

## Clean electricity bishkek

To address these issues, a Clean Air Action Plan outlines the following actions:

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Anatoly Shevchenko, expert on energy efficiency. Photo: personal archive

In Kyrgyzstan, about 90% of electricity is produced in a clean, environmentally friendly way and the country uses it for 70 tyiyn (0.008 USD) per 1 kW. At the same time, thermal energy is generated in coal-fired boilers, which emit large volumes of polluted air into the atmosphere. In the winter of 2019, Bishkek has become the one of the worlds" most polluted cities, which obviously has a negative impact on public health. Experts note that decisive action by the authorities is needed, otherwise the growth of respiratory diseases among the population cannot be avoided. The UNDP team sees the solution to the problem in modernizing the heating system and adopting modern technical standards for supplying and saving energy.

In 2019, the UNDP team upgraded classroom lighting systems for several schools in Bishkek. Fluorescent lamps were replaced by LED fixtures that consumed much less electricity and were safer for eyes. This event was part of a large initiative to improve energy efficiency and sanitary conditions in educational institutions, as well as to address environmental problems associated with air pollution less than a year, the UNDP team together with an invited expert from the database of Russian experts, developed a pilot program for 23 budget-funded educational and health care institutions.

The database of Russian experts for international development has been established as a part of the Knowledge management and capacity building in Russia-UNDP Partnership Project with a view to facilitating the involvement of Russian experts in the implementation of development programs around the world.



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Anatoly Shevchenko, an energy efficiency specialist, shared his views:

It should be noted that about 80% of buildings in Kyrgyzstan are heated with coal, which makes an additional "contribution" to air pollution and is not an efficient use of budget funds. With this in mind, the developed pilot program, if successfully implemented, may cover all budget buildings of the country in the future.

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