



**Final report  
on the activity of the Project  
and Public Association LARC  
Legal Assistance to Rural Citizens  
2001 – 2005**

Bishkek, March 2006



◀ **helvetas** Kyrgyzstan ▶

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## **1. Introduction**

The land and agrarian reform in Kyrgyzstan began in 1991–1992, the time when the country gained its political independence. The land and the attitude to it were the core issue of the reform. Kyrgyzstan was one of the first former Soviet republics where land, which used to be a state property, was transferred into private ownership. For the first time rural residents became owners of land parcels. It was especially important at that moment when the country's economy was in crisis, the industry in decline, and well-being of many families depended on their own land lots. However, the process of land distribution was complicated by numerous violations, mainly due to the lack of knowledge of the laws among rural residents and to the imperfection of the legislative base regulating the process. Land disputes arose between farmers contesting the ownership of particular parcels. At the same time, local administration representatives often distributed land in their own interests by taking advantage of the farmers' poor knowledge of the laws. Land issues were and still are the most complicated and relevant ones, because for many villagers land is a production factor and the main source of income.

LARC is a land reform and state governance improvement project. LARC assumed the task of assisting and teaching farmers and the rural population in general how to apply the law to resolve their legal disputes. The Project strived to develop capacity of local governance agencies to act in accordance with the new law, to apply it openly and correctly, and to ignore the legislative provisions less frequently. This would reduce the population distrust towards the authorities, which was creating an atmosphere of suspicion and confrontation. Within several years the Project expanded and was operational all over the country. As early as the second phase, under Helvetas' leadership, LARC employees began to think about the future sustainability and long-term prospects of the Project. Thus, starting with branch offices in Osh oblast, PA LARC the newly created Public Association for Legal Assistance to Rural Citizens began working in 2003 simultaneously with the Project.

PA LARC activity is aimed at rendering legal services to the rural population, to commercial and non-government organizations, as well as to clients of international organizations on issues of the land and agrarian law and of commercial legal relations involved.

LARC is a part of a wide network of organizations that are active in the land reform process and in agricultural development programs being currently implemented in the Kyrgyz Republic (KR). The network includes the Project's partners working on three levels: national, regional and local. On the national level, the Project enjoys cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Processing Industry, State Register, Ministry of Justice, as well as international organizations, such as UNDP, OSCE, World Bank, Swiss Department for Development and Cooperation (SDC), USAID and its contractors (ARD Che?chi and Chemonics).

On the regional level, the Project is part of a network of sister organizations. On the local level, LARC has established close working relations with local authorities, NGO representatives and independently practicing lawyers.

### **Principles and concepts**

The following principles form the basis of LARC's activity:

- Since Kyrgyzstan is an agrarian country, the land reform is a fundamental factor of its economic and democratic development; introduction of private property for land and free land market allows the private entrepreneurship to produce wealth (something which a

command and planned economy could not achieve), and respect for private property lies at the basis of other liberal reforms.

- Increasing the general legal competence via the «spiral of knowledge»: collecting, capitalizing and transferring legal information to the Project's partners so that they could apply the newly acquired knowledge in practice.
- Initiating a policy dialogue in order to create a favorable environment for making changes in the agricultural legislation via the Project's partners.
- By implementing the Project, helping to improve the legal culture of Kyrgyzstan's rural population and the rule of law.

## **2. Evolution of USAID's contribution into project LARC activity and its achievements**

The Project Legal Assistance to Rural Citizens – LARC began its work in Jalalabat oblast in early 2000. Originally, the pilot project was implemented by Helvetas and funded only by SDC. The Project covered 5 southern rayons of Jalalabat oblast: Alabuka, Aksu, Bazarkorgon, Nooken and Suzak.

In order to collect reliable information on the needs of the target population and to improve the Project's organization and management, a pilot phase originally planned for one year was extended until the end of 2001. During this phase, using USAID's monetary grant support, Project LARC was expanded to three rayons of Osh oblast: Uzgen, Karasuu and Aravan. A year later, Nookat rayon joined them. Additional time was also required because expansion to Osh oblast in 2001 let the Project work in one of the first rayons where moratorium for transactions with land was abolished.

After a successful completion of the Project's first phase (2000-2001), an external review was conducted, which resulted in a decision to redirect the Project from conflict prevention to rendering legal assistance to the rural population in the field of land and agrarian reforms and helping local authorities to improve their work.

### **Achievements in 2001**

The expansion of the Project doubled the number of its offices and proportionally increased the need to disseminate information. For the reporting period, the lawyers organized 121 informational meetings, which were attended by 5797 people, installed 90 informational stands and publicity boards in visible places not far from the local Legal Services Centres (LSC).

During the reporting period LARC rendered substantial legal assistance to the Project's target population. 2125 consultations were rendered.

As a whole, the Project represented interests of 688 clients out of court and 20 clients in court with positive resolution of all legal problems. Most representations concerned defending clients' interests against state institutions.

LARC actively worked with partners on the local and regional levels as well.

LARC conducted a national level seminar with participation of deputies of both chambers of Jogorku Kenesh (JK), Jalalabat oblast's governor, Osh oblast's deputy governor and other representatives of state and court agencies and privately practicing lawyers. The seminar was reported by the national (KTR) and oblast (JTR) TV and local newspapers.

The seminar achieved its goal – recognition of the Project’s political importance and gaining support from the participants. JK deputies, in particular, showed great interest and were actively involved in group discussions of the thematic issues.

Reforming the agricultural legislation remains in the area of LARC’s special attention, Therefore the Project is working on changes and improvement of the law with ARD/Checchi and other international organizations capable of making the amendments.

Two big round tables were conducted: the first -- for partners in Osh oblast at the Osh oblast Toktogul library, the second -- in the Project LARC KC conference room for partners in Jalalabat oblast.

In the second half of the year, seminars-deliberations were conducted in all rayons of the Project’s activity, in which heads of ayil okmotu and specialists of state agencies discussed the existing legal problems in rural areas and ways to resolve them. The Project’s lawyers provided explanations of the Law «On Agricultural Lands Management», which stipulates all types of land transactions.

### **Achievements in 2002**

The goal stated in the Project document for the 2nd phase (2002–2004) reads: Provide the rural population with an opportunity to exercise their rights regarding production of agricultural produce, including its small-scale processing and marketing; increase the rural population’s legal culture. This goal has two aspects: political – encouraging the rural population to exercise its rights and promoting development of decision makers’ capacity to apply the law correctly; and economical – making legal services more accessible to the rural population.

In 2002, LARC lawyers conducted 147 thematic informational meetings (TIM), where 4659 people took part, of whom 75,7 % were men and 24,3% women.

The Project lawyers rendered 5217 legal consultations to rural residents. In comparison with the results of 2001, the number of consultations increased by 3027. One of the main reasons for such high indicator was the opening of new legal service centers (LSC).

Also the Project lawyers rendered 61 legal consultations to decision makers and professional lawyers explaining and applying the agricultural legislation. Most of the applicants were either heads or employees of ayil okmotu and rayon state administrations.

The Project lawyers represented clients’ interests in 945 legal problems out of court and 32 -- in court, with their positive resolution.

25 events were conducted in the form of round tables and business lunches where 673 people took part, including 505 decision makers and professional lawyers. The purpose of the events was strengthening and improving the work of state authorities and promoting the exercise of rural residents’ rights.

### **Achievements in 2003**

Starting in 2003, thanks to USAID’s donor support, the Project expanded to three more oblasts of KR (Chuy, Talas, Batken), and opened 7 more offices. SDC funded the activities of LSCs in Issykkul, Jalalabat and Naryn oblasts. The general technical support was funded jointly by both donors.

Ultimately, since January 2003 the Project LARC’s activity covered all oblasts of KR and acquired a national status. 22 LSCs covered 27 rayons of the country.

In 2003 the Project lawyers rendered 7093 legal services, of which: information – 37, consultations – 5400, representations out of court – 1627 and in court – 29. This indicator increased by 72 times in comparison with 2000, with 2001 -- by 58%, with 2002 -- by 12%. Besides, 46 events were conducted in the form of seminars on identified problems and round tables with participation of 810 people (77% men and 23% women), of whom 473 -- decision makers and local self-governance representatives. All of these activities promoted the rule of law and increased the legal culture of the society.

During the reporting period, LARC lawyers conducted 123 TIMs, where 3382 people took part, of whom 78% were men and 22% women. TIMs are one of the main means of legal information dissemination increasing the rural population's legal culture and attracting potential clients.

Besides, the Project lawyers rendered 132 legal consultations to decision makers and professional lawyers on explanation and application of the agricultural legislation.

Legal information or consultations rendered by LARC lawyers help decision makers to apply the law accurately, consistently and impartially aiming at the prevention of legal problems among the rural population. LARC's practice shows that heads or representatives of ayil okmotu and rayon state administrations come mostly to the lawyers.

In 2003 lawyers of PA LARC branch offices prepared a brochure «What Agricultural Producers Need to Know about Taxes».

### **Achievement of «Sustainability Strategies»**

According to a sustainability strategies study, 2003 became a year of consent and understanding for the Project LARC. In June 2003, the Project LARC employees created a public association, which would continue rendering legal assistance after completion of the Project. On 29 July 2003, PA LARC, and, in October 2003, its branch offices in Osh oblast, passed the state registration at the KR Ministry of Justice.

4 LSCs expressed a desire to participate in the beginning of testing of a market for paid legal services. They became PA LARC branch offices and started receiving income from rendering partially-paid services to clients. On 1<sup>st</sup> of November the experiment was started to test the market for legal services on th? basis of 4 Osh oblast LSCs. PA LARC came to a conclusion that a market for legal services existed in the rural area, the demand for legal assistance was real, although it required active marketing efforts in order to attract clients to branch offices.

By early 2005 PA LARC completely transformed LSCs into PA LARC branch offices. Regional offices were opened in the north and south of the country.

### **Achievements in 2004**

In 2004 the Project lawyers conducted 101 TIMs and 53 seminars on identified problems with the participation of 2560 and 1450 people respectively.

The analysis of the Project statistic data showed an increase in th? number of individuals who applied for legal consultations in comparison with the previous years. So, e.g. in 2003 the number of consultations was 5400, then in 2004 – 6224, percentage wise it increased by 13,2% (minus LSCs that joined PA LARC). This increase is related, first of all, to the clients' increased activity and desire to know the legal aspects of their work.

Issues, on which rural residents applied in 2004, remain relevant even today. On the first place are such issues as requisitioning of land parcels, land use, servitudes, receiving land parcels (pastures) for rent from Land Redistribution Fund (LRF), creation and registration of agricultural enterprises, allocation of land shares and allotment of property shares in kind when rescinding

from membership in cooperatives and peasant farm unions, sale and purchase of land parcels, procedures for registration of immovable property, payment of taxes. 2092 representations out of court were rendered in this period.

In 2004 Project LARC lawyers represented their clients' interests in 65 court cases (In 1 degree of jurisdiction – 48 cases and 17 cases were appealed against in appellate, cassation and supervision order). Of these, disputes arose between natural persons in 24 cases; between natural and juridical persons in 14 cases; between natural persons and state agencies and local self-governance bodies in 27 cases.

The analysis of LARC's activity in 2004 concluded that LARC is one of the needed and important projects for the rural population rendering recognized high-quality legal services. The main area of LARC's activity for the next phase remains in the agrarian law and commercial cases concerning agrarian legal relations.

In September 2004 Project LARC leadership initiated a juridical meeting with participation of lawyers of USAID contractor projects (ARD Checchi, Chemonics, Urban Institute). The purpose of this event was a joint discussion on the most stubborn legal problems regarding gaps and contradictions in the current legislation, as well as on the need to elaborate a unified strategy for the resolution of such problems, including at the legislative level, as well as on the need for a unified interpretation and application of legislative norms by the lawyers locally. The result was a desire of all participants to continue similar events in order to combine efforts of different projects engaged in collection, identification and elimination of gaps and contradictions in the legislation.

In 2004 the Project's legal advisers took part in the working group of USAID contractor projects on the elaboration of proposals for making changes and amendments in certain regulative acts and putting them for consideration by the JK KR.

Also the legal advisers sent several inquiries to the authorities in order to receive an official interpretation of certain norms:

- Batken oblast justice department on the issue of lawfulness of local councils' decisions due to the lack of statutory acts' registration and publication in the media;
- inquiry to the Legislative Assembly of JK to receive official interpretation of the concept of «lifelong hereditary ownership of land parcel» (article 7 of KR Law);
- inquiry to the Legislative Assembly of JK and Ministry of Justice on application of land legislation's norms regarding incurrent pastures.

In 2004 LARC lawyers also produced the «Kyrgyz Dictionary on the Land Law» for internal use by LARC offices.

In the same year, a publication «Issues of Rights for Land Parcels Under Privatized Enterprises, Buildings or Facilities» was elaborated by USAID-funded projects providing technical assistance to KR land reform (the land reform project in Kyrgyzstan implemented by Chemonics Int., the commercial law development project by ARD/Checchi, the Central Asia local governance development project by Urban Institute and Project LARC).

### **Achievements in 2005**

As a statistical analysis of the database shows, in 2005 PA LARC lawyers rendered 10492 legal services to rural residents.

In 2005 291 TIM with participation of 6400 people, 99 seminars on identified problems and 30 round tables were conducted. The events pursued the main goal – awareness of rural residents of

the existing rules and procedures in the land legislation so that they could apply them correctly when exercising their rights.

To improve awareness of the clients, potential partners and other local and international organizations concerning PA LARC activity, an official website of PA LARC ([www.larc.kg](http://www.larc.kg)) was created.

In the period concerned, oral consultations numbered 4041, written consultations -- 3793. 263 group consultations were rendered in 2005 with participation of 1985 people, with most relevant topics being the procedure for creation of agricultural cooperatives, renting LRF and private lands, land purchase and sale.

Representation out of court holds a priority position, since it is a pre-trial method of resolution of legal problems. 1255 such services were rendered in the reporting period.

In the period concerned PA LARC lawyers rendered 1196 services on elaboration documents and represented interests of 207 clients in court.

In 2005 LARC lawyers Janargul Isakbayeva and Erik Imakeev co-authored the «Russian-Kyrgyz Explanatory Dictionary of Law Terms and Concepts» prepared by ARD/Checchi. The publication contains more than 4800 law terms and concepts in the Russian and Kyrgyz languages.

### **3. PROJECT LARC IMPACT ON THE RURAL POPULATION'S LEGAL CULTURE AND THE RULE OF LAW**

From 2001 through 2005 LARC lawyers rendered 35404 legal services, of which the share of USAID-funded services is 50%.

Of those, legal information – 448 (54% -- USAID's contribution), oral consultations – 4041 (85%), written consultations – 22759 (45%), elaboration of documents – 1196 (69%), representations out of court – 6607 (42%), in court – 353 (69%).

See Appendix for the statistics on the activity of the USAID-funded offices.

In this period, Project LARC conducted altogether:

- 789 TIMs
- 161 seminars on identified problems
- 274 group consultations.

#### **Legal information**

Lawyers conduct various juridical events on dissemination of legal knowledge – round tables, seminars, thematic-informational meetings. The most important current problems of the rural population are discussed and unified tactics for application of the legislation are developed there.

To prevent informational vacuum in rayons of LARC activity, at every ayil okmotu informational boards are installed and regularly updated by lawyers; this became an effective means of legal information dissemination. Relevant legislation novelties, brochures, regulative acts posted on those boards are also an excellent method for attracting clients from villages and support rural residents in learning their rights.

The work of LARC offices on dissemination of the partners' legal materials needs to be noted. In the framework of partnership projects with USAID, LARC LSCs, and, later, branch offices disseminated informational materials, brochures, journals of Chemonics Int., ARD/Checchi among rural residents using its network.

These events help prevent informational hunger among villagers in remote areas where news come with big delay. Increasing of information possession by disseminating legal knowledge is a means to achieve the goal of promotion and development of legal culture. According to the external review of legal services (July-August 2005) conducted by Sh. Maychiyev and N. Alymbayev, clients and partners noted that juridical consultations and TIM/round tables, seminars on legal topics increased the level of population's legal knowledge. Surveys show that clients learned about their rights thanks exclusively to the information and consultations received from branch office lawyers. Some clients managed to defend their rights on their own using the information/consultations received. Many clients noted that branch office lawyers first of all pay attention to the clients' interests, listen to them and work with enthusiasm and full responsibility. The services rendered meet expectations of clients and partners. Since the local population is represented by different ethnic groups, the lawyers adequately resolve issues of communication with them and render services not only in the Kyrgyz, but also other languages predominantly used in the region (Russian, Uzbek etc.).

E.g., client M. Kozhomkulova (Bazar-Korgon ayil okmotu) noted that she managed to defend her rights on her own thanks to the information/consultation she received. She also pointed out that she earlier turned to other lawyers but did not receive the required information/consultation, because they specialized in criminal cases mainly and asked an unaffordable honorarium for their services.

Some clients, after receiving a free juridical consultation, repeatedly applied to branch office lawyers for further representation of their interests in or out of court. E.g., client Bekpoev O. (Kyzyl-Adyr) turned to branch office lawyer to represent his interests in appellate instance.

Experience of the first phase of Project LARC showed that resolution of the rural population's legal problems is possible under effective and mutually beneficial cooperation with decision makers. Therefore, the Project used every way to establish and strengthen ties with them. The Project lawyers conducted different event for this target group. 620 consultations altogether were rendered to decision makers in 5 years.

While working in villages and rendering their services to rural clients, PA LARC lawyers encounter different legal problems in their practice and are better aware of the practical application of the current legislation regulating legal relations in the agrarian field.

### **Consultations**

LARC lawyers provide consultations in various forms (oral, written and group) on specific legal problems. Consultations are a priority means to resolve clients' legal problems.

LARC practice shows that written legal consultation is a more efficient way for quality and effective problem resolution and a means of legal knowledge dissemination than oral consultation. Written consultation helps the second target group (decision makers and privately practicing lawyers) to develop their capacity as well, since many written consultations are addressed to decision makers directly involved in resolution of client problems. The concept of group consultations was successfully introduced in 2004 in order to provide legal services to more people and to ensure access of rural residents to legal services.

### **Representations out of court and in court**

Lawyers defend interests of clients before other individuals or state agencies both out of court and in court, as well as provide assistance in preparation of constituent documents, draft agreements, applications, complaints, letters and other documents.

Representation out of court takes the second priority after written consultations. Most representations in court concern legal problems where one of the parties is a state agency.

With transition to a market economy and institution of private property for land in the Kyrgyz Republic, the number of clients who are forced to appeal to court to resolve their problems has increased. Therefore, in the near future LARC will focus on court cases to create a response and positive image.

The reason for many legal problems is incorrect interpretation and application of the current land legislation's norms. To resolve such problems, the lawyers work with decision makers and privately practicing lawyers by conducting seminars and round tables highlighting identified incorrect procedures, their discussion and elaboration of recommendations for improvement.

Thus, they contribute to the development of capacity of decision makers and privately practicing lawyers all over the country to apply the law accurately, consistently and impartially (the «good governance» component).

**Capacity development** means rendering information and consultations to employees of local self-governance bodies, so that they apply the land legislation correctly and consistently. Since most of the legal disputes arise between rural residents and states agencies, then, in order to defend interests of the rural population, PA LARC must exert influence on these state bodies. This impact consists of identification of state statutory acts at all levels that do not conform to the legislation, incorrect application and interpretation of legislative norms, identification and reporting gaps and contradictions in the legislation, as well as elaboration and lobbying of proposal for changes and amendments into the current legislation.

On the local level, the impact of this activity of LARC lawyers is evident. Many representatives of state agencies, local self-governance bodies, judges and privately practicing lawyers come to LARC lawyers to receive legal information, explanation, as well as conclusions on application of particular legal acts or compiling juridical expert reviews on individual legal disputes of citizens.

In their daily work with clients in rural area PA LARC branch office lawyers identify flaws, variant readings and contradictions in the legislation regulating land legal relations, which are discussed at regional juridical meetings where decisions on further steps are made.

Based on the results of the Third National Seminar on «Some Legal Problems in Implementation of KR Land Legislation, Searching for Ways of Their Resolution» in December 2003 with participation of 46 rayon, oblast and the national level representatives, a collection of materials on the land law «LARC 2000-2003: Juridical Practice» was produced. It included issues and answers on frequently encountered and complicated legal problems, as well as samples of constituent and procedural documents and other information. Drawing on a four-year experience, the Project lawyers generalized and summed up all juridical materials and successful stories on resolution of clients' legal problem. The collection was printed in 500 copies in the Russian, 800 in Kyrgyz, 100 in English languages. Already at the beginning, it received positive reactions from LARC partners. Many recipients noted the need to continue such publication because it helped the users to resolve their legal problems on their own.

#### **Contribution to legislative reform**

Experience of lawyers (Project and Public Association) and analysis of legal problems besides current juridical practice allows lawyers to identify enough contradictions and gaps in the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic. To eliminate them, together with partner organizations, such as ARD/Checchi, Urban Institute, Chemonics, LARC lawyers participate in elaboration of proposals to JK. After identification of gaps and contradictions, PA in future can inform appropriate state agencies, elaborate recommendations for making amendments and changes into regulative acts, and, if possible, designate its lawyers to task groups elaborating bills on the national level including parliament commissions, thus becoming a connecting link between authors and executors of legislative and statutory acts.

LARC lawyers have a real capacity to contribute to improvement of the land legislation since they are working on the micro and meso levels where feasibility of current legislative acts is observed best. Therefore, in future PA must intensify the lawmaking work by enhancing its role as such link.

In 2003, the first political case, which started in late 2002 and concerned unlawful collection of state social insurance fees from landowners, found its logical completion. The case was resolved

out of court, after official negotiations with representatives of the Social Fund's juridical department and written appeals to the highest state leadership (Prime – Minister, Chairman of the Social Fund, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of JK and Chairman of the Committee on Taxes and Tallage of the Legislative Assembly of JK). After this, based on our appeals, the Government and Social Fund elaborated a draft annual law on rates of insurance eliminating this legislative gap. And as early as February 2003 an appropriate law in the same edition was adopted. Thus Project LARC eliminated ambiguous interpretation of the law and brought clarity into application of its norm.

In the same year, making amendments into the annual laws on mandatory payments by rural residents and improvement of legislation as a whole was initiated. The basis was an identified gap in application of tax legislation, particularly, regarding favourable taxation in mountainous and remote residential areas.

Nevertheless, the Project managed to reach a new quality level, on a possible need to make amendments into the main law of the country – Constitution, thus consolidate the priority of international norms constitutionally.

### **Informational activity**

One of most important tasks of informational activity is providing legal information to rural residents, preventing legal nihilism by publishing and disseminating legal information, success stories and legal problems resolved by LARC lawyers.

From the day of its founding through 2005, LARC Press Service issued 11 bulletins «the Law of the Land» with detailed reporting on clients' legal problems, analytical articles by LARC lawyers, successes, news of Project and PA LARC.

LARC cooperates with Kyrgyzstan's national, oblast, rayon newspapers, with electronic media. This strengthens promotion of LARC services and, at the same time, performs the following tasks:

- filling the legal informational vacuum of the rural population and increasing its impact on the rule of law and good governance by rendering legal services to the increasing number of «new» clients (private individuals and organizations);
- forming a positive attitude toward legal services rendered by LARC to the rural population and institutional clients.

More than 130 articles on LARC's activity were published in national newspapers and magazines; LARC news were aired more than 10 times on radio; 26 interviews were conducted on Bishkek radio stations; legal problems of rural residents were reported 20 times on the national TV.

The Project lawyers not only spread information on the Project activity via the local media but also rendered legal information, discussed legal situations and expressed opinions on specific legislative norms.

The Press Service cooperates with magazine «Menchik» (State Property Committee), newspaper «Bazar Tamyry» (Ltd «KARIS»), «Agropress» (Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Processing Industry) and «Slovo Kyrgyzstana», «Agrobusiness» (Jer Azygy). Under the heading «Hot Line» LARC lawyers spoke on legal problems in the Kyrgyz radio's live broadcast of programs «Jer jana Adam», «Land and People» and «Kabar-Express».

On 28 December 2004, a 15-minute Kyrgyz language film on LARC's 4-year activity in Kyrgyzstan was shown on KTR channel.

On 10 June 2004, a press-conference was organized at «Kabar» national information agency for the wider public and national and regional journalists on the occasion of printing of the land law collection. In June 2005, for the first time the State Register and PA LARC conducted a 1 hour live broadcast on land use issues on KTR's «Zamana» morning channel.

## **Results of the study on the impact of Project LARC services and effectiveness**

In 2003, an independent research company M-Vector studied the legal situation in the regions. It surveyed ordinary village residents and local self-governance bodies to collect objective and real data on the level of legal awareness and legal culture of the rural population and state officials, attitudes of the clients to Project LARC, quality of services rendered by the Project and social-economic state of the respondents. The purpose of the study was to review the impact of services and effectiveness of the Project.

Subject study was opinions, review and attitude clients, village residents and works state agencies and local self-governance bodies to the Project «Legal Assistance to Rural Citizens - LARC». Altogether 2683 people were surveyed all over Kyrgyzstan.

The study showed that 63% of all the surveyed LARC clients encounter problems requiring juridical intervention in their work. Chuy and Issykkul oblasts have the highest share of such problems (with a very significant difference from other oblasts). When compared to the southern regions of the country, it becomes evident that much more people in the north encounter such problems than in southern Kyrgyzstan.

The main source of problems are land use issues (rights for land, refusal to give out a land plot, distribution of land lots etc.). Almost 30% of all the respondents encounter this problem. At that, most respondents (44,5%) resolve all arising problems and disputes by mutual consent.

Among different organizations rendering legal services LARC is a leader. Most respondents (54%) come to Project LARC. The survey showed utility and practical feasibility of services received by most clients. Almost 82% of the surveyed applied the information they received in practice.

The rural population, according to the experts' observation, prefers mutual consent to other mechanisms of dispute resolution. Moreover, rural residents learn to defend their rights, and their level of legal knowledge has increased lately.

More than half of the respondents (65%) learned about the Project by participating in seminars conducted by its employees. 90,8% of the respondents believe that the Project's activity influenced the level of the rural population's legal literacy and promoted a quality shift in this direction.

### **Review of service quality**

More than half of all the clients surveyed (56%) stated the good quality of services rendered by Project LARC. The share of clients who graded quality as «excellent» was 33%. Practically all respondents (94%) are satisfied with the service rendered.

Hence is the clients' positive opinion of LARC employees' competence and professionalism. 97,3% of all the respondents considered the Project personnel as knowing their job.

The survey showed utility and practical applicability of service received for most clients. Almost 82% of all the respondents applied information they received in practice. Impact of the Project LARC lawyers' activity is noticeable and traceable in the changing categories of legal issues, on which rural residents apply. So percentage wise, until 2004 about 30% of all cases in 16 categories were issues of receiving and distribution of land. After adoption of a range of statutory legal acts on allotment of land shares to certain citizens, appeals to LARC offices on this category noticeably decreased, which is evident from internal statistics. However, in the course of agrarian reform's development and institution of private property most serious problems regarding land market and property legal relations arise.

#### **From the report on external review conducted by donors in 2004**

«In all rayons, which we visited, many people said that, of course, Project LARC has a certain impact.

A client said that «villagers think that the court is always on the side of the wealthy people and we are afraid of going here. As it turns out the law defends us too. – No, I will not be afraid of going to court now. One needs, it proved to be, to prepare documents well, and I hope LARC will help us in this». We heard such words from many respondents. These words confirm that the situation has changed and the fear of courts has disappeared. People are gaining confidence in the rule of law and believe that corruption does not exist everywhere.

Increase in confidence among LARC clients in dealings with local authorities is observed too.

Interviews with clients show that thanks to LARC assistance people acquire self-reliance; their family's material well-being improves and their social activity and living standard increase.

Improvement of economic well-being thanks to restored rights, e.g. for land, is observed.

The long-term economic prosperity of some families improved due to a facilitated access to credits. A client said «LARC helped elaborate documents correctly to receive credit. For several years already we work with credits. We purchased livestock, equipment, built houses for the sons, praise God, we now firmly stand on our own feet».

There are low-income families in villages, which cannot cultivate the land themselves (no money, no health). There were cases when LARC assisted clients in concluding lands lease agreements, which ensured observance of their interests. Thanks to granting lands for rent they got an opportunity to pay taxes and other fees as well as to receive means for existence, as they said «to remain afloat, and not to slide down into poverty».

As some ayil okmotu told, «On the one hand, by assisting the villagers, LARC creates more problems for us – no more comfortable life, **villagers come to office, prove their rightfulness, refer to laws and thus achieve resolution of their cases.** On the other hand, it is good that they became better aware of their rights, not letting us to infringe upon their rights».

There are proofs that through training and juridical information on responsibility for violation of land legislation, LARC made an impact on decision makers who started making decisions being guided by the current legislation. **Decision makers came to believe that if one works with LARC, many mistakes in the work can be avoided.**

At the same time there were facts, when ayil okmotu violated rights of villagers through abuse of power, in order to gaining profit, e.g., ignoring the land law in land distribution. This is especially observed in remote rayons.

In some cases corruption of government agencies allows LARC to render cheaper legal services to clients. E.g.: some banks charge villagers up to 10.000 soms for elaboration of documents to receive credits while LARC helps to do the same for 1500 soms. Such activity allows making a certain impact on corruption as well.

Increased awareness of the population regarding credit agreements helped reduce cases of illegal land requisitioning for unpaid debts.

Thanks to LARC, abuses by local authorities in land rent issues have stopped. A female client said «the case concerned land rent. After an auction for land, a rental agreement was concluded between the client and ayil okmotu. A year later, ayil okmotu transferred this land for use to another person, after receiving a big amount of money from him. When the woman came to ayil okmotu and started proving her rights, he simply waved her aside, saying «do what you want, go anywhere you like, I am right all the same». The client came to LARC for assistance, received written consultation and proved her rightfulness to ayil okmotu. Now ayil okmotu is rather afraid of me; moreover, the villagers **started respecting me more** for being able to prove my right.

Now we cultivate land, **get decent income, managed to repair the house, bought a car. She created a self-help group recently, and said «one must not sit on one's hands, it is necessary to help oneself».** This case proves that the woman gained not only confidence in her own strengths, but also raised her self-esteem. It should be noted that this case is not a single instance.

By assisting in resolution of inheritance issues, LARC helps defend not only the rights of family members, but also ensures their economic independence. E.g.: «a woman divorced her husband long ago and returned to her father's home with six children. The parents who were living alone registered the house on her. After they died, the older brother sold the house without telling the sister. When she tried to prove her rights for the house, the buyer beat her. She appealed to ayil okmotu but they answered that there were no documents confirming her rights because they were destroyed. She was thrown out of the house with her children. Everybody, including her brother, told her that she, an illiterate woman, would not achieve anything and that she was trying in vain. She went to oblast court which decided not in her favor. In 2004 she appealed to LARC, which helped her elaborate all documents correctly; the case was reconsidered and resolved in her favor.

It should be emphasized that in many cases LARC is the only legal organization rendering impartial and objective legal services in the field of land legislation.

**Thus, PA LARC managed to take a well-deserved professional place among the country's organizations rendering legal services to Kyrgyzstan's citizens and working in the agrarian sector. This allows moving systematically and by phases towards implementation of the posed goals. Branch office lawyers have influence on the increasing level of legal awareness of the rural population and defending rights of the socially vulnerable populations.**

**As branch office lawyers, clients, partners and decision makers note, the level of legal knowledge among the rural population is as low as before and the people do not trust the legal system. This is due to bureaucratization and corruption of courts and other state agencies. On this background, the branch offices' activity distinguishes them advantageously from state agencies. Branch offices exert influence on state agencies' work, compelling them to observe the rights of rural residents, and increase the confidence of rural residents in exercising their rights.**

**Through their activity, LARC lawyers build capacity of decision makers, judges dealing with the agrarian law and promote using of pre-trial mechanisms of dispute resolution. Thus, the Project as a whole precluded disputes between rural residents and authorities, as well as between rural residents themselves, ultimately, increasing legal awareness of rural residents and their desire to demand exercise of their rights, and prevented legal nihilism in the rural area.**

#### **4. CURRENT STATE AND PROSPECTS OF PA LARC**

PA LARC is a local organization in need of constant institutional strengthening to achieve sustainability. Currently, 22 PA LARC branch offices are active all over the country; their activity being coordinated by 2 Regional representative offices: one in the south (Osh City) and one in the north (Bishkek City).

During and after transformation, rural residents consistently come to PA LARC lawyers for legal services; thus the organization made its contribution into creation of conditions for rendering legal services. Practice of lawyers shows that LARC activity is still relevant and needed today.

In 2005, in order to strengthen its proactive activity and increase the branch offices' client number, PA LARC began organizing a network of rural activists in the regions specifically in the area of land and the agrarian law. The activists are tasked with establishing partner relations, identification of legal problems of their villages and attracting clients. It is assumed that in future the rural activists will coordinate the work of village initiative groups on resolving their legal problems.

LARC leadership also made a decision to select junior lawyers in order to provide lawyers with an opportunity to deal with more difficult cases: representations in and out of court. Junior lawyers render consultative assistance to villagers in 9 branch offices where demand for PA LARC services is bigger than in other rayons.

In 2005 paid services were introduced and price-lists were confirmed for services in the agrarian and other fields of law. PA LARC began actively attracting mandates and new donors.

In July 2005, a new institution for resolution of legal problems was introduced in PA LARC -- 4 attorneys at law. This created a significant potential and villagers now have one more opportunity to defend their rights. The number of court cases is increasing, and this trend will continue. All of this proves that possibilities for gradual development of the land market exist and, accordingly, demand for legal services in the field of land law is present, which is necessary to achieve sustainability and viability of PA LARC.

Quality of legal services rendered by LARC lawyers was highly praised by independent experts in the field of jurisprudence. Collections on juridical and court practice will appear in print in the near future. Juridical practice of LARC lawyers, reported legal problems and ways of their possible resolution will be systematized and summarized there.

PA LARC plans to expand its portfolio of services and render juridical assistance not only in the agrarian law, but also render other legal services aimed at increase of citizens' well-being.

Accessibility of specialist legal services in the agrarian field is an extremely relevant problem for the rural population. In this regard, PA LARC has chosen a strategically correct direction of its activity. On the background of shortage of juridical cadres specializing in the agrarian law, PA LARC is perceived both by state agencies and the rural population as the only organization that has seriously shown oneself first of all thanks to its professional personnel capacity.

PA LARC lawyers emphasize that the legal system regulating land ownership in Kyrgyzstan is only beginning to take shape. During this process, a market for legal services will develop, demand for them among the population will increase and, as a result, PA LARC activity will expand.

Based on a 5 year experience, lawyers clearly understand that a quality and unbiased legal assistance is an important factor in the achievement of the mission and tasks posed by PA LARC.

## 5. Appendix

### 5.1 Success stories

#### Nookat

##### **A garden for children**

To provide access to legal assistance to the socially vulnerable population categories is one of the objectives of the PA “LARC”. Not finding support from the power structures, many people refer to the lawyers of “LARC”. Kandolat Uraimova sought truth for five years. Back in 1980, her husband and father-in-law began to develop 0.15 hectares of land near the locality called Garage in the village. In 1998, they planted potatoes, the next year they harvested sunflower. In 2000, however, other resident of the village occupied this land. Kandolat referred to aiyl okmotu, where she was promised that the land would be returned to her in autumn. In autumn though, the new owner sowed wheat. Then, Kandolat referred to the rayon akimiat. But in vain again. In short, she tried everything: the Procuracy and the court of aksakals. All took her side, but could not concretely resolve this conflict. During that time, her husband died and Kandolat stayed alone with her five small children. Everything seemed to be against her. Her family was included in the list of the poor families. She did not receive benefits. She had to feed children somehow. All she could in the context of a village was to cultivate land. For three years she made her living working on leased land, while her land plot continued remaining in others’ hands. She does not already remember who advised her to refer to “LARC”. “I was welcomed heartedly and listened to – for the first time over a number of years, I got a glimmer of hope,” – Kandolat tells her story with sadness. Lawyer Kalygul Saliev represented interests of the client before aiyl okmotu, talked to the counterparty. As a result of the negotiations and explanation of the laws, the land passed into the possession of its rightful owner – Kandolat and her children. How often the stronger oppress the weak, taking advantage of their influence! In this situation though, it was enough to demonstrate the power of laws for justice to triumph. Kandolat shares her plans: “Now I am recovering more or less. I want to plant a garden for my son.”

##### **A State Deed has been issued to a landowner**

**In recent years problems connected with the plots of land under privatized buildings and constructions have become topical. This is connected with the actions and requirements of Gosregistr and local self-government bodies that these plots of land be bought out and the incorrect interpretation and application of the KR Law On Bringing into Force the Land Code (LC) of the KR (point 7 of Article 6). Persons who privatized buildings and constructions almost 10 years ago and those who did so recently, have encountered this problem and have asked for help.**

Gaparzhan Dadazhanov asked the Nookat LARC PA branch office for legal advice on the problem and LARC lawyers prepared a letter to Gostregistr. In the reply letter the authorities of Gosregistr stressed that the State Deed conferring the right to private ownership of a plot of land was to be issued to Dadazhanov and the appropriate instructions were given to the Nookat Gosregistr. Unfortunately, these instructions had not been fulfilled for more than 3 months and Dadazhanov could not use his legal rights. In October 2003 a lawyer of the Nookat branch office, Kalygul Saliev, sent another letter to Gosregistr with the substantiation based on the provisions of the Law. Firstly, according to the Orders of the Nookat area administration, the buildings of the Meat Processing Enterprise (MPE) with the adjacent area of 3.10 ha were transferred to the Kuruuchu JSC in lieu of a debt for construction work carried out by the latter. Secondly, the Kuruuchu JSC received a document from the Osh oblast State Property Fund certifying the right of the JSC to buy out the MPE’s property. Thirdly, on the basis of the above-

mentioned documents Kuruuchu JSC got its right registered on September 20<sup>th</sup> 1999 and was issued the State Deed granting land ownership. According to Resolution # 457 of the Kyrgyz Republic Government dated July 3<sup>rd</sup> 2002, documents certifying the right to a plot of land approved by Resolutions # 229 of the Kyrgyz Republic Government dated July 20<sup>th</sup> 1990 and # 717 dated December 27<sup>th</sup> 1999 and issued to natural persons and legal entities before the adoption of Resolution # 457, remain valid and do not need to be drawn up again.

On the basis of the KR Law On Bringing the Land Code of the Kyrgyz Republic into Force (point 7, Article 6), Kuruuchu JSC's right to private ownership of this plot of land was recognized without the documents being drawn up again as free and without an additional payment, because the Kuruuchu JSC had got the right for the plot of land assigned to the buildings and constructions before the Land Code of the Kyrgyz Republic was brought into force. On the basis of the Resolution of the General Meeting of the Kuruuchu JSC's shareholders and the Order of the Kuruuchu JSC Chairman, all buildings of the enterprise and the 3.10 ha plot of land were sold to Gaparzhan Dadazhanov. The parties made a purchase and sale contract on August 29<sup>th</sup> 2002 and a notary certified the contract. In accordance with the Civil Code and the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic, On Economic Associations and Societies dated November 15<sup>th</sup> 1996 the Kuruuchu JSC as a legal entity has the civil rights and obligations necessary to exercise any types of activity, i.e. the right to sell the plot of land belonging to it under the right to private ownership. According to Article 35 of the KR Land Code, the owner of a plot of land may assign his right to a plot of land completely or partially to another natural person or legal entity without any permission of the state bodies.

On the basis of the above-mentioned documents the Nookat Gosregistr performed a complete state registration of Dadazhanov's right of ownership on September 6<sup>th</sup> 2002 and issued a deed to him to certifying Dadazhanov's possession of the enterprise and recognizing the area of the plot of land equal to 31,000 square metres. According to Article 25 of the Law On the State Registration of Immovable Property Rights, the registration body shall certify the registration by issuing a document confirming the registered right, on application by the applicant and after the appropriate payment made by him. In accordance with the Instruction On the Procedure for Drawing up and Issuing Documents Certifying the Rights to a Plot of Land, approved by Order # 60 of the KR Gosregistr of August 10<sup>th</sup> 2000, the State Deed to private ownership right is a document certifying the right and must be issued on the basis of a purchase and sale contract.

Nevertheless, the decision of the Nookat Gosregistr not to issue the State Deed was ungrounded, not in compliance with the requirements of the KR legislation and it impeded the enforcement of Dadazhanov's legal rights. The requirement of Article 22 of the Law On the State Registration of Immovable Property Rights (where an applicant is refused a registration, he shall be notified about the reason for the refusal in writing) was not satisfied and this Article did not substantiate the rejection. The registration had been done, but the State Deed had not been issued for unknown reasons. The lawyer stated these arguments to the Republican Gosregistr and received a positive answer. Then the Nookat Gosregistr fulfilled its duties to the LARC client.

## **Karasoo**

### **A grandson will have his own land**

Plots of land were distributed in accordance with Resolution # 632 of the Kyrgyz Republic Government, On the Approval of Provisions for Land and Agrarian Reform dated August 22<sup>nd</sup> 1994.

The procedure for land sharing and issuing a license for the right to use a land share contained the criteria for identifying people entitled to a land share;

?) persons regularly working in agriculture and living in this village, pensioners (who have worked and are living in this village), handicapped people, who became such when working in these villages;

?) persons living in the village and working in healthcare, water economy, education, consumer services, trade, culture and in agricultural, veterinary, chemical and technical services and people providing agricultural services;

?) by decision of the labour collective members (from this village) – persons working outside this village who have returned to take up permanent residence.

After land distribution many people having the right to a land share did not get it for different reasons. Among them was Matanov Nursultan - a grandson of Matanov Turat, a villager from Zhylkeldi. Nursultan was born in 1993 and had a right to land. "Since 2001 I have not been able to solve this problem", - says Turat Matanov. Turat applied to LARC and LARC sent a letter to the Ak-Tash Village Council asking it to solve the problem. A land share was promised to Matanov Nursultan from the released land. Turat Matanov applied to the Head of the Village Council several times. This year a lawyer of the LARC PA branch office, Zhyldyz Sydykova, sent a letter containing the interpretation of the legislation to the Head of Aiyl Okmotu.

On December 19<sup>th</sup> 2000, after numerous complaints and applications from Kyrgyz Republic citizens permanently residing in rural areas having the right to a land share but not having got it, the Legislative Assembly of the Kyrgyz Republic Jogorku Kenesh resolved the following:

1. To commission the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic to consider and solve the land sharing issue with regard to citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic permanently residing in rural areas, having the right to a land share, but not having got it for different reasons.

2. To commission the Agro-Industrial Complex Committee of the KR Jogorku Kenesh Legislative Assembly to control the implementation of the Resolution.

The work connected with finding the people who did not get land shares for different reasons and with making lists of people having the right for a land share, had been carried out by 2003.

On January 15<sup>th</sup> 2003, for the purposes of providing permanent residents of rural areas having the right for a land share, but not having got land by the time of the Kyrgyz Republic Land Code's coming into force, in accordance with Article 6 of the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic, On Bringing into Force the Land Code of the Kyrgyz Republic, in accordance with Article 20 of the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic, On the Management of Agricultural Use Lands, the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic adopted a Resolution, according to which a land share was to be allocated to Nursultan. LARC lawyer, Zhyldyz Sydykova's defence of her client's interests was successful and Turat Matanov's grandchildren and children are satisfied. "LARC helps restore justice", - says granddad Turat.

## **Uzgen**

### **Leave our house**

Property disputes seem to be one of the main topical issues in villages. In this case a dispute arose over a house. 2 years ago Ergeshbai Zhusubaliev bought a house in his daughter Zeinaphan's name and all the documents were drawn up. Since the 1960s Ergeshbai Zhusubaliev

has worked as a responsible officer and a team leader on a state farm. He got nothing in the course of privatization. The Aiyl Okmotu invited him to buy a house, but for two years already the family living there has not left the house. The Aksakal got to know about LARC from his acquaintances in the village and asked the lawyer, Kanybek Muratbaev, to get the problem solved in court. According to the lawyer of the LARC PA branch office in Uzgen, Kanybek Muratbaev, he encountered difficulties in ensuring the defendant's appearance in court. The defendant still lives in the house without any rights and documents. In the past the house was on the balance sheet of the Aiyl-Okmotu and the head of the family living in this house worked as a watchman. The family knew that Zeinaphan had bought the house and promised to move, but wouldn't do so voluntarily. "We had to apply to go to court and get a writ and the court decided to satisfy our writ", - said Kanybek.

#### **42 families to get documents to their houses**

People of the Kyzyl-Oktyabr village council applied to the LARC PO Uzgen LAC affiliate with a legal problem. Due to lack of knowledge and money for the privatization of houses, villagers of the Kyzyl-Oktyabr village did not privatize their houses after re-organization of collective farms, state farms and denationalization of property. Due to the lack of a pledge (documents confirming and certifying the right to dwelling houses) 42 poor families and families with many children encountered certain difficulties when applying to different micro-crediting organizations. Micro-crediting organizations refused them loans, though, according to Article 4 of the KR Law # 681-XII On the Privatization of Housing Resources dated December 20<sup>th</sup> 1991, the above mentioned families fall in a category of persons having the right to receive free privatized immovable property. The Director of branch office in Uzgen, Kursant Dzhunushaliev, studied all the documents, met the villagers and prepared a letter to the Minister of Agriculture, Water Resources and Processing Industry, Alexandr Kostjuk. The Republican Centre for Land and Agrarian Reform considered the letter of the LARC lawyer and the protocol of the general meeting of the Kyzylsenir Seed Growing Farm labour collective. It was decided that the houses be privatized free of charge. Soon these people will become property owners having documents, rather than tenants.

#### **Leylek**

#### **Entitled for reconciliation**

Ibragim Umarov, the resident of the town Isfana appealed concerning the issues of benefits on land tax. He has been charged with 64 som land tax for his homestead land of 0,08 ha of land. However after he sought to LARC lawyers he has learnt that in 2004 the tax size should make 32 som. One would reasonably raise a question – why? It is simple because based on the following grounds. The Law of the Kyrgyz Republic «On basic land taxes for using agricultural lands, homestead lands and country cottage lands, lands of settlements and of non-agricultural purpose in 2004» passed in 22 March, 2004, ? 45, established basic rates in 2004. After Isfana was granted he status of a city the basic rate for cities is fixed at 0,08 som per sq. m., whereas the rate for villages is fixed at 0,04 som/sq. meters, pursuant to above mentioned law (Article.4). However, Isfana qualifies under remote settlements. According to the KR Tax Code the settlements qualified as high mountainous and remote areas according to the KR JK LC the land tax is fixed at 50 % from the basic rate of land tax for the given rayon.

If to recalculate then it goes that Ibragim Umarov paid two times more than the due tax size according to Legislation of Kyrgyzstan. Based on this line of reasoning, with the help of lawyers he wrote an appeal to the local tax inspection department to reconcile the land tax and offset the amount of paid land taxes for future land tax payments for homestead land. Furthermore, the letter to the tax inspection was from 20 residents of the town who were entitled for a benefit.

Moreover, Ibragim Umarov received the response from the Head of the State Tax Inspection in Leylekskiy rayon that he is entitled for reconciliation of the land tax for individual plot of land and offsetting for future payments. «Thanks to the lawyer Zakir Amanbaev we have managed to achieve the equitable solution. And how many people are still left without belief into rule of law», - says Ibragim aka.

### **Kadamjai**

#### **Eventually settled and divided**

**There were several cases in the practice of Furkat Ergashev, the lawyer of Kadamjayskiy Branch office related to land disputes. We have met some of people involved in land disputes.**

**Jailoobay Dosanov, the client of Kadamjay Branch office, and his wife, Zulaika, have conveyed the story of their family. «My husband has 4 brothers. In early 70<sup>th</sup>, we separated and set up on our own away from the mother-in-law. At the beginning, his brother Jengish used to live with us but later after we constructed our own house and our separate families became neighbors. Since 1975 my husband started cultivating the land plot around his house and farmed 1,03 ha of land through his own funds. When we firstly arrived at this place there was not a single tree», - says Zulaika. Now we see that the place became a blooming garden and it is obvious that it is taken care of. Jengish Usmanov started to claim for the cultivated land.**

Prior turning to LARC Jailoobay Dosanov appealed to different agencies entitled and not entitled to address issues related to land except for the court and failed to achieve the positive outcome. Over 6 years the Client failed to legalize and file the documents on the cultivated land plot as another citizen was claiming his rights on this land plot. .

Furkat Ergashev provided to the client the written consultation on the issue in question with further court representation of the client. All essential documents were collected and prepared in order to appeal to the court, the pre court order of settling the dispute was complied with. The Client according to Civil Procedure Code has paid the state dues and on behalf of the Client Furkat Ergashev has filed law suit on entitlement of ownership rights on cultivated land plot of 1.03 ha of land. The court accepted the law suit and after all necessary procedures were completed the court decided to review the case. In the course of the court proceedings it was established that the plaintiff has cultivated based on reports of experts and in the result of lengthy disputes the parties arrived at amicable solution. According to the amicable solution, the defendant got 0.25 ha of land and the LARC client withheld the rest of land. The passed a report on achieving the amicable solution. Based on this definition of the court and according to Section 4, Article 6 of the Kyrgyz Republic Law “On enforcing the Land Code” the Village Administration has promulgated a Decree on provision of the cultivated lands into the ownership of our client. The right of LARC client was registered and he was issued the Act of State on private ownership right on the cultivated land. As one can see, despite the red tape and hurdles and after seeking aid “elsewhere” the LARC client managed to get the recognition of his rights on cultivated low efficient lands. In the result, under the support of Furkat Ergashev, the LARC lawyer, the client has obtained the land plot which he used to cultivate for several years. And the Dosanov’s family seems to be happy.

«Thanks to intervention of Furkat Ergashev, the LARC Lawyer, into the dispute of two brothers and his legal assistance we gained peace and confidence in our future life», - says Zulaika Dosanova.

## **Justice still exists**

**Many people are afraid of going to court, because it can be a long process. Many of them do not believe in the justice of the third power, but some get deeply involved in the process and become well acquainted with our court system.**

**Many rural people apply to lawyers of the Legal Assistance to Rural Citizens – LARC project to get their legal problems solved. If it is necessary to defend a client’s interests in court, lawyers act as their attorneys or representatives.**

Nazbubu Kalykova could not get justice until she applied to LARC. The reason for the dispute was a house belonging to her according to the right to property. She was born and lived in Uchkun village and her parents were respected people in the village. Her father was a GPW veteran and her mother was among the best workers on the state farm. Here is the history of their house. Nazbubu’s grandfather was offended by his son, Rahmanali and left the house to his elder son, Nazbubu’s father. Her family consists of 8 people: herself, 2 sisters and 5 brothers. All her brothers and sisters are well provided for. Nazbubu suffers from a bad disease, polio-arthritis and her relatives decided to leave the house to her, because all of them have their own families and houses. Cousins of Nazbubu suddenly started claiming to the house. “When granddad died, my father buried him with honour and his brother, Rakhmanli, did not make any contribution”, - said Nazbubu. Some time later Nazbubu’s father said that he was going to leave the house to his daughter and asked his brother and his sons to move out. Rakhmanali beat him up for this. Nazbubu’s father gave her the house as a gift and confirmed it with documents, but her cousins refused to leave the house and drew up a document certifying their right to the house. “We decided to apply to court, but the aksakals advised us not to do this, because it is not normal for rural people to go to law with relatives. We forgave him for beating up my father. Yet he did not leave the house and less than 40 days after my father’s death they started rowing. I decided to apply to court”. Before applying to LARC Nazbubu had applied to rayon and oblast courts and even went to the capital. Once she saw a signboard in one of the central streets of Kadamzhai advertising legal aid free of charge. She hoped to get helped and entered the building. “When I visited the courts I did not believe the attorneys. They took money and achieved nothing. Furkat Ergashev received me very politely and my mood improved. One legal process was enough to solve the case that could not be solved for three years. I completely relied upon the attorney and did not think about my case. The most important thing for a person is a good word. My cousins were sure I had paid a lot of money, but how could I pay having a 350-som pension? I said that I had paid nothing to the lawyer for his aid”. In the course of the court proceedings the parties achieved a consensus. The defendant promised to demolish the house built by him and remove the construction materials and iron gates. Nazbubu agreed. The cousin also promised not to prevent Nazbubu from using the plot of land belonging to her according to the right to property. In the course of these proceedings, the PTC senior lawyer in Kadamzhai led her case as her representative and did not leave it in court either. In practice court decisions are not often fulfilled, but in this case it was. “Justice still exists”- said Nazbubu.

## Karabuura

### **Maimak – a village at the border**

**In terms of the daily problems, life of a village on one of the peripheries of Kyrgyzstan is no different from other populated settlements of the country. But if one is to listen and look more attentively, it would become clear that it stays apart for its distinctions. Virtually all life of the Maimakers is connected with the neighboring country – Kazakhstan. These are the family and economic ties. 17 km of the Kazakh railroad goes through the territory of Kyrgyzstan. The history of the village dates back to the 20s of the past century. Station “Maimak” was established to service a part of the Turksyb railroad. The Jambul department of the Kazakh railroad was in charge of provision and support of the village. Today the village has a railway communication with Kazakhstan and other CIS countries.**

“We are more concerned with what is happening in the neighboring Kazakhstan, because economically we are more connected with it. Many of our young people are working in Taraz, Almaty and Astana. We go shopping to Taraz: 40 minutes on train for only 10 soms. We export our potatoes and sunflower. At the border the Maimakers enjoy certain exemptions. As a result, 99% of our activities are connected with Kazakhstan,” – Jekshen Abdraimov, head of the rural administration says.

In order to improve the life and perspectives for socio-economic development of Maimak Town of Talas oblast, the Program on Vitality Provision and Perspectives for Socio-economic Development of Maimak Town of Talas oblast for 1998-2000 was developed. However, due to the limitation of financial resources, none of the activities anticipated by the Program has been implemented. Then, a new development program for 2003-2007 was prepared. At present, one of items – re-distribution of land is coming to its logical completion.

On the territory of the village, there is a facility OP 36/29 of the CDEP MoI of the Kyrgyz Republic with the number of special contingent up to 100 people that work on farms. Within the village there are 634 hectares of agricultural land, of which 157 hectares are irrigated tillage. From the total agricultural land, 160 hectares are held by the MoI facility OP 36/29, 399 hectares are held by the Agricultural Lands Re-distribution Fund, and 102 hectares are allocated to the population as allotments. These allotments went to 64 families, while over 100 families do not have allotments. Currently, the population of the village is 803 people. The main type of activities of the population is work on allotments and seasonal work at the railroad. In the context of no operating enterprises in the village, the issue of land allocation is becoming very prominent. However, allocation of land turned out a complex enterprise. The Maimak village administration, Kara-Buura state administration and citizens of the rayon referred to the Government of the KR with a proposal to allocate these lands to peasants. The issue was resolved though. The CDEP did not want to part with the land and ignored the village administration. Since the rayon state administration, village administration and the local office of the Gosregister believed a decision on the transfer of lands should be made by the Government, the issue remained unresolved.

The interference of a PA “LARC” lawyer, Gulmira Kokesheva, helped resolve the conflict situation. She helped Jekshen Abdraimov to draw up an action to court to requisition a part of unused land. The outcome was a decision of the Kara-Buura rayon court to satisfy the claim of Maimak village administration. Hence, 135 hectares of land (including 16 hectares of irrigated land, 28 hectares of dry land, 36 hectares of pastures, 11 hectares of land under trees and bushes, 16 hectares under water and 28 hectares of other land) were transferred to Maimak

village administration. This land was distributed among the villagers as allotments. This year Shambet Muzraimov, a resident of Maimaik village, received 1 hectare of land, which formerly belonged to the facility OP/29. He says: “I planted sunflower and the results met all of my expectations. I hope the harvest will improve my family budget. Many thanks to the lawyers of “LARC” for helping us resolve a very crucial problem.” In the context of no industrial enterprises, land is becoming extremely valuable in the eyes of the Maimakers. In order to work at the railroad, it is necessary to have Kazakh citizenship. Given the lack of land, when the Maimakers cannot fully shift to agriculture, the efforts of the village administration head deserve applause. There are good people in the world. So, in Maimak too there are sponsors. Jekshen Abdraimov tells: “Kaldygul Raimbekova helped construct the mosque, presented a printer and computers to the school. During the elections, we did not have visitors. Apparently, 308 votes would not change the history. Our deputies do help us though: Sherniazov worked well for us during his term, the present deputy Omurbek Babanov is also trying hard.”

**The village continues its life at the border. The trains rattle away. Glancing back to the Kazakh border, people still look at their Kyrgyz homeland with hope and belief.**

**May the gardens blossom!**

**Mr. Abdilmanap Turaliev, a resident of Uchbulak village of Karabuura rayon of Talas oblast, can be called a real toiler and fan of his business. He has created a real paradise of apple-trees on unreclaimed lands. He began to develop his farm back in 1993. However, he managed to obtain documents on his land plot only after more than ten years. The problem of registration of ownership rights to land plots under perennial plantations remains open. It is current importance for many rural citizens, including citizens of Karabuura rayon. This problem is linked to the question of interrelation between the perennial plantations and land plot. At present, it is often the case that if an individual buys perennial fruit-and-berry plantations from the authorized body, the authorized body or Gosregister bodies demand that a lease agreement upon the land plot under the perennial plantations be made with the purchaser of perennial plantations.**

In the case of Abdilmanap Turaliev, the local Gosregister body refused to issue a state act, motivating it by saying that he had bought only the plantations and not the land plot under them. Everything began already in 1993, when the collective farm “Karabuura” concluded an agreement on the provision of 3.5 hectares of low productive land plot for temporary use to the resident of Uchbulak village Abdilmanap Turaliev for developing and planting saplings.

In 1996, during reorganization of the collective farm, the chairman of the village committee on agrarian reform V. Kantanovich concluded a new agreement with the hero of our story on allotting 12.84 hectares of unreclaimed lands, including 3.5 hectares of land provided earlier for planting an orchard.

In 2004, A. Turaliev, having paid 50000 soms to the state, obtained a certificate of title to the planted perennials from the Agrarian-Land Reform Center.

On November 11, 2004 Karabuura aiyl okmotu in its Resolution recognized the Abdilmanap Turaliev’s property right to the entire developed land plot.

However, Karabuura Department of Land Use and Registration of Rights to Immovable Property refused to register his property right to 12.84 hectares of land plot and proposed to Turaliev to obtain a certificate of the right to temporary use of land plot, i.e. to register the right to land plot on lease terms and conditions. Not knowing how and what to do Abdilmanap-ake was beating down the doors of aiyl okmotu and rayon administration. But there were no results. In despair, he was just about to file a suit, when one of his friends advised him to refer to the Karabuura branch office of the Public Association “LARC” Legal Assistance to Rural People –

may be they could help. Indeed, already in a month he got to obtain all documents rights. Muhammed Jumaliev, a lawyer the PA “LARC”, helped him sort out the legal cobwebs. Here is how he comments upon the situation. “Having analyzed the land legislation, it becomes clear that his problem arose due to gaps in the legislation. In accordance with the existing land legislation, recognition of private property rights to low productive agricultural lands is possible. Under Art.24 of the Civil Code of the KR, perennial fruit plantations fall to the category of immovable property, because they are firmly connected with land and their removal without disproportionate damage for what they are intended is impossible. That is, based on this article, perennial plantations may be regarded as buildings and constructions, which, being immovable property, are also firmly connected with land. Article 233 of the Civil Code of the KR says that in purchasing buildings and constructions, the value of the land plot is included in the value of these buildings and constructions. A similar article is also found in the Land Code. In Art.44, it is said that a land plot is inseparable from buildings and constructions. These provisions do not specify cases with perennial plantations. However, in the Civil Code there is Article 5, which says about application of law by analogy. That is, when there is no concrete provision, there are similar provisions that regulate relations. In this case both the perennial plantations and buildings and constructions refer to immovable property. If Article 233 of the Civil Code and Article 33 of the Land Code are to be used here, then in purchasing perennial plantations the title to the land plot must also be purchased. However, there is also another side of this issue – to what extent can application of law by analogy be applied in this situation in practice, and whether the local Gosregister body would go for it. It should be noted that the local Gosregister body does not apply the article on analogy”. Having studied documents of the client and all circumstances of the case, the lawyer proposed to the client another way to solve the problem.

Under Art.6, item 4 of the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On Enacting the Land Code”, the property right to a land plot shall be deemed belonging to individuals, who developed low productive land plots, free of charge and without additional payment, with subsequent legalization of a document authenticating the property right to land plot.

Abdilmanap Turaliev had obtained his land plot before the Land Code took effect, and in the title-establishing document it is clearly said that the land plot was low productive and unreclaimed and was provided indeed for developing. Nevertheless, it was necessary to provide evidence of developing and involvement of the low productive land in agricultural circulation. Muhammed Jumaliev, a lawyer Karabuura branch office, referred to the Kyrgyzgiprozem with a request to provide an opinion of expert commission upon the land plot developed by Turaliev with total area of 12.84 hectares. Based on the written response of Kyrgyzgiprozem, under Art.6, item 4 of the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On Enacting the Land Code of the KR”, Turaliev obtained a State act on the property right to the land plot. “Thanks to support of qualified specialists, I got to become fully-fledged owner of my land plot”, - Abdilmanap Turaliev says happily. “Now I can be certain about my children’s well-being and their future”. The orchard of Abdilmanap-ake will not leave anyone indifferent. Here, apples are truly marvelous, juicy and full of vitamins. One can be sincerely happy about the toiler’s success. He is the legal owner of his land plot now. Not far away from the orchard is his house, where his children and grandchildren live. This orchard is not only a material wealth for him. “Here I find kind of a safety-valve. I will teach my children not only to work on land, but, first of all, to appreciate what they do,” - Abdilmanap-ake says. “What is your orchard for?” – I ask him. “God will give me 10 more years, and I might build a mini-plant for fruit processing. It will be beneficial for both the state and people”. “Are you not afraid of difficulties?” “If the state supports me with credits, I will manage to bring my dreams to reality. I know my business very well. My family helps me: my wife and children. We work in summertime and wintertime. In order to develop the village, it is crucial that the villagers themselves think about the future. I am sure that my labor will not be in vain”, - Abdilmanap-ake says of confidence and optimism. And it is not baseless, in fact. The results of the last year harvesting season speak for themselves. The

Kazakhs buy our agricultural produce in wholesale quantities. The example of this year is a confirmation to that – the neighbors bought 6 tons of apples at 10 soms per kilogram.

**God bless the human labor, may your orchards blossom, the Toiler of land!**

### **Long-awaited peace in a family**

A dispute about a sheepfold between the Jumataev brothers became well known throughout the rayon. Resolving this dispute was made difficult by the fact that both parties were brothers. The problem arose between the brothers after their father's death. Their father was also a member of the farm. On July 15th 1991 Meenet farm was registered by a decision of Kirov Rayon Council of People's Deputies. Islambek Jumataev was the Head of the farm. His brothers and old mother were members of the farm. The following property was on the balance-sheet of the farm: a sheepfold situated in Amanbaevo village, a tractor, several hundred sheep, pastures, 40 hectares of ploughing land and 2 cars. All the farm members used the sheepfold, but soon Islambek Jumataev stated that the sheepfold belonged to him. Then, his brothers began to investigate what the situation was and got a copy of property certificate for the sheepfold issued by Oblast Centre for Land Reform (CLR) dated August 5<sup>th</sup>, last year, which hadn't gone through state registration yet from Islambek. Farm members began collecting documents concerning the farm and during this process found out that on the basis of Decree ? 77 of Karabuura Rayon State Administration dated 28.02.96 Meenet farm was liquidated based upon a statement from the farm. Islambek Jumataev registered Meenet farm on February 16th 2000. When he received the property certificate for the sheepfold he submitted a dubious decree from the Board of Directors of the Rossiya collective farm. There is still the question of how and when he registered the decree without notifying his relatives - farm members. He registered the farm in his name, although they all have equal rights to the disputed sheepfold as owners of common joint property. A new farm was registered with the old name Meenet. Farm members submitted a statement to the Oblast CLR and Republican CLR asking that the certificate for Jumataev Islambek be cancelled. A general meeting of Meenet farm members was held and the meeting passed a decision to divide up the property. According to the decision the sheepfold was transferred to Zamirbek, the tractor to Maksat and Islambek was to receive compensation and the Oblast CLR issued certificates for Jumataev Zamirbek and Jumataev Maksatbek. But Islambek did not agree with the decision as he considered the sheepfold to be his property. His brothers Turat, Zamir, Maksat and mother Tolmo-apa and other members of the farm submitted a writ declaring invalid the property right certificate ? 043740 for the sheepfold and house issued to Islambek Jumataev by Talas Oblast CLR on August 5th 2003 and demanding to declare valid a certificate issued to Zamirbek Jumataev, to cancel the decree of Amanbaevo aйл-okmotu assigning a land share to Islambek Jumataev and leave valid a decree assigning the land share to Jumataev Zamirbek. Jumataev Islambek made a counter-claim.

«Well, first we turned to the state organs and got different advice everywhere and we decided to turn to independent specialists. Later on, we heard from relatives in our village about the LARC Project where people explain juridical nuances and where lawyers resolve such disputes and that there were positive results of such cases. Then, after New Year, we turned to the LARC office with this problem. On the farm we worked as one family – 7 brothers - one – as a tractor driver, one – as a cattle-breeder and one sold cattle. As for me – I was breeding cattle. Gulmira Kokesheva explained that property should be divided between all the farm members. She prepared letters to the Oblast and Republican CLR and oblast court. We could not find the farm documents in the local office of Gosregistr, but we found them in the archives of Amanbaevo village. We turned to the oblast court as farm property was estimated at about 500,000 soms. For four months we were going around the courts. Our brother began to understand that we would get the truth with the help of the law. At last we decided to conclude a peaceful agreement. With

the agreement of all farm members we divided the property. And if there had been no LARC we would probably have not resolved that problem», - says younger brother Zamir Jumataev. The case was examined in the assize court and this dotted the “i’s” and crossed “t’s” in the story of the sheepfold. Long-awaited peace in a large family has come at last. So all that is left is to hope that the Jumataevs will be patient with each other and wish them good fortune.

### **A conflict resolved peacefully**

Jumagul Umarbekova was literally fighting with the local authorities for her land share and despite everything she won. In 2000 Jumagul was granted a land share of 5 hectares for 5 years by B. aiyl-okmotu decree in accordance with the land legislation. “A decree of the Rayon State Administration legally approved the decree of B.aiyl-okmotu leasing me a land share for growing perennial plants”, - says Jumagul. On the basis of these two decisions the following documents were registered: temporary use certificate for the share and lease contract for 5 years. But when the Administration changed, the new people decided to take this land away. Jumagul appealed to many places and she even went to Bishkek to Parliamentart Deputies. Her expenses for tillage were not repaid. “When the LARC Project was established I could protect my rights. In other words, officials have only now woken up. And earlier they told me to go wherever I wanted”, - says Jumagul Umarbekova about the problem. However, decree No 167 of the Rayon State Administration of April 27 2002 declared the decree of B.aiyl-okmotu invalid as well as the decree of the Rayon Administration leasing a plot to Umarbekova. The basis for this decision was a protest from the rayon prosecutor “For the cancellation of B.aiyl-okmotu and Rayon State Administration decrees” in connection with the fact that the land share was rented to another villager in defiance of the KR Government Decree requirements for granting land on a competitive basis. On May 13th 2003 B.aiyl-okmotu passed a decision to grant Umarbekova J.A. 8.7 hectares of land for individual housebuilding. Temporary resolution No 480 of August 20th 1997, referred to by the Prosecutor while making a protest stipulated granting land shares from the Agricultural Lands Re-distribution Fund (ALRF) on a lease on a competitive basis. When Jumagul was getting the land she did not know about that. The Aiyl-okmotu refers to this regulation in the agreement. Accordingly, the aiyl-okmotu knew about the regulation that land must be granted on a competitive basis and when they were granting land they did not follow a temporary regulation. So Jumagul was deprived of her rights to use land because of a mistake made by the aiyl-okmotu and a protest from the Prosecutor. Umarbekova's case was examined several times. The last time the oblast court cancelled the decision of the rayon court based on the Prosecutor's claim of decree cancellation and declaring a state act invalid and the case was sent for a second examination. After the cancellation of the decision she turned to the court with a counter-claim demanding the Prosecutor's protest be cancelled and declare invalid the decrees of the rayon state administration No 167 and aiyl-okmotu No 33 and 52 and to leave valid decrees leasing the land and imposing a moral and material damage penalty on the guilty. During the lawsuit she incurred expenses of 127,287 soms, according to the act of executed works and moral damage estimated by her as 100000 soms. With the assistance of LARC senior lawyer Gulmira Kokesheva representing the client's interests, the land share dispute was settled out of court. Jumagul agreed to conclude a peaceful agreement, according to which she was granted 5 hectares of low-yield land with further registration of property right and was compensated in wheat.

### **To get a positive answer**

Maria Kudaibergenova, a Kyzyladyr villager turned to Kyzyladyr LAC senior lawyer Gulmira Kokesheva. Her ex-husband borrowed money from his friend and promised to repay the debt

with one ton of wheat and gave him a receipt. He failed to fulfill his promise and the court upon the writ from his friend imposed a penalty of 6,600 soms under a Karabuura rayon court decision of February 18th 2002. «Since the aggrieved party's death his children give me no rest and regularly bother me; my ex-husband is in Bishkek and I do not know what to do. Does the son of my ex-husband's friend have a right to the debt for 1 ton of wheat from me if his father died in 2002 and I divorced my husband in court and I obtained a divorce certificate in a civilian registrar's office?», - Maria Kudaibergenova asked the LARC lawyer, who wrote a consultation, which indicated that in accordance with Cl.27 “About Damages and the status of a court officer of the Kyrgyz Republic”, damages must be stopped in the event of the plaintiff's death. That is, in order to stop the execution of the damages she needs to send a written statement to Karabuura rayon court or court Department of Talas oblast. It is necessary to attach a copy of the divorce certificate and a copy of the plaintiff's death certificate. «At the present time the son of the dead plaintiff does not have the right to demand his father's debts, not only from you but from your ex-husband and execution should be stopped. If the plaintiff's son does not stop his illegal actions you have the right to require the law machinery to undertake adequate measures according to the existing legislation», - explained the senior lawyer of Kyzyladyr LAC. After a month Maria Kudaibergenova got the answer and her statement was satisfied.

**Public Association “LARC”**

Kyrgyzstan, Bishkek, 209 Moskovakaya Street, (crossing with K. Akiyeva Street)  
Tel/ Fax: 996 (0312) 64 60 54; 64 60 64

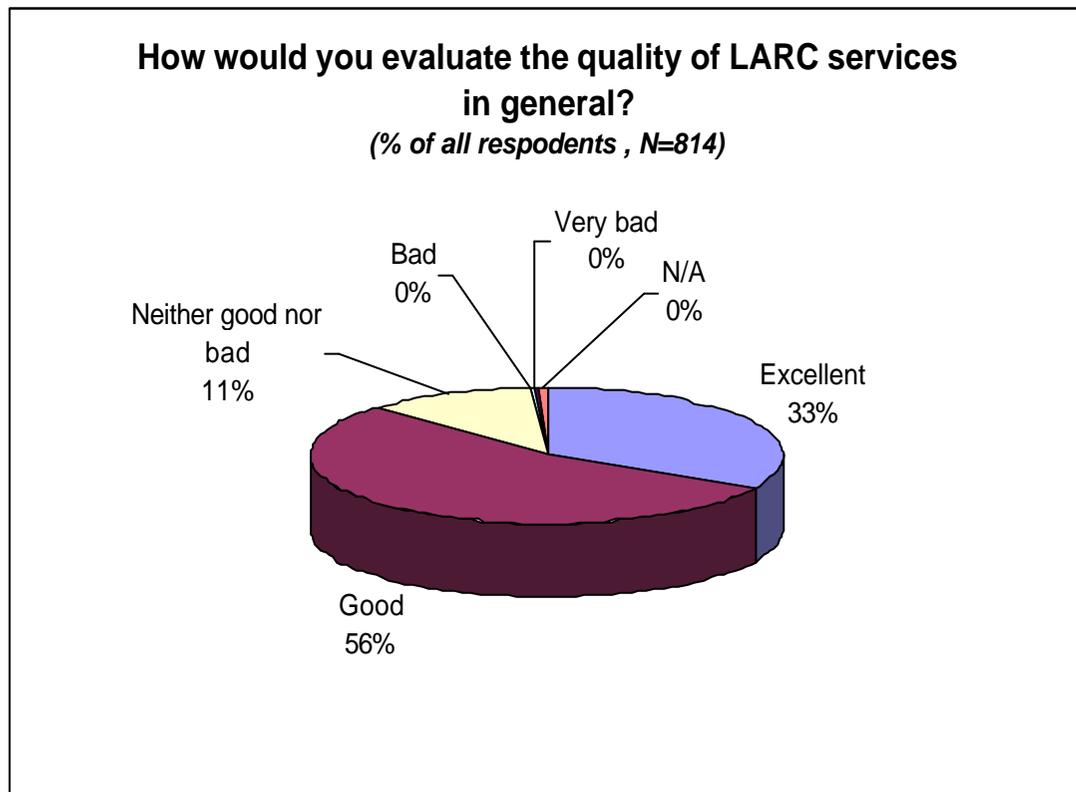
e-mail: [larcadm@larc.kg](mailto:larcadm@larc.kg)

## 5.2 Diagrams of results achieved

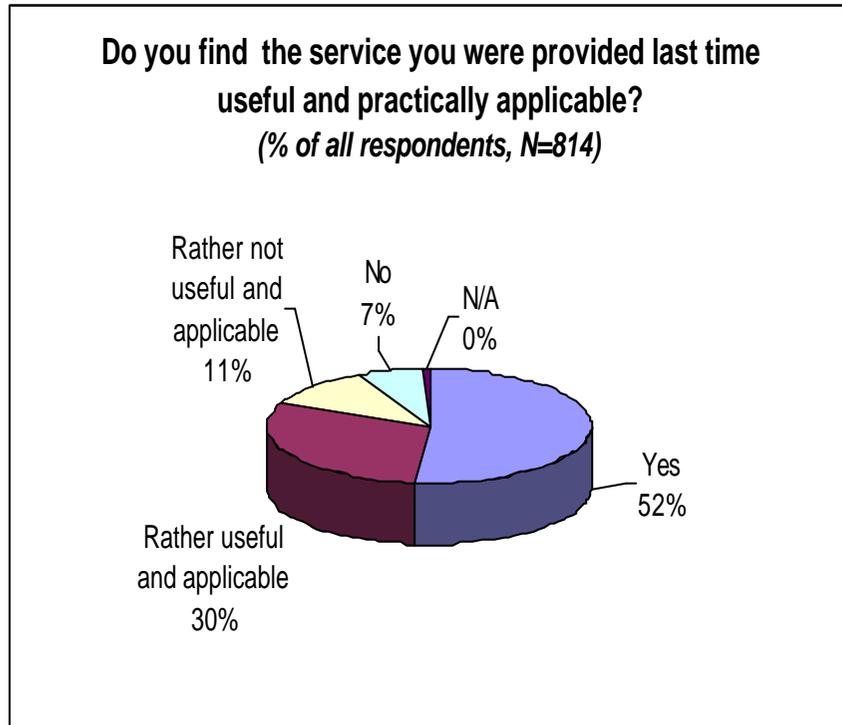
Data is from “M-Vector” report

Evaluation of services’ qualities

Diagram 1



**Diagram 2**



**Diagram 3**

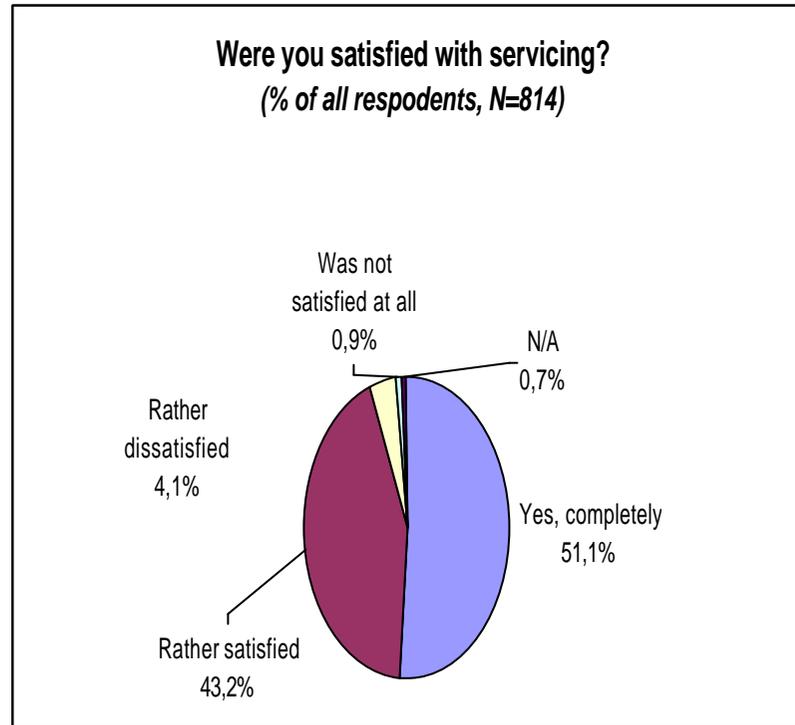


Table on services rendered and events conducted by LARC (2001-2005)

BO	Legal Services								Legal Events									
	total	legal info	oral consult	written consult	elabor.of docs	ROC	RIC	consult. for DM	TIM		Business lunch		Seminar		Group consultation		Round table	
									#	partic	#	partic	#	partic	#	partic	#	partic
<b>Total PA LARC</b>	<b>35414</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>4074</b>	<b>22736</b>	<b>1196</b>	<b>6607</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>789</b>	<b>22076</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>1861</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>3583</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>2175</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>1949</b>
<b>Including Total offices financed by USAID</b>	<b>17776</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>3462</b>	<b>10225</b>	<b>826</b>	<b>2803</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>12946</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>1645</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>1172</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>578</b>
<b>USAID, %</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>30</b>
<i>Osh</i>	<b>9984</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>1856</b>	<b>6256</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>1513</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>7728</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100</b>
Uzgen	2159	36	123	1243	6	717	32	15	42	1504	1	42	3	71	9	84	1	17
Karasuu	3599	20	693	2411	65	382	25	10	99	4009	1	14	11	209	17	218	3	62
Aravan	1577	14	271	989	30	244	29	20	41	1722	1	21	8	184	3	16	1	21
Nookat	2655	14	769	1613	66	170	22	0	29	493	1	26	4	67	13	68	0	0
<b>Batken</b>	<b>2152</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>953</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>1367</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>86</b>
Kadamjay	1148	0	308	629	62	139	10	14	25	668	2	43	6	95	11	59	1	15
Leylek	1003	38	336	324	112	183	11	56	27	699	0	0	6	145	14	111	3	71
<b>Talas</b>	<b>1852</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>914</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>1451</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>222</b>
Talas	892	52	136	446	94	161	5	33	27	669	1	45	10	204	11	61	4	86
Kyzyladyr	<b>957</b>	29	179	468	90	182	10	16	31	782	1	42	8	191	19	128	6	136
<b>Chui</b>	<b>3788</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>647</b>	<b>2102</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>2400</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>170</b>
Tokmok	941	3	125	528	81	154	52	22	36	774	1	39	6	141	4	36	2	34
Karabalta	1395	0	225	817	66	269	20	26	26	717	2	79	8	149	9	84	4	72
Sokuluk	1446	12	297	757	154	202	26	14	44	909	3	105	10	189	43	307	4	64

ROC - Representation out of court

RIC - Representation in court

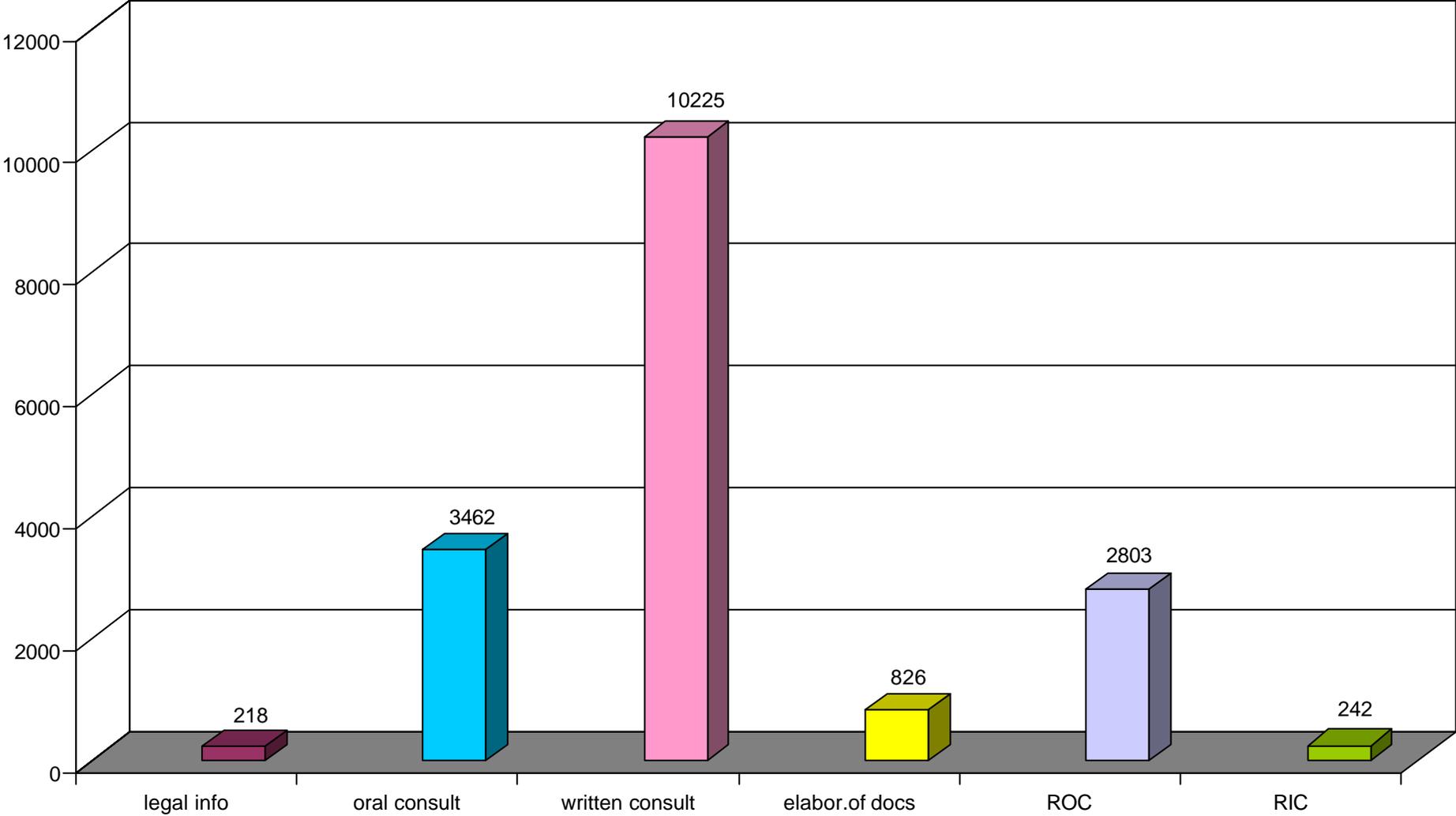
DM - decision makers

Uzgen, Karasuu, Aravan - from 2001

Nookat - from 2002

Talas, Kyzyladyr, Tokmok, Karabalta and Sokuluk - from 2003

**Legal Services provided by lawyers of "LARC" offices financed by USAID**



### Legal Services in the light of the offices

