

**FY 2002 QUARTERLY REPORT (4<sup>th</sup> QUARTER)  
CA 119-A-00-00-00039-00**

**Civic Education  
On-Site Technical Assistance**

**Submitted to the  
U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
by the International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES)**

**July 1, 2002 – September 30, 2002**

**KYRGYZSTAN**

## **I. PROGRAMMATIC ACTIVITIES**

### ***Secondary Education Project in Kyrgyzstan***

Since the fourth quarter includes both summer months and the beginning of the school year, IFES used the opportunity to implement many activities that would prepare teachers and students for a successful and full year of civics education. In the summer months of July and August the Uzbek textbook was delivered to teachers in the Ferghana Valley during a teacher training session in Osh. Thirty-nine Uzbek teachers attended the training. IFES education consultant concluded the writing of the second part of the textbook. Editing, testing and translating began, and printing of the Russian and Kyrgyz editions will take place in October. The Uzbek version will be ready in the following months. Since the Uzbek schools started piloting the textbook in September 2002, the translation and preparation of part two (in Uzbek) will not be required until about December 2002. The second part of the textbook includes specific chapters pertinent to democratic development, including women in politics, local government in Kyrgyzstan, the nature of state corruption and the process and methodology of conflict resolution. Again taking advantage of the summer months, IFES staff organized a student summer school to assess the viability of the student activities contained in the second part of the textbook.

By the commencement of the 2002/2003 academic year IFES had 167 pilot schools teaching the civics education course in grades 10 and 11. There are now 60 Russian, 69 Kyrgyz and 38 Uzbek schools utilizing the IFES developed textbook and civics course. Throughout the quarter IFES staff continued to work with representatives of the Ministry of Education and the Kyrgyz Institute of Education to develop civics education options for inclusion in the school curriculum.

The fourth quarter proved to be a learning period with regards to the IFES Civics Education Newsletter that delivered great benefits to both IFES and teachers. IFES found that it could reach more teachers and attain a greater impact the Newsletter was published once a month in three languages. Consequently, the IFES Newsletter is now being published monthly in three languages instead of the originally intended bimonthly in one language (Russian). IFES also changed the delivery methods for the Newsletter, which previously had suffered irregular postings and delays. Teachers are now receiving the Newsletter quicker and IFES staff receives earlier responses to Newsletter issues and therefore have sufficient time to put the teachers' feedback in the following issue. This process has turned the Newsletter into a more interactive process.

### ***University Education Project in Kyrgyzstan***

As a part of the civic education program in Kyrgyzstan, IFES has a tertiary civics project targeting students of higher education institutions to enhance their studies by providing additional civics education information. As an initial step, during the fourth quarter, IFES has distributed a specially prepared CD-Rom containing material on civics education to select universities for piloting. Professors at these universities will assess the CD-Rom materials for pedagogical purposes as well as usefulness and appropriateness for their students' study needs. IFES has set the main criteria for assessment to include:

- Assessing the grade level of the materials to students' level of knowledge;
- Rationalize importance of materials and articles for University students;
- Making suggestions of improving the structure and logical layout of the CD-Rom.

IFES has requested professors, following discussion of materials or chapters included in the CD-Rom, to fill in an evaluation form and return to IFES for review. To date five universities, Arabaev Kyrgyz State Pedagogical University, Kyrgyz National University, Osh State University, Jalal-Abad State University and Talas State University, have accepted the CD-Rom and IFES is currently seeking additional partners from other universities.

### ***Student Activities***

The fourth quarter tends to be a quieter time for SACs as schools are not in session. However, IFES is aware that many of the SACs continued with their activities throughout the summer. Additionally, in preparation for a busy new academic year IFES has prepared a program of SAC trainings. The first of these will be held at Vorincovnka in early October. IFES has invited 60 participants to the training, of which there will be 45 students from 15 schools together with their teachers.

### ***Democracy Summer Camps***

IFES concluded the full program of seven student democracy summer camps during the fourth quarter of 2002. 450 students participated in the seven camps held in Osh, Batken, Jalal-Abad, Kerben, Issyk-Kul, Talas and Naryn. This year's extensive program of summer student activities included hands-on training in democratic development. The program required students to study civic society building and democratic components of government. The program, which provided challenges in solving social conflicts and managerial problems in a democratic way, proved to be very popular with the summer camp students. The program was based on civil society building, providing extended opportunities in civic rights and responsibilities and particularly targeting rural students of Kyrgyzstan. About 450 students from all regions of Kyrgyzstan participated in the 2002 IFES student summer camps.

Students considered the effects of local issues on democratic development in Kyrgyzstan. They studied and practiced effective citizenship, taking into account international norms of democracy, legal rights, human rights, gender issues, youth rights, and voter rights. They also practiced and studied democratic governance, political party building, candidate campaigns, platform development, mock elections, community involvement, leadership training, and improving their communication skills.

Finally, to round off the summer program, two student representatives from each of the seven summer camps met in Bishkek where IFES hosted them and arranged meetings, took them on a parliamentary tour, and introduced them to government officials. They met with selected Deputies of the Jogorku Kenesh, Ministry of Education officials, the US ambassador to Kyrgyzstan and the Kyrgyz ambassador to the US. This group became a student pilot group, which IFES will support while tracking its progress.

### ***Elections in Kyrgyzstan***

During the fourth quarter, the Central Elections Commission (CEC) announced by-elections for four seats in the lower house of the Jogorku Kenesh all of which are located in southern Kyrgyzstan. IFES and the CEC met to coordinate activities for the October 20 by-elections. On the last weekend of September IFES conducted TOT training for three groups of trainers, which will be followed by PEC trainings. Together with the CEC, IFES drafted two instructional documents and will print them for distribution. One is an informational place mat (step by step guide to issuing votes) for members of the CEC, and the second is an informational leaflet for voters and observers. The TOT training was well received by all participants. With IFES staff, participants prepared training plans, developed short instructional games as part of a training program for the PEC trainings.

### ***Public Opinion Survey Update***

IFES/Washington completed the final report on results of its 2001 Public Opinion Survey, which sought to measure public attitudes on democracy and civil society. The report, which analyzes data over a wide spectrum of issues, has been formally released in English to all appropriate U.S. and Kyrgyz counterparts

## **II. MATERIALS PRODUCED**

- Teachers' Guide Part I in Uzbek
- Teacher's Newsletter in four languages (Kyrgyz, Russian, Uzbek and English)
- CD-Rom for tertiary project
- Informational placemat for members of the CEC\*
- Informational leaflet for voters and observers\*

\*document was designed in September, the last month of the fourth quarter, but printed in October.

## **III. ISSUES AND PROBLEMS**

During the fourth quarter there has been a culmination of what could have been very serious political consequences for the country. The protests in support of Beknazarov and in opposition to land transfers to China, the lack of local land distribution and calls for the resignation of president Akayev. The new government has dealt with the protest movement mainly by sidelining opposition deputies and providing some of them with the opportunity to 'resolve' the potential and threatening protest march on Bishkek. Some think the government used plain-clothes militia in a sufficiently threatening manner for the political purpose of using moderate deputies to 'negotiate' an end to the protest. Independent journalists have claimed monetary inducements were made to the protestors to guarantee the deal. IFES has met with the new Minister of Education and Culture, Ishengul Boljurova, and she has indicated her total support for the programs and agreement made by her predecessor. However the Minister has taken a more conservative approach to civics education policy, indicating that the teaching of civics must correspond and conform to the state interests. The new cabinet has drafted legislation "On fight against political extremism" and a moratorium on street protests (subsequently withdrawn through pressure and or as a result of the deal ending the street protests calling for the resignation of the president) which was more likely to restrict citizenship activity rather than free them as the government claimed.

With the commencement of the new school year IFES ran the last training for pilot teachers utilizing the balance of textbooks in the Kyrgyz and Russian languages. IFES now has 169 pilot teachers of civics education.

IFES organized a new training for the Student Action Committees project for rural students of the northern oblasts. 58 teachers and students from 15 schools participated.

In cooperation with the Central Elections Commission, IFES has coordinated a train the trainer course for three teams, which also trained the members of Precinct Election Commissions in two constituencies in preparation for by-elections on 20 October 2002.

IFES has AED to thank for supporting these projects with training grants.

## YEAR END BENCHMARK ANALYSIS - 2001-2002

### IFES KYRGYZSTAN

Program Type	R4 code	Project	Project Goals	Project Indicators	Status of Goals and Indicators
Civ Ed 2	SO 2.1 IR 2.1.2 IR 2.1.3	Civic Education Curriculum Reform	Introduction of pilot textbook into schools throughout Kyrgyzstan enhancing interest in civics education and democracy and practical understanding of democracy and civic responsibility among students and teachers.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Select at least 10 schools each in 7 regions: Bishkek, Chui Oblast, Talas Oblast, Issyk-Kul Oblast, Naryn Oblast, Osh Oblast, Batken Oblast.</li> <li>2. Minimum participation of <b>70</b> schools using pilot courses.</li> </ol>	Textbook has been introduced to and is being used by <b>167</b> schools through the regions of Kyrgyzstan. 60 schools are Russian, 69 Kyrgyz and 38 Uzbek. In Bishkek the textbook is in 26 schools, Chui 28, Batken 12, Jalal-Abad 17, Issyk-Kul 12, Naryn 11, Osh 48, and Talas 13. Approximately 7,515 students are using the textbook.
Civ Ed 3	IR 2.1.1 IR 2.1.2 IR 2.1.3	Student Action Committees (SAC)	Provide programs to allow high school students to experience "Democracy in Action" through establishment of student community action groups.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Implementation of <b>12</b> SACs in at least <b>3</b> Communities</li> </ol>	<b>42</b> SACs have been established in <b>8</b> communities; 15 in Bishkek, 9 in Chui, 5 in Batken, 3 in Jalal-Abad, 9 in Issyk-Kul, 4 in Naryn, 4 in Osh and 2 in Talas. 202 students are participating.
Civ Ed 4	IR 2.1.1 IR 2.1.2 IR 2.1.3	Democracy Summer Camp (DSC)	Students from grades 9-11 gather for one week to participate in intense study and hands-on experience with activities promoting democratic governance.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A minimum of <b>3</b> DSCs to be conducted in Issyk-Kul, Jalal-Abad and Bishkek/Chui regions</li> <li>2. Anticipated funding contribution from IFES: approx 70% for Issyk-Kul; approximately 85% for Jalal-Abad.</li> </ol>	7 DSCs were held in <b>7</b> regions of Kyrgyzstan, in Osh, Batken, Jalal-Abad, Kerben, Issyk-Kul, Talas, and Naryn. 450 Students participated in the seven summer camps. IFES was granted supplementary funding to complete the additional 4 DSCs. While it was anticipated that IFES would contribute only 70% funding for Issyk-Kul and 85% for Jalal-Abad, this proved to be an unrealistic goal. While IFES conducted all DSCs with two teams of local partners, it was impossible to sustain the high standard of the DSCs and decrease IFES' contribution.
Civ Ed 5	IR 2.1.2 IR 2.1.3	Student Local Government Days (SLGD)	Select top students to learn about local government by spending a day shadowing a local official as he/she conducts the business of the community.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A minimum of <b>3</b> SLGD to be conducted in Bishkek/Chui, Osh Oblast and Issyk-Kul Oblast.</li> <li>2. Minimum of <b>60</b> students participating.</li> </ol>	SLGDS were held in Bishkek, Chui, Osh, Kara-Su Raion, Issyk-Kul, Jalal-Abad, Kara-kul, Mailu-Su and Kara-Su. <b>39</b> government officials were involved with <b>64</b> students participating.
Civ Ed 6	IR 2.1.2 IR 2.1.3	University Civic Education	Develop pilot University level civics education materials on CD-Rom based on existing IFES materials developed to introduce and supplement the study of political parties, elections and gender issues.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduce civic education materials into at least <b>one</b> university.</li> </ol>	A pilot CD-Rom was introduced into <b>five</b> universities, Arabaev Syrgyz State Pedagogical University, Kyrgyz National University, Osh State University, Jalal-Abad State University and Talas State University; following discussion of materials or chapters included in the CD-Rom, professors will fill in an evaluation form and return to IFES for review.
Civ Ed 7	IR 2.1.2	Democracy Resource Center	Groups and individuals are able to gain access to material on democracy and civics contributed by IFES to a pre-existing resource center.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. One resource center in Bishkek is targeted for and receives donation of materials.</li> </ol>	OSCE sponsored resource center at the Kyrgyz national University has received copies of IFES publications for public access.

Program Type	R4 code	Project	Project Goals	Project Indicators	Status of Goals and Indicators
EA 2	SO 2.1 IR 2.1.3 IR 2.1.3.2.1 IR 2.1.3.2.2	Election Administration	Maintain contact with Central Election Committee (CEC) and encourage electoral reform. IFES will submit a supplement to the work plan consideration if movement takes place.	1. Conduct periodic meetings with the CEC to maintain contact and determine environment for change.	Production of materials and TOT for the October 20,2002 by-elections accepted for AED funding by USAID. In cooperation with the CEC, IFES drafted two instructional documents and will print them for distribution. One is an informational place mat (step by step guide to issuing votes) for members of the CEC, and the second is an informational leaflet for voters and observers. IFES conducted TOT training for three groups of trainers, which will be followed by PEC trainings.