

# **Soros Foundation Kyrgyzstan**

## **Strategy 2014-2018**

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## Executive Summary

Three years after the 2010 revolution, Kyrgyzstan offers a mix of challenges and opportunities unique to the region. Citizens are not afraid to demand their rights, but can be easily manipulated by political entrepreneurs and demagogues, as recent local conflicts over natural resource use have shown. Young people are particularly active, but are at risk of being co-opted by criminal or radical groups. The human rights community is the most active in Central Asia, but remains isolated and in need of rejuvenation. The media and online environments are by far the most open in the region, but attempts to limit the space for free expression are constant, especially where minority groups are concerned, and the full potential of online content development has not been realized. Government institutions are open to reform, but corruption and abuse in the justice system are still widespread, and thousands of vulnerable citizens are still denied access to basic health and educational services.

To help address these issues, Soros Foundation-Kyrgyzstan has identified five fields where our support will be needed. First, we will support **youth engagement for social change** by providing alternative venues for peer-to-peer learning and mutual inspiration. We will also support **human rights monitoring and documentation**, with a focus on helping new actors emerge and helping established organizations reach broader audiences. Our work in **natural resources governance** will focus on helping our partners champion best practices in the mining and electricity sectors and educate local communities on their rights as citizens and consumers. To help maintain the free space for **independent, alternative, and social media**, we will support partners to counter efforts to limit freedom of speech and expression in print and online. Finally, we will advance **access to justice and legal empowerment of the poor and marginalized** by supporting community-based organizations who promote the access of marginalized groups to health care.

The Foundation has also identified four areas (“concepts”) where SFK will play the leading role. Taking advantage both of the current political will for **judicial system reform** and the Foundation’s years of experience in this area, we will coordinate the drafting of a new criminal code, a new law on free legal aid, and the development of mechanisms for torture prevention. In the realm of **freedom of information**, we will seek to ensure that the upcoming digital switchover preserves media diversity, promote the wider use of open educational resources, and increase the availability of media in minority languages. Drawing on our years of close collaboration with the Ministry of Education, we will advance **equal access to quality primary and secondary education** by developing a cost-effective model for a safe and inclusive school environment, with a particular emphasis on early childhood intervention. Finally, we will **challenge the health establishment to advance human rights** by promoting the integration into the national health system of the successful pilot projects we have developed over the years in areas such as palliative care, mental health, and harm reduction.

## Concepts

Besides our fealty to fields we also have four concepts which we believe are most pressing for the country and within which we intend to implement our own ideas.

Since 2010, after the last revolution the Government of Kyrgyzstan has initiated several reforms, one of which is *Criminal justice reform*. Because Soros Foundation Kyrgyzstan and the OSF network have great practical and international experience in such reforms, we believe that it is a great chance for us to make Criminal justice reform consistent with international standards and to ensure civil society engagement in order to reflect in the Law all international commitments and obligations Kyrgyzstan has accepted. Within this concept we are focusing on three main areas: to develop a law document, to include in the law guaranteed free legal aid, and to strengthen mechanisms of torture prevention. We have commitments from other international partners who make accent on other aspects of the reform agenda.

The concept of *Access to information and freedom of expression* focuses on three major challenges Kyrgyzstan has faced and will continue to face in the near future. The forthcoming digital switchover poses a potential threat to the country’s information security, as most of the current broadcasters have poor chances of entering social digital packages (multiplexes) due to organizational, structural, financial and production problems. We believe that it is crucial to secure equal access of local channels in the digital spectrum and digital packages (multiplexes) and at the legislative level. SFK will take initiatives to secure equal access to reliable local information in several languages, as well as access to open educational resources within the Open Access Policy, new media and secure communications. Another focus is to improve the situation with access to minority language media, especially in the southern part of the country, which witnessed an almost total disappearance of the Uzbek language media after June 2010, by capacity building of minority media and promoting their accessibility.

After interethnic conflict in 2010 and due to the socio-economic situation in the country, we have thousands of children who have fallen outside of the education system because of their ethnicity, disability and

economic conditions, especially children of labor migrants. *Education for social inclusion and cohesion* has the specific goal of developing and implementing a cost effective model of the school with safe and inclusive environment, where techniques of early childhood intervention will be applied. For this purpose SFK intends to develop and adopt standards for inclusive education and make schools as centers for cohesion among different ethnic and social groups. We believe that our models and standards will be applicable within new multimillion dollars international projects funded by European Commission and Asian Development Bank in next 3-4 years.

The last but not least concept is *Access to public health*. SFK is the only player in the country which has been implementing several pilot service projects on palliative care, mental health and harm reduction that have proven their cost - effectiveness and matching the needs of beneficiaries. We trust that integration of current cost-effective pilot models into state health care system with governmental funding and support on national level will ensure equal access to health care for people who use drugs, people with mental health disabilities and those who are dying.

## **Foundation History and context**

Soros Foundation Kyrgyzstan was established in 1993 immediately after the country obtained its independence. The constitution of independent Kyrgyzstan declared human rights as the most important priority for the state, and this priority very closely intersects with the principles and values of building open society, developing civil society institutions, and the civil initiatives of OSF. For twenty years Soros Foundation Kyrgyzstan was mainly focused on civil society development, to build respect and durability of political, social and economic rights and to promote democratic values. We believe that SFK was able to achieve this goal, as was proven during the last revolution and subsequent interethnic conflict in the south of Kyrgyzstan when civil society and NGOs were able to preserve the unity of the country and to prevent escalation. The adoption of SFK initiatives by major donors – such as the World Bank’s adoption of our curriculum reform project – offers further examples. Our role is to monitor the problems that civil society identifies and bring them to the attention of the government, and work together with the government and civil society to find common solutions. Current SFK programs are focused on human rights defense, ICT and media development, supporting active youth, education reform, public health, budget transparency, and public administration reform through grant making activities, direct advocacy and technical support to our partners.

Having been through two revolutions – in 2005 and 2010 – and now in the midst of a bold new experiment with parliamentary democracy and legitimate political competition, Kyrgyzstan finds itself in a unique and challenging position. It is essential that positive, reformist trends be supported in civil society and in government, with the aim of promoting transparency, accountability, and justice for all.

## **Faith to fields and Places**

We have identified five fields where SFK will make contributions to assist in the development of positive tendencies.

### **Youth Engagement for Social Change:**

While there are many donor organizations in Kyrgyzstan engaging in youth issues, Soros Foundation Kyrgyzstan is the only organization that seeks to support youth through initiatives that place agency with young people themselves. Nearly 30% of Kyrgyzstan’s population is between the ages of 14 to 28 years old. Two thirds of them live in rural areas. Most of them are geographically scattered, socially inactive and marginalized. Youth activists and civil society organizations operate in different spheres of society, almost without interacting with each other. The government does not take reasonable steps to address the issues of youth. The main support comes from international organizations like UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, Embassy of the USA, USAID, GIZ, which improve and promote the state youth policy, increase the capacity of young people and support a variety of youth initiatives. However, SFK is the main agent which has supported the emergence and use of new “out of the box” frameworks of interaction of young people in Kyrgyzstan. Over the last several years, SFK has supported BarCamps, YouthCamps, SocialInnovationCamps, and TEDx, which were successfully held in Bishkek. This practice has proven the effectiveness of the chosen direction: the biggest outcome has been the inspiration of youth for social change, and peer to peer learning. These events are giving a sense of ownership to youth in their projects and initiatives, while previous attempts of the state and most of the donors to develop youth policy haven’t had such an impact. Since its launch, over 4000 young people have attended the camps to share their ideas, inspire each other and develop new projects. The ten camps we have supported over the last four years have led to the launch of over 50 startup projects with the major support of businesses and international organizations to face the challenges of access to information, access to knowledge, social inclusion and new media development. For the next stage we

would like to focus on the same topics while expanding to new areas such as fighting against school racketeering and youth crime prevention.

*Within four years SFK intends to promote and expand to the regions sustainable innovative environment for young people through the implementation and use of new “out of the box” frameworks of interaction, to empower youth activism and interaction between urban and rural youth.*

Our impact to the field will be assessed by the number of start-ups generated naturally within the events supported by the donors and private sector, particularly in the regions of the country, and the number of “out of the box” framework events held in the regions of the country. The main risk we foresee is that the format and activities will lose their initial idea and become uninteresting to youth, and that youth in rural areas will not understand the new “out of box” framework of interaction. That is why it is extremely important to work with young activists who have organized these events in Bishkek and Osh, and who have peer to peer learning experience. We consider our main partner to be the Public Foundation “Youth Education Foundation,” who organized all previous camps and proved their skills and expertise in organizing interesting events with follow up projects. From our experience we see that such camps have become somewhat more attractive for the business sector to participate in and support, but so far there is still no strong supporter formed at this stage except for SFK. We envision significant collaboration with the Youth Action Fund to support those ideas that are generated at these events.

#### **Human rights monitoring and documentation**

Kyrgyzstan has a vibrant civil society where, despite all the difficulties, human rights organizations are perceived by the government as important actors and fulfill an important role in the system of checks and balances. Many human rights activists have outlived several governments and are respected as experts in their fields. The activities of human rights organizations have stopped several repressive initiatives in the past, such as a law for the NGO sector reducing monitoring opportunities for CSOs, and protected the declaration in the Constitution that Kyrgyzstan is a secular state. As the least repressive country in Central Asia, Kyrgyzstan has long been a home for pioneering human rights initiatives and for the growth of new organizations and movements, such as for LGBT rights. Most of the well-respected organizations grew out of very small initiatives of interested and committed individuals. However, consistent with trends in the region, there is a backlash, such as the newly proposed NGO law, and there is a need for agility and flexibility of the human rights movement in addressing these threats. We have strong partners in this field that we would like to continue supporting, such as “Kylym Shamy”, “Voice of Freedom”, “Spravedlivost” (“Justice”) and the “Advocacy Center for human rights.” These organizations have proven their strong commitment to human rights defense and combatting torture. Aside from these groups, we believe that it is extremely important to boost new HR organizations in their development, to build a network of human rights defenders and civil activists, and to make the work of human rights defenders more public and visible to the general population. We will combine our efforts in this field together with OSJI, OSF Human Rights Initiative, International Migration Initiative and the Central Eurasia Program.

#### **Natural Resources Governance**

The Kyrgyz Republic has substantial deposits of coal, gold, and uranium. Gold is the country's main export. Mining constitutes about 11% of budget revenues, about 10% of GDP and 40% of export earnings for the Kyrgyz Republic. 57 companies are currently operating in this sector. The country's energy potential is indicated as the 4<sup>th</sup> highest among CIS countries. However, the country's potential is not used effectively due to corruption schemes and lack of public engagement and participation in governance. The government and operating companies are not open for public dialogue. While the rules and procedures for tenders and contracts are not clear for companies and investors, the tariff policies are also not clear to the population. While there was a great work done in transparency of mining sector with EITI, EITI reporting doesn't provide the transparency people expect to see on licensing processes or how the wealth is distributed. There is still a gap in communication between local communities, corporations and the government. Proof of this can be evidenced in the current auction for the Jerooy mineral deposit, which was listed for \$300 million. There was only one bid in this action, from a company that was recently registered in London. A quite similar situation can be witnessed in the electricity sector, where the absence of a net cost for 1 kWt production creates space for manipulations with consumer prices and corruption in the expenditure budget of utility companies. Public anger over perceived unfairness in the mining sector has led to conflict in some places, and has been exploited by those seeking political gain; public anger over corruption in the electricity sector was a major factor behind the 2010 revolution.

*Within four years SFK will create an adequate civil society based extractive and electricity industries monitoring capacity, publicize major concerns and raise citizen awareness, and ensure communities' engagement and participation in natural resources governance.*

Our overall hypothesis is that there is a deep lack of trust and accountability between citizens, their government, and business at the local and national levels, which is contributing to local tensions and instability. Our ultimate goal is to build a transparent and effective environment for the development of the mining and electricity sectors and we believe that we should start this work both with changes to the regulatory framework, and broader civic



education for local communities, giving them a better understanding of the principles of accountability, civil rights, and responsibilities.

SFK proposes a community-based program to improve cooperation and communication between citizens and local government in the provision of quality public services in mining licensing, reporting, utility services providing, and to increase transparency, public trust and mutual understanding in the extractive and energy industries.

The first of these objectives will be achieved by educating citizens in their entitlements to public services and how to access them, and empowering citizens to monitor public services delivery and hold those responsible accountable for their performance. Another important focus is to educate state officials in legislation development for mining and electricity sectors. Unfortunately, most officials and members of the parliament do not have proper expertise and understanding that legislation should reflect interests of different stakeholders, which can lead to conflict even on the level of legislation. SFK will support citizens to work together with state authorities, based on the results of their monitoring, to improve the provision of public and utility services according to local priorities. The second will be achieved first by raising awareness and understanding among community leaders in mining-affected areas of the extraction industry and its potential social and environmental impacts.

The program will achieve the following results:

- Better prioritization of government expenditures on local services according to local needs
- Increased mobilization of community resources, in cooperation with public service providers, leading to higher quality services
- Natural resources (including mining and energy) legislation is analyzed, new accountability standards developed and international best practice localized and incorporated in the legislation
- Improved citizen access to higher quality public and utility services
- Greater trust and appreciation between citizens and government, and lower risk of political instability
- Public and private stakeholders are able to better understand and mitigate tensions in their communities linked to extractive industries
- Citizens have greater trust in the intentions and activities of extractive industries, and are less likely to resort to violence
- Decisions regarding the development of communities and their natural resources are made more transparently in the best interests of the community
- Investors have greater confidence in their local relationships and the security of their investments and as a result more opportunities for socio-economic development in the region.

If the traditional holders of power - government and business – operate more transparently and citizens have opportunities to hold them to account for their activities, then there will be greater trust between these groups and confidence that decisions are made in the interests of the whole community; this will lead to greater cooperation between these groups in the mutually beneficial development of economic activities and improvement of public services. Thus, SFK approach in this concept will be through a mix of grant making, advocacy, and convening activities to achieve its desired outcomes.

Strategic partners are: Alliance “For Transparent budget, PF “Our Rights” and Youth Economists Association, PF “Unison”. These partners have long, sustained commitments to provide transparency in the field and enough expertise to act as agents of change.

**Independent, Alternative and Social Medias** support to the field of media and Internet freedom and digital rights for the past 20 years has helped the country along its very difficult democratization process. Protection of these basic rights ended the political and information monopoly, allowed for the development of a vibrant Internet community and ensured relative pluralism in traditional media. Within four years, SFK seeks to preserve fealty to this field with the help of two established watchdogs, Civic Initiative for Internet Policy and Media Policy Institute, who will be responsible for everyday Internet and media policy advocacy, monitoring, highlighting and preventing laws that abridge freedom of expression, media, and the Internet, and promoting best legislative practices. Both of these organizations have established and trustable expertise and have won credibility of SFK over a decade of close cooperation.

Digital human rights advocacy is becoming a critical issue for Kyrgyzstan. Here, there is a tendency to enact restrictive new legal practices, as well as questionable controls over online content, which affect freedom of expression and threaten freedom of speech and communications and privacy. In 2014, we propose to support one of the watchdogs - Civil Initiative on Internet Policy - through an institutional grant to empower other civil society advocates to promote reforms in cyberpolicy and digital rights advocacy. CIIP was founded in 2001 as a local NGO with the mission to support good governance in Kyrgyzstan via promoting internet freedom, predominantly through policy advocacy. During its decade of operation it has worked with Hivos, OSCE, USAID, EC, UNDP, UNHCR, NED and others. CIIP’s position as a cyberpolicy advocacy leader has positive spillover effects within the Russian-speaking region. CIIP maintains close contact with sister policy advocacy groups in the CIS: most successful policy advocacy mechanisms are regularly discussed, and Russian-language policymaking materials to support pro-

freedom positions are immediately shared. A further goal of our support to CIIP is the launching (perhaps in conjunction with the E-Government Academy in Estonia) a cyberpolicy institute which could be an online resource for policymakers in other CIS countries.

The Media Policy Institute is one of the leading organizations working in the field of media and freedom of expression in Kyrgyzstan on an institutional basis. MPI monitors media legislation, provides legal help to journalists and media outlets, establishes close links between citizens, media and government, creates platforms for media talks and discussions, and raises media culture and ethics. It is the only organization that defends journalists in courts and provides legislative assessment to the current and new media legislation. SFK seeks cooperation with MPI through an institutional grant in the following areas: monitoring and evaluation of the media legislation, promotion of the best international legislative practices, action on any attempts to abridge freedom of expression, media or Internet, rights protection of journalists, organizing media law trainings for reporters and lawyers, hosting public debates on media policy and journalism quality issues. MPI's other supporters include Internews Network in the Kyrgyz Republic, the Democratic Commission of the US. Embassy, and the OSCE Center in Bishkek.

### **Access to Justice/Legal Empowerment of the Poor & Marginalized**

Kyrgyzstan has initiated several reform initiatives, including of the public health systems. But the current reform does not actually cover the rights of marginalized populations (MARPs), which have unequal access to public health services for various reasons, such as criminalization and health stigmatization. SFK is the only actor supporting advocacy programs and strengthening MAPRs community activism including their capacity, leadership, expertise and promoting of human rights.

SFK will support community based organizations to secure equal rights for access to public health and justice for injecting drug users (IDU), sex workers (SW), people with mental health disabilities and people at terminal stage of diseases.

Faalty NGOs will do their activities in three areas: improvement of policies and legislation, ensuring the equal attitude to MARPs in provision of health care services and increasing the tolerance of the society to MARPs including law enforcement. PHP plans to work with such key NGOs as: Asteria, Alternativa v narcologii, AFEW, Tais plus 2, Shakhaiym, Partnership network, Independent Human rights group, Open Medical Society, Ergene, Family and society, Habitat.

## **Foundation concepts and initiatives**

**Criminal justice reform.** The field of criminal justice reform in Kyrgyzstan is still developing. At the same time, there is clear political will of the President and the government for criminal justice reform, changing of the current situation, and a readiness to cooperate with the Foundation. A stable coalition of donor and human rights organizations has formed. International organizations active in Kyrgyzstan and interested in criminal justice reform include the OHCHR, OSCE, UNODC, US Embassy in Bishkek, Freedom House, IDLO, GIZ, UNDP. Funders and human rights organizations have already created functional coalitions and identified their roles in supporting reform, but none of them is focusing on free legal aid and torture prevention issues. For the last several years SFK was working on developing a free legal aid system based on legal clinics within universities and as a part of municipal services of local authorities funded by the state, but the free legal aid system is still not incorporated in the law and hence doesn't work effectively. Kyrgyzstan has signed several international conventions that prohibit use of torture, but current legislation still doesn't reflect those commitments.

*Within 4 years SFK will contribute to criminal justice reform in developing new criminal law that includes free legal aid system and prevention of torture commitments.*

Within the next strategic period, we expect to develop and implement new Criminal and Criminal Procedure legislation consistent with international conventions. *Assessment will be based on adoption of new criminal legislation.* SFK will cooperate with OSJI in developing a mechanism of domestic implementation of the UN Treaty Bodies decisions and a mechanism of an independent and effective investigation of torture cases.

Criminal Justice Reform consists of:

1. Drafting new criminal and criminal procedure codes. SFK's role is to organize expert working groups and public discussions of the codes. SFK will cover working expenses jointly with international partners.
2. Drafting new legal aid law SFK's role is to organize expert working groups and public discussions of the codes. SFK will cover working expenses jointly with international partners. Depending on the budget, SFK plans to launch 3 pilot projects to include free legal aid services on the list of state services for municipalities and local authorities at the expense of the local and central budget. SFK will bring expertise and technical assistance and will administer the process.

3. National Preventive Mechanism is a part of the criminal justice system in accordance with the UN Convention Against Torture. SFK's role is to provide technical assistance and capacity building by staff trainings and trainings for advocates and human rights defenders on torture cases.

**Partners:** SFK will be working closely with:

1. Other partners: Governmental institutions, human rights NGOs, Legal professional associations.
2. OSF organizations: Open Society Justice Initiatives, Human Rights Initiatives, Central Eurasia Project, International Migration Project;
3. International partners: OHCHR, Center OSCE in Bishkek, UNODC, US Embassy in Bishkek, Freedom House, IDLO, GIZ, UNDP.

**Risks (and mitigation):**

Political conditions in Kyrgyzstan may change before the new law is adopted, and the officials who are currently willing to work with SFK may not be willing in the future. This gives us reason to move actively now. Other risks include that the progress will be slower than we expect in getting laws adopted and working partnerships established. SFK will work with Parliament members, with human rights organizations and with international organizations for promotion of the developed draft laws.

**Access to information and freedom of expression.** The field of access to information and freedom of expression in Kyrgyzstan remains the most liberal and open in Central Asia, which is the result of a long-term fostering of civil society and media actors, primarily by SFK. However, these improvements remain unstable given the flawed legislative system, political instability, neighboring authoritarian states, and the protracted "frozen conflict" situation after the June 2010 violence. SFK seeks to improve equal access to information in three key areas which are currently considered the most urgent, vulnerable and problematic: digital switchover, access to knowledge in digital environment, and minority language media. SFK results in this field will have profound effects on the entire region.

*Over the course of the next four years, SFK will help protect and broaden the space for access to information, knowledge and freedom of expression in the Kyrgyz Republic.*

Kyrgyzstan has international obligations to turn off the analogue signal in June 2015 and start digital broadcasting. However, the switchover process is hampered by inadequate legislation, lack of technical and professional expertise on the part of local broadcasters to produce high quality content for digital audience, and an absence of state guarantees of equal access to digital spectrum to all interested stakeholders. As a result, audiences might be deprived of access to locally-produced news after the digital switchover is completed, which might have serious repercussions for the country's information security. In the first thematic area of the concept, SFK seeks to provide audiences with access to high quality domestic information produced by local broadcasters. This objective will be achieved through the creation of legislative mechanisms for a transparent and inclusive digital switchover process with equal access of local channels to digital spectrum and digital packages (multiplexes) with the help of locally and internationally hired experts or a special working group facilitated by SFK. In addition to this, the capacity of selected local broadcasters will be raised during residence trainings to improve the quality of the channels' content, programming, and technical expertise. Our expected implementing partners are: TV Club Public Foundation, Door Media, National Broadcasters Association and Journalists Public Foundation.

The second priority is improving access to knowledge by means of bringing the copyright legislation in line with modern technology, so that users can freely and legally reuse, revise and redistribute educational materials and open source software through open licensing. New technologies bring new opportunities for knowledge creation and dissemination. However, due to the restrictive national copyright law, local educational resources, heavily funded by several donors, are available only in limited print edition and remain inaccessible to mass audiences. SFK intends to introduce on a national level the Open Educational Resources Initiative, known as OER, to promote free public access to publicly funded educational resources. Since 2011 the Kyrgyz government has been widely discussing the implementation on a national level of the One-Laptop-per-Child (OLPC) project, at the same time conducting negotiations with the international loan institutions to secure funding for this project. However, as international practice shows, in order for the OLPC to succeed, it requires developed digital content for school children; otherwise, it will be just a waste of money.

OER lays the foundation for the creation of educational digital content, and is a first and important step in the process of transition to eTextBooks. SFK's objective will be lobbying educational institutions and governmental agencies regulating public education to adopt concepts of open educational resources (OER) and open licenses in their works. OER presents a strategic opportunity for Kyrgyzstan to improve the quality of education, as well as facilitate knowledge sharing and capacity building in the digital environment. Towards this end, a hands-on methodology will be developed by a consortium of local and international partners to introduce open access policies and best practices in IT for education and development.

The third priority is improving the situation with access to minority language media, especially in the southern part of the country, which witnessed an almost total disappearance of the Uzbek language media after June 2010's intercommunal violence<sup>1</sup>. This objective will be achieved through trainings to minority language media or individuals selected in a national contest, who are willing to broaden access to information to ethnic minorities in their native tongues. Our expected partners are: Network of Social Mediators, Deutsche Welle, and the Inspired Project. At the end of the term we expect to have the following results:

- ✓ Local broadcasters have equal access to digital spectrum, are capable to produce high quality domestic digital content;
- ✓ OER concept is introduced and adopted, coalition of civil society activists, educators, scientists, ICT professionals, and lawyers to advocate OER and open access initiatives is established, capacities strengthened;
- ✓ Capacity building of minority media is raised to broaden access to information to ethnic minorities;
- ✓ Laws that abridge freedom of expression, media, Internet are monitored, highlighted and prevented, best legislative practices are promoted.

Our strategic partners are: UNESCO, UNDP, European Commission, ADB, Wikimedia Foundation, USAID, International Media Support, Internews and Inspired who are currently investing into the field and are ready to cooperate. Besides that, close cooperation is envisaged with Open Society Information Program related to cyberpolicy institute for policymakers in CIS countries.

#### **Risks and mitigation**

- Government may intensify control over media and Internet. Mitigation: advocacy campaigns to prevent laws and actions that abridge freedom of expression
- Obstacles might be put by government, other stakeholders in regards to rules and procedures to enter social multiplex. Mitigation: Fostering public opinion and spreading information about digitalization and digital rights
- Support to minority language media might produce sporadic violence against journalists. Mitigation: Security trainings, editorial policy, spreading discourse of multiculturalism and multinationalism.

**Education for social inclusion and cohesion.** Kyrgyzstani society is becoming increasingly fragmented along economic, ethnic, religious, geographic and other social divisions. As a result, different groups face barriers to exercise their right to education. The lack of space for positive interaction between communities is reflected in schools where children from different ethnic and religious groups and different ability levels study in different schools, classrooms, or in different buildings. Over half out of 23,000 registered children with disabilities have never attended school. Children from religious families sometimes attend only religious schools, and many children are in schools or classrooms only with others from the same language group. This perpetuates tensions between different social groups and exacerbates the barriers to education determined by language issues, disabilities, and other special education needs. Inclusive education is one of the main priorities within National Strategy 2012-2020, backed up by the possibility of upcoming substantial donor funding from the Asian Development Bank and EU. The specific role and added value of SFK will be the preparation of replicable models of social inclusion that can be scaled up nation-wide once the significant funding is available in a systemic manner. Apart from mental and physical disabilities, SFK will also target social exclusion caused by various social factors, such as language, ethnicity, or religion. SFK will build on the existing networks of schools and civil society actors working in this field to ensure that both the interests and resources of grass roots actors and schools are met and used at their best capacity. Whereas the bigger donors are often limited to their formal agreements with the government and cannot mobilize the civil society actors and schools effectively, *Soros Foundation Kyrgyzstan will mobilize schools, education support services, and civil society at the local level to develop and institutionalize sustainable models of integrated and inclusive education, including early intervention and rehabilitation services, for children who face different barriers in exercising their right to education.* SFK has 3 major tasks to achieve the goal:

1. Assist the relevant governmental bodies and expert community through grants in order to develop and implement the system of early intervention and support services for children with special education needs, as well as the learning environment standards, methods and learning materials for inclusive school ethos in the network of schools working in inclusive settings with children with special educational needs
2. Provide financial and technical support to academic institutions in order to develop learning materials and standards for minority-language use in the education process as languages of instruction for minority

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<sup>1</sup> Uzbek ethnic minority remains the first largest in Kyrgyzstan



groups, including teacher training standards, programs and learning materials in schools with separate languages of instruction for the primary level, with support for the transition to bi-lingual instruction

3. Provide financial and technical support to social activism initiatives of secondary school students and administration aimed at social integration and conflict / violence prevention through the design and implementation of social projects

We expect to see several outcomes:

- Officially recognized and adopted learning environment standards for inclusive education institutions, teacher certification standards, and teacher training programs as well as learning materials that enable teachers to work in inclusive settings with minority language children and children with other special education needs through coordination with grassroots initiatives as well as grant-making and advocacy activities at the national level;
- A network of 5-6 inclusive schools linked to early intervention and rehabilitation services with appropriate financial and administrative incentives through partnership with the Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia and other relevant partners;
- Pilot schools are able to serve as centers for cohesion among different ethnic and social groups and are strengthened through partnership with the Foundation for Education Initiatives Support and other relevant partners in southern Kyrgyzstan. (100 educators competent in teaching, developing programs, and working in diverse cultural environments)

Our strategic partners are: Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Social Development, Parliamentary Committee on Education and Social Policy, Early Childhood Program of OSF, Education Support Program of OSF, ADB, UNICEF, EU Commission "Europe Ltd project", local and civil society and professional organizations (EFCA, FEIS, Center for Social Integration, Parents associations and existing network of partner schools in the South.

**Access to Public Health.** Within the last four years, SFK piloted alternative service models for people with mental health disabilities, people needing palliative care, and injection drug users and sex workers, including day care centers, multidisciplinary teams, self-help group", harm reduction models for female IDU", overdose prevention, and community centers. These models proved their effectiveness and quality, yet the state health care system with its current level of funding is not able to support them. Available donor funding from 2012 has decreased substantially. KFW and WB mostly focus on strengthening the equipment and infrastructure of health institutions, USAID has started to focus more on general strengthening of the state health care system, and the Global Fund mainly provides services for MARPs within framed HIV and TB prevention programs ending in 2014. SFK is the only player in the country who will work on integration of pilot mental health, palliative care, and harm reduction service models through primary state health care system on a national level.

The main problems is a lack of government funding and integration of pilot models into the state health care system, even if they have political support from government and are outlined at policy, legal, and regulatory levels.

Within the ongoing reform of the health care system, the Government is intending to change methods of financing for mental health and oncology with a focus on funding more services, procurement of medicine and health practitioners support. This is in contrast to the previous funding system, which focused on institutional support, equipment and infrastructure. This factor gives us an opportunity to implement cost effective service models into a reformed health care system. SFK's role is to promote sustainability and state funding of above mentioned service models into the state health care system through ensuring that the Ministry of Health and the Health Insurance Fund adopt a legal framework for these models at the level of the primary health care system, which includes more than 80 family medicine centers (FMC) and 7 Oblast hospitals (OH) in all regions of the country. With its strong expertise and capacity SFK will take a leading role in this process.

We expect to see three outcomes:

- Ensured health services for MARPs at FMC and OH within "Package of State guaranteed health services" which includes developed regulatory documents, available supportive practices, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms
- Developed "State Social order mechanism" for funding of models at Ministry of Social protection

Partners: SFK will work jointly with OSF PHP network programs with collaborative management and co-funding. Main outside partners will be Ministry of health, Ministry of social development, USAID, UNICEF, UNDP, World Bank.

## Exit plan



Since SFK is significantly changing its approach and developing new priorities, there are some initiatives started by SFK that will fall outside of the new strategy, but we would like to fulfill our commitments and finalize these initiatives to concrete result and to secure our reputation.

Education program: To maintain and secure the investment made previously, the program activities in 2014 - 2015 will include small components of the Curriculum reform project aimed at finalizing the secondary school Curriculum approbation and dissemination phase-out. The amount requested for activities on this component is **40 000\$** for the upcoming two years to be spent on secondary school text books development and approbation for the following subject areas:

- Civic education (5-9 classes)
- Natural science (5-9 classes)

Media development program:

SFK Media program along with USAID has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Government of Kyrgyzstan to support reform of Public Service Broadcaster (PSB), and for the last 2 has conducted an audit of the PSB funded by USAID, with the collaboration of Internews. When the full round of audits are completed, SFK will propose to develop a new action plan and exit this project. We request **\$100 000** over 2014 and 2015 to fulfill our commitments.

### **Contributions to shared framework**

Regarding shared frameworks, we see the potential to contribute to areas such as Criminal Justice Reform, Youth Activism, Crime and Violence Prevention, Media and ICT sector development, Inclusive education and Transparency and Accountability.

### **Other significant collaborations**

In the field of transparency and accountability we have achieved a preliminary agreement with the World Bank to coordinate and co-finance educational activities for local communities in mining regions. The World Bank intends to invest about \$200 000 in 2014 for this purpose.

ADB is going to invest at least \$1 mln., in Kyrgyzstan for inclusive education for children with disabilities and is ready for collaboration since it has less expertise in this field than SFK. UNICEF is considered as another partner for inclusive education with its technical assistance and political support.

The SFK Youth program has very strong cooperation with USAID funded International Youth Foundation and the US Embassy in Bishkek to support "out of the box" frameworks. We also expect to seek co-funding from European Commission (Smart-schools), UNDP (Open governance partnership) and UNESCO (OER), ADB (Secondary Education Project).

We have strong collaboration for Criminal Justice Reform and torture prevention with UNHCR, OSCE, UNODC, UNDP and US Department of Justice (via the US Embassy in Bishkek); all partners are co-financing our activities.

### **Internal organizational plan**

SFK will mainly keep the same organizational structure that consists of program staff, a group of professionals with deep expertise and experience in relevant fields and administration staff.

Law program with implementation of *Judicial System Reform concept* and providing support to Human rights defenders support.

Education program with a focus on implementation of *Equal Access to Quality Primary & Secondary Education concept*.

Natural Resources Governance Program

Media and Information program with a support to the field of *Independent, Alternative and Social Media* and the concept of *Freedom of information*.

Youth Program with a focus on *Youth Engagement for Social Change*

Public health program with a concept *Challenging the health establishment to advance human rights and fealty to field Access to Justice/Legal Empowerment of the Poor & Marginalized*

Thus, the number of programs for the 2014-2018 periods is 6, against the current number of 9.

### **Learning, monitoring and evaluation**

We expect to create one new position, that of Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist. The role of this person is to do an internal assessment of our implementation, to analyze what tools work best and what do not, to develop recommendations for best performance, and enhance external collaboration with other donor organizations. Since we have cut the position of the East-East program coordinator and our Arts and Culture program, we will have no changes to the budget or the number of staff.

OPTIONAL 2014 WORK PLAN TEMPLATE

SOROS FOUNDATION KYRGYZSTAN: LAW PROGRAM

FIELD: Human rights monitoring and documentation

Fields or Places	Primary Beneficiary	Amount	Supporting Staff	Sig. deviations in case of H or L budget approval
Field #1: Grant competition for HR organizations	Human Rights organizations (NGO)	7 Grants (Q1, Q2, Q3: \$140 000)	Law Program Coordinator	
Field #2: Capacity building of HR organizations	Human Rights organizations (NGO)	2 HR Schools; (\$40 000; Q1, Q2, Q3)	Law Program Coordinator	
<b>CONCEPT: Criminal justice reform</b>				
Goals	2014 Milestones	Activities	Supporting Staff & Main Collaborators	Sig. deviations in case of H or L budget approval
Goal #1: Development of draft laws: Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code	Completed draft laws: Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support 2 expert working groups;</li> <li>2. Organize two 5-days working sessions for expert working groups;</li> <li>3. Hold of a Public hearing ;</li> <li>4. Hold of a Round table.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Supporting Staff &amp; Main Collaborators</b></p> <p>Staff members: Director and Law Program Coordinators. Meetings with President Office, Government structures, expert working groups, international organizations (OHCHR, OSCE, UNDP etc).</p>	<p><b>Sig. deviations in case of H or L budget approval</b></p> <p><u>High budget:</u> Hold of a Public hearing with the participation of 70 stakeholders, and Hold of a Round table with the participation of 70 stakeholders. <u>Low:</u> Roundtable on public and expert discussion of draft laws</p>
Goal #2: Introduction of a system of legal aid to low-income citizens	Completed draft law on free Legal aid	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support expert working groups</li> <li>2. Organize 5-days working sessions for working group;</li> <li>3. Hold of a Round table (local authorities, NGO, etc)</li> <li>4. Fund 3 NGO to advance pilot projects on legal aid (partners project NGO with local authorities)</li> </ol>	<p><b>Supporting Staff &amp; Main Collaborators</b></p> <p>Staff members: Director and Law Program Coordinator. Meetings with President Office, Ministry of Justice, expert working groups, international organizations (OSCE, UNDP).</p>	<p><b>Sig. deviations in case of H or L budget approval</b></p> <p><u>High budget:</u> Hold of a Round table with the participation of Government structures, local authorities, NGO. <u>Low:</u> Round table   public discussion on development of a system free Legal aid.</p>

Faalty to Field or Place

Concept or Initiative

**SOROS FOUNDATION KYRGYZSTAN: LAW PROGRAM**

Own	<p>Goal #3: Assisting in prevention of torture, cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment in KR</p> <p>National Preventive Center is a part of criminal justice system in accordance to UN Convention against torture. Capacity building of advocates and human rights defenders on torture cases, finished specialized course of strategic defense of torture victims and creating of informal network of lawyers.</p>	<p>1. Organize two trainings for 40 lawyers;                  2. Organize two capacity building training for 15 staff of the National Center of prevention of torture, cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment;                  3. Grant support of two Human Rights Defending organizations;                  4. Hold one Side event within International Conference of the Office on Democratic Institutions and Human Rights OSCE (Human dimension meetings;)                  5. Technical assistance (office equipment) for the National Center of prevention of torture.</p>	<p>Staff members: Law Program Coordinators.                  Meetings with Ombudsmen Office, NGO coalition, Government structures, international organizations (OSCE, OHCHR).</p>	<p><u>High budget:</u> Hold one Side event within International Conference of the Office on Democratic Institutions and Human Rights OSCE . Grant support of two Human Rights Defending organizations.  <u>Low:</u> Side event within International Conference of the Office on Democratic Institutions and Human Rights OSCE. Grant support of one Human Rights Defending organizations.</p>	
<b>Shared Frameworks</b>					
Shared Frameworks	<b>Goals</b>	<b>2014 Milestones</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Supporting Staff &amp; Main Collaborators</b>	<b>Sig. deviations in case of H or L budget approval</b>
	Goal #1:				

OPTIONAL 2014 WORK PLAN TEMPLATE

SOROS FOUNDATION KYRGYZSTAN: PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM

FIELD: Access to Justice/Legal Empowerment of the Poor & Marginalized

Fields or Places	Primary Beneficiary	Amount	Supporting Staff	Sig. deviations in case of H or L budget approval
Field #1: Access to Justice/Legal Empowerment of the Poor & Marginalized/Challenging the health establishment to advance human rights	NGOs "Ulukman daryger", "podruga", "Tais plus 2", "Asteria", "Alternative in narcology", "Shakhayim", "Partnership network", "AIDS Foundation East-West", "Independent human rights group", "Voice of freedom", "Family and society", "Habitat", "Open medical society", "Belek Nuru"	14 Grants (\$236,100) NOTE: all these grants will be co-funded by OSF PHP network programs	Aibek Mukambetov, Ilimbek Sadykov, Alexander Aralbaev	In a Low Budget Scenario we will loose projects of 4 key partner NGOs having commitments to Ministry of health and other stakeholders on advocacy work with overdose, hepatitis C, mental health initiatives and also we will have deficite of core budget for rest projects co-funded by network OSF PHP. In a Medium Budget Scenario we will loose projects of 2 key partner NGOs having commitments to Ministry of health and other stakeholders In a High Budget Scenario we will be able to fund all key partner NGOs and get comprehensive approach on work with policing, documentation of MARPs rights violations initiatives as most of work of these NGOs interconnected
CONCEPT: Access to Public Health				
Goals	2014 Milestones	Activities	Supporting Staff & Main Collaborators	Sig. deviations in case of H or L budget approval
Goal #1: Ensure health services for MARPs at Family medicine centers and Oblast hospitals within "Package of State guaranteed health services" which includes developed regulatory documents, available supportive practices, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms	1. Developed draft regulatory documents for state guarantee program 2. Start of regulations approvals and state co-funding for part of service models for MARPs in Bishkek and Osh	1. Analyze Ministry of health regulatory documents 2. Develop the drafts of regulatory documents for ensuring health services for MARPs within state guarantee program 3. Arrange the public hearings for discussion of developed drafts	Aibek Mukambetov, Ilimbek Sadykov, Alexander Aralbaev, Ministry of health experts	High budget: we will be able to analyze Ministry of health current regulatory documents, develop the drafts of regulatory documents with changes, arrange the public hearings for discussion of developed drafts Medium budget: we will not be able to arrange public hearings Low budget: we will not be able to arrange public hearings and develop monitoring and evaluation tools on implementation of new changes in regulations
Goal #2: Developed State Social order mechanism regulations for funding of service models for MARPs at Ministry of Social protection	Developed draft regulatory documents for Social order mechanism	1. Analyze current system of Social order mechanisms 2. Develop draft regulatory documents for Social order mechanism 3. Arrange the public hearings for discussion of developed drafts	Aibek Mukambetov, Ilimbek Sadykov, Alexander Aralbaev, Ministry of social protection experts	High budget: Analyze current system of Social order mechanism regulatory documents, develop the drafts of regulatory documents for funding service models for MARPs within Social order, arrange the public hearings for discussion of developed drafts Medium budget: we will be not able to work on this initiative Low budget: we will be not able to work on this initiative
Shared Framework				
Goals	2014 Milestones	Activities	Supporting Staff & Main Collaborators	Sig. deviations in case of H or L budget approval
Goal #1:				

Fealty to Field or Place

Own Concept or Initiative

Shared Framework



OPTIONAL 2014 WORK PLAN TEMPLATE

SOROS FOUNDATION KYRGYZSTAN: EDUCATION PROGRAM

Work Plan for Equal Access to Quality Primary & Secondary Education & Combating Xenophobia and Racism

Faith to Field or Place

Fields or Places	Primary Beneficiary	Amount	Supporting Staff	Sig. deviations in case of H or L budget approval
Field #1:				
<b>CONCEPT: Education for social inclusion and cohesion</b>				
<b>Goals</b>	<b>2014 Milestones</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Supporting Staff &amp; Main Collaborators</b>	<b>Sig. deviations in case of H or L budget approval</b>
Goal #1: Social inclusion of SENDDD in education	Social inclusion learning environment and care standards developed and officially recognized model of early intervention and rehabilitation development started (methodologies, instructions, training programs for parents, doctors, nurses) model schools selected for piloting	Issue 2-3 project grants to local NGOs to pursue the following activities: - Social inclusion standards development - Selection and preparation of 5-6 model schools to implement the developed standards and inclusive settings in mainstream schools (open call) - Development of models of early intervention and rehabilitation - Policy dialogue	Grants to local NGOs working with SENDDD. Selected secondary schools administrative and teaching staff. 2 SFK education program staff members and ESP regional staff member	High budget: activities performed as planned initially Low: the number of model schools will be decreased to 2 <sup>3</sup>
Goal #2: Strengthening social cohesion through education	7-9 community-school based projects aimed at hostility prevention and peace building implemented standards for integrative learning environment and school ethos developed learning materials and standards for minority languages use in education developed	Issue 2 project grants to local NGOs for developing the learning environment standards, methods and learning materials for integrative and inclusive school ethos Students social projects design and implementation aimed at social integration and hostility prevention Develop learning materials and standards for minority languages use in the education process as language of instruction for minority groups	Grants to local NGOs working with secondary schools. Selected secondary schools administrative and teaching staff. 2 SFK education program staff members and ESP regional staff member	High budget: activities performed as planned initially Low: the number of school-community based projects will be decreased to 5-6, and external funding raised

Own Concept or Initiative



SOROS FOUNDATION KYRGYZSTAN: EDUCATION PROGRAM

Work Plan for Equal Access to Quality Primary & Secondary Education & Combating Xenophobia and Racism

Goal #3: teacher training standards and materials for inclusion and cohesion	Learning materials and Teacher training programs for inclusive education designed and pilot teaching programs launched	One project grant to local NGO for teacher training standards, programs and learning materials development and approbation	Grants to local NGOs working with SENDDD. Selected secondary schools administrative and teaching staff. 2 SFK education program staff members and ESP regional staff member	High budget: activities performed as planned initially Low: activities performed as planned initially as the activity is not very cost demanding
Goal #4: piloting and evaluation of outcome based educational standards and learning materials	fully approbated and ready for scale up learning materials for outcome based educational standards for selected subject areas	Issue one grant to local NGO	Selected secondary schools administrative and teaching staff. 2 SFK education program staff members and ESP regional staff member	High budget: activities performed as planned initially Low: activities performed as planned initially as the activity is not very cost demanding
<b>Shared Frameworks</b>				
<b>Goals</b>	<b>2014 Milestones</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Supporting Staff &amp; Main Collaborators</b>	<b>Sig. deviations in case of H or L budget approval</b>
Goal #1:				

OPTIONAL 2014 WORK PLAN TEMPLATE

SOROS FOUNDATION KYRGYZSTAN: NATURAL RESOURCE GOVERNANCE

NATURAL RESOURCES GOVERNANCE

Fields or Places	Primary Beneficiary	Amount	Supporting Staff	Sig. deviations in case of H or L budget approval
Component#1: Community engagement	EFCA "Alliance for budget transparency" NGO	1. Fund 1 national organization to bring international norms and standards on accountability in mining sector, to train local NGOs. Fund 5 national NGO implementing local initiatives (follow up upon training) on nationalization international norms and standards	Kumushkan Konurbaeva, Program Director Syrga Isabaeva, Project Coordinator	In case of Low budget we will support regulatory framework for community engagement and participation in governance of mining industry only. In case of High budget we will add work on regulatory framework for mining and energy sectors, national round table, study tour and 2 trainings for state officials and parliamentarians
Component #2: Public services/finance monitoring	"Our right" NGO (Kalicha Umuralieva and others)	Fund 5 national NGO to work on improving public and utilities services delivery	Kumushkan Konurbaeva, Program Director Ainura Sulaimanova, Project Coordinator	
Component #3: Legislation and regulatory framework	NGO Consortium (Kalikova and others)	Fund 1-3 national NGOs to work on addressing community participation in NR governance, governance issues in mining, water and energy sectors (regulatory framework issues, licensing, etc.) National round table to highlight most acute issues in NR governance, study tour and 2 trainings for state officials and parliamentarians on legislation development	Kumushkan Konurbaeva, Program Director Syrga Isabaeva, Project Coordinator Ainura Sulaimanova, Project Coordinator	
<b>Own Concept or Initiative</b>				
<b>Goals</b>	<b>2014 Milestones</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Staff &amp; Collaborators</b>	<b>Significant Deviations H or L</b>
<b>Shared Frameworks</b>				
<b>Goals</b>	<b>2014 Milestones</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Staff &amp; Collaborators</b>	<b>Significant Deviations H or L</b>
Goal #1:				

Faity to Field or Place

Concepts

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OPTIONAL 2014 WORK PLAN TEMPLATE

SOROS FOUNDATION: KYRGYZSTAN: ACCESS TO INFORMATION PROGRAM

FIELD: Independent, Alternative and Social Medias

Fields or Places		Primary Beneficiary	Amount	Supporting Staff	Sig. deviations in case of H or L
Field #1: Supporting field of media and Internet freedom and digital rights		Civil Initiative on Internet Policy (CIIP); Media Policy Institute (MPI)	2 Grants (\$40,000)		We will support only 1 documentation skills-building workshop in a Low Budget Scenario. We will add a Q3 monitoring training in a High Budget Scenario.
CONCEPT: Access to information and freedom of expression					
Goals	2014 Milestones	Activities	Supporting Staff & Main Collaborators	Sig. deviations in case of H or L	
Goal #1: OER policy adoption in Kyrgyzstan	<p>1) Policies promoting free access to publicly funded educational resources are adopted (amendments into Law on intellectual property rights, Law on Education and other related laws introducing OER)</p> <p>2) National OER Concept is adopted.</p> <p>3) Biggest universities adopted OER policy in their institutions</p> <p>4) First National repository of free and open educational resources is organized</p>	<p>1) Issue 1 or 2 project grants to local NGOs to establish OER Coalition as a main driving force for adoption of OER in Kyrgyzstan, draft laws and National OER Concept, providing advocacy on Open Access Policy reform, organizing 3 stakeholder meetings.</p> <p>2) Convene 1 Regional OER Policy Conference (for CA and Af)</p> <p>3) Issue 1 project grant for organization of National OER repository, and providing information campaigns</p> <p>4) Provide open-call for applications among educational institutions for promoting and adopting OER policy within their institutions and support up to 8 organizations</p>	<p>Grants to NGO "Center for Social Integration", "Roza Otunbaeva's Initiative", grants to universities, Sience Academy and oth.educational institutions, grant to National Library</p>	<p>High budget: Networking key policy makers in OER Coalition; more than 6 (including regional stakeholders meetings), organizing high-level Regional (Ministers of Education of CA) OER Policy Conference, attracting more than 8 educational institutions to adopt OER policies.</p> <p>Low: OER Coalition with CS activists and some gov.authorities, 3 stakeholders meetings, organizing round-table on OER Policy, attracting about 6-7 educational institutions to adopt OER policies.</p>	
Goal #2: Transition to open eTextbooks	<p>1) National Concept on transition to eTextboks is adopted</p> <p>2) Pilot eTextbooks developed and introduced in pilot regional and capital schools</p> <p>3) Teacher training provided on how to use eTextbooks in teaching programs</p>	<p>1) Issue 1 grant to support Working group elaborating National Concept on transition to eTextbooks (with participation of int'l experts)</p> <p>2) Issue 1 grant for the groups of content and software developers to create pilot eTextbooks, and provide teacher trainings</p>	<p>Grants to "SD-Attractor Resource Center", and to "Center for innovation technologies and education"</p>	<p>High budget: National Concept elaborated, 4 pilot eTextbooks developed and tested in 3 pilot schools (including regional) with extensive teacher training.</p> <p>Low budget: National Concept elaborated, 2 pilot eTextbooks developed and tested in 1 capital school</p>	

Concept or Initiative

**SOROS FOUNDATION KYRGYZSTAN: ACCESS TO INFORMATION PROGRAM**

<p>Goal #3: Facilitation of the digital switchover process</p>	<p>1) Progressive legislation on digital switchover is developed and proposed in the Parliament 2) Information campaign to inform citizens on the switchover process is carried out 3) At least 5 of the local broadcasters have prospects to enter free multiplex with its own locally produced high quality content</p>	<p>1) Hire a group of lawyers and consultants to produce a portfolio with progressive amendments and lobby them 2) Production company is hired to carry out information campaign to inform citizens on the switchover process is carried out 3) 2 experienced experts on content and technical aspects will be hired to conduct residence consultations at the selected TV stations 4) Detailed report with recommendations is produced as a result of residences by consultants</p>	<p>Internews Network Kyrgyzstan, Digital Alliance, ABU, TV Club</p>	<p>High budget will allow sending technical and content experts directly to the TV stations to give consultations on digital switchover process and provide with individual advice on possible business models and necessary actions. Within High Budget, also, information campaign will be carried out to inform citizens about the switchover process Low: Residencies will be canceled, a joint training for selected broadcasters with invitation of one participant from a TV station will be carried out. Information campaign will be dropped</p>
<p>Goal #4: Broadening access to minority language media</p>	<p>1) Capacity of selected media is raised on minority language reporting 2) Access to minority language media content is broadened and improved</p>	<p>1) Training is conducted to raise capacity on minority language reporting 2) Technical grants are provided to improve the quality of minority language reporting or broadening the audience 3) Consultations are provided to each selected media outlet on the progress</p>	<p>Eurocommission Inspired Project, Network of Social Mediators</p>	<p>Deviation between the budgets concerns the number of media outlets that will participate in the training and get technical grants</p>
Shared Frameworks				
<p>Goal #1:</p>	<p>2014 Milestones</p>	<p>Activities</p>	<p>Staff&amp;Collaborators</p>	<p>Sig. Deviations</p>

OPTIONAL 2014 WORK PLAN TEMPLATE

SOROS FOUNDATION KYRGYZSTAN: YOUTH PROGRAM

Youth Engagement for Social Change

Faalty to Field or Place

Fields or Places	Primary Beneficiary	Amount	Supporting Staff	Sig. deviations in case of H or L budget approval
Field #1: Youth Engagement for Social Change	Youth Education Fund (NGO); Youth Internet Movement (NGO); New Media Institute (NGO); Development Policy Institute (NGO), etc.	13 Grants (\$235,000), Orientation workshops (\$4,000), Monitoring&Evaluation (\$3,000).	Baglan Mamaev, Elena Tatarikova	We will support only 20 youth start-ups from 3 regions of the country in a Low Budget Scenario. We will add a round tables/youth forums for Popularization and promotion of the new "out of the box" frameworks of interaction for regional youth and the private sector and support 70 youth start-ups from all regions of the country in a High Budget Scenario.