

Inter-Parliamentary Union Technical Cooperation Programme PROJECT PROFILE: KYRGYZSTAN



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Project detailsTitle:Capacity-building assistance to the
Parliament of KyrgyzstanStatus:ClosedDuration:3 years (1998-2001)Budget:US\$ 130,000Donor partner:United Nations Development Programme
(UNDP), Swedish International
Development Agency (SIDA)

Background

Kyrgyzstan became independent in 1991 and the current Constitution entered into force in 1993 introducing a bicameral parliament.¹

By the end of December 1997, the parliamentary authorities and the UNDP country office in Bishkek requested the IPU to field a needs-assessment mission.

Based on the findings of that mission, a SIDA/UNDP -financed project was developed and scheduled to start in late 1998.

Areas of activity

As part of the project, the following services were provided:

- Advisory services to assist, inter alia, with the revision of the rules of procedure, elaboration of the parliament's budget and design and implementation of a plan for the re-organization of the library.
- Organization of an orientation seminar for newly elected MPs to introduce them to the role and functions of parliament, the legislative process, parliamentary administration and their duties and rights as MPs.
- Organization of four seminars for MPs and parliamentary staff on the implications for parliament of Kyrgyzstan's WTO accession process, parliamentary committees and procedures and the institution of the ombudsman.
- Organization of a seminar for MPs and leaders of Provincial Assemblies to expand parliament's outreach to the local representative bodies and examine mechanisms for the smooth flow of information between the parliament and the local assemblies.
- Study visits for two MPs to the Parliament of the UK and the Parliament of the Netherlands as well as a study visit for 9 staff from both Houses to the German Bundestag.

 Installation of a Local Area Network (LAN)version of a legal database, giving the parliament access to more than 2,000 legal documents.

Target beneficiaries

The principal target beneficiaries were the members and staff of the Parliament.

A stronger legislative branch also implied better prospects for further reforms towards achieving a pluralistic democracy and a transparent market economy.



The Parliament Building in Bishkek

Results

The project resulted in an improvement of the knowledge of parliamentarians on important national issues and international parliamentary practice, a better legislative drafting ability and made relevant up-to-date information available on current legislative issues.

The quality of legislation processed by the parliament was enhanced and the capacity of the parliamentary staff to provide high quality support services to the members of parliament in their work greatly improved.

The library was replenished and, based on the consultant's recommendations, the Centre for Parliamentarianism and Legislative Drafting has been developed to enhance the drafting capacity of the parliament.

Experts providing advice to the project included:

- Mr. Joseph Maingot, former Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel of the Canadian House of Commons;
- Mr. Francois Eyok, Deputy General Secretary of the National Assembly of Cameroon;
- Mr. John Sweetman, former Clerk Assistant and Clerk of Committees of the UK House of Commons;
- Ms. Inger Lorange Figved, Head of the Information and Documentation Department of the Norwegian Parliament;
- Mr. Gunnar Hald, Permanent Secretary of the Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs of the

¹ In 2003 a referendum as held that resulted in a new system with a unicameral parliament, the Supreme Council.

Norwegian Parliament;

 Ms. Marianne Von der Esch, International Coordinating Director of the Swedish Parliamentary Ombudsman.

Parliaments supporting the project were:

- Parliament of the United Kingdom
- Parliament of the Netherlands
- German Bundestag

KYRGYZSTAN (Box 1)

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Donor partner:	United Nations Development
	Programme (UNDP)
Documents	Admin. and Finance
archived:	 Project documents (Box 1)
	 Mission reports (Box1)
	Reports (Seminars, etc.) (Box1)
	 ToRs: Missions, Project, (Box1)
	Correspondence (UNDP, parliaments involved) (Box 2)
	Contracts (Box 2)
	Finance (Box 2)
	Tripartite meeting minutes (Box 2)
	(Some correspondence and contacts can also be found in Box 1)
	General
	Background material (Box 2)

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KYRGYZSTAN (Box 2)

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