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Kyrgyzstan

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Remark

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Anmerkungen

Die Informationen aus dem Country Fact Sheet (Mai 2014) wurden von IOM im Zuge des Projektes der Staatendokumentation „Länderinformationen zur sozioökonomischen Lage in ausgewählten Herkunftsländern“ recherchiert. Dieses Projekt wurde im Rahmen des Europäischen Flüchtlingsfonds und des Bundesamtes für Fremdenwesen und Asyl finanziert.

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COUNTRY FACT SHEET

THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

May 2014



1. INTRODUCTION

This Country Fact Sheet (CFS) was prepared by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Mission in the Kyrgyz Republic within the framework of the project “Production of Country Fact Sheets on the Economic and Socioeconomic Situation of Selected Countries of Origin” funded by the Austrian Federal Office for Immigration and Asylum (Bundesamt für Fremdenwesen und Asyl).

The general aim of the project and this document is to provide neutral, objective, duly researched and up-to-date information on countries of origin, with a focus on aspects that are important for potential returnees in order to make a well-informed decision regarding their assisted voluntary return and reintegration from Austria, and secondarily to provide return counsellors and social workers with the basis for an assessment of reintegration perspectives in the Kyrgyz Republic.

The CFS provides information about the economic and socioeconomic situation in the Kyrgyz Republic. It aims to present up-to-date and complete information; however, in some instances distortions may exist as a result of rapidly altering data specifically in the context of economy, infrastructure, and socioeconomic situation requiring regular update.

1.1. Methodology and Sources

Under the guidance of IOM Austria, IOM Kyrgyzstan developed the CFS on the basis of thorough desk research.

Primary and secondary data were used to achieve the goals of research, particularly the aim of finding objective and current data for writing the Country Fact Sheet.

The following sources were used:

- official data - available from official sources, such as websites of various ministries and agencies mentioned in this report, publications, reports, legal and regulatory documents; statistical data developed by the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- statements and reports of international organizations, such as United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP);
- data developed by a local university research center;
- internet resources.

Besides publicly available data, data obtained directly from institutions in the form of unofficial reports were used.

Taking into consideration the fact that this report is created for use by people who wish to return to the Kyrgyz Republic for further residence, it includes relatively current information and covers virtually the entire country's background (geography, economy, social protection system, socio-demographic trends, and so forth); moreover, there is information about specific regions, cities or rural areas. Necessary legal and regulatory acts, including regulations, were analysed in the course of research for determining the rights and state guarantees provided to each citizen and resident of the Kyrgyz Republic. Furthermore, the report covers other critical sectors such as housing, education, health care and includes practical information such as admission requirements to university, contact lists of hospitals, international and state organizations, and health insurance.

2. GENERAL INFORMATION

2.1. Geography

The Kyrgyz Republic is located in the northeast of Middle Asia; it borders with Kazakhstan in the north, with Uzbekistan in the west, with Tajikistan in the southwest and with the People's Republic of China in the southeast and east. The total area of the republic is 199,900 km². Almost 90 per cent of the territory is located 1500 meters above the sea level.

2.2. Climate

The Kyrgyz Republic is located in the center of the Eurasian continent, away from seas and oceans and in the vicinity of deserts. Therefore, local climate is characterized by distinct continentality and aridity. The seasons are clearly defined. The country's climate is quite varied, from distinctly continental to close to marine; summers are hot and winters are cold. Precipitations are concentrated mainly in autumn, winter and spring, while summer usually is dry. The average temperature in January ranges from -4°C to -14°C, while the average July temperature varies from +17°C to +38°C.

2.3. Natural Resources

The Kyrgyz Republic is rich in natural resources. There are deposits of over 25 kinds of mineral resources: ferrous and non-ferrous metals, precious metals, petroleum, gas, iron, manganese, vanadium, aluminum, wolfram, stannum, mercury, stibium, beryllium, bismuth, tantalum, niobium, gold and silver. Wolfram supplies are estimated at 386,000 tons, supplies of stannum at 318,800 tons. Inferred resources of beryllium oxide in the republic constitute 104,000 tons. Known reserves of certain types of mineral resources (gold, mercury, stibium) can not only sustain domestic consumption but also be exported. In terms of gold output Kyrgyzstan ranks fourth in the CIS, after the Russian Federation, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan. 118 manifestations and deposits of precious and semi-precious stones are registered on the territory of the republic. The stone-processing industry is supplied with reserves of highly decorative granites, varicolored marbles, and shell limestone. Deposits of bituminous coal, gas and petroleum were discovered on the territory of the republic. The most common among them are bituminous coal deposits. There are over 70 known coal deposits and manifestations on the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic. Extracted industrial supplies of oil compose 12 million tons, of gas – 4.3 billion cubic meters.

Water resources are a crucial natural capital that affects the development of the region's economy. In terms of availability of local stream flow per person per year, the Kyrgyz Republic greatly surpasses other states in the region. The republic ranks third among the CIS countries by its hydropower resources, after the Russian Federation and Tajikistan. Exploitation of this rich hydropower potential, which constitutes 143 billion kWh/year, lies in the basis of the country's development strategy for the energy industry. Twenty-two Hydroelectric Power Stations (HPS) with an annual power generation of more than 30 billion kWh can be built on the Naryn River and its tributaries alone.¹

2.4. Land Use

Land matters in the Kyrgyz Republic are regulated by the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Civil Code of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Land Code of the Kyrgyz Republic and the laws of the Kyrgyz Republic. In accordance with the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic, land is in state, municipal, private and other forms of ownership. Land use can be termless (without an indicated period) or with a fixed term (temporary) and limited by a period of 50

¹ Data of the State Agency for Geology and Mineral Resources of the Kyrgyz Republic, undated, available at www.geology.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=64&Itemid=184&lang=ru (accessed on 09/12/2013).

years. Foreign entities can lease land plots for a fixed-term (temporary) use only, meaning that they cannot obtain land for permanent use. Arable lands of the State Fund of Agricultural Lands are given into lease for a period of (usually) not less than five years. Land use in the Kyrgyz Republic is subject to rent fee- for all legal entities and individuals, with the exception of state and municipal land users, funded from the budget and according to the order established by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic (1999 Land Code of the Kyrgyz Republic, Articles 4,5,7,8 of Chapter 1, Section I).

2.5. Population

According to the data of the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic (NSC KR), at the beginning of 2013 the permanent population (taking into account people who are temporarily out of the country) of the Kyrgyz Republic composed 5,663,000 people, with de facto population (population which is in the territory at the moment of census) comprising 5,408,000. Out of them, 34 per cent (1,900,000 people) live in urban settlements and 66 per cent (3,762,000 people) in rural settlements – which defines the country as a predominantly rural country.²

The population density on average equals 28 people per one square kilometer.³

The population growth rate in 2012 reached two per cent.⁴

2.5.1. Age Distribution

The Kyrgyz Republic is characterized by a young population structure: in the beginning of 2013, 32 per cent of the total population were children and teenagers (under the age of 16), 61 per cent - people of working age (age for men from 16 to 62, for women from 16 to 57) and around 7 per cent – people over working age (for men - 62, women - 57). As of the beginning of 2013, the average age in the Kyrgyz Republic was 27 years.⁵

The dependency ratio indicator has slightly increased due to the decrease in the rate of population of working age, which at the beginning of 2013 equaled 646 people per 1,000 people (in the beginning of 2012 – 640 people per 1,000 people, 2011 – 636 people per 1,000 people). The main reason for the decrease of the working age of the population is the growing number of persons under the age of 16, which is the age at which people start working, compared to the previous period. The indicator is formed by a load of children and teenagers (536 people per 1,000 people) and people over working age (110 people per 1,000 people).⁶

2.5.2. Birth Rate

Since the beginning of 2000, an increased birth rate was observed in the Republic, owing to an increase in the number of women aged between 20 and 29 years, who are responsible for almost 65 per cent of births during the year. The increase of the birth rate is also affected by the growing number of marriages. Fertility rate of women grew from 2.8 children in 2008 to 3.2 children in 2012. The largest number of infants is born to women between 20 and 30 years of age. Over the last years, however, an increased birth rate among women in both younger and older age groups has been observed.⁷

² NSC KR, Demographic yearbook of the Kyrgyz Republic, (Bishkek, 2013), p.6; available at <http://stat.kg/images/stories/docs/tematika/demo/demography%20yearbook%202008-2012.pdf> (accessed on 10/12/2013).

³ Demographic yearbook of the Kyrgyz Republic, (Bishkek, 2013), p. 6.

⁴ Demographic yearbook of the Kyrgyz Republic, (Bishkek, 2013), p. 6.

⁵ Demographic yearbook of the Kyrgyz Republic, (Bishkek, 2013), p. 6.

⁶ Demographic yearbook of the Kyrgyz Republic, (Bishkek, 2013), p. 7.

⁷ Demographic yearbook of the Kyrgyz Republic, (Bishkek, 2013), p. 7.

2.5.3. Mortality

In 2012, the general mortality rate was 6.5 deceased per 1,000 persons. Mortality rate among the country's population remains approximately 1.5 times higher than the average rate in Europe. The largest impact on the change in the overall mortality rate of the population of the Kyrgyz Republic is rendered by:

- diseases of the blood circulatory system - 18,570 deaths (51% of the total number of deaths in 2012);
- 14,297 deaths (77% out of deaths from cardiovascular diseases) were older than the working age
- unnatural causes (traumas, poisonings and several other consequences of external causes) – 3,470 deaths (10%, one fourth of them are caused by transport-related accidents);
- from oncological diseases - 3,330 deaths (9%);
- diseases of the respiratory system - 2,536 deaths (7%);
- from some infectious and parasitic diseases - 977 deaths (3%).⁸

Maternal mortality remains high. In 2012, 76 women died from complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum period; in other words, 49 deaths of women per 100,000 live births.

Child mortality, despite a noticeable decrease in the course of the last years, remains significantly higher than in more economically developed countries. In 2012, 3,091 children below the age of one year died due to various diseases, including poisonings and traumas, or 20 children per 1,000 live births.

A higher (in comparison to the most economically developed countries of the world) mortality rate of a country's population negatively affects the indicator of life expectancy at birth – 70 years for both sexes in 2012 (on average). Life expectancy among men is eight years lower than among women.⁹

The total fertility rate in 2012 was 27.6 per 1,000 persons.¹⁰

2.5.4. Literacy Rate

According to the data of the NSC KR for 2010, population at the age of 15 years and older comprised 3,828,200 people. Out of these:

- 521,900 had higher vocational education;
- 128,900 had incomplete higher vocational education;
- 417,500 had secondary vocational education;
- 293,200 had primary vocational education;
- 1,759,900 had general secondary education;
- 429,600 had compulsory education;
- 277,200 had primary general, without primary education.¹¹

According to UNICEF, the total adult literacy rate, which is the percentage of persons aged 15 and over who can read and write, was 99.2 per cent between 2008 and 2012.¹²

⁸ Demographic yearbook of the Kyrgyz Republic, (Bishkek, 2013), p. 8.

⁹ Demographic yearbook of the Kyrgyz Republic, (Bishkek, 2013), p. 8.

¹⁰ Demographic yearbook of the Kyrgyz Republic, (Bishkek, 2013), p. 8.

¹¹ NSC KR, Education and science in the Kyrgyz Republic, (Bishkek, 2012), p.17.

available at <http://stat.kg/images/stories/docs/tematika/social/Education%202007-2011.pdf> (accessed on 10/12/2013).

¹² UNICEF Country statistics on Kyrgyzstan (The State of the World's Children), data updated on 27 December 2013, available at http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/kyrgyzstan_statistics.html (accessed on 15/04/2014).

2.6. Ethnic Minorities

Population in the Kyrgyz Republic is multiethnic. According to the statistical data of the NSC KR for 2013, the Kyrgyz people is composed of 4,099,400 people (72.4%), Uzbeks – 816,200 (14.4%), Russians – 375,400 (6.6%), Dungans – 63,000 (1.1%), Uyghurs – 51,400 (0.9%), Tajiks – 49,100 (0.9%), Turks – 40,400 (0.7%), Kazakhs – 33,400 (0.6%), Tatars – 28,300 (0.5%), Azerbaijanis – 18,500 (0.3%), Koreans – 16,800 (0.3%), Germans – 8,600 (0.2%), Turkmen – 2,100 (0.1%), representatives of other nationalities – 39,600 (0.7%).¹³

The legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic in the area of protecting rights of ethnic minorities is based on the general principles of human rights, which are reflected in the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic and a number of laws. The Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic guarantees rights and freedoms to minorities, establishes equality and prohibits discrimination “on the basis of sex, race, language, disability, ethnicity, religion, age” (Constitution of the KR, Section II, Chapter I, Article 16).

However, according to the European Forum for Democracy and Solidarity, “One of the most worrying problems in the Kyrgyz Republic are the ethnic tensions between the Kyrgyz and the large Uzbek minority in the south. In June 2010, these tensions led to several days of clashes and killing between ethnic Kyrgyz and Uzbek groups leading to more than 400 killings (this is an official number, the estimated number of unknown cases is higher).¹⁴ In 2010, partly as a result of political turmoil (the second president was ousted amid violent political clash), ethnic conflict between Kyrgyz and Uzbeks erupted in the Southern part of country.

According to the words of the director of the public fund “Egalitee”, Tatyana Vygovskaya, after the June 2010 events in the south of the country, all ethnic minorities appeared to fear discrimination. This is evidenced by increased emigration of ethnic minorities out of the Kyrgyz Republic and their strong reaction to certain issues, such as the extensive use of the Kyrgyz language. Relations between Kyrgyz and Uzbeks in the south are still as strained as always. Tatyana Vygovskaya pointed out that: “One of the reasons of strained relations between Kyrgyz and other ethnical minorities is that the latter are sure that legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic discriminates them, meaning that ethnical minorities have less rights than ethnic Kyrgyz. As a result, conflict potential is increasing.” According to the forecast that she made, relations between Kyrgyz and Uzbeks will be strained, but this will not lead to conflict; there may be minor local clashes over household and socioeconomic issues between Kyrgyz and Tajiks; regarding minorities in the north of the country and here especially in the Chuy region, there could be clashes between Kyrgyz and Caucasians.¹⁵

2.7. Religions

Almost 83 per cent of the population follow Islam and are Sunni Muslims; 15 per cent are Christians, these include Russians who are Orthodox and Germans who are traditionally divided into Catholics and Lutherans. A small percentage of the population worships such religions as Buddhism and Judaism. As of early 2012, over 2,300 religious organizations, educational establishments and objects of religious faiths were registered in the Kyrgyz Republic. In total, there are over 30 faiths in the country, among them Baptists, Pentecostals, Presbyterians and Jehovah’s Witnesses. A scientology community and 12 Baha’i communities are also active in the country. The regulation of the activities of religious organizations and religious educational establishments are carried out in accordance with the

¹³ NSC KR, available at <http://stat.kg/images/stories/docs/Yearbook/Demo/3.%20nacionalnyi%20sostav.pdf> (accessed on 10/12/2013).

¹⁴ Data of European Forum for Democracy and Solidarity (Amsterdam 2013), available from <http://www.europeanforum.net/country/kyrgyzstan> (accessed on 17/02/2014).

¹⁵ Data of “Knews”, informational agency, 23.01.2013, available at http://www.knews.kg/society/9527_istoki_i_korni_natsionalizma_sredi_etnosov_kyrgyzstana/ (accessed on 27/02/2014).

Law “On the Freedom of Religion and Religious organizations” as well as by the State Commission for Religious Affairs.¹⁶

2.8. Languages

Kyrgyz is recognized as the state language in the Kyrgyz Republic and Russian as the official language. Both languages are used equally and paperwork is conducted in both languages; however, according to the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic, the document written in the Kyrgyz language is considered to be the original. State language is used on behalf of the Kyrgyz Republic in official relations with foreign states (in the course of receptions, meetings, during the development and ratification of documents); with the state members of the CIS, the official language is used additionally (Law of the KR “On State Language” №54 as of 2004, Article 1 of Chapter 1; Article 10 of Chapter 3; Article 29-1 of Chapter 7-1).

According to the census in 2009, 71.4 per cent of the country’s population speak Kyrgyz. The Russian language is also widespread as it is spoken by 94.9 per cent of the Kyrgyz population. It is also spoken by small ethnic minorities residing in the Kyrgyz Republic (for instance, about 94.5 per cent of the Dungans and about 92.9 of the Kalmyks speak Russian). The Uzbek language is also widespread in the Kyrgyz Republic, as it is spoken by 3.7 per cent of the population over 15 years of age.

International languages like English, Chinese and Turkish are also spoken and learnt in the country.¹⁷

2.9. National Holidays¹⁸

January 1	New Year
	Christmas
January 7	OrozoAyt (according to lunar calendar)
	KurmanAyt (according to lunar calendar)
February 23	Fatherland Defender’s Day
March 8	International Women’s Day
March 21	Nooruz
May 1	Labor Day
May 5	Day of the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic
May 9	Victory Day
August 31	Independence Day of the Kyrgyz Republic
November 7	Day of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

¹⁶ NSC KR, Social trends of the Kyrgyz Republic, (Bishkek, 2012), p.134. Available at <http://stat.kg/images/stories/docs/tematika/trendy%202010.pdf> (accessed on 11/12/2013).

¹⁷ Data of International language institute of CIS, Bishkek 2010, available from http://inlang.linguanet.ru/Cis/CisLanguageConditions/detail.php?ELEMENT_ID=2556&SHOWALL_1=1 (accessed on 17/02/2014).

¹⁸ NSC KR, 20 years of independence of the Kyrgyz Republic, (Bishkek, 2011), p. 60.

3. INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE

3.1. General information

According to Butanaev V. and Hudiakov U. (2000), "The Kyrgyz are one of the most ancient peoples of Central Asia. The oldest references to Kyrgyz people and their lands date back to 209-201 years B.C. Information about the Kyrgyz state is mentioned several times in the Orkhon inscriptions– historical records left primarily on the River Orkhon. Currently, over 120 Kyrgyz texts about Yenisei are known, in which our ancestors told us about their state, its structure, their rulers, military leaders and diplomats. Yenisei was a settlement of ancient Kyrgyz in VI – XVII A.D. in South Siberia."¹⁹ During the first years of Soviet power, the Kyrgyz Republic was not autonomous, but a part of the Turkestan Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic (ASSR) of the Russian Soviet Federation of Socialist Republics (SFSR). In 1924, a decision on the formation of the Kara-Kirghiz Autonomous Oblast as part of the Russian SFSR was taken, and in 1925, it was renamed into the Kirghiz Autonomous Oblast (KAO). In 1926, KAO was transformed into the Kirghiz ASSR. In 1936, with the inclusion into the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic (USSR), the Kirghiz ASSR was transformed into a union socialist republic. After the collapse of the USSR in 1991, the Kirghiz SSR proclaimed itself a sovereign independent state – the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, since 1993 – the Kyrgyz Republic. The capital of the republic – Frunze – was renamed into Bishkek".²⁰

The Kyrgyz Republic (Kyrgyzstan) is a sovereign, democratic, legal, secular, unitary, social state. State power in the Kyrgyz Republic is based on the principles of the division of state power into legislative, executive and judicial branches, their coordinated functioning and interaction.

Elections in the Kyrgyz Republic are carried out on the basis of a universal equal and direct electoral right and are based on free and voluntary implementation of electoral rights by the citizens of the republic. Citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic who reached the age of 18 can vote and, upon reaching the age set by the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Constitutional Law, can be elected to the state and local government bodies.

3.2. The President of the Kyrgyz Republic

The President of the Kyrgyz Republic is the head of state who embodies the unity of people and state power. The President is elected for a period of six years.

The term of the President is determined by the Constitution. According to the new Constitution as of 2010, the President is elected by nation-wide voting for a period of 6 years, without the right to be reelected for a second term; the same person cannot be elected as President twice (KR Constitution, Article 62 of Section 3).

The latest presidential elections in the Kyrgyz Republic were held on 30 October 2011. In accordance with parts 1 and 2 of Article 37, Article 55 of the Constitutional Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On the Elections of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Deputies of the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic", the Central Commission for Elections and Referendums of the Kyrgyz Republic (CEC KR) identified: the total number of voters included in electoral registers was 3,032,666; the number of voters who took part in the elections of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic on 30 October 2011 was 1,858,632, which constitutes 61.28 per cent of voters included in electoral registers. According to the results of these elections, the highest number of votes was gained by Atambaev Almazbek Sharshenovich – 1,161,929 votes (62.52%).²¹ Atambaev is the incumbent president.

¹⁹ Butanaev V. and Hudiakov U., Hakkasky State University, History of Yenisei Kyrgyz (Abakan, 2000), available at <http://bizdin.kg/elib/kitepter/pdf/enyskg-history.pdf> (accessed on 17/02/2014).

²⁰ NSC KR, 20 years of independence of the Kyrgyz Republic, (Bishkek, 2011), p. 59. available at <http://stat.kg/images/stories/docs/tematika/Binder1.pdf> (accessed on 11/12/2013).

²¹ CEC KR, Regulation of CEC KR "On determining the results of the elections of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic on 30 October 2011", available at http://shailoo.gov.kg/index.php?module=content&page=Ob_opredelenii_rezultatov_vyborov_Prezidenta_Kyrgyzsk

According to the OSCE Election Observation „The presidential election in the Kyrgyz Republic was conducted in a peaceful manner, but shortcomings underscored that the integrity of the electoral process should be improved to consolidate democratic practice in line with international commitments, international observers concluded in a statement issued today. The observers noted that candidate registration was inclusive, giving voters a wide choice, and the campaign was open and respected fundamental freedoms. This was overshadowed by significant irregularities on Election Day, especially during the counting and tabulation of votes. Measures should be taken to improve voter lists, to amend electoral legislation and strengthen the polling process”.²²

3.3. Executive Power

Executive power is implemented by the Government and subordinate ministries, state committees, administrative agencies and local state administrations.

As of 1 January 2013, the Kyrgyz Republic consists of seven provinces (Batken, Jalal-Abad, Issyk-Kul, Naryn, Osh, Talas and Chuy), 40 districts, 31 towns, nine urban type settlements, three villages and 453 village districts.²³

The executive power in the provinces, districts and towns is implemented by governmental representations in the province, local state administrations and local government bodies. “The plenipotentiary representative of the Government in the region is a civil servant who represents the Government within the limits of a relevant territorial unit – the province. The plenipotentiary representative ensures the implementation of the Government’s powers and improves the effectiveness of state power within the limits of the respective province” (Constitutional Law of the KR “On the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic” № 85 as of 2012, Article 28 of Section 6).

The local state administration “ayilmotus” is a body of executive power headed by a so called “*akim*”. The local administration ensures the coordinated work of territorial subdivisions of ministries, state committees and other state bodies of the Kyrgyz Republic on the territory of the district, their interaction with local government bodies, and implements state control over their work on delegated functions and powers. In the work on issues under its responsibility, the local state administration is subordinate to the Government as well as to the President of the Kyrgyz Republic and acts on the basis of the Constitution and the laws of the Kyrgyz Republic (Law of the KR “On local state administrations” №96 from 2011, Article 2 of Chapter 1, Article 10 of Chapter 2).

3.4. Legislative power

Legislative power and supervising functions are implemented by the “*Jogorku Kenesh*” – the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic, which acts as the supreme representative body within the limits of its mandate.

The term of the deputies of the Jogorku Kenesh are determined by the Constitution. A citizen of the Kyrgyz Republic who reaches the age of 21 by the day of the elections and has the right to vote can be elected as a deputy of the Jogorku Kenesh. Deputies of the Jogorku Kenesh are elected for 5 years by electoral districts in accordance with the proportional system (KR Constitution, Article 70 of Section 4).

The latest elections to the Jogorku Kenesh were held on 10 October 2010. According to the Central Elections Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic (CEC KR), five parties entered the

[oy Respubliki 30 oktyabrya 2011 goda 2011jyldyn 30oktyabrynda Kyrgyz Respublikasynyn Prezidentin sha yloonun jyyntyktaryn anyktoo jonyndo&pagelang=ru](#) (accessed on 11/12/2013).

²² OSCE/ODHIR, 11 October 2011: Kyrgyzstan’s presidential election was peaceful, but shortcomings underscore need to improve integrity of process. Available at <http://www.osce.org/odihr/elections/84571> (accessed on 31.01.2014).

²³ NSC KR, Demographic yearbook of the Kyrgyz Republic, (Bishkek, 2013), p. 18, available at <http://stat.kg/images/stories/docs/tematika/demo/demography%20yearbook%202008-2012.pdf> (accessed on 10/12/ 2013).

parliament: “Ata-Jurt” Idealistic Democratic Party – 28 deputy seats; Social Democratic Party of Kyrgyzstan – 26 seats; “Ar-Namys” Party (Party of Dignity) – 25 seats; “Respublika” Party - 23 seats; “Ata Meken” Socialist Party- 18 seats.²⁴

According to the OSCE Election Observation Mission, the parliamentary elections were marked by “political pluralism and a vibrant campaign” and “constituted a further consolidation of the democratic process and brought the country closer to meeting its international commitments on democratic elections”. Observers stressed, however, that there remains an urgent need for a profound reform of the electoral legislation: The “legal framework for elections is not yet consistent with the constitution and is in urgent need of comprehensive reform. The quality and accuracy of voter lists remained a serious concern. This could affect the composition of the new parliament as parties must surpass thresholds calculated on the basis of the number of registered voters. In addition, deficiencies in the residency registration system resulted in the disenfranchisement of thousands of internal migrants and people displaced by the June violence”.²⁵

3.5. Judicial Power

Judicial power is implemented through constitutional, civil, criminal and other forms of legal proceedings. The judicial system of the Kyrgyz Republic comprises the Supreme Court and local courts. The Constitutional Chamber is functioning as part of the Supreme Court (KR Constitution, Article 1 of Section 1, Articles 60 and 61 of Section 3, Article 70 of Section 4, Article 83 of Section 5, and Article 93 of Section 6).

3.6. International Actors Working in the Country²⁶

International Organization	Mission	Contact information
United Nations Development Program (UNDP)	Reliable and active state partner in its efforts to achieve real improvement in the life of the population	Bishkek city, Chuy Ave. 160 Tel.: 611211, 611213, Fax: 611217/18
United Nations Population Fund (UNPFA)	Improvement of maternal health, improvement of universal access to reproductive health services and development of the capacity of young people on the basis of principles of human rights and gender equality	Bishkek city, Chuy Ave. 160 Tel.: 611202/13 Fax: 611217/18
Country office of the World Health Organization (WHO)	Improvement of the health of people, i.e. increasing the overall health level and reducing inequality in health indicators among the population	Bishkek city, Chuy Ave. 160 Tel.: 612679, Fax: 612681

²⁴ Data of the Central Elections Committee of the KR, 1 November 2010, available at www.shailoo.gov.kg/index.php?module=content&page=O_rezultatah_vyborov_deputatov_Jogorku_Kenesha_Kyrgyzskoy_Respubliki_10_oktyabrya_2010_goda_&pagelang=ru (accessed on 11/12/2013).

²⁵ OSCE/ODHIR, 11 October 2010: “Kyrgyzstan's vibrant and pluralistic parliamentary elections constitute further consolidation of democracy”. Available at: <http://www.osce.org/odihr/elections/72409> (accessed on 31.01.2014).

²⁶ Ministry of Economy of the KR, List of diplomatic representations, consular agencies of foreign states, representations of international organizations accredited in the Kyrgyz Republic, receiving preferential tax treatment for 2012, available at www.mineconom.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=94&Itemid=187&lang=ru (accessed on 11/12/2013).

Representation of the UNICEF Children's Fund	Improving the situation of children and ensuring the implementation of their rights	Bishkek city, Chuy Ave. 160, Tel.: 611224, 611225, Fax: 611191
Representation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the Kyrgyz Republic (UNHCR)	Implements and coordinates humanitarian work on the protection of refugees, internally displaced persons and people without citizenship in the Kyrgyz Republic	Bishkek city, Chuy Ave. 160, Tel.: 611264 Fax: 611271 Osh city, Lenina Str. 93, Tel.: 03222 56213, Fax: 0 3222 55866 Jalal-Abad, Dostuk micro-district, Proektiruemaya Str. 2, Tel.: 0 3272 74059
Regional division of the Office of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) for Central Asia	Coordinates UN efforts in the area of human rights, educates and informs the society by taking all necessary measures for expanding the opportunities of citizens in applying human rights and assisting governments in ensuring these rights.	Bishkek city, Usenbaeva Str. 41 Tel.: 328249 Fax: 388022
Mission of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	Prevention and mitigation of human sufferings on international and national levels, protection of human lives and health, ensuring respect for human persons	Bishkek city, Erkindik Blvd. 10 Tel.: 624857, 661978 Fax: 662181
Swiss Cooperation Office	Technical, financial and relief aid in the field of health care, water resources management and disaster risk reduction; development of an infrastructure; development of the private sector; public institutions and services	Bishkek city, Panfilova Str. 144 Tel.: 301036 Fax: 301031
German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ)	Assistance to transborder cooperation in the area of disaster risk reduction	Bishkek city, Panfilova Str. 150 Tel.: 909070 Fax: 909080
TIKA Bishkek Program Coordination Office	Provision of technical assistance to developing countries in the field of economics, trade, technical equipment, culture, education and social development through projects and programs	Bishkek city, Aidaraliev Str. 5 Tel.: 568594, 564956 Fax: 549346

Representation of the United States Agency for International Development USAID/CAR	Assistance to the Kyrgyz Republic in the development of the country's economic sector, health care system and democratic institutions	Bishkek city, Mira Ave. 171 Tel.: 551241 Fax: 515-777203 Osh city, Lenina Str. 323, Tel.: (3222)23062 Fax: (3222)25681
US Peace Corps	Help to countries in need of personnel training; facilitation of a better understanding of America and Americans in receiving countries; expansion of Americans' knowledge about other people and cultures	Bishkek city, Chokmorova Str.304 Tel.: 651232, 650432 Fax: 650362
Mission of the International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Assistance in addressing growing challenges in the area of migration processes management; support of social and economic development through migration; protection of human dignity and the welfare of migrants	Bishkek city, Chuy Ave. 245 Tel.: 627937 Fax: 627940
Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA)	Assistance in the socioeconomic development and development of human resources with the goal of promoting independent and sustainable development of developing countries	Bishkek city, 720040 Chokmorova Str. 115 Tel.: 900240 Fax: 900279
OSCE Center in Bishkek	Maintaining security in Central Asia and beyond	Bishkek city, Toktogula Str. 139 Tel.: 665015, 665197 Fax: 663169
International Science and Technology Center (ISTC)	Provision of support to scientific circles of the Kyrgyz Republic, provision of weapons scientists with new opportunities of scientific developments for peaceful purposes	Bishkek city, Kievskaya Str. 44, room 210-211 Tel./Fax: 43-11-71
Representation of the Department for International Development of Great Britain (DFID)	Reduction of harm in vulnerable groups, support of the health-care sector for poverty, programs on rural investments	Bishkek city, ManaschySagynbay Str. 215 Tel.: 690232, 690292 Fax: 69-02-31
Permanent Representation of the World Bank (WB)	To end poverty within the generation's lifetime and contribute to general welfare	Bishkek city, Moskovskaya Str. 214 Tel.: 610650, 610481 Fax: 610356
Permanent	Conducting monitoring and analysis	Bishkek city,

Representation of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)	of economic and political events in the Kyrgyz Republic and providing assistance to the authorities in implementing macroeconomic measures and structural reforms in accordance with the programs supported by IMF, provision of technical support rendered by IMF	Umetalieva Str. 101, Tel.: 611815,611816, Fax: 61-01-65
Permanent Representation of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)	Is the largest institutional investor in the Kyrgyz Republic	Bishkek city, Geologicheskii Alley, 26, Tel.: 530016, 530017 Fax: 62-08-00
Permanent Representation of the Asian Development Bank (ADB)	Conducting a dialogue on the issues of politics, development of assistance programs and project implementation	Bishkek city, Orozobekova Str. 52-54 Tel.: 627343, 900045 Fax: 627344
Public foundation "SOS-Children's Villages of Kyrgyzstan"	Creation of a family for children left without the support of parents and assistance in forming one's own future	Bishkek city, Isanova Str. 94, apt.3 Tel.: 611546, 542542 Fax: 611552
"Soros-Kyrgyzstan" Foundation	Creating conditions for building an open society, supporting the development of public institutions and initiatives in all areas of public life in the Kyrgyz Republic	Bishkek city, Logvinenko Str. 55a, Tel.: 664218, 664249 Fax: 66-34-48
National Commission of the Kyrgyz Republic for UNESCO	Ensures interaction, coordination and cooperation of national ministries, state committees, administrative agencies, non-governmental organizations, scientists and recognized leaders of the country with UNESCO on the issues of education, science, culture, information technology and mass media	Bishkek city, Erkindik Blvd. 54 Tel.: 624681, 626761
Representation of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN)	Work on achieving the common goal of improving access to quality education, creation of economic opportunities, development of human resources and the infrastructure as well as strengthening the civil society and local self-governance	Bishkek city, Tynystanova Str. 80 Tel.: 696031, 512556 Fax: 696032
University of Central Asia (UCA)	Assistance to the socioeconomic development of Central Asia, particularly in mountainous areas	Bishkek city, Toktogula Str. Tel.: 910822 Fax: 910835 Naryn Pervogo Maya Str. 19

		Tel.: (3522)51204 Fax: (3522)51228
Branch office of the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC)	Assisting multi-sectorial cooperation in Central Asia on national and regional levels for solving environmental problems	Bishkek city, A. Toktonaliev Str. 2/1, Tel.: 212755, 611355 Fax: 611355
Mission of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Improvement and facilitation of lives of the most vulnerable population groups through the implementation of social programs with the involvement of the most vulnerable	Bishkek city, Bokonbaeva Str. 131/1, Tel.: 627602, 627603 Fax: 627605
Representation of the Interstate Bank in the Kyrgyz Republic	Assistance to economic integration and development of national economies in CIS countries by creating a calculation mechanism for making transborder payments in national currencies; credits for foreign trade operations in national currencies; participation in the implementation of projects with interstate significance	Bishkek city, Razzakova Str. 22 Tel.: 919302 Fax: 919303
UN World Food Program (WFP) in the Kyrgyz Republic.	Prevention of hunger in the future, which is achieved by implementing programs where food is used as a means of creating material values, spreading knowledge and creating stronger and more dynamic communities	Bishkek 720040 Panfilova Str. 150 Tel.: +996 312 66 00 33

4. ECONOMY

4.1. General Information

The Kyrgyz Republic is an agro-industrial country. Agriculture is the leading sector of the economy, in which over 40 per cent of gross added value is created and which employs more than half of the working-age population. The main branch of agriculture is crop production (growing grains, cotton, tobacco, oleiferous, horticultural and cucurbit crops). Beef and dairy cattle farming is developing. Sheep breeding is a promising area.

The main branches of the industry are hydropower engineering, non-ferrous metallurgy, mining, machine building, instrument-making, garment and food-processing industries. The largest garment industry enterprises are concentrated in the north of the republic (knitting, sewing, leather and shoe factories, worsted and cloth industrial complex). The majority of enterprises of non-ferrous industry are located in the south (Osh province). Osh city also serves as a major center of silk and cotton industry. Large-scale production of cement is created in the republic. Sectors of the food-processing industry (meat, butter and cheese, sugar, oilseed processing, tobacco and others) operate fully using local agricultural raw materials.

The Kyrgyz Republic has significant deposits of mineral resources, such as mercury (one fifth of global reserves), stibium, gold (12 large deposits of gold in the country, including "Kumtor" ("Kumtor" mine in the Kyrgyz Republic is the largest gold mining enterprise of Central Asia managed by the Western company Centerra Gold Inc)). Also coal is mined (ranked third in the CIS by reserves). The country's depths contain petroleum, gas, wollastonite, shale coal, iron ore, non-ferrous and rare earth metals, platinum, ornamental stones, sulfur, sand-and-gravel deposits. A promising area is the development of hydropower resources.²⁷

The other priority sector of the country's economy is tourism.

60,000 economic entities were active in the country's tourism sector by early 2012. In 2011, tourist services were provided by 405 organizations. In the same year, the gross value added in the tourism sector accounted for 4.2 per cent of GDP. 3.24 million tourists from neighboring and distant countries visited the Kyrgyz Republic in 2011. 90 per cent of the tourists are from CIS countries (Kazakhstan – 49%, Russian Federation – 33%, Uzbekistan – 11%).²⁸

4.2. Currency

The currency of the Kyrgyz Republic is the Kyrgyzstani "Som" (international code 417, KGS). The som is sub-divided into 100 tiyn. At present, the currency is represented by the following denominations: coins of 10, 50 tiyn, and 1, 3, 5, 10 KGS, and banknotes: 10, 50 tiyn, 1; 5; 10; 20; 50; 100; 200; 500; 1,000; 5,000 KGS. All banknotes and coins of national currency have the status of an official means of payment on the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic and are subject to mandatory acceptance as payment means regardless of the year of issuance.²⁹

According to the National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic, the official exchange rate as of 15 April 2014 was 1 EUR = 75.2190 KGS, and 1 USD = 54.4296 KGS.³⁰

In the first half of 2013, a tendency of an increasing exchange rate of the USD was observed. An increased exchange rate of the US dollar is mainly connected to an increased demand for

²⁷ Data of the Kyrgyz Embassy in Germany, last updated 7 October 2010, available at http://www.botschaft-kirgisien.de/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=8&Itemid=13&lang=ru (accessed on 13/05/2014).

²⁸ Tourism development strategy in KR 2015, available at http://kyrgyz-embassy.be/?page_id=440 (accessed on 18/02/2014).

²⁹ Data of NSC KR, available at www.nbkr.kg/index1.jsp?item=146&lang=RUS (accessed on 10/2013)

³⁰ National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic: Official Exchange Rates, available at <http://www.nbkr.kg/index1.jsp> (accessed on 15/04/2014).

foreign currency on behalf of commercial banks as well as to the need to pay for imported products, particularly fuel and lubricant materials, cars, metal and other goods of national consumption. Overall, the exchange rate of the USD for the first half of 2013 increased by 2.6 per cent, from KGS 47.4 to 48.6 per USD 1.³¹

4.3. GDP

According to the World Bank, the GDP volume of the Kyrgyz Republic comprised USD 6.474 billion in 2012.³²

At the end of the period from January to August 2013, according to a preliminary assessment by the NSC KR, the GDP volume comprised KGS 198.3 billion and had a real growth of 8 per cent as opposed to a real decrease by 6 per cent in the period from January to August 2012. Without including the enterprises of the “Kumtor” deposit (ratio in the manufacturing industry – 39 per cent, and 6.2 per cent in GDP breakdown), the growth of real GDP made up 105.9 per cent, while the same indicator for the analogue period of 2012 was 103.4 per cent. The GDP deflator formed at the level of 103.6 per cent.

All sectors of the economy contribute to economic growth and their positive contribution is estimated at 0.75 percentage points in agriculture, 2.42 percentage points in the manufacturing industry, 0.98 percentage points in construction and 2.72 percentage points in the services sector”.³³

Structure and growth rates by GDP-forming sectors³⁴

Indicators	January-August of 2012			January-August of 2013			
	Prel. fact mln. KGS	Growth rate, %	in % to GDP	Prel. fact mln. KGS	Growth rate, %	in % to GDP	Share of contribution to GDP growth, p.p.
GDP	177,214.8	94.0	100.0	198,287.3	108.0	100.0	8.0
Agriculture	30,858.0	100.3	17.4	32,202.1	104.3	16.2	0.75
Manufacturing industry	27,757.9	67.8	15.7	31,041.4	115.5	15.7	2.42
Construction	8,167.7	103.4	4.6	10,157.6	121.2	5.1	0.98
Services	85,956.5	105.1	48.5	95,845.5	105.6	48.3	2.72
Net taxes on products	24,474.7	94.0	13.8	29,040.7	108.0	14.6	1.1

Source: Ministry of economy of the Kyrgyz Republic (ME KR).

³¹ Data of NBKR, Bishkek 2010, available at www.nbkr.kg/index1.jsp?item=1562&lang=RUS (accessed on 10/2013).

³² Data of World Bank, 2013, available at <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.MKTP.KD.ZG/countries/KG-7E?display=graph> (accessed on 13/05/2014).

³³ Data of ME KR, Bishkek 2013, available at http://www.mineconom.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3101 (accessed on 20/10/2013).

³⁴ Data of ME KR, Bishkek 2013, available at http://www.mineconom.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3101 (accessed on 10/2013).

4.4. Role of Sectors

4.4.1. Industry

In the period from January to August 2013, industrial enterprises produced an output worth KGS 82,915.2 million, while the index of physical volume of physical production (index based on quantity units of goods) made up 116.2 per cent of the output produced in the period from January to August 2012. It does not represent enterprises developing the “Kumtor” gold mine deposit, which alone was worth KGS 53,408.7 million or 100.7 per cent. It reached 101.5 per cent by July 2013.

The volume of output of industrial products is divided by sectors:

- Mining industry – KGS 2,992.5 million
- Processing industry – KGS 64,607.9 million
- Generation and distribution of electrical power, gas and water – KGS 15,314.9 million

Along with this, the quantum index for the production of food items, including beverages and tobacco, in the period from January to August 2013 decreased and composed 93.4 per cent of the output in the same time period in 2012. Among them, the manufacture of food products, including beverages, composed 94.5 per cent; the manufacture of tobacco products – 66.3 per cent; the textile and garments manufacture – 83.5 per cent, with 65.6 per cent in the textile manufacture and 87.3 per cent in the manufacture of clothing, 87.3 per cent in fur finishing and dyeing; the manufacture of machines and equipment – 77.4 per cent, other branches – 88.9 per cent.

Out of 514 types of manufactured industrial products between January and August 2013, the production of 252 items (49.0%) increased, the production of 202 (39.3%) items decreased and 57 items (11.1%) were not produced.³⁵

In the manufacture of industrial products, the processing industry has the largest share (77.9 %), the output for January-August of 2013 amounted to KGS 64.6 billion and increased by 23.6 per cent in comparison with the corresponding period in 2012, mainly due to the increase in volumes of:

- the metallurgical production and manufacture of ready-made metal products, which increased by 1.5 times due to the restored production at the “Kumtor” mining enterprises, whose share in the manufacturing industry remains high and accounts for 37 per cent, and for 6.1 per cent in the structure of the GDP.
- the manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products by 30.6 per cent. Their overall share in the industry is 11.1 per cent; an increase by 1.3 times was achieved by exceeding last year's rates in the manufacture of articles for construction purposes. High growth rates regarding the manufacture of construction materials were due to an activation of the construction sector, which for the first eight months in 2013 ensured a growth by 21.2 per cent in the gross output of construction;
- wood processing and manufacture of wooden articles - by 23.7 per cent;
- cellulose and paper manufacture and publishing – by 19.0 per cent;
- chemical industry – by 21.2 per cent;
- manufacture of rubber and plastic articles – by 10.6 per cent;
- manufacture of transport vehicles and equipment – by 31.6 per cent;
- manufacture of leather, leather articles and shoes – by 26.8 per cent;
- manufacture of electric equipment, electronic and optical equipment – by 11.8 per cent.

³⁵ NSC KR, Socioeconomic situation of the Kyrgyz Republic, January-August (Bishkek, 2013), pp. 83, 86,88, available at <http://stat.kg/images/stories/Social%20economic%20ind.pdf> (accessed on 16/12/2013).

At the same time, it should be noted that a decrease of output was observed in:

- the production of food items, including beverages and tobacco (by 6.6 per cent);
- the textile and garment manufacture (by 16.5 per cent), gross share in the overall structure of the manufacturing industry is 19.4 per cent;
- the generation and distribution of electric power, gas and water; the output between January and September 2013 amounted to KGS 15.3 billion and de facto was 97.3 per cent. The generation of electric power between January and September 2013 amounted to 9050.6 million kWh or 97 per cent compared to the relevant period of 2012;
- The share of the mining industry is 3.6 per cent, by the end of the period between January and August 2013 the production volume amounted to KGS 3.0 billion. At the same time, there was an increase in the volumes of extracted coal, lignite and peat by 5.6 per cent, of crude oil and natural gas by 4.5 per cent, of marble and limestone for monuments and construction by 2 times, of limestone and gypsum by 1.8 times, of slate by 1.4 times, of granules, stone chippings and powder, pebbles, gravel, broken or crushed stone by 1.9 times and of clay and kaolin clay (porcelain mix) by 37.8 per cent.³⁶

4.4.2. Agriculture, Hunting and Forestry

The gross output of products of agriculture, hunting and forestry between January and August 2013 amounted to KGS 100,805.8 million; at the same time, the quantum index was 104.3 per cent of the output of the same period in 2012. Cattle breeding accounted for 53 per cent of the total volume of agricultural production between January and August 2013, while crop production accounted for 45 per cent, services for 1.8 per cent, and forestry for 0.2 per cent.

Peasant (farm) enterprises and personal subsidiary plots of citizens produced 95.7 per cent of the total amount of products. The growth in gross agricultural output between January and August 2013 was mainly caused by an increase in the crop production sector. At the beginning of September 2013, grain crops (without grain legumes, rice and buckwheat) were harvested from an area of 383,600 hectares, or 65.2 per cent of the total harvested area, and the average harvest in the republic was 26.2 tons per hectare (in originally recorded weight), compared with 18.7 tons per hectare at the corresponding date of the previous year.

In comparison to the relevant period of 2012, output volumes of the main types of livestock products increased between January and August 2013. Production of livestock and poultry for slaughter (in live weight) composed 223,188 tons and increased by 1.4 per cent in comparison to the same period in 2012; production of milk – 966,023 tons, increased by 1.9 per cent; eggs – 296,148 thousand pieces, increased by 2.3 per cent; wool – 11,579 kg in physical mass, increased by 2.4 per cent. The average milk yield per one cow was 1,378 liter³⁷.

4.4.3. Services

According to the data of the Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic (ME KR), the gross output of the services industry between January and August 2013 was KGS 174.5 billion, with a real growth rate of 6.2 per cent. The growth of the services sector was ensured by a growth in trade, which composed 8.8 per cent (contribution of 2.6 percentage points), in transport and communications services – by 6.3 per cent and 19.3 per cent accordingly (contribution of 0.9 and 1.8 percentage points, respectively). The positive contribution of the services sector to the formation of GDP is significant and is estimated at 2.7 percentage points, while its share in the structure of GDP production comprises 48.3 per cent.

³⁶ Data of ME KR, Bishkek 2013, available at http://www.mineconom.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3101 (accessed on 16/12/2013).

³⁷ NSC KR, Socioeconomic situation of the Kyrgyz Republic, January-August (Bishkek, 2013), pp. 89-90.

- The gross output of trade amounted to KGS 52.5 billion and increased by 8.8 per cent, occupying around 30.1 per cent in the structure of services. Trade turnover, repair of cars, domestic appliances and personal items composed KGS 182.1 billion and increased by 8.2 per cent in comparison with the same period of 2012. This includes retail sales which increased by 9 per cent.
- The gross output of transportation services composed KGS 24.9 billion, with a real growth rate of 106.3 per cent, while the volume of cargo transported by all types of transport grew by 2.9 per cent. The growth in the volume of cargo transportations by auto transport was caused by an increase in the number of transportations conducted by individual entrepreneurs during the reporting period of 2013. Carriages of passengers performed by all types of transportation grew by 2.8 per cent for the reporting period.
- The gross output of services of postal and electric communications grew by 19.3 per cent between January and August 2013 and amounted to KGS 16.1 billion. The growth in the communications services is explained by the expansion of cellular services, access to Internet, the introduction of digital TV broadcasting, expansion of the resource base of the banking system and non-bank financial and credit institutions.
- The gross output of services of hotels and restaurants constituted KGS 7.9 billion, with a real growth rate of 112.2 per cent. The output of hotels was 118.1 per cent and that of restaurants – 112.2 per cent. Measures for increasing touristic attractiveness, such as the implementation of tourism fairs and festivals, as well as the coverage of informational videos about the country's touristic potential in foreign and domestic mass media contributed to an increase in services of hotels and restaurants.³⁸

4.5. Workforce and Unemployment

The main feature of the labor market of the Kyrgyz Republic is the excess of workforce, which is explained by high growth rates among the working-age population. Thus, the proportion of the working-age population increased from 57.8 per cent in 2005 to 61.1 per cent at the start of 2012. This excess will supposedly grow due to the high birth rate. During the last six years, labor supply exceeded demand by more than 32 per cent. The economically active population amounted to 2.490 million people in 2012, which included 2.278 million employed people and 212,400 unemployed.

The largest number of jobs (primarily in the informal sector) is created in agriculture and trade. The largest number of work places in the formal sector is created in industrial enterprises, construction, as well as in the system of education. The smallest number of work places in the formal sector is created in the network of hotels and restaurants and in the financial sector, as well as in health care, transport and communication. A significant place is taken by trade, where over 30 per cent of all jobs are created.

In 2012, the average monthly nominal salary of one worker was KGS 10,543.

According to the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic (NSC KR), the general level of unemployment in the republic is 8.5 per cent; the total number of unemployed (including those not registered in the employment services) was 212,400 people. In 2012, the number of people registered in state employment services reached 95,200, while the number of officially unemployed people composed 60,400. The level of registered unemployment was 2.4 per cent of the total economically active population. During 2012, 39,600 unemployed citizens found work with the help of the employment services. For raising the competitiveness of the unemployed on the labor market and taking

³⁸ Data of the ME KR, Bishkek 2013, available at http://www.mineconom.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3101 (accessed on 16/12/2013).

into account the market's needs in labor force of specific professions, the employment services referred 6,514 people to obtain vocational education.³⁹

According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the unemployment rate for the Kyrgyz Republic was 7.647 per cent in 2013 (50th place in world rankings). The world's average unemployment rate value is 4.70 per cent; the Kyrgyz Republic ranks 2.95 per cent higher than the average. In 2012, the unemployment rate for the Kyrgyz Republic was 7.74 per cent.⁴⁰

4.6. Inflation

Taking into account existing inflation risks in the country, including those due to the high level of state budget deficit, the National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic (NBKR) carried out a balanced monetary policy, which helped to lower the level of the underlying inflation (according to the IMF method) from 11.4 per cent at the end of December 2012 (in annual terms) to 8.9 per cent at the end of June 2013 (in annual terms).

According to data of the NSC KR, the inflation indicator was 8.1 per cent at the end of June 2013 (June 2013 to June 2012), the average annual inflation value composed 7.8 per cent.

The dynamics of the consumer prices between January and June 2013 were shaped, as previously, by the influence of prices on food products, which take up around 48 per cent in the consumer basket. Prices in this group of goods increased by 8.1 per cent. During the surveyed period, the consumer price index for non-food prices increased by 7.7 per cent in annual terms, by 6.9 per cent for paid services and by 11.8 per cent for alcoholic beverages and tobacco products.

Food products

In the structure of food products, the largest share belongs to baked goods and grains. By the end of June 2013, prices on baked goods and grains increased by 14.6 per cent in annual terms, including first-grade wheat flour which grew in price by 27.6 per cent. At the same time, in January-June of 2013, prices on grains stabilized and displayed a tendency to decrease due to expectations of a good harvest in 2013. The price index on milk products grew by 8.7 per cent in annual terms, and by 18.5 per cent on fruits and vegetables. The prices in the "Oils and fats" commodity group grew by 1.5 per cent in annual terms. Domestic prices for food products highly depend on the dynamics of global prices as the Kyrgyz Republic's economy significantly depends on the import of food.

Non-food products

At the end of June 2013, the growth of the price index for non-food products amounted to 7.7 per cent in annual terms. Over the last years, prices on these groups of goods have retained relative stability, while the increase in prices of non-food products is slowing down with every year, which may signify a decrease in the monetary component of inflation in the economy of the Kyrgyz Republic. The highest increase in prices was noted in the commodity group "clothes and shoes", in which prices increased by 13.0 per cent. Prices of household items and appliances increased by 7 per cent. The cost of fuel and lubricants decreased by 1.4 per cent in annual terms, including prices of petroleum which decreased by 1.6 per cent, prices of diesel fuel increased by 1.5 per cent".⁴¹

According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the inflation (Average Consumer Price Change %) in the Kyrgyz Republic was 8.613 per cent in 2013 (23rd in world rankings). Data for inflation are averages for the year, not end-of-period data. The world's average inflation

³⁹ Ministry of Youth, Labor and Employment of the KR, Analytical report about activities of the Ministry of Youth, Labor and Employment of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2012 (Bishkek, 2012) available at www.mz.kg/ru/otchjoty.

⁴⁰ Data from International Monetary Fund (IMF) 2013, published by Economy Watch, available at http://www.economywatch.com/economic-statistics/Kyrgyzstan/Unemployment_Rate_Percentage_of_Labour_Force/ (accessed on 18/12/2014).

⁴¹ NBKR, Overview of inflation in the Kyrgyz Republic, II quarter of 2013 (Bishkek, 2013), p. 9, 17-19, available at www.nbkr.kg/DOC/28082013/000000000023317.pdf (accessed on 16/12/2013).

value is 4.95 per cent; the Kyrgyz Republic ranks 3.66 per cent above the average. In 2012, the inflation rate of the Kyrgyz Republic was 2.77 per cent.⁴²

4.7. State Budget

4.7.1. Revenues

According to the Ministry of Finance of the Kyrgyz Republic (MF KR), the state budget revenues between January and August 2013 amounted to KGS 63.369 billion; out of these, the republic's budget revenues amounted to KGS 55.320 billion, and local budget revenues to KGS 8.49 billion. The state budget's tax revenues constituted KGS 44.971 billion. These include state budget revenues in the amount of KGS 22.880 billion secured by the State Tax Service of the Kyrgyz Republic, and KGS 22.91 billion secured by the State Customs Service.

Non-tax incomes of the state budget were KGS 13.357 billion, official transfers — KGS 5.41 billion.

4.7.2. Expenditures

State budget expenditures for the same period composed KGS 63.117 billion, out of which, expenditures from the republican budget equaled KGS 49.98 billion and from the local budget — KGS 14.19 billion.

State budget expenditures:

on general purpose state service	KGS 6.604 billion
on economic issues	KGS 11.640 billion
on environmental protection	KGS 279 million
on housing and utility services	KGS 2.109 billion
on health care	KGS 7.252 billion
on recreation, culture and religion	KGS 1.572 billion
on education	KGS 13.297 billion
on social protection	KGS 13.378 billion

Expenditures on current grants to other units of the state management sector amounted to KGS 7.672 billion:

- Categorical grants — KGS 6.618 billion,
- Equalizing grants — KGS 486 million and funds transferred from the republican to local budget by mutual settlements — KGS 568 million.⁴³

⁴² Data from International Monetary Fund (IMF) 2013, published by Economy Watch, available at http://www.economywatch.com/economic-statistics/Kyrgyzstan/Inflation_Average_Consumer_Price_Change_Percentage/ (accessed on 18/02/2014).

⁴³ Data of the MF KR for 1 October 2013, available at www.minfin.kg/ru/novosti/byudzheth/novosti-byudzhethnogo-protssessa/show2043/ (accessed on 16/12/2013).

4.7.3. State Debt

According to the data of the MF KR, the state debt of the Kyrgyz Republic amounted to KGS 153.615 billion. In comparison, the volume of GDP for the first eight months of 2013 was KGS 198 billion.

91 per cent of the total state debt amount is external debt (KGS 139.800 billion), while 9 per cent is internal debt (KGS 13.815 billion). During the first seven months of 2013, KGS 6,403,682,000 were directed from the republican budget for servicing state debt, KGS 1,944,169,000 for servicing external debt and KGS 4,459,513,000 for internal debt.⁴⁴

4.8. Current Account

Between January and July 2013, the foreign trade turnover of the Kyrgyz Republic (on the basis of tax statistics) amounted to USD 4,006.5 million and grew by 10.4 per cent in comparison to the same period of 2012. Between January and July 2013, the Republic conducted mutual trade with 132 countries of the world. Goods were exported to 79 countries and imported from 115 countries. In the structure of trade, the share of exports was 19.7 per cent, of imports – 80.3 per cent. At the same time, the volume of import of goods exceeded exports by 4.1 times (in the analogous period in 2012 – by 3.5 times). The trade balance between January and July 2013 was negative, amounting to USD 2,425.5 million, by 20.7 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of 2012.⁴⁵

According to data from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the current account balance for Kyrgyz Republic was USD 0.55 billion in 2013 (No. 102 in the global ranking).⁴⁶

4.8.1. Export

Export deliveries fell by 2.4 per cent, amounting to USD 790.5 million. Excluding gold, the volume of exports of goods decreased by 2.9 per cent and composed USD 562.3 million. The volume of exports to CIS countries occupies 57.5 per cent in the overall volume of exports, exports to non-CIS countries – 42.5 per cent. The main volume of exports between January and July 2013 were directed to Kazakhstan - 28.5 per cent of total exports, Switzerland – 28.0 per cent, Uzbekistan – 12.1 per cent, Russian Federation – 10.6 per cent, Tajikistan – 3.8 per cent and Turkey – 3.2 per cent. Compared with the same period in the year 2012 there was a decrease in the export of goods to the Russian Federation (by 1.6 times) and Switzerland (by 4.3%). The largest share in export deliveries was occupied by Switzerland (gold – USD 220.1), Kazakhstan (clothes and clothing accessories – USD 61 million, fruits and vegetables – USD 53 million, inorganic chemicals – USD 17.9 million, non-metallic mineral products – USD 17 million, metal ores – USD 10 million), Uzbekistan (vehicles for the transport of goods – USD 19.6 million, rubber articles – USD 15.8 million, cast iron and steel – USD 14 million), the Russian Federation (jet fuel – USD 27.4 million, rolled glass – USD 9.6 million, raw cotton – USD 3.5 million) and Turkey (jet fuel – USD 9.6 million, fruits and vegetables – USD 8.8 million, raw cotton – USD 3.2 million).⁴⁷

According to data of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the export volume of all items including goods and services of the Kyrgyz Republic was 20.07 per cent in 2013 (10th rank in

⁴⁴ Data of “24.kg” Information agency (Bishkek, 12 September 2013), available at www.24.kg/economics/160525-y-2013-godu-na-obsluzhivanie-gosdolga-iz.html (accessed on 16/12/2013).

⁴⁵ NSC KR, Socioeconomic situation of the Kyrgyz Republic, January-August (Bishkek, 2013), pp.132-138.

⁴⁶ Data from International Monetary Fund (IMF), published by Economy Watch, available at http://www.economywatch.com/economic-statistics/Kyrgyzstan/Current_Account_Balance_US_Dollars/ (accessed on 19/02/2014).

⁴⁷ NSC KR, Socioeconomic situation of the Kyrgyz Republic, January-August (Bishkek, 2013), pp.132-138.

the global ranking). In 2012, the export volume of all items including goods and services was 8.3 per cent.⁴⁸

4.8.2. Import

Import revenues between January and June 2013 exceeded the level of the same period of 2012 by 14.1 per cent, and reached USD 3.216 billion due to an increase of inflows, from both CIS (by 16.8%) and non-CIS countries (by 11.4%).

Goods were predominantly imported from the Russian Federation – 33.4 per cent in the total imports volume, the People's Republic of China – 21.8 per cent, Kazakhstan – 9.7 per cent, USA – 4.1 per cent, Germany – 3.9 per cent, Turkey – 3.6 per cent and Japan – 3.5 per cent. The increase in imports was due to an increase in the imports of goods from Turkey by 30 per cent, from the People's Republic of China by 18 per cent, from the Russian Federation by 16.6 per cent and from Kazakhstan by 12.2 per cent. Between January and July 2013, the volume of goods imported from the CIS countries increased by USD 233.8 million in comparison to the same period of 2012 and composed USD 1.6231 billion, which constitutes 50.5 per cent in the total volume of imports, imports from non-CIS countries increased by USD 163.0 million and composed USD 1.5929 billion (49.5%) accordingly.

The main partner countries in import deliveries are the Russian Federation (petroleum and petroleum products – for USD 592.7 million, cast iron and steel – for USD 68.2 million) Kazakhstan (grains and grain products – for USD 79.5 million, natural gas – for USD 33.7 million), Japan (cars – for USD 937.7 million, machines specifically designed for certain industries – for USD 65.0 million), the People's Republic of China (clothes and clothing accessories – for USD 94.1 million, textile yarn – for USD 51.3 million).⁴⁹

According to data of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the import volume of all items including goods and services from the Kyrgyz Republic in 2013 was 5.301 per cent (79th rank in the global ranking). In 2012, the import volume of all items including goods and services for the Kyrgyz Republic was 17.15 per cent.⁵⁰

4.9. Reserves of Foreign Currency and Gold

Official reserve assets and other assets in foreign currency (approximate market value), March 2014, in million USD⁵¹

A. Official reserve assets	2,079.82
1) (1) Reserve assets in foreign currency (in convertible foreign currencies)	1,498.61
(a) Securities	625.33
(b) total amount of currency and deposits	873.29
(i) in other national central Banks, the Bank for International Settlements and International Monetary Fund	154.51
(iii) in banks with main branches outside of reporting countries	718.78
(2) reserve position in the IMF	0.01
(3) special drawing rights	194.15
(4) gold (including gold deposits and, in appropriate cases, gold in swap operations) ⁵	153.59

⁴⁸ Data from International Monetary Fund (IMF) 2013, published by Economy Watch, available at http://www.economywatch.com/economic-statistics/Kyrgyzstan/Inflation_Average_Consumer_Price_Change_Percentage/ (accessed on 18/02/2014).

⁴⁹ NSC KR, Socioeconomic situation of the Kyrgyz Republic, January-August (Bishkek, 2013), pp.132-138.

⁵⁰ Data from International Monetary Fund (IMF) 2013, published by Economy Watch, available at http://www.economywatch.com/economic-statistics/Kyrgyzstan/Inflation_Average_Consumer_Price_Change_Percentage/ (accessed on 18/02/2014).

⁵¹ NBKR, International reserves and liquidity in foreign currency, March 2014, available at www.nbkr.kg/index1.jsp?item=131&lang=RUS (accessed on 16/12/2013).

— volume in millions of net troy ounces	0.12
(5) other reserve assets (indicate)	233
— other	233
B. Other assets in foreign currency (indicate)	0.00

Source: NBKR.

4.10. Investments

According to the information platform focus.kg, “Inflow of foreign investments for the years 2006—2012 increased by 1.7 times with an average annual growth rate of 12.1 per cent (from USD 2.5144 billion to USD 4.3358 billion). At the same time, share of other investments remains high — 80.8 per cent in 2006 and 84.6 per cent in 2012 in the total volume, accordingly, share of direct foreign investments was 13.4 per cent and 14 per cent, of grants and technical aid — 2 per cent and 1.2 per cent, of portfolio investments — 0.02 per cent and 0.2 per cent.”⁵²

The inflow volume of foreign investments (excluding outflow) in the period from January to June 2013 increased by 26.1 per cent in comparison to the relevant period of 2012 and composed USD 2.2774 billion. At the same time, the inflow balance equaled USD 470.1 million.

Inflow of foreign investments:

- Direct foreign investments – USD 345.5 million
- Other investments - USD 1,917.9 million
- Grants, technical assistance - USD 14.0 million⁵³

The inflow of direct foreign investments between January and June 2013 increased by 1.4 times in comparison to the same period in 2012 and composed USD 345.5 million, while its balance amounted to USD 222.9 million.

Structure of inflow of direct foreign investments between January and June 2013⁵⁴

Direct foreign investments	USD million	in %
Total	345.5	100
Joint stock capital	25.6	7.4
Reinvested profits	132.1	38.2
Credits obtained from foreign co-owners of enterprises	154.2	44.7
Trade credits	33.6	9.7

Source: NSC KR.

"The processing industry remains the most attractive area for foreign investors with the largest share of direct foreign investments focused on it, the trade sector maintains its positions in the services, and there is a tendency of growth in the sector of real estate

⁵² Data from research and information resource focus.kg (26 September 2013), available at <http://focus.kg/news/economic/16491.html> (accessed on 16/12/2013).

⁵³ NSC KR, Socio-economic situation of the Kyrgyz Republic, January-August (Bishkek, 2013), p. 95.

⁵⁴ NSC KR, Socio-economic situation of the Kyrgyz Republic, January-August (Bishkek, 2013), pp. 96-97.

operations, rent and provision of services to consumers, while financial activities has been experiencing a reduction since 2010".⁵⁵

Receipts of direct foreign investments by type of activity⁵⁶

(in millions of USD)

Total	345.5
Agriculture, hunting and forestry	0.2
Mining industry	11.9
Processing industry	134.2
Production and distribution of electrical power, gas and water	10.0
Construction	3.6
Trade; repair of cars, home appliances and personal items	18.8
Hotels and restaurants	0.2
Transport and communications	9.8
Financial activities	62.9
Real estate operations, rent and provision of services to consumers	93.7
Provision of utility, social and personal services	0.2

Source: NSC KR.

The main investing countries were the People's Republic of China with a volume of receipts of USD 84.5 million, Canada – USD 73.8 million, Cyprus – USD 21.5 million and Great Britain – USD 27.1 million. Investments from the People's Republic of China were mainly directed at enterprises of the processing industry (42.9%, with 91.5% in production of petroleum products) and geological exploration (41.8%), those of Canada – at enterprises of the processing industry – 95.8 per cent, Cyprus – at geological exploration – 84.3 per cent, Great Britain - geological exploration - 99.9 per cent.

The volume of direct foreign investments from CIS countries: from the Russian Federation – USD 37.7 million, from Kazakhstan – USD 23.3 million. The main volume of investments from the Russian Federation were directed at: the enterprises of the processing industry - 35.4 per cent, out of which 68.2 per cent were directed in textile and garment manufacture, 31.4 per cent – into the manufacture of food items, 26.5 per cent – generation of electric power, gas and water and 12.7 per cent in financial activities. Investments from Kazakhstan were aimed at the sector of financial activities – 51.5 per cent, trade, repair of cars, home appliances and items of personal use – 20.4 per cent, and enterprises of the mining industry – 15.5 per cent.⁵⁷

⁵⁵ Data of the Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic (20 November 2013), available at http://www.mineconom.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3328&catid=27&lang=ru (accessed on 18/02/2014).

⁵⁶ NSC KR, Socio-economic situation of the Kyrgyz Republic, January-August (Bishkek, 2013), pp. 96-97.

⁵⁷ NSC KR, Socio-economic situation of the Kyrgyz Republic, January-August (Bishkek, 2013), pp. 96-97.

4.11. Development Assistance

According to the data of the NSC KR, in 2012 the Kyrgyz Republic received humanitarian and technical assistance worth USD 73.1 million, which accounted for 1.4 per cent of the total volume of imports. Compared to the previous year, the volume of humanitarian aid decreased by USD 57 million or by 1.8 times.

In 2012, humanitarian and technical aid came from 46 countries of the world. The main share of aid was provided by the USA – USD 33.8 million (46.3% of total volume), by the People's Republic of China – USD 10 million (13.7 %), Vietnam – USD 5.1 million (7%) and the Russian Federation – USD 4.7 million (6.4 %). The main supplies of humanitarian aid were medical and pharmaceutical products - for USD 36.7 million; special, scientific and test instruments and equipment – for USD 5.9 million; textile yarn, fabrics and ready-made articles – for USD 5.8 million. In 2012, the Kyrgyz Republic provided humanitarian assistance to three countries in the amount of USD 692,400, including USD 683,300 to Afghanistan, USD 8,600 to Tajikistan and USD 500 to Kazakhstan. Main supplies of humanitarian aid were dining, kitchen and other household articles and their parts, ready-made textile articles and generators. In comparison to the previous year, the volume of provided humanitarian assistance increased by 4.4 times.⁵⁸

4.12. Links and Contacts

Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic

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Fax: (+996 312)-66 18 37

E-mail: mail@mineconom.kg

Website: www.mineconom.kg

Ministry of Finance of the KR

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Website: www.minfin.kg

Central Treasury of the Ministry of Finance of the KR

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E-mail: a.sulaimbekova@minfin.kg

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Fax: (+996 312) 66-01-38

E-mail: nsc_mail@stat.kg

Website: www.stat.kg

National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic

720040, Bishkek, UmetalivaStr, 101

Tel: (+996 312) 66-90-11

Fax: (+996 312)66-90-12

⁵⁸ Data of NSC KR, Bishkek 2012, available at <http://stat.kg/images/stories/docs/tematika/wed/2013/Humanit.pdf> (accessed on 16/12/2013).

E-mail: mail@nbkr.kg
Website: <http://www.nbkr.kg>

5. INFRASTRUCTURE

5.1. Banking System

The banking system of the Kyrgyz Republic is a two-tier system. The first tier of the system is represented by the National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic (Bank of Kyrgyzstan), which conducts monitoring and licensing of the activities of banks and a number of other financial and credit establishments. The second tier comprises commercial banks.

Kyrgyz banks provide the following services: payment and cash-management services, wire transfers, trade finance transactions, operations with traveler's checks, servicing of bank payment cards, deposit and credit operations.

According to the National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic, as of 30 September 2013, 23 commercial banks and 282 branches of commercial banks were functioning on the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic. Their activities are regulated by the Laws of the Kyrgyz Republic "On the National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic", "On banks and banking activity in the Kyrgyz Republic", "On licensing", "On bankruptcy (insolvency)", "On bank secrecy". As of 30 September 2013, the banking sector as a whole made a net profit of KGS 1,894.9 million. In the corresponding period of 2012, there were 22 operating commercial banks with profits from their activities amounting to KGS 1.823 billion. On 30 September 2013, the total assets of the banking sector increased by 20.4 per cent since the beginning of the year and amounted to KGS 105.3 billion. As of 30 September 2013, the total deposit base of the banking sector was KGS 58.8 billion, having increased by 22.4 per cent from the beginning of the year. The level of "dollarization" of enterprises' and the population's deposits and the public banking system as of 30 September 2013 was 50.7 per cent, an increase by 5.2 percentage points since the beginning of 2012.

The volume of loan portfolio of the banking sector, as on 30 September 2013, was KGS 50.1 billion, having increased by 24.9 per cent since the beginning of 2013 (at the end of 2012 it was KGS 40.1 billion).⁵⁹

List with contacts and websites of the banks

Bank	Address	Contacts and Websites
National Bank of Pakistan	720021, Bishkek city, Moskovskaya Str. 84	(+996 312)-624721 nbp.bishkek@transfer.kg
BTA Bank	720001, Bishkek city, Moskovskaya Str. 118	(+996 312)-905040 www.bta.kg
Demir Kyrgyz International Bank (DKIB)	720040, Bishkek city, Chuy Ave. 245	(+996 312)-610610 www.demirbank.kg
Micro financial Bank "Bay-Tushum and Partners"	720001, Bishkek city, Umetalieva Str. 76	(+996 312)-900464 www.baitushum.kg
Bank of Asia	720016, Bishkek city, Mira Ave. 303	(+996 312)-551182 www.bankasia.kg
Kyrgyz Investment and Credit Bank (KICB)	720040, Bishkek city, Erkindik Blvd. 21	(+996 312)-620101 www.kicb.net
Bank Manas	720040, Bishkek city, Logvinenko Str. 14	(+996 312)-902090 www.mb.kg
Joint Stock Commercial Bank "Tolubay"	720001, Bishkek city, Umetalieva Str. 105	(+996 312)-902902 www.tolubaybank.kg
Ayil Bank	720011, Bishkek city, Pushkin Str. 50	(+996 312)-665278 aiylbank@infotel.kg

⁵⁹ Data of NBKR (30 September 2013), available at www.nbkr.kg/index1.jsp?item=80&lang=RUS (accessed on 16/12/2013).

Capital Bank	720017, Bishkek city, Moskovskaya Str. 161	(+996 312)-313030 www.capitalbank.kg
Bakai Bank	720001, Bishkek city, Isanova Str. 77	(+996 312)-610242 www.bakai.kg
Dos-credo Bank	720001, Bishkek city, Isanova Str. 81-83	(+996 312)-692777 www.doscredobank.kg
Commercial Bank "Kyrgyzstan"	720033, Bishkek city, TogolokMoldo Str.54a	(+996) 312-613333 bank@cbk.kg
Kyrgyz Credit Bank	720021, Bishkek city, Ibraimova Str. 40/1	(+996 312)-389191 www.kcredit.kg
RSK Bank	720040, Bishkek city, Molodaya Gvardia Blvd. 38a	(+996) 312-656746 www.ssc.kg
Finance Credit Bank	720021, Bishkek city, Abdrahmanova Str. 105	(+996 312)-303014 www.fkb.kg
Halyk Bank Kyrgyzstan	720033, Bishkek city, Frunze Str. 390	(+996) 312-614128 www.halykbank.kg
Eco Islamic Bank	720031, Bishkek city, Geologicheskiiy Str. 17	(+996 312)-543582 office@ecobank.kg
Optima Bank	720070, Bishkek city, JibekJolu Str. 493	(+996) 312-374747 www.unicreditbank.kg
Invest Bank "Issyk-Kul"	720021, Bishkek city, Abdrahmanova Str. 133	(+996 312)-622179 invest@investbank.kg
Aman Bank	720040, Bishkek city, Tynystanova Str. 249	(+996) 312-622077 bank@amanbank.kg
Rosin Bank	720040, Bishkek city, Moskovskaya Str. 80/1	(+996 312)-313173 www.rib.kg
Kazkommerts Bank	720017, Bishkek city, Shopokova Str. 101-a	(+996 312)-333000 www.kkb.kg

Source: NBKR.

5.2. Telecommunication

5.2.1. Telephone

According to the State Agency for Communications under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, "The number of subscribers of a national telephone network in 2012 was 488,853 people, in 2011 — 502,020 people, in 2010 — 489,052 people. The total number of main telephone sets connected to local telephone stations reached 488,853, out of which 478,178 are connected to digital Automatic Telephone Station (ATS), comprising 97.8 per cent of the total number of subscribers.

In this branch of the services sector, the dominant position is occupied by the Open Joint-Stock Company (OJSC) "Kyrgyztelecom". To enter this market, private operators use technological innovations (radio access, integration of services, *Code Division Multiple Access* (CDMA-450)), which ensure high quality and a wide spectrum of provided services. Major alternative operators are the Closed Joint-Stock Companies (CJSC) "Saimatelekom" and "Vinline Ltd", which are oriented at Bishkek city and the Chuy province. These providers mainly work in Bishkek and other cities.

Over the last years, an active expansion of the telecommunications market is being observed in the Kyrgyz Republic. The volume of services provided by cellular communication companies that take up 75 per cent of the market reached KGS 21 billion, which accounts for eight per cent of the domestic market of the republic. As of 01 July 2013, the number of subscribers composed 6.3 million people, after having increased by 1 million in the course of only one year. The coverage level is 100 per cent, cellular communication penetration – 122

per cent. In this area there is a competitive market, no problems of monopolization exist in the sector.”⁶⁰

There are three main mobile operators in Kyrgyzstan: “MegaCom”, “Beeline” and “NUR Telecom” (trading name O!). “MegaCom” (CJSC “Alpha Telecom”) is a mobile company of the Kyrgyz Republic telecommunications market, which provides mobile communications services in Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) 900/1800 and *Wideband Code Division Multiple Access (WCDMA)/Universal Mobile Telecommunications System (UMTS)* 2100 standards. It covers over 2.5 million subscribers by providing coverage of up to 95 per cent of the populated area of the country. The total number of “MegaCom’s” corporate clients exceeds 2,000 and increases continuously. The company belongs to the top largest taxpayers of the Kyrgyz Republic.⁶¹

The company “Beeline” (“SkyMobil” Ltd.) provides cellular communications services in GSM-900/1800 and WCDMA/UMTS 2100 (3G) standards. Beeline claims it provides its subscribers with advantageous and convenient products and services, quality connectivity and excellent service, as well as innovative technologies. In December 2010, “Beeline” was the first GSM provider who launched a third generation 3G network in the Kyrgyz Republic and expanded it to all seven provinces of the country by February 2012. As of 30 September 2013 the overall number of company’s clients comprised 2,531,000.⁶²

The company “Nur Telecom” (trading name O!) provides mobile connection services of GSM 900/1800 standard on the entire territory of the republic.

Mobile phone services are not expensive; they are affordable by most citizens. Prices and services are provided by these cellular companies on almost similar conditions. Prices for calls inside the country from “Mega Com” vary from KGS 0.4 to KGS 5 (depending on the type of rate)⁶³; from “Beeline” KGS 0.5–5⁶⁴. Services of all three companies are functioning on the territory of almost the entire country, with the exception of remote villages and settlements. Nowadays most of the population of the Kyrgyz Republic can use services of more than two mobile operators at one time (one person may use two mobile numbers of different mobile operators). For instance, if a person uses the services of the mobile operators “Beeline” and “MegaCom”, he/she can use the “MegaCom” services if calling another person who uses “MegaCom” in order to make the cheapest call possible. This can be seen as an indicator for not expensive costs for calls.

Used mobile telephone units can be purchased for a minimum of KGS 1,000-1,500. The minimum price of new mobile telephones is KGS 2,000.

5.2.2. Internet

According to the State Agency for Communications under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, “Internet access services are one of the fastest developing segments of the telecommunications market of the Kyrgyz Republic and have been provided for almost 14 years. The market potential of these services is quite high; however, it is limited by population’s capacities. Today, it cannot be said that all regions of the country are covered by Internet; the majority (around 72%) of Internet access points are concentrated in Bishkek city. At present, Internet penetration rate in the republic is 50.8 per cent. However, it is necessary to note that today Internet in provinces is developing by relatively large strides, also due to the expansion of coverage by cellular communications. At present, the area of coverage by cellular communications is 95.7 per cent of populated areas in the country.

⁶⁰ State Agency for Communications under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, Progress report for 2012 (Bishkek), available at www.nas.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=252&Itemid=197&lang=ru (accessed on 17/12/2013).

⁶¹ Data of Mega Com (CJSC “Alpha Telecom”), available at <http://www.megacom.kg/rus/about/> (accessed on 20/02/2014).

⁶² Data of “Sky Mobile” Ltd., available at <http://about.beeline.kg/index.wbp> (accessed on 17/12/2013).

⁶³ Data of Mega Com (CJSC “Alpha Telecom”), available at <http://www.megacom.kg/rus/tariffs/> (accessed on 28/02/2014).

⁶⁴ Data of “Sky Mobile” Ltd., available at <http://mobile.beeline.kg/ru/main/tarifs/all/index.wbp> (accessed on 28/02/2014).

Everywhere, there are growing opportunities and demand for the use of mobile-based technologies, which allow receiving wireless Internet services virtually anywhere in the country. New innovative solutions are replacing outdated technologies. Currently, the number of Internet users reaches 3,493,143 (not only the registered population, but including tourists, guests of the country, etc.)⁶⁵.

The following providers of access to Internet network are currently operating on the market of the Kyrgyz Republic:

- cellular service providers („Beeline“, „MegaCom“, „FONEX“, „Katel“, „NEXI“, „NUR Telekom“, b\n O);
- home network operators and/or *Delay&Disruption-Tolerant Networking* (DTN) operators („Megaline“, „ElCat“, „Aknet“, „Asiainfo“, „Totel“, „Homeline“, „Citytelecom“, „Netcome“, „Fastnet“, „Optimatelecom“, „Transfer“, „Shmel“ and others);
- landline service providers („Kyrgyztelecom“, „SaimaTelecom“, „Winline“.

The average payment for internet use in an internet café is KGS 30-40 per hour.

According to another source, 30 per cent of the Kyrgyz population use the Internet, 84.6 per cent out of whom use it at home, 13.8 per cent at the work place, 13.4 per cent at an internet café.⁶⁶

5.2.3. Telephone Codes of Kyrgyzstan

Region	Country code	Region code
Batken	996	3622
Bishkek	996	312
Jalal-Abad	996	3722
Naryn	996	3522
Osh	996	3222
Talas	996	3422
Cholpon-Ata	996	3943

5.2.4. Telephones of Emergency Services

- 101 – Fire service
- 102 – Militia
- 103 – Emergency medical service
- 104 – Emergency gas service

5.3. Postal Services

The Kyrgyz Republic's postal service “Kyrgyzpochtasy” includes four postal branches, “Bishkekpochtamt” branch, “Center of international and intra-republican transport of post”, 37

⁶⁵ State Agency for Communications under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, Progress report for 2012 (Bishkek).

⁶⁶ Data of “24.kg” Information agency, 26 July 2012, available at http://www.knews.kg/society/19528_pochti_60_naseleniya_bishkeka_polzuetsya_internetom/ (accessed on 19/02/2014).

district branches, seven urban branches, 870 post offices (192 – urban, 678 – rural). There is one mobile post office, which services remote and hard-to-reach settled areas of Ton district in Issyk-Kul oblast. The state enterprise (SE) “Kyrgyzpochtasy” provides services on the entire territory of the Kyrgyz Republic including all cities/towns and rural settlements.

Post is delivered to all corners of the republic according to a fixed schedule: Five times a week to regional and district centers and towns, three times a week to post offices. The length of routes for both ways is over 25 thousand kilometers. In total, the post offers its clients over 55 postal, financial, info-communicational and other services. Delivery of pensions, social allowances and other social payments as well as subscription publications is implemented through postal branches and post offices. In post offices one can pay for utilities, pay the fines of the Main Department of Road Traffic Safety, pay for technical inspection of cars, obtain and pay back microloans of OJSC “Ayil Bank”, obtain air, railroad and bus tickets of national transportation companies for all directions, purchase theater tickers and fast moving consumer goods. In addition, all those wishing to access Internet, send and receive electronic mail, print a document, make copies, make a payment for using cellular phones can do so in public access centers.

Twenty-five branches are connected to the system of receiving payments online, including the head office of SE “Kyrgyzpochtasy”. Payments are also accepted in subordinate post offices with a subsequent transfer of information to automated payment acceptance points by phone. 2010 saw the introduction of services of accepting payments for the technical inspection of cars, booking and delivering air, railroad tickets and sale of lottery tickets.⁶⁷

Several international logistic companies operate in the country, such as “DHL”, “FedEx”, “Pony Express”, “TNT Express”, “UPS”.⁶⁸

5.4. Transportation

5.4.1. Roads

The total length of automobile roads in the country is 34,000 km, including 18,810 km of roads of general use, serviced by the road divisions of the Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic (MTC KR) and 15,190 kilometers of roads of cities, villages, agricultural, industrial and other enterprises.

The length of automobile roads of international significance is 4,163 km, of state significance – 5,678 km, of local significance – 8,969 km. Out of them, the length of roads of general use with hard surfaces comprises 7,228 km, including 11 km with cement and concrete surfaces, 4,969 km with asphalt concrete covering and 2,248 km with black gravel surface. Roads with gravel surface – 9,961 km, unsurfaced roads – 1,621 km.

Repair and maintenance of automobile roads for general use is implemented by 57 state road operation enterprises (ROE). Regionally, ROEs are structurally subordinate to six linear departments of automobile roads and in terms of international roads are linearly subordinate to three road administrations: Automobile roads administration (ARA) Bishkek-Naryn-Torugart, ARA Osh-Sarytash-Irkeshtam, ARA Osh-Batken-Isfana and the State Direction of Automobile Roads (SDAR) Bishkek-Osh. General supervision of these nine road administrations is carried out by the Main Department of Roads (MDR) of the MTC KR. The total number of full-time workers of road administrations and ROEs is 3,150 people.⁶⁹

⁶⁷ Data of SE “Kyrgyzpochtasy” available at <http://kyrgyzpost.kg/ru/filialy/gp-kyrgyz-pochtasy.html> (accessed on 17/12/2013).

⁶⁸ For further details please see the Yellow Pages by Aki Press, available at <http://yellowpages.akipress.org/cats:156/> (accessed on 19/02/2014).

⁶⁹ Data of MTC KR, available at <http://mtc.gov.kg/ru/page/28.html> (accessed on 17/12/2013).

Bus and auto stations serve as the link between the carriers and passengers, that is bus and auto stations in the process of organization of passenger carriages are in a unified technological cycle. In total, there are 10 bus stations, 36 auto stations and 22 auto cash registers.⁷⁰

Various transport means between main cities.

The most popular means of transportation between towns and villages of the Kyrgyz Republic are buses and route taxis. The former de-jure depart according to schedule and de-facto when the cabin is maximally filled, the latter depart only when all passenger seats are taken. Shared taxi vans (marshrutkas) are a bit more expensive than buses: for instance, a trip from Bishkek to Balykchy by bus will cost approximately KGS 100-150 and KGS 150-200 by taxi van. Someone who wants to depart immediately can simply pay for the remaining seats. Following the same principle, a taxi van can be rented for an entire day for a negotiated price.

Trains are half the price of shared taxi vans, but the journey is twice longer.

City transport in Bishkek is represented by trolleybuses, buses, micro buses (marshrutkas) and private taxis. Trolleybuses are the cheapest transport for the city's population (KGS 8). Mostly pensioners and students use this transport. 80 trolleybuses on seven routes travel inside the city. 250 buses on 21 routes serve to the city's population, travel costs are KGS 8. The trolleybus and bus transportation system is state owned. About 2,350 micro buses travel on 121 routes on a daily basis. Micro buses travel to the remote districts of the city Bishkek. In day time travel costs KGS 10 (from 6 a.m. till 9 p.m.); KGS 12 in night time (from 9 p.m. till 12 a.m.). Micro bus transportation is private; there are several private transportation enterprises. Beside the social transport there are a lot of private taxis that travel inside the city. The payment for the travel depends on the distance (from KGS 100 – to KGS 350).⁷¹

5.4.2. Railroad Transportation

The Kyrgyz Railroad is represented by the executive agency State Enterprise (SE) "Kyrgyztemirjolu National Company" under the Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic (MTC KR) and is a monopoly.

Currently, the total length of railroads is 424.6 km. The network of railways consists of separate, not connected lines, geographically divided into two sections – northern (323.4 km) and southern (101.2 km), which ensure the Kyrgyz Republic's access to the railroad network of neighboring states – Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. The Kyrgyz railroad services 424.6 km of main routes, 220 km of station routes (railway line, located within the boundaries of separate points with gridiron), 66.4 km of connecting tracks (railroad connecting the railway station, located on the main line, with the industrial enterprise or another organization).⁷²

There is a service of passenger and freight trains for local and long distances. Long-distance trains have different types of cars: cars with booked seats, sleeping cars and economy class. Ticket prices depend on the car type. For instance, the price for a ticket from Bishkek to Moscow is KGS 10,750 (economy class).⁷³

5.4.3. Civil Aviation

16 airline companies are registered in the Kyrgyz Republic, 15 of them have a valid certificate of operator and one has an expired certificate. Three airline companies carry out regular passenger transfers by international and domestic air routes (OJSC "Kyrgyzstan Airline Company", OJSC "Avia Traffic Company", OJSC "Air Bishkek").⁷⁴

⁷⁰ MTC KR, Bus stations, available at <http://mtc.gov.kg/ru/page/48.html> (accessed on 17/12/2013).

⁷¹ For more information please see time table of Bishkek trolleybuses, available at <http://bishkek-trolleybus.narod.ru/lines.html> (accessed on 20/02/2014).

⁷² MTC KR, State Enterprise "Kyrgyztemirjolu National Company", available at <http://mtc.gov.kg/ru/page/48.html> (accessed on 17/12/2013).

⁷³ Data of SE "Kyrgyztemirjolu", available at www.kjd.kg/ru/train-schedule/ (accessed on 17/12/2013).

⁷⁴ Data of MTC KR, 18 January 2013, available at <http://mtc.gov.kg/ru/news/244.html> (accessed on 17/12/2013).

Currently, there are ten airports on the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic, including four with an international status – “Manas”, “Osh”, “Issyk-Kul”, and “Karakol”.

Government authorities of the Kyrgyz Republic signed intergovernmental agreements on aerial communications with 27 countries, 11 of which are being implemented.

In 2012 Kyrgyz Republic's air companies mainly operated airplanes manufactured in the West: Boeing, Airbus, BAE. On average, airplanes are older than 20 years. Older planes have higher fuel consumption and less comfortable cabins, which lowers the competitiveness of local air companies. Light repairs and maintenance of planes are carried out by the companies' own engineering departments, heavy maintenance and repairs are done abroad (Kazakhstan, Turkey, and Romania).

Domestic flights of airline companies connect Bishkek to Osh (daily, 1-hour flight), Jalal-Abad with Batken (once per week). Using the railroad, one can move between Balykchy, Tokmok, Bishkek and Kara-Balta.

5.5. Energy and Electricity

The power enterprises of the Kyrgyz Republic are separated by types of activity. The generation of electric power is mainly carried out by the largest company – the OJSC “Electric stations”. The transmission of electric power by a high-voltage network is conducted by the OJSC “National electric network of Kyrgyzstan” (OJSC “NEN of Kyrgyzstan”). The functions of distributing electric power by network of 35 kV and lower until the end consumer are implemented by four regional power distribution companies. All companies are monopolists.

The aggregate capacity of electric power stations is 3,787 MW, including 18 HPS with a total capacity of 3,071 MW and two Thermoelectric Power Stations (TPS) with a total capacity of 716 MW. In 2012, total electricity generation in the Kyrgyz Republic amounted to 14,957.2 million kWh; out of it, domestic consumption amounted to about 87 per cent of produced electricity. The population is the dominant user in the structure of energy consumption, its share in the period between 2008 and 2010 was around 70 per cent on average. The remaining electric power is exported to the Republic of Kazakhstan, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan. Export of electric power in 2011 composed 2,634.4 million kWh. According to agreements reached in 2011, the export to the Republic of Kazakhstan reached 2.3 billion kWh, to the Republic of Uzbekistan 340 million kWh.

The largest power objects built between 2009 and 2011 were the 110 kV “Aigultash-Samat” high-voltage line and 110 kV “Samat” substation, construction and launch of the first hydroelectric unit of Kambar-Ata HPS-2. Currently, the following projects are being developed: construction of 500 kV “DatkaKemin” power transmission lines and 500 kV “Kemin” and “CASA-1000” substations, construction of “Kemin-Almaty” power lines, construction of Kambar-Ata HPS-1, putting the second unit of Kambar-Ata HPS into operation with a capacity of 120 MW of the Upper Naryn HPS cascade, construction of four small HPS, construction of Kara-Keche TPS and other projects in the energetic sector.⁷⁵

5.5.1. Power Supply

According to the results of interviews by the information agency “Stan Radar”, most of the respondents from cities and rural areas have experienced a power outage. Most of the power outages happened in winter period. 73.6 per cent of respondents from cities and 77.3 per cent from rural areas answered that power outages were due the technical problems.⁷⁶

⁷⁵ Ministry of Energy and Industry of the KR, Strategy of development for the energy sector for 2012-2017.

⁷⁶ USAID, Distribution system and power consumption in Kyrgyzstan (Bishkek, 2013), available at <http://energoforum.kg/images/library/198.pdf> (accessed on 20/02/2014).

Temporary alternate outages happen mostly in winter time, usually in rural areas and in some newly established regions of the city. The reason is the lack of a central heating system in those regions. People who live there have to use electrical heating equipment that lead to the overload of power stations. In order not to damage the power stations, the state has to make temporary alternate outages.⁷⁷

5.6. Water Resources

There are several main resources of underground and surface water in the Kyrgyz Republic. Water reserves are located in rivers, glaciers and eternal snow arrays. 4.1 per cent of the country's total area is covered by glaciers. There are 3,500 rivers and 1,923 lakes in the country. Rivers flow through the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic and further to the Central Asian countries. Lakes have 1,745 km³ of water reserves. Significant reserves of underground fresh and mineral thermal waters were identified in the Republic, which have reserves on 10,545,200 m³ per day.

The Kyrgyz Republic uses 20-25 per cent of its available water reserves. The other part of water reserves goes to the neighboring countries. A significant part of water resources (more than 90%) is used for the irrigation and agricultural water.⁷⁸

In 2010 the household water per person composed 40 liters. 1,073 centralized domestic and drinking water supply systems provide the population of the country with drinking water.

604,000 people or 16 per cent of the total population of the country in rural areas were lacking clean tap water between 2006 and 2010. The water supply for the population of Chuy region is 96 per cent; Issyk-Kul region – 93 per cent; Naryn region– 87 per cent; Batken region – 64 per cent.⁷⁹

5.7. Agriculture

The agriculture of the Kyrgyz Republic is the main and prioritized type of economic activity; its share in the gross domestic product is 16.2 per cent. Around 66 per cent of the country's population live in rural areas, 30.1 per cent of the total number of all working people and 12 per cent of the total population are involved in agriculture (in developed countries this indicator equals one to three per cent). These data show that agriculture in the Kyrgyz Republic carries not just economic significance, but also great social and political significance.

The proportion of agriculture in GDP and the share of the employed in the sector have decreased continually for the last five years and by 2011 these indicators were 18 per cent and 32.2 per cent, respectively. The growth value added rate in agriculture significantly lags behind the average growth rate in the country. "Agriculture; value added (annual growth in percentage) in the Kyrgyz Republic was last measured at 1.84 in 2011, according to the World Bank".⁸⁰ The average salary in the sector of agriculture is the lowest one in comparison with the other sectors of the economy: in 2011, the average salary of people working in the agriculture sector was KGS 4,784 per month or 51.4 per cent of the average wage across the country.

⁷⁷ Data of "Stan Radar", informational agency, available at <http://www.stanradar.com/news/full/7598-v-kyrgyzstane-vnov-vvodjat-veernye-otkljuchenija-elektrichestva.html> (accessed on 28/02/2014).

⁷⁸ "Water resources" and "water reserves" are not the same. Water resources - water which flows, water reserves – water which is stored.

⁷⁹ Data of State agency of Environment and Forestry of the Kyrgyz Republic, last updated 17 January 2014, available at http://www.nature.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=21&Itemid=12&lang=ru (accessed on 28/02/2014).

⁸⁰ World Bank, 2010, published in Trading Economics, available at <http://www.tradingeconomics.com/kyrgyzstan/agriculture-value-added-annual-percent-growth-wb-data.html> (accessed on 20/02/2014).

Agriculture in the Kyrgyz Republic is represented by three sectors: arable farming, cattle breeding and water management.

5.7.1. Arable farming

Grain crops, sugar, cotton and vegetables grown in the country supply both the entire country and the neighboring countries. Oats, barley, wheat, corn, rice are the main grain crops. Around 20 kinds of vegetables are cultivated: tomatoes, cucumbers, cabbage, peppers, eggplants, gourds and legumes. The main fruit crops are apples, pears, quinces, cherries, plums, black cherries, peaches, apricots, figs, pomegranates and persimmons. Nut and berry plants, oil-bearing crops and tobacco are also grown in the republic. The size of arable lands per person in the Kyrgyz Republic is 0.25 hectares per 1 person. Crop production accounted for 45 per cent of the entire agricultural output between January and August 2013.⁸¹

5.7.2. Cattle Breeding

Horses, beef cattle, sheep and goats, yaks, poultry and pigs are bred in the republic. Natural and climatic conditions of the republic contribute to the successful development of cattle breeding: 83 per cent of agricultural lands or 9.6 million hectares are taken by natural mountain pastures rich in grass stand. Between January and August 2013, livestock products accounted for 53 per cent of the total output of agricultural products. The main livestock products produced in the country are meat, wool, milk and eggs.⁸²

5.7.3. Water Management

The Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Water" regulates the system of water usage and consumption, as well as internal and interstate water relations. The State Water Fund includes glaciers, rivers, lakes, artesian basins and water resources concentrated in them; all water-conservation forests, and regime-regulating protective dams, reservoirs, facilities and devices, as well as the system of balance snow- and water-level stations and gauges, communication means and systems of early warning.

Surface flows and groundwater resources are the main and the only source that supplies all irrigated farming, the hydropower sector, municipal and drinking water supply, the food and processing industry, fisheries and other water-using sectors of the economy.

⁸¹ Agro-portal of the KR, Strategy for sustainable development in the KR 2013-2017 (Bishkek 2012), available at www.agro.kg/ru/news/2456/ (accessed on 17/12/2013).

⁸² Data of the Ministry of Agriculture of the KR (undated), available at www.agroprod.kg/modules.php?name=Pages&page=1 (accessed on 17/12/2013).

6. SOCIOECONOMIC SITUATION

6.1. General Information

6.1.1. Human Development Index

The Human Development Index (HDI) is seen as an indicator of potential human development in the country at the present moment. In the course of the last ten years, HDI has been growing sustainably in the Kyrgyz Republic and composed 0.615 by 2012; the republic is in 126th place among the 187 countries of the world. The Inequality-adjusted Human Development index (IHDI) reflects a factual level of human development. The difference between HDI and IHDI measures the “loss” of potential human development due to inequality. In 2011, losses in HDI due to inequality in the Kyrgyz Republic composed 14.4 per cent, the greatest losses being in the health index (19.8%), in the index of income (12.2%) and the least in education index (11.1%).⁸³

6.1.2. Poverty

According to the data of the Ministry of Social Development (MSD KR) and the World Bank, as of October 2013, 38 per cent of the Kyrgyz Republic's population was poor, with 4.4 per cent being extremely poor. At the end of 2012, 2,153,000 people were living below the poverty line. In line with data of the ME KR, citizens living below the poverty line spend KGS 72 or USD 1.5 per day on food. Citizens living below the extreme poverty line spend USD 1 a day.⁸⁴ Poverty is more common in rural areas of the Kyrgyz Republic: 65 per cent of people living below the poverty line are residents of rural settlements.

With regards to child poverty, according to the results of an integrated survey of households for 2011, it was determined that 44.6 per cent of the total number of children at the age between 0 and 7 years were living in poverty, 5.6 per cent of them were in the category of the extremely poor. The level of child poverty in rural areas was 47.6 per cent, which is 8.9 per cent higher than in urban areas. More than 82 per cent of non-poor households have only one child, while among poor households only 18 per cent have one child. In both urban settlements and rural areas, more than half of the households with five or more children fall into the category of the poor (98.3% and 86%).

Among children between one and 11 years, 6.6 per cent were identified as malnourished. The number of undernourished preschoolers at the age between 1 and 6 years was 6.9 per cent, 4.5 per cent of girls at the age between seven and ten years and 8.7 per cent of boys at the age between seven and 11 years. The largest share of underweight children was observed in the group under one year of age (8.8%), especially among girls.⁸⁵

6.1.3. Other Criteria of Well-Being

The minimum living wage describes the minimal monetary income per person, which is equal to the costs of the minimum consumption basket. The Kyrgyz government defines “minimum consumption basket” as an equivalent to the minimum of services and goods necessary for ensuring the basic needs of a person and safeguarding his/her health.⁸⁶

The government of the Kyrgyz Republic measures the minimum living wage every year; the inflation rate is considered in the calculation. According to the NSC KR, in the third quarter of 2013, the minimum living wage per capita was, on average, KGS 4,519.38. Nevertheless, in

⁸³ UNDP, Human development as the focus of local self-government: HERE and NOW (2012), pp.10-12 available at www.undp.kg/ru/resources/e-library/article/28-e-library/2489-nhdr-2012-2013 (accessed on 17/12/2013).

⁸⁴ Data from “K-News” Information agency, 10 July 2013, available at www.knews.kg/society/34423 (accessed on 17/12/2013).

The World Bank: <http://data.worldbank.org/country/kyrgyz-republic> (accessed on 03.02.2014).

⁸⁵ NSC KR, Living standards of the population in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2007-2011 (Bishkek, 2012), pp.12-25.

⁸⁶ Ministry of Social Development of Kyrgyz Republic, Chapter 1, Common agreements, Article 3, Law of the Kyrgyz Republic about minimal state social standards, as of 26 May 2009.

reality the Republic's extremely poor population has an average income level below KGS 1,286.2.

The level of a population's welfare is also characterized by the provision of cultural, domestic and household items of long-term use.

According to survey results, there were an average of 119 televisions, 69 refrigerators, 60 washing machines, 59 tape recorders and 23 vacuum sweepers per 100 households in 2011. Out of 100 households, every sixth had a car at its disposal. Nearly half of all cultural, domestic and household items of long-term use were articles with a service time of less than ten years, including computers, televisions and radios as well as electrical appliances.

In 2011, capita cash expenditures among the population of the Kyrgyz Republic amounted to KGS 2,761.7 per month. Expenditures on food composed 52.6 per cent in 2011, on fuel - 15.9 per cent; on clothes and textiles - 43.3 per cent; personal care items - 9.7 per cent and 18.2 per cent on services.

In 2011, the average energetic value of food products used by the population was 2,281 calories per day.⁸⁷

6.2. Social System

6.2.1. General Information

State social protection is provided at state and territorial levels and is directed at the provision of a specific income level for those population groups who cannot provide for their living on their own due to certain reasons: the unemployed, people with disabilities, sick people, the elderly, single mothers, families with many children. Social guarantees are provided based on a means test, excluding labor contribution. Officially, the following social benefits are available: guaranteed free medical care, accessible and free education, minimum salary, minimum pension, scholarships, social pensions, and maternity benefits, childcare allowances up to the age of 1.5 years; ritual funeral allowances and several others.

Social protection of the population is implemented with the help of six instruments:

- Unified Monthly Benefit (further details please see below - UMB);
- Social Monthly Benefit (further details please see below – SMB);
- allowances for unemployable citizens;
- monetary compensations instead of benefits (further details please see below);
- social services provided to vulnerable population groups;
- social security payments for working citizens.⁸⁸

According to the 2013 data of the MSD KR “KGS 3,189,057,200 were transferred for the purpose of paying state benefits. These include monthly allowances for low-income families with children, monthly social security benefits and additional monthly social security benefits. Moreover, KGS 1,164,948,800 were allocated from state budget funds for paying out cash compensations and benefits. Social provision of working citizens composed KGS 151,904,300. Out of this amount, KGS 141,918,800 was paid out in the form of maternity benefits and KGS 9,985,500 in the form of funeral allowances”.⁸⁹

⁸⁷ NSC KR, Living standards of the population in the KR for 2007-2012, Bishkek 2012, available at <http://stat.kg/images/stories/docs/tematika/living/2012/Living%20stand.%202007-2011.pdf> pp.12-25; (accessed on 20/05/2014).

⁸⁸ MSD KR, Development strategy for social protection of the population in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2012-2014, available at www.mlsp.kg/index.php/component/content/article/27-strategiya/61-strategiya-na-2012-2014gg (accessed on 17/12/2013).

⁸⁹ Data of MSD KR, available at <http://www.mlsp.kg/index.php/ru/> (accessed on 17/12/2013).

6.2.2. Minimum Salary

The minimum salary size is established in accordance with the law of the Kyrgyz Republic on the republican budget for the respective year, based on the principle of its gradual increase to the minimum subsistence level of a person capable of working (Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On the minimal wage in the Kyrgyz Republic" №210 as of October 13th, 2008, Article 2). In line with this, the monthly minimum wage in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2012 was set in the amount of KGS 760, for 2013 - KGS 840 (the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On the republican budget of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2011 and forecast for 2012-2013" № 8, as of March 30th, 2011, Article 17).

The minimum salary for unskilled labor is set for the entire territory of the Kyrgyz Republic. However, in practice, the minimum salary is critically low to adequately meet the basic living expenses. Therefore, according to the Labor Code, any salary must not be lower than the minimum living wage (in 2012 KGS 4,850) of a person capable of working.⁹⁰

6.2.3. State Allowances

The legislation stipulates assignation and payment of two main types of state allowances – Unified Monthly Benefit (UMB) and Social Monthly Benefit (SMB).

Social Monthly Benefit is a type of allowance aimed at unemployable population groups, who due to age or sickness cannot ensure decent living on their own.

The following categories of people receive SMB from the state

Categories of SMB recipients:		SMB size (KGS)
Children with health disabilities (HD) under 18	Children with HD, Infantile Cerebral Paralysis (ICP)	3,000
	Children with HD under 18	3,000
	HIV-infected children or children with AIDS	3,000
	Children born to mothers living with HIV-AIDS	3,000
People with health disabilities (PHD) since childhood	PHD since childhood, I group	3,000
	PHD since childhood, II group	2,500
	PHD since childhood, III group	2,000
PHD due to general disease (labor injury, trauma, by health condition), etc.	PHD due to general disease, I group	2,000
	PHD due to general disease, II group	1,500
	PHD due to general disease, of III group	1,000
Elderly citizens		1,000
Elderly citizens, residents of highland areas		1,000
Mother heroines (mothers who gave birth to and bring up seven and more children)		2,000

⁹⁰ Labor Code of the Kyrgyz Republic №106 as of August 4th, 2004, Section IV, Chapter 13, Article 154.

Children, in case of loss of a breadwinner	1,000
Children-orphans	2,000

SMB is not the only support of unemployable citizens on behalf of the state - in addition to this type of assistance, recipients of SMB are provided with support in the form of subsidies when paying for medical services within the framework of the program of state guarantees on the provision of citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic with medical and sanitary aid, as well as in the form of material and humanitarian aid. As of 1 July 2013, the number of SMB recipients was 73,400 people.⁹¹

State-financed services and or discounts

State benefits, in the form of state-financed services and or discounts (e.g. discounted fee for housing utilities, stay at a state-financed rehabilitation institution) are given to several population groups. The eligibility criteria for these services are based on the either poor socioeconomic condition of the beneficiaries and/or outstanding achievements and/or the participation in wars such as Great Patriotic War (World War II) and/or the Afghan War. The purpose of these services is to partially compensate the population for its low incomes, to serve as an acknowledgment of special achievements before the nation and/or the compensation of damage caused to the health of citizens as a result of man-made disasters.

Monetary compensation

Monetary compensation is paid monthly to 25 categories of beneficiaries - these are veterans of the Great Patriotic War (World War II) and the Afghan War, liquidators of the Chernobyl accident, rehabilitated citizens (e.g. after disaster or people who with limited physical functions) and honorary donors (persons who donated an organ voluntarily, for example to relatives), people with disabilities who served in the Soviet Army, including participants of the Afghan war, as well as sight- and hearing-impaired people. The sizes of monetary compensations are set, regardless of the area of residency, between KGS 1,000 and 7,000, which corresponds to the cost of reduced-fee services established by the legislation. Pensions, salaries and social allowances were raised for people with income above the minimum living wage, for people of working age as well as for people who received state awards, families living in highlands and remote areas, pensioners, law enforcement officers, and retirees. For pensioners of law-enforcement structures and personal retirees, the total amount of personal benefits is paid out together with the pension.

As of 1 July 2013, the number of recipients of monetary compensations was 55,000 people.⁹²

Unified Monthly Benefit (UMB)

UMB are received by families with small incomes and with children below the age of 16 (students in institutions of general education until the completion of their studies), students of establishments of primary vocational education, full-time students of secondary and higher education institutions. Benefits are allocated depending on the family's income. The smaller the family's income, the higher the allowance and vice versa. The average UMB size in October 2013 amounted to KGS 472.8 per child.⁹³

⁹¹ ME KR, Information about the outcomes of the socio-economic development of the Kyrgyz Republic for January-September 2013, p.52 available at www.mineconom.kg/Docs/Macroeconomic%20policy%20department/Itogi_9_mes_2013.pdf (accessed on 18/12/2013).

⁹² ME KR, Information about the outcomes of the socio-economic development of the Kyrgyz Republic for January-September 2013, p. 52.

⁹³ ME KR, Information about the outcomes of the socio-economic development of the Kyrgyz Republic for January-September 2013, p. 52.

Benefits in strictly set amounts are also paid to low-income families with children. The calculation of these benefits is based on the Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI). The GMI is a measurement means for the government in order to determine the needs of a family. It is calculated every year by the government based on budget opportunities, the economic situation and the minimum living wage. The GMI is regulated in the "Decree of the Kyrgyz Government on establishing guaranteed minimal income".

Beneficiary groups:

- one-time allowance after birth of a child – 300 per cent of GMI;
- allowance for children below the age of 3 (until the 3rd birthday) – 100 per cent of GMI;
- allowance for twins – 100 per cent of GMI per child;
- benefits for triplets and more children – 150 per cent of GMI per child.

a

Recipients of social services are mainly people living in special establishments – foster homes, or those receiving social services at home.

The main components of the state social security system are pensions for age, disability, loss of a breadwinner, which are received by 10 per cent of the population of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Social protection of elderly citizens

In 2002, the Kyrgyz Republic joined the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, in accordance with which the Kyrgyz Republic took on the responsibility of "ensuring the elderly population with an opportunity to live in safe and decent conditions and continue to participate in public life as rightful citizens". In August 2011, the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On elderly citizens in the Kyrgyz Republic" came into power, which determined elderly citizens as those who reached the age of 63 years for men and 58 years for women. Currently, the average pension size for elderly citizens (old-age pension) is KGS 3,796 or 99 per cent of the minimum living wage of a pensioner. The social allowance for elderly citizens is KGS 1,000 per month.⁹⁴

The minimum living wage of a working person in 2012 was KGS 4,850; for a pensioner – KGS 3,858; for a child – KGS 3,697.⁹⁵

The right to a pension is guaranteed to citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic, foreign nationals and stateless persons residing in the country that are contributing to the state pension social insurance on the basis and conditions stipulated by law (Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On State Pension Social Insurance" №218 of 2009, Article 1 of Chapter 1).⁹⁶

6.2.4. Challenges

On paper, the UMB explicitly aims to ensure a Guaranteed Minimum Consumption Level (GMCL), but on the ground other variables (e.g. actual income and or predicted income) than consumption are used to include those in poverty. Only a small proportion of poorest households (in the lowest decile of consumption) are receiving the UMB (30.1%) and even a smaller proportion are eligible (15%).⁹⁷

National and international non-profit organizations provide social services to population groups in need in accordance with the state procurement of social services.

⁹⁴ MSD KR, Development strategy for social protection of the population in the KR for 2012-2014.

⁹⁵ Data of "Kabar" informational agency, 24 January 2014, available at <http://www.kabar.kg/rus/society/full/48216> (accessed on 20/02/2014).

⁹⁶ Available at <http://www.sf.kg/index.php/ru/2010-10-13-09-25-04/47-2011-01-10-03-49-18> (accessed on 21/02/2014).

⁹⁷ UNICEF, Assessment of state benefits to disabled citizens and poor families in the Kyrgyz Republic, Bishkek 2008, p.17, available at http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/UNICEF_Assessment_State_Benefits.pdf (accessed on 20/02/2014).

6.2.5. Administrative Requirements

At the present moment, the MSD KR provides over 90 types of social services guaranteed by the state: social and welfare, sociopsychological, sociomedical, sociopedagogical and sociolegal. Social services for people with disabilities are provided by residential social institutions and for people living alone at home.

The assignment and payment of state benefits are regulated by the law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On state benefits in the Kyrgyz Republic" and other legal and regulatory acts on the assignment of benefits.

To obtain the SMB, the applicant should turn to the district (urban) administration of social development (ASD) under the MSD KR according to his/her place of residence (registration). The basis for setting the SMB is disability, pension age, loss of parents (one or two) by a child, while the mandatory condition is ineligibility for pension benefits.

For designating UMB, the applicant should refer to:

- ayilokmotu⁹⁸ (if he/she lives in a rural area);
- district (urban) department of social protection (for applicants living in cities).

A social passport of a low-income family is filled out for a family, with information about incomes, assets, living conditions and the family's possibilities, taking into account all of its members. After the examination of the family, the question of this family's needs is put before the commission on social issues of ayilokmotu.

As of 1 October 2013, the number of families receiving monthly low-income benefits constituted 345,100 people.⁹⁹

6.2.6. Links and Contacts

Ministry of Social Development of the Kyrgyz Republic

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E-mail: mlsp@mlsp.kg
Website: <http://www.mlsp.kg/>

National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic

720033, Bishkek city, Frunze Str. 374
Tel.: (+996 312) 32-46-35
Fax: (+996 312) 66-01-38
E-mail: nsc_mail@stat.kg
Website: www.stat.kg

United Nations Development Program in the Kyrgyz Republic

720040, Bishkek, Chuy Ave. 160
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E-mail: jyldyz.kuvatova@undp.org
Website: www.undp.kg

Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic

720002, Bishkek city, Chuy Ave. 106
Tel.: (+996 312) 62 52 41
Fax: (+996 312) 66 18 37
E-mail: mail@mineconom.kg
Website: www.mineconom.kg

⁹⁸ Local state administration in rural area.

⁹⁹ ME KR, Information about the outcomes of the socio-economic development of the Kyrgyz Republic for January-September 2013, p. 52.

NGO Association of Parents of Disabled Children

Bishkek city, micro district Kok-Djar.1/ 4

Tel.: (996 312) 517634, 517340

E-mail: ardi.kyrgyzstan@gmail.com

Website: www.kelechek.kg

NGO Rehabilitation Center “Obereg”

Bishkek city, Vasilieva Str.95

Tel.: (996 312) 37-17-17

Website: www.obereg.kg

6.3. Housing

6.3.1. Housing Market

Ensuring the maintenance of the housing stock, increasing its operation period and improving the comfort in the domestic buildings are important goals of the state. The public associations and citizens take active part in addressing these goals.

The housing stock of Bishkek city is composed of 71,116 buildings including 2,500 multi-store buildings and 68,616 private domestic houses. Total area of the housing stock is 11,493,200 m².

One of the key problems of the housing construction is the low purchasing capacity of the population. The average period of fund accumulation to purchase housing in various countries in 2009 was the following:

- The Kyrgyz Republic (average salary is KGS 6,020): 14.5 years;
- Russian Federation: this figure does not exceed five years.

The required level of family income in the Kyrgyz Republic should be at least USD 1,000 to meet the requirements on mortgage crediting of the commercial banks.

Therefore, in spite of establishing grounds for the real estate market's functioning in the Kyrgyz Republic, only a limited number of families (less than 5%) with high income is able to purchase housing using market mechanisms today.¹⁰⁰

6.3.2. State Programmes

Since 2000, measures were undertaken to address housing issues in order to support the citizens in their efforts to buy and construct their houses.

In 2001, the state programme on housing construction until 2010 was approved, where the state anticipated to construct 17,6 million m² of housing during the following decade (2001-2010), including 6,1 million m² during 2001-2005. However, from 2001 to 2005, 2.3 million m² of housing were constructed, that is three times less than planned.

The state programme “Available housing in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2012-2014” was initiated by the ME KR. The main goal of the programme is to provide available housing through the development of a system ensuring continuous financing of construction of the social housing, increasing the solvent demand on housing by introducing various forms of state support for mortgage crediting, and implementing state programmes in the field of domestic construction and construction of social housing.

¹⁰⁰ Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic, State Programme “Available housing in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2012-2014”, Bishkek 2012, available at www.mineconom.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2468&catid=447&Itemid=232&lang=ru (accessed on 18/12/2013).

The State Agency of Construction of the Kyrgyz Republic has initiated the project on construction of the microdistrict 15 “Jal-Artis”. According to the project, 400 of 1392 apartments were defined as social housing – they will be distributed among the employees of institutions which are state-financed under conditions of long-term mortgage crediting with 10 per cent annually during 15 years. The employees will receive assistance from the state in the form of subsidies – a primary fee of 30 per cent. Within this project, the construction of four housing buildings with 428 apartments has been completed by 19 January 2011, including 110 social apartments for public and municipal servants. The Department of Housing-Civil Construction under the State Agency of Construction of the Kyrgyz Republic, dealing with issues of housing, civil construction and mortgage crediting, also has programmes of construction of social housing (free provision of housing to families with low income) and rental housing today.

In 2011, the municipality of Bishkek city put into operation a domestic building with 90 apartments for the veterans of the Great Patriotic War (World War II) in the microdistrict “Vostok-5”; an estimated cost of this construction was KGS 65,987,900. In 2009, a building with 45 apartments was built in the microdistrict “Jal-29” costing KGS 31,545,900 and a building with 90 apartments at an estimated cost of KGS 129,680,900.

According to data of the municipality of Bishkek city, 2,700 people are waiting for getting free housing; 1,500 of 2,700 people are the representatives of the group entitled to benefits –the veterans of the Great Patriotic War (World War II) and 48 people who were affected as a result of the Chernobyl accident.¹⁰¹

6.3.3. Aid in Reconstruction

The government allocates KGS 50,000 (without any compensation) for the restoration of housing affected by natural disasters; also, long-term interest free credits in the amount of KGS 200,000 was lent for these purposes.¹⁰²

According to data of the International Independent Commission on investigation of ethnic conflict in the south of the Kyrgyz Republic in 2010¹⁰³, 1,943 damaged households were identified – 90 per cent of them had serious damages or required full reconstruction.¹⁰⁴

The government of the Kyrgyz Republic with financial support of the UN High Commissioner on Refugees (UNHCR) jointly with the International Committee of Red Cross, the Danish Council on Refugees, USAID, Agency for Technical cooperation and Development, the World Food Programme, the Governments of the Republic of Kazakhstan, USA and Japan started construction of transitional (temporary) two- and three-room individual domestic houses. In total, 1,553 individual domestic houses have being reconstructed in Osh and Jalal-Abad cities during the project life (2010-2011). Besides, 96 earlier existing individual domestic houses were restored. Using money from the specialized fund, the State Directorate carried out the construction of 34 multi-storey residential building with 1,576 apartments in Osh and Jalal-Abad cities, with a total area of 125,842.95 m².¹⁰⁵

¹⁰¹ MEKR, State Program “Available housing in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2012-2014”, Bishkek, 2012.

¹⁰² Data of “ND KG” (informational source about real estate in KR), available at <http://www.nd.kg/nedvnews/313-strachovanie-jilja.html> (03/03/2014).

¹⁰³ For further information regarding the ethnic conflict in the south of the KR 2010, please also refer to chapter “Ethnic minorities”.

¹⁰⁴ Data of the informational agency «for.kg», 5 February 2011, Report of the International Independent Commission on investigation of events in the south of Kyrgyzstan in June 2010, available at www.for.kg/ru/press/591/ (accessed on 18/12/2013).

¹⁰⁵ Chamber of accounts of the Kyrgyz Republic, Information on results of audit regarding use of the budgetary and investment funds for specific projects within analysis of activity of the State Directorate on restoration and development of Osh and Jalal-Abad cities for 2012, available at <http://esep.kg/wp-content/uploads/%D0%9E%D1%82%D1%87%D0%B5%D1%82-%D0%9C%D0%9E%D0%B8%D0%9D-%D0%9A%D0%A01.pdf> (accessed on 21/02/2014).

6.3.4. Restitution of Property

According to Article 184 of the Civil Code of the Kyrgyz Republic, in case of nullity of a transaction, each of the parties is obliged to pay back everything they received in transaction to the other party. If it is impossible to return what they have received in kind, they have to compensate the amount in cash, if other consequences of the nullity of the transaction are not determined by law.¹⁰⁶

A transaction which does not meet the requirements of the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic is null and void if the law did not set that such transaction was disputable or did not stipulate any other consequences of violation of the legislation (in version of the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic as of 24 July 2009, № 252, Article 185).

6.3.5. Right on Housing

According to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic, everyone has the right of freedom of movement, choice of stay and residence in the Kyrgyz Republic (Article 25), and everyone has the right of housing. No one can be dispossessed. The state authorities and local self-governance bodies encourage the construction of housing and create conditions for the implementation of the right of housing. The poor and other citizens who are in need receive housing free or for reasonable and affordable prices either from the state, municipal and other housing stocks or at the social institutions according to procedure stipulated by law (the Constitution KR, Article 46).

“According to the Land Code of the Kyrgyz Republic of 1999, the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic are entitled to apply for a land parcel to be provided by the State Individual Residential Construction Stock. It is only non-occupied state land that may be provided to private persons, and it may only be provided through auction or competition procedures. Another way of providing state land for private use is a one-time free of charge supply of land parcels to the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic for residential construction purposes. For these one should apply to be registered on a waiting list and proof eligibility (not being a land owner)”.¹⁰⁷

According to the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On legal status of foreign citizens in the Kyrgyz Republic” as of 14 December 1993, № 1296-XII, foreign citizens can stay in the Kyrgyz Republic on permanent basis if they have a permit issued by the appropriate authorities in the form of a residence permit. Foreigners staying in the Kyrgyz Republic on a basis of other legal grounds are considered as temporarily staying persons. They are obliged to register their foreign passports or other valid ID and leave the country under termination of period of their staying.

Also, foreign citizens are guaranteed personal security, security of their housing and other personal rights in accordance with the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Foreigners are allowed to move on territory of the Kyrgyz Republic and select a place of residence in line with procedure laid down by the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic. Restrictions in movement and selection of residence place are allowed when it is necessary to ensure state security, protection of public order, health and morality of the population, protection of rights and legal interests of the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic and other residents.

¹⁰⁶ Available at http://online.adviser.kg/Document/?link_id=1000864054 (accessed on 03/03/2014).

¹⁰⁷ Development Policy Institute, Analysis of the global housing policy indicators, Kyrgyz Republic (2004), available at http://globalhousingindicators.org/sites/globalhousingindicators.org/files/Kyrgyzstan_Global%20Housing%20Policy%20Indicators%20Analysis%202004%202012.pdf (accessed on 21/02/2014).

6.3.6. Average Costs for Housing

Purchase of housing

Prices on housing depend on the region. The highest prices are in Bishkek city, followed by Osh city, Osh, Issyk-Kul and Chuy provinces.

An average price per 1 m² in Bishkek city is KGS 45,591, in Osh city – KGS 24,416, in the Issyk-Kul region – KGS 8,704, in the Talas province – KGS 7,252, in the Jalal-Abad province – KGS 15,846.¹⁰⁸

The costs of 1 m² of individual domestic houses in the first quarter of 2012 increased by ten per cent for houses with outside walls made of brick and 12.1 per cent for houses with concrete outside walls, compared to the same period of 2011.

For example, the cost of 1 m² of the 1-room apartment of “barrack type” was 23 per cent compare to the first quarter of 2011 (2011 – KGS 22,930; 2012 – KGS 28,204); “corridor type” – by 7.3 per cent (2011 – KGS 3,251; 2012 – KGS 32,466); 106 – series by 5.2 per cent; 105 – series by 4.4 per cent; 104 – series by 2.9 per cent (2011 – KGS 39,454; 2012 – KGS 40,615).

At the same time, the cost of 1 m² of one-room apartments of “individual type” was reduced by 4.1 per cent (2011 – KGS 41,466; 2012 – KGS 39,777) and “Khrushhevka” type by 4.7 per cent (2011 – KGS 39,534; 2012 – KGS 37,680), correspondingly.

The cost of 1 m² of a two-room apartment of “barrack type” increased by 22.8 per cent (2011 – KGS 22,087; 2012 – KGS 27,115); “corridor type” – by 13.1 per cent (2011 – KGS 27,841, 2012 – KGS 31,500); 105-series by 2.4 per cent; 104- and 106-series – by 1.9 per cent, correspondingly.

It is remarkable that the costs of 1 m² of a two-room apartment of the “individual type” was increased by 5.3 per cent, and “khrushhevka” type by 6.6 per cent.¹⁰⁹

Renting of housing

The average cost of renting a one-room apartment in Bishkek varies between USD 200 and USD 500. The price depends on the district and equipment. In the central districts, prices for renting are higher.¹¹⁰ The approximate cost of renting a two-room apartment is between USD 350 and USD 800.¹¹¹

6.3.7. Links and Contacts

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E-mail: gosreg@bishkek.gov.kg

¹⁰⁸ Department of cadaster and registration of rights on real estate of the Kyrgyz Republic, Index of prices for August 2013, available at www.gosreg.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=206&Itemid=211 (accessed on 18/12/2013).

¹⁰⁹ Department of cadaster and registration of rights on real estate of the Kyrgyz Republic, Comparative analysis of the real estate market in Bishkek city for 1 quarter 2011 and 2012, available at www.gosreg.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=204&Itemid=210 (accessed on 18/12/2013).

¹¹⁰ Data of informational agency “Vecherniy Bishkek”, 16 October 2013, available at http://www.vb.kg/doc/247406_mojno_li_sniat_v_bishkeke_horoshuyu_i_nedoroguyu_kvartiry.html (accessed on 21/02/2014).

¹¹¹ Data of “Ploshad” real estate agency, available at [http://www.an.kg/arenda.html?cck=arendat&ar_rooms_pp\[0\]=21,5&task=search&config\[search\]=pro_2&start=25](http://www.an.kg/arenda.html?cck=arendat&ar_rooms_pp[0]=21,5&task=search&config[search]=pro_2&start=25) (accessed on 21/02/2014).

Website: www.srs.kg

The State Agency of Architecture, Construction and Housing under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic

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Real Estate Agency "Ploshad"

Bishkek, Ahunbaeva Str. 129

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Website: www.an.kg

Real Estate Agency "Salut"

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Real Estate Agency "Garant"

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Website: www.garant.org.kg

Real estate in Kyrgyzstan (informational source)

Website: www.nd.kg

6.4. Education

6.4.1. Educational System and Infrastructure

In the Kyrgyz Republic, the educational system is implemented both in public and private educational institutions. Everyone has the right to get free basic primary and secondary education at the public educational institutions (Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic, Article 45, paragraph 2). Pre-school educational facilities, general educational institutions, organizations of primary, secondary, high and post-diploma education, as well as facilities of additional vocational training are attributed as general educational institutions.

In the last years, as a result of measures undertaken to develop an infrastructure of pre-school educational facilities and introduce innovative programmes of pre-school development, their number has been increased gradually. During the last years, an increased number of pre-school educational facilities was ensured by opening community-based kindergartens established by the local self-governance in some regions of the republic, and by reconstructing buildings adjusted for pre-school educational institutions funded by the Aga-Khan Foundation and other international agencies. "125 school buildings and auxiliary buildings for 20,500 pupils were under construction in the Kyrgyz Republic in 2013. Various sources of financing have been used."¹¹² Exactly 78 facilities are being constructed using money from the state budget; the total amount of financing is KGS 789.7 million. 47 facilities are being constructed with the help of a Turkish credit, the total amount of financing is KGS 1.5 billion.¹¹³

¹¹² Data of the informational agency «Kabar», Bishkek, 29 August 2013, available at <http://kabar.kg/rus/society/full/61755> (accessed on 18/12/2013).

¹¹³ Data of the informational agency «Kabar», Bishkek, 29 August 2013, available at <http://kabar.kg/rus/society/full/61755> (accessed on 18/12/2013).

The primary school (first to fourth grades), the first cycle of basic education, admits children at the age of 6-7 years.

Basic secondary education, the second cycle of secondary education, is implemented after graduating from primary school and lasts for 5 years (fifth to ninth grades). Primary and secondary education is mandatory.

The final phase of the secondary education ensuring access to high school is carried out both in public and private schools and gymnasiums. After completion of this phase, students pass the degree examination for key school subjects. The school-leavers who successfully completed their study obtain a document on incomplete secondary education – the Certificate on Secondary Education.

After graduating from secondary education, children may choose to continue study at school or go to vocational schools or colleges. Continued study at school lasts for two years (10th - 11th grade, at the age between 16 and 17), and is considered full secondary education. In vocational schools or in colleges it is also possible to get full secondary education and additional primary vocational education. The graduates of these facilities obtain a profession and full secondary education as well. After completion of study a certificate on finished secondary education is issued. Also, the graduates must pass the Republican Test (RT is valid in The Kyrgyz Republic since 2002), by results of which they enter the high educational institute.

A more detailed graphic scheme is presented below.

Higher education

Universities, academies, institutes and higher colleges awarding qualifications of bachelor, specialist and master levels belong to higher educational institutions of the Kyrgyz Republic. At present, the higher education system has both the current qualification system and a two-level higher educational system:

- The current system supposes continuous education during five years for the majority of specialties (engineering, pedagogical and legal). In case of successful completion of the programme, a diploma of specialist is awarded.
- In the two-level system, the bachelor degree is the first academic degree awarded after four years of education. A one-year study after obtaining the first academy degree will be completed with the master degree. As to medical specialties, a diploma of specialist is issued after six years of study, except for stomatology (dentistry) and veterinary medicine specialties – after five years of study. Along with main full-time tuition, evening and e-learning forms of education exist. Evening forms of education exist in every university of the country.

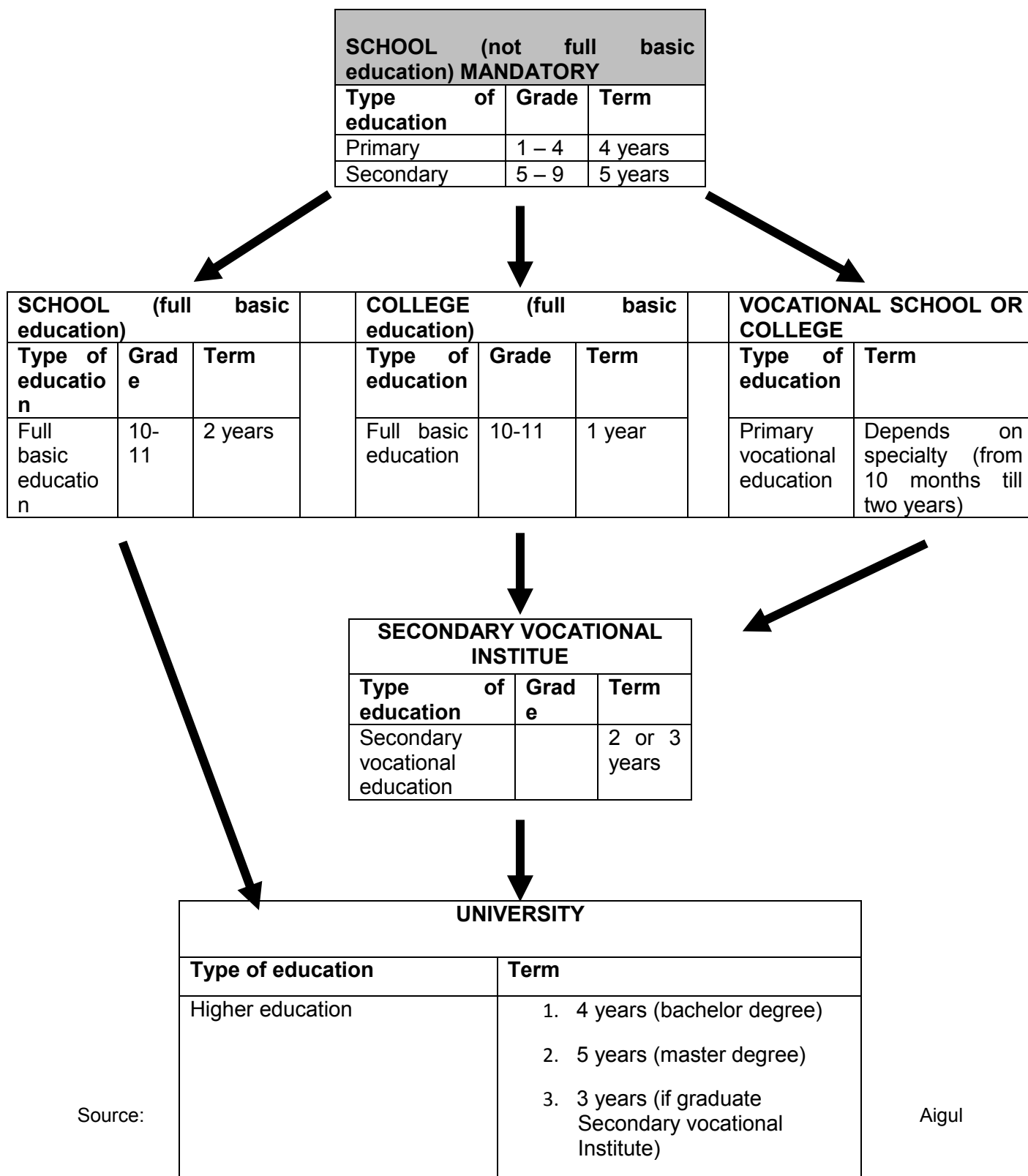
Secondary vocational education can be obtained at colleges, technical schools and secondary vocational schools. Periods of education lasts from two to four years. Everyone having incomplete secondary or complete secondary education can enter these educational institutions. The graduates are awarded with a diploma.

Primary vocational education can be obtained at vocational colleges and schools. Such schools accept students having complete secondary education as well as incomplete secondary education. In primary vocational education in institutions, specialists of the middle level such as technicians or nurses are trained. The duration of study can last between ten months and four years. After completion of study, a certificate on qualification is issued.¹¹⁴

A list of schools and universities is available at <http://www.allkyrgyzstan.com/education/schools.htm> (accessed on 22/02/2014).

¹¹⁴ Data of the MES KR, undated, available at <http://edu.gov.kg/ru/obrazovanie/sistema-obrazovanija.html> (accessed on 20/12/2013).

Educational system of the Kyrgyz Republic¹¹⁵



Source:

Aigul

Ryskulova and IOM Bishkek.

¹¹⁵ The table "Educational system in the KR" is based on the information of NSC KR "Education and Science in the KR", Bishkek 2012, available at: <http://stat.kg/images/stories/docs/tematika/social/Education%202007-2011.pdf> (accessed on 20/05/2014).

According to 2012 data of a survey of the NSC KR, the schools had about 96 per cent of the needed pedagogical staff in 2012. Equipping of the schools with training materials and textbooks required to fulfill curriculum is still insufficient (about 74%). Approximately 13 per cent of schools with the Kyrgyz language education are half supplied with textbooks. 32 per cent of the schools with the Russian language education are hardly half supplied with textbooks. There were 19,200 of personal computers (in average 9 PCs per school). From total number of schools (2,224 schools in 2012-2013),¹¹⁶ only 36 schools can use online services and 20 schools have a website with information available in the Kyrgyz language. The schools of the republic have a low level of providing the means of communication and office equipment.¹¹⁷

One of the key areas of developing informational technologies within the system of education management in the Kyrgyz Republic is the project “Unified education management system” (UEMS) placed on the portal www.edu24.kg. The project was designed by request of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic, and includes the following:

- Information infrastructure;
- technical infrastructure;
- adaptive mechanisms to ensure compatibility with local information systems of higher educational institutions.

UEMS is a multilevel dynamic system with apportioned information. This system is a website and is available 24 hours a day. All processes of activity of the higher educational institute exist in this website. This project aims at improving the quality of learning of the specialists and mechanisms of education management. Automated rooms in the website are equipped with modern electronic instruments.

6.4.2. Administrative Requirements

Children are enrolled in schools of the city on the basis of an interview in order to identify their level of psychological readiness to go to school. The following documents are obligatory upon registration:

1. Application of the parents
2. Birth certificate of the child
3. Health certificate
4. Paper on residence of the parents; is unnecessary in this case
5. Personal file
6. Forms №63 and №23
7. Passport of one of the parents residence registration certificate
8. Two photos¹¹⁸

To enter the higher educational institution, it is required to have a certificate of full secondary education and results of the Republican Testing. One may submit documents to several higher educational institutions simultaneously according to the number of admission tickets

¹¹⁶ Data of NSC KR, available at <http://stat.kg/images/stories/docs/Yearbook/Education> (accessed on 21/02/2014).

¹¹⁷ NSC KR “Education and Science in the KR”, Bishkek 2012, available at: <http://stat.kg/images/stories/docs/tematika/social/Education%202007-2011.pdf> (accessed on 20/05/2014).

¹¹⁸ Regulation on procedure of enrollment of the school age children and adolescents at the municipal secondary educational institutions of Bishkek city, approved by the Department of Education of Bishkek city municipality as of 29 June 2012.

provided after receiving the Republican Testing result. However, the interstate universities established in a framework of the international agreements (the Kyrgyz-Russian, Kyrgyz-Turkish and American universities) follow their own examination system to enter these universities. The deadlines for submitting documents to enter the higher educational institutions are defined by the “Regulation on selection and acceptance of the entrants in the higher educational institutions of the Kyrgyz Republic by results of the Republican Testing”. The deadlines for registering for the Republican Testing are fixed by the MES KR and the Center of Assessment in Education and Learning Methods.

To enter university, the school-leaver needs to submit the following documents:

1. Application
2. Passport
3. Document – certificate on secondary (complete) and secondary vocational education
4. Original certificate on number of score gained during the republic’s testing
5. Pre-conscription certificate or military service certificate
6. Health certificate, form № 086-U
7. Six photos 3x4¹¹⁹

6.4.3. State Programmes

In the Kyrgyz Republic, free basic, complementary and special education is available under conditions anticipated by the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The state provides support to the youth in getting education and creates and ensures all required conditions including:

- financing for the functioning of the public educational facilities from funds of the state and (or) local budgets;
- creating conditions to get education taking into account individual needs, abilities and requests of the youth;
- offering opportunities to choose the educational institution, forms of education and specialties;
- establishing specific conditions to get education for young citizens with handicaps in psychophysical development;
- setting measures of social protection including scholarships, provision of leaves, accommodation in a hostel according to the regulatory-legal acts of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The state provides additional support to young citizens from multi-children families, invalids living in rural areas, orphans, children living without parental care, and young persons who have achieved outstanding success in study, culture, art, sport and public work in order to be educated.

To share experience, participate in international educational events and increase the level of education, the youth can be sent to study outside the Kyrgyz Republic. The procedure of sending young people to study abroad is stipulated by the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic. Detailed information about abroad educational programmes for Kyrgyz Republic’s citizens can be found here: http://obrazovanie.kg/uchrezhdenija/ucება_za_rubezhom/.

To obtain education, relations between the youth and educational institutions and other agencies related to the educational system are based on principles of equality and mutual respect of rights and freedoms (draft Law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On basics of the state youth policy”, Chapter 3, Article 20).

According to results of a research conducted by the Open Society Institute, parents sometimes face problems when registering their children for state schools or kindergartens in

¹¹⁹ Government of the KR, 30 Mai 2011, Regulation on selection and acceptance of entrants at the high educational institutions of the Kyrgyz Republic by results of the Republican Testing, available at <http://gov.kg/?p=599> (accessed on 20/12/2014).

a district where they do not live, as the first requirement to register a child to school is a proof of residence.

Another problem is voluntary payments. If parents wish to make voluntary payments, they can do that. However, in recent time teachers and heads of schools require payments from every parent. If parents refuse to pay, teachers threaten to expel their children from school.¹²⁰

6.4.4. Cost, credits, grants and scholarships

The enrollment of school-leavers at higher educational institutions of the republic for all forms of education (grant based, direct, distant, evening forms of education) is conducted based on results of the Republican Testing (RT). The 50 best school-leavers (best RT results) will get a free certificate, which entitles them to be enrolled at any university for any specialty without any contest (without payment of university fees and payment for education). The Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic (MES KR) accepts such school-leavers prior to the first round of selection and enrollment. The other school-leavers who gained a higher score at the main test than a threshold one, should participate in the competition for getting educational grants, which is held directly at the higher educational facilities.¹²¹

According to data of the NSC, the average payment covered by the state for the study period of one student on off-budget basis was KGS 10,800 at the beginning of the school year 2011/2012.

The average payment for the study period of foreign citizens at the public educational facilities of the vocational training was KGS 16,300, and private ones – KGS 15,700.¹²² Cost of payment for education (not based on state budget) varies depending on the prestige of the higher educational institute and specialty.

Students of the state educational institutions of primary, secondary and higher vocational education with excellent and good marks are granted a public stipend in an amount fixed by the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic. The amount of the monthly stipend for students with excellent marks at the higher educational institutes is KGS 800, the secondary vocational institutions – KGS 720, the primary vocational institutions – KGS 500 (the Decree of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic “On establishing the amount of stipend for the students of the state educational institutions of primary, secondary and high vocational education of the Kyrgyz Republic” as of July 4, 2013, № 400).

University fees

University fees depend on university, specialty and status of the university. For instance, at the Kyrgyz National University the payment for education on specialization of mass media, history, math, physics, chemistry, biology and philology amounts to KGS 22,000; psychology – KGS 23,000; international languages, informatics – KGS 25,000; state management – KGS 28,000.¹²³ Information about university fees of other universities of the country is available at www.krsu.edu.kg; <https://www.auca.kg/>; manas.edu.kg/index.php/.

Crediting for education in the Kyrgyz Republic is one of the most effective instruments to ensure access to quality education. This is extremely important for the development of society since the level of education of the population is a strategically important resource, which plays a key role in the formation of socioeconomic sustainability.

¹²⁰ Open Society Institute, Compliance right of access to education in schools of Kyrgyz Republic, Bishkek 2009, available at <http://crdl.kg/files/pravo.pdf> (accessed on 03/03/2014).

¹²¹ MES KR, Information on the Republican Testing and Acceptance at the high educational institutions, Bishkek 2012, available at <http://edu.gov.kg/ru/presscentr/novosti/131> (accessed on 20/12/2013).

¹²² NSC KR, Primary and Secondary Vocational Education, undated, available at http://stat.kg/images/stories/docs/tematika/social/Reliz/voc_educ.doc (accessed on 20/12/2013).

¹²³ Data of Kyrgyz National University, 26 September 2013, available at http://www.university.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3891%3A-2013-2014-&catid=913%3A-2013&Itemid=452&lang=ru (accessed on 22/02/2014).

Loans for education are offered by several leading banks of the Kyrgyz Republic

Bank	Interest rate annually, (KGS)	Terms of credit
Programme "Credit for education" KICB	from 10% to 18%	from 3 months to 6 years
KICB	18%	from 6 months to 5 years
Demir Bank	23%	from 6 months to 12 months ¹²⁴

Source: Demir Bank.

The USAID Programme "Credits for Education" implemented in the Kyrgyz Republic by the Eurasia Foundation in Central Asia since 2009 and in cooperation with the KICB Bank and the financial group "Companion", gives students an opportunity to study at higher educational institutions of the Kyrgyz Republic paying credits with a minimum interest rate. According to the credit scheme, if the student will not be able to pay back the loan after completion of the study, 50 per cent of the amount of the loan would be paid by USAID.

Types of preferential programmes on educational loan implemented by KICB¹²⁵

Programme	Annual interest rate, KGS	Terms of credit
«4+» - for the students of 3-5 courses and master degree course, with good progress	15%	up to 6 years
«High achiever!» - for the students of 3-5 courses and master degree course, with high progress	10%	up to 6 years

Source: KICB.

6.4.5. Approval and Verification of a Foreign Diploma

Documents on education issued by higher and vocational secondary educational institutions of other states are accepted in the Kyrgyz Republic. The approval is based on relevant international treaties or agreements on recognition or post-accreditation of the educational institution in the Kyrgyz Republic. In case of absence of an international agreement or treaty on recognition by the MES KR, expertise of the documents on education in terms of compliance with the national education system is conducted individually and a document of recognition is issued (the Regulation approved by the Decree of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic as of February 3, 2004, N 53, paragraph 21-22). The state body that is responsible for the verification of diplomas is the MES KR.

To verify a diploma, the applicant's passport and a Russian translation of the diploma are required.

¹²⁴ Data of Demir bank in Kyrgyzstan, available at <http://demirbank.kg/ru/retail-credits/retail-credits-for-education.html> (accessed on 20/12/2013).

¹²⁵ Data of KICB Bank, available at http://kicb.net/products_and_services_private/priv_loans/potrebitel_loans/studentloans/ (accessed on 20/12/2013).

6.4.6. Links and Contacts:

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E-mail: minedukg@gmail.com
Website: www.edu.gov.kg

The National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic

720033, Bishkek, Frunze street, 374
Tel: +996(312)32-46-35
Fax: +996(312)66-01-38
E-mail: nsc_mail@stat.kg
Website: www.stat.kg

The Ministry of Labor, Migration and Youth of the Kyrgyz Republic

Bishkek, Razzakovstreet 8\1
Tel: +996(312) 62-04-35
E-mail: manas-ordo.kg@mail.ru
Website: www.mz.kg

Center of testing education and educational methods of the Kyrgyz Republic

Bishkek, Tynystanova Str.98/1
Website: www.testing.kg

USAID in the Kyrgyz Republic

720016 Bishkek, Mira Ave., 171
Tel: (+996 0312)- 551242; (+996 515)- 777 203
Website: www.usaid.gov/kyrgyz-republic

Kyrgyz Investment Credit Bank

720040, Bishkek, Erkindik Blvd., 21
Tel: (+996 312) 62 01 01
E-mail: kicb@kicb.net
Website: www.kicb.net

Demir Kyrgyz International Bank

720001, Bishkek, Chui Ave., 245
Tel: (+996 312) 610 610
E-mail: dkib@demirbank.kg
Website: www.demirbank.kg

6.5. Employment

6.5.1. Administrative Provisions

The law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On Employment Promotion” is a basic document related to employment regulation issues. The main goal of the current law is the legal regulation of employment promotion and provision of social support to the unemployed and individuals looking for a job through public institutions – the state employment service under the Ministry of Labor, Migration and Youth of the Kyrgyz Republic (MLMY KR).

In the field of employment, the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic are guaranteed:

- freedom of choice of activity, occupation (specialty), type and form of labor;

- support in selection of an appropriate job and employment under intermediation of the bodies of the state employment service;
- free services of professional orientation, vocational training and re-training, improvement of skills and qualification based on referral of the bodies of the state employment service. Vocational trainings are accessible in practice but wages for such trainings are generally low;
- getting a stipend during vocational training, enhancing of skills and qualification, re-training based on referral of the state employment service including period of temporary disability to work excluding practice when a bill for education is issued;
- provision of financial assistance to formal unemployed who wish to start an entrepreneurship activity with further return of principal amount in the state budget;
- involvement in the programmes of paid public works;
- payment of unemployment benefits to the formal unemployed.

Financing of guarantees of social support is conducted at expenses of the state budget through an authorized public institution (state employment service) promoting the employment. The state employment service ensures the possibility for the citizens to get services in line with the regulatory-legal acts of the Kyrgyz Republic establishing the procedure of provision of the public and municipal services.¹²⁶

The population registered in state employment services reached 95,200 people in 2012.¹²⁷

6.5.2. Labor Market

The working age for men is defined as from 16 to 63, for women from 16 to 58. However, citizens of the mountainous region are allowed to retire earlier – men when they reach the age of 55, women at the age 50, provided that a person has 25 years of official work experience.¹²⁸

“On 1 July 2013, the number of economically active persons is 2,490,100 including the employed – 2,277,700 people or 91 per cent. The employment rate of the Kyrgyz Republic is 59.3 per cent, and the total unemployment rate is 8.5 per cent. The total number (including those that are not registered at the employment service bodies) of the unemployed is 212,400 people on 1 July 2013. Rate of formal (registered) unemployment is 2.4 per cent in the republic on 1 July 2013. In the first half of 2013, 75,600 people applied to the employment service institutions; this is 8,054 people less compared to the same period of the year before. 36,319 people were registered job-seekers, 39,279 people have received advisory services regarding the legislation dealing with labor and employment issues, possibilities to get vocational training and re-training and selection of profession. More than 42 per cent of employable people are youths – 8,259 people. Among the people who have been employed by the employment office, vacancies were offered to 18,425 people; 41.3 per cent of them are young people (7,611 people). The number of vacant jobs stated at the employment service reached 25,500 on 1 July 2013. On 1 July 2013, 8,300 jobs were not taken, and 12 people applied for the same working place.

The maximum number of jobs (mainly in the informal sector) is created in the agriculture and trade sectors. The maximum number of jobs in the formal sector is provided at industrial enterprises, construction and educational system. A minimum number of jobs created in the formal sector is within the network of hotels and restaurants, financial sphere, and health,

¹²⁶ Draft Law of the Kyrgyz Republic, Bishkek 2011, “On Employment Promotion”, available at http://kenesh.kg/Articles/13393-Proekt_Zakona_Kyrgyzskoj_Respubliki_O_sodejstvii_zanyatosti_naseleniya.aspx (accessed on 20/12/2013).

¹²⁷ MLMY KR, Analytical report about activities of the Ministry of Youth, Labor and Employment of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2012.

¹²⁸ Labor Code of the Kyrgyz Republic, Chapter II, Article 18, available at <http://cis-legislation.com/document.fwx?rgn=6714> (accessed on 22/02/2014).

transport and communication sectors. Trade plays a significant role as 30 per cent of all jobs are created in this branch.

Wages are one of the most crucial indicators characterizing status of the labor market and living standard of the population. Between January and April 2013, an average monthly salary of one employee (without consideration of small enterprises) was KGS 10,723".¹²⁹

6.5.3. Employment Service

The Ministry of Youth, Labor and Employment of the Kyrgyz Republic (MLMY KR) fulfills the main function in the country related to elaboration and implementation of the policy on employment, labor and social partnership, training of labor force (primary vocational training), youth policy; migration policy with a focus on labor migration, work with refugees and returnees. In general, the regional units of the MLMY KR provide support in employment over the country. These units were established in every district of the country. Also, an Employment Center was formed in the Kyrgyz Republic consisting of the following branches: mobile employment service, micro-crediting agency, association of employment promotion and labor exchange.¹³⁰

According to an expert interview with a representative of the Employment Center, "In theory, all these institutions are in place; however, not many people know about these available services. The agencies don't do enough information campaigns about their services."¹³¹

The mobile employment service in Bishkek provides services on employment promotion among internal migrants who have arrived from other regions of the republic, those who come to a city from suburbs and nearby rural dwellings (commutation), and the citizens living in the city for long periods of time (mainly in residential areas) but they do not have residential registration in the city.

The micro-crediting agency in Bishkek works with the unemployed regardless of their registration in any district of the city. The agency provides microcredits amounting to KGS 30,000 per person, provided that person is recognized as unemployed according to the legislation. The loan is given for one year under ten per cent annual interest rate.

The association of employment promotion in Bishkek implements socially important projects paying public works, ensuring temporary employment of the unemployed and improvement of socioeconomic infrastructure of the area (cleaning the city). The unemployed involved in the projects may or may not have residential registration in the city, but it is necessary to be registered in the district units of the mobile employment service.

Totally, as of 1 July 2013, 19,714 people were employed under support of the state employment service; this is three per cent more compared to the same period of the previous year.

Besides, active measures are implemented at the labor market. To increase competitiveness of the unemployed at the labor market, taking into account needs of the labor market regarding the labor force and certain occupations, the employment service offices referred KGS 4,600 people to vocational training courses (status on 1 July 2013). This was 12 per cent less than the previous year.¹³²

Private job placement companies

¹²⁹ MLMY KR, Analytical report on activity of the Ministry of Labor, Migration and Youth of the Kyrgyz Republic for the first half year of 2013 (Bishkek, 2013).

¹³⁰ Regulation on the MLMY KR, 20 February 2012, available at <http://mz.kg/ru/ministerstvo/istoriya-sozdaniya> (accessed on 20/12/2013).

¹³¹ Expert interview led by IOM Bishkek with a representative of the Employment Center, February 2014.

¹³² Data of the Bishkek city Department of the MLMY KR, undated, available at http://btm.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=8&Itemid=5 (accessed on 20/12/2013).

“Aksha” – Bishkek, Ahunbaeva Str.134, 1st floor, room 310
“Wordex” – Bishkek, Togolok-Moldo Str.60, room 217
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6.6. Health

6.6.1. General Information

Following the WHO (2013) “Comprehensive long-term reform of the health system is in progress. The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic aims to improve population health, reduce the financial burden of seeking care, and improve the quality of health-care services. The reforms were initiated in 1996 with the “Manas National Health Care Reform Program” which followed with “Manas Taalimi” (2006-2011) with continuing reforms in health financing, service delivery, HR and PH. The new Den-Sooluk Program has been approved at the highest government level in May of 2012 and covering the period by the end of 2016. This program is supported by the international community through a Sector-Wide Approach (SWAp).”¹³³

According to a World Bank Study (2013), the reforms of the previous years have “led to documented improvements in financial protection, access, and efficiency, and to the reduction of informal payments. However, some outcomes for key health conditions have not improved as much as expected, and quality of care remains a concern. To address these challenges, the “Den Sooluk” national health reform program for 2012 – 2016 was developed. “Den Sooluk” focuses on four priority areas: cardio vascular diseases (CVDs), mother and child health (MCH), tuberculosis (TB), and HIV infection (HIV). “Den Sooluk” proposes an ambitious reform agenda that quantifies the health gains expected over the next four years, identifies the population and individual medical interventions required to achieve such health improvements, and spells out the health system strengthening activities required to achieve the desired goals.”¹³⁴

¹³³ WHO, Country cooperation at a glance, Bishkek May 2013, available at: http://www.who.int/countryfocus/cooperation_strategy/ccsbrief_kgz_en.pdf?ua=1 (accessed on 15/05/2014).

¹³⁴ The World Bank, UNICO Studies Series 17 Toward Universal Coverage in Health: The Case of the State Guaranteed Benefit Package of the Kyrgyz Republic, Washington DC January 2013, available at

The health-care system is regulated by the law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On Public Health”. The Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic (MH KR) is the central body of the executive power conducting the state policy and implementing governance in the human health protection area in the Kyrgyz Republic.

Integrated health system is functioning on the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic. It is composed of public and private health sectors. The public health sector is presented by the state and municipal health institutions, sector-based medical and medical-sanitary as well as sanitary-preventive services. The private health sector is represented by private health facilities and individuals dealing with private medical practice and pharmaceutical business.

The health sector is funded by the consolidated budget, which is composed of funds of the state budget, local budget, MHI (mandatory health insurance), co-payment funds, special funds of the state budget and special funds of the local budgets of the regions.¹³⁵

Primary health-care service is provided by 66 Family Medicine Centers in the republic where 688 Family Group Practices (FGPs) and 1,003 Feldsher Midwifery Posts (FMP) operate. An annual average of about 800,000 patients is treated at the in-patient facilities. Approximately 13,000 physicians and almost 31,000 nurses work in the health system. Between 2011 and 2013, one mobile medical center of the National Hospital provided its services all over the country. More than 40,000 people in the country were examined and got consultations through this out-patient mobile facility.¹³⁶

Level of co-payment for medical services for in-patient treatment in the health facilities of the Kyrgyz Republic¹³⁷

Types of co-payment			In-patient facilities excluding state facilities(KGS)	State in-patient facilities (KGS)
Co-payment of therapeutical profile	Under referral for hospitalization	Minimal level	330	330
		Middle level	840	1,160
		Maximum level	2,650	2,980
Co-payment of surgical profile	Under referral for hospitalization	Minimal level	430	430
		Middle level	1,090	1,510
		Maximum level	3,440	3,870

Source: MHIF KR.

Challenges in the Health-Care System

“The capacity of the health system to provide financial protection has improved over the last decade, as shown by the declining incidence of catastrophic health payments, which are defined as out-of-pocket health payments exceeding 15 or 20 per cent of total household expenditure. However, about 38 per cent of households reported that it was “difficult” or “very difficult” to afford health-care costs in 2009. In order to pay for health-care costs, about 29 per cent of households used savings, 25 per cent reduced consumption, 13 per

http://www.wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2013/02/01/000333037_20130201153449/Rendered/PDF/750060NWP0Box30I0Coverage0in0Health.pdf;page=V (accessed on 15/05/2014).

¹³⁵ The Law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On protection of health of the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic” as of January 9, 2005, №6, Chapter II, Article 7, Chapter VI, available at http://foms.go.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=76 (accessed on 20/12/2013).

¹³⁶ WHO, Country cooperation at a glance, Bishkek May 2013, available at: http://www.who.int/countryfocus/cooperation_strategy/ccsbrief_kg_en.pdf?ua=1 (accessed on 15/05/2014).

¹³⁷ MHIF KR, Programme of state benefits ensuring medical services to the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2013, available at http://foms.go.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=526 (accessed on 20/12/2013).

cent sought support from relatives, 10 per cent had to borrow money, about 9.5 per cent sold production or animals, and about 2 per cent sold other valuables.”¹³⁸

Other challenges reported by the WHO:

- “Strategic achievements demonstrated in the health sector are absent in other parts of public administration, jeopardizing the success of health reforms.
- Some areas such as harm reduction and sexually transmitted infections are poorly addressed.
- Encouraging agencies providing financial and technical support to the vertically organized disease control programs (mostly HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis) to support their integration into the overall health reform strategy.”¹³⁹

6.6.2. Health Insurance System

Health insurance is based on the law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On health insurance of the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic”. Basic state health insurance is the state form of social protection aimed at ensuring rights of the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic in the health protection area using funds of state and local budgets, based on minimum social standards defined in line with the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic. The goal of the basic state health insurance is to guarantee quality medical treatment and prevention services to the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic within the State Benefit Programme ensuring health services in the country.

Mandatory health insurance (MHI) – The purpose of the mandatory health insurance is to guarantee quality medical treatment and prevention to the insured citizens in the Kyrgyz Republic. The mandatory health insurance programme consists of basic and complementary programmes of mandatory health insurance. The basic programme of mandatory health insurance defines scope and conditions of medical and preventive services and drug provision. These services are provided free of charge to insured citizens regardless of the amount of fee paid within the Programme of State Benefits in the Kyrgyz Republic.

State programmes of state mandatory health insurance define scope and conditions of medical and preventive service provision, drug supply, rehabilitation and health spa services, etc. These services are not covered by MHI and need to be paid by the citizen unless he/she has a complementary insurance.

MHI is for:

- citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic who are in labor relations;
- pensioners;
- unemployed registered at the departments of the state employment service;
- individual entrepreneurs, self-employed, private practitioners, people of creative jobs if they paid fees for MHI;
- persons who are paid social benefits;
- military and persons who equated with them;
- children under 16 (students of general secondary institutions – up to the completion of study, but not above the age of 18);

¹³⁸ The World Bank, UNICO Studies Series 17 Toward Universal Coverage in Health: The Case of the State Guaranteed Benefit Package of the Kyrgyz Republic, Washington DC January 2013, available at http://www.wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2013/02/01/000333037_20130201153449/Rendered/PDF/750060NWP0Box30I0Coverage0in0Health.pdf (accessed on 15/05/2014).

¹³⁹ WHO, Country cooperation at a glance, Bishkek May 2013, available at: http://www.who.int/countryfocus/cooperation_strategy/ccsbrief_kgz_en.pdf?ua=1 (accessed on 15/05/2014).

- students of primary vocational schools, students of secondary and high vocational institutions until they reach the age of 21 (except those who study correspondently or in the evening);
- foreign citizens who are temporarily staying or constantly residing in the Kyrgyz Republic (if MHI fees are paid);
- persons without citizenship permanently living on the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic (if MHI fees are paid);
- other categories of citizens (if MHI fees are paid).

The Mandatory Health Insurance Fund of the Kyrgyz Republic (MHIF) carries out mandatory health insurance through its regional offices.

Citizens who have mandatory health insurance are supplied with drugs through the pharmacy network in accordance with the MHI complementary programme. When purchasing drugs in pharmacies prescribed by MHI prescription, the patient pays the difference between the retail price of the drug and the compensated cost (according to the law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On Health Insurance of the Citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic”, Chapters I, II, V).

According to data of MHIF, MHIF system covered 4,137,000 people or 76,3 per cent of the population of the country at the beginning of 2013. Among them, about 1.5 million people were employed, 1,779,000 people were minors, 77,000 people – persons who were paid benefits, almost 400,000 - farmers, over 500 – retired.¹⁴⁰

Voluntary health insurance – form of social protection of the citizens in the Kyrgyz Republic based on the principle of voluntary participation of the citizens. The citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic are entitled to conclude agreements on voluntary health insurance. Voluntary health insurance can be collective (several people) or individual. Voluntary health insurance of the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic is carried out by the organizations of voluntary health insurance. Organizations of voluntary health insurance are independent economic entities.

6.6.3. Administrative Requirements

The document certifying the right to gain benefits and referral of a physician from the health facility are preconditions to receive free and preferential medical-sanitary service within the Programme of State Benefits. Citizens belonging to the category of low-income persons (income below guaranteed minimum income), persons without permanent residence, persons without documents, military people on duty who present vouchers issued by the social protection units or the local municipalities or the commander of military unit – are exempt from paying co-payment (payment out of pocket) by decision of the supervisory commission of the health facility. Each time a person of the categories listed above comes to a medical facility the supervisory commission takes a decision.

In the Kyrgyz Republic, foreign citizens have access only to basic health service and emergency medical aid. Other medical services are provided on payment basis through direct payment to the clinic. Often, they apply to private, well equipped medical facilities, which provide payment based medical services regardless of citizenship.

¹⁴⁰ Data of the Mandatory Health Insurance Fund (MHIF) under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, Bishkek 3913, available at http://foms.go.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=495 (accessed on 15/05/2014).

It is necessary to apply to the territorially polyclinic, fill the MHI blank and pay MHI fees to obtain MHI; a passport is also required. On 15 January 2014, MHI costs for one year amounted to KGS 500.¹⁴¹

6.6.4. State Programmes

The National Programme of the Health System Reforming of the Kyrgyz Republic “Den Sooluk” for the period between 2012 and 2016 is a logical continuation of the previous national programmes of health system reform of the Kyrgyz Republic – “Manas” (1996-2005) and “ManasTaalimi” (2006-2011). During the implementation of mentioned programmes, the legislative basis for a new health system of the Kyrgyz Republic was created.

The following laws of the Kyrgyz Republic were adopted: “On Single Payer system in health financing of the Kyrgyz Republic”, “On health facilities in the Kyrgyz Republic”, “On health protection in the Kyrgyz Republic”, “On public health”. Amendments were made to the law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On main principles of budget law in the Kyrgyz Republic”, and the law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On health insurance of the citizens in the Kyrgyz Republic”.¹⁴²

Within the Programme of state benefits ensuring medical services for the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic, free and favorable medical services are provided at the health facilities. The Programme of state benefits providing the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic with medical services (hereinafter – the state benefit program) determines the scope, types and conditions of the medical service provision. The citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic have rights on medical aid in the health facilities regardless of forms of property, involved in this program in line with the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic.

In particular, primary health care, emergency medical aid and specialized medical service are provided in out-patient conditions. Basic medical services provided at primary health-care level – the Family Medicine Centers (FMCs) and Family Physician Groups – are free. Laboratory-diagnostic research work is conducted free of charge if the patients have referral from the physician; also, those who are paid social benefits every month. The following services are provided free of charge as well: emergency stomatology aid including required medication; treatment of oral cavity – children under ten, the retired people at age of 70 and elder; pregnant women registered at place of residence.

In-patient service provided to all hospitalized citizens by emergency indications is free unless their condition is stabilized, i.e. hemodynamics and respiration. Further, the patients will be provided scheduled in-patient aid if they have referral to be hospitalized; or treated under out-patient conditions.

The citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic who really need high technological and expensive methods of treatment can get treatment with partial payment or full payment using funds of the Fund of High Technologies set by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Immunoprophylaxis / vaccination within the National Calendar of preventive vaccines and vaccines by epidemiologic indications approved by the authorized state body in health sector are free of charge for all citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Drug supply is based on the programme of state benefits and limited by scope of financing of the health facilities from the state budget, mandatory health insurance and co-payment for medical services in line with the List of Essential Drugs. Release of drugs in line with benefits is conducted by the pharmacies concluded agreements with the authorized state body in the health insurance field. The citizens who have preferential prescription pay only the difference

¹⁴¹ Data of MHIF, undated, available at http://www.foms.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=144&Itemid=147&lang=ru (accessed on 03/03/2014).

¹⁴² MH KR, The National Programme of Health Reform of the Kyrgyz Republic “Den Sooluk” for 2012-2016, available at http://med.kg/images/MyFiles/DenSooluk/Densooluk_rus.pdf (accessed on 20/12/2013).

between the retail price of a drug and the compensation cost fixed by the authorized state health insurance body. The size of benefits was fixed at 50 per cent of the basic price of the drug. In case of emergency medical aid, drugs and medications are provided free of charge to all citizens.¹⁴³

6.6.5. Cooperation with International Health Services

The cooperation of the Kyrgyz Republic with other states in the field of public health is based on international treaties and agreements in line with the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic (the law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On public health” as of 24 July 2009, Chapter 6, Article 28).

Since 1994, USAID has been cooperating with the MH KR in order to implement global reforms which lead to radical changes beyond the health system. Moreover, the health sector is supported by international agencies such as the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees (ICR), World Health Organization (WHO), UNDP, World Bank, ADRA, Save the Children (Denmark), and Soros Foundation – the Kyrgyz Republic.¹⁴⁴

6.6.6. Care of Aged and Disabled Persons¹⁴⁵

In the country, social services are provided at the social stationary institutions (SSIs) determined for 24 hour daily care, permanent or temporary stay for:

- children with disabilities and psychological neurological disorders;
- individuals with special needs who have psychoneurological diseases;
- handicapped persons having invalidity of the first and second groups; and
- persons who are not able to look after themselves because of their advanced age including their spouses.

Key functions of the social stationary institutions are:

- admittance and accommodation of beneficiaries taking into account their diseases, severity of their condition and age;
- conduct activities on their adaptation to new environment;
- raise awareness of beneficiaries and members of their families about the scope and types of social services, internal rules and duties;
- ensure personal immunity, safety and security of beneficiaries;
- create a favorable moral-psychological climate at the SSIs;
- provide a package of social services purposed to improve health conditions and carry out socio-rehabilitation measures in line with current standards;
- fulfill functions of guardians and tutors in relation to beneficiaries according to a procedure established by Article 69 of the Code on Children of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- provision and protection of interests of beneficiaries in courts and other instances and institutions;

¹⁴³ MHIF KR, Programme of state benefits ensuring medical services to the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2012, available at http://foms.go.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=211 (accessed on 20/12/2013).

¹⁴⁴ Data of analytical center “Reasonable decisions”, available at <http://analitika.org/kyrgyzstan/kg-society/2087-20051104013945115.html> (accessed on 20/12/2013).

¹⁴⁵ Data of MSD KR, available at <http://www.mlsp.kg/index.php/ru/bank-dokumentov/postanovleniya/142-postanovlenie-pravitelstva-kyrgyzskoj-respubliki-ob-utverzhdenii-minimalnykh-sotsialnykh-standartov-sotsialnykh-uslug-predostavlyaemykh-litsam-nakhodyashchimsya-v-sotsialnykh-statsionarnykh-uchrezhdeniyakh-upolnomochennogo-organa-v-sfere-sotsialnogo-razvi> (accessed on 23/02/2014).

- organization of ritual services for a deceased beneficiary in case of absence or refusal of relatives;
- create conditions for beneficiaries to conduct religious ceremonies.

The district and city departments of social development issue referrals to the SSI for beneficiaries. These services are provided at expenses of the state budget.

The enrollment of beneficiaries is based on the submission of the following documents:

- 1) written application of the beneficiary, and for minors or disabled – written application of their legitimate representative (one of the parents, guardians or tutors)
- 2) act of examination of housing conditions (prepared by the social worker of the authorized body);
- 3) decision of the medical-sanitary expert commission (hereinafter – MSEC) regarding the selection of type of the specialized social institution (SSI) for the handicapped persons including children with special needs; copy of the document on invalidity issued by MSEC;
- 4) statement on refusal of guardianship written by the relatives. In case of absence of the relatives, guardians and tutors, such statement on refusal is not required;
- 5) ID document (copy of passport or certificate of birth);
- 6) abstract of medical history;
- 7) information on marital status;
- 8) blood tests on WR, HIV/AIDS, drug and alcohol addiction, agents of intestinal infections;
- 9) fluorography of the chest;
- 10) information about size of pension (benefit);
- 11) information about existing real estate issued by the authorized body; registration of rights on real estate;
- 12) two photo picture, size 6x4 cm (for the psychoneurological social institution – 4 pictures);
- 13) copy of abstract from individual program on rehabilitation of the people with special needs (MSEC);
- 14) for retired people – copy of ID/certificate;
- 15) for the participants and invalids of the Great Patriotic War (World War II) and people equal to them, - copy of ID confirming status of the participant or invalid of the Great Patriotic War (World War II) and persons equal to them;
- 16) referral of the district or city department of social development.

SSIs for the aged and handicapped persons admit: aged and handicapped and retired people who are not able to look after themselves and need specialized social services under stationary conditions; those who do not have employable children (spouses) obliged to take care of them. Or those who have relatives but these people cannot ensure regular support

and care due to objective reasons (because of advanced age, or invalidity of the first and second groups, oncological, mental diseases, prisoners or because they live abroad).

Conditions in the SSI have to meet sanitary-epidemiological norms, safety requirements for the buildings including fire safety. The beneficiaries are accommodated in rooms considering their health condition, age and sex. The spouses are given separate premises for their accommodation.

In the children psychoneurological SSI, children are accommodated by groups taking into account their age, physical and intellectual conditions. An educator will be appointed for each group of children. Violent and aggressive patients are placed in separate rooms at the psychoneurological SSI.

Social and legal services provided to beneficiaries by SSIs should meet the following minimum norms:

- counseling of the beneficiaries regarding issues related to rights on social protection (social services, social welfare);
- support the beneficiaries in getting services like receiving financial compensation, pensions and other social payments;
- counseling of the beneficiaries on social and legal issues (civil, housing, marital, labor, pension, criminal legislation and other aspects) reveals full picture in relation to regulatory-legal acts and rights, assistance in preparation and submission of relevant documents (applications, complaints, inquiries and other documents) required for a practical solution of these issues;
- support in formulating complaints in response to actions or passivity of the officials and organizations violating or infringing legitimate rights of the beneficiaries (the purpose is to help them to formulate an essence of their complaint in right format, requirement to eliminate existing violations and send complaint to the addressee);
- provision of support in preparing legal documents in order to get benefits and other social payments, succeed in adoption and other forms of family fostering of children with special needs, employment of the handicapped and aged people (explain to the beneficiaries the content of required documents depending on their purpose), explaining and writing (if necessary) texts of the document or filling forms, writing of accompanying letters;
- support the guardian institutions in the placement of children with special needs, adoption, guardianship, setting patronage, tutorship, preparation of documents for the minors – their files – for further accommodation of the minors;
- support in receiving and/or restoration of ID documents of the beneficiaries (passport, certificate of birth, pension certificate, etc.).

The registration of the beneficiaries at the SSIs ends in the following cases:

- 1) by written application of the beneficiary; and as to the minors and disabled – by written application of their legitimate representative (one of the parents, tutor, guardian);
- 2) during next re-examination if an invalidity was not qualified;
- 3) setting of the third group of invalidity (people with special needs) (excluding aged);
- 4) handicapped minors coming of age;

- 5) termination or expiration of terms of the agreement on temporary accommodation at the social stationary institution.

Challenges

A large scale International research regarding children's residential institutions by UNICEF "has shown that children in long-term residential care are at risk of impaired cognitive, social and emotional development. However, despite Government commitment to tackle the problem, the number of residents of institutions for children deprived of parental care and children with disabilities in the Kyrgyz Republic increased between 2005 and 2010, as more children entered than left the institutions. (...) The conditions of care in the residential facilities varied from excellent to poor in state, local self-government and private institutions. The most common infrastructural problems related to the absence or poor conditions of washing and sanitary facilities, and the unsatisfactory and unhygienic conditions of toilets. These were somewhat better in Bishkek and Chuy Province. Other problems widely reported around the country included overcrowded bedrooms, poor cleaning, and acute shortages of recreational facilities."¹⁴⁶

The anthropologist David Gullette points out that "though donor-led reforms have brought some improvements in overall care, the Health Ministry's strategy does not address geriatric medicine at all. So, needs are poorly understood. "There are problems [in healthcare for older people], but there is no discussion of the issue and it needs attention," said Dinara Aldasheva, a policy consultant at the Health Ministry, adding that the Kyrgyz Republic does not have a single registered geriatric specialist.

Theoretically, healthcare in the Kyrgyz Republic is free. But a lack of state funding means caregivers rely on informal payments and often turn away indigent patients, including the elderly, whose monthly pensions average a meager 4,500 SOM (USD 83). Despite these challenges, for most elderly in the Kyrgyz Republic the traditional multi-generational family home ensures basic care well into old age. "[Here] in the East, it is a little shameful if you don't look after your parents," Aldasheva at the Health Ministry said. But the plight of older people has worsened in recent years due to widespread labor migration to the Russian Federation and the subsequent breakup of the traditional family, which has left increasing numbers of elderly people alone, said Aidai Kadyrova, director of Babushka Adoption, a non-profit that helps isolated older people with small monthly donations and food assistance.

Many of the older people struggling to afford utilities, food and other regular expenses also have little recourse to fight against unofficial health charges. "And they don't know their rights," Kadyrova said, such as entitlement to free medical care and discounts on certain prescription medicine. Ultimately, any reforms in the Kyrgyz Republic must combine health and social services to meet the needs of older people, said Eppu Mikkonen-Jeanneret, head of policy at HelpAge International, an NGO. Under the current approach, older people "are not seen as curable," said Mikkonen-Jeanneret, so "the system ignores them."¹⁴⁷

The lack of unified accounting of children with disabilities in the country does not allow presenting real quantitative data of the number of children. Statistical Data of different state departments diverge. The number of children with disabilities is higher than the official number of 22,000 children because the disabilities of most children are not officially registered. Established mechanisms of determining disability do not work in practice. There is a tendency of recognizing the terminology "disability" only as limited physical opportunity. This tendency leads to the discrimination of children with mental disability.¹⁴⁸

¹⁴⁶ UNICEF: Analysis of the situation of children's residential institutions in the Kyrgyz Republic, 2012, available at http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ANALYSIS_OF_THE_SITUATION.pdf; pages 7-8 (accessed on 15/05/2014).

¹⁴⁷ Eurasia net, [David Gullette](http://www.eurasianet.org/node/68323) "Kyrgyzstan's Frail Healthcare System Leaves Elderly in the Lurch" ,30 April 2014, available at <http://www.eurasianet.org/node/68323>.

¹⁴⁸ Association of Parents of Disabled Children, international conference "Equal opportunities for every child" in March 2013, analytical report available at http://kelechek.kg/ru/usefull/materialy_konferencii/mejdunarodnaia_konferencia/ (accessed on 23/02/2014).

Other problems which disabled people face are physical or architectural barriers in public places. The public transportation system is not impairments-friendly; people with disabilities have to often use private taxis – which is quite unaffordable taking into consideration that many people with disabilities depend on social allowance and/or unemployed. Due to these barriers, children with disabilities may not go to school and thus not complete basic education. More detailed information about physical barriers, especially in the city, is available from an article about a one-day experiment of being disabled in Bishkek.¹⁴⁹

6.6.7. Mental Health

The Kyrgyz Republic approved the European Action Plan on Mental Health protection in 2005 and undertook commitments on redirecting efforts and resources from the institutional support to community-based assistance. Preferential drug supply at out-patient level within the Programme of State Guarantees (benefits) for the patients with mental disorders developed and introduced by the Mandatory Health Insurance Fund in 2006 became the first step towards bringing services of mental health protection closer to the communities. This practice was highly appreciated by the patients and members of their families; it showed high economic effectiveness compared to institutional aid. At the same time, the problem of observing human rights of persons with mental disorders started to be addressed – these people can avoid situations of placing them in closed residential institutions.

At present, psychiatric services are provided by the organizations funded by the Ministry of Health, the Mandatory Health Insurance Fund within the Single Payer system, and the State Agency of Social Welfare.¹⁵⁰

Treatment of mental conditions

According to data of the Republican Mental Health Center of the Kyrgyz Republic (RMHC), there are two groups of people with mental diseases in the country today – consultative and dispensary patients. Dispensary patients suffer of severe forms of disorder. They are entitled to some favorable conditions in terms of medication; they have classes of invalidity by mental disorders. Consultative patients are patients who visit the doctor, get treatment and are followed up during the whole year. If they do not need aid they will be taken off the registration. They can receive one or two consultations of a psychiatrist or psychotherapist and quit from mental disorder condition. “In 2012, the number of patients with light mental disorders was 7,815 people, at the beginning of 2013, their number increased to 18,558 people.”¹⁵¹

There are five main in-patient facilities for people with mental health problems in the Kyrgyz Republic: in Chym-Korgon, Chuy region; in Kyzyl-Zhar, Jalal-Abad region; in Osh city (170 beds) and in Jalal-Abad city (70 beds) – the regional centers of mental health; and the Republican mental health center (RMHC). In RMHC, all seriously sick patients come from the whole country. More than three thousand patients per year get in-patient treatment; somebody can stay there for one month, others for two months depending on their health condition; in average, the patients stay for 43 days. There are seriously ill patients who do not have relatives and are not able to be placed at residential institution. They can stay longer but only in Kyzyl-Zhar or Chym-Korgon – these hospitals are adjusted for hosting such patients. Treatment is free, it is guaranteed by the state.

87 per cent of the health-care system budget of the Kyrgyz Republic is allocated to treatment of mental diseases.

More than ten thousand patients per year receive in-patient treatment. At the RMHC, there are about 3,000 patients. 460 patients can stay at the RMHC simultaneously. As to gender

¹⁴⁹ Association of Parents of Disabled Children, Bishkek 2008, available at http://kelechek.kg/ru/usefull/useful/odin_den_na_inva_koliaske/ (accessed on 23/02/2014).

¹⁵⁰ Data of informational agency «knews» (16 February 2012), available at <http://knews.kg/society/11049> (accessed on 20/12/2013).

¹⁵¹ Data of informational agency «knews» (10 October 2013), available at <http://knews.kg/society/38095> (accessed on 20/12/2013).

issues, proportion is equal: from 52,000 patients who are registered in RHMC, 20,000 are women. As to children, only 2,000 children are registered; children psychiatrists are available only in Bishkek.¹⁵²

6.6.8. HIV/Aids

In the republic, there are officially registered 5,060 HIV/AIDS patients. "However, the actual number of HIV/AIDS patients is three to four times higher. It is related to the fact that disease can be latent during several years, and the individual just does not know about it. According to research of the WHO, the Kyrgyz Republic is within a group of 25 states where the HIV/AIDS epidemic is present. 57 per cent of cases of infection are detected among drug users. However, in recent years, cases of sexual transmission of this infection have increased. 31 per cent of HIV infected patients are women."¹⁵³

According to a press release of the minister of health Dinara Saginbaeva, the Kyrgyz Republic belongs to the seven countries of the world with the highest growth rate of HIV prevalence, by data of the MH KR.

"Today, 459 children are in a list of HIV-infected people. Unfortunately, not all infected are identified", Saginbaeva points out. All children are under regular care and receive treatment. MH KR attempts to provide all health facilities with one-time used medical items, required test-systems. Test-system to check AIDS should be used only one time.

Minister of health Dinara Saginbaeva: "Prophylaxis plays an important role in the prevention of HIV prevalence; many people do not know yet about ways of HIV transmission. It is necessary to raise their awareness. International agencies like CDC (Center on Disease Control) and USAID help us a lot, especially the project "Health Quality"¹⁵⁴, which conducts numerous training activities for outreach workers and health staff, in particular counseling, stigma and discrimination. Stigma and discrimination are commonly observed in the southern regions. Sexually infected women are the subject of strong discrimination."¹⁵⁵

6.6.9. Links and Contacts

Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic

Bishkek, Moscow street, 148a
Tel.: (+996 312) 62-26-80, 66-26-14
Fax: (+996 312) 66-07-17
E-mail: minzdrav@minzdrav.bishkek.gov.kg
Website: www.med.kg

National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic

720033, Bishkek, Frunze street, 374
Tel: (+996 312) 32-46-35
Fax: (+996 312) 66-01-38
E-mail: nsc_mail@stat.kg
Webite: www.stat.kg

Mandatory Health Insurance Fund of the Kyrgyz Republic

720040, Bishkek, Chui Ave., 122
Tel.: (+996 312) 66-35-51

¹⁵² Data of information agency "K-news", available at <http://knews.kg/society/11049> (accessed on 20/12/2013).

¹⁵³ Data of informational agency «Vecherny Bishkek» (28 November 2013), available at <http://vb.kg/doc/253021> (accessed on 20/12/2013).

¹⁵⁴ US embassy in the KR, USAID Launches its Quality Health Care Project in Kyrgyzstan, April 2011. For more information about the project please see http://bishkek.usembassy.gov/pr_04_19_11.html (accessed on 03/03/2014).

¹⁵⁵ Data of informational agency «kabar» (30 November 2013), available at <http://kabar.kg/health/full/44991> (accessed on 20/12/2013).

E-mail: mail@foms.kg
Website: <http://www.foms.kg/>

Republican Mental Health Center of the Kyrgyz Republic

720075, Bishkek, BaytikBatyra Str. 1

Tel.: (+996 312) 47-09-38

The Center on Disease Control and Prevention is located in MH KR

List of Social Institutions including Custodial Institutions¹⁵⁶

Institution	Contacts
Nizhneserafimovka home for senior and disabled citizens	Kyrgyz Republic, Yssyk-Ata rayon, Nizhne-Serafimovka village Tel:+(996) 3132 453769, 93254
Tokmok male psycho-neurologic boarding institution №1	Kyrgyz Republic, Chuy rayon, Iskra village Tel:+(996) 3138 35225, 61845
Tokmok mixed psycho-neurologic boarding institution №2	Kyrgyz Republic, Tokmok city, Slobodskaya street, 116 Tel:+(996) 3138 61331, 61362
Sokuluk female psycho-neurological home for senior and disabled citizens	Kyrgyz Republic, Sokuluk rayon, Malovodnoe village, Kirov street, 86 Tel:+(996) 3134 70449,
Belovodsky psycho-neurologic boarding institution	Kyrgyz Republic, Moscow rayon, Belovodsky village, Krupskay street, 157 Tel:+(996) 3131 58309 Fax: 57780
Bishkek home for senior citizens	Kyrgyz Republic, Bishkek city, Abay street, 57 Tel:+(996) 312 540305
Zhail female psycho-neurologic boarding institution	Kyrgyz Republic, Kara-Balta town, Indom village Tel:+(996) 3133 23021, 699086
Pokrovka psycho-neurologic boarding institution	Kyrgyz Republic, Talas region, Manas rayon, Pokrovka village, Gorky street, 56 Tel:+(996) 3459 21536, 21789
Bakai-Ata boarding institution	Kyrgyz Republic, Talas region, Bakai-Ata rayon, Bakai-Ata village, Manas street, 97 Tel:+(996) 3457 31159, 31747
Kadamzhay mixed psycho-neurologic boarding institution	Kyrgyz Republic, Batken region, Kadamzhay rayon, Kara-Tube village Tel:+(996) 3655 60044
Jalalabad children psycho-neurologic boarding school	Kyrgyz Republic, Jalal-Abad city, Ochyabrskaya street, 440 Tel:+(996) 3722 20519, 25262
Suzak boarding home	Kyrgyz Republic, Suzak rayon, Ochyabrskaya street Tel:+(996) 3722 60253
Sulukta home for senior and single citizens	Kyrgyz Republic, Suluktu town, Shakhterskaya street Tel:+(996) 3653 50034, 22234
Toktogul boarding home for the aged	Kyrgyz Republic, Toktogul rayon, Kyzyl-Tuu village Tel:+(996) 3738 21794, 50036
Ak-Suu female psycho-neurologic boarding home	Kyrgyz Republic, Ak-Suu rayon, Tel:+(996) 3948 91359

¹⁵⁶ Telephone-book of the MSD KR (Bishkek, 2011).

List of Hospitals

Today, 141 hospitals operate in the republic, disposing of altogether 26,000 beds.¹⁵⁷

Below is a list of key in-patient facilities at state and regional level:¹⁵⁸

No	Name of health facility	Location
1	Scientific-Research Institute of Cardiology	Bishkek city
2	National Hospital	Bishkek, Togolok-Moldo street, 1
3	National Surgery Center	Bishkek, 3rd Linea street, 25
4	Republican Infectious Hospital	720035, Bishkek, Tolstoy street, 70
5	City Clinical Hospital №1	720026, Bishkek, Fuchik street, 15
6	City Clinical Hospital №6	720005, Bishkek, Jantoshev street, 117
7	National Center of Traumatology and orthopedic	720047, Bishkek, Krivonosov street, 206
8	City Children Clinical Hospital Ambulance	720020, Bishkek, Sovetskaya street, 8-a
9	Maternity Hospital №1	720021, Bishkek, Moscow street, 82
10	Maternity Hospital №2	720010, Bishkek, Moscow street, 225
11	Gynecology Hospital	720040, Bishkek, Logvinenko street, 30
12	Kyrgyz Center of Cardio Surgery and Transplantation	Biskek, Togolok-Moldo street, 3
Batken region		
1	Regional Hospital	715000, Batken city, Razzakov street
2	Kyzyl-Kiya city hospital	Kyzyl-Kiya city, Molodezhnaya street, 3
3	Kadamzhay hospital	Kadamzhay city, Bolnichnaya street, 7
4	Uch-Korgon hospital	Kadamzhay rayon, Uch-Korgon street
5	Aidarken hospital	Kadamzhay rayon, Aidarken village, KurmanzhanDatka street, 40
6	Lailak hospital	Lailak rayon, Isfana village, Stroitel'naya street
7	Kulundu hospital	Lailak rayon, Kulundu village
8	Sulukta hospital	Lailak rayon

¹⁵⁷ Data of the Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic, available at <http://med.kg/index.php/novosty/item/398-7-iyulya-den-meditsinskogo-rabotnika-kyrgyzskoj-respubliki> (accessed on 20/12/2013).

¹⁵⁸ Data of the MHIF of the Kyrgyz Republic, Bishkek 2013, available at http://foms.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=266&Itemid=172&lang=ru (accessed on 20/12/2013).

		Sulukta town
	Jalal-Abad region	
1	Jalal-Abad regional hospital	Jalal-Abad city, Lenin street, 11
2	Kara-Kul hospital	Kara-Kul town, Sabirova street, 20
3	Maily-Suu hospital	Maily-Suu town, Sadykov street, 7
4	Tash-Kumyr hospital	Tash-Kumyr town, Dostuk street, 1
5	Aksy hospital	715700, Aksy rayon, Kerben village, Umetaliev street, 120
6	Ala-Buka hospital	Ala-Buka rayon, Ala-Buka village, Bishkek street
7	Bazar-Korgon hospital	Bazar-Korgon rayon, Bazar-Korgon village, Saidullaev street
8	Nooken hospital	Nooken rayon, Massy village, Sorokin street, 16
9	Kochkor-Ata hospital	Nooken rayon, Kochkor-Ata town, Murodyan street, 17
10	Suzak hospital	Suzak rayon, Suzak village, Dakan-Palvan street
11	Kok-Zhangak city hospital	Kok-Zhangak town, Octyabrskaya street, 3
12	Octyabrskaya hospital	Suzak rayon
13	Toguz-Toro hospital	722660, Toguz-Toro rayon, Kazarman village, Mira street
14	Toktogul hospital	Toktogul rayon, Toktogul village, Kyrgyzskaya street, 23
15	Chatkal hospital	Chatkal rayon, Kanysh-Kiya village
16	Sumsar hospital	Not available
	Issyk-Kul region	
1	Issyk-Kul regional hospital	Karakol city, Komsomol street, 2
2	Balykchi city hospital	Balykchi city, Issyk-Kul street, 94
3	Ak-Suu hospital	Ak-Suu rayon, Gagarin street, 87 Teplokluchenka village
4	Jety-Oguz hospital	Jety-Oguz rayon, Kyzyl-Suu village, Komsomol street, 89
5	Issyk-Kul hospital	Cholpon-Ata city, Sovetskaya street, 2
6	Ananievo hospital	Ananievo village, Issyk-Kul rayon

7	Ton hospital	Ton rayon, Toichubekov street, 89
8	Tyup hospital	Tyup rayon, Lenin street, 35
9	Private therapeutic facility	Taldy-Suu village
10	Private obstetric facility	Taldy-Suu village, Tyup rayon
	Naryn region	
1	Naryn regional hospital	Naryn city, Kachkynov street, 5
2	Ak-Taly hospital	Ak-Taly rayon, Baetov village, Manas street, 112
3	Jumgal hospital	Jumgal rayon, Chaek village Lenin street, 149
4	Kochkor hospital	Kochkor rayon, Kochkor village, Orozbekov street, 157
5	At-Bashy rayon	At-Bashy rayon, At-Bashy village, Shameev street, 4
	Osh region	
1	Osh regional hospital	714018, Osh city Uvamskaya street, 10
2	Osh city hospital	Osh city, Kurmanzhan Datka street, 157
3	Kara-Kuldzha hospital	714047, Kara-Kuldzha village, Kara-Kuldzha rayon, Pazylov street, 4
4	Kara-Suu hospital	715500, Kara-Suu rayon, Kara-Suu village, Telman street, 3
5	Nookat hospital	715330, Nookat rayon, Eski-Nookat village, Lenin street, 32
6	Uzgen hospital	Uzgen rayon, Uzgen village, Manas street
7	Alai hospital	715300 Alai rayon, Gulcha village, Bokonbaev street, 75
8	Chon-Alai hospital	Chon-Alai rayon, Darout-Kurgan village, Sulaimanov street, 37
9	Aravan hospital	715320, Aravan rayon, Aravan village, Kirov street, 12
	Talas region	
1	Talas regional hospital	722720, Talas city, Lenin street, 257
2	Hospital for Veteran of War and Labor	Talas city,

		Eshankulov street, 1
3	Bakai-Ata hospital	Bakai-Ata rayon, Bakai-Ata village, Manas street, 62
4	Kara-Bura hospital	Kara-Bura rayon, Kyzyl-Adyr village, Bolnichnaya street, 2
5	Manas hospital	Manas rayon, Pokrobka village, Lenin street
6	Talas hospital	Talas rayon, Kok-Oiy village, Manas street, 2
	Chuy region	
1	Chuy regional hospital	Bishkek city, Saratov street, 10
2	Chuy hospital	Chuy village, Sovetskaya street, 113
3	Tokmak hospital	Tokmak city, Gagarin street, 140
4	Yssyk-Ata hospital	Yssyk-Ata rayon, Kant town, Zelenaya street, 6
5	Kemin hospital	722230 Kemin rayon, Kemin town, Abdubachaev street, 27
6	Jaiyl hospital	Jaiyl rayon, Kara-Balta city
7	Kara-Balta hospital	Jaiyl rayon, Kara-Balta city, Michurin street, 2
8	Moscow hospital	Moscow rayon, Belovodskoe village, Lenin street, 100
9	Panfilov hospital	Panfilov rayon, Panfilovka village, Kaindinskaya street, 22
10	Sokuluk hospital	Sokuluk rayon, Sokuluk village, Bolnichnaya street, 1
11	Chuy regional tuberculosis dispensary	Lebedinovka village, Pobeda Avenue, 79

7. SITUATION OF MIGRANTS AFTER RETURN

7.1. General Information

Data of the research center of the American University in Central Asia divides labor migrants returning to the Kyrgyz Republic into the following groups:

1. successfully worked and came back in healthy condition;
2. suffered from adverse employment: not much or nothing earned; and / or those who need medical aid
3. victims of human trafficking.¹⁵⁹

In case of anticipatory repudiation of the contract by fault of the labor migrant, expenses of his/her return to the country of origin has to be covered from his/her pocket. In case of anticipatory repudiation of the contract by fault of the employer, expenses of return of the labor migrant to the country of origin will be paid by the employer. In case of death of the labor migrant because of execution of labor requirements stipulated in the contract, the economic entity of the state of destination ensures transportation of the body and personal belongings of the dead to the territory of the country of origin and covers all expenses related to this case. The economic entity informs the diplomatic representation or consular institution of the country of origin about this fact and provides materials about death of the labor migrant. The diplomatic representation, consular institution or representative of the state migration agency of the country of origin helps to conduct criminal and trial investigations; helps to receive compensation of health damage or death (Law of the Kyrgyz Republic «On external labor migration» as of 13 January 2006, №4, Chapter IV, Article 19, 22).

According to a press release of the head of political movement “Kalys” Jenish Moldokmatov, when Kyrgyz migrants from the Russian Federation need to return to the Kyrgyz Republic by various reasons, they cannot buy tickets because they are expensive. In case of immediate leave Kyrgyz migrants in the Russian Federation buy tickets for RUB 50,000 which in regular cost RUB 27,000 – 30,000. According to the Director of Department of Consular Service of the Kyrgyz Republic Irina Orolbaeva, in 2013 Kyrgyz airway companies transported the corpses of 144 Kyrgyz citizens from the Russian Federation to the Kyrgyz Republic free of charge. Irina Orolbaeva pointed out: “This is a big help to the state, because the cost for transportation to the airport, purchase of zinc coffin and registration of documents is more than EURO 3,000”.¹⁶⁰

According to IOM, “the majority of migrants from the Kyrgyz Republic travel to the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan in search of better opportunities to improve their living conditions. Most of the migrants are involved in individual entrepreneurship, travelling back and forth to sell goods. Many migrants from the Kyrgyz Republic are also recruited to work in agriculture, construction sites and the public service sector (department stores, restaurants, cafes, etc.).”¹⁶¹

7.2. State Programmes and Initiatives

A programme on returning of ethnic Kyrgyz was launched in the Kyrgyz Republic in 2008. In July 2008, the law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On the state guarantees (benefits) for the ethnic Kyrgyz returning to their historical land” was approved. According to this law, foreign citizens

¹⁵⁹ AUCA, Analytical report “Conditions and status of social rehabilitation of the labor migrants – the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic after their return home» (Bishkek, 2007), page 8.

¹⁶⁰ Data from Gezitter.org, information agency, 4 November 2013, available from http://www.gezitter.org/society/25168_migrantyi_gorko_plachut_ministr_rezvitsya/ (accessed on 23/02/2014).

¹⁶¹ IOM KR, last updated November 2013, available at <https://www.iom.int/cms/en/sites/iom/home/where-we-work/europa/south-eastern-europe-eastern-eur/kyrgyzstan.html> (accessed on 23/02/2014).

or persons without citizenship but of Kyrgyz nationality are recognized as returnees – kairylman – who lived outside the Kyrgyz Republic or arrived in the Kyrgyz Republic in order to reside at the time when the country gained independence in 1991. For the easiest integration at the new place, the returnees are given a number of privileges and comprehensive assistance is provided. These privileges cover various spheres of life of the returnees: arrival, registration, education, medical service, allocation of land, pension provision, etc.

To take part in the programme, the returning migrant or ethnic Kyrgyz must get a certificate of participation in the regional offices of the MLMY KR.

Ethnic Kyrgyz who return and participate in the state programme receive an adequate certification approved by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. The participant and members of his/her family are entitled to social support upon their return to the Kyrgyz Republic, which includes the following:

- allocation of quota to enter the secondary special and higher educational institutions of the Kyrgyz Republic in an amount defined by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- provision of sets in schools and pre-school institutions to those who need them;
- conditions to learn the state and official languages;
- assistance in employment, improvement of qualification/skills and gaining new profession in line with the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- payment of pensions and benefits in line with the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic and international treaties of which the Kyrgyz Republic is a party and which have entered into force;
- medical aid in accordance with the annually adopted programme of state guarantees ensuring medical services to the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic
- provision of state targeted support anticipated for the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Ethnic Kyrgyz who have a document confirming their nationality are exempt from fees the state bodies charge under consideration of an application on awarding status of returnee – kairylman (the law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On state guarantee to the ethnic Kyrgyz returning historical native land” as of 10 October 2007, Chapter 1 - Article 1, Chapter 3 – Article 15).

There is a state program on social and pension support of labor migrants after their return. The main goal of the programme is the implementation of mechanism of rights of the labor migrants on full-fledged social and pension support; repatriation of pension funds, which have being accumulated by the citizens during their work abroad, in the Kyrgyz Republic after their return home. On a bilateral level, this programme also aims at equalizing the rights of the migrants with the rights of the citizens of the hosting country.¹⁶²

7.3. International Programmes and Initiatives

In the Kyrgyz Republic, an important function is fulfilled by International Organizations such as the International Organization for Migration (IOM), ILO, OSCE, and UNESCO in addressing the challenges of labor migration. Apart from IOM, these organizations are not assisting returnees. These agencies implement interstate, regional projects aimed at regulating labor migration, conduct surveys and hold seminars, workshops and conferences.

On the basis of projects funded by external donors, IOM KR renders support in returning and re-unification of migrants after their return home. IOM's assistance is in organizational, financial and re-integration support of the labor migrants. The IOM missions in the Kyrgyz Republic help the returnees at three stages of process on request of the sending mission:

¹⁶² Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, Programme of social and pension guarantees for the labor migrants – the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic working on territory of Russian Federation (Bishkek, 2013).

1. Assistance provided after return includes help after arrival at the airport, provision of initial information related to arrival,
2. Payment of re-integration grant to returnees, organization of further journey to their final point of destination,
3. Provision of re-integration support and monitoring, if necessary.

In the Kyrgyz Republic, between 2008 and 2011, the IOM mission assisted returnees from countries such as Belgium, Finland, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.¹⁶³

7.4. Links and Contacts

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¹⁶³ IOM KR, undated, available at http://iom.kg/?page_id=123 and http://iom.kg/?page_id=132 (accessed on 24/12/2013).

8. RETURN OF UNACCOMPANIED MINORS

8.1. General Information

The Kyrgyz Republic practices the return of minors without adult escort since 2011.

The return of unaccompanied minor children with Kyrgyz citizenship, who are left without parental care and stay outside the Kyrgyz Republic, is implemented based on the Decree of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic as of 21 October 2013, №571.

According to data of the Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic in the Russian Federation, 51 minors without parental care have been identified in Moscow city and Moscow region alone between 2011 and 2012. These unaccompanied children were abandoned by citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic at medical facilities (maternal hospitals) or were found under other circumstances. Three of these children were taken back by their biological mothers; 17 children were given the citizenship of the Russian Federation.

In 2011, three unaccompanied children were repatriated for the first time under financial support of IOM.

In 2012, KGS 1 million were allocated from the Reserve Fund of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic for the return of 21 unaccompanied minor children to their native country. Two of these minors were adopted, five children were placed under guardianship, one minor was re-unified with his biological mother and four minors are at stage of reunification with their biological parents. In 2013, three minors were repatriated.

The return of a child is implemented in compliance with the best interests of the child. Measures for the return of the unaccompanied minor child to the Kyrgyz Republic are fulfilled within a six-month period after information has been received about the abandoned child.¹⁶⁴

8.2. Key Actors, Responsibilities and Procedures

The authorized body on child protection, the MSD KR, is responsible for all activities related to preparation, initiation and implementation of returning procedures for an unaccompanied child.

The diplomatic representation and/or consular service of the Kyrgyz Republic submits applications to appropriate institutions of the hosting country and requests them to provide protection and assistance until the unaccompanied minor child returns home (regulation "On return of the children-citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic, who are left without parental care and stay outside the Kyrgyz Republic", paragraph 5, 12).

The authorized state body on children protection, MSD KR, interacts with relevant state institutions of the respective foreign state, in which the unaccompanied child resides. Together with appropriate International Organizations (such as IOM) and NGOs the return process of the unaccompanied minor is being implemented. The authorized state body on children protection jointly with the regional subdivision identifies the current location of the child's mother; undertakes measures for reunification of the child with her/his biological family (except of cases when the mother abandons the baby at the maternity hospital under condition of keeping secret the information about the baby among her relatives).

After the completion of the information collection about the background of the unaccompanied child, the authorized state body reports the hosting country about date of return of the child according to the legislation. Also, MSD KR informs about the appointed person for escorting, transport for the return of the child and other required measures to prepare the child for travelling and other aspects (regulation "On return of the children-citizens to the Kyrgyz

¹⁶⁴ Ministry of Social Development of the Kyrgyz Republic, System of social protection in the Kyrgyz Republic.

Republic who are left without parental care and stay outside the Kyrgyz Republic”, paragraph 8, 16, 17).

8.3. Protection and Assistance after Return

The accommodation of unaccompanied children who return to the Kyrgyz Republic in residential institutions like boarding schools is conducted by the authorized state medical, educational and social institutions based on written request of the authorized institution, MSD KR, responsible for the protection of the rights of unaccompanied children. Documents of the child are enclosed. The institution providing child protection and guardianship is responsible for life and safety of the child and initiates a process of rehabilitation taking into account his/her age, problem and proposals of the relevant institutions of the hosting country involved in return of the child. The authorized state body dealing with children protection undertakes all necessary measures for social-family accommodation of the child considering the best interest of the children. If it is not possible that the minor returns to his/her original family, MSD organizes another form of care in line with the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic. Regional subdivisions carry out monitoring of care and education of the child according to the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic and provide information of results of monitoring to the authorized state body on children protection (regulation “On return of the children-citizens to the Kyrgyz Republic who are left without parental care and stay outside the Kyrgyz Republic”, paragraph 23, 28-30).

The return of a child can be implemented using funds from the state budget, donors’ funds, voluntary donations of physical and legal persons and other sources in accordance with the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic. Funds for the return of unaccompanied children are accumulated and anticipated in a budget of the authorized body on child protection.

The diplomatic representations and/or consular institutions of the Kyrgyz Republic provide assistance to the children-citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic in transportation, accommodation, urgent medical aid and other necessary support depending on situation (Regulation “On return of the children-citizens to the Kyrgyz Republic who are left without parental care and stay outside the Kyrgyz Republic”, paragraph 6, 13).

8.4. Links and Contacts

Information about all diplomatic representations of the Kyrgyz Republic is available from the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic at the link http://www.mfa.kg/diplomatic-missions-of-kr/dipmissions-of-kr-abroad-2_en.html.

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9. VULNERABLE GROUPS

9.1. General Information

The Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic guarantees equality of human rights and freedoms regardless of sex, race, language, ethnicity, religion, age, political and other beliefs, education, origin, property and other status and other commitments (Section 2, Chapter I, Article 16).

9.2. Gender Equality

From a legal perspective, the law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On state guarantees of equal rights and opportunities for men and women” imposes prohibition of direct and indirect discrimination in any sphere in relation to both men and women (Chapter 1, Article 5). The Family Code anticipates equal rights and duties of the spouses including care of children (Section III).

In order to exclude discrimination and respect gender equality, the Labor Code anticipates a possibility to get baby-leave not only by the mothers, but also by the father, grandmother and grandfather, other relative or tutor, who is actually taking care of the child. The introduction of such norm influences the change of traditional and cultural family roles of both men and women (Labor Code of the KR, Chapter 24, Article 303-312).

Recognizing a need to create conditions for elimination of discrimination by sex, equalizing opportunities for women in all spheres of life, the national legislation including sector-based guidelines, stipulates norms and standards of equality of men and women. Also, it was written in the legislation that special measures aimed at ensuring equal opportunities for various social groups in order to guarantee that they are not discriminated against. Propaganda of gender superiority is prohibited; all citizens have equal rights, equal opportunities when they enter the public and municipal services, career promotion. Article 10 of the law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On state guarantees of equal rights and opportunities for men and women” defines that people of different sex have equal rights, duties, responsibilities and equal opportunities entering the public and municipal services and further performance implementing. The heads of the state authorities and local self-governance bodies are obliged to ensure equal access of both men and women to the public and municipal services in accordance with their abilities and professional qualification. Vacancies for public and municipal positions are ensured through the competitions, in which the representatives of both sexes are participated on equal conditions. So, the state ensures competition-based selection for the public and municipal services through approved standardized tests.

The principle of equality of men and women is included in the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic. Paragraph 4, Article 16 of the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic says that men and women in the Kyrgyz Republic have equal rights and freedoms, equal opportunities for their implementation. People who were affected by gender discrimination are entitled to apply to the ombudsman (current ombudsman in KR is Amanbaev Baktybek), the Prosecutor's office, judicial and other governmental institutions and local self-governance bodies as well.

Paragraph 7 of the Article 49 of the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On election of the members of the local councils (keneshes)” as of 14 July 2011, № 98 envisages that the political parties and constituency groups must consider representation of not more than 70 per cent of one sex, when they form lists of candidates to the district and city councils. Difference in the waiting lists of candidates from the political parties and constituency group should not exceed two positions of women and men.

Representation of women in the Parliament was 23 women out of 90 deputies or 25.6 per cent from 2007 to 2010. By results of the parliamentary elections in 2010, 28 women out of 120 deputies or 23.3 per cent were elected.

The proportion of female deputies of the local councils is only 19.7 per cent or 1,326 female deputies against 6735 men in the first quarter of 2012. The representation of female judges in the Supreme Court of the Kyrgyz Republic is quite stable – in average 46 per cent of the total number of judges of the Supreme Court.

Usually, men dominate at political positions in the country. Thus, on 1 January 2011, the average number of women among the public servants at political positions was 25 per cent, among the municipal servants at political positions five per cent; from 459 heads of the local self-governance bodies having elected positions, only 27 are women.

Gender misbalance at the level of decision-making is determined by maintenance of traditional stereotypes on role of women in the society. Existing mechanism of assignment of quotas both at national and local levels during elections does not guarantee that women will keep their deputy mandates after elections and representation of women at high positions of the executive power. For example, in 2010 the proportion of women at decision-making level was 25.6 per cent, in 2012 this figure was reduced to 19.8 per cent.¹⁶⁵

In the “National Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic on gender equality achievement until 2020” it is pointed out that “Drastic reduction of access of women to economic opportunities is the most urgent and visible gender inequality. Between 1991 and 2010, the economic activity of employable women was decreased from 81.6 per cent to 41.9 per cent and in some regions even less. According to data of survey on gender aspects of the labor market and entrepreneurship development, women dominate in the informal labor market, some sectors of service and trade. Besides, women prevail in self-employment areas based on micro crediting. This automatically isolates the majority of women from getting guaranteed social benefits, for example, health service, right on recreation and so on. The sampling survey of households of the Kyrgyz Republic in 2008 revealed that the average number of women having two or more paid activities excluding household work is much higher than among men. However, work and input of women are still invisible for the society.

Gender misbalance is shown in other social spheres as well. Today, the health status of men causes serious concerns in the society. It is also connected to the reproduction of traditional gender approaches in family education, which says that a “real” man is always healthy and does not pay attention to any malaise or visits doctors. Such attitudes to the own health condition is passed on from one generation to the next, from the father to the son; even the fathers do not have time to take an active part in the education of their children. Thus, ignorance of gender aspects not only in the sphere of labor activity, but also in daily life leads to the deepening of social and economic challenges. As a result, every new generation is facing a more deteriorated situation in the sphere of education and health, this also leads to limited opportunities of decent salaries and new generation capacities.

Thus, the problem of gender equality is very urgent for the Kyrgyz Republic at present.”¹⁶⁶

9.3. Domestic Violence

In the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic, conditions of marriage and its registration have been laid down for the first time: «Individuals who reach the marriage age have the right to marry and form a family. A marriage cannot be concluded without voluntary and mutual agreement of the espoused persons. Marriage is registered by the state». Marriage age is unchanged in the Kyrgyz Republic at 18 years. According to Article 14 of the Family Code, the executive self-governance bodies have the right to reduce the age of marriage by one year for both men and women in case of reasonable excuses and their request based on a recommendation of regional subdivisions of the authorized state agency on children protection.

¹⁶⁵ Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, Fourth periodical report of the Kyrgyz Republican implementation of the CEDAW's norms (Bishkek, 2012), pages 112-113.

¹⁶⁶ Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, National Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic on gender equality achievement until 2020, available at http://btm.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=37&Itemid=9 (accessed on 24/12/2013).

In accordance with the Family Code, men and women have equal property and personal non-property rights and duties in family relations (Section I, Chapter 1, Article 3).

However, as the newspaper "Newsweek" reported, bride kidnappings are not uncommon in the Kyrgyz Republic: "They call it *ala kachuu*, or "grab and run." In the Kyrgyz Republic, as many as 40 per cent of ethnic Kyrgyz women are married after being kidnapped by the men who become their husbands, according to a local NGO. Two-thirds of these bride kidnappings are non-consensual—in some cases, a "kidnapping" is part of a planned elopement—and while the practice has been illegal since 1994, authorities largely look away. Typically, a would-be groom gathers a group of young men, and together they drive around looking for a woman he wants to marry. The unsuspecting woman is often literally dragged off the street, bundled into the car and taken straight to the man's house—where often the family will already have started making preparations for the wedding.

Once the girls are inside the kidnapper's home, female elders play a key role in persuading her to accept the marriage. They try to cover the girl's head with a white scarf, symbolizing that she is ready to wed her kidnapper. After hours of struggle, around 84 per cent of kidnapped women end up agreeing to the nuptials. (The rest manage to get back home.) The kidnapper's parents often also pressure the girl, as once she has entered her kidnapper's home she is considered to be no longer pure, making it shameful for her to return home. In order to avoid disgrace, many women tend to remain with their kidnappers."¹⁶⁷

In order to unite efforts of state institutions and civil society in the area of human rights protection, human right protection activity in sphere of gender development, the Public Council on Gender Development under the Ombudsman's Office was established. Special order №186 was issued on 30 December 2009. For example, 12 complaints on gender discrimination were submitted to the Ombudsman's office in 2011. Three complaints were submitted in the first quarter of 2012. There were no complaints on bride-kidnapping in 2011, and one complaint was submitted during the first quarter of 2012. Legal assistance was provided to restore the rights of the girl.

According to data of the Judicial Department under the Supreme Court of the Kyrgyz Republic, during 2008 - I quarter of 2012, the total number of people who committed domestic violence was 2144; the total number of victims of domestic violence was 2238. Investigation and decisions were conducted for: criminal cases – 242 decisions, administrative offences – 1811 decisions. High indicator of victims of domestic violence was observed in 2010. It was 62 per cent higher compared to figures of 2011."¹⁶⁸

In order to enhance effectiveness of prevention of domestic violence, the law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On making amendments and additions to the Code of the Kyrgyz Republic on administrative liability" as of 25 July 2012, № 136 was adopted. This law makes more strict administrative liability for domestic violence. There is a possibility to impose not only a penalty but also an administrative detention up to five days for committing domestic violence in line with new amendments.

9.4. Shelters for Women

„As a rule, many women started to apply for assistance for the first time. They need to feel safe and quit long-term fear and tension. Many of them feel helpless and unable to act independently; they experience fear and perceive their situation as desperate. A strategy of support to such women is developed in accordance with the specificity of their psychological condition.

According to data of the Ministry of Social Development, 13 crisis centers operate in the country, where women who suffered from domestic violence can get consultations by lawyers, medical services, and help in employment. Every year, 3,000 to 5,000 women at the

¹⁶⁷ Data of "Newsweek" informational agency, available at <http://www.newsweek.com/grab-and-run-1634> (accessed on 04/03/2014).

¹⁶⁸ Fourth Periodic Report of the Kyrgyz Republic on implementation of CEDAW's norms, p. 105-106, 141

age of 16 to 25 apply there; the majority is students, housewives and employees.”¹⁶⁹

List of crisis centers of NGOs in the Kyrgyz Republic, which provide services of women shelter¹⁷⁰

Crisis center	Type of activity	Contacts
“Altynay”	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consultations of a lawyer, psychologist, gynecologist; 2. Shelter provision; 3. Representation of interests of the victims in the court; 	Issyk-Kul region, Cholpon-Ata city Tel: +996 (03943) 4 41 37, E-mail: altynai1951@mail.ru
“Akytkarachach” Public Association “EneNazary”	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Direct and site consultations of a psychologist and lawyer; 2. Hot-line; 3. Provision of loans for women – victims of violence; 4. Shelter provision. 	Osh region, Alai rayon, Gulcha village Tel: +996 (03234) 26033, 26131, E-mail: ene-naz@mail.ru
“Aruulan” Osh regional WIC “Ayalzat”	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hot-line; 2. Direct consultations of a psychologist, lawyer and gynecologist; 3. Shelter provision. 	Osh city Tel: +996 (03222) 5 56 08, E-mail: ayalzat@netmail.kg
“ZhanylMyrza” Public Foundation “OmurBulagy”	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hot-line; 2. Direct consultations of a psychologist, lawyer; 3. Shelter provision. 	Batken region, Batken city Tel: +996 (03622) 2 20 27, E-mail: kalybek2003@mail.ru
“Kaniet” Association “Women – leaders of Jalal-Abad”	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hot-line; 2. Direct consultations of a psychologist, lawyer, gynecologist; 3. Shelter provision. 	Jalal-Abad city Tel: +996 (03722) 5 50 84, E-mail: j_saralaeva@mail.ru
“Maana” – Public Foundation “Ayalzat”	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hot-line; 2. Consultations of a psychologist, lawyer and physician; 3. Provision of temporary shelter (up to 10 days); 4. Representation of interests in 	Talas city Tel: +996(03422) 53818 , 55581 E-mail: ayalzat@mail.ru

¹⁶⁹ Data of the informational agency “Vecherny Bishkek” (01.08.2013), available at <http://vb.kg/doc/238235> (accessed on 24/12/2013).

¹⁷⁰ Data of Soros Foundation, available at <http://women.soros.kg/index.php/ru/anticrisis-centers> (December 24, 2013).

	<p>the court;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Provision of material and financial assistance; 6. Employment of victims of violence; 7. Placement of children suffered from violence in the schools and boarding schools; 8. Awareness activity. 	
“Tendesh”	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hot-line; 2. Direct consultations of a psychologist, lawyer and physician; 3. Shelter provision. 	<p>Naryn city Tel: +996 (3522) 53770, 50270 E-mail: ngotendesh@rambler.ru www.tendesh.hostnet.kg</p>
“Sezim” crisis psychological center for women and families	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 24-hour hot-line; 2. Shelter for women; 3. Hosting of victims of domestic violence (admittance with children, but not newborns); 4. Consultations of a psychologist, lawyer, physician; 5. Informational and educational work with the population 	<p>Bishkek Tel: +996 (0312) 5126 40 E-mail: sezim2008@gmail.com</p>
“Ak-Jurok” – moral psychological center	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provision of moral-psychological support to female victims of violence; 2. Hot-line; 3. Supporting groups; 4. Informational and educational work with the population. 	<p>Osh city Tel: +996 (3222) 2 97 57 E-mail: kjurok05@rambler.ru</p>
“Darshaiym” – Center of violence prevention	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. advisory; 2. educational; 3. informational. 	<p>Bishkek Tel: +996 (0312) 64 93 50 E-mail: darshayim@mail.ru , mairash_1955@mail.ru</p>
Public association “Meerban”	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. advisory; 2. educational; 3. informational; 4. advocacy campaigns. 	<p>Osh city Tel: +996 (03222) 74006, 74017 E-mail: meerban.osh@mail.ru</p>

“Chance”	1. Hot-line; 2. Direct consultations of a psychologist, lawyer; 3. Medical out-patient services; 4. Publishing; 5. Informational-educational work.	Bishkek city Tel: +996 (0312) 43 53 01 E-mail: chance-cc@mail.ru
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9.5. Centers for Children

According to the results of a large scale research undertaken by UNICEF between 2010 and 2012 “The increase in institutionalization of children can partially be attributed to poverty and unemployment, as many people are forced to migrate in search of work, or else simply cannot meet the basic needs of their children. The lack of alternative forms of care means that state bodies responsible for children’s care make referrals to residential institutions. There have also been many cases of children being taken to the institutions by parents themselves with the aim of ensuring a better education and regular meals for their children. In recent years there has been a particularly worrying increase in the number of 3 to 4 year old children entering residential care. Meanwhile, children with disabilities face spending their childhood in institutions because of the acute shortage of specialized social services available in or near their communities, particularly in remote areas”¹⁷¹.

On 1 January 2012, 117 children residential institutions operated in the Kyrgyz Republic (84 public and 33 non-public), 10,908 children reside in these institutions. The Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic supervises 24 children residential institutions, (20.5% of the total number of these institutions) in which 3,731 children are residing (34.2%). Three children institutions are under the Ministry of Social Development of the Kyrgyz Republic – about 2.6 per cent of the total number of such institutions; the number of children is 5 per cent of the total number. Accommodation of 1.8 per cent of all children in three residential institutions (2.6% of total number of the residential institutions) is financed by the Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic. Two other institutions are under the responsibility of the Ministry of Interior of the Kyrgyz Republic, where 24 children reside. Within the system of education, 32 children residential institutions are locally funded (27.4% of all residential institutions for children), where 40.3% of all children reside. About 17 per cent of children institutions where 5 per cent of children reside are supervised by the local authorities. 28.2 per cent of all institutions are non-public ones, where 13.5 per cent of children stay.

Number of children in residential institutions of the Kyrgyz Republic¹⁷²

Sectorial attribution and sources of financing	Children residential institutions		Beneficiaries	
	Number	%	Number	%
State budget				
Ministry of Education and Science	24	20.5%	3731	34,2%
Ministry of Health	3	2.6%	200	1,8%
Ministry of Social Development	3	2.6%	539	5%
Ministry of Interior	2	1.7%	24	0.2%
Local budget				
Educational boarding schools	32	27.4%	4400	40.3%

¹⁷¹ UNICEF, Situation analysis in the children residential institutions in the Kyrgyz Republic (Bishkek, 2012), page 7; http://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/ANALYSIS_OF_THE_SITUATION.pdf.

¹⁷² UNICEF, Situation analysis in the children residential institutions in the Kyrgyz Republic (Bishkek, 2012), page 9, 19, 22.

Temporary shelters	20	17%	536	5%
Private institutions				
Children institutions, shelters, orphanages, religious shelters, etc.	33	28.2%	1478	13.5%
Total:	117	100%	10908	100%

Source: UNICEF 2010-2012.

9.6. Links and Contacts

Ministry of Social Development of the Kyrgyz Republic

720040, Bishkek city, Tynystanov street 215

Tel: (+966 312) 66-34-00, 62-45-22;

Fax: 66-57-24

E-mail: mlsp@mlsp.kg

Site: www.mlsp.kg

Ministry of Interior of the Kyrgyz Republic

720011, Bishkek city, Frunze street 469

Tel: (+996 312) 66 24 50;

Fax (+996 312) 68 20 44

E-mail: pressa@mail.mvd.kg

Site: www.mvd.kg

Ministry of Labor, Migration and Youth of the Kyrgyz Republic

720040, Bishkek, Razzakovstreet 8\1

Tel: (+996 312)300232;

Fax: (+996 312) 300790

E-mail: pressa_mdmkr@mail.ru

Site: www.mz.kg

Ombudsman Institute (Akyikatchy) of the Kyrgyz Republic

720040, Bishkek, Tynystanov street, 120

Telephones of the press service: (+996 312) 663143, (+996 312) 663239.

E-mail: ombudsman@inbox.ru

Site: www.ombudsman.kg

Public Association Crisis Psychological Center “Sezim”

720001, Bishkek, Toktogul street 181

Tel: (+996 312) 31-29-09, 51-26-39;

Fax (+996 312)31-29-09;

24-hour hot-line: (+996 312)51-26-40

E-mail: sezim2008@gmail.com

Site: www.sezim.web.kg

10. LIST OF CONTACTS

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Fax: (+996 312) 66 18 37

E-mail: mail@mineconom.kg

Site: www.mineconom.kg

Ministry of Finance of the Kyrgyz Republic

Bishkek, Erkindik Avenue, 58

Tel.: (+996 312) 664560

Fax: (+996 312) 661645

E-mail: minfin@elcat.kg

Site: www.minfin.kg

Central Treasury of the Ministry of Finance of the Kyrgyz Republic

720040, Bishkek, Erkindik Avenue 58a

Tel.: (+996 312) 62-03-36

E-mail: a.sulaimbekova@minfin.kg

Site: www.kazna.gov.kg

National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic

720033, Bishkek, Frunze street, 374

Tel.: (+996 312) 32-46-35

Fax: (+996 312) 66-01-38

E-mail: nsc_mail@stat.kg

Site: www.stat.kg

State Registration Service under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic

Kyrgyzstan, Pervomai district

720044, Bishkek, Orozbekovstreet, 44

Tel.: (+996 312) 454042; (+996 312) 300347;

E-mail: gosreg@bishkek.gov.kg

Site: www.srs.kg

State Agency for Architecture, Construction and Housing under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic

720001, Bishkek, Manas street, 28

Tel.: (+996 312) 61-36-97;

Fax: (+996 312) 61-34-52

Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic

720040 Bishkek, Tynystanovstreet, 257

Tel: (+996 312) 662442; (+996 312) 621520

E-mail: minedukg@gmail.com

Site: www.edu.gov.kg

Ministry of Labor, Migration and Youth of the Kyrgyz Republic

Kyrgyzstan, Bishkek, Chui Avenue, 106

Tel: (+996 312) 62-04-35

E-mail: manas-ordo.kg@mail.ru

Site: www.mz.kg

Mission of the International Labor Organization in the Kyrgyz Republic

Kyrgyzstan, Bishkek, 720001, Ryskulovstreet, 6

Tel.: (+996-312) 612-456
Fax: (+996-312) 612-460
E-mail: office@iom.kg
Site: www.iom.kg

American University in Central Asia

Kyrgyzstan, Bishkek, 720040, Abdymomunovstreet, 205
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720040, Bishkek, Tynystanov street 215
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Fax: 66-57-24
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720011, Bishkek, Frunze street 469
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Fax: (+996 312) 68 20 44
E-mail: pressa@mail.mvd.kg
Site: www.mvd.kg

Ombudsman Institute (Akyikatchi) of the Kyrgyz Republic

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E-mail: ombudsman@inbox.ru
Site: www.ombudsman.kg

PA Crisis Psychological Center "Sezim"

720001, Bishkek, Toktogul street 181
Tel: (+996 312) 31-29-09, 51-26-39; Fax (+996 312)31-29-09
24-hour hot-line: (+996 312)51-26-40
E-mail: sezim2008@gmail.com
Site: www.sezim.web.kg

National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic

720040, Bishkek, UmetalivaStr, 101
Tel: (+996 312) 66-90-11 Fax: +996(312)66-90-12
E-mail: mail@nbkr.kg
Website: <http://www.nbkr.kg>

NGO Association of Parents of Disabled Children

Bishkekcity, micro district Kok-Djar.1/ 4
Tel.: (+996 312) 517634, 517340
E-mail: ardi.kyrgyzstan@gmail.com
Website: www.kelechek.kg

NGO Rehabilitation Center "Obereg"

Bishkekcity, Vasilieva Str.95
Tel.: (+996 312) 37-17-17
E-mail: obereg.kg@mail.ru
Website: www.obereg.kg

The State Agency of Architecture, Construction and Housing under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic

720001, Bishkek, Manas street, 28

Tel.: (+996 312) 61-36-97;

Fax: (+996 312)61-34-52

Real Estate Agency “Ploshad”

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E-mail: arenda@an.kg

Website: www.an.kg

Real Estate Agency “Salut”

Bishkek, Sovetskaya Str., 8th micro district, 31/a

Tel.: (+996 312)512340

E-mail: salut@salut.com.kg

Website: www.salut.kg

Real Estate Agency “Garant”

Bishkek, Sagynbaya Str., 264/1

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E-mail: garantkg@gmail.com

Website: www.garant.org.kg

Republican Mental Health Center of the Kyrgyz Republic

720075, Bishkek, BaytikBatyra Str. 1

Tel: (+996 312) 47-09-38

Mandatory Health Insurance Fund of the Kyrgyz Republic

720040, Bishkek, Chui Ave., 122

Tel.: (+996 312) 66-35-51

E-mail: mail@foms.kg

Website: <http://www.foms.kg/>

11. LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
AKDN	Aga Khan Development Network
ARA	Automobile Roads Administration
ASD	Administration of Social Development
ASSR	Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic
ATS	Automatic Telephone Station
CAR	Central Asian Republics
CAREC	Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia
CDC	Center on Disease Control
CDMA	Code Division Multiple Access
CEC KR	Central Elections Committee of Kyrgyz Republic
CFS	Country Fact Sheet(s)
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
CJSC	Closed Joint-Stock Company
CMI	Compulsory Medical Insurance
CRS	Children's Residential Schools
CVDs	Cardio Vascular Diseases
DFID	Department for International Development of the United Kingdom
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
FGPs	Family Group Practices
FMCs	Family Medicine Centers
FMP	Feldsher Midwifery Posts
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIZ	German Society for International Cooperation
GMCL	Guaranteed Minimum Consumption Level
GMI	Guaranteed Minimum Income
GPW	Great Patriotic War (World War II)
HD	Health disabilities
HDI	Human Development Index
HEI	Higher Education Institution
HPS	Hydroelectric Power Station
ICP	Infantile cerebral paralysis
ICR	Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IDU	Injection Drug Users
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IHDI	Inequality adjusted human development index
ILO	International Labor Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IOM	International Organization for Migration
ISTC	International Science and Technology Center
JICA	Japanese International Cooperation Agency
KAO	Kyrgyz Autonomic Oblast
KGS	Kyrgyz som
KICB	Kyrgyz Investment and Credit Bank
KR	Kyrgyz Republic
kWh	Kilowatt hour
LLC	Limited Liability Company
MCH	Mother and Child Help
ME KR	Ministry of Economy of Kyrgyz Republic
MEI KR	Ministry of Energy and Industry of the Kyrgyz Republic
MES KR	Ministry of Education and Science
MF KR	Ministry of Finance of Kyrgyz Republic

MH KR	Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic
MHI	Mandatory Health Insurance
MHIF	Mandatory Health Medical Insurance Fund
MLMY KR	Ministry of Labor, Migration and Youth of the Kyrgyz Republic
MSD KR	Ministry of Social Development of Kyrgyz Republic
MSEC	Medical-Sanitary Expert Commission
MTC KR	Ministry of Transport and Communications of Kyrgyz Republic
MW	Megawatts
NBKR	National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NSC KR	National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic
ODHIR	Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
OJSC	Open Joint-Stock Company
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
PF	Public Foundation
PHD	People with health disabilities
RCE	Residential Childcare Establishments
RMHC	Republican Mental Health Center
ROE	Road Operation Enterprises
RT	Republican Testing
SDAR	State Direction of Automobile Roads
SE	State Enterprise
SFSR	Soviet Federation of Socialist Republics
SMB	Social Monthly Benefit
SSI	Social Stationary Institutions
TB	Tuberculosis
TPS	Thermoelectric Power Stations
UCA	University of Central Asia
UEMS	Unified Education Management System
UMB	Unified Monthly Benefit
UMTS	Universal Mobile Telecommunications System
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USA	United States of America
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	United States Dollar
USSR	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
WB	World Bank
WCDMA	Wideband Code Division Multiple Access
WFP	World Food Program
WHO	World Health Organization

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System of social protection in the Kyrgyz Republic

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 Official website of the National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic - www.nbkr.kg
 Official website of the Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic - www.mineconom.kg
 Official website of the Ministry of Finance of the Kyrgyz Republic - www.minfin.kg
 Official website of the Ministry of Transport and Communication of the Kyrgyz Republic – www.mtc.gov.kg
 Official website of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Kyrgyz Republic - www.agroprod.kg
 Official website of the Ministry of Education of the Kyrgyz Republic - www.edu.gov.kg
 Official website of the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic – www.stat.kg
 Official website of the Bishkek city department of the Ministry of Labor, Migration and Youth of the Kyrgyz Republic - www.btm.kg
 Official website of the Mandatory Health Insurance Fund - www.foms.go.kg
 Official website of the State Enterprise “Kyrgyz Pochtasy” - www.kyrgyzpost.kg
 Official website of the State Enterprise “Kyrgyz temirzholu” - www.kjd.kg
 Official website of the Mission of the International Organization for Migration in the Kyrgyz Republic - www.iom.kg
 Informational-analytical resource - www.focus.kg
 Analytical center «Reasonable solutions» - www.analitika.org
 Informational agency «24.kg» - www.24.kg
 Informational agency «knews» - www.knews.kg
 Informational agency «for.kg» - www.for.kg
 Informational agency «kabar» - www.kabar.kg
 Informational agency «Vecherny Bishkek» - www.vb.kg
 Official website of the company «Sky Mobile» - www.beeline.kg
 Official website of the Demir Bank in Kyrgyzstan - www.demirbank.kg
 Official website of KICB in the Kyrgyz Republic - www.kicb.net
 Agro portal of The Kyrgyz Republic - www.agro.kg