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PRESS RELEASE

U.S. Supports Youth Soccer Tournament in Bishkek

On October 4, youth from 21 Bishkek novostroiki settlements kicked-off a two-month long soccer tournament organized by the NGO Erep with support from the U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) Office of Transition Initiatives. The Kyrgyzstan Football Federation is also supporting the tournament and will host the opening match at its field on 1B Mederov Street in Bishkek.

A total of 25 teams comprised of 210 young men and 28 young women, aged 14-28, were recruited by sport instructors, local government offices and Erep representatives. Through this recruitment process and the matches to come, this project will establish close contacts and trust between youth and local government officials. Building on previous community driven initiatives, the games will be played on two soccer fields previously rehabilitated by USAID.

This will be the second soccer tournament organized by the Erep NGO and funded by USAID for novostroiki youth. The first tournament was held in spring 2011 for more than 500 young people as part of the "Renewal" campaign engaging youth in constructive activities and promoting healthy lifestyles among young people.

This program is one of many assistance projects supported by the American people through USAID. For more information about USAID programs, please visit our web site at: <http://centralasia.usaid.gov/kgmap/?langu=ru>.



The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is proud to celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2011. USAID was created in 1961 by American President John F. Kennedy and is funded by the American people. Since 1992, USAID has supported local efforts to improve economic growth, governance, and the quality of health and education in Kyrgyzstan.

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