



KYRGYZSTAN

EU COUNTRY ROADMAP FOR ENGAGEMENT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

2014 - 2017

Approved by: EU HoMs

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1. STATE OF CIVIL SOCIETY

1.1 ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

- 1 Civil society in Kyrgyzstan is without doubt the most vibrant and active in Central Asia. The number of registered non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the Kyrgyz Republic ranges from 8,000 to 12,000, according to various sources. However, despite the large number of registered NGOs, there are fewer than 600–700 that operate throughout the country. The most influential and active NGOs are concentrated in the capital, Bishkek.¹
- 2 In general, NGOs in Kyrgyzstan fall into two broad categories. The first category comprises political and institutional-focused organizations, which advocate for democratization reforms, openness, transparency of public bodies, etc. The second type of NGOs is focused on practical actions at the local level; these are mainly rural and regional NGOs. Their goals include addressing socio-economic problems of the community or a particular social group.
- 3 The basic legal framework that currently regulates the activities of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) comprises the Constitution, the 2014 Law on Public Councils in the State Institutions, the Civil Code, the Law on Non-Commercial Organisations, the Law on State Registration of Legal Entities, the Tax Code, other regulatory acts, as well as international treaties acceded to by Kyrgyzstan. NGOs can be created in various legal forms. The traditional forms are public associations and public foundations, as well as consumer cooperatives and religious bodies to mention a few.
- 4 Recent information² reveals CSOs assessments of a shrinking space of activities under the pressure of Government policy, formulating a downward trend in the exercise of the right to freedom of assembly: the majority of CSOs (62.3%) indicate that it has become more difficult to organise a peaceful protest than it was five years ago. According to 70% of the CSOs surveyed, restrictions on the right to peaceful assembly are most common when protests are critical of government policy. It is also important to take into consideration that the Ministry of Interior has published statistics on demonstrations and protests nationwide: in 2011 – 1193 with 38 thousand participants; in 2012 – 1286 with 73 thousand participants; in 2013 – 849 with 119 thousand participants.
- 5 While it is recognised that CSOs can generally get registered in the largest cities, there are clear signals from CSOs leaders that they do not feel safe or they have doubts about their security while pursuing their activities in the regions of the country. Among those who felt the most insecure are organisations working on human rights protection, citizens' interest promotion, gender issues, as well as those organising various advocacy campaigns and actions. Organisations working on LGBTI rights are most likely to face stigmatization, since

¹ <http://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/csb-kgz.pdf>

² [Space for Civil Society in Kyrgyzstan](#), Survey compiled by Dan Church Aid (DCA) and Interchurch Organisation for Development Co-operation (ICCO) <http://www.icnl.org/research/library/files/Kyrgyzstan/kyrgenab.pdf>

the negative traditionalist perceptions in KG society of LGBTI persons has become more pronounced over the past two or three years.

- 6 Financial viability remains a major challenge for CSOs in Kyrgyzstan. CSOs get most of their funding from foreign and international organisations. However, the decline in funding has made maintaining a sustainable financial position for CSOs a cause for concern. Funding from local sources continues to be minimal.
- 7 A small number of social enterprises are beginning to emerge in both rural and urban areas. In addition, many CSOs are interested in launching income-generating activities, but face several obstacles. First, local legislation requires CSOs to pay the same tax rates on economic activities as commercial enterprises. Second, CSO representatives lack the entrepreneurial and business management skills needed to successfully run an organisation. Third, CSOs have limited access to start-up capital.
- 8 In addition, CSOs in Kyrgyzstan have witnessed a number of legislative attempts to restrict their access to foreign funding over the past few years and to delegitimise their work. There is a clear attempt in this regard - a draft law on NGOs as foreign agents, has been introduced in September 2013 by two parliamentarians. In fact that draft copied the notorious Russian law of 2012. The Venice Commission and ODIHR issued a detailed legal opinion, recommended to reconsider the draft law and to not pursue its adoption as it would create criminal liability for the leaders of NGOs “whose work incites citizens to refuse to fulfil their civic duties or commit other unlawful acts”.
- 9 In May 2014, the draft law on NGOs as "foreign agents" was registered in the Parliament and was sent for parliamentary committees discussions before being considered by the Plenary.
- 10 In addition to that, in the last months there has been a worrying pattern of tightening the procedures concerning the renewal of work permits for international NGOs' staff. The procedure has become more complicated, and new requirements have been added, e.g. international staff should provide evidence of their HIV/AIDS status.

1.2 PARTICIPATION AND ROLES

- 11 There is active participation of civil society in overseeing the Government and the Public Administration's work as well as the electoral and judiciary process. This has partly been ensured through the Public Advisory Councils (PACs) established in 2011 by a decree of the President Roza Otunbaeva. PACs have provided oversight and monitoring the work of various government bodies, in most ministries and agencies, enabling improved advocacy by CSOs. As from May 2014 a new Law on Public Councils in State Institutions has come into force.
- 12 State authorities increasingly consider CSOs as providers of valuable expertise and engage with them accordingly. There is a general recognition of CSOs as important actors in

promoting democratic governance and reforming the government, especially judiciary institutions, although government and businesses are still reluctant to financially support CSO projects. On the other side, local authorities generally perceive CSOs as indispensable sources of expertise and regularly include CSO representatives in local working groups and commissions. Here CSOs are actively involved in the decision-making process and policy discussions.

- 13 However, the quality of local governance remains poor in many places, especially in rural areas due to lack of knowledge among local officials when it comes to general management, financing, budgeting, financial accountability and the efficient use of available resource. Inadequate funding of local budgets continues to be the main obstacle for furthering the local self-government.
- 14 Concerning transparency and accountability, the policy-making process has become more open to engagement with civil society. The Jogorku Kenesh web site, for example, now provides updated information about forthcoming debates and the voting records of members of the Parliament. Some parliamentary committees and executive government agencies regard CSOs as sources of credible information and consult with them during the law-drafting process. Many CSO representatives serve on working groups drafting legislation or providing comments on various normative acts.
- 15 Considering the role of CSOs in promoting inclusive and sustainable growth, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has found that inclusive and sustainable growth is difficult to achieve in Kyrgyzstan since half of the population basically is left behind. In this respect, political declarations about inclusive social development have still not led donors and the government to give priority to the needs of poor citizens and to supporting or reducing the capacity-building of women's organisations.
- 16 When it comes to the role of CSOs in fostering peace, conflict resolution and state-building, NGOs have been working with affected communities since the June 2010 ethnic clashes in the South of Kyrgyzstan to address social, economic, psychological, and legal problems. This was also done in the framework of the EU-funded TASK program, which addressed a range of issues across different sectors.
- 17 Some NGOs, particularly in the South, conducted analysis of the ethnic situation and response measures on stabilizing the areas around Osh and Jalal-Abad with a high concentration of ethnic groups affected by the 2010 violence. Research and monitoring have been conducted on topics such as damage/zones affected by conflict, reasons of conflict and evaluation of humanitarian conditions.
- 18 With the exception of a few specialized organisations, CSOs generally need to acquire greater capacity for conflict sensitive reporting in the country, especially in the South, and to protect journalists from reprisals when reporting on sensitive issues. This is particularly

important with regards to inter-ethnic relations and human rights. The relevant authorities also have to address the issue of hate speech against certain minorities in the country.

1.3 CAPACITY

- 19 There are traditional forms of civil society in Kyrgyzstan that have been revived since the collapse of the Soviet regime. Some traditional forms, among them *aksakal* courts, composed of village or community elders, tend to be male-dominated. But in other traditional venues, women have also been an active force, including in the local mobilization capacity to make claims against the government and for various local needs.
- 20 CSOs operating at sub-national and local levels (mainly rural areas), with the support of community based organisations, tend to have stronger links with local communities and making more progress in dialogue and consultation with the local authorities. The following list illustrates some of the primary areas of NGO influence in country:
 - 21 A) *Research*. NGOs often conduct studies and surveys necessary to carry out project activities. The results of such studies are useful as a source of alternative information for government agencies; B) *Cooperation with international institutions*. Women's NGOs have successfully prepared both public and internal reports on the implementation of the UN mechanisms; C) *Activities through mass media*. NGOs have extensive experience in using media to raise awareness, educate, or protest. Activities through mass media draw the attention of the local and international communities to the problem, increase supporters of a cause, and mobilize officials to cooperate; D) *Conducting joint events*. NGOs host and facilitate conferences, roundtables, workshops, charitable activities, mass cultural campaigns, and training sessions on social issues; E) *Lobbying of draft laws*. One of the most successful examples are lobbying events to counteract a draft law, not deemed in line with international standards upholding human rights; F) *Appeals, organizations of peaceful picketing, and other public actions*. G) *Delivery of services to people – social services, legal aid, mediation; training services to representatives of institutions so as to improve their service delivery*.

2. CURRENT EU ENGAGEMENT

2.1 STRUCTURED EU DIALOGUE WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

22 The EU's dialogue with Kyrgyzstani CSOs has been maintained on a broad range of topics and in various formats, including:

- Discussions with HR/VP Ashton (2012) and EUSR for Central Asia on major challenges in the area of human rights, the rule of law and democracy in the country
- Discussions with DEVCO/EEAS programming missions on priority areas of DCI assistance for 2014-2020
- Regular meetings of EU DEL with CSOs on preparing, holding and follow-up to the annual EU-KR Civil Society Seminars on Human Rights

2.2 POLICY DIALOGUE FOR AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

23 Currently EU is pro-actively engaged in promoting an enabling environment for CSOs in the country. The EU consistent position of defending the space for independent action of CSOs has resulted in the prominence of a vibrant civil society in Kyrgyzstan.

24 Recent attempts to restrict the CSOs activities through proposing a draft law on NGOs as “foreign agents” has been met with a joint letter by EU Delegation, Germany, France, the United Kingdom and the United States to the leaders of Parliament. It has been underlined that this proposed draft law, if approved, would represent a step backwards in the nation's development and would undermine the democratic institutions and fundamental freedoms at a time when the Kyrgyz Republic is making an effort to strengthen them.

2.3 MAINSTREAMING CIVIL SOCIETY

25 The EU highly appreciates the constructive contributions it has obtained from the CSOs in the different sectors of activity such as currently inputs to the policies dialogues (e.g. in education and social sectors) that the EU has with the Government; CSOs being members of the Steering Committees of projects; CSOs providing valuable contributions to project identification, etc. The EU also appreciates the role that Kyrgyzstan's CSOs are able to play as project implementing bodies in a considerable part of EU-funded programmes in the country. Details about the close partnership between the EU and CSOs are provided below for priority sectors.

The Rule of Law

Policy dialogue, consultations and facilitation

26 The EU continues to have well established relations with CSOs in Kyrgyzstan in Rule of Law sector, and frequently meets with their representatives at the occasion of seminars, conferences, or within the project management (bilateral meetings, monitoring missions etc.).

- 27 The EU held several meetings with representatives of major CSO's in order to discuss the crucial issues of the Rule of Law in Kyrgyzstan and possibilities of EU assistance, especially within preparation of the Civil Society Seminar on the right to a fair trial and formulation of its recommendations. Lately – in April and June 2014 – the EU Delegation met with NGO's as well as lawyers and journalists across the country regions (Jalal-Abad, Osh, Batken, and Isfana) where the concerns of the civil society as well as EU assistance in the areas of Rule of Law and human rights were discussed. The EU also participated at numerous conferences, seminars or working groups dealing with Rule of Law aspects, organized under EU-funded projects or other initiatives, with participation of CSOs as well as state institutions such as Parliamentary committees, Ministry of Justice, prosecutors, , judges, Ombudsman, etc.
- 28 The information obtained from meetings, reports, project activities etc. was also reflected in the programming documents, such as multiannual indicative programme (MIP) for 2014–2020.

Operational support and complementarity

- 29 The EU Delegation manages a number of projects implemented by NGO's under various instruments, which allows entering into talks and reading reports about specific issues of the Rule of Law under the particular projects. The projects are often lead by international NGO's which have naturally stronger capacities in developing and presenting projects. However, the EU insists on inclusion of local NGO's in all such projects, in order to transfer the capacities, skills and knowledge to the local population.
- 30 Currently six projects funded by the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) with EU contribution of EUR 1.8M are being implemented on national level, including three projects launched in February and March 2014. They deal with (1) civil society oversight mechanisms for children and women detainees, (2) capacity building of the community-based prevention centres as an institutional tool for protecting the youth rights, (3) promoting gender justice and empowerment of young women, (4) promoting, protecting and enforcing the rights of persons with disabilities, (5) strengthening the fight against torture and impunity and (6) simplifying civil registration of internal migrants.
- 31 The content of the projects as well as information obtained from all other above mentioned sources was also reflected in the priorities and suggested types of actions outlined in the guidelines for the call for proposals on "Rule of Law – Civil Society and Media") launched on 28 February 2014 under the third component of EU-KG Rule of Law Programme. Specific objective of the call is to strengthen the civil society and media to keep institutions and power holders accountable for reform and respect of the Rule of Law and to empower people to have unimpeded access to justice. Six or seven projects with NGOs in possible partnership with private media shall be contracted for a total amount of EU Contribution up to EUR 3M.
- 32 Under the other two components – (1) oversight mechanism and (2) judiciary reform – of the same RoL Programme a contract of up to EUR 10M is being negotiated with a consortium of

five EU Member States organisations in partnership with international organisations; the cooperation with civil society has explicitly been introduced in the project description.

- 33 A civil society seminar on prevention of torture is planned to be organized in September 2014 in the regional city of Osh.
- 34 A call for proposals under EIDHR 2014 and 2015 CBSS allocations (EUR 1.9M in total) is planned to be launched in November 2014. It will be done once the six or seven contracts under the RoL programme have been identified, so that the complementarity of the EIDHR priorities and RoL projects can be ensured.
- 35 A multi-year programme to support prison reform was implemented by UNODC. Specific objective: To improve prison management and social reintegration of offenders, by developing a comprehensive prison reform program in the Kyrgyz Republic. The main beneficiary of the programme was the Penitentiary Service in the country. Under the same Financing Decision, two smaller projects were awarded to NGOs. These projects – (i) adult education in penitentiary system and (ii) social support to prisoners before and after release – were implemented by internationally operating NGOs in partnership with local NGOs. In addition, under an EIDHR Call for Proposals a contract was awarded to a local NGO, which complemented the prison reform action, addressing in particular the group of elderly female prisoners.

Education

- 36 Civil Society is also closely involved in the EU interventions in education sector. The representatives of civil society (members of the Public Advisory Council) are members of the Steering Committee of the EU education project. They are also involved in policy dialogue related to ongoing the Sector Policy Support Programme (budget support) in the education sector. Some NGOs participate in the education project activities related to preparation of studies and trainings at the local level. Civil society involvement is also one of the triggers of the ongoing EU budgetary support in education sector.
- 37 Both the previous and upcoming Calls for Proposals are designed especially for CSOs to strengthen their capacity and integrate them in the decision making process related to the educational issues.

Rural development

- 38 With the overall objective of promoting an inclusive and empowered society in partner countries set under thematic the EU's Non-State Actors Programme, there is also complementarity with the ongoing EU initiatives under the various geographical programmes funded under the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) to support poverty alleviation and rural development including facilitation of CSO participation in poverty reduction and sustainable development, especially of DCI AAP 2007 "Support to Economic Diversification through Improving the Agro-processing Sector", projects under the DCI Annual Action

Programme (AAP) 2008: "Support to Infrastructural Development in rural areas" (with focus on irrigation), "Support to the Kyrgyz education sector" Component 2 "Vocational education and training", DCI AAP 2009 "Rural Infrastructure Development and Social Reintegration in Batken region" and DCI AAP 2011 "Income generating activities in rural areas of Kyrgyzstan".

Social Protection

39 CSOs were consulted during the implementation of the Optimization Plan for the management of child care institutions, which is a key conditionality in the ongoing budget support programme for social protection. A joint study visit and training program was organized for line Ministries and CSOs involved in child protection issues. The visit resulted in the creation of a robust group of CSOs committed to the reform process and with the capability to contribute with relevant expertise.

Conflict Mitigation and Stability

40 The EU supported a number of projects through the Instrument for Stability (IfS) where CSOs played important roles.

41 The project "Conflict mitigation and peace-building in Kyrgyzstan", which was completed in April 2013, was implemented by a consortium of 16 NGOs. The project was designed as a community level intervention; project components were implemented in a bottom-up approach, thus ensuring that the voice of the community members is key factor.

42 The OHCHR-implemented project "Human rights protection for stability in Central Asia" does not have a special focus on the Civil Society. Having said this, many workshops, seminars and meetings target NGOs. The preceding project, which was set up immediately after the ethnic clashes in 2010, included a major scheme of sub-grants given to local NGOs.

43 In January 2014, two projects started, which were selected in the framework of a Call for Proposals under the Peace-building. One project aims at increasing the role of women in peace-building and reconciliation. The other project targets young people and aims at re-connecting across divide lines. Each of the two selected proposals is implemented by an internationally operating NGO (Coordinator) with local NGOs as partners.

44 For several years Poland has been developing cooperation with the Analytical Centre "Polis Asia" (Bishkek) in a project "School of Democratic and Civic Education" which provides trainings for young regional CSO's leaders (every year, the 4th edition in 2014). A hand-book for universities was published - Citizen and State in Modern Kyrgyzstan (in Kyrgyz, 2013 and in Russian, 2012).

45 Poland is also developing cooperation with "Roza Otunbaeva Initiative Foundation" in promoting parliamentarianism and in enhancing women's participation in decisions making.

2.4 COORDINATION

46 EU DEL and EU MSs maintain a regular coordination on civil society issues. The country HR strategy and its implementation reports come as a testimony to this.

3. PRIORITIES

PRIORITY 1. Enhance CSOs contributions to governance and government accountability.

- 47 In Kyrgyzstan reinforcing governance and government accountability is key to improving development results. The voice and actions of CSOs as monitors, advocates, partners in national and local policy dialogue and providers of information and expertise can further foster transparency, public knowledge and participation. CSOs can thus play a decisive role in improving the quality and effectiveness of public policies and promoting fair management of public resources. Together with public oversight councils and state institutional bodies such as parliament, local councils and national audit chamber, CSOs can contribute to ensure that public resources are used effectively and efficiently and budgets are reflective of people's needs and priorities.
- 48 CSOs need further support to improve their capacity to hold public authorities to account at all administrative levels, with a view to ultimately empower citizens in Kyrgyzstan. Focus will be on building-up the necessary expertise and capacity of CSOs to engage with public authorities over the long term, including on technical themes such as budgetary issues. On the other hand, accountability of CSOs towards their beneficiaries (public and society) also needs to be addressed and enhanced.
- 49 Particular consideration will be given to CSOs' capacity to positively contribute to improved transparency and accountability in the framework of the different EU budget support schemes.
- 50 Support will be given to initiatives promoting improved governance and accountability at country level and with public authorities. This will include independent budget analysis, expenditure tracking, monitoring the implementation of policies and laws, anti-corruption initiatives, including the promotion of public intolerance to corruption through public awareness campaigns. Participatory budgeting, audits, procurement monitoring and public access to information legislation are other examples of activities that should and will be supported. Special attention will be paid to capacity building, research and knowledge dissemination, networking and structuring of networks, and mentoring opportunities for CSOs. Strengthening of public oversight councils and their role in cooperation link between public authorities and civil society will be also considered.
- 51 Support is necessary to strengthen the accountability of Local Administrations (Las), including their governance capacity and their public accountability, both towards their own citizens and towards other levels of government, including elected bodies (national parliament and local councils), and the ability to provide public services in close collaboration with the local communities through community based organisations and local CSOs.

52 National CSO platforms can play an important role in this regard having greater potential to have impact on policy, favouring a broader representation of interests and positions and potentially benefitting from a broad variety of skills, expertise and capacities.

Indicators:

- i. Improved environment and space for CSOs to promote good governance and government accountability.
- ii. Enhanced CSOs actions in policy dialogues, governance and accountability from the local to the national level.
- iii. Strengthened capacity of CSOs to participate in and contribute to policy dialogue and accountability processes at local and national level.
- iv. Improved CSOs' structuring and joint action in governance and accountability, including through networks.
- v. Improved documentation, sharing and dissemination of knowledge in related areas.

PRIORITY 2. Support CSOs actions to enhance social protection and development.

53 Support should be provided to CSO actions to enhance social development by improving the population's access to (and benefits from) social services. For social affairs and especially education and social protection it is particularly important to build synergies and complementarity with actions led by public authorities as welfare systems are primarily a state responsibility (at both the central or local level).

54 This priority is aimed at improving population access to (and benefit from) quality social services, notably in:

- i. *Testing innovations and improving responsiveness of social policies to populations' needs*, through advocacy and participation to policy dialogue in the social sectors. To this end, support will be provided to advocacy campaigns, capacity building, research and knowledge dissemination, networking and structuring of networks, and mentoring opportunities for CSOs, etc.
- ii. *Contributing to the improvement of service quality* by contributing to policy work, stimulating informed demand, social accountability and transparency initiatives, monitoring and assessment of the provided service, including using Information and Communication Technologies.

- iii. *Improving capacities to participate in multi-actor partnerships*, within sound organisational arrangements agreed with public authorities (including outsourcing schemes where public authorities share selected functions and tasks with CSOs and the private sector, etc.)
- iv. *Providing social services* where public authorities, including LAs, do not have the capacity or the resources to effectively deliver services to populations.

Indicators:

- i. Improved environment which allows CSOs to be active in social sectors.
- ii. Enhanced CSO participation in social sectors (in policy dialogue and monitoring and in implementation as appropriate) from the local to the national level.
- iii. Strengthened capacity of CSOs to effectively advocate for improved access of population and quality of services and participate in policy work.
- iv. Access to and quality of social services improved, notably for vulnerable groups and population out of mainstream services.
- v. Improved documentation, sharing and dissemination of information on social development and social cohesion.

PRIORITY 3. Support CSOs contribution in promoting inclusive and sustainable growth.

55. This priority aims at improving the livelihoods of population groups in need, particularly vulnerable groups, through CSO activities. Different CSOs, notably cooperatives, farmers' associations, chambers of commerce, NGOs, social partners, environmental organisations etc., each have a role to play in the economic realm. They engage at various levels in (often innovative) social economy initiatives, combining beneficiaries' economic empowerment with ambitions of social development and/or long term sustainability.

56. Support will be sought for CSO actions aimed at promoting the following:

57. **Inclusiveness:** Inclusive growth is characterised by people's ability to participate in, and benefit from, wealth and job creation. This requires creation of decent work and income-generation opportunities in productive and income-generating sectors, particularly for the vulnerable (e.g. in agriculture and rural development). The level of inclusiveness thus depends on the distribution of income, employment opportunities, but also on gender roles and other factors.

58. **Sustainability:** Development is not sustainable if it damages the environment, biodiversity and natural resources and increases the exposure or vulnerability to natural disasters. Growth can only be sustainable in the long term when it does not harm the environment over time and avoids depletion of natural resources. Promotion of a greener economy, sustainable and

inclusive urban policies, sustainable management of and access to natural resources (including land management) are therefore of pivotal importance.

59. Support will also be provided to CSO actions aimed at promoting inclusive and sustainable growth such as:

- i. *Stimulating policy innovation and improving responsiveness of economic policies to populations' needs*, through advocacy and participation to policy dialogue in relevant sectors. To this end, support will be provided to advocacy campaigns, capacity building, research and knowledge dissemination, networking and structuring of networks, and mentoring opportunities for CSOs, etc.
- ii. *Improving capacities to participate in multi-actor partnerships* with the private sector and public authorities. To this end, support will be provided to capacity building, research and knowledge dissemination, advocacy, networking and structuring of networks, and mentoring opportunities for CSOs, etc.
- iii. *Supporting social-economic initiatives* aimed at wealth and job creation, targeting populations with limited opportunities for economic empowerment.
- iv. *Reinforcing service provision* for productive activities and access to productive resources (e.g. , business support, market access, opportunities for integration of the informal economy, micro credit) to populations with limited access to such means to enhance their livelihoods.
- v. *Contributing to the improvement of business practices and economic services' quality* highlighting governance and corporate social responsibility by stimulating informed demand and structuring feedback mechanisms, notably using Information and Communication Technologies.

60. Support will be provided to facilitate local development processes with a view to stimulate and promote coordination of various social and economic stakeholders in a rural and geographically remote areas, including LAs, CSOs, the private sector and others stakeholders, to formulate and implement development policies and strategies in a given areas.

61. Support will also be provided for development and implementation of local plans for sustainable management of rural areas, which should consider links between urban centres and rural communities and amongst the different parts of the country with a view to reduce economic and social disparities. The aim will be to bring together different decision-makers, local institutions and other actors in order to jointly define development priorities and strategies and to implement them more effectively in close collaboration with the local communities.

Indicators:

- i. Improved environment which allows CSOs to be active in the social economy.
- ii. Enhanced CSOs participation in economic sectors (in policy dialogue and monitoring and in implementation as appropriate) from the local to the national level
- iii. Strengthened capacity and professionalism of CSOs to effectively advocate for inclusive and sustainable growth and participate in policy work.
- iv. Improved access to - and quality of - services for economic empowerment, notably for vulnerable groups and population segments out of mainstream services.
- v. Initiatives of social economy scaled up.

PRIORITY 4. Support CSOs actions to promote the respect for human rights and the rule of law.

62. Support should be provided for CSOs' actions to support democracy by, among others, fostering a culture respecting the Rule of Law and Human Rights. Since upholding the Rule of Law and Human Rights is primarily a state responsibility and is linked to the reform of the judiciary , it is particularly important to build synergies and complementarity with actions led by state authorities.
63. This priority is aimed at strengthening the role of citizens and CSOs in policy processes related to the rule of law and respect for human rights, notably in the area of:
 - i. *Monitoring*: To enhance the capacity of CSOs to monitor the implementation of the legal national and international commitments, by which the Kyrgyz Republic is bound.
 - ii. *Providing expertise*: To enhance the capacity of CSOs to generate knowledge (research) and policy recommendations; to channel them into the decision-making process as well as to generally distribute them.
 - iii. *Advocating* for an independent and impartial judiciary that fulfils its function as a fundamental guarantee for a democratic state based on the rule of law; non-discrimination; eradication of torture, inhuman and degrading treatment; and upholding the right to fair trial.
 - iv. *Fostering networking among CSOs and strengthening partnerships with public institutions and actors* on the basis of sound organisational arrangements.

- v. *Defending the victims of human rights abuses; strengthening national human rights institutions such as the National Centre for Prevention of Torture and Ombudsman; helping with civilian control over law enforcement agencies.*

Indicators:

- i. Enhanced CSOs actions in upholding Rule of Law and Human Rights.
- ii. Strengthened capacity of CSOs to participate in and contribute to policy dialogue; in voicing their expectations in the judicial reform process.
- iii. Improved CSOs' capacity for coordinated action (including through networks) in the area of Rule of Law, Human Rights and Fight against torture.
- iv. Improved policy dialogue, sharing and dissemination of knowledge to communities of experts, decision-makers and the general public.

4. ACTIONS

Action tables

Priority 1
Enhance CSOs contributions to governance and accountability
Indicator(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Improved environment and space for CSOs to operate in the field of governance and accountability ii. Enhanced CSOs actions in policy dialogues, governance and accountability from the local to the national level. iii. Strengthened capacity of CSOs to participate in and contribute to policy dialogue and accountability processes at local and national level. iv. Improved CSOs' structuring and joint action in governance and accountability, including through networks. v. Improved documentation, sharing and dissemination of knowledge in related areas.
Actions:
A. Analysis: Studies, mappings and research
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mapping study identifying CSOs focusing on the promotion of good governance and transparent and accountable government, including catalogue of CSO activities (EUD) 2. Survey of CSOs' capacity needs and wishes (EUD)
B. Policy dialogue, consultation and facilitation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Public awareness-raising campaigns targeting the general public and explaining the negative effects of official corruption and inadequate or poor, unchecked reporting on government activities. The campaigns should also include positive information about the introduction of programme budgeting and greater budget transparency. (EUD, EU MSs) 2. Support to Kyrgyzstan's CSOs and independent media to increase their role in monitoring the application of government accountability arrangements (EUD) 3. Dialogue with Government on the key role of CS in promoting good governance and transparent and accountable government (EUD, EU MSs, DPCC)
C. Funding: Operational support including mainstreaming
A.1-A.2: Allocations from the EU's Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) for <i>support measures</i> under AAPs 2014 and/or 2015. To be carried out by contractor via service or framework contracts.

B.1-B.3: EU programme on "Promotion of the respect of Rule of Law in Kyrgyzstan with particular emphasis on Transparency and Accountability", including a Call for Proposals targeting CSO and independent media (DCI, AAP 2013). Additional support to CSOs could be foreseen in a new DCI decision for the sector in 2015. The support is managed by the EUD through the cooperation with a consortium of EU Member State organisations working as implementers.

B.2: Call for proposal under the CSO and Local Authorities' (LA) thematic programme 2014-2017

Priority 2

Support CSOs actions to enhance social development

Indicator(s)

- i. Improved environment which allows CSOs to be active in social sectors.
- ii. Enhanced CSO participation in social sectors (in policy dialogue and monitoring and in implementation as appropriate) from the local to the national level.
- iii. Strengthened capacity of CSOs to effectively advocate for improved access of population and quality of services and participate in policy work.
- iv. Access to and quality of social services improved, notably for vulnerable groups and population out of mainstream services.
- v. Improved documentation, sharing and dissemination of information on social development and social cohesion.

Actions:

A. Analysis: Studies, mappings and research

1. Mapping study identifying CSOs focusing on social protection, social rights advocacy and social service delivery including catalogue of CSO services offered (EUD)
2. Assessment of identified CSOs' political-administrative constraints and their capacity to deliver quality social services (EUD)

B. Policy dialogue, consultation and facilitation

1. Policy dialogue linked to conditionality for planned EUR 30 million social protection budget support programme 2015-17, including an increase in the number social services outsourced to CSOs (EUD).
2. Accompanying technical assistance provided to the Government to set standards for, regulate and monitor social services by CSOs (EUD)
3. Dialogue with Government on deinstitutionalisation and outsourcing of services to CSOs, mainly revolving around relevant budget support conditionality (EUD)
4. Support to CSO-LAs active in social service delivery (EUD).

C. Funding: Operational support including mainstreaming

A.1-A.2: To be funded by allocations from the EU's Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) for support measures or accompanying TA for budget support under DCI AAP 2014.

B.1-B.3: Budget Support for Social Protection (DCI, AAP 2014).

B4: CSO-LA thematic programme 2014-2017

Priority 3

Support CSOs contribution in promoting inclusive and sustainable growth

Indicator(s)

- i. Improved environment which allows CSOs to be active in the social economy.
- ii. Enhanced CSOs participation in economic sectors (in policy dialogue and monitoring and in implementation as appropriate) from the local to the national level
- iii. Strengthened capacity and professionalism of CSOs to effectively advocate for inclusive and sustainable growth and participate in policy work.
- iv. Improved access to - and quality of - services for economic empowerment, notably for vulnerable groups and population segments out of mainstream services.
- v. Initiatives of social economy scaled up.

Actions:

A. Analysis: Studies, mappings and research

1. Mapping study identifying CSOs focusing on promoting inclusive and sustainable growth
2. Surveys to identify the areas, in terms of the promotion of inclusive and sustainable growth, where the involvement of the CSO's would be most appropriate and necessary.

B. Policy dialogue, consultation and facilitation

1. Policy dialogue with Government linked to programmes such as CA Invest (EUD, All).
2. Support to CSO-LAs active e.g. in small business or income generating activities (EUD, All).

C. Funding: Operational support including mainstreaming

1. EUD and other donors
2. Civil Society Organisations – Local Authorities (CSO-LA) thematic programme 2014-2017 (EUD)

Priority 4

Support CSOs actions to promote the respect for human rights and the rule of law

Indicator(s)

- i. Enhanced CSOs actions in upholding Rule of Law and Human Rights.
- ii. Strengthened capacity of CSOs to participate in and contribute to policy dialogue; in voicing their expectations in the judicial reform process.
- iii. Improved CSOs' capacity for coordinated action (including through networks) in the area of Rule of Law, Human Rights and Fight against torture.
- iv. Improved policy dialogue, sharing and dissemination of knowledge to communities of experts, decision-makers and the general public.

Actions:

A. Analysis: Studies, mappings and research

Studies and research that will be built into projects.

It is expected that reports from the Rule of Law programme (DCI Asia) will inform about capacity gaps and further capacity-building needs (EUD).

B. Policy dialogue, consultation and facilitation

Political dialogue (Human Rights Dialogue) – key messages will reflect the Human Rights Country Strategy and its update (where applicable) (EUD and EU MSs/Joint)

Consultations with CSOs are held in the context of Human Rights Dialogue and Civil Society Seminar preparations, and on ad-hoc basis. (EUD and EU MSs/Joint)

Other exchange platforms include the Rule of Law working group under the Development Partners Coordination Council (EUD and EU MSs/Joint)

C. Funding: Operational support including mainstreaming

DCI-Asia and EIDHR

Mainstreaming will be continued through Calls for Proposals (EUD)

5. DASHBOARD

Country: Kyrgyzstan		
Process		
Area	Indicator	Achievement
Involvement of Member States in Roadmap elaboration	Member States present in the country are actively involved in the elaboration of the Roadmap	Yes (France, Germany, UK)
Consultation with local civil society	The Roadmap has been prepared on the basis of consultations with a broad range of local CSOs respecting principles of access to information, sufficient advance notice, and clear provisions for feedback and follow-up.	Yes (national and international)
Joint actions	Member States present in the country are actively involved in the implementation of the Roadmap priorities	Yes
Outcome		
Priority	Indicator	Achievement