials. A booklet can be seen in every schoolboy's bag. Children enthusiastically write their homework with the pens provided by the instructors.



## MONITORING OF THE TARTAR SHIKHARX MEETING



On November 28, 2022, we held one of the next meetings in Shikharkh town. The staff of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Ilkin Abdiyev and Tural Abbasov also participated in this meeting. Among the participants of the meeting were community activists and our residents who were the first to participate in our training. Community activist Aliyev Nofal made a speech and talked about the trainings he had conducted. He informed that he has trained the residents of the settlement and the teachers, as well as the students of the school he works for. Then the floor was given to trainer Binnetov Raul. Mr. Raul conducted a training to residents of Shikharkh.



## MONITORING OF AGHCABADI TAKHTAKORPU MEETING



On November 29, 2022, another meeting was held in Takhtakorpu settlement, Aghjabadi district, with the participation of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees employees Ilkin Abdiyev, Tural Abbasov and Lachin district representative of the State Committee on Refugees and IDPs, Mr. Mirzayev Tural. The meeting was attended by community activists and new residents. Community activist Gulshan Tahmezova was given the floor to greet the event participants and conduct the training. Mrs. Gulshan trained the new residents, and then Tural Abbasov informed about the work done by UNHCR for our displaced people over the years.



Zakir Mamedov, the director of secondary school No. 1 of Vagazin village in the Lachin region, and Mr. Ahmadov Islam, the head of the registration department of Aghjabadi region and deputy head of Lachin region, have made a special contribution to the organization of our meetings.



## MONITORING OF GORANBOY YENI VEYSLI MEETING



On November 30, 2022, we held one of the next meetings in Yeni Veysli settlement of Goranboy district. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees employees Tural Abbasov, Ilkin Abdiyev and Yeni Veysli executive representative Huseynov Islam participated in the meeting. Trainer Raul Binnatzade trained the participants of the meeting, and then the floor was given to UNHCR representative Tural Abbasov. Mr. Tural greeted the representatives of the Great Return. He spoke about the work done by UNHCR for our displaced people over the years. The participants of the event said that the risk education project was of great importance to them.



## TRAININGS FOR OUR BELOVED TEACHERS



The risk education project was well received by all. But the most responsible job for us trainers was training our beloved teachers. We are very thankful to them for the fact that they mastered our trainings perfectly. Most importantly, our teachers were very active as community activists. They performed the tasks we gave them properly. We are especially grateful to our teachers for supporting us in the educational work.



## OUR MOTHERS' PARTICIPATION IN THE RISK EDUCATION PROJECT



Our mothers have a special role in the mine risk education project. The sweet attitude they showed us during the meetings was heart-warming. The words they say in the special dialect of Karabakh, "Hey, kids, why are you working tirelessly without eating first? Come, eat a piece of bread, and then you will work." In one of the settlements located in the Goranboy district, our old mother, a migrant from Kalbajar, invited us to sac bread with motal cheese. Our mother cooked fasali for us in a sac. Here is the compassionate heart of an Azerbaijani (TURKISH) woman. Our biggest wish is to meet our displaced mothers in their native lands.



## MINE TRAINING FOR OUR ATHLETES



During the educational events about risks of mines in the IDP settlements of Aghdam region, with the aim of educating more people, we visited the places where the IDPs gathered together. In one of these places, there were sports clubs where teenagers were engaged in sports. We held meetings with the teenagers there and informed them about the danger of landmines. The soldiers of the future were very interested in these trainings and have promised to share the information they received from us with as many people as possible.



## **TRAINING ON NOVEMBER 8 – THE VICTORY DAY**

An event was organized on the occasion of November 8 – The Victory Day in Shikharkh town of Tartar region. The event was attended by the management staff of the settlement, the head of the housing operation area of the State Committee on Refugees and IDPs - Gurbanov Bekir, the sector manager of the Tartar region of the State Committee on Refugees and IDPs - Nazarov Mohlat, and representatives of other state bodies. We used the opportunity to educate the people who participated in the event about mine safety.



After the military parade in the college on the occasion of November 8 - Victory Day in Guzanli settlement of Aghdam, we used the opportunity to educate them about military ordnance and mines. This meeting was just on point, because our young people, who are the soldiers of the future, were informed in advance about the dangers that may come from landmines.



## OUR MEETINGS IN THE BENOVSHELER TOWN OF AGHDAM



When talking about the mine risk education project in the displaced settlements of Aghdam, Benovsheler settlement should be specially mentioned. The director of the displaced secondary school No. 2 located in Benovsheler settlement - Valimammadova Tünzale, along with her team, has always supported us. As a community activist, Mrs. Tunzale had an exceptional role in organizing new meetings. A good relationship has been established with the teaching staff of the school. High school military training teacher Hasanov Shirvan, a community activist, conducted training together with our trainers. The posters we present to the school are used as study materials.



## PUTTING UP WARNING BOARDS

Thanks to the joint consultation of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), ANAMA and the International Eurasia Press Fund (IEPF), it was decided to install warning signs on the roadsides in the liberated areas. For this purpose, meetings were held in the communities in order to determine the places to put up the boards. The places, where our people can easily see the boards, have been determined. More than 200 warning signs were installed on the roadside that can be seen by everyone in Aghdam, Lachin, Shusha, Tartar, Khojavand, Goranboy, Beylagan and Aghjabadi regions. The main purpose of installing roadside signs is to educate more people about the Dangers of Explosive Ordnance.



## CONCLUSION

The “Explosive Ordnance Risk Education” Project (EORE) was successfully completed in the internally displaced communities of Aghjabadi, Aghdam, Tartar and Goranboy regions. Most of our settlers were involved in mine education. Executive Authority structures fully supported us in this work. Educational activities were carried out in thirty-three communities in four regions. 200 community activists selected from thirty-three communities supported us in educating 27,627 residents. Meetings were held several times in each of the thirty-three communities. As a result of the education project, we had 27,627 settlers who were aware of mine danger. 3 golden rules became clear for our settlers: 1. We cannot enter the territory we do not know. 2. You can't touch things that don't belong to us. 3. To call 102 and 112 when you see a mine. Community activists expressed their desire to support us again in future projects.



Our people appreciate the educational work of UNHCR, ANAMA, IEPF, and most importantly, President Ilham Aliyev's concern for the members of the Great Return, and wished for the education to be continuous. As a suggestion, they said that it would be good to conduct educational work with our citizens who are not displaced in the former contact line and the border regions with Armenia. The more our citizens are educated about the dangers of landmines and explosive remnants of war, the fewer incidents there will be.

