



EURASIA FOUNDATION

The Bill Maynes Fund for Future Leaders of Eurasia

Roza Abdullayeva 2009 Bill Maynes Fellowship

Roza Abdullayeva, founder and CEO of Bereke, has extensive experience in civil society development with a strong focus in the fields of gender equality, labor migration and youth skills development.

In 2005, Roza founded the NGO Bereke in the southern Kazakhstan city of Shimkent. Since its creation, Bereke has expanded to include three community centers that provide assistance to underserved populations. The centers initially focused on gender equality and youth issues and have since expanded their scope to include legal support and outreach to labor migrants and local farmers.

Prior to founding Bereke, Roza was a community mobilization officer for Community Investment Councils, a U.S. government-funded project in Kazakhstan. There she provided trainings to local NGOs, government authorities and private organizations on gender equality, conflict prevention and community mobilization.

In addition to her work in the NGO sector, Roza has more than ten years of experience teaching English as a foreign language and received a B.A. in English Language Instruction at the Almaty Teachers Training Institute.



Bereke is a community-based NGO whose mission is to prevent conflict by

addressing deficiencies in essential infrastructure, social services and employment in southern Kazakhstan.

Bereke has collaborated with 21 tension-prone communities and complemented 73 community driven social infrastructure projects. Through technical assistance consultation in collaboration with local and international NGOs, Bereke has conducted trainings involving the most active community members, including women and youth on human rights, conflict prevention and community mobilization.

Since 2006, Eurasia Foundation has worked closely with Bereke, awarding grants to a number of labor migration projects that focus on cross-border cooperation in southern Kazakhstan. Today, Bereke is a partner of Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia, Eurasia Foundation's Network partner in the region, and remains a successful example of the Network's work in Kazakhstan.

