

Date Printed: 11/03/2008

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JTS Box Number: IFES\_13  
Tab Number: 18  
Document Title: Public Opinion Survey Technical Report  
(1999)  
Document Date: 2002  
Document Country: Uzbekistan  
IFES ID: R01938



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**International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES)**

**Final Project Report**

**REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN**

**October 1, 1997 – September 30, 2002**

**USAID Cooperative Agreement EE-A-00-97-00034-00**

**Public Opinion Survey**

**Technical Report (in English)**

# TECHNICAL REPORT

## *On conducting of fieldwork*

### I. PREPARATORY STAGE

The following research group was formed in order to conduct research in accordance with contract concluded between International Foundation for Election Systems, Inc. and EXPERT Research Group under working name "Prospects of Uzbekistan's development":

- Igor Pogrebov – group leader;
- German Kan – selection specialist, software expert;
- Aisholpan Dauletbaeva – technical supervisor.

Preparatory stage started on September 27, 1999. The following activity was realized during this stage:

#### *1) Development of questionnaire documentation in Russian and Uzbek languages.*

Questionnaire documentation included:

- Main questionnaire
- Set of cards for questionnaire
- Form of participation registration
- Kish Grids
- Business cards of interviewer
- Forms of household selection
- Instruction of household selection
- Instructions for interviewer
- Letter of recommendation for local authorities
- Form of control visit of households

#### *2) Piloting of main questionnaire*

Adept interviewers with not less that 5 years of relevant experience were selected for piloting: Mira Dauletbaeva, Munisa Sharipova, Dilorom Gulyamova, Khasan Nazarov, Mavluda Eshtuhtarova, Sadridin Edgorov.

Questionnaire testing was conducted in Tashkent and Fergana cities. In total 30 interviews were conducted ( 20 in Uzbek and 10 in Russian). Respondents were selected from two groups: 16-24 years old and older than 24 years. Man\woman ratio of people selected for piloting was approximately equal.

#### *3) Selection of regional supervisors and interviewers.*

5 supervisors and 58 interviewers were selected for field work in regional centers and Tashkent. 50 out of 58 interviewers can speak Uzbek and Russian freely and 8 – can speak only Russian.

List of regional supervisors:

- Nigara Djulamanova – Karakalpakstn
- Gulya Mukhammedova – Bukhara region
- Zainiddin Khodjaev – Samarkand region

- Aisholpan Dauletbaeva – Tashkent city
- Lubov Prohorova – Fergana region

#### 4) *Training of supervisors and interviewers.*

Training with all supervisors and Tashkent interviewers was conducted in Tashkent on October, 13, 1999. This main training was conducted in compliance with the following plan:

- Introduction. Explanation of work content and objectives of research.
- Introduction into questionnaire documents.
- Detailed study of main questionnaire.
- Conducting of trial interviews.
- Sessions on selection of households in rural gathering of citizens and city mahallyas.
- Discussion of question of field work organization.
- Provision of interviewers with necessary questionnaire documents.

5 regional supervisors and 25 Tashkent interviewers participated in training held in Tashkent. Here is the list of Tashkent interviewers: Zina Kaldybekova, Shomurod Bahronov, Marina Zoi, Erkin Bahronov, Haet Bahronov, Erkin Joldasov, Nasreddin Mamanazarov, Abduhalik Mingnarov, Gulbahor Muhammadieva, Mukhamedova Fatima, Lubov Chuprik, Ludmila Kiseleva, Alla Toropova, Tursunoi Ashirova, Alfia Nuritdinova, Rustam Nabiev, Tamara Mikhailina, Larisa Sherbakova, Mekhri Muradova, Eldar Burnashev, Nelya Barsukova, Azime Joldasova, Almira Gataulina, Samir Saidaliev, Salima Igambergieva.

Similar training was conducted in those regions, where polls were organized by local interviewers.

- On October 19, 1999 supervisor Nigara Djulamanova held session with the following group of interviewers in Republic of Karakalpakstan: Aigul Madreimova, Kulyash Nysanova, Dilshoda Atabaeva, Nigora Embergenova, Sveta Madiyarova, Janna Djolgambetova, Toidykhan Smailova, Tanya Soburova, Hatira Kamalova, Raushan Kamalova.
- On October, 18, 1999 in Bukhara region supervisor Gulya Mukhammedova hold session with the following group of interviewers: Dilmurod Bakhrinov, Makhtuba Rashidova, Manzilya Kurbanova.
- In Samarkand region on October, 10, 1999 supervisor Zainiddin Khodjaev hold session with the following group of interviewers: Dilbar Imomova, Rustam Samarov, Mekhroz Kobilov, Gulya Khodjaeva, Varis Khamrakulov, Shoira Khodjaeva.
- In Fergana region on October, 20, 1999 supervisor Aisholpan Dauletbaeva hold session with the following group of interviewers: Lubov Prohorova, Kahramon Urinbaev, Rustam Askarov, Ekuthon Erkaboeva, Zarifa Muminova, Soib Bargakov, Zumrad Shokirova, Gappar Siddikov, Dilya Bakhrinova, Saidakram Muhiddinov.

Preparatory stage was finished on October 23, 1999.

## II. FIELDWORK

Field works started on October 20, 1999 and were conducted in various regions during the following period:

- |                     |                                 |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1) Karakalpakstan   | - from 20.10.99 till 27.10.99;  |
| 2) Bukhara region   | - from 19.10.99 till 24.10.99;  |
| 3) Samarkand region | - from 20.10..99 till 28.10.99; |
| 4) Fergana region   | - from 21.10.99 till 31.10.99;  |
| 5) Tashkent city    | - from 18.10.99 till 19.11.99.  |

While field works, some organizational problems and difficulties appeared. Thus, during selection of households in rural gatherings and mahallyas, which were held from 20 till 26 of October, interviewers faced the following problems:

Problem 1. Inadequate numbering of households in households registration books of rural gathering and mahallyas' committees.

This problem appeared because of two reasons. First reason: absence of unique numbering of households in households registration books of some kishlaks. Second reason: Presence of non-existing households in such books. Meantime, numbering of non-existing households is considered as unique and is not granted to new households, and this complicates process of selection. In the cities non-existing households more often appeared in large industrial centers, where there is a great number of empty apartments and apartments that are used as offices, storage, shops and etc. This fact explains big number of non-conducted interviews, for example, in Fergana.

In rural area availability of non-existing households is explained by registration of new families as separate household while they in fact continue to live together with parents. Meantime, they use private spot of land, which is necessary requisite of registration, to grow agricultural crops.

Problem 2. *Discrepancy between official statistic data and actual number of households.*

This problem appeared due to several reasons. First, rural gatherings and mahallya committees now go through stage of reorganization, and last data about composition of this territorial units are as of beginning of 1997. Second, rather small staff of mahallya committees can not cope with increasing scope of work. Third, rather serious mistakes were made during collection of statistical data.

Problem 3. *Absence of registration of households in some city mahallya committees.*

This problem is mainly present in mahallyas which include multi-storied resident buildings.

Problem 4. Availability of household registration books.

This problem appeared due to cotton harvesting season in Uzbekistan when chairmen of mahallya committees were absent from their offices due to participation in cotton harvesting. Availability of registration books without their consent was rather difficult. For example, in Samarkand region all rural gatherings and mahallyas committees of cotton cultivating regions were closed till October 26.

Schedule of field work in Tashkent were prolonged because of two reasons. First, great number of renaming during recent years and absence of clear information about it in any united state organization made search of particular needed addresses very difficult. Second, absence of respondents of category 16-24 years old in many households. Latter reason is also typical for other regions, however in smaller extent.

Case of impossibility to conduct poll also was experienced. This happened in village Zafarobod in Bukhara region, which is adjacent to uranium deposits and strictly controlled by National security service. Special permission of this organization was required in order to conduct poll, however, it was not obtained.

Other cases also happened during research. Thus, some mothers considered that interviewers were staff of military committees who register persons liable for military services for future military service. This cause some suspiciousness in some households. Certain difficulties appeared due to participation of young people in cotton harvesting campaign. Field works were fully finished only on November 19, 1999.

### III. DATA PROCESSING (CHECKING, CODING, QUESTIONNAIRE ENTRY)

Checking of finished interviews was done twice. First, filled out forms were checked by supervisors on sites (in the regions). Second, forms were checked by staff of the Center when supervisors handed them over. There were no claims regarding work of regional supervisors: only in two cases violation of selection procedure with Kish Grids was found. Repeated interview was conducted in those households.

Initial coding of open questions and their further processing was done while questionnaires were submitted to the Center and in frames of execution of necessary checking procedures. Data registration was done by means of special software and received database was then converted to SPSS format.

### IV. INSPECTION

Results of inspection done after the poll are shown in Table below. During inspection in total 13 cases of violation of selection procedure with Kish Grids were found. Interviews in all such households were repeated. During inspection a crossing system of control was used, i.e. interviewers who worked in some particular regions inspected other regions.

**Results of the inspections**

№	Name of interviewer	Region	Total interview in region	Total inspection in regions	Results:	
					Without violation	With violation
1	Nasreddin Mamanazarov	Karakalpakstan	200	82	79	3
2	Abduhalik Mingnarov	Bukhara	189	45	42	3
3	Samir Saidaliev	Samarkand	200	41	39	2
4	Rustam Nabiev	Fergana	200	59	54	5
5	Rustam Nabiev; Alfia Nuruddinova	Tashkent city	200	25	25	2
TOTAL			989	252	239	13
					95%	5%