



USAID | KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 30, 2011

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

U.S. Supports Soccer Tournament with Youth from Non-registered Settlements in Bishkek

On November 30, youth from Bishkek's informal settlements will participate in the final match of a two-month long soccer tournament hosted by the NGO Erep and the U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of Transition Initiatives (USAID/OTI). The tournament's final match will kick off at the State Sports Complex under the President's Administration in micro-district #7 in Bishkek.

The NGO Erep, in partnership with sports instructors and local government officials, gathered over 200 young men and nearly 30 young women from 21 informal settlements to compete in the soccer tournament. Organized into 17 male and 4 female teams, the soccer tournament served as a platform for collaboration between youth and local government officials. Building on previous community-driven initiatives, the games were played on soccer fields rehabilitated by USAID/OTI.

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

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://kyrgyzstan.usaid.gov/kyrgyzstan>.

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 Kyrgyzstan.

###