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| **Project title:** | **Promoting Open and Participatory Governance for sustainable human development through ICTs** |
| **Background and situation analysis:** | Kyrgyz Republic is a small land-locked and highly mountainous country in northeast Central Asia with population of 5.695,6 million and 66.4% of them living in rural areas[[1]](#footnote-1). It is low income country with the GDP per capita of US$ 1160[[2]](#footnote-2). Kyrgyz Republic is committed more than its neighbors to democratic reforms since gaining independence in 1991, and as a result it has a vibrant civil society. It views development process “through the prism of sustainable human development that aims at poverty reduction and enhancement of living standards, health and life friendly environment, society integration, safeguard and accumulation of cultural and moral values of the people, human rights protection and achievement of gender equality and effective, democratic management”[[3]](#footnote-3). The major obstacle in the development process in Kyrgyzstan is widespread corruption that causes ineffective and unfair distribution of welfare resulting in poverty and inequality. With two people uprising in 2005 and 2010 against corruption and unfairness, the country is going through a difficult process of transformation towards democracy, openness, transparency and accountability. The National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) for 2013-2017 outlines a roadmap towards sustainable development (SD) highlighting the rule of law, combating corruption, and unity of nation, development of social sectors, poverty reduction, environmental protection, and disaster. The NSSD clearly indicates the urgent demand for governance e-transformation that will be responding to the needs of the ordinary citizens. Furthermore, high mobile and Internet penetration in the country indicates to a strong potential impact technologies and spread of social media may have on improving governance and human development. Aiming to facilitate e-government implementation as an enabler of the government reforms towards SD, the Government recently established State Committee on IT and Telecommunications (SCITC). The SCITC also serves as Secretariat for ICT Council under the Kyrgyz Government that was created to coordinate and streamline the activities of executive authorities on EGOV development and implementation. However, the most significant challenge is the lack of relevant expertise and capacity in the government for leading and coordinating the EGOV development process, lack of awareness among top leadership, civil and municipal servants and also among the general public. |
| **Strategy:** | Taking into consideration the country context as well as opportunities and challenges for governance e-transformation in Kyrgyzstan, this project will focus on building e-leadership capacity for Open and Participatory Governance through ICTs. The project will address the existing gap in coordination of government efforts for improving effectiveness and efficiency, transparency and accountability of public administration and governance through ICT, hence and preventing possible channels for corruption promoting citizens’ participation. Particularly, the project will strengthen capacity of key institutions involved in ICT-enabled public sector transformation providing them with the required knowledge and expertise, effective coordination mechanisms, enabling environment and relevant architecture frameworks for collaboration and integration. It will contribute to achieving broader NSDS goals by supporting government institutions in the development of high priority citizen-centric e-services and making them accessible and affordable to the general public both in urban and rural areas, and providing new opportunities for citizens’ participation in decision making processes. For funding project activities, the “basket” approach can be applied. There are two options for using such approach: 1) “baskets” can be associated with the project outputs, or 2) “baskets” can be associated with the project components. Fist option will require two baskets with while the second option – six baskets but with the smaller budgets per each. Relevant activities within four components will be implemented for producing the first output and within two components for the second output. Component 1: Strengthening Capacity of State Committee on IT and Telecommunications - will focus on strengthening institutional capacity of the SCITC to ensure strategic e-leadership. Activities will include expert support essential for leading the EGOV development process in general, and implementation of EGOV strategy, in particular, and also joining Global Open Government Partnership. With the expert support, the government-wide coordination and management framework for EGOV strategy implementation will be established with effective governance structure and program management processes. This will help the SCITC to lead and coordinate strategy implementation and to provide strategic direction and guidance to various ministries, agencies and departments of the Kyrgyz Government in ICT-enabled transformation. The SCITC guidance will be provided for development of EGOV related policies, strategies and plans, leading change management, establishing and utilizing secured EGOV infrastructure, design and development of information systems and e-services, coordination and monitoring of EGOV development, and engaging stakeholders and building partnership. **Component 2: Establishing Government CIO System -** will focus on establishing government-wide GCIO (Government Chief Information Officer) system to ensure e-leadership at the level of individual ministries and agencies and to facilitate collaboration across government bodies. The GCIO system will help to focus on coordination of various projects and initiatives with different funding sources from the state budget, donor organizations, NGOs and private sector ensuring effectiveness and efficiency of such projects. The GCIO system will help the SCITC to foster collaboration among different ministries and agencies while implementing interdependent and inter-related projects and delivering integrated e-services, to maintain appropriate inventory of EGOV projects and initiatives, financial, technical and human resources involved in such projects, ICT platforms and products, and to ensure interoperability of sectoral information systems.**Component 3: Developing Learning, Knowledge Sharing and Collaboration Framework -** will support development of effective learning, knowledge sharing and collaboration framework for the government leaders, GCIOs, and IT managers. Such framework will help to coordinate capacity development activities and to foster the professionalization of the government GCIO workforce. Special focus will be on introducing knowledge management practice across the government, assessing learning needs and designing training programmes, coordination of training plans and facilitation of EGOV capacity building activities of various providers at all government levels. The project will support development of the online platform for knowledge sharing, learning and collaboration among government leaders, GCIOs, IT managers and civil and municipal servants. It will also facilitate government-academia collaboration and establishing framework for international collaboration.**Component 4: Enhancing Enabling Environment -** will focus on enhancing enabling environment for EGOV development and implementation. With the expert support relevant legislation, rules and regulations will be revised and enhanced, and sustainable financial mechanisms will be defined. Such environment will ensure coordinated organization, direction and implementation of a portfolio of EGOV related projects and activities across multiple public sector agencies with active engagement of key stakeholders. It will help individual agencies, regional and local governments to align their strategic and operational plans and programs with the government EGOV strategies and action plans. **Component 5: Developing EGOV Enterprise Architecture Framework -** will focus on the development of EGOV Enterprise Architecture Framework (EGEAF) to enable open and connected governance with all government organizations and integrated functions across sectors and levels of government. It will help to improve policy and decision making and public service delivery through semantic, organizational and technical interoperability standards and integration of business processes, information systems, databases and applications, as well as effective technology infrastructure to be shared across organizational boundaries. **Component 6: Developing High Priority Public E-Services and E-Participation Platform -** w**i**ll focus on the development of high priority public e-services and making them accessible on an equitable and non-discriminatory basis. It will also support government institutions to define e-participation framework for engaging citizens in public policy cycle and decision making processes through various convenient and accessible channels. The efforts will focus on using available social media channels to interact with citizens, to gather their feedbacks, opinions and suggestions for improving public policies, decisions and government services, and to provide timely proper responses from relevant government authorities, policy makers and representatives of ministries and agencies. The project will also raise awareness among citizens of available public e-services and e-participation opportunities to ensure public confidence, commitment and take-up of public e-services, as well as active engagement of citizens in public administration and governance. |
| **Expected outputs:** | 1) E-leadership capacity strengthened and enabling environment enhanced for ICT-supported Open and Participatory Governance in Kyrgyz Republic; 2) E-governance enterprise architecture developed, and high priority public e-services and e-participation channels provided to citizens for sustainable human development in Kyrgyz Republic. |
| **Beneficiaries:** | - Citizens receiving improved public e-services and e-participation channels * Government institutions, civil servants
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| **Budget:** | Total: USD 4.5 mln. | 1 st year:USD 1.4 mln  | 2nd year:USD 1.5 mln  | 3d year:USD 1.0 mln | 4th year:USD 600,000 |
| Output 1 – USD 2.5 mln ; Output 2 – USD 2.0 mlnComponent 1 – USD 1.5 mln; Component 2 – USD 300,000; Component 3 – USD 500,000; Component 4 – USD 200,000; Component 5 – USD 1.0 mlnComponent 6 – USD 1.0 mln |
| **Timeframe**  | 48 months |
| **Project coverage** | All territory of Kyrgyz Republic |
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1. <http://stat.kg/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=155&Itemid=130> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.CD> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Kyrgyz Republic: Country Development Strategy (2007–2010), Kyrgyz Government, 2007, IMF Publications. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)