

STRENGTHEN PREVENTION AND COMBATING OF CORRUPTION IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

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**Strengthen Prevention and Combating of Corruption in Kyrgyz Republic**

**(SPCC-KY)**

**1st Progress Report**

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## ABBREVIATIONS

AC	Anti-corruption
AML/CFT	Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism
CETS	Council of Europe Treaty Series
CEPEJ	European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice
CCEJ	Consultative Council of European Judges
CoE	Council of Europe
DoA	Description of Activities
ECCD	Economic Crime and Cooperation Division
ECHR	European Court of Human Rights
ER	Expected Result
ETS	European Treaty Series
EU	European Union
FA	Financing Agreement
GRECO	Group of States against Corruption
HQ	Headquarters
MONEYVAL	Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism / Council of Europe
OSCE	Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe
OVI	Objectively Verifiable Indicators
PA	Pillar Assessed
PC-OC	Committee of experts on the operation of European Conventions on co-operation in criminal matters
SC	Steering Committee
SecC	Security Council
SPCC-KY	Strengthen Prevention and Combating of Corruption in Kyrgyz Republic
SPS	State Personnel Services
TP	Technical Paper
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNDP	United Nations Development Program

## **1 DESCRIPTION**

### **1.1 Contact person**

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### **1.2 Name of Partners in the Action**

Council of Europe and European Union

### **1.3 Title of the Action**

Strengthen Prevention and Combating of Corruption in Kyrgyz Republic (SPCC-KY)

### **1.4 Contract number**

PA Grant Agreement No. ACM 2016/ 376-605

### **1.5 Start Date and End Date of the Reporting Period**

29 July 2016 – 31 July 2017

### **1.6 Target area**

Kyrgyz Republic

### **1.7 Beneficiary institutions**

Project Beneficiaries include (but are not limited to) the following key agencies with a role in anti-corruption in Kyrgyzstan:

- General Prosecutor's Office (GPO);
- Anti-corruption Council of the Government and the Department to Prevent Corruption;
- The Security Council;
- The State Personnel Service;
- Anti-corruption Service of State Committee of National Security;
- State Service on Fighting Economic Crimes (Financial Police);
- Ministry of Justice; and
- The Parliamentary Committee on the rule of law, combat crime and anti-corruption.

Other beneficiaries are the public authorities at the central and local level, academia and the civil society.

### **1.8 Contracting authority**

The European Union Delegation to the Kyrgyz Republic.

The project's EU funds (EUR 500,000) come from the Financing Agreement (FA) "**Promotion of the respect of Rule of Law in Kyrgyzstan with particular emphasis on Transparency and Accountability**" number DCI-ASIE/2012/021-178, signed on 21 September 2013 in Brussels between the European Union (the European Commission, represented by the Commissioner for International Cooperation) and the Kyrgyz Republic (represented by the Minister of Justice). The project will fulfil the objectives under both Component 1 and 2 of the FA (Enhancing the Capacity and Effectiveness of Oversight Mechanisms and Judiciary Reform).

The project is implemented through a framework of Indirect Management through Delegation Agreement from EU under EU/CoE Joint Programme Framework

### **1.9 Implementing organisation**

The Council of Europe is responsible for the implementation of the Project and the use of the Project funds under the European Union and the Council of Europe Agreement. Within the General Secretariat of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law, and more specifically, the Action against Crime Department, Economic Crime and Cooperation Division (ECCD) is responsible for the overall management and supervision of the Project. The Project Team is composed of ECCD Secretariat in the Headquarters of Council of Europe and the Local Project Advisor in the field.

## 2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The joint EU/CoE Project "*Strengthen Prevention and Combating of Corruption in Kyrgyz Republic*" (SPCC-KY) aims to assist Kyrgyz authorities in strengthening their rule of law capacities to prevent and fight corruption in the Kyrgyz Republic.

This report covers the first 12 months of implementation of the Project (29 July 2016 to 31 July 2017), and includes a summary of the already reported Inception phase.

From its beginning the Project developed solid partnerships with key beneficiary institutions in Kyrgyzstan, in particular with the General Prosecutor's Office, the Security Council, the Supreme Court, the State Personnel Service, the Financial Police and the State Committee for National Security. The Project Workplan was developed and approved with proactive engagement from these institutions by January 2017. The Steering Committee was formed and the project was given high-level public endorsement by Kyrgyz authorities. The Project team consisting of staff in Strasbourg and a local long-terms project advisor in Bishkek became fully operational by November 2017.

As this Project is the first anti-corruption engagement of the CoE in Kyrgyzstan, initial activities were focused on enhancing the knowledge of Kyrgyz competent authorities about **CoE standards and mechanisms**. As a result of these awareness-raising and networking activities the Kyrgyz authorities launched an interagency consultation process for accession to GRECO.

In the **legislative field**, the Project advanced the development of a system for legislative corruption proofing in Kyrgyzstan. Following a series of interagency consultations and technical advisory workshops, the Project developed an Advisory Policy Paper for legislative framework of corruption proofing, containing institutional and methodological proposals for an effective system.

Important steps were taken towards the **development of mechanisms for the measuring corruption** and how to calibrate measures to effectively prevent it in Kyrgyzstan. Technical consultations, workshops and policy advisory sessions took place with interested government and non-government parties and presented international good practices and approaches to measure corruption and its risks. Capacities of central and local government officials responsible for enforcement of ethics and conflict of interest rules were enhanced, covering more than 40 public institutions.

In the **law enforcement sector**, the project assisted in developing skills on specialized economic crime and corruption investigations for the General Prosecutors Office, the Financial Police and the Anti-Corruption Service of the State Committee of National Security.

The first year of implementation has identified a number of significant shortcomings in the anti-corruption system overall. Even though Kyrgyzstan has established a multi-layered anti-corruption framework at the policy and institutional level, overall effectiveness of national anti-corruption efforts still remains an issue given a number of overlapping competencies between agencies and their lack of capacities.

The Project started activities with a 2 month delay after the end of the Inception phase, due to the lengthy process of Workplan approval by the Kyrgyz counterparts, which opted for a formal and conflicting interagency process to adopt the document. However, since January 2017 the Project worked at an advanced pace, successfully overcoming the initial delays in implementation. The Project also maintained flexibility by adapting to the evolving needs of beneficiaries. Following the Project Second Steering Committee meeting a revised version of the Logframe was adopted with modifications of the schedule of implementation. The changes reflect priorities of the Government to update the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan by the end of 2017.

Overall and in line with the Project's objectives and expected results, **the Project carried out 10 events** (i.e. workshops, trainings, launching conference) involving in total **287 participants from more than 50 beneficiary institutions and delivered 4 technical papers** (policy and legal advisory papers) focusing on the legislative and methodological tools to combat and prevent corruption in Kyrgyzstan. The overall gender ratio of participation was 68% men and 32% women.

## Project data and statistics

No. of interventions / inputs	No. of beneficiary persons participating in project activities	No. of beneficiary institutions participating in project activities	Engaged experts	Level of budgetary disbursement
14	287 (68% men) (32% women)	56	15 in total 11 international 4 local experts (53% male) (47% female)	€186,082.44 representing 33% of the total Project budget

