
Advocacy case studies

FUNDING FOSTERING IN CENTRAL ASIA

COUNTRY:	Central Asia
THEME:	Children and education; human rights
ADVOCACY APPROACHES:	Government officials: lobbying; legal mechanisms; using human rights; working in alliances and coalitions

One of Tearfund's partners in Central Asia worked to successfully launch and coordinate a network of NGOs concerned with the promotion of children's rights, which led to the government creating a new law on fostering.

Following the creation of the law, Tearfund's partner encouraged the government to provide budget for its implementation in local authorities across the country. This was difficult because the government assumed that international donors would provide funding for the law's policies to be put in place, but this was not the case. All the international donors insisted that government budget should provide for the costs of the fostering work.

At the same time that this work was taking place nationally, Tearfund's partner also regularly advocated for the implementation of the fostering law at local level. On many occasions, they advocated for the rights of children to live in a family environment. They particularly called on the local authority to consider this option when they had to make decisions about removing children from parents because of abuse, neglect, addiction and other problems. The result has been an increase in budget at the local level, enabling payment for more foster family placements.