

BUILDING PEACE: PRACTICE AND EXPERIENCE OUR WORK IN 2013



FTI FOUNDATION FOR
TOLERANCE INTERNATIONAL

**BUILDING PEACE:
PRACTICE AND EXPERIENCE
OUR WORK IN 2013**



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Moving forward

The present situation in Central Asia region, in particular in Fergana valley is characterized by many contradictions. On the one hand, the region has varied cultures and rich in natural resources which promote development of the region, on the other hand, such diversity creates conditions for many conflicts that prevent sustainable development. Times are changing, however the root causes of conflicts remain the same and common for all countries of the region.

During last years, we observed active manifestations of different problems related to conflicts at the borders, interethnic tensions, progressive development of religious extremism and separatism, preserving security threats related to drug trafficking, and risks of political conflicts. Moreover, except for specific problems, the region in increasing frequency began to face challenges of a wider context, related to the growth of geopolitical players' interests in the region. Afghanistan acquired new significance in the regional agenda due to withdrawal of NATO coalition forces from the country.

Among all countries of the region Kyrgyzstan, possibly, has a specific situation characterized by dynamic development of internal political processes. A low level of socio-economic development and chaotic internal political spectrum in Kyrgyzstan create favorable conditions for development of conflicts.

2013 was one of difficult periods - the period of sizing up the results of work after the June events of 2010 and the beginning of new turn of conflicts in economic sphere - mining industry. People's dissatisfaction was strengthened by lack of transparency in use of financial funds provided by mining companies to local budgets, non-observance of ecological norms by mining companies, corruption at the local and national levels etc. In territories bordering Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, conflicts with neighboring countries in which local residents, law enforcement bodies are involved and accompanied by exchange of fire between border services became often.

Nevertheless, I would like to note that positive changes happened in 2013: adoption of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development of the Kyrgyz Republic for the period of 2013-2017, the Framework for Strengthening Cohesion of the Nation and Interethnic Relations in the KR, which established the Agency on Affairs of Local Self-Government and Interethnic Relations responsible for implementation of the this Framework and conflict prevention. It means that at the state, national level there is political will to stabilize and improve interethnic situation and to develop the country.

Against this background, we tried to increase our input in keeping peace through implementation of a number of projects aimed at developing capacity of stakeholders from governmental and non-governmental structures, local residents in the field of working with conflict. We implemented regular situation monitoring and analysis and provided recommendations to decision-makers, and international organizations. During several years we strenuously work on promoting peace education in youth environment through training young people in non-violent communication and interaction. In this connection, the past year was not an exception. We gained a success in spreading the effective forum theater methodology to work with youth. This experience was disseminated throughout the country, except for Issyk-Kul region.

Support and experience of our partners in Kyrgyzstan and all over the world inspire us in our work. We thank donors, governmental bodies which support us in our work. And, of course, we thank our beneficiaries, people who helped us, and together we tried to make life in communities more comfortable.

**Raisa Kadyrova,
President**

Who we are

Foundation for Tolerance International (FTI) is a non-governmental organization working for the prevention and non-violent resolution of conflict. The Foundation was established in 1998. The basis for the organization was the project «Conflict Transformation and Teaching Tolerance» implemented in 1996 -1998 with support of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Following the completion of the original project it became clear that further work was needed in this area and the project team established FTI.

The Foundation has implemented more than 100 projects and programs. Foundation for Tolerance International is currently one of the largest and most experienced NGO working for the prevention and conflict transformation in Central Asia. FTI team consists of more than 20 employees of different ethnicity, age and qualifications. The Foundation has a Headquarters in Bishkek, and three branch offices in Batken, Osh and Jalal-Abad. FTI is a founding member of the “Valley of Peace” network, uniting NGOs from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. FTI is a Regional Coordinator in Central Asia for the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict.

The Foundation’s experience and the expertise of its staff make it a leader in conflict prevention and transformation. Its knowledge and the services it provides benefit both state-run and non-governmental organizations, as well as members of local communities and individual citizens of Kyrgyzstan, irrespective of social status, ethnicity, belief or views.

FTI is a dynamic and growing organization, open to new ideas, partners and positive changes.

FTI's vision

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

FTI's mission

Prevention and non-violent conflict resolution in Central Asia and expanding a space for dialogue and promoting a culture of non-violence in Central Asia.

FTI's values and principles of work

- Commitment to a culture of non-violence, tolerance and democracy
- Adherence to the principles of justice and peace
- Responsibility to the beneficiaries
- Focus on efficiency and effectiveness
- Aspiration for improvement of professional development
- Transparency and openness
- Flexibility and ability to adapt to constantly changing environment
- Value and importance of each employee

FTI's main program directions

- Regular situation monitoring and analysis
- Developing the stakeholders' capacity on conflict transformation and conflict sensitivity
- Consolidation and coordination of networks' communication
- Promoting peace education
- Developing infrastructure to mitigate tensions
- Mediation and negotiation
- Building dialogue and supporting non-violent communication
- Advocacy and lobbying

Central Asia

FTI in the framework of its activities under the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict works in the territory of Central Asia to promote the culture of peace and tolerance, and provide human security. For the period of 2012-2015 the strategic direction of work is support of peace initiatives in Fergana valley in cross-border areas of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.

Chui region

In Chui region as well as in Batken region, the forum theater methodology was pioneered in 10 secondary schools. The methodology educates youth - school students on non-violent communication skills, critical thinking, skills of situation analysis and finding ways to solve the problem. Students get skills to communicate not only with peers, but with adults and involve adults in solving both school and community problems.

Jalal-Abad region

FTI works in poliethnic cross-border communities of the region for solving local problems, which cause conflict tensions. The organization conducts regular monitoring and analysis of socio-political situation in the region; builds capacity of local self-governmental and governmental bodies, and public associations; spreads peace education; involves local residents in peace initiatives.

Where we work

Our program activities are focused on Central Asia in general, and on Kyrgyzstan, in particular. Depending on the contest of the situation, we take concrete practical steps aimed at conflict diminishing, mitigating and transformation. We work in cooperation with governmental agencies, international organizations, such as UN agencies, European Union etc. The main and key partners of the organization are ordinary people of target communities, together with whom and for whom all peace initiatives are implemented.

Naryn and Talas regions

We work with secondary schools, in which teachers and students, trained on the forum theater methodology, carry out joint analysis of actual and burning community issues together with community residents, representatives of local authorities and other informal leaders and look for ways to solve the problems.

Batken region

We work in cross-border areas of the region, and together with state bodies and local residents analyze problems and work on problem resolution. One of key directions of work is regular situation analysis and monitoring, based on which reports for decision-makers and other stakeholders are developed. The Foundation promotes peace education among school students via training teachers and students on non-violent communication and interaction skills. FTI works with LSGB on introducing peacebuilding practice in local LSGB policy.

Osh region

We work on building and keeping peace in areas affected by conflict in 2010. The organization establishes conditions for communication and dialogue between different ethnic and social groups; promotes the culture of non-violence in poliethnic communities; educates local self-governmental bodies on conflict analysis and non-violent conflict resolution skills; participates in network activity of regional NGOs etc.



Promoting understanding of peaceful conflict resolution

Our activity is focused on promoting understanding of working with conflicts by peaceful means. We work at the grassroot level, in communities, which were affected by conflict, now experience conflicts or could experience conflicts. We understand that efficient results can be reached in case of direct participation and support of people who are directly related with conflict and can influence on its mitigation or escalation. In 2013, FTI worked with different categories of people, including representatives of national and local authorities, civil society, local residents, informal and religious leaders.

We conduct regular situation monitoring and analysis, develop analytical reports and materials for decision-makers, international and non-governmental organizations, expert community and other stakeholders. We inform about conflict causes and factors which influenced a conflict, about the conflict stakeholders and their interests and positions; and present recommendations for work.

We train our partners, representatives of governmental agencies, local self-governmental bodies, civil society and other public institutions, informal leaders in skills of working with conflict, conflict-sensitive planning, conflict analysis, negotiations and mediation etc.

We promote peace education among sustainable category of youth such as secondary school students throughout the country, train school students in communication and interaction skills, build opportunities for information sharing and communication. We develop necessary school aids and other materials for educating in culture of tolerance and non-violent conflict resolution.

We change policy of local bodies on working with conflict, improve their awareness and understanding of the necessity of work on conflict prevention as an obligatory practice.

In our work we use TV, radio programs and other tools which could promote change of people's consciousness and understanding in relation to conflict.



Regular situation monitoring and analysis to respond to conflicts

The main focus of our work is regular monitoring and analysis of conflicts at the grassroots level, identifying threats and challenges. Based on our long-term experience and monitors' network, FTI conducts timely situation monitoring in case of conflict arising or threat of conflict arising. The monitoring results are operatively shared with different stakeholders - governmental bodies, local self-government, international and local non-governmental organizations, UN agencies etc. Based on the monitoring reports, analytical reports with recommendations how to work with a problem are developed for particular decision-makers. The organization understands that monitoring and analysis should be useful for state bodies, therefore in order to develop their capacity FTI involves aiyl okmotu staff in situation analysis and train them in conflict analysis skills.

In Batken region, we conducted monitoring of more than 20 situations in the area which borders Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Monitoring was related to incidents in Charbak, Aksai, Samarkandek, Karabulak, Dostuk villages etc. These reports were

submitted to local self-governmental bodies of Batken region, representatives of law enforcement bodies and border services, international donors and organizations, which potentially could render humanitarian or other social assistance, like in situation in Charbak village. During the events in Charbak village, representatives of UNICEF, USAID/ OTI and others asked FTI to help in collecting information about needs of local residents to assist them in future. In its turn, FTI with support of the Office of Transition Initiatives started work on increasing capacity of local self-governmental bodies located around Sokh enclave, Uzbekistan.

For the reporting period, FTI with support of UNHCR implemented regular situation monitoring in target communities of Osh and Batken regions. The main purpose of the monitoring was collecting information for advocacy and restoration of trust of returning families and providing their sustainable reintegration. Monitoring was focused on several directions: human security, security of property (houses and lands), documentation (problems with obtaining passport, certificate of birth,

documents for houses for people suffered in the June events of 2010) and access to social services. As a result, 70 incidents/problems were monitored:

- More than 130 citizens received legal consultation through partner organizations on issues of access to social services, and property protection;
- Open meetings were arranged in communities of Osh city with participation of representatives of LSGB, regional representative office of the Ombudsman, UNHCR. During the meetings around 300 residents had an opportunity to express their complaints regarding work of the mayor's office related to houses demolition at Osh street;

- Decision-makers were informed about the problem of obtaining Kyrgyz citizenship by women-citizens of Uzbekistan, married Kyrgyz citizens. In particular, a round table was conducted with participation of representatives of the State Registration Service of Osh city, Civilian Registry Office, heads of territorial-public councils, associations which provide free legal assistance, and persons who applied for citizenship. One of the main meeting results was the information work which gave people an opportunity to receive access to legal information and legal services.



“After last joint meeting, organized by FTI and involved LSGB, Ombudsman and others on the problem of houses demolition, our residents began to communicate our problems with state bodies more open. We began more confident in our rights», resident of TPC Ak-Buura, Osh city

Strengthening peacebuilding practices

New perspectives in peacebuilding: policy change

Conflict transformation means change of policy and practice on working with conflict. It is important to include mechanisms of working with conflict in procedure of state bodies, particularly at the local level, as LSGB representatives are key actors and the first ones who face with manifestations of a conflict. In this connection, FTI worked in 5 aiyl okmotus of Batken, and Kadamjai districts of Batken region. We developed capacity on peace and conflict analysis of aiyl okmotu representatives, including members of women and youth committees, and public-preventive centers. We arranged visits of aiyl okmotu representatives to Osh and Jalal-Abad regions to share experience with colleagues from Tash-Bulak and Mady villages on work in crisis and post-crisis situations.

After trainings together with participants, early response plans were developed, in which step-by-step instruction is provided on what should be done in case of conflict or threat of conflict. Introducing the early response plans in internal procedures of work of target aiyl okmotus was a successful experience. Heads of aiyl okmotus issued the corresponding resolutions to approve these plans. In each aiyl okmotu the response groups were formed and included representatives of civil society and informal leaders. At the same time, FTI has issued a booklet for local residents with information about an early response plan, contacts of key staff of aiyl okmotu, village police unit, border service, seniors of cross-border villages to phone them in case of conflict threat. Booklets were disseminated among target communities' residents.



Establishing conditions for community safety

Together with our partners from Tajikistan and the organization Saferworld we work in cross-border communities of Fergana valley: FTL works in 8 communities of Osh, Jalal-Abad, and Batken regions of Kyrgyzstan, and our partners work in Sogd region of Tajikistan.

Our activities are based on the approach «creating a safe community», which suppose direct participation and interaction of aiyl okmotu, members of public-preventive centers, districts police officers, informal leaders to identify and respond to local problems. The main program idea is creating a safe space in communities by local residents themselves. Community residents identify a problem which, in their opinion, causes a conflict situation and a sense of discomfort among residents. Representatives of different structures are united in a safety group (SG) and work together on the problem, analyze its causes, the parties to the problem and other stakeholders. After analysis, groups select one or several problems, develop and implement problem response plans. In this report we would like to provide several examples of safety groups' work, but their activities are not limited by these examples.

We support our safety groups and regularly conduct trainings for them on conflict analysis, skills of preparing and facilitating meetings with local residents to identify a problem; arrange exchange visits within the region and between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, in which representatives of the internal affairs agencies participate. Exchange visits help participants to share experience, find new opportunities and ideas for work, discuss difficulties, learn lessons and establish communication with each other. The achievement is that SGs together with staff of the internal affairs agencies conduct open meetings and discussions with community residents on different issues, including interethnic tensions. They discuss opportunities of joint patrolling of the community during socio-political actions, meetings, which threaten destabilization of the situation. District police officers learn to communicate with people, build trust relations with youth, women, aksakals and other leaders, and try to inform local residents about their work and provide reports to people.



«I would like to say with confidence that now we know that it is not necessary to wait for assistance from the state or outside. We ourselves by common efforts and without dividing based on ethnicity, belief, place of residence can reach a lot in working with conflict. In this regard, training on mediation, conflictology, and tolerance were very helpful for me», Erkin Sultanov, SG member, Tash-Bulak village, Jalal-Abad region.

In Amir-Temir microdistrict of Osh city, SG tried to improve relations between local residents and representatives of Oshelectro company. Local residents complained about illegal activities of company representatives (breaking the seals on electricity supply meters and further threats to impose high penalty due to broken seals). Local residents were also complained about inactivity of territorial-public self-government (TPS). One of the first activities of the group was conducting joint meetings of TPS and Oshelectro representatives. During the meeting problems and complaints of both parties were expressed constructively. The parties reached certain results: TPS appointed persons responsible for work on this problem and information about these people was provided to local residents.

In Kok-Tash village of Ak-Sai aiyl okmotu, Batken region, members of SG decided to work on the problem of often traffic accidents in this village. It should be noted that trunk-road Osh-Isfana goes through the village Kok-Tash, and exactly on this road traffic accidents happen most often, and local residents become victims of these accidents. The traffic accidents happened due to lack of road caution signs, marking, and sidewalks. Village residents asked local authorities to solve the problem, but due to lack of financing the problem was not resolved. During the meeting of SG and community residents, the residents emphasized that this problem is the most urgent for their community. Together with village residents, district police officer, and other stakeholders, SG developed an action plan to resolve the issue.

In the framework of the action plan, a number of activities, including setting up road marking and road signs along Osh-Isfana road in Kok-Tash village were implemented. Moreover, staff of the State Automobile Inspection of Batken district conducted training on rule of the road for school students, so children could become acquainted with the rules and follow them. Implementation of this action plan allowed to establish minimum conditions on the roads to provide village residents safety. According to villagers, after placing road signs and marking on the main road Osh-Isfana, they began to worry less about their safety and safety of their children on the road. Moreover, according to R.Osorova, the senior of Kok-Tash village, after placing traffic signs and marking, the number of traffic accidents in the village decreased.



«Positive results can appear when all stakeholders are involved in problem resolution. I am glad to make my input in safety of our residents through my work in the safety group», Bakyt Gaparov, SG member, Orto-Boz village, Batken district.

Involving new actors in peacebuilding

We work with informal religious leaders of Osh, Jalal-Abad, Batken and Chui regions, authoritative and respected community residents, having ecclesiastical capacity (imam, khatib, kazy etc.) and being ordinary community residents, who are respected by people due to their experience, knowledge, behavior as religious leaders. The experience has shown that religious leaders are peacebuilders who use values and humanity principles of religion and could promote building and keeping peace.

Our work is focused on development of religious leaders' capacity as community leaders, who take into account legal norms and laws of the country and can work with people on promoting peace. We increase their capacity in the sphere of conflictology, conflict analysis, negotiation and mediation skills taking into account positions of parties to conflict; promote cooperation with local authorities and law enforcement bodies in relation to issues of conflict prevention or conflict response.

After training, religious leaders conduct own peacebuilding events in the communities, share experience and lessons learned. It should be noted that the project impact is also based on change of consciousness of religious leaders themselves. Religious leaders try to accept diversity, respect for freedom of religion and belief, and take kindly representatives of different groups (language, ethnic).

In an effort to build an effective program on capacity development, research was conducted. Research was aimed at determining the role and practical activities of religious leaders at the stages of conflict prevention, conflict resolution and overcoming consequences of different conflicts at the local level. Moreover, research was also focused on identifying people's perception of religious leaders and their role. Analysis of practical examples has shown knowledge and skills of religious leaders and what skills and knowledge they need. Based on conclusions of the assessment, a program of trainings was developed, and sufficient attention is paid to studying legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Research covered more than 200 respondents of different categories:

- Formal and informal religious leaders;
- NGO experts, involved in projects in religious sphere;
- Staff of the 10th Main Department of the Ministry for Internal Affairs, district police officers;
- Experts of the State Agency of Religious Affairs;
- Heads and staff of aiyl okmotus, district administrations and local deputies;
- Local residents; and
- Members of public-preventive centers.



Promoting peace education



Promoting peace education

FTI has a long experience on promoting peace education among youth of different age, gender, ethnic and social groups. The Foundation applies varied approaches, including trainings, contests, independent problem analysis and searching ways to solve the problem. Young people learn to build communication not only with peers, but with adults too.

Forum theater

One of the examples of effective work with secondary school students is the forum theater methodology «drama for conflict transformation». Forum theater is a set of tools, which promotes improvisation, self-analysis, dialogue, and allows members of conflicting communities to generate new views and behavior in relation to conflict. In the forum theater students show problems of their community and invite adults to discuss the problem and find ways to solve it. Theater performances' spectators include students' parents, teachers, heads of aiyl okmotu, deputies of local keneshes, staff of social and other governmental agencies, representatives of law enforcement bodies, informal leaders and others.

In Kyrgyzstan, the Foundation in partnership with IREX launched implementation of this methodology in 2010 in 22 secondary schools of Chui and Batken regions. After two years of successful work, the forum theater methodology was further disseminated in 13 schools of Naryn and Talas regions, and in 35 schools of Osh, Jalal-Abad, and Batken regions. Now, 65 secondary schools implement this methodology. In these schools, drama clubs function under guidance of teachers.

After trainings on the forum theater methodology, teachers and students establish drama clubs in schools and conduct weekly classes with children and stage theater performances in schools. Now more than 2000 students from 66 schools got skills on the forum theater and use this knowledge in everyday life, they analyze problems and show the problems during theater performances in communities. More than 500 performances with participation of more than 40000 persons were made in reporting period.

During theater performances, different problems are raised, including conflict over access to water, labor migration problems, early marriage, bride kidnapping, parental abuse, alcoholism, racket in schools, unemployment etc. For the reporting period, several performances covered the problems of seniors, children with limited possibilities and some performances were devoted to the celebration of the Day of Peace and the Day of Tolerance.

Drama clubs were involved in preparing and issuing 5 TV programs. During these programs drama clubs together with spectators, represented by aiyl okmotu, social service staff, ministry of education, informal leaders, school administrations discussed the following problems: «Racket in schools», «Exploitation of child labor», «Drinking water problem», «Labor migration and its consequences», «Graduation party problem». These programs were broadcasted on local TV channels JTR and OshTV.

We help to establish contacts between drama clubs of different schools, villages, regions and conduct exchange visits between them. Exchange visits help participants from different regions to know peculiarities of local culture. For the most of participants it was for the first time when they visited another part of the region, for example south or north, and told local residents about their community, forum theater experience, and identified common problems and knew ways other drama clubs work with these problems.

State bodies and other stakeholders actively invite the forum theater participants to stage theater performances on some actual problems. Public Prosecutor's Office of Chui region invited forum theaters to conduct a series of performances on the problems of racket in schools and homeless children.

Parents, teachers, school directors emphasize that one of the important project results is that students positively changed their attitude regarding different life issues related to students themselves and other people, and community. It is observed that students of different ethnic groups, sex, age, social categories, activists, difficult students, at-risk students, and those registered in Juvenile Inspection who did not even interact and did it in a negative way, began to communicate, be friends, and overcome the barriers. Students learned to listen to each other, sympathize, understand and respect views of another person, be tolerant. Students began to reconsider and understand the situation deeper, and know that it is possible to find a solution of any difficult situation, and it is necessary to help each other and don't be indifferent.

УСИЛЕНИЕ РОЛИ ТРАНСФОРМ

In January 2013, a camp for 60 participants - teachers and school students from Osh and Jalal-Abad regions took place. During this camp participants guided by the trainer from the United Kingdom and heads of drama clubs from Chui region learned the forum theater methodology. After camp completion, participants had plans of work to establish and start work of drama clubs and involve students in this methodology.



Senior students help drama clubs' heads to teach junior students, support them, they share their forum theater knowledge and skills. As the most of school directors emphasized, changes were observed even in student's behavior during school events: «previously senior students kept apart, and junior students were afraid to come nearer to them, now it is even difficult to understand who are seniors and who are juniors, as they communicate in mixed groups».

Adults also reached significant success, as they found new approaches of working with students. Changes happened in their attitude, and behavior. Teachers became more restrained in criticism, and more motivated, open, confident, interested. They managed to use methods of analysis in everyday life. We would like to emphasize some teachers' achievements:

- Irina Voronina, the head of drama club «Shans» of Petrovka village, Chui region was recognized as «Person of the Year» based on the results of the contest arranged by the Republican Labor Union of Educators, in which she participated along with other participants - professors and doctors. Moreover, she was the second in the regional competition «Teacher of the Year».
- Elena Dorohova, the head of drama club «Shailoo» of Sokuluk village, Chui region participated in international readings in Moscow and presented the forum theater as the methodology of working with children.
- Syrga Djumagulova, the head of drama club «Blaga city» of Balgoveshenka village, Jalal-Abad region was invited by district education department to a seminar for heads of school curriculum departments, social teachers, school directors to demonstrate the forum theater methodology.

Now we work on uniting drama clubs in the association of forum theaters, which itself could promote and disseminate the methodology throughout the country. In 2013, the information about the forum theater as the innovation methodology was presented in the report of the Ministry of Education of the KR.



In 2013, with support of GLZ 47 drama clubs in the south received carpets, screens, audio equipment, TVs, video cameras, photographic cameras, video players and other equipment totaling 17380 EURO to conduct classes and theater performances. Adequate working conditions are an important prerequisite of drama clubs' sustainability.

Tolerance club

Tolerance clubs were set up in 28 secondary schools in cross-border area in the southern Kyrgyzstan. The tolerance clubs are platforms for independent out-of-class activities of school students, where they promote policultural education, peace, and tolerance; communicate with peers and other people; conduct joint events. School administrations provided rooms for tolerance clubs which in the framework of the project are equipped with the necessary furniture to the amount more than 1.5 million som, and have own library with different literature for students education.

During the period since 2012 till 2013, the tolerance clubs' members implemented 28 mini projects, aimed at establishing and extending conditions for conducting out-of-class events totaling 2 767 798 som (setting up music, computer, sewing workshops; building sports grounds, theater stages etc.). Clubs' participants include more than 420 students of elementary and secondary schools.

Trainings and seminars were arranged for 512 representatives of education system. The training topics were related to basics of children safety in cross-border area; basics of conflictology, mediation, tolerance and interactive methods of education. Teachers from target schools and other schools of the southern region of Kyrgyzstan participated in the trainings.

School teachers actively participated in developing out-of-class lessons to train in tolerance and policultural education. As a result, more than 200 lessons were developed, and the jury - representatives of the institution on teachers' capacity development, scientists and practitioners selected 30 out of the most successful lessons which were issued as a collection of out-of-class lessons. It was issued 3000 copies of the book. The collections were disseminated in schools, methodological centers, education departments, teachers' faculties of higher education institutions.



Together with the border service of the KR, we implemented several joint events:

- A booklet «My rights at the border» (issued in 2011) was improved, and 2000 copies of the booklet were republished. The booklets were provided to school students in cross-border area, education departments, border posts and FTI partners in Tajikistan.
- Meetings with school students were arranged. During the meetings, representatives of border and customs service told students about the main rules of crossing the border: how you should cross the border, how you should behave during crossing the border, where you should address in case of problems arising etc. More than 2400 school students and 150 adults, including teachers and parents, participated in the meetings.
- A talk-show «Border. School students. Safety» on issues of staying in cross-border areas and providing students' safety in the south of Kyrgyzstan (talk-show was broadcasted on public television «ElTR»). 30 people participated in the talk-show, including experts on cross-border issues, representatives of the south department of the State Border Service, target schools and local self-government.

The tolerance club along with the forum theater is a successful method of out-of-class work with children, students. School students learn to be self-reliant, they receive more freedom for work and apply their skills in a positive way.

In Batken region, a working meeting was conducted at a district level between representatives of district administrations, education departments, school administrations of Batken region of Kyrgyzstan and Isfara district of Sogd region of Tajikistan. The purpose of the meeting was strengthening transboundary, regional cooperation and dialogue between education systems to cultivate tolerance in children and diminish threats of children's involving in conflicts.

Based on meeting results, an action plan to work with students of cross-border areas was developed. To an aim of effective implementation of the plan, a memorandum of understanding and cooperation was concluded between district education departments of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.

7 teachers of the project target schools had an opportunity to participate in the training on developing a new content of the program on public and humanitarian subjects. This training was organized in Bishkek by the public association «Center for Social Integration». One participant from Suzak district participated in pedagogical readings and shared information about his work. He wrote a manual on teaching history with elements of interactive methods of education «Bilim Ordo» and presented it at the methodological council of the district historians and at the courses on capacity development arranged by the regional methodological education center.



Transboundary cooperation to establish a safe community

FTI has a significant experience of work with network associations of civil society representatives. The organization is a regional secretariat of the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC). GPPAC is a civil community of peacebuilders all over the world, which calls to fundamental change of approaches on working with conflict: from responding to preventing.

FTI is one of the initiators of establishing a network of NGOs of Fergana valley «Valley of Peace», consisted of 15 members from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. The mission of «Valley of Peace» is development of Fergana valley as a valley of tolerance, cooperation and peace. GPPAC activities in Central Asia are implemented in the framework of activity of the network of NGOs «Valley of Peace». In 2012, the network members determined the priority directions of work for 2013-2015: preventive measures, peace education, and dialogue and mediation.

Issuing radio programs

Cross-border areas of both countries are characterized by permanent conflicts related to access to water and land resources, and border crossing. Incidents connected with these problems cause negative public resonance due to insufficient and inadequate information, and different rumors.

The network members created a number of radio programs on cross-border issues, which were broadcasted in three languages: Russian, Kyrgyz and Tajik and covered population of Batken region of Kyrgyzstan and Sogd region of Tajikistan. Programs were also related to cultural life of Fergana valley, it was emphasized that culture should play a uniting role for Kyrgyz and Tajik people. As a result the following programs were prepared:

- 4 radio programs on the topic «Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan: a valley of friendship and cooperation» in genre of radio reporting, story, travel notes, futures.
- 8 music and entertainment programs titled «Classics of Tajik Song». According to the scenario, the programs tell about culture, music of Tajik and Kyrgyz people. These programs were broadcasted at radio «Paivand» and «Salam».
- Radio programs on highlighting the incident at the border of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in April 2013. In these radio programs representatives of local authorities and law enforcement bodies were involved. They answered a number of questions and provided reliable information about the conflict and its consequences.

Celebration of the Day of Peace

On September 18-25, the network members celebrated the International Day of Peace. The events took place in cross-border communities of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. The network gives much attention to work with youth in cross-border areas, as weak governmental activities on strengthening friendly relations between people living in Fergana valley promote the growth of xenophobia and estrangement, which could lead to interethnic conflicts in future.

The events were organized in 52 communities, mainly on the basis of secondary schools in cross-border areas and more than 11 thousand school students participated in the events. Such schools are the only centers of culture, where people meet together, receive information, and communicate.

The events were different and were selected by community members themselves, as they better know and feel what is important for their community. They included radio programs about the necessity of peace and the colossal price humanity paid for present, sometimes very fragile peace; interviews with people who work on conflict prevention; questions and answers on border crossing and goods transporting.

In schools, teachers conducted lessons of peace, seminars, festivals, intellectual games, picture and essay contests on such topics as: «What is peace?», «We want peace», «Let there be peace on earth». A number of theater performances were staged. Performances' topics covered problems of everyday cross-border community life, including adults' struggle for natural resources etc.



Celebration of the Day of Tolerance

In the period of November 10-20 2013, the network celebrated the International Day of Tolerance. The events were organized in cross-border communities of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan (in 6 communities and in 9 secondary schools of Tajikistan and in 4 communities and 6 secondary schools of Kyrgyzstan).

Youth actively participated in organizing and conducting different events among peers and community residents: contests, festivals, sport events among boys and girls, in which Tajjik and Kyrgyz school students participated together. Continuous information campaigns took place, all events were broadcasted at local radio stations in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.

Local authorities of both countries, parents and other adults were involved and supported the events. More than 200 students from different secondary schools and countries have managed to participate and communicate in informal and positive atmosphere.

Organizational development

Evaluation of our work

We conducted an external evaluation of our activities in 2011-2013. The assessment has shown that FTI's activities are relevant to the conflict and country context of Kyrgyzstan and respond to concrete problems. The Foundation's program approaches, such as permanent analytical work, forum theater were recognized effective and unique ones. The Foundation's adherence to its values and principles, stipulated in the organization's mission, and the respect for the principle of working 'in the interests of the beneficiaries' was highly assessed. During the evaluation, work of the organization, efficiency of our program and organizational activities were assessed. Moreover, our work and communication with partners, beneficiaries, governmental agencies were also evaluated. And certainly after the evaluation, recommendations for development were provided. These recommendations were discussed during the general meeting of the Foundation staff in December 2013. The recommendations were aimed at strengthening civil role of the organization and more active participation in civil society initiatives; increasing people's awareness about the Foundation work; promoting analytical documents at the national level.

The evaluation was carried out by an external expert Dr. Anna Matveeva of King's College London, with ICCO financial support.

«The Foundation acquired new skills of working in a post-conflict context, as previously it had engaged in long-term conflict prevention and rapid response interventions in situations of low level of violence. By now FTI dealt with a highly-traumatized society and had to learn to cope with strong emotions», Anna Matveeva, 2013

Capacity development

We increase capacity of our staff on conflictology and new methods of work. The Foundation seeks training opportunities for its staff within the organization or sends them for the partner organizations' trainings. In 2013, our staff passed a training course on analytical methods INTRAC, participated in mediation and conflict sensitivity trainings. The Foundation's program managers participated in international meetings, seminars, and visits, during which they shared experience and methods of work, in particular, on infrastructure for peace, mediation, conflict analysis, and work with religious extremism and radicalism.

Our strategic plan 2014-2016

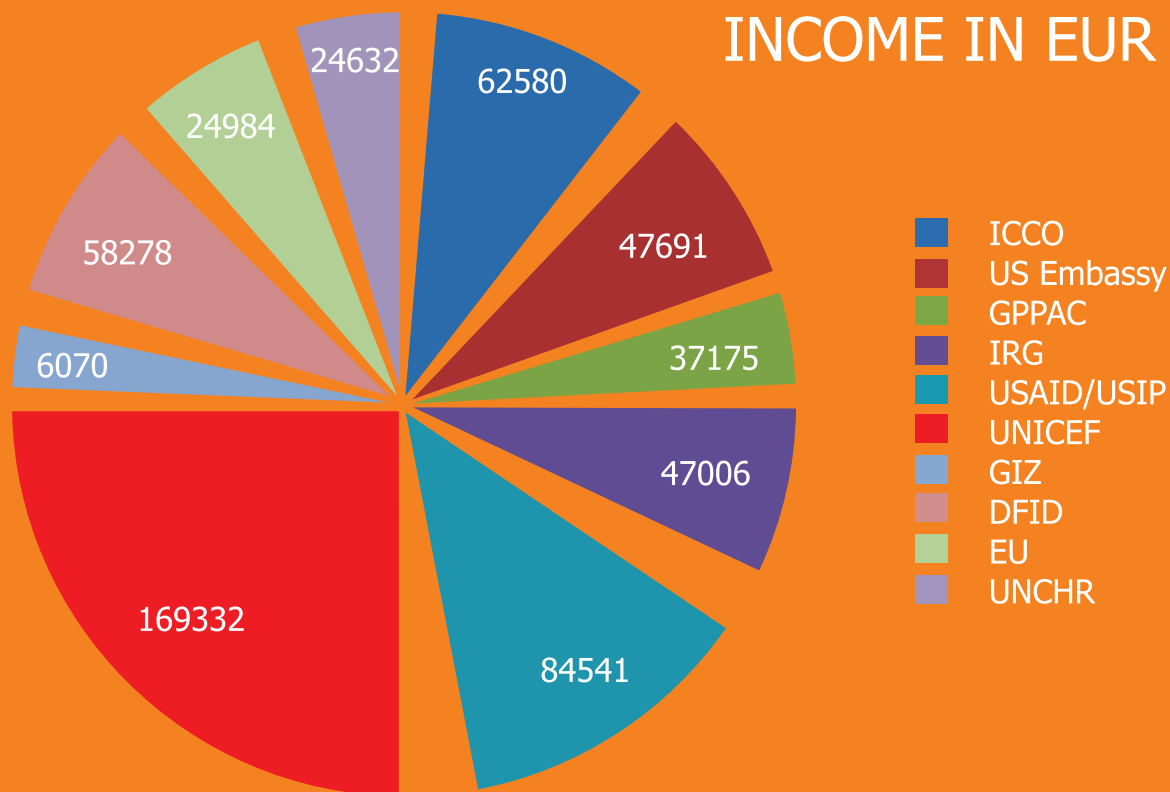
For a new strategic period 2014-2016, the organization plans to strengthen its work on institutionalization of practices of work of governmental agencies with conflict; policultural youth education, and training youth in school mediation skills. We'll continue our work in cross-border areas in Fergana valley will strengthen our monitoring and analytical work and involve partners from Tajikistan in joint analysis of cross-border incidents. We'll strengthen our work with religious extremism and radicalism to promote governmental agencies in counteracting extremism.

The organization determined new directions of work - conflict in mining sphere. In particular, we plan to work on building a dialogue platform for communication between local residents, governmental bodies and mining companies to prevent violence.

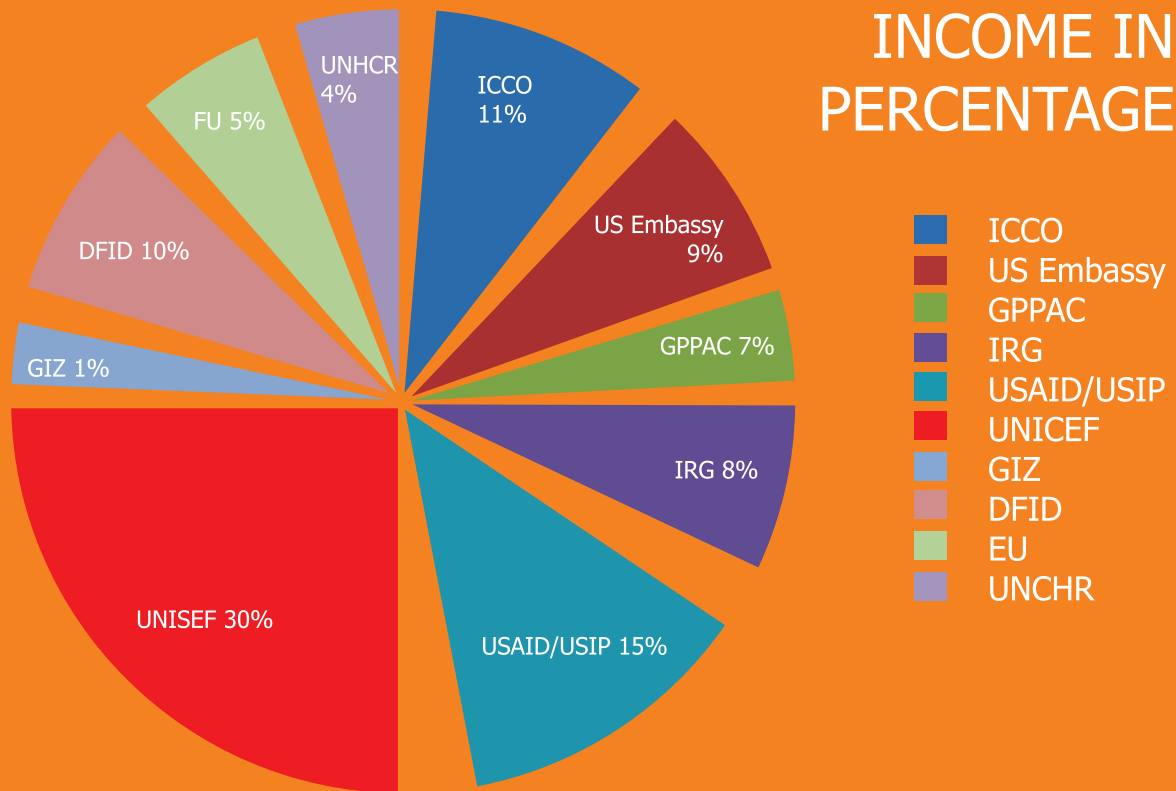
Finances

In 2013, FTI received financing in the framework of 12 projects, supported by international donor organizations and governments of foreign countries. The total amount of the received financial funds is 562286 EURO. The diagram below shows the financial funds in EURO and in percentage terms, which arrived in FTI bank account in the reporting period from different donors.

The organization conducts annual audit of FTI projects, and the results are presented for donors' attention.



INCOME IN PERCENTAGE



Donors and partners

Our work was possible due to donor financial support. We express our gratitude to donors for support:

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
Interchurch organization for development cooperation (ICCO)
US Agency for International Development (USAID)
US Institute of Peace (USIP)
UN Women (UN Women)
UN International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)
European Union (EU)
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands
UK Department for International Development (DFID)
US Embassy to the Kyrgyz Republic
International Resource Group (IRG)
German Agency for International Development (GIZ)

We thank our partners, who helped and supported us:

Oblast Advisory Committees of Osh, Jalal-Abad, Batken, Chui, Naryn, and Talas regions
Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC, the Netherlands)
International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX, USA)
Mercy Corps (USA)
International Alert (UK)
Saferworld (UK)
Members of the NGO Network of Fergana Valley «Dolina Mira» («Valley of Peace») (NGOs in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan)
Association of Scientific and Technical Intellectuals (ASTI, Tajikistan)
Search for Common Ground, (USA)
Jalal-Abad TV and Radio Company «JTR»
TV company «ElTR»
Batken Regional TV and Radio Company
Radio «Salam»
Regional Humanitarian Forum (the NGO network of southern Kyrgyzstan)
Public association «MIR» (Tajikistan)
International Resource Group (IRG)/USAID Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI)



Management board, staff, volunteers

Raya Kadyrova, President

Management board

Robert Abazbekov, Chairman, Coordinator in the Southern Region, Director of Batken Branch
Anara Eginalieva, Director of Bishkek headquarters
Tajykan Shabdanova, Program Director
Bazarbai Maseitov, Project Coordinator
Erkin Kochkarov, Project Coordinator

Programm staff

Asel Djumataeva, Director of Osh Branch, Project Manager
Asylbek Kochkorbaev, Director of Jalal-Abad Branch, Project Manager
Artur Bukalaev, Analyst
Nazgul Aldasheva, Project Manager, Analyst
Gulnur Soorbekova, Project Manager
Jumagul Bolponova, Project Manager
Zarina Uzbekova, Project Manager
Azamat Gaparov, Documentalist
Akmal Mamadaliev, Project Coordinator
Nurgul Sultanova, Project Assistant
Dooron Marzabaev, Project Assistant
Zeinegul Isabekova, Project Assistant
Gulnara Aijigitova, Project Assistant
Cholpon Kyzhyrova, Project Assistant

Abdurasul uulu Tariel, Project Assistant
Almaz Abdrapiev, Project Assistant

Operational staff

Gulbara Kukanova, Financial Manager
Gulpariz Kozubaeva, Accountant

Administrative staff

Svetlana Korosteleva, Administrative Assistant
Gulmira Kalbaeva, Administrative Assistant

We thank our volunteers **Sophie Yakir**, **Marina Mclellan**, **Salima Abdykarova** for support and brilliant work in 2013.

Contacts

The Foundation «For Tolerance International» is a non-governmental independent organization working for peacebuilding, conflict prevention and transformation. We try to improve peacebuilding practices of decision-makers and civil society actors, and try to disseminate successful experiences and examples of work.

Bishkek Headquarters

27, apt. 36 Umetalieva Str., Bishkek
Tel : (+996 312) 91-07-57
Fax : (+996 312) 91-08-57
e-mail: fti@fti.kg

Batken Regional Office

22 Hodjaeva Str., Batken city
Tel/Fax: (+996 3622) 5-01-15
e-mail: btoled@ktnet.kg

Osh Regional Office

88, apt.7 Kyrgyzstan Str., Osh city
Tel: (+996 3222) 2-40-34
Fax: (+996 3222) 2-14-48
e-mail: ftiosh@gmail.com

Jalal-Abad Regional Office

12B Erkindik Str., Jalal-Abad city
Tel/Fax: (+996 3722) 2-69-60
E-mail: ftijaro@yandex.ru