



FACT SHEET

FY 2008

July, 2008

National Institute for Labor and Social Research (NILSR) Construction Project

PROJECT START

November 5, 2007

PROJECT END

May 30, 2008

PROJECT SITE

68 Karapet Ulnetsi St., Yerevan

SUBCONTRACTOR

“BMS” Ltd

PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

RA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues /MLSI

National Institute for Labor and Social Research /NILSR (3-4th floors)

State Employment Service Agency /SESA (5th floor)

Nork Information Analytical Center (1-2nd floors)

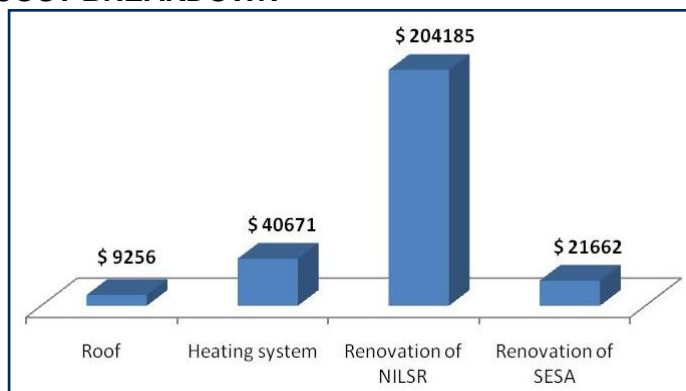
TOTAL COST/USD

USD 275,416,05

TOTAL COST/AMD

AMD 84,580,018

COST BREAKDOWN



WORKS INCLUDED

- 3rd and 4th floors were overhauled, with existing walls demolished. New partition walls erected.
- New windows installed. Floors leveled and tiled. Walls painted. New cabling installed. Toilets renovated and tiled.
- The roof was repaired.
- Common areas were renovated, including the stairwells and the entrance door to SESA.
- An entirely brand-new heating system was installed and a boiler house was constructed.

OVERVIEW

USAID Armenia SPSS project, as a partner of the RA MLSI, started the construction project of the National Institute for Labor and Social Research in November 2007. NILSR is a non-profit, non-commercial state organization within the system of the RA MLSI, the main objectives of which are to provide research (expert evaluations, policy recommendations) in the sphere of social protection as well as training for social protection sector specialists. The goal for SPSS is to support the development of the Institute as the policy development center of the MLSI and as a resource center for other governmental agencies and the private sector of Armenia.

BASIC FACTS AND NUMBERS

- Number of construction workers involved – 44
- One public hearing held (December 21, 2007) about the environmental impact of the new heating system design
- Renovation of 3rd and 4th floors of the building – 912 m²
- Boiler house (fueled by natural gas) next to the building – 15m²
- New heating system capacity – 312 kW

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Demolition works (of the 3rd floor) launched at the immediate start of the project based on floor layout plans, involving knocking down of the partition walls, removing old windows, doors, vitrages, as well as ceramic tiles in the toilets and old piping. Works lasted till November 2007. 4th floor demolition works were done in March 2008.
- An environmental impact assessment was conducted in at the end of November 2007 to determine whether the proposed action encompasses the potential for environmental pollution or damage. The December 12 report stated that the environmental impact with a new heating system will be positive. Compared to the past system of electrical heating, a new heating system will reduce usage of natural gas, which will in turn lead to reduced air pollutant and GHG emissions.
- After the installation of the brand-new heating system for the building, SPSS also worked to design a fair and transparent payment process that will help all 3 occupant organizations to calculate consumption as well as carried out training for administrative personnel.
- To assist in the Institute's functioning after this renovation, the USAID SPSS project also furnished an office room with cubicles, a training room, the resource room, and the library of the Institute with furniture, computers, and a projector.
- On June 20, 2008 Mr. Arsen Hambardzumyan, Minister of Labor and Social Issues, and Mr. Robin Phillips, USAID/Armenia Mission Director, held a ceremonial ribbon-cutting to re-open the National Institute for Labor and Social Research.