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## EQUALITY Programme: Strengthened Civil Society in Advancing Women's Rights and Empowerment in Uzbekistan



Acted is an INGO working across 43 countries globally in pursuit of its triple mandate as a humanitarian, development, and environmental actor in response to the triple planetary crisis. Since 1999, Acted Uzbekistan works on strengthening civil society and good governance, gender equality, green economy, natural resource management and climate change adaptation, and disaster risk management.

Building on its pioneering work in Uzbekistan since 2018, Acted has developed significant **regional expertise** in women's empowerment, gender equality, and the fight against gender-based violence (GBV). Collaborating with partners and stakeholders, Acted works to advance gender equality in Uzbekistan by **empowering civil society** to prevent violence against women and girls, foster their economic independence, and increase their involvement in society.

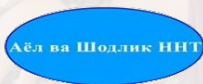
Under its multi-donor **EQUALITY programme**, Acted empowers civil society to support the effective implementation of legislation, enhances access to comprehensive support services and fosters women's economic empowerment, while promoting equitable social norms and behaviours. Via a **regional platform** for key stakeholders, Acted is also promoting peer-to-peer learning and exchange in Central Asia.

**Target regions:** Khorezm, Qashqadarya, Surkhandarya and Tashkent regions.

**Programme participants:** Women and girls at-risk or survivors of GBV, perpetrators, shelters and rehabilitation centres, service providers (psychologists, lawyers, social workers), youth receiving premarital consultations, reintegration program participants, women receiving economic empowerment support, mahalla representatives, local CSOs, and private sector representatives.

**Timeframe:** October 2024 – December 2028

Partners:



YUKSALISH

**EQUALITY is built on three interconnected pillars:**

1. Prevention and response to GBV
2. Vulnerable women's economic empowerment
3. Advocacy and gender-inclusive participation



As part of the EQUALITY programme, Acted and its partners, including international organisations, local implementing partners and government representatives are setting-up the **Joint Advisory Group** as a collaborative platform. This initiative will enable CSOs, government agencies, and stakeholders to exchange ideas and opportunities, share best practises, minimise competition, and improve activity coordination by also creating synergies.

The Joint Advisory Group will make a difference by jointly advocating for the rights of women and girls in Uzbekistan, working towards a just and equal society.

**Final outputs:**

Increased effectiveness of GBV prevention and response mechanism benefiting community members

Vulnerable women / women at risk are empowered and better capacitated to generate sustainable income and access the labour market

Local CSO's with enhanced capacities participate and influence decision making on gender legislation and advocacy locally and nationally

