

# U.S. Government Assistance to the Kyrgyz Republic

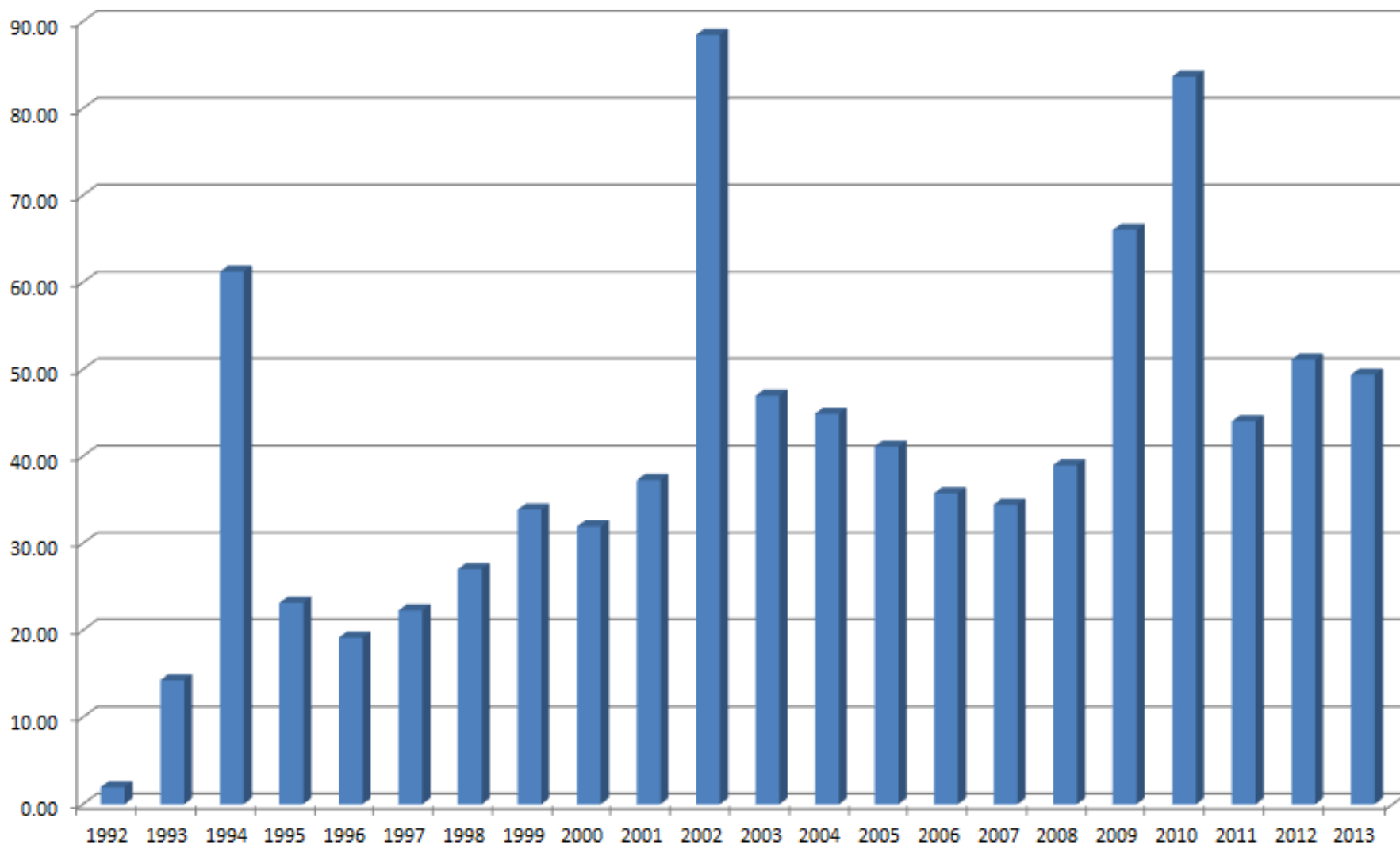


March 28, 2014

# U.S. Government agencies

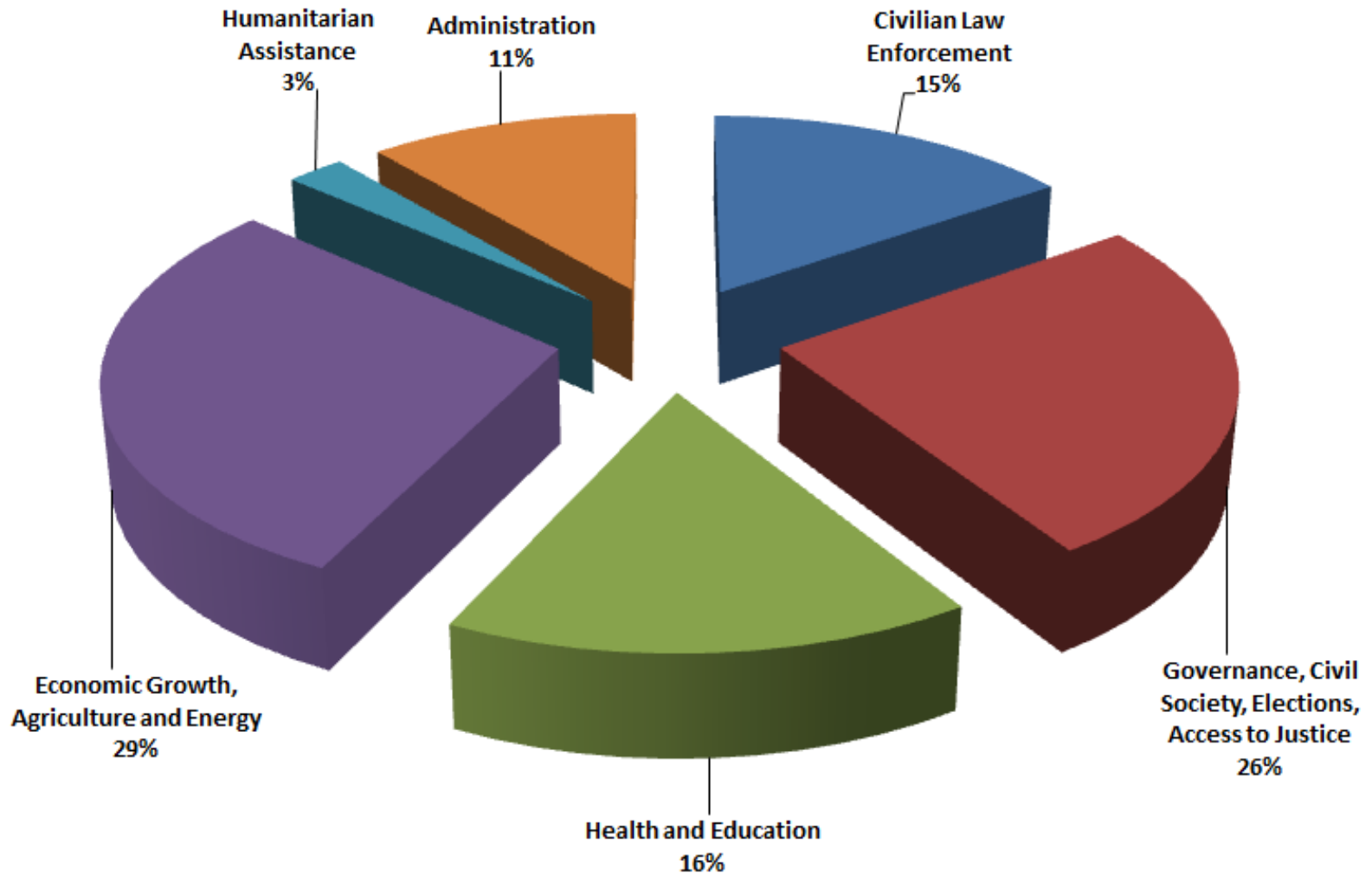
- U.S. Agency for International Development (**USAID**)
- Public Affairs Section (**PAS**)
- Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (**INL**)
- Export Control and Related Border Security Program (**EXBS**)
- Department of Justice (**DOJ**)
- Department of Defense (**DOD**)
- U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (**DEA**)

**U.S. Government Assistance to the KR. 1992 – 2013.**  
**(Millions of U.S. Dollars).**  
**Total Assistance \$900**



# U.S. Government Assistance in 2013, by Sector

**Total \$49 million**



# Lessons Learned

- U.S. Assistance programs must support priorities of the Kyrgyz Republic
- Political will of the Kyrgyz Republic leadership is key to success
- Close cooperation is needed between the Kyrgyz Republic Government and all the international donor organizations, as demonstrated by the successful collaboration in the energy sector

# **Highlights of U.S. Assistance in Building Democracy**

# Building Democracy: Supporting Free and Fair Elections

USAID



- Training thousands of CEC, TEC, PEC, and CET members with a **single standard of training materials**
- Supporting **nationwide voter education, political party poll watchers, and civil society-led election observation** in the 2010, 2011, and 2012 elections
- **Nationwide door-to-door voter's list verification** prior to the 2011 elections, resulting in over 100,000 names added and thousands of corrections
- Long-term engagement to **improve legislation governing elections and voter registration**

# Building Democracy: Assisting Parliamentary Processes

USAID

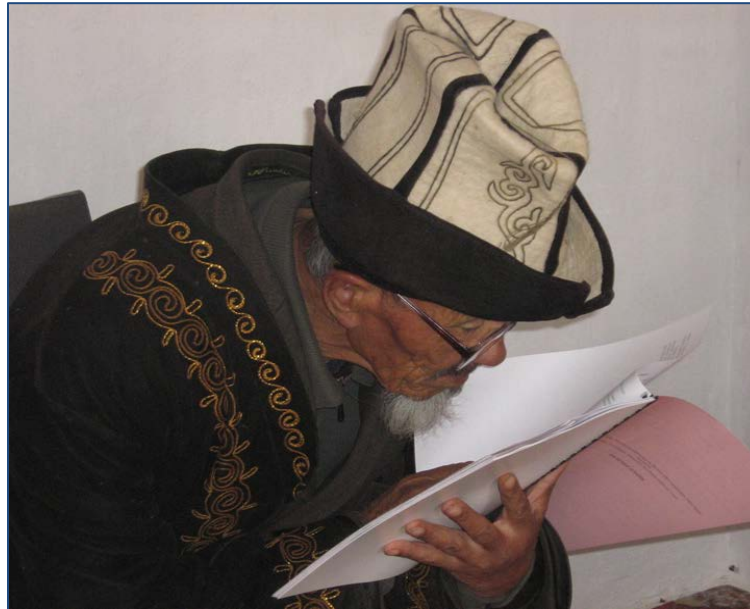


- 100+ field hearings, policy seminars, and other public events have fostered **communication and feedback** between citizens and MPs
- Transparent staffing: in 2013, the Parliament's Administration held the first competitive personnel selection in its 20-year history
- Providing resources to MPs and staff for **producing sound legislation**, such as the Kyrgyz-Russian Legislative Dictionary and the Training Center on Legislative Drafting



# Building Democracy: Improved Local Governance and Services

USAID



- **Helped local governments transparently inventory, publicize, and sell municipal land**, after the sudden transfer of property from the national to local level in 2000
- Assisted the State Registration Service in **rehabilitating and equipping passport offices** in Aravan, Mady, Nariman, Suzak Rayon and the large Citizen Service Center “One-stop Shop” in Osh, **reducing wait time** for documents by 30-50% or more in some locations

# Building Democracy: Supporting Civil Society

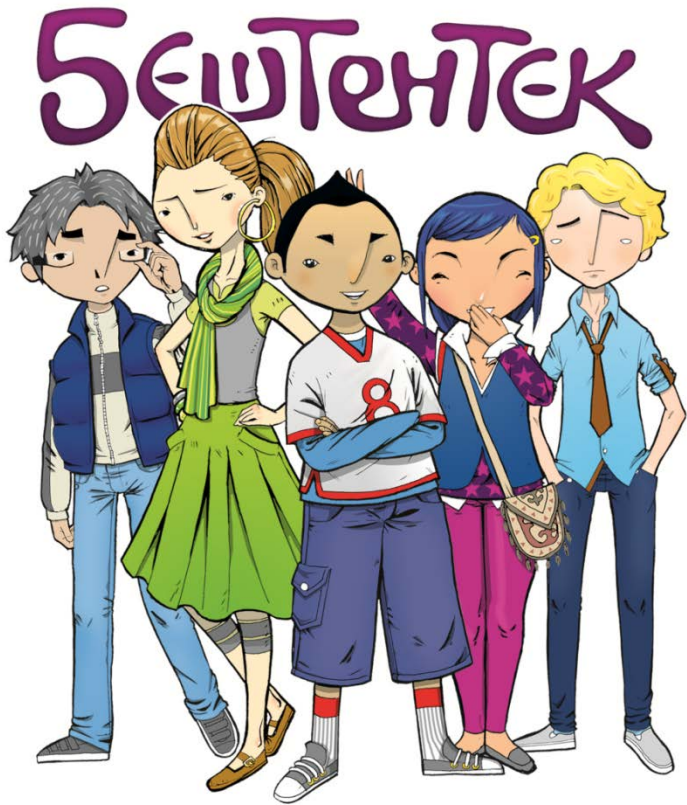
USAID



- Supported the development of important **civil society organizations**:
  - Development Policy Institute
  - Center for Democracy and Civil Society
  - Interbilim
  - Foundation for Tolerance International
- Trained **180 members of 25 newly-formed Public Advisory Councils** on budget development, monitoring, and analysis of draft legislation
- Supported civil society networks to:
  - Monitor the **judicial selection process**
  - Conduct **citizen outreach** about rights & responsibilities vis-à-vis electricity companies and traffic police.

# Building Democracy: Supporting Civil Society

PAS



In 2013, **30 grants** to local NGOs for projects promoting democratic values and governance, including government transparency, conflict resolution, and the political participation of LGBT communities and other vulnerable groups.

## Example: *Beshtentek*

- **4 seasons** of anti-corruption animation series aired on the Public Broadcasting Channel
- Comics distributed at schools, in newspapers, and online
- Puppet shows performed for over **5,000 children** in **43 schools** nationwide

# Building Democracy: Empowering Women

USAID



- Strengthening the capacity of women-lead organizations addressing **human rights abuses** such as domestic violence and bride kidnapping
- Supporting professional opportunities for **women in political life**, including the Forum of Women MPs, Women’s Discussion Club (a coalition of activists across 10 political parties), and recently-elected female *kenesh* members
- Working with Women’s Peace Banks to fund small **projects promoting inter-ethnic reconciliation and confidence-building** in Osh and Jalalabad

# Conflict and Youth: Local Reconstruction After 2010 Violence

USAID

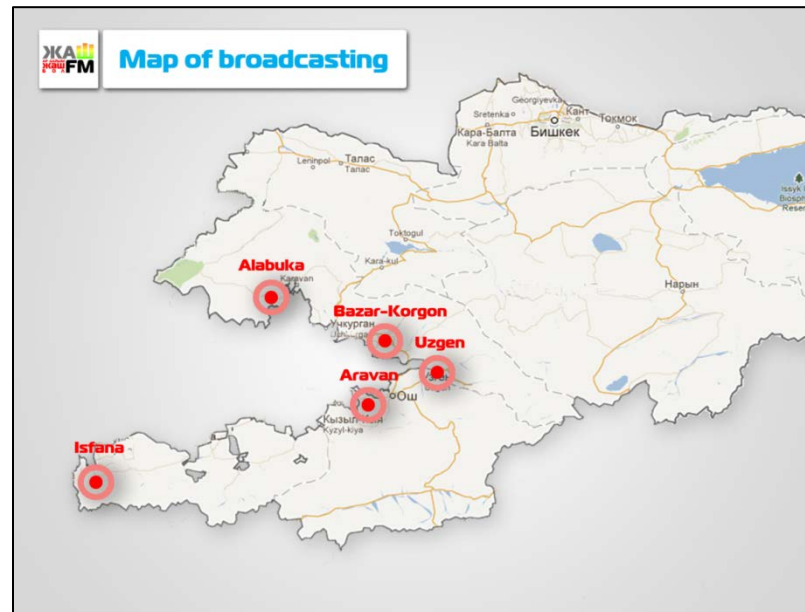


## *Helped local government to repair shared infrastructure in volatile communities:*

- **\$3.7** million in equipment provided to key institutions
- **18** government offices repaired or outfitted
- **138** education facilities & **18** youth centers supported
- **30** irrigation canals repaired, increasing water access for **80** communities, reducing conflicts over water
- Traffic lights replaced at **44** intersections in **5** southern cities; **58%** reduction in accidents in first year
- **24** electricity transformers provided, reducing conflicts over electricity supply in volatile communities
- Engaged at-risk populations in nearly **85,000 days of short-term work**
- Engaged **3,721 people** in community clean-up projects during the anniversaries of the April and June violence

# **Highlights of U.S. Assistance in Supporting Free Media**

## Supporting Free Media: Access to Information



- Providing production grants for local content providers, **covering 90% of the Kyrgyz Republic**, to produce high-quality, locally-oriented television programming
- Support to *Yntymak* (Harmony) TV and Radio, **the only source for Uzbek-language broadcast media in the southern Kyrgyz Republic** since 2010, produced by a multi-ethnic staff of journalists and technicians
- Supported establishment of **5 micro radio stations** in five remote southern villages

# Supporting Free Media: Content and Professionalism

USAID



- Supporting KTR to take its place as the **nationally most-watched television station**, and noticeably improve program quality, through internal reforms and increased public outreach
- Assisting local stations to attract advertising revenue and grow market share through **nation-wide media research** sponsored by a network of public and private broadcasters and advertising companies



**Highlights of U.S. Assistance  
in  
Supporting Health Sector**

# Supporting Health Sector: Assistance to the Ministry of Health

USAID



- Assisted the MOH with development and analysis of the last **three national health reform programs**: Manas, Manas Taalimi, and Den Sooluk
- Supported the **Demographic and Health Surveys** in 1997 and 2012, providing critical data for policy decisions
- Strong USAID, UNICEF, and Russian Government efforts on strengthening routine immunization resulted in **absence of polio outbreak in 2010**
- Thanks to long term support to the Kyrgyz health sector, the Kyrgyz Republic is to be declared **malaria free**

# Supporting Health Sector: Maternal and Child Health Care and Reproductive Health

USAID



- Supported the World Health Organization effective **perinatal care program** in maternity hospitals, reaching **100% coverage** in 2012
- Collaborated with MOH to train all **Primary Health Care providers** on management of childhood illnesses
- More than **110,000 women** of fertile age educated on **modern family planning methods**
- Since 1994, with USAID support, there has been a steady **reduction in infant and childhood mortality**. The Kyrgyz Republic is projected to achieve MDG #4 by achieving a 2/3 reduction in the under-5 mortality rate by 2015.

# Supporting Health Sector: Addressing the HIV and TB epidemics

USAID

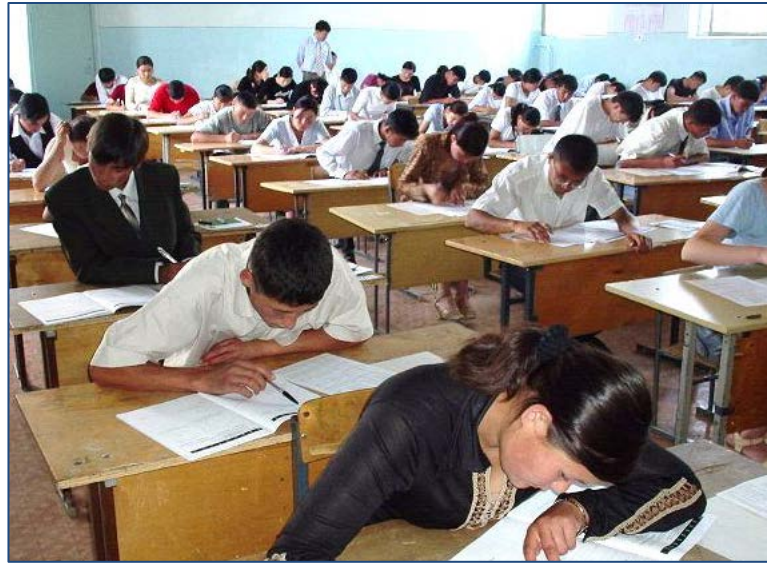


- Increased access to **key health services** in order to contain the spread of the TB and HIV epidemics
- Strengthened the **diagnosis of Multi-Drug Resistant-TB** and improved infection control practices
- Helped health providers, vulnerable communities, and patients understand **treatment options and care** of TB and Multi-Drug Resistant TB

# **Highlights of U.S. Assistance in Supporting Education**

# Supporting Education: Equitable access to university

USAID



- The **National Admissions Test**, designed and launched with USAID support in 2002, provides a fair and transparent means for students to be admitted to higher education institutes
- **434,4457 high school graduates** were tested from 2002 – 2013
- **57,490 government scholarships** distributed, 66% to rural students
- University rectors state that the **quality of their students** has increased because of the NAT

# Supporting Education: American University of Central Asia

USAID



- Founded in 1993 with U.S. Government grant support, AUCA is an **international, multi-disciplinary liberal arts university** that develops enlightened and impassioned leaders
- Currently **1,355 students** from 16 countries and 128 faculty
- 95% of graduates find employment **within three months** of graduation
- Provides **scholarships** to disadvantaged students from Kyrgyzstan
- AUCA is constructing a **new campus** expected to open this year

# Supporting Education: English Language Programs

PAS



- **700 teachers** trained in modern communicative methods of teaching; **300 teachers** developed professional skills through national and regional conferences
- **5 English Language Fellows and Specialists** cooperated with the Ministry of Education and other educational institutions to develop modern English Language programming
- **143,850** students and teachers visited **7 American Corners** and were provided with access to over **7,000 books** and **free Internet** access
- **ACCESS Microscholarship Program: 776** talented students from disadvantaged families taught English language since 2007



# **Highlights of U.S. Assistance in Developing Agriculture**

# Developing Agriculture: Economic Development Fund Programs

USAID



\$20 million joint **U.S.-KG Economic Development Fund** helped:

- Distribute **high quality seed** to 40,000 farmers 2011
- Provide **agricultural machinery** to 14 seed farms
- Provide **equipment and breeding stock** (including 200 head of U.S. cattle) to 10 livestock breeding farms
- Establish the **National Artificial Insemination Center**

# Developing Agriculture: Strengthened agricultural input markets and farm productivity

USAID



- Helped **increase fertilizer usage** (94,000 tons in 2013, up from less than 1,000 tons in 2001)
- Supported establishment of **Association of Agri-businessmen of the Kyrgyz Republic** (example of association's successes – advocated removal of VAT on fertilizer)
- **Over 6,000 ha** of previously non-irrigated land rehabilitated in partnership with private sector and local authorities.
- Support to poultry sector contributed to **60% increase in domestic production of eggs** (compared to 2010 when assistance started)
- Attracted **over US\$ 6 million investment** through partnerships with private sector companies (Eurasia Group, Oasis Agro, Kumtor etc.)

# **Highlights of U.S. Assistance in Enabling Business**

# Enabling Business: Support to Microfinance Industry

USAID



- **Microfinance industry** established with USAID support, from near zero in late 1990's to serving hundreds of thousands of borrowers today
- Technical assistance on laws on MFIs and credit unions, providing **sound legal framework** for industry development
- Supported establishment of the **Association of Microfinance Institutions**
- USAID helped establish **FINCA, Bai-Tushum and Kompanion**, which are now among industry leaders (accounting for over 60% of total microfinance loan portfolio)

# Enabling Business: Support to banking supervision

USAID



- Technical assistance provided to National Bank to comply with Basel-II core principles for **effective banking supervision**
- Assisted National Bank to institute systems for **on-site and offsite banking inspections**
- Worked with National Bank to ensure that commercial banks' accounting and audit systems **comply with international standards**
- Today, banking sector in the Kyrgyz Republic is **stable and credible**

# Enabling Business: Support to Tax Administration

USAID



Provided technical assistance to develop **new tax code** which:

- reduced number of taxes from 16 to 9
- reduced the VAT rate from 20 to 12 percent
- improved property-use tax and land tax regimes
- introduce enforced collection provisions, risk-based audits, automated filing

As a result, the **tax payer confidence** in the government strengthened and **government tax revenues** increased dramatically

# Enabling Business: improving business enabling environment

USAID



Provided technical assistance and training to:

- Draft amendments that will **decrease regulated business activities** from 400 to 101
- Help the Kyrgyz Republic improve **World Bank “Doing Business” ranking** from 99th place in 2008 to 68th in 2014
- Create **one-stop service centers** in Naryn, Talas, Kara-Suu and Tokmok municipalities to facilitate local economic development



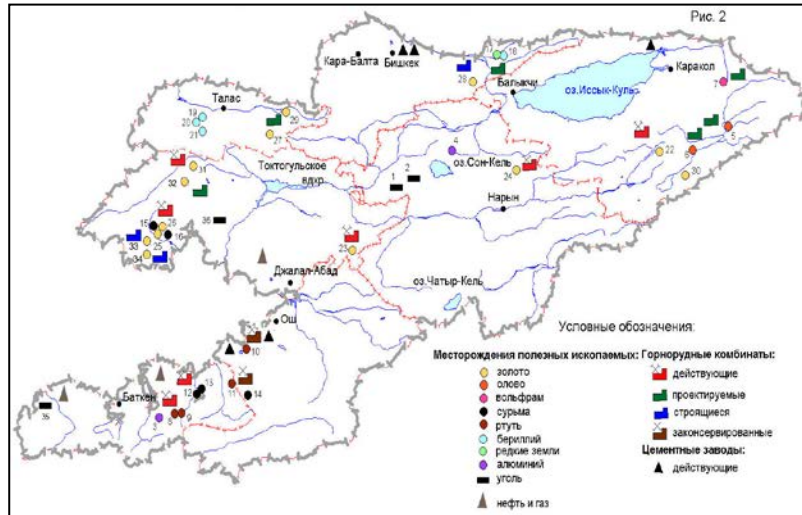
# Enabling Business: Women Empowerment

USAID



- USAID works with **14 large women-run enterprises** and **3,400 women farmers** engaged in feed production and poultry
- USAID provides targeted assistance to **750 women entrepreneurs** in the tourism, garment and agro-processing sectors

# Supporting Mining Sector: Government Regulations



## USAID

- Supported amendment of 4 laws to **improve transparency** in mining licensing
- **Assisted in developing Mining Development Strategy** that is ready for adoption in 2014
- Provided technical assistance to the **State Geology Agency**
- Organized training to **promote legal stability and fair distribution of mining benefits** among stakeholders
- Promoted dialogue between stakeholders **at community level**

# Supporting Energy Sector Reform

USAID



- Provided technical assistance for the Ministry of Energy to formulate **energy-sector reform action plan**
- Produced **first-ever diagnostic report** of electricity-sector companies
- Supported **CASA 1000 secretariat** which will result in summer energy export and greater year-round energy sufficiency

# Border and Customs Support: Practical Exercise and Training area for the State Customs Service

EXBS, INL



- Funded the construction of a **Practical Exercise and Training area for the State Customs Service** that opened on November 1, 2013
- Equipped with actual Radiation Portal Monitors, Vehicle scales and inspection facilities, baggage X-ray machines, classroom areas, and a full size passenger railcar for practical training
- **31 new and upgraded border observation towers** along the Southern borders built and transferred to the State Border Service

# Security Cooperation



- Annually, over **80 events** are hosted under **Bilateral Defense Cooperation Plan involving all branches of the Kyrgyz Republic armed forces**, including training on border security, military medicine, counter-terrorism, explosive ordinance disposal, responding to natural disasters and peacekeeping operations
- **Over 30 Kyrgyz military students graduate every year from U.S. programs** such as basic infantry and medical courses and year-long graduate programs on law and peacekeeping operations
- **Kyrgyz Republic armed forces were provided with** night vision devices, advanced communication equipment and all-terrain heavy transport vehicles and military ambulances

# **Highlights of U.S. Assistance in Law Enforcement**

# Law Enforcement

INL, DOJ



- **Training on Crowd Control** and equipment 1,000 patrolmen in Bishkek, Chui, Osh & Jalal-Abad
- **Community Security Initiative (CSI)** deployed International Police Advisors and created Mobile Police Receptions in 13 districts in Osh, Batken, Jalal-Abad, and Chuy provinces, as well as Osh and Jalal-Abad cities
- Delivered **anti-corruption program to the Ministry of Internal Affairs**
- Assistance in **restructuring and training the Internal Security Services Unit** based on best practice/international standard for handling citizen complaints
- Provided assistance for **refurbishment of the Police School**: dormitories, English computer lab, forensic training center, library and cafeteria

# Law Enforcement

DOJ



- Support to the **Criminal Procedure Code Revision** and judicial reform efforts of the Kyrgyz Republic
- Funding and Program Development for the **Kyrgyz Prosecution Training Center** where DOJ and Kyrgyz instructors have trained hundreds of Kyrgyz Prosecutors and Investigators from all regions in trial advocacy skills and capacity building.
- Support and Coordination for **Kyrgyz Prosecutor General's Requests for Legal Assistance** from U.S. Law Enforcement Authorities



# Counter Narcotics Cooperation

DEA, INL



- Supported establishment of and provided training, equipment and vehicles to **Kyrgyz National Drug Control Service**
- Provided operational support and assistance on **joint counternarcotics investigations**
- Assisted in improving **regional and international cooperation** in counternarcotics work

# Going Forward

## Going Forward: Health



Support the Ministry of Health in its goal to:

- Limit spread of HIV and TB
- Provide universal access to TB and HIV care and treatment

## Going Forward: Education



Assist the Ministry of Education in their goal to return to universal literacy within 10 years

## Going Forward: Developing Agriculture



Assist the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and private sector to increase competitiveness of Kyrgyz agricultural products on national and international markets

# Going Forward: Supporting Small and Medium Enterprises



Planned SME development programs will focus on non-agricultural and non-extractive business sectors and will contribute to:

- Increased employment
- Improved business enabling environment
- Increased productivity and markets

## Going Forward: Strengthen Energy Sector



Support the Ministry of Energy to create well regulated energy sector

## Going Forward: Building Democracy



Help the Kyrgyz Republic to maintain tradition of vibrant and open civil society



## Going Forward: Building Democracy



- Support an engaged, informed society through professional media voices, information diversity after the 2015 digital transition, and public education on rule of law issues
- Strengthen professional, transparent, financially viable civil society organizations as effective partners with the Government
- Engage young people through an updated national civic education curriculum, increased youth networks, and expanded political and economic opportunities

# U.S. Government Assistance to the Kyrgyz Republic



March 28, 2014