**PRESS RELEASE**

**Meeting of the Working group on development of the draft of the Kyrgyz Republic`s Code on Local Self-Government was held**

On December 23-24, 2019, the State Agency for Local Self-Government and Inter-ethnic Relations under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic jointly with the “Public Service Improvement” Project funded by the Swiss government through the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and implemented by Helvetas and Development Policy Institute organized a meeting of the working group on the development of the draft Code of the Kyrgyz Republic on Local Self-Government.

By order of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic dated June 28, 2019 No. 240-r, for development of the draft Code of the Kyrgyz Republic on local self-government, the Interdepartmental Working Group was formed. Since September this year, the expert group began the development of the Vision and structure of the draft Code on LSG. On December 17, they were introduced for the consideration of the Inter-departmental working group. The head of the working group is the First Vice-Prime-Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic Boronov K. noted: “*Over the years of independence, local self-government has passed the stages of formation and entered the path of development. On the Conference “The Kyrgyz Republic: National dialogue on regional development*”, President Jeenbekov S. noted that this is a time for the development of the Code on local self-Government”.

Following the outcome of this meeting, after hearing information and discussion, the task was given to submit written comments within a week. For further development of proposals and for development of the united approach on key issues of the Code the seminar was organized.

Working group members, experts on Governance and Local-Self-Governance, representatives of SALSGIR, of the LSG Union, mayor office of Bishkek and staff of the Project took part in this event.

Deputy Chairman of SALSGIR Murat Baidyldayev emphasized that the goal of the Code development is an integration of the whole legislation in the sphere of Local self-government into the unified document.

*“Legislation concerning the Local self-Government is not unified, most of the norms are in the sectoral legislation, and most of the norms are contradictory. The main task of the Code is to eliminate such kind of gaps and conflicts*”- noted Anarbek Ismailov, expert, the Working Group member.

As a result of the Meeting, the Working group finalized the Code structure, discussed the actual problems in the sphere of the Local Self-government, the decisions of which are one of the most important purposes of the developing Code. Moreover, working group has started the development of the draft Code.