

## **THE VOLGA FEDERAL DISTRICT MANPOWER POTENTIAL IN THE CONTEXT OF MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT AIMS**

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**Key words:** ecological stability; gender inequality, social disease, accessibility of the formation, poverty, educational system, united state exam, life expectancy, political representation women, public body.

The main aims of the millennium development by the Privolzhskiy Federal County, which are “too important not to be realized” are considered in the article. The characteristic of the most significant directions of the development of the human potential Privolzhskiy Federal County is shown: reduction to poverty. Provision of ecological stability, improvement of health for adults and children, reduction inequality and social diseases are shown.

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Development of the person is not settled by the millennium development purposes (MDP), but progress in their achievement reflects progress in development of the person.

Purpose 1. Maintenance of the education availability.

Education is a key resource of development and increase of the person, society and country well-being. Achievements in the sphere of education have crucial importance for development of the person because of themselves and because of their links with health, social justice and expansion of the rights and responsibility<sup>1</sup>. The basic problems, with which the Russian education system faces, are relevant almost for all regions of the Privolzhskiy federal district (PFD): quality of the education, its availability, efficiency of educational systems, continuity and availability of the education.

Complexity of given problems’ analyzing is that they appear in different welfare, political and economic contexts and their direct comparison leads to discrepancy of conclusions, and therefore to discrepancy of the recommendations in the educational policy.

As a whole the problem of the secondary, additional and higher education’s availability is

not urgent for the PFD. The issue of the involvement into a public primary education concerns no more than 4 % of children. An exception for today is a pre-elementary education in which there is an obvious excess of demand over the supply. Pre-elementary education can be provided only by preschool education municipal authorities. That is why the preschool education has a crucial importance. Therefore an expansion of the preschool education availability is one of the key means to solve the social mobility problem and problem of decreasing potential social intensity in the society. However in this question the negative tendency is observed. For the considered period from 1990 to 2005 growth of children population, who are visiting preschool educational institutions, is observed only in one region of the PFD – in the Chuvash Republic (by 4,2 percentage points, from 63,2 to 67,0 %). In 2005 in the Perm region 50,9% of children at the age from 1 till 6 years has a preschool education. This is a negative dynamics, because in 2002 value of the given indicator has made 50,6 %, and in 1990 - 63,1 %. This problem is crucial for the big cities of Russian regions. The greatest decrease of the given indicator also is fixed in the Saratov region (by 11,5 percentage point for the considered period), in the Penza and Kirov areas (by 9,1 %).

In Samara region the sphere of education is much better, than in the majority of PFD regions. Because in the Samara region the education belongs to the state policy priorities. 166 educational centers (118 in the rural areas) are provided with the advanced equipment for the maintenance of availability and improvement of quality of the educational services for pupils,

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especially for rural schoolboys. Along with the educational centers, rural ungraded schools are functioning and some are under construction. The coverage of children of 7-24 years by educational institutions has reached 77,2 %<sup>2</sup> in 2004 (for comparison across Russia the given indicator makes 73,7 %). The computerization of educational institutions is holding, the united information education network is creating (one computer is for 23 pupils<sup>3</sup>). Access to the Internet in 73 % of comprehensive schools is provided. Samara region has one of the first started conducting the federal experiments which are aimed to the improving of the managing education system (on the basis of educational districts creation) and mechanisms of an educational institutions financing, and to the increase of efficiency of an expenditure of budgetary funds, to the introduction of united graduation examination, approbation of pre-specialty education and specialized education in the senior classes. The considerable attention is given to issues of the children integration with the limited possibilities in educational area: the regional target program "the Organization of educational resources of the Samara region for integration of children and young men with problems in development for 2005-2008" is conducting.

The issue of correlation of the education and labor market is urgent for the Privolzhsky federal district (PFD) in the context of the millennium development aims, which is connected

training (postgraduate, higher and average education). The Samara region has 7 place across Russia and 1 place among PFD.

Following measures are taken in the Samara region for increasing the level of correlation of the vocational training and the labor market. The mechanism of formation of the annual regional order for a professional training at the expense of means of the regional budget is fulfilled; 12 resource centers of professional education operate; the regional component of the pre-higher education is introduced taking into account requirements of employers; there is a process of systems' regionalization of an average vocational training and its integration with initial vocational training; the system of social partnership of employers with vocational training establishments is creating.

The analyses of the common state examination shows that quality of given educational services is closely connected with the level of the region economic development and the general secondary education financing. The requirement for financing essentially differs depending on operating conditions of educational institutions; so, for example, expenses for training of one schoolboy in countryside exceed similar expenses for training people in the city on the average in 3-4 times (tab. 1).

The education financing level is a crucial factor for an education quality. The education financing level does not depend on the level of region economic development, i.e. the policy of

Table 1

**Average score among the results of the Common State examination (CMS) in the federal districts, 2004\***

Federal District	Average score CMS (Russian language and mathematics)	Expenditures on the one pupil (corrected), thousand ruble	Share of the rural population, %	GRP per capita (corrected), thousand ruble
Central	51,1	4,9	28	45,0
Northwest	52,0	4,7	24	43,8
Southern	46,0	3,7	41	33,0
Privolzhskiy	51,4	4,6	31	40,7
Ural	49,1	4,7	30	64,9
Siberian	45,1	4,0	35	32,3
Far East	46,6	2,9	47	46,4

\* Source: Russia in 2015: the purposes and development priorities: the Report on development of human potential in the Russian Federation in 2005 / Under red. of Prof. S.N.Bobyleva, A.L.Aleksandrovoj. Tver, 2005. Page 66.

with alignment of the education availability. PFD exceeds average indexes across the Russian Federation on the level of population vocational

the education financing is defined not by requirements and not by possibilities of regions, but by priorities of the regional government.

Purpose 2. Maintenance of the gender equality and improvement of women's position.

The country sustainable development, including Privolzhsky federal district, assumes expansion of possibilities for self-fulfillment of both genders. The solution of these problems within the millennium development aims allows developing and carrying out the plan of overcoming the gender asymmetry of our society. Steps for the implementation of this plan are carrying out the gender examination of the different levels legislations, overcoming the stereotypes concerning gender roles, advocacy of the social justice in power and responsibility distribution between women and men at the family and society levels. Also among the important problems are increase of representation of women in authorities of all levels, removal of a discrimination practice in the field of work and employment, creation of the system of violence in a family prevention, an equal parity of girls and boys in initial, incomplete and high school, conformity in the ratio of the girls and young men literacy in age group of 15-24 years.

It is necessary to highlight an issue of the decrease in influence of adverse socio-economic factors for health and life expectancy, especially men.

Gender problems in PFD are softened in the life expectancy and employment, but are sharper in political sphere. Differences in the life expectancy of men and women are less on one-two year in comparison to Center and North-west regions. Expected life expectancy of men in the majority of regions is close to average across Russia (58-59 years), and in Tatarstans, Bashkortostan and Chuvashiya Republics reaches 60 years. Only Komi-Permjatsky Autonomous Area is allocated with an ultralow indicator - 50 years. Such imbalance between men and women exists because man is by the nature the researcher; he is more adjusted to risk. The woman is focused on stability. If to look through statistics boys always are born more than girls, but they survive worse because of problems with health and they are unwilling by the nature to address for the help.

Gender problems of employment are great enough and displaced towards the man's population: man's unemployment is higher than female's in overwhelming majority of regions. In the week developed Komi-Permjatskom autonomous area the rate of unemployment of men almost twice higher than women (12 against 7 % in an aggregate number of the region population; the imbalance is caused by high man's

Table 2

**Structure of the unemployed on a gender bases in 2004  
(the data of selective survey concerning the employment problems)**

Region	Unemployed, in total*	Including			
		man		women	
		Thousand people*	% **	Thousand people*	% **
Privolzhskiy Federal District	1217	654	53,7	563	46,3
Republic Bashkortostan	138	66	47,8	72	52,2
Mary El's Republic	35	19	54,3	15	42,9
Republic Mordovia	26	14	53,8	13	50,0
Republic Tatarstan	137	80	58,4	58	42,3
Udmurt Republic	64	29	45,3	34	53,1
Chuvash Republic	65	38	58,5	26	40,0
Kirov region	70	33	47,1	37	52,9
Nizhniy Novgorod region	134	77	57,5	57	42,5
Orenburg region	116	61	52,6	54	46,6
Penza region	48	25	52,1	23	47,9
Perm area	101	56	55,4	45	44,6
Samara region	92	47	51,1	45	48,9
Saratov region	128	74	57,8	54	42,2
Ulyanovsk region	64	35	54,7	29	45,3

\* Source: Regions of Russia. Social and economic indexes. 2005: Statistic / Rosstat. Moscow, 2006. Pages 106.

\*\* Calculations of the author.

unemployment in a countryside. Rural women can easier found a job in branches of budgetary sphere (formation, public health services etc.) And it is not enough man's workplaces because of a crisis state of agrarian sector and wood branch. Besides, women more often agree to occupy less prestigious and with smaller salary working place.

The smaller quantity of the men searching for work, in comparison with women is observed only in three regions of the PFD. It is a Republic Bashkortostan (47,8 % of men against 52,2 % of women), the Udmurt Republic (45,3 and 53,1 %, accordingly) and the Kirov region (47,1 and 52,9 %). There are more men among the unemployed in other districts of the PFD (tab. 2). The greatest level of man's unemployment is in the Chuvash Republic (58,5 %), then in the Saratov region (57,8 %) and in the Nizhniy Novgorod region (57,5 %).

The Privolzhsky federal district differs especially strongly with gender inequality in political representation. A share of women-deputies in regional parliaments is in 80 % of regions below average in the country, too extremely modest (9 %). Disproportions continue to amplify: during 1999-2004 the presence of women at parliaments has decreased, but in two districts did not become at all. Usually the gender inequality is the highest in the more developed regions of Privolzhskiy federal district, and it confirms again the tendency which has developed in a modern society: the richer region, the lower representation of women in its political system.

In the Samara region the key gender problem is backlog of women's wages from wages of men, despite higher educational level of the first (60 %). Women steadily prevail as a part of registered jobless - more than 65 %.

As to political equality of women and men in the Samara region this question is not so

crucial. Today every sixth head of the city and rural settlements is the woman and every fourth of ministers in the area is the woman. Over 40 female public organizations are operating<sup>4</sup>. The regional branch of the Union of the Russian women is the Union of women of the Samara region. It carries out such actions, as "Widows of Russia", "Day of mother", "the Woman of Year". "Women - leaders of the Samara region" is the noncommercial organization in Samara region, which has linked the women who became successful in public, social, political and professional work. The centre of gender researches is created on the basis of the Samara state university. Issues of improvement of conditions and a labor safety of women dare by means of their inclusion in the tripartite agreement (between the area government, the union of employers and trade-union committee of trade unions of area) and the collective agreement. By collective agreements more than 90 % of the enterprises of area is captured. Since April, 2001 at the Federation of trade unions of the Samara region the Commission concerning a social equality operates, the similar commissions operate at trade-union committees of the enterprises of area.

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<sup>1</sup> *Fomenko E.V.* Theory of human potential of the region// Samara State Economic University. Samara, 2007. 4 6 (32). Page 187.

<sup>2</sup> The report concerning the development of human potential in the Russian Federation in 2006-2007 / Under red. of Prof. S.N.Bobyleva, A.L. Aleksandrovoj. Moscow, 2007. Page 128.

<sup>3</sup> The report concerning the development of human potential in the Russian Federation in 2006-2007 / Under red. of Prof. S.N.Bobyleva, A.L. Aleksandrovoj. Moscow, 2007. Page 53.

<sup>4</sup> The report concerning the development of human potential in the Russian Federation in 2006-2007 / Under red. of Prof. S.N.Bobyleva, A.L. Aleksandrovoj. Moscow, 2007. Page 53.