



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact person: Fatima Kasmahunova
Project Management Specialist/
Public Outreach and Humanitarian Assistance
Tel. (0312) 55 12 41, ext. 4422
e-mail:fkasmahunova@usaid.gov

PRESS RELEASE

The Kyrgyz Republic Joins U.S. Anti-Trafficking Regional Initiative

The United States Government, through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and its implementing partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM), is launching the Kyrgyzstan component of its regional Anti-Trafficking Project in Central Asia.

As part of this project, a large-scale information campaign with the message “Beware of Human Trafficking. Let’s Stop Trafficking!” will be conducted in Kyrgyzstan with the support of local NGOs and communities. More than 40,000 leaflets and brochures describing legal forms of labor migration and the protection of migrants’ rights will be distributed throughout Kyrgyzstan.

IOM will also provide legal support to victims of trafficking who seek prosecution against their recruiters and traffickers. IOM launched this three-year regional project in June 2010, in four Central Asian Republics. The project was extended to the Kyrgyz Republic in October 2011.

In the Kyrgyz Republic, prevention activities include information events and educational campaigns, using the capacities of local non-governmental and community-based partners, aimed to raise awareness of the forms of human trafficking and the rights of migrants and other workers. Information events associated with this project will target reducing demand for services provided by victims of trafficking. The protection

component of this project will continue IOM’s focus on return, rehabilitation and reintegration of trafficking victims.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is proud to celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2011. USAID was created in 1961 by 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 the Kyrgyz Republic.

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