



Foundation for Tolerance International

Preventing conflict and working towards peace and justice in Central Asia



ANNUAL REPORT 2007



Foundation for Tolerance International
Manaschy Sagynbaya str. 264/27
Bishkek, The Kyrgyz Republic, Central Asia
telephone: (+996 312) 64-43-60, 64-46-58
fax: (+996 312) 64-44-63
e-mail: fti@fti.kg
www.fti.org.kg



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INTRODUCTION

Public Foundation 'For Tolerance International' is Kyrgyz non-government not-for-profit organization. Its mission is warning and nonviolent resolution of conflicts and promotion of tolerant culture in Central Asia. Basic activities of the Foundation and its values are aimed at promotion of Central Asia as a region of peace, cooperation and development, where is a multicultural society with fair laws and active citizens.

The Foundation 'For Tolerance International' (further FTI) achieves its program goals and implements its mission through strengthening potential of civil society organizations and state structures on conflict transformation and consensus-building, developing / strengthening regional networks of civil society organizations and mediators and etc.

This report reflects main achievements of the Foundation and institutional development in 2007 within the context of socio - economic and political factors, including internal and external organizational and other challenges.

First part 'Context analysis' contains brief review of the main political events occurred in the Kyrgyz Republic in 2007 as well as describes external factors contributing and/or impeding the Foundation to implement its mission effectively.

Second part 'Program Activities' reflects main outputs, achievements, and success stories of the Foundation including conclusions and recommendations for future.

Third part 'Internal Structure of the Foundation' outlines main achievements and challenges in the area of institutional and organizational development.

Annual reports are used for analysis of FTI's internal development and for informing of outside audience about measures undertaken as well as outputs made within one-year period.

Internal goal is to analyze program and institutional activities implemented during the last year, certain projects working within one program area, evaluate impact on the FTI's beneficiaries, study influence of internal and external factors on the FTI effectiveness as well as success stories and challenges to be handle in the future.

This is especially important because FTI works in five (5) different offices located in different regions of Kyrgyzstan. It is important to ensure that every worker of the FTI office /project knows well his/her own inputs into implementation of FTI missions and feel as a part of one team working for achievement of common goal.

External goal is to show results/outputs of the Foundation and to inform beneficiaries, partners, international organizations and donor community.

POLITICAL SITUATION IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC IN 2007

► **Protest Actions of the Joint Front in April 2007: Consequences**

At the beginning of 2007 Feliks Kulov, former Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic, established a political movement called the Joint Front that conducted protest actions in Bishkek starting April 9th until April 18th demanding a dismissal from the President, K. Bakiev. Many well known politicians, members of the movement 'For Reforms,' joined this political movement. It is noteworthy that the demonstrations of the Joint Front in April 2007 were worse-organized than the mass meetings of the movement 'For Reforms' that occurred in November 2006. Statements and demands of the Joint Front were obscure, contradictory and not feasible. Statements were not clear even for the participants of the protest actions. Aggressive symbolism created a negative perception of the demonstrations as it did not meet the principles of peaceful demonstrations and statements about the change of power were baseless and without any proof and/or facts. The speakers actively used rhetoric on the 'South and North' problems, tribalism, division of citizens by the regions and the situation became dangerous when the protesters were mainly supported by the residents of north regions, while the residents of south regions perceived protest actions and appeals of the Joint Front fair negatively.

The last day of the demonstrations, April 19th completed when one part of the protesters, led by the opposition leaders, went to march along the streets in Bishkek and the second part attempted to seize the Government House, whereupon they were dispersed by law enforcement officers.

April demonstrations of the Joint Front discredited the practice of protest actions as a possible instrument of political fight for a long time. April protest actions have shown that opposition is in crisis. Crisis of the opposition means first of all absence of programs, conception, doctrine all that can become an alternative platform against acting power groups.

► **Referendum on Adoption of New Versions of the Constitution and Election Code: Consequences**

On September 19th, President K. Bakiev declared the establishment of his own party 'Ak Jol'. Later on, the Founders' meeting took place on October 16th, when



the President, K. Bakiev, resigned from the position of the party leader.

However K. Bakiev regularly expressed his support to the early established party 'Ak Jol' in his official speeches and statements. On October 19th, K. Bakiev signed a decree on the conduct of the referendum (people's voting) on adoption of new versions of the Constitution and Election Code. The referendum occurred October 21st, 2007.

No large-scale protest actions against the referendum occurred. However according to the independent observers several violations of the law took place during people's voting process. The main doubt was related with official data stating that the majority of the population took part in the referendum and voted for the new versions of the Constitution and Election Code. By the results of the people's voting new norms and rules were adopted in the part of election process, i.e., parliamentary elections to be conducted based on the party tickets and the Prime Minister has to be appointed by the political party that won the elections, as well as enlargement of the President's powers in the set of important areas. It is noteworthy that according to the new version of the Constitution, heads of local self-governments are now appointed by heads of rayons (Akim) but not local communities as it happened before.

Furthermore, just after the adoption of the new Constitution, President K. Bakiev issued a decree on the dismissal of the Parliament and conducting new Parliamentary elections based on the newly established rules.

► **Parliamentary Election Based on Party Tickets: Consequences**

Parliamentary elections in the Kyrgyz Republic based on the party tickets took place in December 2007. It is noteworthy that two political parties 'Rodina' and 'Zamandash' mainly formed by labour migrants to protect their own interests were dismissed from pre-election campaigns. By the results of the voting, the Central Election Committee (CEC) of the Kyrgyz Republic declared that places in the Parliament were predominantly gained by the political party 'Ak Jol' that was initially established by President K. Bakiev. The remaining places in the Parliament were shared between the Social Democratic Party of Kyrgyzstan (SDPK) and the Party of Communists of Kyrgyzstan (PCK).

According to the official data, the main opponent of the President the 'Ata Meken' party presented by the united composition of two political parties 'Ata Meken' and 'Ak Shumkar' did not collect the required amount of votes in Osh oblast. However, the party explained its failure with unprecedented use of administrative resources by the power authorities and dependence of court agencies from the President. It is impossible to deny/confirm statements concerning real contribution/use of resources on the very day of elections because of the mass violations of election laws made in the voting process. It is noteworthy that official results of parliamentary elections are not publicly declared yet (March 2008).

Dismissal of the former Parliament (Jogorku Kenesh) that was formed by bright well known opposition politicians resulted in the break-up of a communication platform between the power and citizens and there is no new dialogue platform yet.

► **Conditions Impeding Successful Implementation of Programs**

- **Unpredictable chapter of political events in 2007:** April demonstrations, referendum on adoption of new versions of the Constitution and Election Code, dismissal of the Parliament, early parliamentary elections, etc., entailed confused reactions of the people to occurring events in the republic. There was so little time given to citizens to think over and understand such important and conceptual documents as the Constitution and Election Code. The citizens had no opportunity to make deliberate choices and choose the system to live in. There was no access to information and draft laws. Furthermore, no public expertise of draft Constitution and Election was made prior to the people's voting.

- **Many pro-government mass media and research institutions raised the problem of active involvement of NGO sector into politics and NGO politicization.** Several supporters of the power authorities attempted to persuade the public community that non-government organizations interfere into politics instead of implementing their own functions. But NGOs do not fight for power; they try to influence strategies developed for solutions to the main problems in the state in order to make changes if they are not adequate. In other states it happens through political parties and independent mass media. Taking into account weaknesses of the political party system that had to transfer expectations of the people into decision-making process, it is now done by the NGO sector in Kyrgyzstan.



► **Favourable Factors for Successful Implementation of Programs**

- **NGOs initiated a National Forum of NGOs in 2007.** This is an important event in the life of civil society. The goals of the NGO Forum are a) to consolidate civil society organizations, b) to discuss the roles and place of NGOs in the democratic process and implementation of democratic values, c) to attract the attention of CSO representatives from all regions in the republic to the most urgent problems such as Constitution reforms, State Development

Strategy till 2010, d) to evaluate and develop recommendations on the mentioned problems and processes. NGO Forum showed that civil society is concerned with the problems of the public de-consolidation, the worsening quality of public political communication and the possible loss of influence of the NGO sector on the democratic process. The Forum was aimed at development of intra-sectoral dialogue and development of mechanisms for constructive cooperation of the power and civil society organizations.



I. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

The Foundation has its own VISION and MISSION they were determined and approved by the FTI officers at the general meeting of the workers in 2005. FTI developed strategic plan of actions for 2005-2007 based on its vision and missions. At the regular general meeting in July 2007, FTI made amendments into content and structure of the given strategic plan taking into account internal and external factors and extended it till 2008 2010.

VISION

Central Asia is a region of peace, cooperation and development.
This is a multicultural society with fair laws and active citizens.

MISSION

- **promotion of non-violence and a tolerant culture;**
- **warning and nonviolent resolution of conflicts in Central Asia.**

FTI implements its mission through:

- promotion of nonviolence and tolerance;
- analysis, survey and monitoring of conflicts at the different levels;
- negotiation, mediation between conflict sides;
- strengthen\develop regional networks, civil society organizations and mediators;
- strengthen potential of civil society organizations and state structures on conflict transformation and consensus-building;
- extension of a dialogue platform and strengthen cooperation between civil society, power structures, LEAs, religious institutes, mass media, political parties and parliament;
- advocacy and lobbying on conflict resolution and peace building.

METHODOLOGY

Practice gained by the Foundation showed that a **multi-sectoral and multi-level approach is required for effective work with conflicts**:

- involve **local residents and local authorities** into conflict prevention, support local initiatives and mechanisms for peaceful resolution of conflict situations;
- involve **different community levels and different structures in order to find alternative ways for problem solutions** instead of violence, prevent appearance, resumption or escalation of conflict situations;
- **unite efforts** at the local, regional and global levels;
- help the conflict sides **to form peaceful policy via analysis of related problems and develop recommendations and possible solutions**;
- develop public consciousness and conduct information campaigns on the problematic issues in order **to motivate decision makers to undertake necessary measures**.

Address areas where the Foundation worked in 2007:

- Nine (9) projects in the trans-border area in the south regions of Kyrgyzstan: Osh, Jalalabat, Batken oblasts.
- One (1) project 'Early Warning for Violence Prevention' worked in all seven regions of Kyrgyzstan: Naryn, Talas, Chuy, Jalalabat, Osh, Batken and Issykkul oblasts.

1.1. PREVENTION AND PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF INTERETHNIC CONFLICTS IN THE FERGANA VALLEY

Effective conflict prevention and peace-building at the local level can contribute to the establishment of sustainable peace at the national and regional levels.

Three projects were implemented at the Kyrgyz-Uzbek and Kyrgyz-Tajik borders and were aimed at:

- ▶ increasing opportunities \ developing potential of the communities on resolution of local conflicts using non-violent methods locally;
- ▶ reduction of the number of potential conflicts caused by the lack of natural resources through mobilization of local communities and develop communication between people living in the trans-border territories and different ethnic communities from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan;
- ▶ promotion of cooperation and development of constructive dialogue between trans-border communities;
- ▶ increase activity of youth in order to improve inter-ethnic relations between trans-border communities.

PROJECT	ADDRESS COMMUNITIES	PARTNERS
Support Civil Unity and Regional Dialogue in Aksy Donor: HIVOS, Holland	20 villages, 6 transborder post-conflict Ayil Okmotus in Aksy and Alabuka rayons (Jalalabat oblast, Kyrgyzstan)	
Fergana Valley is our Common House Youth project of the NGO Network in Fergana valley 'Valley of Peace' Donor: Danish Council on Refugees	60 transborder schools in Batken, Jalalabat, Osh oblasts (Kyrgyzstan) and Sogd oblast (Tajikistan)	10 NGOs (Kyrgyzstan) 10 NGOS (Tajikistan)
Youth Development Donors: USAID via MERCICO	Nookat rayon Karatash, Donkyshtak, Eski-Nookat, Kattatal, Jandama, Kyzylteyit villages. Karasuu rayon Kurbankara/Stant, Pitomnik, Konurat, Oktyabr' villages and Karasuu town. Aksy rayon Avletim, Karasuu, Karajygach, Kyzylkol, Kyzyltuu, Janyjol, Akjol villages	International Mercy Corps, Public Foundation SPARK

MONITORING OF SOCIAL TENSIONS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

Monitoring of conflict situations helps to avoid conflict escalation because conflict groups are well informed that violent actions or inactivity of responsible entities will be publicly known that they would be punished for their actions/inactivity. Furthermore, being concerned with and interested in the situation, observers contribute to the establishment of favorable climate and positive changes. Project "Civil Unity and Regional Dialogue in Aksy" constantly monitored the social tensions' level (provided 10 monitoring reports) in all address Ayil Okmotus. 311 people (including 98 women) were inquired during monitoring.

The monitoring reports were disseminated amongst potential interveners and people that can influence the decision making process: representatives of state structures 2, heads of Ayil Okmotu 6, heads of LEAs 2, National Security Council (NSC) 5, mass media 1, informal leaders 1 and mediators - 6.

The project officers carried out official meetings with decision makers based on the monitoring reports and conducted round tables in order to discuss problem issues and to make necessary decisions.



MAJOR CONFLICT SITUATIONS IN AKSY RAYON IN 2007:

- indignation of population with Kyrgyz and Uzbek border officers and servants of customs agencies;
- inter-ethnic conflicts between residents of Aktam village;
- indignation of local population with possible commencement of works on gold mining by MOLDOTASH ltd. in Karasuu Ayil Okmotu;
- increased facts of cattle stealing in the trans-border villages;
- illegal use of pastures that belong to Kyrgyzstan by the citizens of Uzbekistan;
- confrontation between people affected by mudflows and government representatives;
- conflicts between citizens of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan regarding irrigation water.

Reports attracted attention of oblast and rayon government authorities (oblast administration, rayon administration, LEAs and police offices) to the problem causing tensions in Aksy rayon;

Success stories: Project Influence on the Decision Making Process at the Local Level

- During monitoring in Kashkasuu and Kerbek Ayil Okmotus, the majority of the population in the addressed communities **were not satisfied with the work of police officers** on cattle stealing, non-transparency of police actions on punishment of culprits. Following the project recommendation, rayon police agency conducted two meetings with the population in address communities (Janyayil village in Kashkasuu Ayil Okmotu and Akdobo village in Kerben Ayil Okmotu) in order to talk to local residents and inform them about the results achieved by police officers on the reduction of cattle stealing. **As a result**, the population in the addressed communities (approx. 300 people) received comprehensive information on the work of the police agency against criminality;
- Following the project recommendation, management of the border agency in Kerben Ayil Okmotu and representatives of rayon administration conducted two meetings with residents of Mamay villages and the owners of summer houses in Kashkasuu Ayil Okmotu. As a result, **border officers of Kyrgyzstan simplified border transition procedures** for the citizens of Uzbekistan. They let the residents of trans-border villages from Uzbekistan cross the border without obstacles according to the list of people residing in Nanay and Mamay trans-border villages (Uzbekistan). The given list was developed by aksakals of the mentioned two villages and provided to the border officers of Kyrgyzstan. A person whose name is registered on the list is permitted by Kyrgyz border officers to enter the territory of Aksy rayon.
- Following the project recommendations, Aksy rayon administration carried out meetings with the administration of the neighboring rayon of Uzbekistan and discussed conditions on use of Kyrgyz pastures by the citizens of Uzbekistan, Kyrgyz-Uzbek border crossing issues and exactions from Kyrgyz and Uzbek merchants (Kashkasuu Ayil Okmoty, Aktam village, Kyrgyzstan).

DEVELOPMENT OF THE LOCAL MEDIATORS' NETWORK IN THE TRANSBORDER CONFLICTS

The number of mediators within the project 'Civil Unity and Regional Dialogue in Aksy' in 2007 achieved 32 people, including 9 women. The project strengthened the potential of mediators on conflict prevention via trainings, coaching and exchange of experience. The project mediators participated in the resolution of transborder problems that occurred during 2007. They had some difficulties as civil society activists could not openly work with mediators from Kyrgyzstan because Uzbek authorities prohibit the citizens of Uzbekistan to cooperate with Kyrgyz NGOs.

Potential mediators from Uzbekistan informed the project officers that they were warned by Uzbek LEAs officers about prohibition of cooperation with Kyrgyz NGOs.

Therefore, the project officers, jointly with mediators from Kyrgyzstan, developed a strategy to work with active citizens of Uzbekistan: every mediator from Kyrgyz transborder community will keep close contacts with authoritative people/potential mediators from Uzbek trans-border communities in order to get their support when/if it is required when/if conflict

Success Stories: Intervention of Project Mediators into Conflict Situation

- In June 2007, Kyrgyz border officers detained citizens of Uzbekistan not far from the tourist camp 'Kok Saray' which were having vacation at the tourist camp (the given camp is located at the trans-border area between Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan). Those citizens had no documents and Kyrgyz border servants took three (3) mobile phones, money (50,000 Sums) and let them go. The citizens of Uzbekistan decided to enact revenge and started to expel citizens of Kyrgyzstan selling dairy products from the territories of Uzbekistan. Upon the interference of mediator, Stamov Nurkul, the conflict was stopped. The mediator organized a meeting of the owners of vacation houses and the head of Kerben border checkpoint. Thus, tensions in the trans-border region between Kyrgyz and Uzbek citizens and Kyrgyz and Uzbek border servants were stopped.
- In July 2007, residents of Mamay village (Kyrgyzstan) did not allow citizens of Uzbekistan to enter the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic to graze their cattle. In response, citizens of Uzbekistan did not let the irrigation water go through the canal to Kyrgyzstan and Kyrgyz farmers had no water. The tensions aggravated until the project mediator, Myrzamamyrov Medet organized a meeting between the deputy head of Aksy rayon, Y. Yzabekov and head of border services agency in Kerben, M. Juzumaliev from and representatives of Mamay village (Uzbekistan). The head of Kerben border services agency explained the rules and requirements for the border crossing and other participants of the meeting informed about authorized import/export of goods from Kyrgyzstan to Uzbekistan.
- Deputy Head of Kerben rayon, Y. Yzabekov explained to the citizens of Uzbekistan that the residents of trans-border villages at the Kyrgyz-Uzbek border signed an agreement permitting cattle grazing in 2007 and reminded them that the given agreement would not be valid and the cattle grazing would be prohibited if no agreement is signed between the government of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, whereupon the situation changed and conflict was resolved.

CONSENSUS - BUILDING BETWEEN THE CONFLICT SIDES

Technical Assistance Projects Aimed at Reduction of Inter-Ethnic Conflicts

By the results of monitoring and meetings of the mediators with potential conflict sides, it was revealed that for the solution of problems that can lead to **inter-ethnic conflicts** there is a need for technical assistance/intervention. Therefore, in 2007 an announcement of competition between the addressed communities for implementation of small technical assistance projects aimed at conflict resolution. was declared.

Project Selection Criteria;

1. resolution of inter-ethnic conflict situation;
2. include population that would benefit from project outputs;
3. support of the government authorities (input of the local self-governments and rayon administration);
4. mobilization of Kyrgyz and Uzbek citizens in the addressed communities;
5. project sustainability;
6. environmental sensibility;
7. involvement of women and youth;
8. project amount should not exceed 500 Euro.

The project received seven (7) project proposals and supported two (2) of them:



► **Project 1: 'Repair of the DOSTUK Water Irrigation Canal'** that is used both by the citizens of Kyrgyz Republic and Uzbekistan. The canal was damaged by mudflows and the citizens of Uzbekistan could not access water when they needed to irrigate plants and fields. This factor led to various conflicts between the trans-border villages.

Total project budget was 151,825 Soms, including input of the local population - 51,375 Soms, Ayil Okmotu 35,500 Soms, residents of Nanay village (Uzbekistan) 450 Soms, regional branch of the Ministry of Emergency 26,625 Soms and HIVOS gave 24,775 Soms.

Citizens of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan voluntarily decided to conduct 'ashar,' i.e., joint cleaning of the Dostuk-Charbak canal with an involvement of all residents of the trans-border villages of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.

► **Project 2: 'Repair of the Water Irrigation Network in Aktam Village'** that provides two ethnic communities with water' first one is resided by ethnic Kyrgyz people and the second one is resided by ethnic Uzbek people. The residents of both communities blocked the canal and did not let the water through to

be used by opposite community. This factor led to various conflicts and entailed aggravation of inter-ethnic conflicts.

Total project budget was 202,228 Soms, including input of the local population 25,078 Soms, Ayil Okmotu 97,150 Soms, regional branch of the Ministry

of Emergency 54,000 Soms and HIVOS gave 24,775 Soms.

Activities implemented within the technical assistance project 'Repair of the Water Irrigation Network in Aktam Village' helped to resolve the inter-ethnic conflict in Aktam village of Alabuka rayon.

ROLL OUT IDEA OF PEACE AND TOLERANCE AMONGST YOUTH IN FERGANA VALLEY

Citizens under 30 years old who compose more than 50% of the population in the region recently dropped out of **many government programs** even though they were mentioned in the official program documents. Weak education system financing, vulnerability of youth at the labour market put them into difficulties at prior to the social economic realities in Fergana Valley. **Therefore, the youth search possible ways out of the problems, i.e., migration, religious extremism and criminality.** By the results of surveys, more than 70% of youth are ready to emigrate in search of a job and better life. **Poor youth**

are potential members of international criminal groups and radical religious movements. Inactivity in the area of development of friendly relations between ethnicities residing in Fergana Valley leads to **increasing xenophobia** and **expropriation** that will influence the potential of inter-ethnic conflicts in the future.

Network of NGOs in Fergana Valley 'Valley of Peace' in 2007 worked with youth project 'Fergana Valley is Our Common House.' The main project goal was **to disseminate ideas of peace and tolerance** amongst students of secondary schools. It was a consolidated project of the whole network 'Valley of Peace' that was implemented by **19 NGOs from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan**. It is noteworthy that **30 secondary schools** in trans-border villages in Batken, Jalalabat and Osh oblasts (**Kyrgyzstan**) and **30 secondary schools** in Sogd oblast (**Tajikistan**) benefited from the project. The project was implemented under the support of rayon education branches of the Kyrgyz and Tajik Ministries of Education. Students participated in the extra curricula courses when they received information about history and culture of ethnicities residing in Fergana Valley, problems they face with in the Fergana Valley and possible ways to solve these problems. Furthermore, students participated in the competition 'Fergana Valley is Our Common House' for the best picture and compositions. The best works were published in the journal that was disseminated amongst students of the addressed schools.



CHALLENGES

- school curricula does not include lessons on civil/civic education while the schools are located in places where children have to become aware of civic consciousness and understand the role of the ordinary person in the decision-making process.
- many schools have no teachers specialists on history and geography, thus specialists of other subjects teach children history and geography. Therefore, students do not know history and geography well. Furthermore, both teachers and students do not understand the full meaning of the term 'tolerance.'

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND ASSISTANCE IN ADAPTATION OF YOUTH TO MODERN MARKET CONDITIONS

Large outflow of youth from south regions of Kyrgyzstan into Russia, Kazakhstan and Bishkek in search of job is one of the most actual problems. The project 'Youth Development' worked on the given problem, i.e., helped local youth to receive information and to establish contacts with local employees, to get professional education on sought professions and to find jobs. The project officers provided the youth of addressed communities with information, consultative support, conducted training on establishment and development of business, marketing research, market rules and demand, as well as rights and duties of labour migrants.

The project initiated grant program on the support of youth initiatives. The established Grant Committee examined 100 project proposals from youth, small enterprises and young initiative groups. Grant Committee members supported 32 projects where the budget total amounted to 1,161,473 Soms: grant 717,703 Soms (61,79%), own contribution 443,770 Soms (38,21%).

Youth participated in the following courses:

- sewing;
- carpentry;
- ► production of national clothes;
- ► photo business
- ► hairdressing;
- ► auto repair;
- ► computer skills;
- ► house repairs and construction;
- ► welding;
- ► welding;
- ► confectionary.
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1.2. PROMOTION OF DIALOGUE PLATFORM AND NONVIOLENCE CULTURE BETWEEN CIVIL SOCIETY AND POWER INSTITUTES

The Foundation implemented seven projects in order to:

- develop the potential of the social and political systems of Kyrgyzstan for conflict resolution regulation/transformation of internal conflict by nonviolent means;
- raise awareness of citizens of the role and functions of political parties in the multiparty democracy, to build capacity of political parties in the area of intra-party management and strategic planning (program development, fundraising, PR of the regional branch), to establish conditions for effective liaisons between political parties and citizens;
- support initiatives of the civil society in promotion of CS interests.

PROJECT	GOAL	ADDRESS COMMUNITIES
<p>"Civil Unity and Regional Dialogue in Aksy"</p> <p>Donor: HIVOS, Holland</p>	to contribute to the reduction of conflict potential and to promote stability in Aksy and Alabuka rayons of Jalalabat oblast.	20 villages, 6 trans-border and post-conflict Ayil Okmotus in Aksy and Alabuka rayons in
<p>"Civil Unity and Regional Dialogue in Aksy"</p> <p>Donor: HIVOS, Holland</p> <p>"Early Warning for Violence Prevention"</p> <p>Donors: Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (January November 2007), Democratic Commission of US Embassy (December 2007 January</p>	to develop potential of the social and political systems of the Kyrgyz Republic in order to regulate and transform internal conflicts by nonviolent/peaceful means.	7 oblasts of the Kyrgyz Republic
<p>"I Choose this Party Because.."</p> <p>Donor: CARITAS, France</p>	to involve citizens of Batken oblast into promotion of multiparty democracy through their deliberate participation in the activities of political parties	Batken oblast
<p>"Civil Society Support Center"</p> <p>Donor: in 2007 the project worked without donor funds, i.e., thanks to the</p>	to increase role of the civil society in Batken oblast in decision-making process in the area of social and economic issues	Batken oblast
<p>"Support Civil Initiative in the Transition Period"</p> <p>Donors: European Union, Association</p>	to promote improvement of the election process in the Kyrgyz Republic	Batken oblast
<p>"We Make Choice"</p> <p>Donor: USAID</p>	to raise awareness of citizens (youth, women and the elderly) about new versions of the constitution from December 30, 2006 through national information campaign.	Batken oblast
<p>"Constitution Reforms and Supremacy of Law"</p> <p>Donor: Freedom House</p>	to ensure civil activeness and involvement of civil society into initiation and lobbying of new legislation that would correspond to the new version of the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic	Batken oblast
<p>'Cooperation'</p> <p>Donor: European Union program 'Support Public Initiatives of the Regional Ecology Center for Central Asia'</p>	to promote an improvement of legislation documents for keeping of bio-ecological state of pasture territories in Batken (Kyrgyzstan) and Sogd (Tajikistan) oblasts	Batken oblast (Kyrgyzstan) and Sogd oblast (Tajikistan)

EARLY WARNING FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION

The “Early Warning for Violence Prevention” Project was initiated **to prevent violence** related to mass and inter-group conflicts through establishment of mechanisms on prognosis/survey of conflicts and **early response/implementation of preventive measures**.

- ▶ The project established the Monitoring Network consisting of 29 monitors located throughout Kyrgyzstan in all seven oblasts. Monitors observed the situation in their monitoring area, traveled to the places where protest actions take place, took part in round tables and interviewed conflicting sides, law enforcement officials, government and civil society representatives. In the interviews monitors also inquired how the current conflict could be resolved and which possible future developments could be expected.
- ▶ Based on the information collected and sent by the monitors, Analytical Center issues weekly bulletins including analysis of information and recommendations for key decisions makers. The project issued and disseminated 56 issues of the Weekly Bulletin in 2007 (No. 43 No. 98).

The Weekly Bulletin included following components:

- **Overview of conflict events** over the course of the week: incidents of violence and attempts of violence, protest actions, mobilization of population, publicly expressed provocative statements, threats for using violence, public letters of complaint to the government.
- **Analysis of conflicts and trends** that indicate possibility for development of conflicts involving violence. Analysis includes facts, issues and triggers, conflicting parties, conflict dynamics, prognosis, and recommendations.
- **Suggested action plans/versions of possible solutions and risks (recommendations)** for direct intervention as well as for policy and legislative changes to civil society and state structures that represent strategic entry-points for intervention.
- **References** to relevant legislation, organizations that can provide technical or consultative support, and responsible government departments (with their permission).
- Short information **updates on developments** in conflict events earlier reported.

THE MOST FREQUENTLY ANALYZED CONFLICTS

1. Preparation, organization and consequences of protest actions of the Joint Front in Bishkek
2. Conflicts related with gold mining in Issykkul and Talas oblasts
3. Conflicts related with migration of citizens from south regions into Chuy oblast
4. Conflicts related with demands of Jumgal rayon residents to start repairs of the road Minkush-Chaek-Bishkek
5. Conflicts related with illegal migration of Tajik citizens into Batken oblast
6. Conflicts related with increased prices on food in the second half of 2007
7. Conflicts related with Parliamentary elections at the end of 2007

- The bulletin was disseminated to 1,541 receivers electronically 921 persons and 620 people received paper copies of the bulletin. Recipients of the bulletin included governmental decision-makers, law enforcement agencies and relevant persons in civil society and international organizations. Furthermore, all issues of the bulletin were placed on the FTI web-site www.fti.org.kg, as well as of other mass media Www.tazar.kg, www.24.kg, www.akipress.kg that copied information with relevant references to the bulletin.
- Based on the Weekly Bulletin, the project produced **Analytical Notes** that were sent **to concrete addresses corresponding decision makers** that varied depending on the conflict situation. Analytical Notes contained information about conflict situations, as well as analysis and recommendations on conflict resolutions and when needed, provisions of a step-by-step explanation of recommendations. Selected subjects of the Analytical Notes developed by the project are as following:

№	ADDRESSEE	ORGANIZATION/POSITION	SUBJECT
1	Kulov F.Sh.	Leader of the opposition movement 'Joint Front'	Threat for escalation of conflict with the power
2	Sadyrkulov M.Ch.	Head of Presidential Administration	Narrowing communication platform between government representatives and citizens as a conflict-raising factor
3	Madumarov A.K.	Speaker of Parliament	Narrowing communication platform between government representatives and citizens as a conflict-raising factor
4	Bakiev K.S.	President	Possible increase of tensions in Osh oblast after earthquakes
5	Tashiev K.K.	Minister of Emergency	Possible increase of tensions in Osh oblast after earthquakes
6	Chudinov I.V	Prime Minister	Possible increase of tensions in Osh oblast after earthquakes
7	Arsaliev E.S.	Chairman of the Committee on International Affairs and Inter-Parliament Cooperation	Conflict situations in Karabuura rayon in Talas oblast: Kyrgyz-Kazak border and expected ratification of the trans-border document by Jogorku Kenesh
8	Kongantiev K.	President's Special Representative	Conflict situations in Karabuura rayon in Talas oblast: Kyrgyz-Kazak border and expected ratification of the trans-border document by Jogorku Kenesh
9	Otunbaeva R.	MP of Jogorku Kenesh	Conflict situations in Karabuura rayon in Talas oblast: Kyrgyz-Kazak border and expected ratification of the trans-border document by Jogorku Kenesh
10	Karabaev E.	Minister of Foreign Affairs	Conflict situations in Karabuura rayon in Talas oblast: Kyrgyz-Kazak border and expected ratification of the trans-border document by Jogorku Kenesh
11	Chudinov I.	Prime Minister	Factors increasing conflict potential: MIA's initiative on prohibition of festive prayer at the central Alatoo square in Bishkek
12	Kongantiev K.	Minister of Internal Affairs	Factors increasing conflict potential: MIA's initiative on prohibition of festive prayer at the central Alatoo square in Bishkek
13	Usenov D.	Bishkek city Mayor	Factors increasing conflict potential: MIA's initiative on prohibition of festive prayer at the central Alatoo square in Bishkek

SUCCESS STORIES: RECOMMENDATIONS APPLIED FROM THE WEEKLY BULLETIN

The project constantly tracked behaviour, statements and actions of decision makers in order to reveal whether and how recommendations were implemented:

Sample 1. Weekly Bulletin Issue No. 94 contained information about alert area in Osh city due to **violent incidents amongst youth**. It also contained recommendations to the LEAs in Osh city. After the publication of the Bulletin, the project officer met with the **Press Secretary of Osh city UVD police agency, Zamir Sydykov, and Head of Osh GUV D police agency, Rustam Murzamatov** in order to discuss the conflict situation and feasibility of the recommendations provided in the Weekly Bulletin Issue No.94. Government officials noted: GUV D police officers reacted to the statements of Uzbek residents in Turan microregion to avoid colouring the incident into inter-ethnic conflict and to ensure transparency of investigations. After the publication of analysis in the Weekly Bulletin, GUV D police officers attempted to satisfy the demands of both conflicting sides in order to act unbiased in the problem solution. Furthermore, in conversation with the project officer, the management of GUV D police agency acknowledged that the Weekly Bulletin publishing inaction and constructive action of government officials and informing wide audience at the national level increases accountability of government officials at all levels as well as provides incentives to civil activists to intervene into conflict resolution in Turam microregion. Thus, Osh GUV D police officers felt to be publicly controlled over their actions.

Sample 2. Weekly Bulletin Issues No. 77, 78 and 79 contained information about protest actions organized by the drivers of Jumgal rayon and measures undertaken for the conflict resolution. For a

peaceful resolution of the conflict situation the project proposed to the leaders of the drivers: a) organizational and financial support to conduct a press-conference in one of the information agencies in Bishkek for an extended coverage of the problem related to the overhaul of the MinkushChaekBishkek road in the mass media; b) the organization of meetings with representatives of the Ministry of Finance and/or the Ministry of Transport and Communication (see Weekly Bulletin Issue No.79).

With financial support of our Project, leaders of the taxi drivers of Jumgal rayon came to Bishkek on September 20, 2007: a) to give a press conference on the problem of the MinkushChaek-Bishkek road overhauling; b) to meet with key government officials who may influence the decision making process and expedite the overhaul of the MinkushChaekBishkek road. Furthermore, on September 20, the project organized a meeting with a MP of the JK, Erkin Baisalov (from Jumgal constituency) and Minister of Transport and Communication, Nurlan Sulaimanov.

Results of Interventions: After the above mentioned meetings, representatives of the taxi drivers of Jumgal rayon expressed satisfaction with the results of the negotiations and meetings. Furthermore, in conversation with the project officers, they noted that: a) it is better to focus on establishment of public commission to control the effective and correct application of funds allocated to the road makers; b) protest actions as an instrument for expression of interests became ineffective.

Sample 3. Weekly Bulletin Issue No. 97 contained **detailed information about development of the conflict situation related with the Kyrgyz-Kazak border in Talas oblast and analysis on the conflict situation in Karabuura rayon**. The project analysts also developed analytical notes sent to the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs (MFA), the corresponding unit in Parliament, the MPs of Jogorku Kenesh (from Talas oblast constituencies) in order to inform them about the seriousness of the conflicts occurring in Talas oblast due to the delimitation of the Kyrgyz-Kazak border as well as the threat and negative consequences of possible ratification of the Agreement between Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan. It is noteworthy that the project received an official letter from the MFA requesting organization of a meeting with the residents of Karabuura rayon in Talas oblast with involvement of representatives from MFA, Commission on Delimitation and Demarcation of Borders and MPs of Jogorku Kenesh (from Talas oblast constituencies).

The project organized a meeting where **the following issues were on the agenda:**

1) delimitation and demarcation of the Kyrgyz - Kazak borders in Karabuura rayon (Talas oblast); 2) conflicts occurring on the Kyrgyz - Kazak borders in Karabuura rayon.

Results of the meeting: 1) participants of the

meeting residents of Karabuura rayon in Talas oblast received copies of the following documents on Kyrgyz-Kazak border from the MFA representatives:

a) political and administrative map of Kirgiz SSR from 1938; b) resolution of the Russian Presidium of the Central Executive Committee 'On the border between Kazak and Kirgiz ASSR from 1930; c) letter of the Primer Minister, A. Atambaev to the Governor of Talas oblast, B. Murataliev dated from November 1, 2007; d) act about state border signs on the territory of Koksay Ayil Okmotu (Karabuura rayon, Talas oblast) from July 20, 2000; e) act by the results of investigations on specification of borders between the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Kazakhstan on the territory of Karabuura rayon in Talas oblast from July 20, 2000; 2) participants of the meeting agreed to cooperate, to assist in communication with local residents and implementation of measures by MFA representatives and MPs of Jogorku Kenesh in Karabuura rayon (Talas oblast).



RAISING AWARENESS AND MOBILIZATION FOR ACHIEVEMENT OF CHANGES

It is known from the FTI practice that direct intervention into conflicts caused by structural violence is not the most effective method used for achievement of desired goals and changes. It is required to raise awareness of people about the situation, mobilize supporters and influence decision makers.

The project "I Choose this Party Because..." conducted in Batken oblast **three public hearings** on the most actual social and political issues:

- **in Karatokoi village** (Suubashi Ayil Okmotu) public hearing on '**Migration in Villages**' was dedicated to the discussion of labour migration problems in Batken oblast, particularly in Suubashi Ayil Okmotu. The public hearing took place with involvement of experts on labour migration, lawyers, representatives of the parties 'Asaba', 'Moya strana', 'Sodrujestvo' and more than 30 residents of Karatokoi village. The participants received answers to the most urgent questions, statistical data and overall information about migration in other regions. By the results of the meeting, it was proposed that the rayon migration unit organize circuit trips and render legal consultancy at the grassroots level.
- **in Aktatyr village** (Aktatyr Ayil Okmotu) a public hearing on '**Discussion of Draft Law on Special Districts**' (the draft law was developed by the group of MPs of Jogorku Kenesh but was declined by the Government due to the duplication of some articles from other existing standard acts) took place with involvement of MPs of Ayil Councils from Aksay, Aktatyr and Samarkandek villages, legal experts/lawyers, heads of rayon political party branches 'Jany Kyrgyzstan', 'Ata Meken', 'Sodrujestvo', representative of Batken oblast administration and more than 30 residents of the abovementioned villages. The legal experts/lawyers provided detailed information on the draft law and explained its' status. The participants noted urgency/timeliness of the discussed issues taking into account social and political events occurring in the state. By the results of the meeting, it was proposed: 1) to list names of specific trans-border districts; 2) to provide the residents of the trans-border districts with free-of-interest loans; 3) to reduce tariffs on all types of taxes and electroenergy; 4) to provide irrigation water and not to charge for its use; 5) to provide state support in the sale of agricultural goods produces by local residents; 6) to increase pensions and social benefits to the residents of trans-border villages; 7) to change the title of the draft law. Furthermore, the participants developed an official statement addressed to the chairman of the Parliament, Sultanov M.A, MPs of Jogorku Kenesh (JK), Masaliev I.A., Imanaliev K.K., Tekebaev O.Ch., Sherniyazov B.E. and Djuraev M.K. this statement was given to the MP of JK, Djuraev M.
- **in Chontala village** (Tortkul Ayil Okmotu) a public hearing on 'Land Reforms' was dedicated to the discussion of land use, rational use of land resources, land redistribution mechanisms and raising awareness about land policy of the state. The public hearing took place with involvement of political parties 'Sodrujestvo', 'Ata Meken', land tenants, leaders of the communities, land specialists of Tortkul Ayil Okmotu and more than 30 residents of Chontala village. The participants mainly focused on use of land from the special Land Distribution Foundation. By the results of the meeting it was proposed to consider the possibility of tax reduction for the citizens living in trans-border villages. Representatives of the political parties promised to put the mentioned problematic issues and proposals of the participants into the agenda of the party conferences.
- Batken FTI regional officer implemented three projects on constitutional reforms that were aimed at raising awareness of the citizens about constitution reforms in the states and



involvement of citizens in decision making process, i.e., changes into standard acts in order to ensure compliance with the main law of the state, Constitution.

- during the program activities' implementation, the project officers disseminated 75 copies of tables comparing old and new versions of the Constitutions.
- citizens had the opportunity to receive information about constitution reforms in Kyrgyzstan via free online access to the web-site www.constitution.kg. More than 80 citizens used it in the civil society support center in Batken oblast.
- the project officers and more than 70 volunteers disseminated more than 30,000 information brochures 'Our Constitution' amongst citizens in Batken oblast.

The project helped to involve civil society into the decision making process related with the new version of the Constitution:

Three (3) round tables were conducted in Kadamjay, Batken and Leilek rayons of Batken oblast. They were dedicated to the discussion of the new version of the Constitution and court system reforming. As a result, more than 100 people, including representatives of state structures 49, NGO 34, political parties 1- and mass media -7 were informed about the new version of the Constitution from December 30, 2006 and received opportunities to make proposals and recommendations concerning acting standard acts and laws to ensure compliance with the Constitution.

- **Two (2) Talk Shows** were broadcasted via radio 'Salam' and Batken radio and TV channel. They were dedicated to the court and election systems reforms in correspondence with the new Constitution (from December 30, 2006). The talk show took place with involvement of experts from Batken oblast court, the prosecutor's office, the Election Commission, 'Human Rights and Democracy' Center and political parties. As a result, residents of Batken oblast received information regarding the meaning and consequences of changes made into the Constitution as well as proposals of the experts concerning changes and additions into other standard acts and acting laws regulating activities of the court branch and Election Code.
- **16 discussion meetings** dedicated to topics in the area of human rights protection were conducted by the project. The participants

discussed 'Abolishment of Capital Punishment in Kyrgyzstan,' 'Court Reform in Kyrgyzstan,' 'International Courts,' 'Fight Against Torments in Kyrgyzstan,' 'Court Reforms in Kyrgyzstan: Independence of Courts and Court Self-Administrations,' 'National Council on Fair Justice,' 'Human Rights on Peaceful Meetings,' 'Protection of Labour Migrants' Rights and their Families' Rights,' 'Transfer of Sanctions from the Prosecutor's Office to Courts,' 'Establishment of the Institute of Trial Jury.'

- It is noteworthy that 332 people from the state structures, local self-government, court agencies, LEAs, Ombudsman's institute, NGOs and mass media participated in the discussion meetings. The projects helped to increase civil activeness and involve the public community into initiation and lobbying of new legislation that would correspond to the new Constitution.
- As a result of the discussion meetings, the participants and other stakeholders adopted **three (3) official statements** addressed to Jogorku Kenesh, Ministry of Justice, and the Presidential Administration signed by 66 people. These appeals referred to the second facultative protocol of the International Pact on Civil and Political Rights, Law on Jurors and National Council on Fair Justice.
- The project carried out **five (5) round tables** in rayons and towns of Batken oblast in which more than 120 people participated, including representatives from NGO, state structures, local administrations, political parties and LEAs. These round tables were aimed at public discussions of the draft Election Code. It helped to raise awareness of citizens about reforms in the election system. It is noteworthy that participants developed 50 recommendations on development of the elections system and Election Code. The document was given to the Working Group (WG) of the Central Election Committee (CEC). The participants proposed to increase the role and accountability of local self-governments for formation of the voters' lists, to increase funds for organization and conducting of elections, to abolish obligatory checking of candidates of the Election Commission in order to reveal previous convictions of the Election Commission members, etc.
- The project officers and 80 volunteers disseminated **40,000 information brochures called 'Voice is Your Force!'** amongst citizens of

Batken oblast in order to raise awareness of the local population about the new version of the Election Code. Furthermore, more than **200 Manuals** for the members of District Election Commissions (DEC) and **Guidelines** for the participants of the election process aimed at coaching voters, NGOs and political parties involved in parliamentary elections were disseminated in the Batken oblast constituencies.

- ▶ Following the initiative of the voters, NGO representatives and human rights activists were included in some of DECs: one NGO representative was included into Batken oblast Election Commission on referendum conducting, 662 people, representing public organizations were included into DECs in Batken oblast and one NGO representative was included into Batken rayon Election Commission on conducting advance parliamentary elections.
- ▶ Amongst the projects aimed at awareness raising and mobilization for reforms and positive changes, special status has project 'Cooperation' because it was directed at achievement of structural changes (regulatory framework) of two governments Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan and preservation of bio-ecology at pastures in Batken oblast (Kyrgyzstan) and Sogd oblast (Tajikistan). It is expected that achievement of these two goals will positively influence interstate relations at the community level. The main achievements of the project are as following:
- ★ Wide information campaign in raising awareness of main users of pasture territories in Batken rayon citizens of Tajikistan about rules and procedures, standards and laws about cattle grazing via

dissemination of special booklets, broadcasting of TV programs and social video rollers, conducting meetings at the community level with an involvement of representatives of corresponding state structures and/or LEAs.

- ★ Contracted lawyer conducted analysis of acting regulatory basis on the order/rules of joint use of pasture territories. As a result, it was revealed that no interstate agreement regulating use of pastures exist between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. To fill the gap in the legislation, the project officers prepared a portfolio of documents to lobby corresponding changes in the regulatory framework. These documents were given to MPs of Jogorku Kenesh from Batken oblast constituencies, namely Juraev M. and Burhanov A.
- ★ By the results of round tables and working group meetings in which representatives of corresponding state structures from Batken and Isfara rayons participated, there were several **Agreements at the rayon level** signed between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. These agreements were about joint use of pastures and related legal order/procedures. Based on the mentioned agreements, **bilateral Agreement at the community level** was signed between Batken rayon Forestry and Voruh and Chorku administrations. It determined territory for cattle grazing at the pastures of Batken Rayon Forestry Fund. Samarkandek, Aktatyr and Aksay Ayil Okmotus (Batken rayon, Kyrgyzstan) and Batken Rayon Forestry signed Agreements on determination/approval of the pasture borders for cattle grazing.

LESSONS LEARNT

- ▶ **Weak potential of local leaders on work with conflicts.** Civil society (CS) representatives have small experience and insufficient knowledge on lobbying of CS interests in the legislation and state politics which are the underlying reasons of many conflicts;
- ▶ **Passiveness of local administration** of both sides in search of ways for mutually beneficial cooperation;
- ▶ **Administrative obstacles** made by corresponding state structures and LEAs of neighboring states entailed difficulties in implementation of trans-border projects and involvement of beneficiaries/stakeholders into project activities;

- ▶ **Frequent change of personnel in the state structures** impeded effective project implementation because newly appointed heads /managers had insufficient experience in the work with conflicts and cooperation with international projects/programs;
- ▶ **Local authorities afraid** of making independent decisions and signing agreements without prior agreement/approval of the higher instances.

STRENGTHENING SOCIAL PARTNERSHIP/COOPERATION BETWEEN CIVIL SOCIETY AND STATE STRUCTURES



- ▶ Effective way for conflict prevention is establishment and development of cooperation. It is important to develop positive relations between different sides, to establish constant or permanent forms of cooperation between the conflicting sides in order to prevent conflict appearance and to help in problem solution.
Fruitful cooperation of the Foundation with state structures helps to include government officials and to increase capacity of the Foundation to influence the public policy.
- ▶ Civil Society Support Center (CSSC) in Batken helped to strengthen social partnerships and cooperation between NGOs and state structures though conducting a round table on **'Development of the Social Partnership between State Structures and NGOs in Improvement of the Social and Economic Situation in Batken Oblast'** in which representatives of rayon and oblast administrations, social security agencies, NGOs and mass media in Batken oblast participated. The participants of the round table discussed the main achievements and challenges of inter-sectoral cooperation and possible methods for the problem solution. Thus, it was proposed to include NGOs into the development of government strategies/plans, implementation of financing mechanisms of NGOs by the government and development of social orders by the government. The main discussions were focused on necessary resumption of the Consultative Committee on Rayon Development (RDCC) as the most effective form of inter-sectoral cooperation and coordination of joint actions at the small town and rayon levels.
- ▶ Furthermore, the round table participants developed action plans and appointed responsible entities from rayon administrations and NGOs to ensure resumption of RDCC activities locally. As a result of the round table, the **Memorandum on Mutual Understanding and Partnership** was signed between Batken oblast administration and CSSC of the Foundation for Tolerance International in order to contribute to inter-sectoral cooperation and development of

Batken oblast. Following the given Memorandum, Batken oblast administration provided financial assistance to several NGOs for stimulation of their activities, i.e., public foundation 'Luch solnza' was granted 20,000 Soms, 'Aigul' foundation received 10,000 Soms, public foundation 'Russian Community' received 25,000 Soms. It is noteworthy that these funds were spent on the improvement of public welfare in the target groups/addressed communities.

- The CSSC and Batken oblast administration jointly conducted the **Forum on 'Regional Plan on Batken Oblast Development and Civil Society: Role and Place of the Civil Society'** in which more than 100 people participated, including representatives of the state structures (44), local self-governments (15), NGO (50) and mass media (6). The Forum was dedicated to

discussion of social partnership development issues, joint development, approval and implementation of the Regional plan on Batken oblast development for 2008. As a result of the Forum, a draft plan of joint actions for civil society and state structures for Batken oblast development in 2008 was developed with an involvement of NGOs as social block representatives and oblast administration workers. The CSSC and Batken oblast administration organized an exhibition of activities and NGOs outputs in Batken oblast and presented awards and incentives to NGO representatives. It is noteworthy that the manager of the CSSC of the Foundation for Tolerance International in Batken oblast, Temirbaeva G., was also awarded a Certificate of Honour of Batken Oblast Administration.

DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT OF MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY

The project 'Civil Unity and Regional Dialogue in Aksy' and the project 'I Choose this Party Because...' conducted meetings with representatives of political parties. The participants **defined and discussed needs and demands of the political party members.**

- political parties do not pay sufficient attention to the work with the population and capacity building of the party members;
- political parties have no mechanism for cooperation with the population and do not study problems/needs of the local residents.

Therefore, it is necessary to conduct training, render consultative services to the local leaders and teach them know-how and new social technologies required for the development of programs/politics. Development of the political party system in the Kyrgyz Republic requires financial and technical assistance, office and human resources.

- As a result of the meetings, the **Information Center for the Political Party Members in Aksy Rayon was established in the Aksy FTI office and House of the Political Parties was founded in the Batken FTI office.** Thus, political parties were provided with all conditions

for a) conducting meetings, b) reading related information, c) using the Internet and d) receiving consultative assistance from FTI workers/experts.

- The project 'I Choose this Party Because...' carried out **one training on 'PR Strategy of the Political Parties'** to ensure capacity building of the young leaders and representatives of the political parties in Batken oblast. More than 25 people were capacity built on the work with mass media and were informed about instruments to be used by the political parties when working with mass media in the future.
- **Discussion Forum on 'Opportunities and Prospects of the Political Parties within the New Constitution'** occurred in Batken in which representatives of central and oblast units of the political parties participated, namely 'Sodrujestvo', 'Jany Kyrgyzstan', 'Ar Namys', 'Labour and Unity', 'Liberal Progressive Party', representatives of mass media, NGO, Batken oblast administration, etc. Total amount of participants at the Discussion Forum was more than 100 people. Batken oblast residents mainly questioned articles of the draft law on political parties that were related with the current social and political situation in the Kyrgyz Republic.

They following proposals were made during discussions: a) MPs of Jogorku Kenesh must work out a Code of Ethics for the political parties, b) to develop adequate punitive measures against people that would be involved in the treatment of voters in order to prevent and cease practice of treating during election campaigns.



- The project 'I Choose this Party Because...' organized **two summer schools** on the subjects '**Towards Changes Together with Political Parties**' and '**Strategic Planning**'.:
- **Summer School 'Towards Changes Together with Political Parties'**. The members of the Young Politicians' Club and more than 30 young activists in Batken oblast took part in the first summer school. The participants obtained knowledge on the role and functions of the political parties, intra-party structure, election systems and activities which are being currently undertaken by the political parties in Kyrgyzstan. The SS1 participants also had a chance to use their obtained knowledge in practice. Participants of the youth branches from the political parties 'Sodrujestvo', 'Erkindik', 'Jany Kyrgyzstan' and 'Liberal Progressive Party' expressed their intentions to use the obtained knowledge in the development of youth branches.

Summer School 'Strategic Planning'. The members and leaders of the regional representatives of seven (7) political parties in Batken oblast took part in the second summer school. Participants obtained knowledge and skills on strategic planning, planning mechanisms, analysis of the activities undertaken by the political parties and developed initial versions of strategic plans which will be further discussed during the meetings with other party members. 25 people participated in the second summer school, i.e., from 'Sodrujestvo' (3), 'Jany Kyrgyzstan' (5), 'Asaba' (2), 'Erkindik' (3), 'Ata Meken' (2), 'Young Politicians' Club (5) and 'Liberal Progressive Party (5).

- **The Women's Oblast Conference** on the subject '**Role of Women in the Multi-Party Democracy**' was held in Batken, where women leaders from non-government organizations, government structures and women politicians of Batken oblast participated. More than 50 women leaders took part in the conference. Several strategies of the activities worked out by organizations working on promotion of women in politics were presented during the conference. Several women made speeches on the urgent social and political issues. At the end of conference, the participants accepted a Resolution, where the participants appealed to a) obligatory advancement of the women's right at all government power levels; b) to promote active participation of women in the decision making process; c) to contribute to wider coverage of activities implemented by women in the mass media.
- **Two Talk Shows** on the subject 'Discussion of the Law on the Political Parties' and '**Role and Functions of the Political Party**' were carried out within the project framework. Major participants of the abovementioned talk-shows were presented by representatives of the political parties, legal experts and NGOs. As a result, TV programs helped not only to discuss the most vital issues faced by the political parties, but also contributed to more active attraction of civilians in Batken oblast to the discussions and raising awareness.

LESSONS LEARNT ON THE MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY

- ▶ Population is still a passive participant of the social and political processes. The citizens have no/little sufficient knowledge and information about processes happening in the republic and do not know about active participants in the process, including through the political parties as the main institute of the political system that helps to make decisive influence on decision making process both at the national and regional levels.
- ▶ Weak communication between political parties and population, or absence of communication at all, is the main obstacle that does not allow the parties to gain trust of the citizens.
- ▶ Majority of the political parties is aimed at gaining power without clear action plans for future after gaining power and focus on protection of interests of the social groups. Much must be done by the parties in order to be formed into social institutes, to build capacity of its members and to achieve power after strong competitions. NGO sector fulfilled functions of the political parties due to various reasons, therefore it accumulated experience and can share this experience and is open for mutually beneficial cooperation with political parties.

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

The Foundation conducted and published two thematic researches:

- **'Citizens of Tajikistan Migrate to Districts in Batken Oblast. Violence Potential of Illegal Migration Process and Violence Reduction Ways.'** **Goal of the thematic research** is reduction of violence potential of the conflicts related with illegal migration of the citizens of Tajikistan into Batken oblast. **Objectives:** 1) to reveal scope and specific features of the illegal migration of Tajik citizens into Batken oblast; 2) to define violence potential of the conflicts related with illegal migration into Batken oblast; 3) to develop feasible mechanisms for resolution, transformation and reduction of violence potential of the conflicts related with illegal migration in Batken oblast. **Target audience:** a) Presidential administration; b) unit on regional problems under Government Apparatus; c) representatives of Kyrgyz delegation of Intergovernmental Commission on Delimitation of Kyrgyz-Tajik and Kyrgyz-Uzbek borders; d) representatives of Kyrgyz delegation of Intergovernmental Commissions on Cooperation between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan; e) Border Services of the Kyrgyz Republic; f) Ministry of Internal Affairs; g) State Committee on National Security; Ministry of Defense; h) Batken oblast administration, Leilek, Batken and Kadamjay rayon administrations; i) representatives of local self-administration in the trans-border villages in Batken oblast; j) Jogorku Kenesh; k) Kyrgyz Embassy in Uzbekistan and Kyrgyz Embassy in Tajikistan.
- **'Specifics of Intra-Political and Circum-Political Conflicts in the Kyrgyz Republic: Actual Approaches Towards Violence Potential Reduction.'** **Goal of the thematic research** is determination of the most common principles, methods and approaches for reduction of violence potential of the intra-political and circum-political conflicts in the Kyrgyz Republic. **Target audience:** expert community, decision makers, political parties and movements, LEAs.

The Foundation published three Manuals:

- **Manual on violence prevention during mass and inter-group conflicts in the Kyrgyz Republic.** **Goal:** to help the conflicting sides, decision makers and potential interveners in reduction of violence potential during mass and inter-group conflicts in the Kyrgyz Republic. **Target audience:** conflicting sides, decision makers, entities interested in intervention in conflicts to achieve nonviolent conflict resolution.
- **Memo for journalists covering mass protest actions 'You Have to be Able to Protect Yourself.'** This memo consists of different articles of the laws on the rights and duties of mass media workers and journalists that have to be well known by mass media representatives broadcasting mass demonstrations, meetings, demonstrations. The journalists and media workers must be able to protect their rights while fulfilling their professional activities.
- **Booklet "Political parties: questions and answers"** is meant for heads of regional political parties. In this booklet the collected information is given on how to build in correct way the inner-Party activity, what the organizational structure of the Party is, how the activity should be implemented at local level, relationships within the Party, reporting of political parties.

General Conclusions on the Program Activities

- FTI helped and stimulated civil society and state structures to react/intervene effectively for peaceful conflict resolution;
- FTI developed analytical documents and thus provided with alternative vision of what's happening in the state. Furthermore, FTI developed a database of the problems that can be solved and methods that can be used, to the conflicting sides could choose the best way for the problem solution;
- FTI helped local communities in the address area to express their interests and to lobby interests/needs of the addressed groups at the decision making level;
- Intensiveness of the conflict in Kyrgyzstan and sustainable image of the foundation as an organization appealed to and able to resolve conflict situations using nonviolent methods, created necessary conditions that that conflicting sides address voluntarily FTI regional office workers and FTI project officers to help in the problem solution and conflict resolution.
- Power agencies changed attitude towards the NGO representatives. It is clear from the statements of government officials and accusations of excessive politicization of NGOs and fomenting of the situation around certain problems. Particularly, Batken regional office was criticized by Batken oblast administration because of the TV program made by FTI workers on the problem of illegal migration of Tajik citizens into Batken oblast. The TV program was broadcasted by the Batken oblast TV Company and National TV and Radio Company. The program entailed negative reaction of Batken oblast administration thinking that FTI artificially foment the situation.
- April protest actions of the United Front revealed that decision makers are ready to solve problems leading to the conflicts with violence potential using force and often without taking into account the interests of the citizens. It became a certain trend in the practice of decision makers. It is noteworthy that the period of direct violent actions was replaced by the period of structural (latent but constant) violence violation of the voters' rights and decision making without taking into account opinion/interests of the citizens, etc.
- In the political area of the Kyrgyz Republic, events rapidly changed each other and decisions were made unexpectedly quickly that the public community, including FTI, had no chance and no time to respond to these changes adequately.

Recommendations for Future Program Activities

- **Research conducted by FTI workers still do not correspond with standards and procedures required for the development of analytical documents.** This factor sometimes reduces the quality of the analytical reports.

Recommendations: a) to implement common standards and procedures for the development of analytical documents produced by FTI and include them into ToR; b) to consult with analytics before publishing results of researches/survey to ensure that the documents comply with common standards and procedures and with specialists in terms of content when specific in-depth knowledge of the problem is required.

- **Special analytical documents disseminated in the form of official addressed letters are more efficient than publications and emailing.**

Recommendations: a) early response to raising alert conflict situations in the form of special analytical documents to decision makers have to become a rule for FTI. Strategy of reaction on the conflict situation has to include evaluation of the threat for violence from different prospects, development of analytical material, evaluation of possible influence on addressees and a form how the document has to be provided to its addressee. This will help to implement the mission regardless of routine project and program activities in which the Foundation is involved. Gradually it will help FTI join the market of analytical services; b) to change the system of the project 'Early Warning for Violence Prevention' so that the information component is divided from the analytical component. It means that the Weekly Bulletins and the web-site will contain only general information about existing conflicts and information about addressees of the recommendations that received analytical reports. It is better to make analytical reports confidential and send them only to the decision makers in envelopes, so that analytics can evaluate the conflict frankly and develop recommendations that do not have to be necessarily known by the wider audience of bulletin

readers.

- **FTI has to introduce a system of approach to ensure logical unity of analysis, information and intervention into conflict situation**, i.e., : a) majority of regional FTI offices rarely responded to the nearby conflicts that do not relate to their project/program goals but still require immediate intervention; b) even the project 'Early Warning for Violence Prevention' sometimes is restricted with limitation and can not intervene in all the conflict situation, furthermore the early intervention component is a new component; c) research/survey results and analysis are not always taken into account and implemented in the project activities.

Recommendations: a) to conduct monitoring and analysis of the situation and survey of external factors constantly in order to provide conflictologic services, b) to respond to conflicts requiring immediate intervention in the following sequence: (1) monitoring and evaluation of violence potential; (2) analysis of the conflict and development of effective intervention strategies; (3) implementation/lobbying of developed strategies; (4) evaluation of the conducted intervention; c) to react to the problems appearing in the regions in the following consequence: (1) monitoring; (2) survey/research; (3) projection; (4) implementation of projects and (5) monitoring and evaluation.

- **FTI structure has to conform to its activities.** FTI has no office in northern regions of Kyrgyz Republic even though it works at the state level. The large-scaled conflicts occurring in the northern regions were survey/monitored mainly when the project 'Early Warning for Violence prevention' was implemented.

Recommendations: to consider /calculate opportunities for establishment of regional offices in Issykkul, Naryn and Talas oblasts or to use partner/network capacities and links.

- **Narrowing communication platform for a dialogue between power and civil society at the end of 2007 that can influence the quality of decisions made by the power authorities.**

Recommendations: a) to develop and implement a strategy on possible entrance of FTI into the market of analytical services; b) to consider possible coordination of interests and search of donors for the establishment of political mediation institute and/or institute for expertise of decisions and laws; c) to diversify instruments to be used for influence on the decision making process (e.g., information campaigns).

1.3. GLOBAL AND REGIONAL NETWORK PROJECTS

PROJECT	PARTNERS	GOAL
Global Partnership on Prevention of Armed Conflicts Donor: European Center on Conflict Prevention	- to develop common platform for effective actions in the area of conflict prevention at all level: starting from community till the global level	15 regional networks worldwide
Network 'Valley of Peace' Donor: Danish Refugees' Council	-to contribute to early warning and reduction of tensions in the region; - to help in development of regional cooperation in Fergana Valley through strengthening cooperation	30 NGOs from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan

It became obvious from the FTI practice that it is impossible to seize all problem areas and therefore it is required **to find supporters, associates and develop networks** including partners and ensure an exchange of experience and knowledge, brainstorming, etc.



NETWORK OF NGOS IN FERGANA VALLEY 'VALLEY OF PEACE'

FTI initiated the establishment of the NGO network in Central Asia, such as 'Dolina Mira' network in the Fergana Valley and is a member of the Coordination Council and Secretariat of 'Dolina Mira' network (translated as 'Valley of Peace').

'Dolina Mira', a grassroots network in the Fergana Valley consists of 30 transborder NGOs from Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. The **network mainly works with cross-border conflicts**, particularly problems with border crossing in Central Asia. 'Dolina Mira' develops joint strategies and implements consolidated projects in partnership with several NGOs (2-3 NGOs involved into one project). Strength: all NGO members of the network are transborder NGOs that work and live in the transborder villages. Therefore, they know the problems as they face them in practice in daily life and effective problem solution is of great importance for them. Weakness: all NGO members of the network are transborder NGOs and they are located far from the capital and thus have limited access to information, training, infrastructure (often they have no communication means Internet, telephone, electricity, etc.). Therefore, one of the main program components in the network activities is capacity building of NGO members, information and consultancy.

'Dolina Mira' members were capacity built and developed their professional potential in 2007:

- studied regulatory framework on the cross-border issues, rules and norms for foreign citizens visiting neighboring states, migration, import/export of goods, cross border entrepreneurship;
- obtained experience from the discussions and meetings with control border and customs agencies and state structures;
- obtained experience in organization and facilitation of meetings in which different categories of beneficiaries participated;

- obtained experienced in cooperation with experts from the LEAs and state structures into program activities in order to improve the quality and sustainability of the projects;
- obtained knowledge on development of training modules on cross-border problems, import/export of goods, migration, etc.
- obtained knowledge on the work with mass media in the area of PR instruments/strategies;
- obtained knowledge on joint implementation of partner projects.

THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR THE PREVENTION OF ARMED CONFLICT (GPPAC)

FTI is a GPPAC Regional Secretariat for Central Asia. The Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) represents civil society peace-builders from around the world, and calls for a fundamental change of approach towards conflict: **a shift from reaction to prevention.**

GPPAC has now become the first **truly global network on conflict prevention and peace-building**. The 15 regional networks that compose the global partnership are the following: **Central Asia, Western Commonwealth of Independent States, The Caucasus, The Balkans, The Pacific, South Asia, Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, Central and East Africa, Southern Africa, West Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, North America, Northern and Western Europe, Middle East and North Africa.**

Networking at the regional and global level through GPPAC can greatly contribute to the work of Central Asian NGOs engaged in conflict prevention activities by:

- promoting contacts, cooperation and exchange of experience between NGOs of the different Central Asian states.
- providing Central Asian NGOs with access to new knowledge and skills and helping them benefit from the experience of actors in other parts of the world.
- strengthening the cooperation links between Central Asian civil society and the UN.
- providing local NGOs with access to new international partners and donors.

Early Warning and Early Response information and publication sharing within GPPAC is as following:

- publication of successful case study 'Establishment of a Dialogue and Cooperation area between power and civil Society: Violence and Conflict Prevention in Kyrgyzstan, 2005-2005' in the international issue of GPPAC bulletin in 2008 on 'Joint Activities on Conflict Prevention: Cooperation Between Civil Society and Government on Conflict Prevention and Peace-building.'

- participation of regional GPPAC coordinator and key civil society activists from the Central Asian states in famous international events, such as participation in the conference 'Partners in the Conflict

Prevention and Crisis Management: Cooperation Between European Union and NGOs' in June 20-21, 2007 in Germany and international conference on conflictology in June 26-27 in Norway.

CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNT

- Although conflict resolution is not a traditional role of NGO sector, inside the third sector NGOs realized and agreed in the opinion that non-government organizations have to become more active in this area. Therefore, it is required to coach NGOs and provide them with practical skills on conflict handling, including representatives of the power structures.
- The main problem in the region is weak involvement of Uzbek NGOs into networks. Uzbek government implements repressive policies against civil society organizations in Uzbekistan. Therefore, many NGOs closed and/or work confidentially and cooperation between Uzbek partner NGOs is a challenge.
- Work in the networks with technical problems due to weak communication infrastructure in the regions impedes rapid/effective exchange of information inside regional networks. Since communication and dissemination of information between NGOs inside networks is mainly implemented via Internet, it is necessary to pay sufficient attention to the solution of problems with Internet.
- It is important to focus attention on capacity building of NGOs in the area of lobby of interests and advocacy as well as development of leadership potential and communication skills of NGO managers and officers.
- It is necessary to carry out PR campaigns and large-scale information and education programs in order to inform about success stories and outputs of NGO activities. Such campaigns can become an additional information source for the population about the role and contribution of NGOs into the process of state development.
- Worsening financial sustainability of many NGOs, especially in the villages, is one of the factors threatening institutional development of NGOs. Reduction of financial resources from international organization, limited desire of state structures to lobby practice of social order and partnerships between government and civil society, lack of philanthropic activeness of the private sector give no opportunity for NGOs to rely on external financial sources to extend its area of activities.
- It is required to conduct training and make consultative assistance for NGOs in rural areas in order to strengthen their organization and institutional potential. The next problem of NGOs in the regions is an absence of clear professional specialization. Therefore, it is recommended to carry out training for them and to define concrete directions of work taking into account both NGO capacity and needs/interests of target groups.
- Fundraising is one of the difficult Secretariat objectives for the networks because international organizations now mainly finance national programs and search of necessary funds for organization of network activities is one of the most urgent issues.

II. INTERNAL STRUCTURE OF THE FOUNDATION

Starting from 2006, organizational and institutional development of the Foundation is financially supported by HIVOS project 'Sustainable Democracy via Strong Civil Society' that is aimed at strengthening the organizational and institutional potential of the NGO (FTI) in order to promote democratization of civil society and ensure stability and security in the state.

Structure (see APPENDIX)

In 2007 the Foundation had six (6) functioning offices: one Bishkek head office, one branch in Batken, three regional offices in Aksy, Osh and Leilek, one office of the project 'Early Warning for Violence Prevention' in Bishkek. Batken FTI branch is an official branch of the Foundation and has wider powers than other offices. Director of Batken FTI office manages Batken office,

Leilek regional office and Osh regional office. Aksy office and office of the project 'Early Warning for Violence Prevention' were managed by the director of Bishkek head office. Bishkek head office coordinates and monitors all project /programs of the Foundation. In 2007, the total number of FTI workers was 44 people, including 25 women.

The Foundation has a set of official administrative rules and procedures regulating activities of the organization. All FTI officers work based on specific and regularly - updated ToRs. All FTI offices have all necessary conditions for smooth implementation of program activities (offices, equipment, furniture and communication means internet, telephone and fax lines and etc.).

GENERAL MEETINGS OF FTI WORKERS

In 2007, FTI conducted two general meetings of FTI workers:

July 26-28. Agenda of three-day general meeting included the following issues:

- main components of FTI strategy: visions, mission and project directions
- common goal of the Foundation;
- analysis of FTI work with conflicts. Criteria for selection of conflicts to be considered by FTI.
- team-building exercise 'What is FTI?'
- projects to be implemented by FTI in 2008-2010
- schedule on development of project proposals
- strategy of FTI activities during political actions
- project evaluation results and outputs of the project 'I Choose this Party Because...'

December 23. Agenda of one-day general meeting included the following issues:

- results of the external evaluation on organizational and institutional development of the Foundation
- internal structure of the Foundation.

As a result of discussions, participants of the general meeting in December 23, 2007 decided to change the structure of the Foundation in order to ensure that organization is flexible, mobile and does not need large financial expenses on maintenance. Furthermore, it was decided that all FTI offices have to bear responsibility for the results of activities and measures undertaken/implemented in the region in order to ensure that new leaders have chance to appear and/or develop leadership potential in the regional offices and initiate/implement new ideas.

These meetings were facilitated by the Foundation Management Council (FMC) members. Minutes and list of participants are available and can be provided at your request.

FOUNDATION MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Foundation Management Council (FMC) had four (4) meetings in 2007. These meetings were dedicated to the discussion / solution of program, institutional and organizational issues of the foundation:

PROGRAM ISSUES	INSTITUTIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES
FTI Annual Report for 2006 (consideration and approval)	Plan for capacity - building of FTI officers in all regional offices
FTI Action Plan planning for 2007	development of the FTI strategy during political actions
Discussion of the Conceptual Document on the project proposal 'Youth Votes for ...' to be sent to European Commission	Discussion of assistance (in money and in goods) to the victims of earthquakes in Batken and Naryn oblasts
Discussion of the inquiry results on the work with mass media	Appointment of FMC Chairman and Secretary for 2007
Discussion of the Conceptual Document on the project proposal 'Capacity Building of Local Self-Administrations and Civil Society for Social and Economic Development of Batken Oblast' be sent to European Commission	Presentation of ideas on better FTI web-site design, structure and content
Evaluation and discussion of internal evaluation of the project 'I Choose this Party Because...'	Changes into FTI Charter and FMC regulations
	Discussion of organization issues on the conducting of General Meeting of FTI workers.
	Effective internal communication between FTI offices

The Foundation developed **Strategy of FTI actions during political actions:**

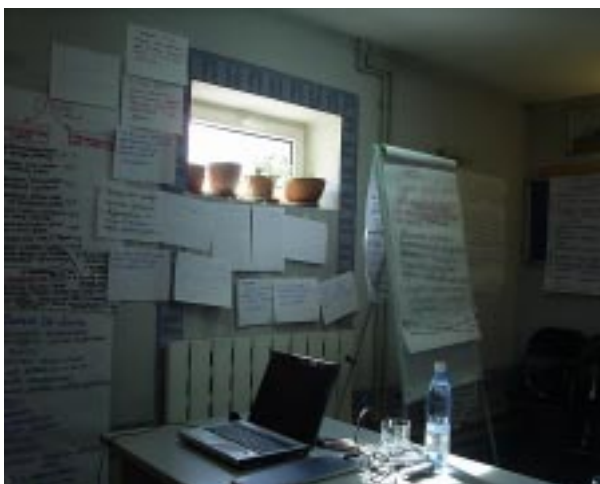
The NGO sector and FTI now is often faced with the question of participation or non-participation in political events and demonstrations occurring in the state. FTI workers and FTI offices are often in a dilemma deciding how to influence processes in the state without interfering into politics because FTI initially positioned itself as non-government, non-profit and non-political organization. The strategy contains common principles, rules and limitations for participation of the Foundation (offices and members) in politics.

CAPACITY BUILDING OF FTI WORKERS

The Foundations stimulated professional development of personnel via trainings, experience - exchange visits between FTI regional offices, financing participation of FTI workers in conferences, workshops, trainings and education programs organized by other organization in Kyrgyz Republic and outside, organizes meetings and consultations with experts/practicing in the area of conflictology from other states.

In 2007 FTI workers participated in the following trainings:

- **July 2-4.** Training on 'PR Component: Work with Mass Media' in order to coach on effective cooperation with mass media
- **November 8-10.** Training on '**Analysis and Work with Analytical Documents**'. FTI workers were coached on technique and methodology for problem analysis and solution, new analysis frameworks and standards of analytical documents, etc. to be used during analysis and preparation of



official analytical notes and recommendations.

December 21-22. Training '**Analysis and Use of Communication Technologies**' was aimed at increasing the quality of analytical documents, reports, research and communication, transfer of skills on projection of communication activities; development of intra-corporation standards for analytical documents and communication activities.

These trainings helped to increase the effectiveness of FTI workers and analytical documents produced inside FTI. The officers insist on development of the analytical component in the system work of FTI and wish to obtain new knowledge and skills on the work with analytical documents.

- **September 9-12.** FTI workers met with Mr. David Bloomfield, Director of the Berghof Research Center for Constructive Conflict Management (Berlin, Germany). Goal: exchange of experience between organizations working with conflicts, discussion of possible ways for cooperation, development of new projects on constructive conflict management. David Bloomfield **gave sessions on new methods used in work with conflicts: mediation and conflict transformation basics and provided FTI with recommendations on development of program activities**. As a result of the meetings, it was agreed that FTI workers will be trained by international specialists from the Research Center for Constructive Conflict Management (Berlin, Germany).

Furthermore, FTI workers made **experience-exchange visits** into other regional FTI offices and FTI-implementing projects:

- **May 20-30.** FTI workers from Osh regional office and Aksy regional office, Kochkorbaev A. and Bagyshkulov B. visited Batken and examined activities and outputs of the project 'I Choose this Party Because...' implemented by Batken regional office.
- **October 3-4.** Directors of Batken regional office and Osh regional office, Abazbekov R. and Kochkorbaev A. visited Aksy office and gave sessions on effective monitoring in addressed communities and development of monitoring reports for Aksy FTI officers. They jointly with Aksy officers developed a new format of conflict analysis. Director of Osh regional office, Kochkorbaev A. gave sessions on implementation and administration of technical projects and participated in the selection of technical projects.

SERVICES RENDERED BY FTI WORKERS TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

➤ TRAININGS:

- o Basic conflictology. Mediation and negotiation
 - o Conflict prevention ways. Conflict analysis
 - o Fundraising. Financial sustainability
 - o Propaganda of NGO through mass media
 - o Work with volunteers in NGO
 - o Planning of community activities
 - o Comprehensive plan for Batken oblast development. Strategic planning
 - o Program planning. Monitoring and evaluation
 - o Strategic planning for implementation of the National Action Plan on Gender Equality in 2007-2010
 - o Advocacy

➤ FACILITATION

- o Round Tables of Aksy rayon administration; Rights and duties of the citizens crossing the border
 - o Three regional Forums of NGOs (Batken, Jalalabat and Osh)
 - o One national Forum of NGOs in 2007 'Strong NGOs Strong Kyrgyzstan' (Bishkek)

➤ SOCIAL RESEARCH

- o Labour migration level (internal and external) amongst citizens of Batken rayon;
 - o Youth potential in Batken rayon on resolution of local conflicts.

➤ ORGANIZATION SERVICES

- o Workshop for the officers of migration agencies in Batken oblast
 - o Meeting for the workers of migration services in Batken oblast
 - o Meetings of Polish NGOs with Kyrgyz NGOs in Batken oblast
 - o Meetings of UNDP representatives with NGOs in Batken oblast

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Internal Monitoring and Evaluation

May 20-30. Evaluation of the project 'I Choose this Party Because...' was conducted by an evaluation group of experts which included FMC members, Bishkek head office workers and international volunteers. Goals: 1) to reveal whether project indicators were achieved and to develop recommendations on how to improve project activities/outputs; 2) to determine effectiveness of pilot project and to develop recommendations for extension and follow-up of project activities.

Methodology: a) individual interviewing of members of the political parties, state structures and mass media; b) meetings with the members of Young Politicians' Club, NGO partners and citizens involved into project implementation; c) talks with FTI officers; d) inquiry of the political party members through questionnaire; e) examination and analysis of secondary documents; and f) monitoring of implemented actions/measures.

Evaluation group members developed recommendations that were used during preparation of the project proposal for the next project phase.

External Monitoring and Evaluation

December 1 - 20. Outside evaluation experts conducted evaluation of organizational and institutional structure of the Foundation. Evaluation group consisted of the President of the public foundation 'For Peace in Central Asia,' Birimkulov J. and program coordinator of the Association of Civil Society Support Centers (ACSSC), Kurbanova A. Goals: to analyze organizational and institutional capacities of the Foundation in terms of its long-term goals, projects/programs/activities of the Foundation and interrelations of the Foundation with stakeholders.

Methodology: a) individual interviewing of FTI officers, partners and clients; b) inquiry of FTI officers, partners and beneficiaries through questionnaire; c) confidential questioning of FTI workers; d) monitoring (office, equipment, infrastructure and atmosphere); e) analysis of documents (strategic plan, charter, internal policy and procedures, list of potential financial sources/resources, ToRs and services rendered by FTI workers and etc.).

Evaluation group members developed recommendations on the following directions: strategic planning, management and administration, financial sustainability, external communications, HR and paperwork. By the results of the evaluation, FTI conducted general meeting of FTI workers, where strategic planning and the developed Work Plan for 2008 was conducted.

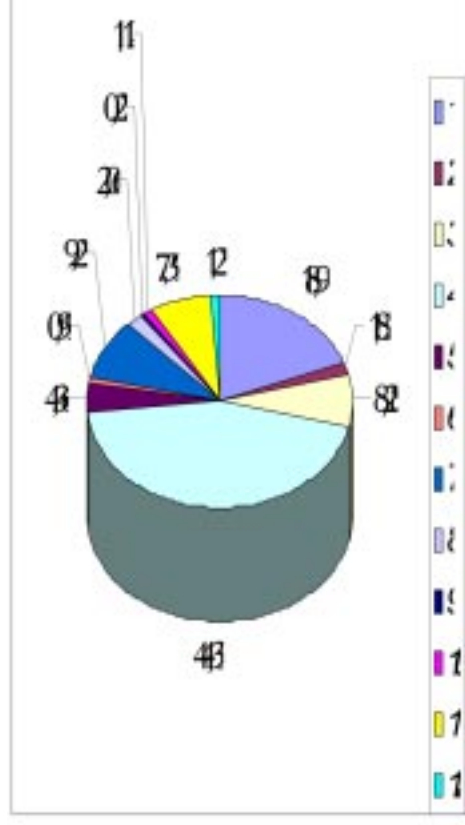
It is expected that HIVOS that supports institutional and organizational development of the Foundation will conduct evaluation of the Foundation in 2008. Goal: to evaluate development level and effectiveness of actions /measures undertaken by FTI during the last five (5) years. Results of the HIVOS evaluations and recommendations made will be used for further development of the Foundation. Therefore, HIVOS and FTI have common goal that is to contribute to strengthening organizational and institutional capacities of the Foundation.

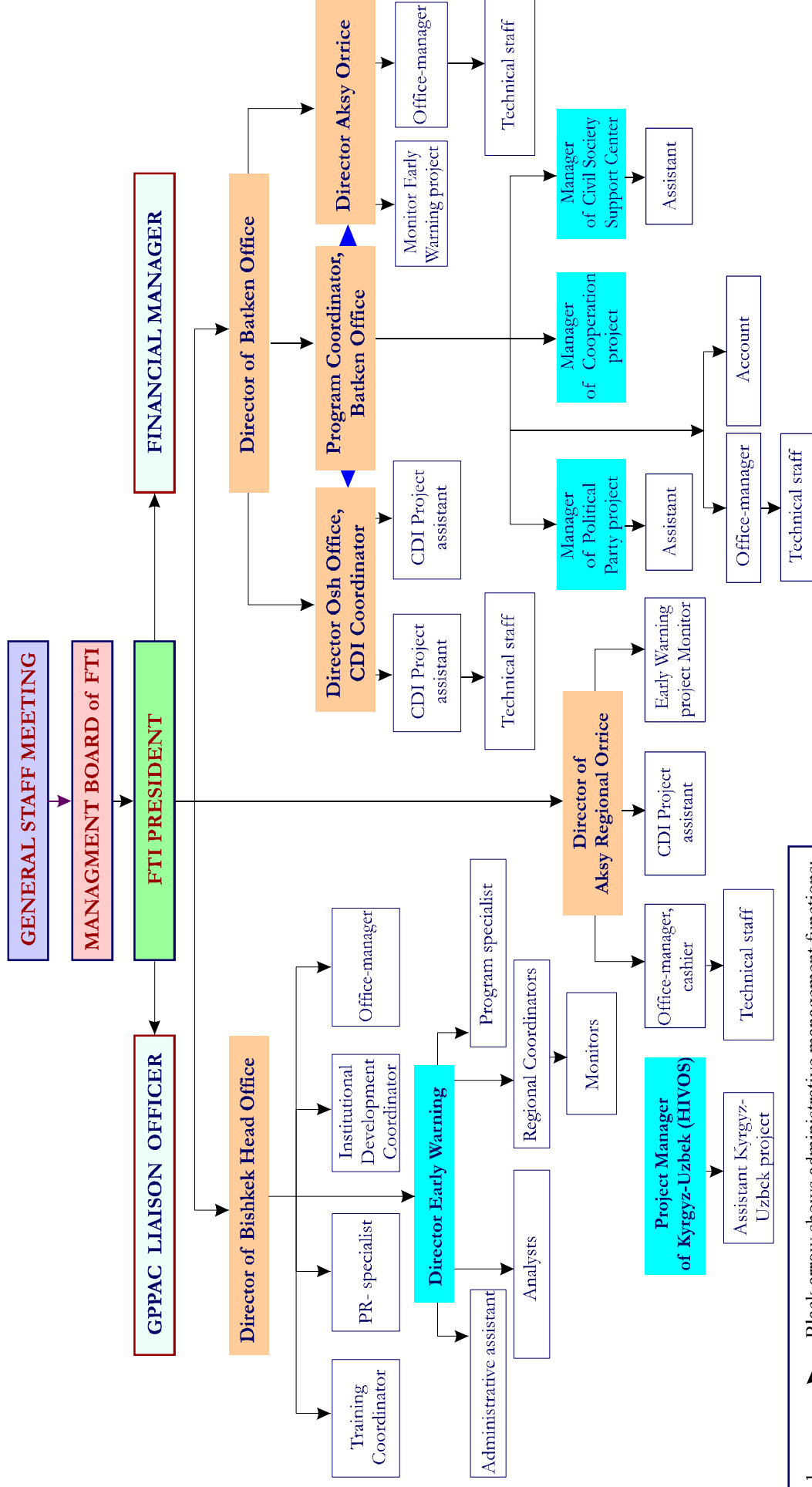
MAJOR CONCLUSIONS ON INTERNAL ORGANIZATION OF THE FOUNDATION

- In 2007, FTI encountered serious financial problems. Completion of long-term projects in Batken and Leilek offices where people worked for many years entailed reduction of FTI personnel and outflow of high quality officers from the Foundation. This influenced the quality of services provided by the Batken regional office in general and reduced motivation of other workers.
- FTI was not able to meet the needs of clients adequately and in time due to the completion of projects and absence of new large-scale projects. Therefore, FTI constantly worked on the search of new donors and grants. As a result, new two projects will be started in 2008, i.e., 'Religious Tolerance Guarantees Stability in Batken Oblast' (Batken regional office) and 'Capacity Building of Local Self-Administrations and Civil Society for Social and Economic Development of Batken Oblast' (Batken, Osh, Leilek and Aksy offices). Furthermore, it is expected to follow-up phase-II of the project 'I Choose this Party Because...' in 2008 (Batken office) and phase-II of the project 'Dolina Mira' network of NGOs (all FTI offices).
- Since financial sustainability is one of the urgent and priority problems of the Foundation, it is important to organize trainings, consultations and develop strategies for financial sustainability of the Foundation as well as to change FTI structure. FTI has to be flexible, mobile and require less financial expense for maintenance. Therefore, FTI plans to carry out a Strategic Planning Meeting in the first quarter of 2008 and make/approve changes in the structure by the results of the meeting.

FUNDING OF FTI IN 2007

#	NAME PROJECT	DONOR	AMOUNT(EUR)	%	
1	Sustainable Democracy Through Strong Civil Societ	HIVOS	76735	18,91	Bishkek
2	Civic Harmony and Reginal Dialogue in Aksy	HIVOS	7407	1,82	Kerben
3	Ferghana ValleyNetworking Initiative	DRC	33589	8,28	Bishkek
4	Early Warning for Violence Prevention	Belgium Ministry of Foreign Affairs	180000	44,35	Bishkek
5	Early Warning for Violence Prevention	US Embassy Democracy Commission	17692	4,36	Bishkek
6	GPPAC	ECCP	4000	0,99	Bishkek
7	Youth development ...	Merciko	37470	9,23	Batken
8	Support of civic initiatives	European Union	8350	2,06	Batken
9	Constitution reform	Freedom House	1107	0,27	Batken
10	We have a choice	ACSSC	4530	1,12	Batken
11	I choose this party because...	Karitas-France	30000	7,39	Batken
12	Cooperation	European Union	5000	1,23	Batken
TOTAL			405880	100,00	





1. —————> Black arrow shows administrative management functions;
2. —————> Blue arrow shows program management functions;
3. Project staff in the different regional offices are responsible:
 - a) to project managers for management and program issues;
 - b) to office Directors for administrative and disciplinary issues