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FSD Partners
Dear Colleagues,

What was the most noticeable event of 2009 for our Fund?

Probably, the publication of the “Best Community Development Support Practices” describing the results of our work during the past four years. The concrete examples for this collection were chosen from among almost one hundred and fifty projects carried out across Russia with support from our Fund.

These practices, though implemented in a broad range of areas, have one thing in common – support to citizen project initiatives aimed at improving life in their towns and settlements in all aspects – economic, social and environmental. These grassroot initiatives help address the important challenge of developing a new civil society through the creative initiatives of local communities aimed at resolve critical municipal issues. We believe that the best and shortest way to achieve this is to give citizens a chance to feel needed and capable of doing something useful together by pooling efforts and resources.

We realize that innovative and socially oriented development is the ultimate goal of our time. However, while being guided by ultimate goals, we should not forget about the every-day realities of our life, like wasteful consumption of resources and lack of civilized waste management in our country. Or that almost half of Russia’s schools in small towns and villages do not even have basic amenities, such as sewage disposal. Or that not all people in our country have access to clean drinking water.

Resolving such issues, which at first sight seem “minor” but which are actually of vital importance to many people on a local level, may lead to cardinal changes in our towns and settlements (which form most of Russia) and may become a significant contribution to reaching the ultimate and global objectives of sustainable development.
The Fund for Sustainable Development (FSD) is an independent, nongovernmental and non-profit Russian fund created to promote regional and community sustainable development through concrete projects addressing environmental, social and economic issues across the Russian Federation.

Pursuant to its mission, FSD carries out the following activities:

- Grantmaking, including the development and support of activities and training in the sphere of regional sustainable development, environmental protection, environmental education, and civil society development;
- Collection, storage, analysis and dissemination of information on ecosystems, best practices and methods related to sustainable development and promotion of environmental and human health;
- Preparation of analytical reviews and forecasts in such areas as conservation of Russia’s natural heritage and biodiversity, and the rational management of natural resources.

FSD works on projects and programs with support from Russian and international donors in the following areas:

- Environment and public health
- Conservation and rational nature management
- Support to civic initiatives
- Energy and resource efficiency
- Education and youth development

The FSD team possesses extensive experience in promoting multi-sector interaction, bringing together local communities and interregional networks to manage projects aimed at promoting the rational use of natural resources and environmental and public health improvement and developing and utilizing energy-efficiency techniques.

FSD reputation is based on full transparency of all aspects of its activities, with special attention focused on addressing issues connected with environmental protection and sustainable development. The core principles of FSD work include transparency, openness, formation of partner teams, goal-oriented activities and achievement of sustainable project results.

FSD Expertise

The Fund for Sustainable Development has brought together professionals who have been managing socio-economic projects since 1997.

The expertise of this team is based on community development approaches and techniques tested under the ROLL (Replication of Lessons Learned) and TGP (Targeted Grants Program in the Russian Far East) and CDSP (Community Development Support Program) and others carried out with financial support from the United States Agency for International Development.

FSD has successfully fulfilled a whole range of projects with funding from USAID and Russian and international businesses, such as SUAL, BP, EuroChem Company, CITI, TNK-BP and United Technologies.

FSD is also actively collaborating with international foundations (Alcoa Foundation, Ford Foundation and Citi Foundation), the International Union for the Conservation of
Nature Resources (IUCN) and Russian government philanthropic organizations (Moscow Chamber of Public Organizations, Moscow Philanthropic Board and the National Health League Charitable Foundation).

From 1997 through 2009, over 600 concrete projects for an amount of nearly $14 million were fulfilled under FSD management; and lasting multi-sector interaction was established with government, businesses, NGOs and media outlets practically in all the regions of the country.

FSD has a network of partner regional centers across the country in the cities of Yekaterinburg, Ulan-Ude, Nizhny Novgorod and Khabarovsk. These centers take an active part in on-site project management.

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V. N. Kisilev, Chairman of the Providers of Last Resort and Retail Suppliers Non-Profit Partnership

John Dooley, Justice, Vermont Supreme Court; President, Russian-American Rule-of-Law Consortium, USA

"The basis of FSD work is involving as many local residents as possible into the development of their communities. FSD provides grants for addressing social and economic challenges, giving preference to those municipalities where government, business and local activists have demonstrated their desire to work together. Cities, districts and settlements where such consortiums are created with the help of FSD stop being simply populated centers, but become sites where citizen creative initiatives are realized. This effort also generates an important economic effect. One of the conditions of receiving a grant is reinvestment of savings resulting from energy-efficiency and other projects into community development. To someone the scope of these projects may not seem grandiose enough, but, as we know, "a journey of a thousand li begins with a single step".

Igor YURGENS,
Chairman of the Board of the Institute of Contemporary Development
2009 FACTS AND EVENTS

January 2009

The Fund for Sustainable Development Participated in Events Organized by Its Partner – the National Health League

On January 29-30, 2009, the Fund for Sustainable Development took part in the First National Congress "Healthy Lifestyle as a Condition of Russia's Sustainable Development and Source of Competitive Business" and in the Second National Exhibition of Russia's NGOs “Civil Society: Healthy Lifestyle, Public Health and Environmental Protection”. These events were attended by over 300 participants from 80 regions of the country. In the framework of the exhibition, FSD presented its new project – Male Health Protection – as well as the results of other programs devoted to advertising healthy lifestyles and protecting public health and the environment, carried out in Belaya Kalitva and Samara (under the “We Are In Charge of the Future Program” of Alcoa Foundation) and in Nevinnomyssk (under the “Environment and Public Health in Nevinnomyssk and Other Regions of EuroChem Company Presence” Program).

February 2009

The Male Health Culture Project Implemented by FSD was Presented at the 7th National Scientific Forum MALE HEALTH AND LONGEVITY

At the 7th National Scientific Forum ‘Male Health and Longevity’ that took place in Moscow on February 18-19, 2009, FSD presented its project Male Health Culture, on which it worked jointly with specialists from Bashkiria State Medical University. Over 350 health care professionals, participants in the Forum, became acquainted with the ideas and plans of this project.

March 2009

FSD Community Development Support Programs were Presented at the Citizen Participation in Local Self-Government: Experience, Challenges and Prospects Conference in Tomsk

On March 25, 2009, Elena Bondarchuk, FSD projects manager, presented the best practices of FSD community development projects at the conference Citizen Participation in Local Self-Government: Experience, Challenges and Prospects that was held in Tomsk. Among the issues discussed by the participants were innovative social technologies for sustainable community development tested by FSD under its Community Development Support Programs. Over 60 attendees from 21 cities of Siberia and European Russia shared their experience related to the discussed topics at the Local Self-Government as the Basis of Russian Democracy Round Table.

April 2009

FSD Organized a Conference and Training Seminar Devoted to Community Development in Conditions of Crisis

On April 22-24, 2009, in Moscow, FSD, in partnership with the National Research Center for State and Municipal Governance, sponsored a conference and training seminar ‘Community Development in Conditions of an Economic Crisis’.

This event consisted of two parts: during the first day there was a conference at which presentations were made by representatives of the RF Ministry of Economic Development, RF Ministry of Finance, RF Ministry of Regional Development, regional government agencies, local self-government and NGOs; and the second two days included a seminar devoted to practical training directly linked with local self-government issues.
The 24th FSD Regional Support Centers (RC) Seminar was held in Moscow on April 24, 2009, after the Conference and training seminar for representatives of municipalities, in which RC directors took part not only as attendees, but as moderators as well.

The primary goal of the seminar was to discuss in detail the results of work achieved in 2008–2009 and plans for 2009–2010 and also the role of RC in implementing grant programs, monitoring project results, working with local communities, and preparing materials for the brochure devoted to the outcomes of the Community Development Support Program.

May 2009

**FSD Representatives Join the International Scientific and Practical Seminar Environmentally Sustainable Development: Rational Natural Resources Management.**

The seminar, which took place on May 22-23, 2009, in Yasnaya Polyana Estate Museum in Tula Oblast, was organized by the Center of Russia’s Environmental Policy and Culture, a national NGO; the Commission for Environmental Policy and Conservation at the RF Public Chamber; and Tula State University. It was attended by nearly 50 scholars, educators, experts and journalists from six regions of Russia and from the US.

Presenters from FSD spoke about the best practices of projects that promoted sustainable community development in Russia and were carried out in 30 municipalities in the Russian Far East, Lake Baikal Region and the Northern Caucasus under the Community Development Support Program in the Russian Federation.

June 2009

**FSD Representatives Took Part in the Assistance National Social Programs Festival**

This event that took place on June 15-16, 2009 in Moscow at the RF Public Chamber was attended by over 250 representatives of NGOs, businesses, leading ministries and the scientific community from 15 regions of the country.

The Festival included the forum Government, Business and NGOs: Partnership for Development, at which in the framework of one of its workshops – Government, Business and NGOs: Functional Partnership Mechanisms – FSD presented the experience of its joint effort with EuroChem Company in introducing innovative community development mechanisms in regions of this company’s presence. The example of the Environment and Public Health in Nevinnomyssk and Other Regions of EuroChem Company Presence Program was used to demonstrate the successful results of utilizing modern social technologies that motivate public participation in community development programs.

July 2009

**The “Environmental Issues in Russia: New Opportunities for Environmental Cooperation” US-Russia Roundtable was Organized with FSD Participation.**

On the initiative of USAID, the Fund for Sustainable Development jointly with Eurasia Foundation organized this round table, at which the priorities of mutually beneficial cooperation of the two countries in the area of environmental protection were set.
This event, which was part of the Civil Society Leaders Summit that took place in Moscow on July 8, was timed to US President Barack Obama’s first visit to Moscow.

The round table was joined by over 30 participants: Russian and US conservation experts, scientists, representatives of Russian environmental NGOs, officials from the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Public Chamber, and the staff of USAID and the US Embassy in Moscow.

August 2009

FSD Supported the Health Wave Communications and Health Improvement Action Conducted Under the Slogans “Russia without Tobacco”, “Alcohol-Free Russia” and “Society against Drugs”

This action was sponsored by the National Health League, an all-Russia public organization and a partner of the Fund for Sustainable Development in implementing the project Male Health Culture.

The Health Wave included press conferences, round tables, conferences, discussions, lectures and seminars with the participation of officials from federal and regional government, members of the organizational committee, sponsors, participants and guests. The key purpose of these events was to lay a foundation for effectual interaction between government, NGOs and business in the spheres of public health, education, mass athletic programs and culture.

September 2009

On September 22-24, 2009, FSD Presented Its Experience in Promoting Public Participation in Improving the Social Environment in the Community of Nevinnomyssk at the Environmental Education and Urban Challenges Seminar in Plock, Poland

Over 40 participants from 11 countries of Central and Eastern Europe came to this seminar: officials from municipalities, ministries of regional development, transport and environmental protection and staff of universities, NGOs, environmentally oriented businesses, education centers and consulting and engineering firms operating in the areas of urban development.

The EuroChem Program managed by FSD was presented as a successful example of interaction between a socially responsible business and a local community. The tested practices offered to the residents of Nevinnomyssk to improve the social environment in their city may be replicated in other municipalities with similar infrastructures.

October 2009

FSD Organized a Decision Support Tools for Rational Natural Resources Management Seminar in Partnership with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

This seminar took place in Moscow on October 27, 2009 and was devoted to a discussion of two IUCN projects fulfilled in Russia in 2007-2009.
1. Translating Declaration into Action: Maintaining Momentum of the St. Petersburg Declaration within the Context of Russia’s New Forest Code

2. Developing Decision Support Tools for Regional Protected Areas of the Central European Russia (on the example of Vladimir and Yaroslavl Regions)

Both projects were carried out with financial support from the BBI-MATRA Project of the Netherlands Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality. The goal of the first project was to introduce sustainable forest management systems, assist local community development and promote civic initiatives. The second project involved a study of the status of ecosystems and protected species and also an improvement of policies in the sphere of managing and developing protected areas that are an inseparable element of an ecological framework and also a source of subsistence for local communities.

November 2009

25th FSD Regional Support Center Seminar in Khabarovsk

The key goal of the 25th FSD Regional Support Center Seminar, which took place on November 13, 2009, in Khabarovsk right after the Amur Initiative Program Seminar, was to discuss the role of RC in the future work of FSD and, in particular, in the development of an NGO partnership network in Russia with the aim of facilitating the replication of acquired experience in energy-saving, environmentally sustainable development and the prevention of the consequences and threats of climate change.

December 2009

In December 2009, the Fund for Sustainable Development Took Part in the Citi-Financial Times Financial Education Summit

This summit, held in Singapore on December 3-4 and titled ‘Securing the Future: Creating a Financially Sustainable Society’, was attended by 500 participants, mainly from the Asia Pacific, which is a region of Citi deep presence. Starting from 2008, FSD has been working on the Citi Foundation funded program Changing Communities Right Now! FSD program director, Ruslan Butovsky, made a presentation entitled ‘Environmental Education in the Russian Federation: Learning through Practice’ at the summit’s workshop Integration of Financial and Environmental Education. This presentation evoked a noticeable interest among the participants. FSD’s community development effort carried out under the above program in the cities of Gorodets (Nizhny Novgorod Oblast) and Nevyanst (Sverdlovskaya Oblast) successfully combines economic, social and environmental projects carried out simultaneously in one community and also targeted toward increasing awareness about financial issues.

FSD Organized a Round Table Discussion at the IV National Conference Social Partnership and Civil Society Development: Regional and Municipal Experience

At this conference, sponsored by the RF Ministry of Economic Development, FSD conducted a round table – Social Partnership Practices and Multi-Sector Interaction. Regional Experience of Developing Social Entrepreneurship – devoted to the key results of the Community Development Support Program in the Russian Federation. The ‘Collection of Best Practices’ published on the basis of the Program’s results achieved from 2006 through 2009 was also presented to the participants in this event.
In 2009, FSD completed the large-scale three-year Community Development Support Program. This grant program involved the implementation of 110 competitive projects in 44 municipalities located in 15 regions of the Russian Federation and, primarily, in the Russian Far East and Northern Caucasus. Nearly one million citizens of Russia benefited from this program, with over one thousand being directly involved into its activities as project implementers, organizers and participants in their communities.

FSD included the results of the most successful projects of the Program into a publication titled ‘Best Community Development Support Practices’ and organized and took part in several national conferences devoted to community development. The successes of the Program were acknowledged on a municipal, regional and federal level and its results were recommended for broad dissemination by FSD in partnership with the United Nations Development Program, RF Ministry of Economic Development and the National Research Center for State and Municipal Governance through the formation of a specialized community around this approach at the portal /Market of Innovative Solutions/www.solex-un.ru/.

FSD also successfully completed its programs devoted to creating new jobs in rural areas (with support from the Ford Foundation) and improving the social environment in the city of Nevinnomyssk (with support from EuroChem Company), as well as the project Male Health Culture (with support from the National Health League). During 2009, we continued work on the program Improving Communities Right Now! (with support from the Citi Foundation).

FSD PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED IN 2009

- Community Development Support Program
- Amur Initiative Target Program
- Environment and Public Health in Nevinnomyssk and Other Regions of EuroChem Company Presence Program
- We Are in Charge of the Future ALCOA Sustainability and Conservation Program for Russia
- Sustainable Development and Jobs in Rural Areas (RURALJOB) – Ford Foundation Program
- Improving Communities Right Now! – CITI Foundation Program
- Male Health Improvement Project (Medical and social, organization and cultural and educational aspects of male health protection as a factor of national security)
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT PROGRAMS IN RUSSIA: BEST PRACTICES

Promoting Local Sustainable Development through Community Initiated Improvement Projects in the Following Areas:

- Energy efficiency and the use of alternative and renewable sources of energy
- Improving life quality in communities through the creation of a sustainable and healthy living environment
- Youth development and career guidance to ensure involvement in community affairs
- Support to traditional indigenous communities
- Protected areas: support, resource saving and development of the tourism and recreation potential
- Social partnerships: businesses, government and citizens consolidate community resources in joint projects addressing local concerns

This publication, prepared by the Fund for Sustainable Development, summarizes the best practices and presents examples of the most successful projects of its Community Development Support Program. The book and disc were put out in 2,500 copies and distributed among a broad audience including municipality executives and professionals, government officials, entrepreneurs, NGO staff, experts and university teachers of the subject Municipal Governance.

We apologize for the enclosed disc being in the Russian language, since the book was initially intended for a Russian-speaking audience.
Today, most people in Russia believe that they are unable to change anything and further still that it is pointless to try to do so. Obviously, this is a psychological problem associated with a deep mistrust of the authorities and a lack of trust in their own abilities.

I travel a lot around the country and see that in one city people are energetic, they smile and you feel that something is going on there. While another place may look practically dead with sagging fences, yards, which you do not want to enter, and windows that have not been washed for months. And you want to ask these people: "What is the matter? Isn’t this your home?!"

There can be no civil society if citizens do not take part in public affairs. It just cannot be. This is unrealistic. These are just words… Our goal is to change the people’s way of thinking and help them realize that this is their country and they are responsible for it.

The strategic goal of the county’s development is a transition to an innovative socially oriented development model. In this connection, one of the priority objectives is to support regional and community sustainable development through concrete projects tackling environmental, social and economic issues.

The materials of the Community Development Support Program presented in this publication explore the successful experience of community development accumulated in the course of the several years of this Program’s implementation in Russia.

The key topics include energy saving, the use of alternative and renewable sources of energy in municipalities, improvement of the quality of life and the state of health of community members through conservation, youth involvement in sustainable development, support to small indigenous peoples, assistance to protected nature areas and the development of their tourist and recreational capacities, and promoting social partnerships to further community development.

The CD that is attached to the hard copy of this publication contains contact information of organizations that participated in the Program’s projects in dozens of municipalities, enabling an efficient utilization of successful experience by all interested organizations.

These materials will be of interest to government and local self-government officials and representatives of civil society institutes and socially responsible businesses.
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Program is carried out in the Russian Far East, Lake Baikal Region, in the Northern Caucasus and some other regions of the country with financial support from the United States Agency for International Development.

Program funding – $5.65 million for the period from 2006 through 2009.

The Program is aimed at promoting integrated regional and community development through providing support to communities in addressing environmental, economic and social issues and includes a number of core components of which the most noticeable ones are grant contests and education/training. The RF Ministry of Economic Development is the coordinator and partner of FSD in fulfilling this Program.

The primary Program goal is to design and disseminate both innovative and proven models of sustainable community development throughout the Russian Federation.

Key Goals of the Community Development Support Program:
- to engage citizens in addressing community needs and problems through a series of targeted grants focused on local economic development, waste management, public health, small business development, social assistance and natural resources management;
- to develop and introduce tools for energy and resource savings and mechanisms allowing communities to reinvest saved resources into development programs;
- to promote multi-stakeholder participation in identifying priorities for community development.

The Program facilitates:
- an increased standard of living in the regions of Russia;
- capacity building for future community development;
- citizen participation in community decision-making through interaction with local government and business.

Program achievements:
- 110 projects in 44 communities of 15 regions of the country were funded (from Smolensk Oblast to Primorsky Krai);
- 6 national training seminars on municipal government and community development were organized;
- over 100 regional seminars and trainings were conducted;
- over 1,000 citizens from 92 organizations participated in project activities;
- nearly one million citizens of Russia became the beneficiaries of the Program.
This program was carried out in 2001-2009 as a response to the catastrophic contamination of Amur River by Chinese factories. It was managed by FSD in partnership with its RFE Regional Center Green House and Khabarovsk Krai Government and with support from USAID.

The goals of the Program included a diversification of sources of drinking water in small riverside settlements and a supply of clean and safe drinking water to their residents; and support to the effort of putting in place an efficient public water quality monitoring system.

In 2009, the following changes were introduced to the Program as compared with 2007-2008:

- **Local cost-sharing.** In the process of making funding decisions, priority was given to projects with maximum co-funding. The ratio of matching funds had to be at least 1:1 to the grant funds.
- **Minimizing loss to the environment.** All projects, if such provided by the legislation, had to have government environmental seals of approval and, in any case, projects had to include environmental loss minimization plans and meet the general principles of environmental non-damage.

"After the new decontamination equipment was installed and the water wells of Osinovorechensky water inlet were overhauled, the residents of four settlements in Khabarovsky Raion have been provided with tasty water that may be used right from the tap."

**V. N. MASUKOV,**
Project Coordinator, Osinovaya Rechka, Khabarovsky Raion
• *Obtaining consents for the project in advance.* Competitive funding was awarded only to projects that have obtained all required permits and licenses for conducting planned activities.
• *Full transparency and public participation.* Community members were broadly involved in project implementation and monitoring.

In 2009, seven projects of this Program were successfully completed in the three following areas:
• Capital renovation of abandoned wells.
• Installation of water treatment and water distribution equipment.
• Organization of water quality public monitoring systems.

**Results**

• Over 15,000 rural residents, who were previously compelled to use strongly contaminated water from the Amur River, now have access to sources of clean drinking water thanks to the twelve practical projects of the Program carried out from 2007 through 2009 in five riverside municipalities and the replication of the results of these projects.
• A 20% drop of gastrointestinal disease incidence at project locations.
• The quality of water in four settlements now fully complies with sanitary standards SanPiN.
• Over 4,000 volunteers took part in the project.
• Over one million residents of Khabarovsk Krai were granted access to current-awareness information on water quality. This became possible due to the Program’s support of an ongoing river water quality monitoring system.
• Local businesses invested over eleven million rubles into the effort to replicate the results of the Amur Initiative Program, thus laying a foundation for sustainable economic community development and the creation of new jobs.
• For each dollar or grant money, 3 dollars were raised from local sources (including replication of project results), which made it possible to save funds and reinvest another dollar into further community development.

According to an evaluation of the Program’s donors and officials from Khabarovsk Krai Government, it is one of the best examples of successful partnership between USAID and Khabarovsk Krai in addressing the critical challenges of this region. The latter expressed their appreciation to USAID for its assistance and sought the possibility of implementing the next phase of the Program in partnership with Khabarovsk Krai and with co-funding from its government.

On November 12-13, 2009, in Khabarovsk, the concluding seminar of this target program was held for representatives of 32 organizations, including USAID, Khabarovsk Krai Government, municipal administrations, local businesses, research centers, utilities services, regional media and environmental NGOs. US General Counsel in Vladivostok, Tom Armbruster, took part in this event. After the end of the seminar, its participants visited the national Nanai village Sikachi-Alyan, the site of one of the projects of the Amur Initiative Program.
The Program was carried out in 2006-2009 under the cooperation mechanism of the Global Development Alliance with funding from EuroChem Company and USAID.

The Program was aimed at improving the social environment in the city and the quality of life of its citizens through increasing the quality of social and medical services, involving citizens in conservation activities and bettering the appearance of the city; and promoting healthy lifestyles in the community.

EuroChem Company invested 13,905,000 rubles and the United States Agency for International Development invested 3,750,000 rubles into the implementation of the Program.

The Program was managed by FSD.

The city of Nevinnomyssk in Stavropol Krai, where Nevinnomyssky Azot, one of EuroChem’s plants is located, was selected as the pilot site of the Program.

A series of practical projects was initiated by citizens of this city addressing local social and environmental concerns and aimed at:

- Child health protection and rehabilitation through improving the environment in children’s social institutions;
- Utilization of energy and resource saving techniques at social institutions: schools, kindergartens, orphanages, hospitals, etc.;
- Planting trees and shrubbery, and improving city areas with the participation of local small businesses, NGOs and the local community.

The key mechanism of the Program was the organization of grant contests of projects initiated by citizens and identifying new local creative resources and strengthening multi-sector social partnerships among local government, citizens and businesses.

City residents, authors of proposed projects, were able to realize their aspirations and plans of improving the social environment in the city.

‘In the course of three years, the Nevinnomyssk City Administration jointly with EuroChem Company worked on the program Environment and Public Health in Nevinnomyssk, as a result of which several new offices were equipped in our children’s outpatient clinic and hospital. Our specialists are working to provide comfortable conditions and good quality medical services for children. Each week, from 25 to 40 children are born in our city. This is something that makes us really happy.’

Tatiana VASILCHENKO, First Deputy Head of Nevinnomyssk City Administration, who supervised the Program during its final phase
“Society’s maturity is evident when there is interaction between business and the community, when business helps to solve not only economic, but social problems as well. Today social problems are becoming a priority. Especially those that concern child health. I would like to express my deep gratitude to EuroChem Company for its support in the course of three years, during which we launched effective health improvement programs for children in practically all medical institutions of our city.”

Alexander BROVGIN,
Head of the Public Health Department of Nevinnomyssk City Administration

The Program brought together 55 participating organizations: schools, kindergartens, health care and other social services institutions, NGOs and local media outlets that presented their socio-environmental projects.

Under the Program, 24 grants were awarded to 21 organizations for a total amount of 11,253,218 rubles. Nearly 150 citizens took part in the "social projects school" offered by the Program; over 30,000 became the beneficiaries of the Program; and nearly 3,500 volunteers helped with the Program’s projects.

At least 50 business firms took part in the Program’s projects. For each ruble of grant funding, 54 kopecks of additional funding was raised from businesses and municipal partner organizations of the community.

The Environment and Public Health in Nevinnomyssk and Other Regions of EuroChem Company Presence Program is an example of social investment targeted toward turning a community into an active social partner aware of regional problems and capable of resolving them with the use of modern social technologies.

**Building a Rollerdrome Became One of the Most Noticeable Projects in Nevinnomyssk**

Andrei Gurtov, a student of one of Nevinnomyssk schools, who had trained for only two months to jump on his bicycle, became a participant in the show staged at the opening of the skate and roller park in this city: "In this park we will be able to practice in the coolest and most popular sports among my peers. My friends and I are very glad that we now have such a sports facility in our city. We are planning to come here every day to practice."

Galina, a mother of two who prefer roller skates: "We are planning to come here every day during our free time. My son is 17 and my daughter is 8, but both of them find it very interesting here. I very much welcome such undertakings of EuroChem Company and of the local authorities, because there should be more places were children can spend their free time."

"Indeed, our youth has nowhere to go," said Mikhail, a resident of Nevinnomyssk. "That is why it is very important for the city to build more sports and play grounds, which attract so many children."
The "We Are in Charge of the Future" ALCOA Foundation Sustainability and Conservation Program for Russia is being carried out by FSD since October 2006 in regions of Alcoa Company presence – in the city of Belaya Kalitva (Rostov Oblast) and Samara (Kirovsky District) – by Alcoa Foundation and Alcoa industrial facilities in Russia: OJSC Alcoa Metallurg Rus (Belaya Kalitva) and Samara Metallurgical Plant.

The Goal of the Program is to support sustainable development on partnership areas in Russia, including conservation activities in three selected communities through educating youth and assisting local NGOs.

The Program involves environmental education for students and advanced training for teachers and educators; multi-sector participation in addressing environmental and social issues; and pooling the resources of communities – schools and NGOs – to expand social partnerships.

Key Program participants and partners – teachers and students of selected schools in Belaya Kalitva and Kirovsky District of Samara; local NGOs whose activities are targeted toward addressing environmental and social concerns in communities; officials from local departments of education; media outlets; and the parent community.

The Program consists of two components:

- Dissemination of environmental education programs in partner schools and children’s educational institutions;
- Grant contests of projects promoting sustainable development with support to local NGOs working in collaboration with children’s educational institutions.

In the course of 2009, 12 social and environmental projects were fulfilled under the Program for a total amount of funding of 1,265,710 rubles. Seven schools, two NGOs, and three centers of special additional education for children from these two locations presented their initiatives for improving city areas and preserving nature sites.

Students from Schools #2, 5 and 4 in Belaya Kalitva monitored the status of over 700 trees that grow on the city’s streets. As a result, guidelines for taking care of...
these trees were provided and “green passports” for each tree were drawn up. This work will be included in the general city greenery inventory program, planned by the local administration.

Students from Schools #133, 162, 147 and 96 of Kirovsky District, Samara, carried out conservation activities under the regional movement “School Patronage of Nature Monuments in Samara City and Samara Oblast” headed by the Ecology and Life Support Education Center in Samara. In 2009, they were joined by another 120 students from correctional residential schools located in Samara Oblast who are engaged in the protection of rural springs, oak groves and a lake and who worked at the Samarskaya Luka National Park.

In the summer of 2009, twenty seven Program activists from the two cities took part in exchange environmental camps and expeditions. In the autumn of the same year, 50 teachers and 44 students attended traditional master classes devoted to the methods of studying soil, water and city air with the help of photoindication and lichenindication methods. Of special interest were master classes that were conducted for the first time and at which local experience accumulated by students and teachers, participants in the Program, was discussed. The best 36 research works of Program participants from Samara and Belaya Kalitva were sent to the XI National Teleconference “Children Will Save Russia’s Nature”.

The “We Are in Charge of the Future” Program is bringing together growing numbers of children, their parents and volunteers around concrete socially significant deeds and environmental projects they both develop and implement.
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND JOBS IN RURAL AREAS (RURALJOB)

At the end of 2009, this Program, funded by the Ford Foundation in 2007-2009, was successfully completed. It was designed to help rural municipal communities in forested areas throughout Russia in the following areas:

- Maintaining environmental integrity during economic development;
- Creating sustainable jobs in local communities;
- Effective citizen engagement;
- Promoting sustainable development – helping to stabilize rural communities and increase living standards – through utilizing local forest and other renewable resources.

The basic goal of the Program was to create viable models of citizen engagement in conservation through ensuring equal access to natural resources (primarily forest) and their rational use.

Under the Program, concrete projects were fulfilled on two model sites – in Varnavinsky Raion (Nizhny Novgorod Oblast) and Terneisky Raion (Primorsky Krai). Despite the abundant forest resources, a well-developed timber industry and large amounts of wood waste, the administrations of these municipalities were spending up to one-fourth of their budgets on buying coal or diesel fuel for municipal boiler plants and having it delivered for many hundred and sometimes thousands of kilometers (sometimes delivery costs were higher than the cost of fuel by several times).

Project results and expertise were disseminated at seminars, trainings and meetings and also through the media to neighboring municipalities and other regions of Russia.

KEY RESULTS

A total of five projects were implemented in the two communities. Their results were presented at seminars attended by local officials and representatives of business firms and the public from over 40 municipalities located in 10 regions of the Russian Federation. Grants for projects were awarded under the condition of co-funding from local and regional budgets. Thus, in Primorsky Krai, over 4.5 million rubles were allocated from the regional budget for one of the projects (this amount was three times higher than the initial grant), whose experience the regional administration officially recommended to other municipalities as a model. The head of Varnavinsky Raion provided similar recommendations to his colleagues from Povetluzhie Association that unites 25 municipalities of four regions of the Russian Federation.

As a result of project activities, eight new jobs were created in the two municipalities, including two jobs in budget-funded organizations at the cost of municipal budget savings. These savings were used for hiring an urologist and a nurse for the hospital in Plastun settlement in Terneisky Raion and for acquiring modern equipment for extracting kidney-stones, which is the only of its kind in the whole region, not counting Vladivostok.

After the end of the projects, spending for heating in Varnavinsky Raion decreased by over 2 million rubles and in Terneisky Raion by 5 million rubles.

As soon as wood waste began to be used as fuel instead of coal and diesel fuel, the environment in these locations improved noticeably with greenhouse emissions decreasing by almost half.
Local NGOs took an active part in project implementation (Povetluzhye Association in Varnavinsky Raion; and Uragus Conservation Society and Northern Primorye Development Support Fund in Terneisky Raion), thus demonstrating to the local authorities that conservation activists can be not only critics and troublemakers, but reliable partners as well. NGOs were the first to act as a key connecting link between government, business and communities. They also ensured utmost openness of project activities and a broad dissemination of project results, which, in the end, helped raise additional funding from businesses and regional budgets.

It is of note that after the end of FSD funding, the new multi-sector partnerships not only did not disintegrate, but also began to more actively address critical issues related to local development, environmental protection and rational use of resources.

**DISSEMINATION OF EXPERIENCE**

In August 2009, in Plastun, a seminar Energy Efficiency and Jobs in Remote Rural Areas in the Russian Far East was organized by FSD and the Northern Primorye Development Support Fund. The participants in the seminar from Moscow, Yekaterinburg, Buryatia, Kemerovo, Nizhny Novgorod and Sakhalin Oblasts and Primorsky and Khabarovsk Krais discussed new jobs creation in their regions and shared experience in this area.

Much attention at the seminar was focused on the creation of new jobs in such sectors as tourism and the collection and processing of non-timber forest products and on the use of various sources. When using integrated approaches that include creation of new jobs on several alternative sites simultaneously, communities benefit by increased economic efficiency due to less dependence on seasonal factors and the macroeconomic situation.

The participants in the seminar became acquainted with the work of the new boilers in the local hospital and aware about technical information related to the Program and plans for the nearest future.

**LESSONS LEARNED**

In the course of implementing the Program, its participants and organizers learned many valuable lessons. Following are just a few of them.

There is an obvious need to manage risks related to the possible shortage of wood waste. These risks may be mitigated by signing long-term contracts for the supply of wood waste from various locations (as has been done in Varnavinsky and Terneisky Raions) and expanding the range of waste suitable for burning, in particular, by processing it with inexpensive wood-fragmenting machines.

At the same time, the problem of unemployment among young professionals in a community may also be addressed if new jobs are filled, in the first place, by local youth studying in large cities. For this, they may become engaged in community development and job creation projects (including creating jobs for themselves) at the phase of term and graduation papers. This could become a strong incentive for their return home after receiving an education.

Project development and implementation should be preceded by a thorough ‘inventory’ of local resources, an identification of local priorities, a study of community opinions and local features and possibilities for creating new jobs (for example, in the sphere of tourism, collection and processing of forest products and rational agriculture).
In 2009, the Fund for Sustainable Development, with financial support from CITI Foundation, completed the first phase of the two-year program Improving Communities Right Now! in the Volga Administrative District (Gorodetsky Raion, Nizhny Novgorod Oblast) and in the Ural Administrative District (Nevyansky Raion, Sverdlovskaya Oblast). The budget of the first phase was $53,000. The Program is targeted toward promoting sustainable community development through supporting small businesses and broadening local labor markets.

To better identify the priority areas of local small business development, FSD partners in this Program – Low Impact Technologies Center (Nizhny Novgorod) and Environmental Education and Information Center (Yekaterinburg) – carried out a series of public opinion surveys. FSD staff conducted interviews with raion and regional officials responsible for small business development and found that one of the most promising areas of these model communities development was assistance to the sector of traditional arts and crafts.

Key Program Results in Gorodetsky Raion

The project Development of Folk Arts and Crafts: as a Potential for Creating New Jobs in Gorodetsky Raion that is being implemented under the program Improving Communities Right Now! is aimed at supporting traditional handicrafts.

In March 2009, during meetings of FSD staff with local community members, the idea of the first model project in Gorodetsky Raion took shape. Local wood cutters initiated an application for exclusive tools they needed for their business. The Gorodets branch of the National Society of the Handicapped acted as the official applicant and after winning the contest, the project was approved for funding. The Society commissioned a local blacksmith to create 20 sets of special tools. The craftsmen used these instruments to fulfill an order from the local administration to decorate the City of Maters’ Tourist Center. In addition, tools were also acquired for equipping wood-cutting shops in this Tourist Center, in School # 4 and in the Gorodets branch of the National Society of the Handicapped. The artisans used these tools to conduct master classes devoted to folk arts and
crafts attended by local community members, including schoolchildren and disabled citizens.

In October 2009, Program activities included trainings intended for local artisans at the local Handicrafts Center devoted to the legal and marketing aspects of small business development. After attending this training, craftsman Sergei Sokolov draw up a business plan for a project to set up a wood cutting shop, which he submitted to the Unemployment Center of Gorodetsky Raion and for which funding was approved by a commission at the local administration in an amount of 60,000 rubles. Other artisans, who are preparing proposals for developing their small businesses, are making use of this first experience of obtaining municipal funding.

In the course of the Program, materials were acquired and master classes were conducted for schoolchildren interested in learning the art of traditional Gorodets woodcutting and wood painting. As a follow-up to this initiative, regular master classes will be organized for students and tourists at the new tourist center – the City of Craftsmen.

Key Program Results in Nevyansky Raion

In April and May 2009, a 2-week training titled “Start Your Own Business” was organized in Nevyansk for novice private entrepreneurs, unemployed citizens and employees about to be dismissed. At the training they studied the practical aspects of starting, running and developing their own small business.

As a result of this effort, seven attendees had registered as private entrepreneurs and opened their own businesses. Thanks to the Citi Foundation Program, at least 24 new jobs appeared in this city in 2009, which, according to A. Balashov, Deputy Mayor for Economic Development, has become a weighty contribution to the self-employment program and the general development of local self-government in Nevyansk.

In June 2009, a targeted contest of proposals in support of projects developed by the attendees of the training “Start Your Own Business” was held. Two applicants received Program grants for an amount of 134,000 rubles intended for the creation of new jobs in the traditional arts and crafts sphere: Svetlana Umetskaya for founding a hobby center for reviving the Ural-Siberian folk painting technique and Andrei Rogozhin for teaching youth to build traditional log cabins and wooden structures.

In addition, 5 attendees of the training received grants from the City Employment Center (294,000 rubles) and 7 other from the Entrepreneurship Support Center in Yekaterinburg (1,880,000 rubles).
PROJECT

MALE HEALTH PROTECTION

This project was fulfilled in 2009 in collaboration with Bashkiria State Medical University (Ufa) and regional consultants from partner organizations: Center of Ecological Education and Information (Yekaterinburg), Dront Ecological Center (Nizhny Novgorod) and Buryatia Center of Public Organizations (Buryatia Regional Association on Lake Baikal, Ulan-Ude).

Project activities were devoted to promoting male health risk management through a large-scale public education effort that included a whole range of communications, educational and practical measures aimed at protecting and preserving male health; formation of a positive image of a man in society; enhancing the prestige and status of fatherhood; and developing approaches to overcome the masculinity crisis in Russia.

A survey and physical examinations were conducted among a target group of 140 men at a pilot site in Ufa. Doctors and medical students from Bashkiria State Medical University work at the Crisis Management Center for Men and operate a special hot line opened in the framework of the project.

Two workshops were organized in Moscow and Ufa for specialists in this field.

To more broadly advertise healthy lifestyles among the male population and involve the young generation in health management, an information Website – Male Health Protection – was created at www.malehealth.ru; a “Booklet for Young Men” and a brochure ‘The ABCs of Male Health’ were printed in 2,000 copies and disseminated; and a video spot with a social advertisement on this subject was produced and aired.

In September 2009, a telebridge connecting six cities of Russia – Ulan-Ude, Yekaterinburg, Ufa, Nizhny Novgorod, Moscow and Novosibirsk – was held with the participation of over 60 health care specialists (urologists, andrologists, psychologists, sex therapists and gynecologists), professionals from family development and reproductive health centers, teachers and students of medical schools and representatives of NGOs.

‘The unsatisfactory state of health of our men requires urgent measures, including lobbying their interests at the highest level, because without addressing this critical issue the Russian state will not be able to achieve any of its ambitions goals.’

S. N. GALIMOV,
Professor at Bashkiria State Medical University and Project Research Adviser

Prof. Artifekov from the Nizhny Novgorod Regional Diagnostic Center took part in the telebridge.

Prof. Kon from the Ethnology and Anthropology Institute at the Russian Academy of Sciences, made a presentation at the telebridge entitled ‘Man in the Changing World’.
The discussion focused on the experience of advertising healthy lifestyles, preventing and protecting male health and introducing health preserving technologies; and the results of research in the field of male health in respective.

Nearly 10,000 people in dozens of cities became acquainted with the project thanks to activities carried out under the auspices of the National Health League: Health Wave Advertising Campaign (August 2009); Second National Exhibition of NGOs in Russia entitled "Civil Society: Advertising Healthy Life Styles and Protecting Environmental and Public Health" (January 2009); and the Health of the Nation National Forum (September 2009).

FSD supported the Health Wave Communications and Health Improvement Action conducted under the slogans "Russia without Tobacco", "Alcohol-Free Russia" and "Society against Drugs".

This action, sponsored by the National Health League, an all-Russia public organization and a partner of the Fund for Sustainable Development in implementing the project Male Health Culture, took place from August 13 to 24, in the cities of Moscow, St.Petersburg, Uglich, Petrozavodsk, Cherepovets, Yaroslavl, Kostroma and Nizhny Novgorod with support from

- RF Ministry of Public Health and Social Development
- RF Ministry of Education and Science
- RF Ministry of Sport, Tourism and Youth Policy
- RF Public Chamber
- Moscow City Government

Participants in the Health Wave in Petrozavodsk.

Dr. Gizatullin receives a patient at the Crisis Management Center for Men, where 150 men in difficult situations were assisted in the course of the project.

Project location: Moscow, Ufa, Yekaterinburg, Nizhny Novgorod and Ulan-Ude.

Project period:

Project profile: Health protection and healthy lifestyles advertising.
2009 FSD FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The financial management system of the Fund for Sustainable Development meets all the requirements of the Russian legislation to non-profit organizations and is based on the principles of transparency, efficiency and reasonable spending of donor funds. In 2009, the audit firm RTF-Audit LLC conducted two audits of FSD financial and accounting reporting: a review of the targeted use of resources granted by the United States Agency for International Development and of financial reporting policies and procedures in accordance with the Russian legislation. Both audits resulted in positive evaluations of FSD activities.

FSD financial relations with partners are based on the current Russian legislation and take into account specific donor requirements – this is reflected in its financial and administrative policy manuals.

FSD primary area of activity is grant contests and management of winner projects. This activity is regulated by FSD’s “Grant Contest Terms of Reference” and “Grant Policy and Procedures Manual”. FSD constantly monitors the targeted use of funds awarded on a competitive basis.

In 2009, FSD received income from business activity that was used for its program and statutory activities.

2009 Expenditure Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of expenditure</th>
<th>Thous. rub</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Donations / Grants / Philanthropy / Target Financing under technical assistance to address regional and community social and conservation concerns</td>
<td>22,737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Target grant management</td>
<td>25,914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. FSD administrative staff payroll, including taxes in accordance with a simplified taxation system</td>
<td>6,912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Equipment, office supplies and consumables</td>
<td>648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Office rent and maintenance</td>
<td>4,545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Administrative costs in accordance with statutory activities</td>
<td>2,348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenditures in 2009</strong></td>
<td><strong>63,104</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Funds Awarded to FSD Programs in 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Thous. rub.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Community Development Support Program</td>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>37,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Environment and Public Health in Nevinnomyssk and Other Regions of EuroChem Company Presence</td>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>1,045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. &quot;We Are in Charge of the Future&quot; ALCOA Sustainability and Conservation Program for Russia</td>
<td>ALCOA Foundation</td>
<td>2,268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Amur Initiative Target Program</td>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>2,459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. FSD development and statutory activities Private donators (donations from RF citizens)</td>
<td>Private donors</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Income from business activities</td>
<td>1,425</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total amount of received funds:** 45,270

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>From Russian donors</td>
<td>0.20%</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From international donors</td>
<td>96.65%</td>
<td>43,752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From business activities</td>
<td>3.15%</td>
<td>1,425</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FSD MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

- Oleg Fokin, Executive Director
- Ruslan Butovsky, PhD (Biology), Program Director
- Elena Lvoutina, PhD (Technical Sciences), Director for Development and Communications
- Olga Mashkova, Financial Director
- Elena Leonova, Administrative Director
- Elena Bondarchuk, PhD (Economics), Projects Manager
- Andrei Volkov, PhD (Geography), Projects Manager
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- Andrei Zaytsev, PhD (Geography), Projects Manager
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- Marina Sadovnikova, Chief Accountant
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- Galina Glagoleva, Translator
- Svetlana Lipatova, Payroll Assistant
- Alexander Kotov, Courier
- Tatiana Yevseyeva, Attending Personnel
We extend our appreciation to our partners and friends for their support and participation in FSD activities in 2009:

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- United States Agency for International Development
- EuroChem Company
- ALCOA Foundation
- Ford Foundation
- CITI Foundation (United Way International/CITI Foundation)
- National Health League Charitable Foundation

Partner Organizations:

- RF Ministry of Economic Development
- Russian Research Center of State and Municipal Governance
- Green House, Khabarovsk Regional Charitable NGO
- Buryatia Regional Association on Lake Baikal NGO
- Environmental Education and Information Center, Sverdlovskaya Regional NGO
- Low Impact Technologies Center (branch of Dront Ecological Center NGO)
- Media Resources for Education, Electronic Publishing House at the Research and Production Organization LLC
- Municipal Governance journal
- Municipal Governance Practice journal
- Business and Society journal
- RF Center for Environmental Policy and Culture (Tula Regional Office)
- Tula Oblast Public Chamber
- Donors Forum
- American Chamber of Commerce
- Moscow House of Public Organizations