

EURASIA FOUNDATION OF CENTRAL ASIA



Program Overview / 2010-2011





LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



We position ourselves as a local organization with international standards. We find transparency, accountability, efficiency and strong local and international expertise to be our major competitive advantages. The Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia seeks to stimulate change – to have an impact. We try to operate in “continuous improvement” mode and use best business practices in our operations. Despite being a non-profit, the basis of our ongoing work comes from the for-profit world. The fundamental building blocks are familiar to businesses large and small: find an effective niche – make choices about what you will and won’t try to give your customers (beneficiaries and funders); be better than anyone else at what you choose to do; work with outstanding performers; and focus on results. EFCA works to translate these ideas into standards that are meaningful for our programming. In designing strategies we strive to:

- ▶ have a well-defined goal that is larger than a single project;
- ▶ have a discernible effect on the problem;
- ▶ tackle a problem on multiple fronts;
- ▶ be both ambitious and realistic;
- ▶ take advantage of timely opportunities;
- ▶ allocate an appropriate level of resources;
- ▶ show measurable progress in three to five years; and
- ▶ be flexible.

Azalia Dairbekova
President



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



ABOUT US

The Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia (EFCA) was created in 2005 to better meet the needs of Eurasia Foundation’s local partners in Central Asia and to devolve management responsibilities to local staff. Based in Almaty, Bishkek, Dushanbe and Osh, EFCA staff manage a broad portfolio of programs, developing local organizations via technical assistance and grants. Eurasia Foundation (EF) and EFCA have invested more than \$40 million in Central Asia to support local initiatives in community development, private enterprise, education and public administration. EFCA runs between 40-50 medium-sized development programs per year in the region, representing funding from more than 30 donors. A public-private partnership, EFCA is governed by an international board of trustees and is supported by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), as well as governments, foundations, corporations, intergovernmental organizations, universities and individuals.



OUR VALUES

- ▶ Entrepreneurship
- ▶ Partnership
- ▶ Professionalism
- ▶ Respect
- ▶ Integrity



OUR MISSION

Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia mobilizes public and private resources to help citizens participate in building their future by strengthening their communities and improving their civic and economic wellbeing.



OUR VISION

To have the greatest impact in fostering societies where people take responsibility for their future.



Azalia Dairbekova
EFCA President



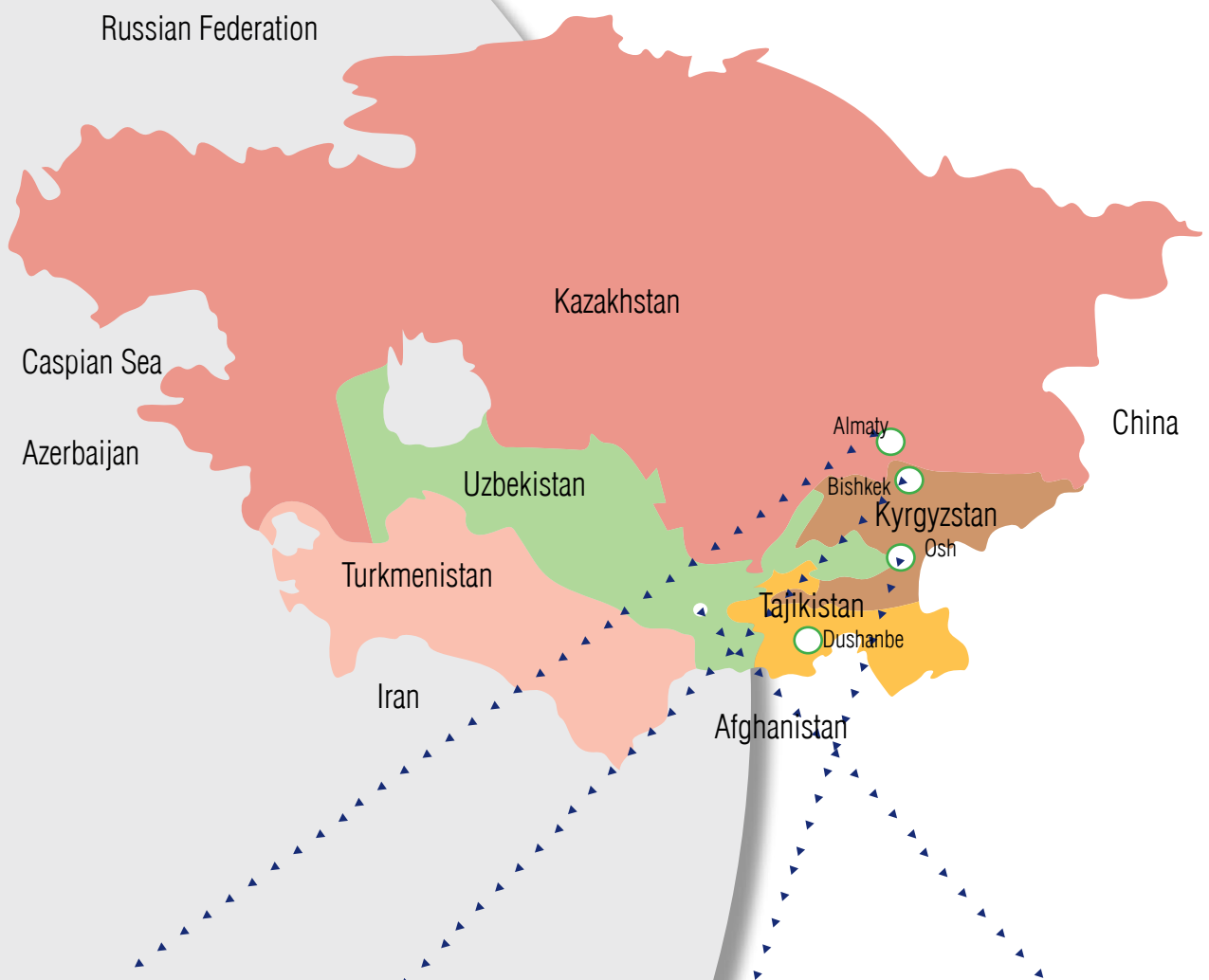
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Director



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Advisory Boards

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- ▶ Ivan Apanasevich | Freelance Local Governance Consultant
- ▶ Zhamilya Asanova | Association of Legal Entities "Civil Society Development Association "ARGO"
- ▶ Galym Zhukupbayev | UIB-Consulting
- ▶ Maria Stefurak | USAID/CAR

Bishkek Office

- ▶ Akjol Berdiev | Staff Attorney, American Bar Association, Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI)
- ▶ Ulanbek Djumanaev | Aga Khan Foundation
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Dushanbe Office

- ▶ Komil Gulomnabiev | Aga Khan Foundation Development Network
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- ▶ Vadim Sadonshoev | Embassy of the United State of America, Tajikistan
- ▶ Salmon Sharipov | the Republican Union, the Consumer Society Tajikistan
- ▶ Paul Hamlin | FINCA (Foundation for International Community Assistance)
- ▶ Muatar Khaidarova | International Centre for Non-profit Law

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- ▶ Maksuda Aitieva | Media Resource Center
- ▶ Zhyldyz Aknazarova | ACCELS in Osh
- ▶ Talant Aldashov | ACTED in Kyrgyzstan
- ▶ Bumairam Ismailova | Consulting Resource Center "Education for Everyone"
- ▶ Hugo Karlsson | OSCE in Osh

EFCA seeks to improve the social, economic and political opportunities for youth between the ages of 14 and 24. Young people make up 26 percent of the population of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. They find themselves increasingly marginalized in society and are often identified as instigators of conflict or religious radicalism. EFCA develops young people's skills, protects their rights and helps them to find employment and participate in community life.

In Kazakhstan:

- ▶ In partnership with **GSM Kazakhstan/Kcell** and the **Presidential Fund of the Republic of Kazakhstan**, EFCA is providing young people with the opportunity to manage small grants through YouthBanks in order to build professional skills and increase civic engagement.
- ▶ With the support of **ExxonMobil Kazakhstan Inc.**, EFCA is helping girls and boys to acquire leadership skills in order to provide them with greater social and economic opportunities.

In Kyrgyzstan:

- ▶ Jointly with **USAID** and the **EU**, EFCA is providing volunteer camps to help young children attain literacy in the south of Kyrgyzstan.

In Tajikistan:

- ▶ With the support of the **Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Denmark**, EFCA is engaging youth in the social, economic and cultural life of their local communities in order to reduce the threat of religious radicalization.

Regional:

- ▶ In conjunction with the **US State Department** and **Hivos**, EFCA is establishing an internet journalism platform (www.kloop.kg) in order to train young journalists in Central Asia the international standards of journalism.



ENGAGING YOUNG PEOPLE IN CENTRAL ASIA



The YouthBank model was first implemented in Northern Ireland in 1999. Following the success of it there, it has been utilized in a number of other countries. EFCA is using this methodology to empower and engage young people throughout Central Asia. YouthBanks conduct needs assessments and issue small grants for youth initiative groups to implement social projects that benefit young people and the community. As part of YouthBanks, young people develop their personal and professional skills.

"Before the establishment of the YouthBank, I participated in many social projects, as both a member and the head of a city youth association. Nevertheless, YouthBank has given me and my colleagues the opportunity to be a part of the organization of our dreams. We give real support to talented young people, we have our own resources, we make independent decisions and we have the chance to grow professionally."

Zarina Zhumagaliyeva, President of YouthBank Ust-Kamenogorsk, Kazakhstan

REDUCING YOUTH RADICALIZATION



EFCA utilizes the YouthBank model in the Isfara, Mastchoh, Muminobod, Shaartuz and Shurobad districts of Tajikistan in order to reduce the risk of political, ethnic and religious radicalism among young people. YouthBanks involve young people in the

social, political and economic life of their communities, thereby making radical movements less attractive. To implement the project, EFCA cooperates with state structures, religious leaders and public organizations.

"When young people become interested and engaged in something constructive for themselves and the community, their radical mood disappears."
Fazliddin Sharopov, YouthBank participant, New Mastchoh, Tajikistan



EDUCATING GIRLS



Atyrau, Kazakhstan, is a city with a prospering petroleum industry; however, the industry employs mostly men, and women are less in demand in the labor market. The Confidently into the Future Girls Education Initiative gives young girls the opportunity to make informed decisions regarding their future. The initiative ultimately aims to make girls more competitive in the labor market. In partnership with Microsoft, training programs on leadership, career and financial and computer literacy have been conducted.

"Before the training, I got only average or good marks during my studies, because I was too shy to raise my hand or answer when I was called upon. After the training, I started to raise my hand and answer confidently. As a result of my increased confidence, I got four "excellent" marks on the school progress report in the second quarter and ten "excellent" marks during the third quarter."

Ekaterina Tsoy, pupil of Secondary School №6, Atyrau, Kazakhstan



MOBILIZING YOUNG PEOPLE



The Youth Mobilization in Community Development in Southern Kyrgyzstan Project is aimed at strengthening the interaction between youth and local governments across eight communities in the Osh, Batken and Dzhalaal-Abad districts of Kyrgyzstan. The project increases youth involvement in the decision-making process at the local level. The project includes summer camps, during which young people help to restore stadiums and gyms, rebuild kindergartens and upgrade public infrastructure. During the camps, legal clinics were held for participants in order to raise awareness about the rights of young people.

"Most local deputies in rural areas do not know their rights or responsibilities, or how important their role is. Young people do not know how to work with local officials. The workshop taught me about the mechanisms I can use to cooperate with local officials; it showed us how to get involved in local planning."

Alisher Ganiev, local teacher, Arslanbob, Kyrgyzstan



DEVELOPING PROFESSIONAL SKILLS



The Professional Youth Journalism in Central Asia Program aims to teach aspiring journalist in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan the standards of professional journalism. To this end, EFCA recently expanded the project to schools in the cities of Almaty, Dushanbe and Osh. In future phases of the project, Kyrgyzstan's successful "Kloop"

journalism platform (www.kloop.kg), will be rolled out across Kazakhstan and Tajikistan. A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with KIMEP (Almaty) and AUCA (Bishkek) to develop and introduce professional training modules into the curriculum at both institutes.

"Participation in the media school drastically changed my life. Before, I had no understanding of journalism. The modules provided by Kloop stressed intensive theoretical knowledge in the first week, while the remaining three weeks allowed me to use that knowledge to produce quality articles. This is very different from what is taught in universities here. Now I am recognized journalist. I have already received an awarded for my work."

Eldiyar Arykbaev, media school graduate, Bishkek

Since the fall of the Soviet Union, there has been a marked decrease in the quality of education throughout most of Central Asia. EFCA seeks to improve the quality of education at all levels in the region. EFCA is working to enhance the skills of educators, improve curriculums and increase access to education. EFCA works with a range of partners to meet the specific needs of each country.

In Kazakhstan:

- ▶ With support from **AGIP KCO**, EFCA is training teachers in Makat and Dossor settlements in the use of information technologies to improve the skills of teachers.
- ▶ Together with **Chervon Munaigas Inc.**, EFCA is introducing new standards in technical education to improve curriculums.
- ▶ In conjunction with **Kazakh Economic University**, EFCA conducted in-depth research to improve the quality of education management.

In Kyrgyzstan:

- ▶ In cooperation with the **OSCE**, the **Kyrgyz Ministry of Science and Education**, the **State Commission on Religious Issues and Muftiyat**, EFCA introduced secular disciplines in madrasahs and religious disciplines in secular schools to improve the quality of education.
- ▶ Jointly with **USAID**, EFCA is providing educational credits in high schools to increase access to education.



IMPROVING THE SKILLS OF TEACHERS



The purpose of the Information Technology and Interactive Methods in Teaching Project is to train school teachers in the settlements of Makat and Dossor (Atyrau oblast) to use new technologies in the classroom. The project aims to increase the

skills of teachers and improve the quality of secondary education. As part of the project, EFCA will conduct trainings to prepare teacher-trainers, who, in turn, will train their colleagues.



IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING



As part of the Improving Vocational Education in Key Technical Areas Project, EFCA improves the curriculum of several technical specializations within the oil and gas sector. The curriculums will be based on international standards and be tailored to needs of

the oil and gas sector, thereby representing how employers, employees and educational institution can effectively work together.



IMPROVING TRANSPARENCY IN EDUCATION



The Improving the Quality and Transparency of Higher Education Project's aim is to involve students in managing their high schools by building the capacity of student organizations to monitor and enhance the quality of education. With the participation of representatives from the Ministry of Education and the National Agency on Corruption Prevention, EFCA has organized

activities to improve the quality of teaching and management in high schools in Kyrgyzstan. Career centers in high schools have been opened to broaden employment opportunities for graduates and to strengthen relations between high schools and the labor market.



IMPROVING SECONDARY EDUCATION



The Improving Religious Education Project in Kyrgyzstan is directed at countering extremism and radicalism that could lead to terrorism. The project seeks to include general educational and professional education courses at madrasahs and contribute to the development of a strategy for Islamic education in Kyrgyzstan. Three madrasahs have already concluded agreements with secular schools to provide general education courses for madrasah students. Four madrasah are preparing the documents needed to obtain accreditation from the Kyrgyz Ministry of Education and Science. A working group under the Ministry of Education and Science has developed a conceptual framework for religious education in Kyrgyzstan.

"Pupils of religious schools should have the opportunity to receive a general education. Madrasah and parish schools teach profound religious subjects, but students do not get a sound general education, which makes it difficult for pupils to attend institutions of higher education, or find work. We have included secular subjects to improve the situation for students."

Abdyzhapar Borubaev, Director, Abdumannapa Mamirov School



IMPROVING HIGHER EDUCATION



Hosted by the Eurasian National University in Astana in partnership with the University of New Mexico (USA), the international-level Master's of Science in Environmental Management and Engineering Program prepares highly qualified specialists to be capable of making appropriate choices to minimize air pollution, water pollution and other environmental problems. The program prepares young professionals for environmental protection work in Kazakhstan and Central Asia. As part of the program, an international department on environmental management and engineering has been created, three teaching modules on monitoring water and air resources have been developed and a laboratory to analyze

water, air and soil pollution has been set up. 42 students have been awarded master's degrees from the program to date.

"Central Asia's ecological problems demand an immediate solution because they have a major affect on our life. I think that the project that we implement jointly with EFCA not only helps to find solutions to existing problems, but also sows the seeds of knowledge in future scientists, experts and citizens."

Masalimov Zhaksylyk Kajyrbekovich, Senior Lecturer, Eurasian National University in Astana



INCREASING ACCESS TO EDUCATION



The Credits for Education Program increases access to education and youth employment opportunities in Kyrgyzstan. As part of the program, a USAID-created fund provides guaranteed loans (up to 50%) to students to pursue educational and employment opportunities.

The student credit program has given 19-year old Aiman Arymbekova, a student of the Tourist Management Faculty of the Kyrgyz Tourism Academy, a chance to graduate. It was very difficult for her parents to find money to pay for her studies, as it is for of the majority living in the Ma-

nas settlement of the Chui region. Nevertheless, Aiman's parents decided to invest in her future and take credit so their daughter could get a good education. "I convinced my parents to take credit, so that they wouldn't worry about how they would pay for my studies," she says. Aiman is confident that the decision was the right one. She is impatiently waiting for graduation, so that she can start working in the tourist sector and put her investment to work.



IMPROVING ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION



The Ecological Clubs Project aims to increase ecological understanding within the population of Suzak district in southern Kazakhstan. As part of the project, ecological clubs in the towns of Sholakkorgan and Tajkonur

have been created. Trainings on ecology have been provided for pupils and teachers of secondary schools in order to raise environmental awareness.

EFCA seeks to improve the lives of Central Asia's most vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities (PWDs), women and those affected by conflict. With a decline in the level of support from the government, these groups find themselves desperately poor, isolated and unable to access basic rights and services. EFCA is working to increase incomes, protect rights and improve the quality of services available for vulnerable groups.

In Kazakhstan:

- ▶ In partnership with the **AES Group of Companies**, EFCA is providing life skills trainings in Shulbinsk in order to improve the lives of orphans.
- ▶ Together with the **EU**, EFCA is strengthening the ability of NGOs to work with the government and orphan service providers in order to reduce poverty caused by the institutionalization of children.

In Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan:

- ▶ With support from the **Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands**, EFCA promotes the development of income generating activities among vulnerable groups.

In Kyrgyzstan:

- ▶ In collaboration with **USAID**, the **EU**, **UNDP**, **UNICEF** and the **Open Society Institute**, EFCA has improved access to services for PWDs.
- ▶ EFCA has opened a charity shop ("Koldoshop") in Bishkek that sell goods made by PWDs.

In Tajikistan

- ▶ In partnership with the **government of Norway**, EFCA is working with NGOs to improve the quality of income generating, social and advocacy services provided to vulnerable groups.



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DEVELOPING YOUTH IN SHULBINSK

The Youth Development in Shulbinsk Project aims to increase the standard of living of Shulbinsk orphans and youth. Within the framework of the program, professional development trainings for orphanages and leadership development trainings for youth are being provided. An education and career center have been created. As a result of the project, orphanages are better able to meet the needs of orphans, and Shulbinsk orphanage graduates have either entered colleges or received technical training certificates.

Fifteen-year-old Tanja Cherepanova dreams of becoming a dermatologist in the future. However, her passion is fashion. "I like clothing, I like looking nice. When I am well dressed, I feel smart and confident." This spring, Tanja was one of the first who enrolled in sewing courses at the career center. At the certificate ceremony, Tanja was dressed in clothes she has made up and sewed by herself.

"The clothes I made would have cost a lot in a store. When I will live independently, I will sew clothes for myself. I will also try to sell clothes to others. That way I can save up money for medical school."
— **Tanja Cherepanova**



PROTECTING PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AFFECTED BY VIOLENCE



Persons with disabilities are a vulnerable group with specific needs. Frequently, as is the case with the June 2010 violence in southern Kyrgyzstan, these individuals are affected by disruptive conflict situations. As they often cannot function without medication, do the physical work necessary to reconstruct their homes and have lower income levels, they cannot rebuild their lives. EFCA works with local and international partners to protect and enhance the rights of persons with disabilities.

After the June violence, EFCA conducted a comprehensive assessment of persons with disabilities, advocated for persons with disabilities within the UN Protection Cluster and supported organizations in mainstreaming disability issues in their emergency response programs. EFCA also purchased adaptive devices for persons with disabilities who lost their devices or became disabled as a result of the June violence.



DEVELOPING INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES FOR VULNERABLE GROUPS



The Meerim Bulagy Orphanage produced and sold 4,654 liters of currant, raspberry, sea buckthorn and apricot jam in four months, yielding \$26,200 in revenue and profit of \$16,280. The project employed five young people living in the institution, aged 16 to 18, providing a monthly

income of over \$100 for each. The products meet state quality standards. Profits have been used to improve the workshop, cover food and clothing expenses for 15 residents and pay university tuition for two of the older residents of the orphanage.

"The support from the EFCA has inspired our students and provided a powerful impetus for creative endeavors. It has boosted optimism."
Gulnara Degenbaeva, Director, Meerim Bulagy Orphanage

Since June 2010, twenty four local women from disadvantaged families have been involved in a milk processing project in the town of Muminabad, near the border with Afghanistan in southern Tajikistan. The new

milk processing workshop is producing a range of delicious and healthy dairy products that were not previously readily available in Muminabad.

"I am currently the only employed member of my family of eight. I am happy to work and to have a chance to help my family."
Firuz Orosta, program participant, Muminabad, Tajikistan



IMPROVING SOCIAL PROTECTION FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES



The aim of the Educational and Social Protection for Children with Disabilities Project is to help teachers and the parents of children with disabilities to better deal with disability issues. As a part of the project, legal support, practical guidance and DVDs on inclusive education have been provided to teachers and parents. Coordinating committees have been created to protect and promote the rights and interests of children with disabilities.

Jordan is a cute five year old who likes to draw and play with cars. He has Down syndrome. When a therapist first met with Jordan, he knew very few words and would not play much with other children. Jordan's mother actively followed the suggestions given to her by the therapist. He is now speaking more, and plays well with other children.



DECREASING THE LEVEL OF POVERTY AMONG ORPHANAGE GRADUATES



The graduates of Kazakhstan's orphanages have difficulty adapting to independent life outside of orphanages. Vagrancy, drug and alcohol addiction are common. The Reducing Poverty Caused by the Institutionalization of Children Deprived of Parental Care Project aims to reduce social orphanhood and prevent these negative social indicators. EFCA is

strengthening the Bakytty Bala NGO Network and NGO partners in four regions (Astana, Kostanai, Pavlodar, and Shymkent) to pilot innovative services for orphanage graduates. As part of the project, EFCA will make recommendations that the new services be adopted into law.

The events of June 2010 in the Fergana Valley have stressed the importance of preventing conflict and reconciling groups after conflict has occurred. EFCA brings together young people, local organizations and civil society from different groups so that they may take measures to prevent conflict and promote reconciliation in the Fergana Valley.

- ▶ With support from the governments of **Great Britain and Norway**, the **EU** and **USAID**, EFCA is bringing together young people of various ethnicities in Osh, Jalalabad and rural regions in the south of Kyrgyzstan to foster mutual understanding.
- ▶ Together with **USAID**, EFCA is enabling cross-border dialogue between young people in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in order to build cross-border peace.
- ▶ In partnership with the **EU**, EFCA is providing trainings to and supporting dialogue between local authorities, NGOs and the community in order to prevent conflict.
- ▶ With the support of **Saferworld** and the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark**, EFCA is helping local NGOs develop plans to address conflict to allow them to react to the changing situation in the south of Kyrgyzstan.
- ▶ Jointly with the **Open Society Institute**, EFCA is supporting school administrators to create a safe educational environment for children in the areas affected by conflict.



WORKING WITH CIVIL SOCIETY TO PREVENT CONFLICT



To reduce the threat of new conflicts from occurring in southern Kyrgyzstan EFCA has strengthened the capacity of local civil society organizations and worked to improve the coordination of activities carried out by them as part of its Conflict Prevention in Southern Kyrgyzstan Project. The project has created a forum for

representatives of various civil associations to better understand conflict dynamics, discover opportunities for conflict prevention and reconciliation and identify possible responses to potential conflict situations.

"The training in conflict analysis was very useful – we all need to talk about the recent violence with more analysis and less judgment."
Mira Seyidaliyeva, IRET NGO, Osh

WORKING WITH YOUTH TO PROMOTE PEACE

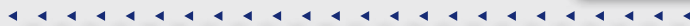


Young people are often seen as perpetrators of violence and crime. They have few recreational, educational or employment opportunities. In communities in southern Kyrgyzstan, including the cities of Osh and Jalalabad, EFCA brings together young people from different ethnic backgrounds through YouthBanks.

These young people are working together to make positive change in their communities. This process increases understanding and builds bridges across ethnic divisions. With the support of USAID, EFCA has established a cross-border dialogue between Kyrgyz and Tajik young people.



BRINGING TOGETHER LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND CIVIL SOCIETY TO MITIGATE CONFLICTS



In ten communities on the border of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, EFCA has held a number of trainings, cultural and social events and has initiated the establishment of YouthBanks. These activities have created a joint forum, where non-governmental organizations and local authorities have learned how to work together to achieve common goals and prevent and mitigate community conflict.

"In our region, we had no cases of looting during the events in June. When the conflicts occurred, the local youth associations, administration and the Council of Elders were quite successful in reconciling the conflicting parties. In that respect, the trainings in conflict prevention and tolerance turned out to be very useful."
Murat Uzakov, Press Secretary of Ak-Tam aiyl-okmotu, Aksy Region



BUILDING LASTING PEACE



To promote long-term peace in southern Kyrgyzstan EFCA organized a volunteer work camp in the Isfana area of the remote oblast of Batken, Kyrgyzstan, with USAID and EU support. The project brought together 40 young men and women to learn about youth rights and tolerance. The young men and women also volunteered their time to rehabilitate a local kindergarten that had hardly been improved since it was built in 1968. While builders replaced the leaky roof and constructed more outdoor classrooms, young people cleared rubbish and repaired play equipment. The kindergarten can now serve more families in Isfana. Local parents

are happier that their kids have a safe place to play. However, the bigger change is in the young volunteers themselves. Energized by their experience, a group of them took their own initiative. Isfana suffers from tension and fear, which is stoked by misinformation and rumors. In response, young people opened an internet resource center to publish a news bulletin to keep parents and children better informed. The overall intervention has played a key role in addressing tensions in the community. Young people also participated in work camps in Osh and Jalalabad oblasts, where similar rehabilitation projects took place.

"You can't imagine what an important and topical problem you have addressed. I believe there's nothing more important at the moment than reconciliation of youth, since these are growing, active people with concrete goals and aspirations."

Berdimurat Jamilov, Mayor of Isfana



EFCA improves the involvement of civil society in solving social problems in local communities. Many people in Central Asia rely only on the government to solve their problems because they think that they are unable to change the situation in their communities by themselves. EFCA believes that the best way to improve the living standards of the population is through the interaction of citizens, governmental agencies and businesses.

In Kazakhstan:

- ▶ In collaboration with **Tengizchevroil LLP (TCO)**, EFCA is developing the civil sector in order to engage citizens in taking responsibility for solving their own problems.
- ▶ Together with the **Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland**, EFCA is closing legislative loopholes through an anticorruption council in order to reduce corruption.
- ▶ With support from the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway**, the **EU**, **USAID**, the **Government of Britain** and the **OSCE**, EFCA is engaging the community in monitoring state-funded projects to improve the transparency of budgets.

In Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan:

- ▶ In partnership with the **World Bank**, the **OSCE**, and the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland**, EFCA is involving civil society in the budgeting process in order to ensure that budgets are equitably spent at the local level.

Regional:

- ▶ With support from the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland**, EFCA is conducting research to determine how best to simplify access to justice for Central Asia's most vulnerable groups.



INCREASING COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



The TCO Atyrau and Zhylyoi Community Engagement Program aims to engage the community in solving its own social problems. The program is increasing the capacity of local organization to meet community needs in the areas of youth, health and education. Within the framework of the program, trainings and grants have been provided for local organizations to deliver needed social services to the community.

Uzildik Moldagaliyeva has been a physical education teacher in Kulsary for 20 years. She has a husband and four children. Uzildik has always been fond of her job. She has always been very active. When she found out about EFCA's training on how to write and implement a social project for your school, the decision to come was an easy one. The training helped Uzildik to start Barys Health Club. The purpose of the club is to promote a healthy lifestyle through the participation of children and adults in regional sports events.

"I realized that I can do something useful for the community. I don't just go to school, conduct lessons, and go home. Now I know that we, the people of Zhylyoi, must not wait for somebody to make our lives more interesting, but that we need to make this happen by ourselves. – Uzildik Moldagaliyeva, physical education teacher"

REDUCING CORRUPTION



In January 2010, EFCA established the Kazakhstan Independent Anticorruption Council (IAC) to join the efforts of public organizations, independent experts and representatives of business in fighting corruption. The IAC combats corruption in Kazakhstan by communicating objective information to governmental bodies and citizens on the reasons

for corruption, suggesting possible ways to eliminate it and promoting anticorruption values in the community. EFCA has organized trainings in Almaty and Astana to build the theoretical and practical knowledge required to review and eliminate corruption causing loopholes in draft laws and existing regulatory acts of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

OPENING GOVERNMENT BUDGETS



The Kazakhstan Open Budget initiative is focused on involving the community in implementing and monitoring projects financed by the state. In 2010, EFCA created working groups in Almaty and Petropavlovsk to

provide expert support to local budget administrators on the development and assessment of budgets. To date, the group of experts has successfully worked out over 30 amendments to existing budgets.

BUILDING BUDGET LITERACY AND IMPROVING ACCESS TO INFORMATION



In January 2011, EFCA started implementing the Budget Literacy and Access to Information Project to increase the involvement of civil society in budgetary processes, and to improve legal provisions on access to information. The project will strengthen the capacity of governmental agencies and local self-government authorities (LSGA). Trainings with the participation of representatives of governmental agencies, LSGAs, and civil society actors will be held in all 40 regions of the Republic.

"The public hearings on budget organized by EFCA were very important. Citizens want to know and see how budgets in their communities were formed and distributed. Previously, many people had a rather skeptical attitude about the distribution of budget funds, blaming local authorities for corruption and incompetence".

Aigul Botusheva, Secondary School Teacher of Ak-Bulun ayil district

PROMOTING LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT



The Democratic Rights in Tajikistan Project aims to improve the exercise of fundamental democratic rights and electoral processes at the self-government level in 18 communities in Tajikistan. As part of the project, EFCA and its partners provide training and consultative support to

community members to increase the number of citizens exercising their right to vote, standing and campaigning for council elections, accessing information and developing and monitoring budgets. To date, the project has reached more than 20,000 individuals.

"Our people are very poor, and when you tell people that they have an opportunity to influence decision-making, most of them jump at the chance and get involved in the process. So far, we cannot say that our life has become much better, but people are moving forward—they want to build their future themselves."

Marifat Khidiraliyeva, Director of Marifat Public Organization, Khuroson region

INCREASING ACCESS TO JUSTICE



Access to justice in Central Asia does not comply with world standards. High levels of corruption combined with low levels of legal awareness further make the situation worse, particularly among women, people from rural areas, young people and people with disabilities. As part of Fin-

land's multi-year Wider Europe Initiative, EFCA and its Eurasia Foundation Network partners are conducting research in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan to determine how to improve access to justice for Central Asia's most vulnerable groups.

More and more companies in Central Asia are trying to take responsibility for their employees, the community and the environment. Since 2000, EFCA has assisted more than 50 companies in developing and implementing their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) strategies. EFCA promotes CSR in the region, helping companies to realize the many advantages to doing business responsibly.

In Kazakhstan:

- ▶ EFCA is providing trainings for companies and the mass media to increase awareness about CSR.
- ▶ With the support of **GSM Kazakhstan/Kcell**, **Chevron** and **USAID**, EFCA launched the first web-site dedicated to CSR in Kazakhstan (www.csrkz.org) to promote CSR best practices.
- ▶ Together with **ExxonMobil Kazakhstan Inc.**, EFCA held a

journalism contest for the best CSR story in order to improve the quality of the media's coverage of CSR.

In Kyrgyzstan:

- ▶ EFCA held a gala evening in Bishkek with the support of **Kumtor Operating Company**, **FINCA**, the **Hyatt Regency** and **USAID** to raise money for people with disabilities.



PROMOTING CSR IN KAZAKHSTAN



EFCA actively promotes the concept of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) as Chair of the CSR Working Group of the American Chamber of Commerce. In September 2010, EFCA launched www.csrkz.org, the first web-site dedicated to CSR in Kazakhstan. More than 10,000 people visited the web-site in its first eight months of operation. The site's monthly CSR e-bulletin has a circulation of 1,000 individuals from business, government, mass media, and the general public. More than 30 partnership agreements with mass media outlets and international web portals have been concluded since the site's launch. Also in 2010, a second journalism contest for the best CSR story was held. For the three winners of the contest, EFCA provided a study tour to Kiev, Ukraine.

"A corporate social responsibility strategy can only be successfully developed when awareness of the concept and its best practices is improved. A web-site is the most important tool for achieving this aim. The site created by EFCA is an example of a good initiative to promote the concept of CSR. It is not just a reference for companies; it is also a window on CSR in Kazakhstan for the international community. The site undoubtedly contributes to the reputation of businesses in Kazakhstan and the country as a whole."

Marina Saprykina, Director of the CSR Development Center and Expert for the Development of a Social Responsibility National Standard, Ukraine

"Care for the environment, employee welfare, and the good of the community – these are the issues that the companies fail to address. Thanks to the journalism competition, people will learn about these issues. The hope is that someday businesses will become more responsible."
***Bakhytzhana Zhumaliyeva, Journalist, Analyst,
Specialist in Public Relations***



EFCA

EURASIA FOUNDATION
OF CENTRAL ASIA

EFCA promotes economic entrepreneurship in Central Asia by supporting the professional development of the region's residents. EFCA promotes economic growth in the region by promoting simplified customs procedures and improving logistics and communications among traders.

In Kazakhstan:

► With the support of **Chevron Munaigas Inc.**, **UNESCO**, **GSM Kazakhstan LLP/Kcell**, the **Yerzhan Tatishev Foundation**, **USAID** and the **Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Kazakhstan**, EFCA is improving the professional skills of craftsmen to encourage the emergence of small businesses.

In Tajikistan:

► With financial support from the **Western Union Foundation**, EFCA is teaching Russian to the citizens of Tajikistan in order to

reduce the language barrier for labor migrants headed to Russia.

Regional:

► In collaboration with **AECOM International Development**, **USAID**, the **Government of Kazakhstan** and **GIZ**, EFCA is improving the conditions for international and transboundary trade and transit to promote the development of economic growth and the competitiveness of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.



SUPPORTING ENTREPRENEURS



Initiated in 2006, the Kazakhstan Artisans Business Development Program (KABDP) aims to increase the business acumen of Kazakhstan's craftsmen and improve the competitiveness of Kazakhstan's crafts on local and regional markets. Over the course of the project's life, 20 craft exhibitions have been organized, two resource centers for craftsmen have been opened in the cities of Ust-Kamenogorsk and Shymkent and ten art managers have been prepared to help craftsmen develop their product lines, set prices and build distribution channels. In 2009, the SHEBER Competition, an annual competition for Kazakhstani craftsmen, was established. In 2010, ten of the program's craftsmen were awarded UNESCO's Seal of Excellence for their handicrafts. Nursultan Kaliyev has been interested in wood carving from childhood. However, the prospect of being a craftsman was rather vague and promised no stable income. By the time he decided to

pursue his dream, Nursultan had graduated from technical college as a mechanic and electrician, finished his military service and worked in the oil industry. In 2006, Nursultan began taking wood carving seriously for the first time in his life by taking correspondence courses at the Art and Drawing Faculty of the Pedagogical University of Atyrau. Today, Nursultan is a craftsman of wood and an expert in inlaying gems and working with non-ferrous metals. Having completed trainings on marketing organized by EFCA, Nursultan decided to start mass producing and selling his products not only at the local market, but also in Almaty and Astana. Nursultan actively participates in local and regional competitions and exhibitions. This year, Nursultan was the winner of the 2010 SHEBER Competition in the innovation category.



PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO LABOR MIGRANTS



Every year about one million citizens of Tajikistan leave the country to earn their living. Most of them go to Russia. The volume of remittances transferred by them to Tajikistan is comparable with the annual state budget of the entire country. Not speaking Russian, migrants from Tajikistan are at a disadvantage in the Russian job market. Despite their qualification and experience,

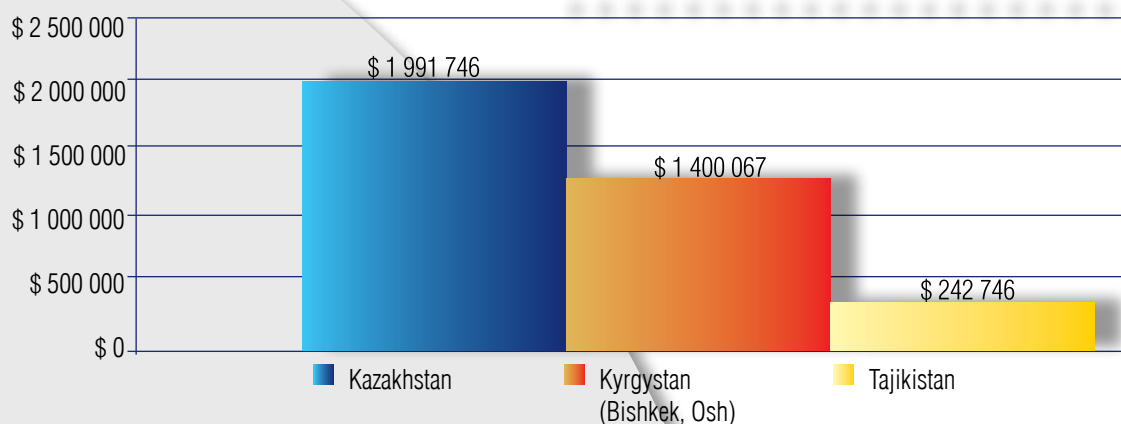
many are only able to secure difficult, low-wage jobs. Their rights are often violated because they do not know Russian. EFCA is improving the situation for Tajikistan's labor migrants by teaching them Russian. Eight professional teachers of Russian are currently providing Russian instruction in six regions of Tajikistan as part of the program.



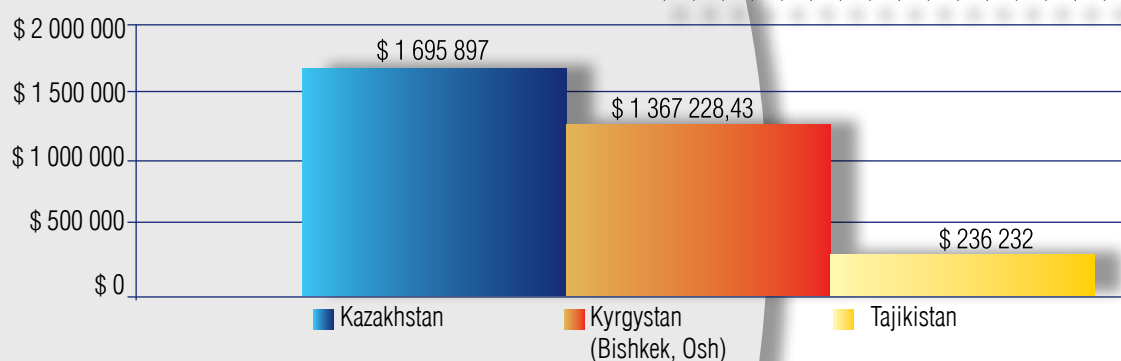
EFCA
EURASIA FOUNDATION
OF CENTRAL ASIA

In all its grant programs and technical assistance, EFCA highly values transparency and applies rigorous financial and administrative controls and requires the same of its grant recipients. With the majority of funding provided by the U.S. Agency for International Development through multi-year core grants, EFCA also attracts co-funding from other governmental, private and non-profit sources. In 2010, EFCA received funds from 40 donors to implement social projects.

GRANTS RECEIVED FROM DONORS FISCAL YEAR 2010

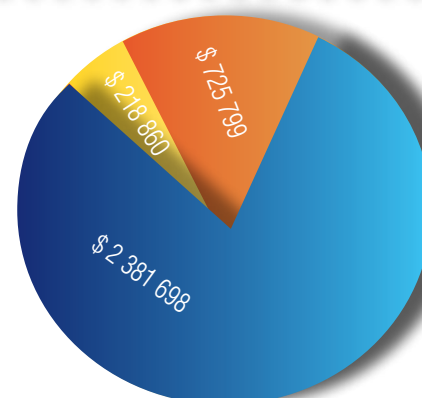


EXPENDITURES (INCLUDING GRANTS AWARDED) BY COUNTRY FISCAL YEAR 2010



EXPENDITURES BY ACTIVITY FISCAL YEAR 2010

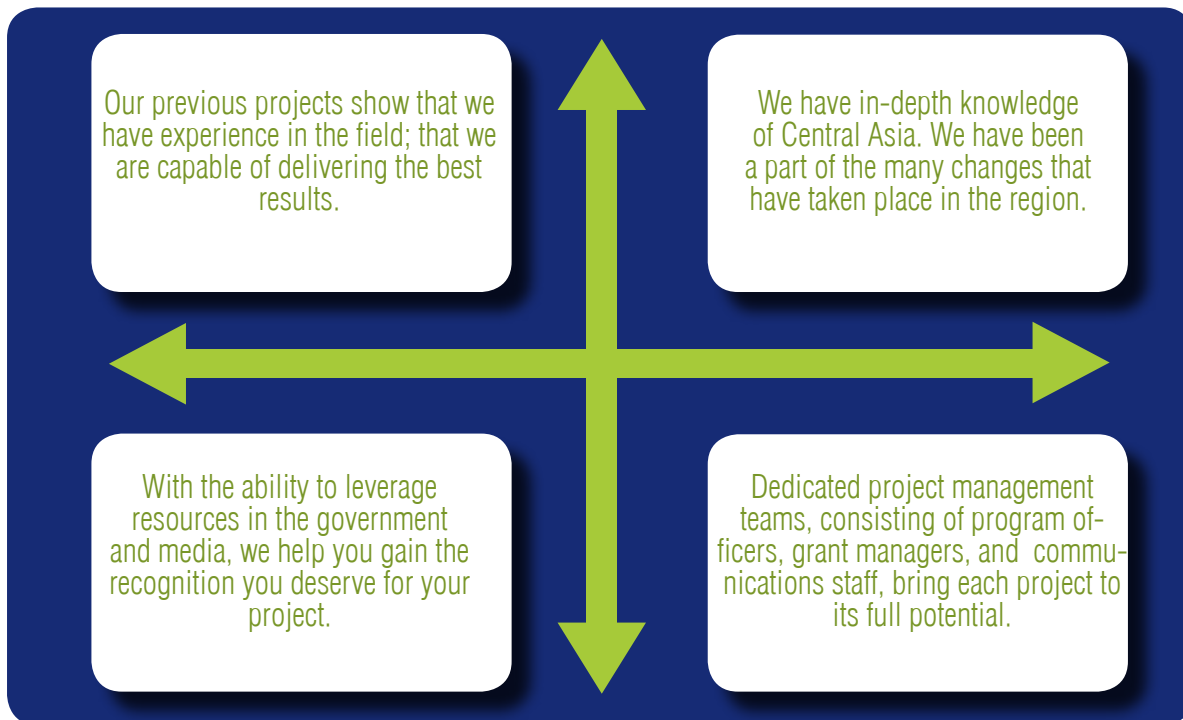
- Grants Awarded – \$218,860
- Program Non-grant Activities – \$2,381,698
- Administrative Expenses – \$725,799



- ▶ AES Group of Companies in Kazakhstan
- ▶ AsiaUniversalBank (AUB)
- ▶ Auezov Foundation
- ▶ British Foreign and Commonwealth Office
- ▶ Cameco Kazakhstan LLP
- ▶ Canadian International Development Agency
- ▶ Carana Corporation
- ▶ Chevron Corporation
- ▶ ChevronMunaigas, Inc.
- ▶ Coca-Cola
- ▶ Delegation of the European Commission to the Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic and Republic of Tajikistan
- ▶ Embassy of Australia to Russia
- ▶ Embassy of Finland to Kazakhstan
- ▶ Embassy of Norway to Kazakhstan
- ▶ Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Astana
- ▶ Erkin K LLP
- ▶ ExxonMobil Kazakhstan, Inc.
- ▶ FINCA
- ▶ German Federal Foreign Office
- ▶ Golder Associates
- ▶ Goldfields
- ▶ GSM Kazakhstan/KCELL
- ▶ ICCO
- ▶ Inkai JV
- ▶ Karachaganak Petroleum Operating, b.v.
- ▶ Kazakh Economic University after T. Ryskulov
- ▶ Kazkommertsbank JSC
- ▶ KPMG
- ▶ Kumtor Operating Company
- ▶ Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark
- ▶ Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland
- ▶ Open Society Institute
- ▶ Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in Bishkek
- ▶ Pragma Corporation
- ▶ RBS Kazakhstan JSC
- ▶ Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- ▶ Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- ▶ Talas Copper Gold
- ▶ Talas Gold Mining Co.
- ▶ Tengizchevroil LLP
- ▶ The Services Group, Inc.
- ▶ UK Department for International Development (DFID)
- ▶ UNESCO Almaty Cluster Office for Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan
- ▶ UNHCR
- ▶ UNICEF
- ▶ United States Department of State
- ▶ USAID – Office of Transition Initiatives
- ▶ USAID Central Asian Republics
- ▶ Vernyi Capital
- ▶ Western Union Foundation
- ▶ Yerzhan Tatishev Foundation



OUR COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE





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EF NETWORK

EFCA is a partner of the Eurasia Foundation Network which also includes the New Eurasia Foundation (Russia), the Eurasia Partnership Foundation (Caucasus), the East Europe Foundation (Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova) and the Eurasia Foundation (United States).

Since 1993, Eurasia Foundation and the network have invested more than \$360 million in local and cross-border projects to promote civic and economic inclusion throughout the Eurasia region.

For more information about the Eurasia Foundation Network, please visit <http://www.eurasia.org>.

