

# CARD's Vocational Training Centre in Ganja



## Background

CARD's Vocational Training Programme was developed in 2005 to provide free courses to meet some of the many needs the staff came across while working in orphanages and amongst vulnerable people in Azerbaijan. CARD is particularly committed to the process of deinstitutionalisation and supporting vulnerable people to become integrated in mainstream society with every opportunity to lead full lives.

## CARD's Programme

The programme centres around a house renovated for vocational training in the city of Ganja, Azerbaijan.



Children and young adults between the ages of 12 and 20 are supported and trained in a number of practical skills, including **computing**, **carpentry**, **spoken English** and **traditional carpet making**. All the students have come from vulnerable backgrounds including, Internally Displaced People as a result of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict, refugees, children with disabilities, the children's home in Ganja, and those from very poor families.



A number of these children have been unable to attend school or have left at an early age. This means they are unlikely to find employment & these skills will provide them with a chance to break out of the poverty cycle.

Left: Sultan & his Carpentry Class

## CARD's Ethos

As well providing free courses, the centre focuses on small group teaching to maximise the opportunities for individual learning. The staff also strives to encourage and develop the children's social development outside classes through games and other recreational break-time activities & challenge their thinking through various one-off projects—e.g. an environmental action day. For those children who have the opportunity to continue their local school education CARD can provide study areas and additional support and advice to enable them to do well at school. For some of the students this is the first opportunity to receive some sort of practical education.

Below: Break-time at the Centre



Left: A student in CARD's carpet making class

Below: Gunay teaching at the Children's Home

## Ganja Children's Home

The Vocational Training Programme also serves the children of the Ganja Children's Home. The vulnerable children are encouraged by providing focused computer training and skills. Indeed many of them are now the highest skilled students on the computer at school as a result. The older children are able to attend the Vocational Training Centre and have full access to the wide range of Vocational training on offer.



Right: Shaxnaz & her English Class



## A FUTURE HOPE



*“ Coming from my background used to mean that you remained the most insignificant and forgotten people. Now I want to be the most significant part of my country’s future “*

## Current & Future Plans

The vocational training centre has around 60 students plus 30 students at the Children’s Home. Should funding allow, in the future CARD hopes to offer additional courses for cooking & further training opportunities including principles in starting your own business. Its also an aim to work with businesses to offer students attending the courses scholarships, apprenticeships and work

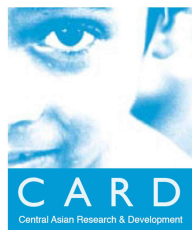


experience and are presently fundraising to enable to help support students graduating the programme who want to set up their own carpentry or carpet making business with their own set of equipment, materials and tools.

*Left: Some of the boys at the centre enjoy a one off English cooking class.*

## Success Stories

During the last few years a good number of students were able to move on into work, some directly as a result of the skills obtained at the Centre and many others for whom those skills were a significant factor.



*“Offering aid to the most vulnerable sectors of society in the form of education, vocational training and development projects in Azerbaijan”*

## How can you help?

Our work is supported by charitable donations.

If you would like to contribute to the work by sponsoring a student, patient or baby then please contact us on email at the addresses below, or in Azerbaijan, please contact:

Katja Bittel Sevil Abbasova at:

CARD, 27 Pushkin Kuchesi, Ganja, Azerbaijan.

Tel: (+994 22) 578997 or 578997

**CENTRAL ASIAN RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT (2000)**



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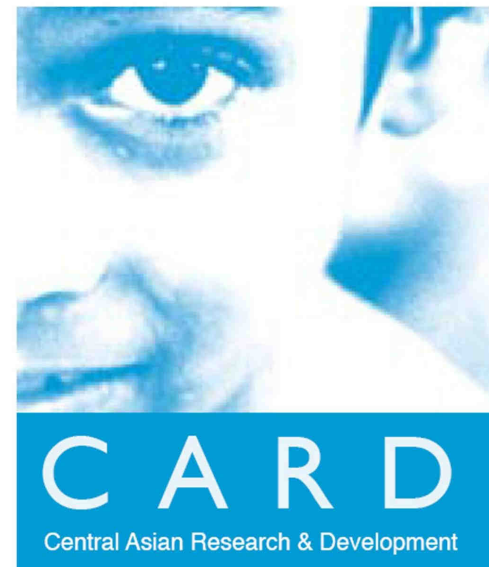
### UK Bank Details:

**Bank: HSBC Bank      Branch: East Dulwich**  
**Account Name:**  
**Central Asian Research & Development**  
**Sort Code: 40-02-32      Account Number: 21369253**  
**BIC: MIDLGB2140G**  
**IBAN: GB03MIDL400232221369253**

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# VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME

## Azerbaijan



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