

Center for International Private Enterprise
KYRGYZSTAN: STRENGTHENING UNDERSTANDING OF ECONOMIC
ISSUES IN KYRGYZSTAN

Narrative Report for November 2012 to March 2014

I. EVALUATION

Objective 1: To raise media capacity to inform the public on market concepts

- *Monitor quantity and assess quality of articles resulting from journalists study tours;*

Press tour is an effective way to introduce journalists to economy. In comparison with other activities conducted for mass media, the press tour has several advantages: firstly, journalists have the opportunity to see the real business objects, meet their owners and ask them for information about the situation in the industry at "first hand". Secondly, the journalists from the regions are able to understand the difference between the economy of their region from the neighboring ones, what specifics they can tell about the work of the neighbors to own business. For example, the journalists from Issyk-Kul oblast saw in Talas active developing dairy production, while in Issyk- Kul oblast there is almost none of it despite existing enough milk raw. They wrote about it and attracted attention of the Issyk-Kul businessmen and authorities on the possibility of establishing dairy production in Issyk-Kul, where there is a good market during the touristic season. Meanwhile the journalists from Talas oblast saw in good examples of tourist business in Issyk-Kul, and reported on it to their home people. Thirdly, during the press tour the journalists from different regions and of different age communicate with each other, share experiences, establish business contacts. For example, for the chief editor of the Jalal-Abad newspaper it was important to meet the journalists from other oblasts, as he plans to make his newspaper regional. Fourth, during a trip the journalists have an opportunity to make a lot of photographs, audio and video materials, which is particularly important in the era of convergence, diminishes boundaries between genres and types of media. Fifth, comparing the condition of different industries in different regions, the journalists begin to better understand the features of market economy, for example, the participants showed great interest to the relationship between the owners of cotton processing plant in the South and cotton farmers, the problems that arise in the offseason period and years of crop failure. The journalists had very good practical example to understand dependence of the raw materials producers from the processors and vice versa, and wrote about the need for mutual support producers in the value chain.

Within the Project 3 press tours were organized for the journalists representing various mass media. The first took place in April 2013 to Talas oblast. The second was organized by DPI specialists in May 2013 to the south of the country, in Jalal-Abad and Osh oblasts. The third press tour was held in September 2013 to Issyk-Kul oblast.

In total on the basis of the press tours to the mentioned regions 88 materials have been prepared, published and aired about development of the market economy and regional business.

#	Type of media	Quantity of the materials	Rus	Kyr
<i>Press-tour to Talas</i>				
1	Press	13	6	7
2	Internet publications	13	10	3
3	TV	3	0	3
<i>Press-tour to Djalal-Abad and Osh</i>				
	Press	16	8	8
	Internet publications	6	4	2
	TV	5	0	5
<i>Press-tour to Issyk-Kul</i>				
	Press	15	7	8
	Internet publications	15	12	3
	TV	2		2

- Survey press session participants to determine the usefulness of the materials and the value of the presenter / presentation of each session;

During the CIPE project DPI has arranged 10 press-sessions for journalists, who works with economic themes. Then during the extension period DPI team organized five press-sessions for capital media and two events for regional journalists in Djalal-Abad and Batken. The total number of the press sessions was 17, the number of the journalists who participated and prepared materials 209 people (total amount was 301: 209 journalists, 76 speakers / experts and 16 guests and independent experts).

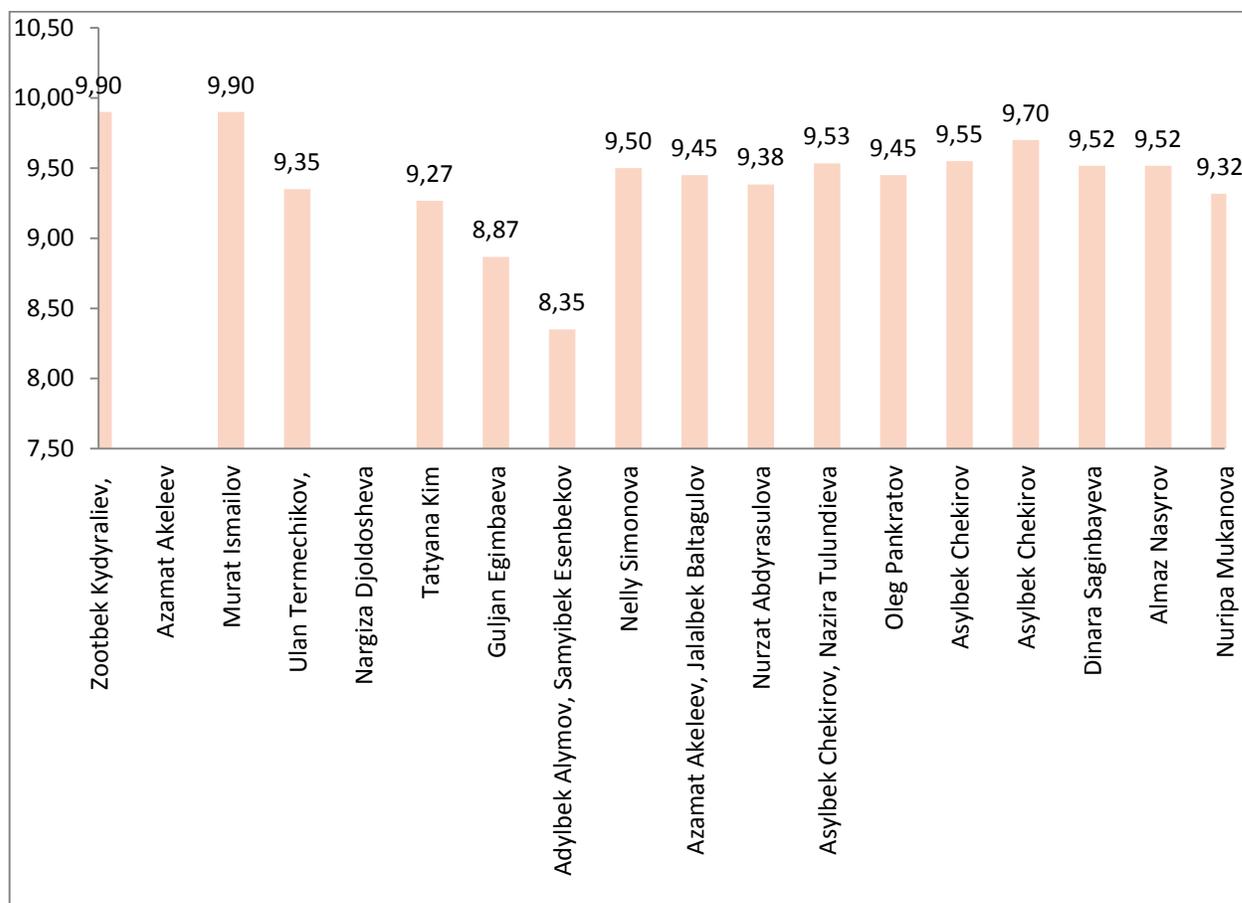
Peculiarity of the press sessions is that the officials speak and give news about an event or a decision of the Government in relation to the economy, and then independent experts provide comments on the statements made by the Government. This allows the journalists to receive intrinsic information and to be more impersonal and independent in their publications. Often the press sessions have debates, and they continue in the media after the press sessions and even come into real changes. For example, this happened in regard to the law on the status of Bishkek, which was not accepted by the results of the press session. Ministry of Economy and the Government was compelled to conduct a great work with the media after the press session with the former Minister of Economy, Akylbek Japarov, in relation to the development plans and entering the Customs Union. The Ministry of Energy was compelled to start a great awareness campaign in relation to tariffs after discussion at the press session. Almost every press session not only caused a wave of publications and discussions, but also pushed the appropriate structures and governmental bodies to strengthen communications with the media, to explain more and engage experts in addressing the problems.

After the every press-session participants of the seminars were asked to fill in the questionnaires by the quality of the events. Results of them, please see in diagram.

Topic of the informational seminar (press topic)	Name of speaker	Whether the theme was relevant?	Was the topic important for the citizens?	Was information useful for your current work?	Was the speaker “understandable”?	Was the speaker competent?	What was the quality of arrangement?
Budget of KR in 2013	Zotbek Kydyraliev,	10	9,9	9,7	9,9	9,9	9,9
	AzamatAkeleev						
Bishkek Budget	Murat Ismailov	10	9,8	9,9	10	9,9	9,8
Micro financing	Ulan Termechikov, Nargiza Djoldosheva	9,6	9,6	9,7	8,1	9,3	9,8
Single tax declaration	Tatyana Kim	9,5	9,2	9,3	8,8	9,1	9,7
The activities of the Court of Auditors of suppression of non-target budget spending	Guljan Egimbaeva	9,4	8,6	7,9	9,1	8,9	9,3
Local budgets: relationships between the local community and investors	Adylbek Alymov, Samyibek Esenbekov	8,9	9	8,3	9,3	6,8	7,8
The internal resources for economic investment and market of negotiable papers.	Nelly Simonova	9,8	9,2	9,8	9,4	9,6	9,2
New initiative of the government: back to 2009	Azamat Akeleev, Jalalbek Baltagulov	9,6	9,8	9,2	9	9,5	9,6
Energy system in Kyrgyzstan and necessity of increasing the tariffs on electro energy	Nurzat Abdyrasulova	9,9	10	8,5	9,2	9,2	9,5
Budget of KR in 2014	Asylbek Chekirov, Nazira Tulundieva	9,4	9,5	9,8	9,1	9,6	9,8
Risks from not joining Kyrgyzstan to the Custom Union	Oleg Pankratov	9,6	9,7	9,1	9,1	9,6	9,6
Budget of KR in 2014 and its features by the region, Djalal-Abad	Asylbek Chekirov	9,5	9,6	9,6	9,4	9,9	9,3

Budget of KR in 2014 and its features by the region, Batken	Asylbek Chekirov	9,5	9,4	9,9	9,6	9,9	9,9
Corruption in system of Health service	Dinara Saginbayeva	9,8	9,7	9,4	9,3	9,5	9,4
Eclipse of the sun or why we immediately have to save energetics from the corruption	Almaz Nasyrov	9,8	9,7	9,4	9,3	9,5	9,4
Corruption at the Fund of state property	Nuripa Mukanova	9,6	9,2	8,9	9,2	9,3	9,7

Based on the results of survey, the highest scores for the quality of presentations and speeches were given to the Vice-Mayor of Bishkek, Murat Ismailov, and the head of the department of budgetary relations of the Ministry of Finance, Zootbek Kydyraliev. The lowest scores were given to the speakers on the relationship between the local community and the investors Adylbek Alymov and Samyibek Esenbekov. Rates assigned to the rest of the speakers at the press sessions in 2012-2014 on average range from 9.3 to 9.7 points.



- Monitor quantity and quality of articles printed by journalists participating in this project, comparing Bishkek-based with regional journalists, and comparing with previous project's results;

Qualitative assessment of the projects impact was carried out in two ways. The first method evaluated the articles of several journalists BEFORE and AFTER participation in the projects by the independent qualified experts not involved in the projects¹. To assess the articles in Russian Baratbaeva Nasira was engaged, the editor of the analytical site "Open Kyrgyzstan", the Kyrgyz language materials by Marat Tokoev, the head of the Public Association "Journalists".

The second method consisted of interviewing of the journalists, i.e. project participants. For interviews we selected 18 journalists who have been the most active participants in the projects, who wrote many materials and, in our opinion, were able to demonstrate qualitative growth. The list includes the journalists from Bishkek and other regions. For various reasons, we got answers from only 14 journalists from the list. The assessment led to a number of conclusions.

A pool of economic journalists was created, while many project participants significantly improved their professional skills

Due participation in projects 43% of journalists have changed specialization and became economic journalists. Many journalists have found a "favorite" sphere/question/sector of the economy, whereas before they had seen the economy "as a whole", i.e. no way. 50% of the journalists know that their materials are cited by other journalists and publications. Thus, created pool of economic journalists became a source of information for colleagues and other mass media. There are also cases when the journalists are cited by public authorities. The pool includes not only the "stars" from Bishkek, but also from all regions of the country.

The journalists use wide range of information sources, which makes their materials about economy more impersonal and adequate

100% of the surveyed journalists believe that participation in the projects activities helped them to increase the number of experts to whom they turn for comments. The number of officials to which journalists seek comments also has been increased. Half of the respondents regularly turn to 3-5 officials, and the second half to 5-10 officials and more.

The journalists became more convincing in reporting economic information

Participation in the projects has taught 100% of the journalists to often use statistic and quantitative data in their materials, they were able to overcome their fear of numbers, that they did not understand.

The journalists became more professional in reporting economic information

¹ This is important, since they are not biased parties and do not assess own work, because never were compensated by the CIPE projects

A considerable part of the surveyed journalists now does not afraid to make their own conclusions in the articles on the issues that have been studied in the projects. 64% of the journalists (9 people) do it in each article, regardless of the information sources they use. The opinion of an independent evaluator of the materials: "Despite some uncertainty, the projects participants demonstrated a marked increase in professionalism: started analyze more, try to show cause-end-effect relationships of phenomenon or process; began using tools for collecting and presenting information".

The journalists began examining economic issues more thoroughly and using analysis and investigation in economy

All 100% of the journalists more often started to compare opinions and perspectives in their materials, instead of merely stating the existence of different points of view. This means that the journalists were more likely to use elements of journalistic analysis when citing sources of information. Two regional journalists conducted successful investigations against corruption.

Most of the journalists (75%) - the projects participants demonstrated not only professional growth but also individual (career) development.

Two (12.5%) of the journalists became editors in chief. Two (12.5%) came to this profession from other fields - first participated in the project activities as experts, then completely turned into a profession - one was the editor in chief, the second - established own media. Six (37.5%) improved status in the same media organization, for example simple correspondents became economic commentators, or moved to the more prestigious publications. Two (12.5%) switched to a more prestigious, in their opinion, work of the press services of the state bodies - the National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Academy of Public Administration under the President, but also continue to write on economic issues. Four (25%) did not change their career status.

All of the 100% of the surveyed journalists think that the projects had positive impact on profession "economic journalist".

This is reflected in the formation of the economic journalists pool as such; opportunity to improve professional skills on the job; convergence opportunities for access to information between metropolitan and regional journalists; assistance for selection of specialization in the economy, "favorite topic"; development of analytical skills and strengthening journalistic investigations in the economy; expanding the range of sources of information and experts.

All of the 100% journalists confirmed that they need further participation in projects, because they see great benefits.

The opinion of an independent evaluator of the materials: "Continued training of the journalists will allow them to gain experience and improve their analytical skills. It is preferable that the following training included sessions on methods of analytical genres preparation: ability to operate facts, their proper assessment, interpretation and analysis". Preferred methods of support - press tours, Saturday school and thematic workshops.

- **Monitor the number of students who receive certificates and the number of participants of press sessions;**

In the framework of CIPE project the DPI specialists organized and conducted 10 master classes for students of journalism departments. The main purpose of the event was to increase and improve level of knowledge among the students on issues related to economy and finance. The most interesting topics related to taxes, microfinance, banking system of the Kyrgyz Republic, political and economic map of the country, as well as economic crimes were interesting for young journalists. Please see the list of the master classes in the table below.

#	Lecturer-trainer	Position	Theme of the seminar	Date of the seminar
1	Nargiza Djoldosheva	Executive director of AMFI	Micro financing in Kyrgyzstan	11 th of December 2012
2	Tamara Pak	Head teacher of the Economic and finance institute under the ASMPKR	Migration and money transfers	12 th of December 2012
3	Nasira Baratbaeva	Chief-editor of the «Otkrytyi Kyrgyzstan» web-site	Corporative Media	15 th of February 2013
4	Larisa Lee	Media-expert of DPI	Budget of the country – budget of the family	21 st of February 2013
5	Baktygul Kazakbaeva	Head of the department by working with taxpayers of the state tax service	Tax system of Kyrgyzstan	13 th of March 2013
6	Sagyn Omuraliev	Head-teacher of the AUCA, Arbitrator of the International Arbitration Court	Economic crimes	14 th of March 2013
7	Tamara Pak	Head teacher of the ASMPKR	Banking system of Kyrgyzstan	26 th of March
8	Karybek Ibraev	Head of the Secretariat of EITI under the Government of KR	Mining branch and EITI	2 nd of May
9	Azamat Temirkulov	Head teacher of AUCA	Kyrgyzstan in Eurasia: opportunities and challenges	19 th of April

Although the qualitative composition of the audience has changed quite often, however, we managed to find students who never missed the whole cycle of master classes, and actively participated in seminars and wrote extraordinary short articles on given topics. The most

active students received prizes and certificates for their active participation in the master classes.

According to the work plan there were 10 master classes planned, but the last workshop was completely organized as a ceremonial event, where the journalism department lecturers, the department dean and vice-rector and other representatives of the university were able to share their impressions. It is worth noting that many of them from personal professional interest also attended the master classes organized for young journalists.

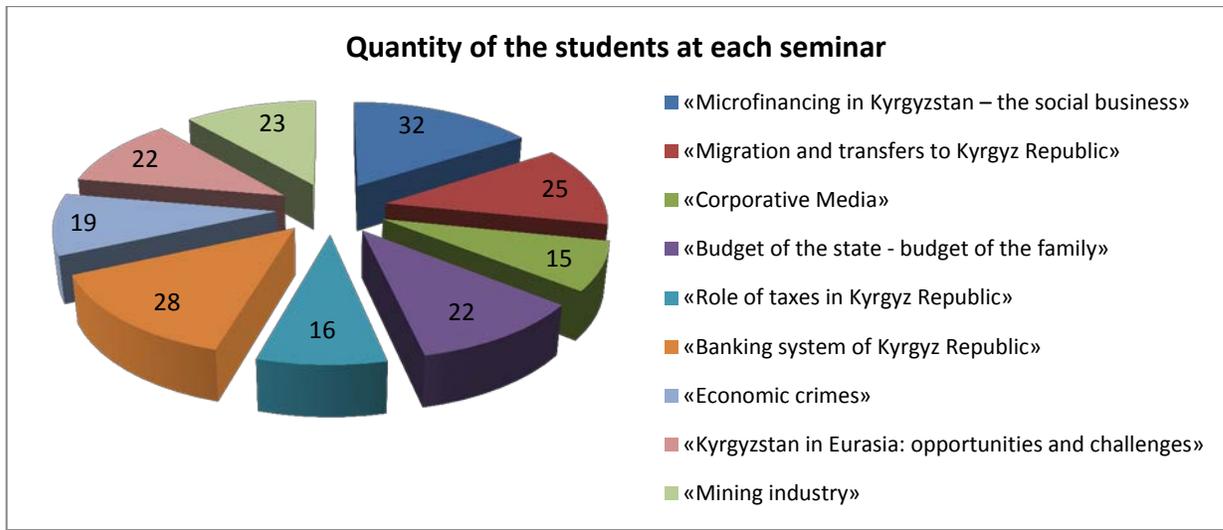
The students themselves also shared their impressions, telling that such classes were conducted for the first time in the university. According to the students a lot of class hours are given to the theory, which refers to how and what to write, but very little time remains for practice. The master classes helped young people to bring their potential to light and to apply this knowledge in practice.

Total number of students who received certificates on completion of the master classes was 16 people.

Please see the list below:

№	Name of the students	Certificate/prize
1	JumadylovUzak	Certificate/bags and materials from the international economic journalism conference+ flash card
2	DjumagulovaNargiza	Certificate/bags and materials from the international economic journalism conference+ flash card
3	GanyevaNurjamal	Certificate/bags and materials from the international economic journalism conference+ flash card
4	KuttubaikyzyAsem	Certificate/glossary with economic terminus and flash card
5	JoldoshbekovaAkylai	Certificate/glossary with economic terminus and flash card
6	SarmanovaAyjan	Certificate/glossary with economic terminus and flash card
7	BedilovaAkjibek	Certificate/flash card
8	BolotbekovaKymbat	Certificate/flash card
9	Kudaibergenkyzy Indira	Certificate/flash card
10	AbdyrashitkyzyMadina	Certificate
11	TalantbekkyzyAychurok	Certificate
12	TolonuuluMirlan	Certificate
13	IsmatillaevaBatma	Certificate
14	JanybekkyzyNurjamal	Certificate
15	JoldoshbekkyzyAltynai	Certificate
16	SautkankyzyBurulai	Certificate

In total 52 students from the journalistic departments took part in 9 thematic master classes. Attendance is demonstrated in the diagram below.



- *Solicit feedback on the New Economic Journalist Guide identifying its usefulness to prospective journalists and journalism faculty; and*

Starting from November 2012 till the end of April 2013 the project staff of DPI worked with the students and professors of the Faculty of Journalism and IT. Totally, 52 students attended those master-classes in this period. They were the students of the third and the fourth courses of the Faculty. In general, the students were presented nine topics.

On the 28th of May 2013 **16 students** actively attended master-classes received certificates. Certificate of each recipient was filled individually, because it specified topics they visited during this period.

In general, 38 (9+13 media and 16 students) people actively participated at those three events.

It is important that after dissemination of the master classes results, other universities as Kyrgyz-Russian Slavic University, National University requesting to organize similar master classes for their journalism department or mixed master class.

- **Gauge the usefulness of its website www.finliteracy.kg by tracking the number and type of unique users on a monthly basis.**

One of the main purposes of creating the website <http://economicjournalist.com> was to provide journalists with opportunity to connect and keep in touch with experts from Central Asia and Caucasus in order to find out their opinions and points of view. From the very start of its functioning it was visited by 4815 people who viewed the webpages more than 10 thousand times and got a chance to learn more than 70 materials and 13 educational manuals on economic journalism. Additionally, they succeeded to connect with 102 experts from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Georgia, Azerbaijan and Russia. The DPI will continue to work with this website even after the project end.

Corresponding Activities and/or Results

- **Study Tours for Journalists**

During this reporting period DPI arranged three press-tours within the project for journalists to Talas, Osh and Jalal-Abad, and Issyk-Kul oblasts.

From 17 to 19 April 2013 22 journalists from different regions of Kyrgyzstan participated in the press tour to the Talas region, where they visited 14 sites of business and governance, trying to find answers to the questions: Is Talas oblast that poor, as the official statistics shows? What is the future economic development of the Talas region? How does the state and governing bodies in Talas affect the economy and business?

Some conclusions made by the journalists-participants and organizers:

- Press tour develops analytical skills of the journalists, giving them ability to compare objects, industries, regions
- Press tour expands the sources of information and understanding of the trends in the economy by journalists
- Statistics lie and Talas oblast is not the poorest region of Kyrgyzstan
- Entrepreneurs from other regions can learn from Talas people how to develop milk processing and pedigree animal industry
- Comprehensive approach in tourism developed in Talas should be applied to the Issyk-Kul region

Goals and achieved outcomes:

Goal	Outcome
Improving the skills of practicing journalists to provide them with materials and experiences	Journalists compared: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The level of development of processing industries in different regions • The level of development of small and large businesses in the same industry, • The status of similar scale enterprises, depending on the quality of governance.
Study the influence of the state on economic development in the country	Journalists saw that the "Single Window" can actually improve the environment for business. For many journalists from the regions it was completely new information
Establishing contacts with key stakeholders, getting a broad perspective and a broad range of observations and interviews from the original, as well as the possibilities of photographing and obtaining material for articles	Journalists learned and were able to use as sources of information at least 26 people and 14 organizations (Appendix 1. List of objects and speakers of press tour). Journalists were able to visit 12 sites and to take photos everywhere, make audio and video materials.

The agenda of press tour included visits to 14 economic and business facilities, as well as the authority bodies, including customs and border sites, the "Single Window" for the provision of services to entrepreneurs. Among the business facilities visited there were following: a flour mill, a factory for the production of tomato paste, a factory processing dairy products, a farm for breeding of fine-wool sheep, and other objects of small and medium-sized businesses (see the agenda of press tour). Participants of the tour were also

able to get an interview with the governor of Talas oblast Koysun Kurmanalieva during the organized press conference.

By the end of the press tour the meeting was held in Bishkek with participation of working trip organizers and media representatives who took part in it. During the meeting, the results of the press tour: the participants expressed own opinions regarding the travel arrangements, the agenda and sites visited. For a thorough analysis of the results of the first tour the journalists were asked to rate the press tour on certain issues, and also to voice the comments, suggestions and describe general experiences by filling the questionnaire developed for them.

Participants highly appreciated the press tour, finding it useful for professional work. Thus, the journalists confirmed that they have chosen an average of at least 5 topics for articles and materials, and almost all of them made new contacts with new sources of information in the regions and other journalists from the regions. More detailed results of the survey are presented in the table below.

Results of the survey among the press tour participants

№	Questions	
1	Is the agenda of press tour interesting?	9
2	How many topics or materials did you collect? (average number)	5
3	Were the handouts useful? How will you use them in your work?	8
4	Was the information provided by the governing bodies useful?	7
5	Could you make close contacts with the journalists from other regions?	8,5
6	Could you make new contacts with new sources of information that you would be contacting in your future work? (Persons, organizations)?	9
7	Are you satisfied with the transport?	9
8	Are you satisfied with food?	9,5
9	Are you satisfied with accommodation?	9,7

During the meeting there was also live and informal discussion about what could or could not be achieved during the tour, what experiences have been the most striking, memorable, what was learned from the press tour by the journalists. Here is what the participants said:

Galina Luneva, “Slovo Kyrgyzstana” newspaper, Bihkek: “***STATISTICS LIE.** The agenda of press tour was very well developed. We were able to ensure that the market economy is developing in the Talas region. In my materials now I will be able to confute the official statistics that Talas oblast is the poorest in the country. This is not true. We have seen with own eyes that people manage resources skillfully, build new and restore the old processing industries, open up new businesses. While the statistics is obviously lying. I saw a lot of people – managers of businesses and companies that exemplify these marketers who are able to develop domestic product, jobs, and in fact, fight poverty. Thanks to the organizers of press tour for a successful agenda now that I can write a few articles and earn money. The agenda was so successful that despite of my age, I was not tired, came home cheerful and full of energy, ready to write. As for suggestions for improvement I would like to ask for the next time to arrange the translation into Russian. And for the fellow journalists I would like to wish more polite behavior towards the colleagues and speakers, and better not to interrupt each other”.*

Anarkhan Zhanybaeva, IA “KABAR”, Jalal-Abad: “***DIFFERENT DEVELOPMENT IN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES.** The most surprising was comparing the state of the processing industries in*

Talas and Jalal-Abad regions. In Jalal-Abad there are even no dairy industries, the population buys dairy products in the markets, and there is no export of them, even though resource base allows developing dairy production. But in Talas, we saw several acting dairy industries, among them "Talas Sut" factory made a special impression: it produces 18 types of dairy products, including butter, cheese, and ice cream. The industry supplies dairy products not only Talas residents, but also carries out exports to Kazakhstan, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan's southern regions, and even to Tajikistan. I became convinced that everything depends on the willingness of people to create, to work well, competently manage the business. I would like that the entrepreneurs in Jalal- Abad learn from this experience. I also loved the thoroughbred fine-wool merino sheep, which are bred in Talas. In Jalal-Abad people breed ordinary sheep, suitable only for meat, while thoroughbred merino also could make an export item of agricultural business in our oblast".

Darkhan Kaparoy, "Vesti Issyk Kulya" newspaper, Karakol: "**COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH IN TOURISM SHOULD BE APPLIED IN ISSYK-KUL OBLAST.** For me, as a media representative of the most touristic regions - Issyk-Kul oblast of Kyrgyzstan seemed that the most interesting was a tourist complex "Baibol." I noticed that the main success factor of TC "Baibol" is a comprehensive approach to providing services to tourists. Apart from the hotel services there are developed tourist routes provided, one of them covers Sary-Chelek lake; there is small farming, providing tourists with fresh food and wonderful service. All these combined with the beautiful nature of Talas provide good opportunities for the development of tourist business. And, of course, it is very important that at the heart of it there is the entrepreneurial initiative, the desire to change own life and the environment for the better. I am convinced that the experience of TC "Baibol" should be adopted by the tourist companies of the Issyk-Kul region, because unfortunately, there are no such comprehensive tourist facilities in this region. I am going to write a comparative analytical material on the development of tourism in Talas and Issyk-Kul, and will try to demonstrate good experience for our entrepreneurs. As for improvements to the organization of such press tours –I would suggest to provide more time for the journalists to visit each site. In this press tour the agenda was very concise and not all of us had time to get all the information needed, to ask right questions, and finally to think over how and what to write in the article."

Margarita Lazutkina, "Chuiskie Izvestiya" newspaper, Bishkek: "**THE STATE COULD BE CREATIVE POWER WHEN IT WANTS!** I liked the work of the "Single Window" in Talas, which is the center of government services for entrepreneurs, where they have access to 7 services simultaneously, which makes their lives easier. The state can be a creative power when it wants! I also caught an eye on while all things being equal, much in the business of the entrepreneur depends on creativity in own work: we saw two dairy industries that have comparable capacity, but "Talas Sut" is the successful market production, but "Arashan" just barely survives. The case is in the attitude to the business! This is a very interesting opportunity for the journalist to compare two similar businesses and to identify the factors of success and failure of the business on the basis of comparison."

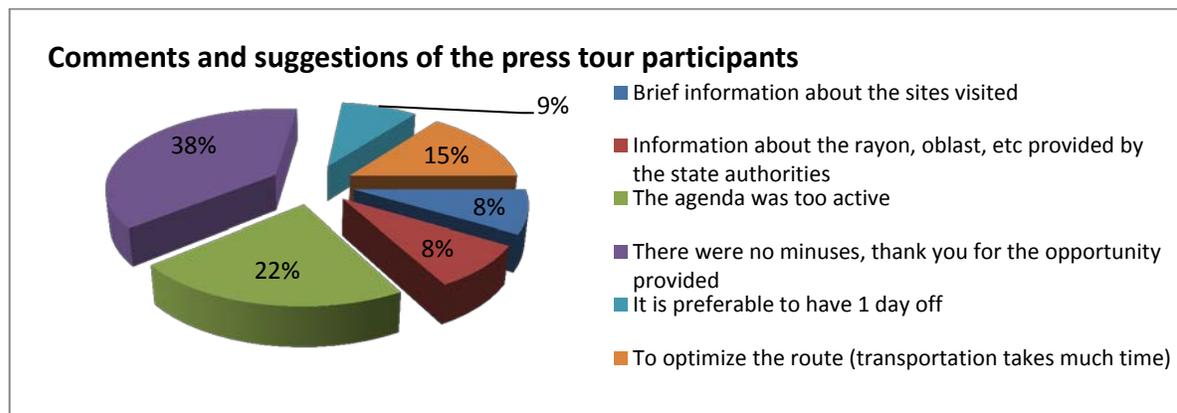
Myrzakat Tynaliev, "Kyrgyz Tuusu" newspaper, Bishkek: "**COMPARISON DEVELOPS ANALYTICAL SKILLS OF THE JOURNALIST.** It is important that all participants-journalists were able to compare: compare companies in the same industry, compare the level of development of industry in the region, and compare the performance of government authorities in different regions and ministries. We never have it enough in the current work, we just do not have time to find suitable objects for comparison. And we do not always know where to look for. In this regard, the press tour provides a great opportunity to build professionalism in the analytical approach to writing materials. I will be using the information for a long time that was obtained in the course of the tour. Not just for writing articles directly on its results, but also in future publications. Nothing will be lost."

Nurgay Zhainakov, Batken television, Batken: ***“TO CHOOSE OWN NICHE IN ECONOMY IS TO MAKE OWN LIFE BETTER. I had never been in Talas. The trip gave me the opportunity to see that people in Talas live better than in Batken, because they have chosen the right path of development of a market economy based on manufacturing and tourism. In the organization of the press tour I would like to ask the organizers to provide more time to work on each object, given the specificity of television to be able to make video materials, record interviews and additional information for the narration.”***

Maksat Abdrakunov, “Tenir Too” newspaper, Naryn: ***“MY MATERIALS SHOULD HELP ENTREPRENEURS IN NARYN”***. Agriculture and animal breeding in Talas and Naryn oblasts have similar conditions for development. That is why I was curious to compare what results people achieved in these industries. Especially I liked the production of tomato paste - we have already opened similar industry in Naryn, and the second one is to be established soon. It is important for our entrepreneurs to know how the sales, marketing service are run. Actually, I really liked that in Talas we were able not only to maintain but also to develop the processing industry and create new jobs. Hopefully I will prepare some materials from the trip and I believe that they will be useful for the entrepreneurs in Naryn."

The greatest impression was made by the director of the dairy factory "Talas Sut" Myrzakan Davletaliev (43% of journalists have named him as the most interesting) and the owner of the tourist center "Baibol" Daniar Abylaj (23%). In the third place is the farmer engaged in the breeding of the thoroughbred fine-wool sheep, Muratbek Baitik (9%). As the most interesting objects journalists noted the dairy factory "Talas Sut" - 26% of the participants of the tour, the tourist center "Baibol" - 21%, the farm for breeding of fine-wool sheep "Kyzylak" - 13%, center of services "Single Window" - 11 %. However, there were journalists, who were interested in industries of tomato paste production, border and customs posts, bean processing and mining company VERTEX.

Participants also expressed their wishes about how to improve the organization of press tours in the future. The most important of these are: to reduce the number of objects or to increase the time spent on each of the sites, to provide simultaneous translation for the speakers into Russian; optimize the route - to reduce the time for moving from one object to another. The organizers will consider these requests in the formation of the next agenda of the tour, which will be held in May 2013 and is expected to cover the objects in the Osh and Jalal-Abad oblasts of Kyrgyzstan.



More [photos](http://www.dpi.kg) and [information](http://www.dpi.kg) are on: www.dpi.kg

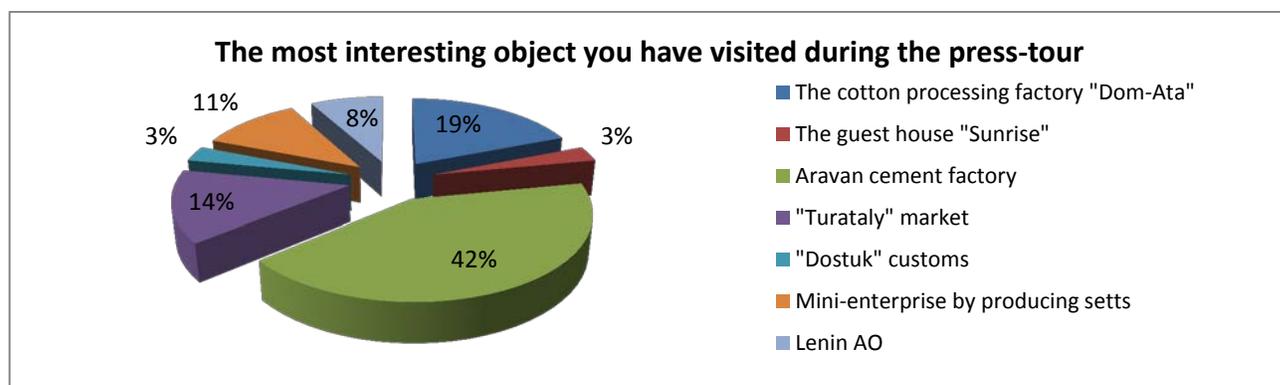
The second press-tour was arranged to the southern part of Kyrgyzstan and it included 12 objects on territory of Osh and Jalal-Abad regions. 23 journalists participated at the tour from all oblasts and Bishkek. DPI tried to include the representatives from all types of media: TV and radio, press, Internet agencies. During the next weeks they are going to prepare as minimum two analytical materials.

As journalists noted, the press-tour was interesting and useful. For example, some of them have never been in Osh or Jalal-Abad and could not imagine the life of people there. So after the press-tour they got more information not only about the region at all, but also about the business situation and economic conditions. They have met people from different branches of economy including agriculture, producing, trading and tourism.

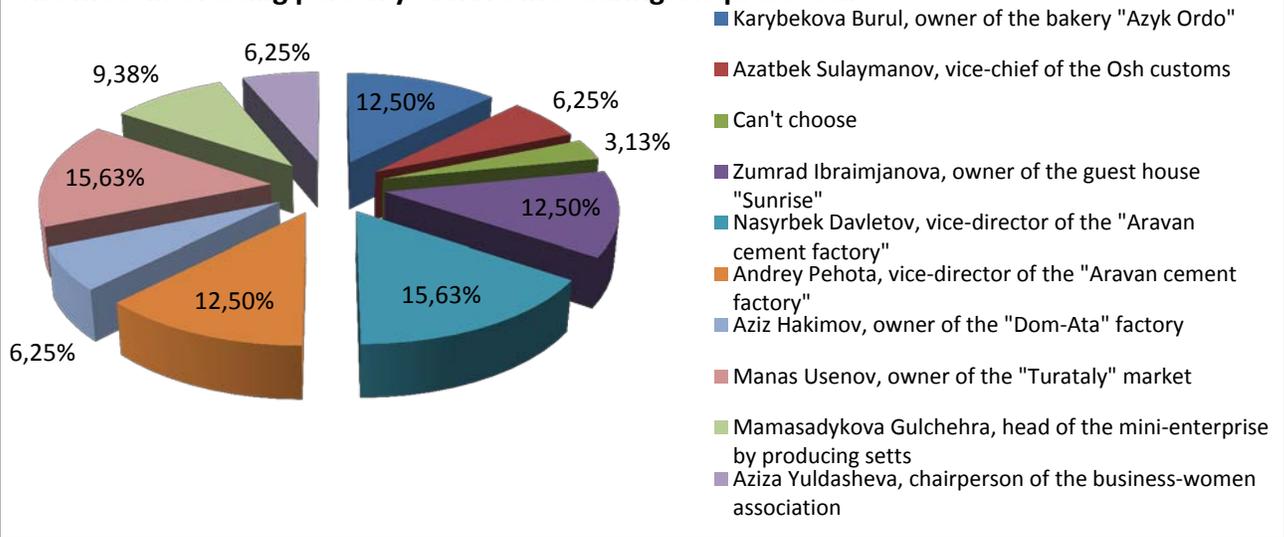
Object	Location
JSC "Dostuk" factory (http://dostukkg.narod.ru/)	Kara-Kul, Jalal-Abad
State sanatorium "Jalal-Abad"	Jalal-Abad
Housing and communal services in Lenin municipality	Suzak, Jalal-Abad
Private Enterprise: Cotton processing factory "Dom-Ata"	Suzak, Jalal-Abad
Farmer: Rise growing	Uzgen, Osh
Kara-Suu market ("Turataly")	Kara-Suu, Osh
The Southern Customs Department "Dostuk"	Osh
Kyrgyz-Chinese Joint Enterprise "Aravan cement factory"	Aravan, Osh
Private Enterprise: Sewing workshop	Osh
Private Enterprise: producing bricks	Osh
Private Enterprise: Guest House	Osh
Private Enterprise: Bakery "Azyk trade"	Osh

The impression of participants was positive, but also there were some negative sides. For example, many of heads and owners of business-objects couldn't give the exact figures, connected with salary of employees, taxes and their own profits. At the same time, some of them were proud with amount of their tax payments and sounded it without any secret.

At the last day of press-tour the DPI specialists had a discussion with the participants in order to learn their thoughts, suggestions and get feedback. Analyzing diagrams you can see below.



The most interesting person you have met during the press-tour



Please, see some opinions of participants below.

Darhan Kaparov, newspaper «Vesti Issyk-Kulya», Karakol: *«I have participated at the press-tour within this project at the second time. At first time I would like to decrease the quantity of business-objects and I see that organizers considered with my opinion. But I would go far. I think the amount of objects should be less because writing analytical material demands much more time and information than simple news. Concerning the objects, I was interested with Aravan cement factory. We have the similar factory in Issyk-Lul oblast, but our factory is in critical situation. Now I can see that people can work if they really have desire.»*

Galina Luneva, newspaper «Slovo Kyrgyzstana», Bishkek: *«I liked that we were able to compare two customs in Western and South part of country. It is convenient. This year is named year of laborers, our countrymen can achieve their goals, business objects prove it. Especially Aravan cement factory and Suzak cotton processing factory. I got a lot of information about laborers thankfully to this press-tour. Perhaps, if we start to tell about such people who work at these factories people inspire. It is a positive example too. Also there should be more connection with local self-government. Some people think that we cannot trust local administration. Nonsense, I have met such people that officers from higher positions can envy. As an example we can see kindergarten. Parents often say: "Administration rubs us, but it is false. It is just help for creating good conditions for your children"».*

Talant Duysheev: «Naryn TV», Naryn: *«Press-tour is a good thing. You give journalists from other regions opportunity to see life in other parts of country. But I should note, that TV correspondents in difference with other media need much more time for making material. We have to get interview from chief, customer, and employee and so on. So I would like to have more time in a future for making reportage».*

The third trip was organized to the touristic part of the country and it was an excited event. Firstly, some of journalists have not been there for many years. Secondly, this region is considered as the territory, which works only in summer season, when a lot of people come

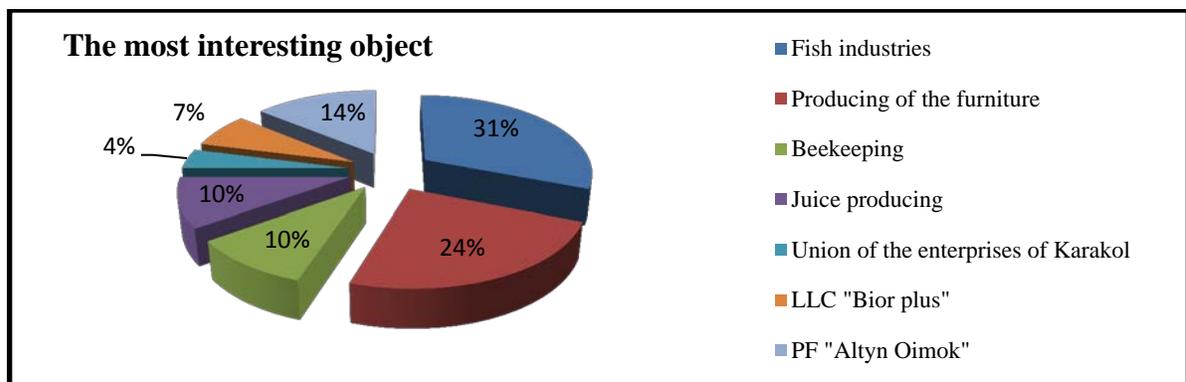
here to have a rest. But, as a fact the life here does not stop after the touristic season. The list of the objects you can see below.

Objects	Location
CLR «Bior plus», enterprise by processing concrete wares.	Cholpon-Ata
CLR «PA Kooppromservice», enterprise by processing juice, jam and preserved vegetables	Cholpon-Ata
CLR «Balykchylar», growing trout in Issyk-Kul	Grigorievka
PE Mamytov Rysbek. Processing leather	Ananievo
Meeting with governor of the Issyk-Kul oblast.	Karakol
PE Tsvetokhin: making of furniture (willow craft).	Karakol
PE Galiev: Bee keeping, EcoTrack: Association of guides	Karakol
Public coalition «Union of entrepreneurs in Karakol».	Karakol
PE Mametov: fish-farming	Lipenka
PF «Altyn Oimok»:national handicraft from felt	Bokonbaevo

The impression of participants was positive thanks to openness of heads and owners of business-objects, who could give the exact figures, connected with salary of employees, taxes and their own profits.

At the last day of press-tour the DPI specialists had a discussion with the participants in order to learn their thoughts, suggestions and get feedback. Analyzing diagrams you can see below.

According to opinions of the press-tour participants the most interesting objects were connected with fish-farming in Cholpon-Ata (the north coast) and in Lipenka (the south coast). Please, see the diagrams below.



The most of press-tour participants were highly satisfied with the objects representatives. People didn't conceal the information connected with the affairs with government, average salary of employees, taxes, level of annual profit. People, who were met during the work trip, were evaluated as in following diagram, where the highest share is the most popular person.

Analyze of the press-tour, given by the media-consultant of the project Larisa Lee:

The last scheduled press tour was largely adjusted to the wishes and recommendations of the previous two rounds. Organizers did their best to satisfy all the requests of journalists concerning the conditions of their creative work while traveling on SMEs and farms. Before the press tour expert Bakit Satybekov described the situation in economic sector in our country and in the world, and gave a reference point for research and analysis, tips and advice, told how best to highlight the problems SMEs on what to look for when talk to the owners. And it was one of the wishes of the participants of the previous press tours.

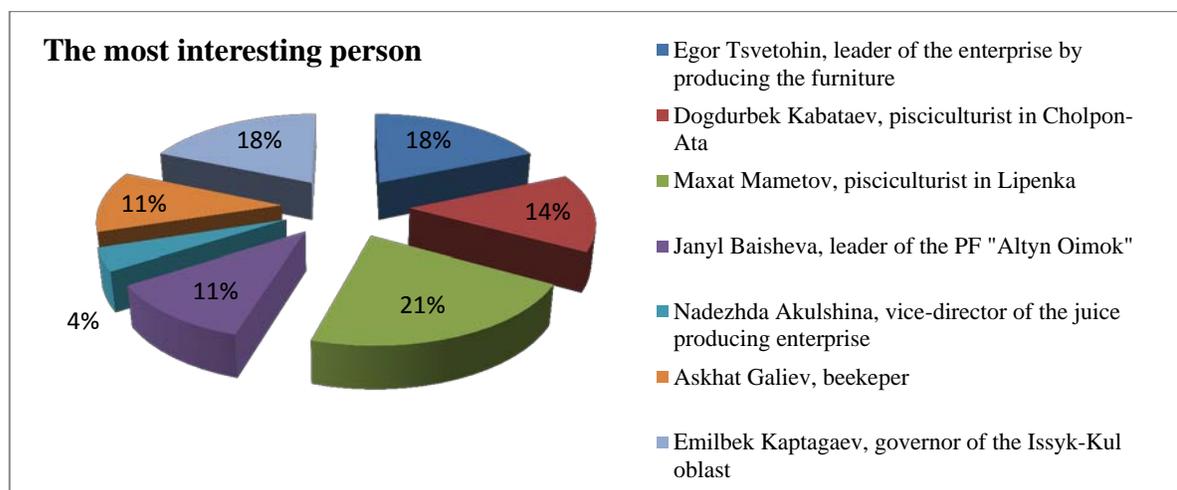
Since wishing to participate in the creative journey along one of the most economically developed regions was much, the organizers decided to increase the number of seats, took on the additional financial and administrative burden associated with logistics. And, in my opinion, with the task the DPI team managed well. Everywhere the journalists were waiting for businessmen who are ready to tell and show. They were willing to talk for hours with the media and answer their many questions.

It should be noted that the current program has been very eventful. Different kinds of handicrafts, fruit processing, fisheries, tourism - given the full picture of the development and status of small and medium-sized businesses in the Issyk - Kul region. Objects were presented one sector - and this, also, was one of the wishes of the press tours.

This time among the media from all regions of the country there were only three editions in Russian. However, this did not prevent them from being active and curious, not to get lost in the crowd of their Kyrgyz counterparts.

On the trip involved both experienced journalists and newcomers who had the opportunity to see how their experienced colleagues work and gather information, make dialogues with their interviewers, what parts is most paying attention. For the young journalists it was a kind of master classes.

Now the organizers have come to expect from the participants interesting, and useful information articles, reports, and interviews. The reasons for their writing were enough, as the instructive stories of people who drive our economy forward.



Please, see some opinions of participants below.

Ruphat Ergeshov, “Jany Agym” republican newspaper, Bishkek: The organizing part of the trip was perfect. After the questionnaires I understood that you really concerned with out comfort and opportunity to work. Even the question about the transport proves it.

Masimkan Tursunbekova, Freelancer, Osh: I was glad to see such different kinds of business. I think government should give simple and cheap credits to such enterprisers who can and wants to give the usefulness to his country instead of perspective less events and projects, which cannot help to real people in their work.

Alexander Nixdorf, IA “Cooment.kg”, Bishkek: «I really want to participate in thematic press-tour. For example, go to several fish farms of one or even two oblasts. Perhaps, several enterprises work on producing juice, jam or making furniture. In this case, we could compare firms from one type of producing. So the analyzing would be full.

Azamat Aralbaev, IA “Tushtuk”, Bishkek: «I am thanks to you and all your team for the organized press-tour. I would like to take part in such events more often. Because, thanks to such trips journalists can get information about talented enterprisers from regions, and then readers get information through the newspapers, TV, radio and Internet agencies. I wish you and your project development in your work».

Jakypbek Tologonov, newspaper “Talas turmushu”, Talas: «As a person, who participated in all three press-tours I must say that I can see all efforts of the organizers. They have taken into account our previous notes and comments. However, I think as before that you should give us (journalists) opportunity to ask an interview as we used to do. I mean, give us about 1.5-2 hours to use our personnel methods of getting information from people. I suppose that it can help us during the analyzing of materials».

Galina Luneva, “Slovo Kyrgyzstana”, Bishkek: «This time I saw interesting things. The person who we met in Cholpon-Ata was Nadezhda Akulshina, the vice-director of the firm which produces juice. So she said that now we don’t have enough fruits, because there are only few orchards in Issyk-Kul and harvests from them a little. At the same time the governor of the oblast Emilbek Kaptagaev gave us facts about increasing amount of orchards on territory of the region. I think it depends on type of people. Some persons can see only negative sides, other the positive». But if we only criticize the government, politics, and our competitors will it help us? No».

- ***Informational Seminars “Press Sessions” for Journalists***

Throughout the project 17 press sessions on various topics of economic and financial industry were conducted. Speakers at the seminars were various experts with extensive experience in government, private sector, civil society on issues of electricity, health care, micro-finance, budget, financial market, as well as many other industries. In total more than 200 media representatives attended press sessions.

Informational Seminars (Press-session) “Budget of the country” (2012/11/27)

On November 27, 2012, we held press-session on Budget of Kyrgyzstan for 2013. DPI decided to start the CIPE project because that topic was interesting for the journalists who asked to provide with comments of experts and help mass media to prepare materials on budget. There were two speakers invited as the experts on budget – Azamat Akeleev, acting Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the civil society under the Ministry of Finance of the Kyrgyz Republic, and Zootbek Kydyraliev, head of Department under the Ministry of Finance of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Participants of press-session:

№	Name	Mass media
Journalists		
1	Irina Dudka	IA «24kg»
2	RahatTalkanbaeva	Freelancer
3	Margarita Lazutkina	“Chuyskie izvestiya” newspaper
4	Dariya Sytenkova	Finansist
5	Roza Almakunova	IA “Kabar”
6	Roza Bekturova	Freelancer
7	Aliya Abdymajitova	IA “Tazabek”
8	Jamilya Koomanova	“Eldikjarchy” newspaper
9	Alena Hvan	“Megapolis” newspaper
10	Maksim Tzoi	“Vecherniy Bishkek” newspaper
11	Nurjamal Kurmankulova	“Ayul demi” newspaper
12	Abdilov Abdimuhtar	“Erkin-Too” newspaper
Speakers and organizers		
13	Zootbek Kydyraliev	Ministry of Finance KR
14	Azamat Akeleev	PMU MF KR
15	Larisa Lee	Expert, DPI
16	Aygul Bayishbaeva	Project manager
17	Nadezhda Dobretsova	Chairperson of the Board, DPI

At the beginning of the event the Project Leader, Chairwomen of the Board of DPI Nadezhda Dobretsova welcomed participants at the Project’s office and shared with the planned activities. At the same time she asked participants – journalists to give or propose the actual topics on economics for the coverage during the press-sessions. Then Larisa Lee, the Project Expert facilitated the press-session. And that's how she commented on the event:

Informational Seminars (Press-session) “Bishkek budget” (2012/12/07)

According to the work plan DPI hold the press-session on Bishkek budget. As a speaker Murat Ismailov, the first vice-mayor of Bishkek was invited to participate. As an opponent of the city authorities Asylbek Chekirov, expert on budgetary relations made a very interesting research on the budget of Bishkek.

The press-session was attended by 10 journalists from Internet news agencies, press and radio. DPI planned to attract more journalists including TV channels, but due to the

President Atambaev's presentation of the Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic on the same day most of the journalists went to such an outstanding event.

Participants of the press-session:

Name		Media
Journalists		
1	Bengard Anastasiya	IA «24kg»
2	Tynaliev Myrzakat	Newspaper "Kyrgyz Tuusu"
3	Lazutkina Margarita	Newspaper "Dlya Vas"
4	Sytenkova Darya	Newspaper "Finansist" and IA "KyrTAG"
5	KumakovaLika	Delovoy Kyrgyzstan magazine
6	Abdullaeva Aida	IA "AKIpress"
7	Tzoi Maxim	Newspaper "Vecherniy Bishkek"
8	Abdybaitov Melis	Radio "Manas"
9	Sheralieva Madina	IA "K-News"
10	Naskeeva Elmira	Kyrgyz Radio
Speakers and organizers		
11	Ismailov Murat	The first vice-mayor of Bishkek City
12	Chekirov Asylbek	Expert on inter-budget negotiations
13	Lee Larisa	CIPE Project Consultant
14	Jamankulova Nurgul	Project Manager
15	Baiyshbaeva Aigul	Project Assistant

The topic of effective money spending from Bishkek treasury was acute and polemic. That was noticed by the participants of the press-session. Journalists have seen not just a dispute, but they became witnesses of different views on the problem and its solutions. Additionally, that topic was facilitated by the well-known experts on budget processes – Murat Ismailov and AsylbekChekirov. Also they were invited to come back to that topic when the capital budget would be approved.

Informational Seminars (Press-session) "Micro financing" (2012/12/26)

According to the work plan DPI held the press-session on micro financing. Speakers Ulan Termechikov, the chairman of MFC "Financial Group Companion", Nargiza Joldosheva, director of Association of micro finance organizations in Kyrgyzstan and inspectors from the National Bank were invited to participate.

12 journalists participated the press-session (please, see below diagram and Appendix from Internet news agencies, press and television). News on the television was presented twice on the National TV channel at the same day.

Participants of the press-session:

#	Name	Media
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Journalists		
1	Kostenko Yulia	IA «24kg»
2	Diveeva Yulia	IA “K-News”
3	Tzoi Maxim	Newspaper “Vecherniy Bishkek”
4	Almakunova Roza	IA “Kabar”
5	Kumakova Lika	‘Delovoy Kyrgyzstan’ magazine
6	Abdullaeva Anara	IA “AKIpress”
7	Tynaliev Myrzykat	Newspaper “Kyrgyz Tuusu”
8	Lazutkina Margarita	Newspaper “Dlya Vas”
9	Lim Evgeniya	IA “KyrTag”
10	Majitova Jyldyz	Correspondent of National TV channel
11	Luneva Galina	Newspaper “SlovoKyrgyzstana
12	Bayramukova Irina	Newspaper “The Times of Central Asia”
Speakers and organizers		
13	Termechikov Ulan	The chairman of MFC “Finance Group Companion”
14	Joldosheva Nargiza	Director of Association of micro finance organizations in KR
15	Hamraev Ulanbek	Inspector of external control department at NB KR
16	Lee Larisa	CIPE Project Consultant
17	Jamankulova Nurgul	Project Manager
18	Baiyshbaeva Aigul	Project Assistant

One of the most important spheres of the Kyrgyz economy - market of micro financing is full of gossips, scandals and conflicts for the past two years. After the accidents in June 2010 a lot of borrowers faced the problems related to credit repayment. In spite of that commercial banks and credit institutions tried to help their clients to prolong the agreements, some were saved from interest, loan of some people was forgot, but problems were not solved.

Politicians, using angry citizens, tried to transform economic problems to political. New “headache” such as “revolt of borrowers” has appeared. Some clients of micro financing organizations started to demand debt forgiveness, interest rate decreasing and then liquidation of banks, pawnshops, finance companies and even the National Bank, which is a regulator of the market. Under the press of mass the National Bank and Parliament initiated lots of changes in current laws, which have been regulating this sector of economy till this moment. There are different regulatory acts, some of them are positive, but others can destroy all the successes in micro finance sector. For example, demands of some deputies to set fixed interest rates, and also make control of the National Bank much stricter.

Informational Seminars (Press-session) “Single Tax Declaration” (2013/01/25)

As we stated above DPI held the press-session on the topic of Single tax declaration. Speakers Tatiana Kim, chairperson of the Chamber Board of tax consultants, Kasymaliev

Adylbek, deputy Minister of Economy, Aydralieva Rasym, vice-chairman of the State tax department, Abdykaimov Oktyabr, vice of STD were invited to participate.

News on the radio was presented on the “Birinci Radio” channel at the same day at 19.30 in the news blog. Other news materials were published too. The topic of the press-session was really popular among the people; journalist asked as many questions, as time could allow.

Participants of press-session:

#	Name	Media
Journalists		
1	Tynaliev Myrzykat	Newspaper "Kyrgyz Tuusu"
2	Tzoi Maxim	Newspaper “Vecherniy Bishkek”
3	Lazutkina Margarita	Newspaper “Dlya Vas”
4	Abdullaeva Anara	IA “AKIpress”
5	Kaparov Darhan	Newspaper "VestiIssyk-Kulya"
6	Akmatov Adilet	IK TV
7	Tologonov Jakypbek	Newspaper "Talasturmushu"
8	Koomanova Jamilya	Newspaper "Eldikjarchy"
9	Popova Tatiana	Newspaper "Moigorod"
10	IsmanovAlmaz	"Azattyk" radio (in russian)
11	Marchenko Ivan	IA "24 kg"
12	Kumakova Lika	"Delovoy Kyrgyzstan"
13	Taalaybekova Gulgaaky	"Birinci radio"
14	Altymyshova Zeynep	"Azattyk" radio (in kyrgyz)
15	Ibraimova Gulmira	Newspaper "Argumenty I facty"
16	Denisenko Dmitriy	Newspaper "Vecherniy Bishkek"
Representatives of different organizations		
17	Uskenbaeva Gulnara	Assosiation of suppliers
18	Isabaeva Syrga	Soros Foundation – Kyrgyzstan
19	Kavine Lyudmila	"Pragma" corporation
20	Sydygalieva A.	Consultant of IFC project
21	Churakova Olga	Design studio "Create"
22	Keresova Mirabella	Expert from business organization
23	Shevchuk Ekaterina	Expert from business organization
24	Evdokimov Alexey	Expert from business organization
25	Cheremeshna Elena	USAID-UNDP
26	Abdibekova Nurilya	ARIS
27	Niyazalieva Aliya	USAID-Reforms
28	Rays Svetlana	Expert from business organization
29	Cherepkova Irina	Expert from business organization
30	Rahanov Nurlan	ARIS
Speakers and organizers		
31	Kim Tatiana	Chairperson of the Board CTC

32	KasymalievAdylbek	Deputy Minister of Economy
33	Aydralieva Rasym	Vice-chairman of STD
34	Abdykaimov Oktyabr	Vice-chairman of STD
35	Dobretsova Nadezhda	Chairperson of the Board, DPI
36	Lee Larisa	Media consultant
37	Jamankulova Nurgul	Project manager, DPI
38	Buzurmankulova Altynai	Project assistant, DPI

Within the plan of the Government, the State Tax Service, the Ministry of Economy this year must provide mass campaign by presenting Tax Declaration. The Government of Kyrgyzstan tries to persuade that Tax Declaration should be submitted not only by the official employees and businessmen, but also by ordinary citizens as it is working in many civil countries.

Such way will help the Government to know real volumes of incomes, properties of the parliament members, official employees, who know how to hide their wealth by registering own properties for relatives, parents-pensioners. Another goal was to create a single informational database. However official declarants and population were not glad about this initiative. The first ones' position is understandable, since they don't want to share information about their real incomes. At the same time, population is afraid of being controlled by the tax officers, even if they don't have important property. According to the position of the State Tax Service consultants and officers of STS, the reason of the populations' fear is the absence of financial literacy and physiological issues.

Information Seminars (Press-session) "The activities of the Court of Auditors of suppression of non-target budget" (2013/03/06)

On March 6, 2013, the DPI organized press-session with participation of the Court of Auditors' representatives according to working plan. The sense of seminar was in giving journalists more information about such control authority as Court of Auditors. According to the law of Kyrgyz Republic it is the main independent authority of state audit. Moreover, the representatives of this authority rarely go to contact with Media, so it was one of the reasons why DPI invite them as speakers.

In total 13 journalists participated at press-session from different types of Media. As usually at the end of seminar participants were asked to evaluate quality of measure.

List of participants:

#	Name	Media
Journalists		
1	Tzoi Maxim	Newspaper "Vecherniy Bishkek"
2	Lazutkina Margarita	Newspaper "Dlya Vas"
3	AbdrzakovaNazik	IA "AKIpress"
4	Lim Evgeniya	IA "Ozodagon"
5	UlukbekuuluYrysbek	IA "KyrTAG"
6	Kurmankulova Nurjamal	Newspaper "Aiyl demi"

7	Sytenkova Dariya	Newspaper "Finansist"
8	Sultanalieva Aita	Newspaper "Argumenty&fauty"
9	Bayramukova Irina	Newspaper "Times of Central Asia"
10	Shavkat Turgaev	IA "24 kg"
11	Chumakova Lika	"Delovoy Kyrgyzstan" magazine
12	Naskeeva Elmira	"Birinchi radio" (National Radio)
13	Kerimova Jyldyz	Independent expert, Freelancer
14	Musaeva Anara	DPI
15	Kulumbetov Janybek	PF "Unison"
Speakers and organizers		
16	Egimbaeva Guljan	Court of Auditors of KR
17	Umurzakova Bermet	Chief of statistic department at CA KR
18	Kyljiev Samat	Chief of analysis department at CA KR
19	Dobretsova Nadezhda	Chairperson of the Board, DPI
20	Lee Larisa	Media Consultant
21	Jamankulova Nurgul	Project Manager, DPI
22	Buzurmankulova Altynai	Project Assistant, DPI

The preparing for this measure took a long time, trying to set exact date. To invite for press-session employees and auditors from this important department was difficult. Recently their director was changed for a new one, after it employees had qualifying evaluation, which predicts staff changes. However, we were able to find three speakers, who are the directors of middle level and one auditor – Guljan Egimbaeva. The annual Report by the results of CA work in 2012 will be ready only in May, so our guests were very careful in their speech and opinions. Questions were a lot, but the answers were general, without accurate figures and concrete sometimes.

Full satisfaction from such looking forward meeting journalists did not get. Their notes and recommendations I said to guests and we decided to organize one more meeting – "hot" theme, dedicated to state purchases, when the Report of Court of Auditors discusses in Parliament and Government.

Information Seminars (Press-session) "Local budgets: relationships between the local community and investors" (2012/03/19)

The theme of this press-session was relationships between local community and investors. Exactly this theme concerned the mining companies. Heads of aiylok motu from Jalal-Abad and Chui regions came to Bishkek and told about their success stories in collaboration with investors.

Adylbek Alymov, head of Kok-Tash AO from Jalal-Abad region told journalist which aims they have achieved together. As he said, people start to understand that investors can help in improving of life conditions and local community doesn't impeder to mining company in their work. We should remind that company which they were speaking about is Kazakhmys Gold Kyrgyzstan which is busy in gold mining on south part of Kyrgyzstan.

Chairwoman of the Board of DPI NadezhdaDobretsova said representatives of media that now investors should understand – they don't have to solve problems of local population directly. They only have to pay taxes in Treasury. So the government at its turn will solve problems of people.

List of participants:

#	Name	Media
Journalists		
1	Lazutkina Margarita	Newspaper "Dlya Vas"
2	KurmankulovaNurjamal	Newspaper "Ayul Demi"
3	IbraimovaGulmira	Newspaper "Argumenty&facyt"
4	ChumakovaLika	Newspaper "Delovoy Kyrgyzstan"
5	Bayramukova Irina	Newspaper "Times of Central Asia"
6	Dudka Irina	IA "24 kg"
7	AbdrzakovJyparbek	Newspaper "Bozumchak"
8	ShatemirovaMeerim	TV program "Ludi.kg"
Representatives of different organizations		
9	OrlovaNataliya	PR-specialist "Andash Mining Company"
10	Osmonkulova Venera	PR-specialist "Kazakhmys Gold Kyrgyzstan"
Speakers and organizers		
11	Dobretsova Nadezhda	Chairperson of the Board DPI
12	Alymov Adylbek	Head of Kok-Tash AO
13	Esenbekov Samyibek	Head of Logvinenko AO
14	Balakunova Aynura	DPI
15	Shamshidinova Gulyaim	DPI
16	Abdykadyrov Nursultan	DPI
17	Lee Larisa	Media consultant
18	Buzurmankulova Altynai	Project assistant, DPI

Government declared that mining branches is almost a pharmacy of Kyrgyzstan economic development. So this sector of economy became an object of total attention. Today even the least educated people speak about necessity or harm of foreign investments. Almost every big mineral deposit has a scandal, where local population often starts a noise. Besides, irregularity of relationships between investors and local communities has a negative impact on business climate and image of country.

However, there are real mechanisms, permitting collaborate to this two sides and even be partners. LSGA have to control by funds from local budget in a right way. There are positive examples in our republic and we decided to invite heads of such communities to talk with journalists about their partnership and results of work.

The discussions were found actual and very useful for all, in addition to journalist for the press-session were invited representatives of mining companies and public organizations.

Information seminars (press-session) "Energy efficiency and necessity of tariff increasing" (2013/10/30)

DPI team has conducted press-session for journalists and representatives of media. The theme of the seminar on October 30 sounded as “Energy efficiency and necessity of tariff increasing”. That theme became very important because of forthcoming winter period. People are afraid of possible outage as it was last years.

Independent experts, representatives of public organizations and specialists of Ministry of Energy of KR were invited as speakers. During the press-session there was a good discussion which prolonged even during the coffee-break.

List of participants of press-session: “Energy efficiency and necessity of tariff increasing”

#	Name	Organization/position
1	Lazutkina Margarita	Newspaper “Dlya Vas”
2	KurmankulovaNurjamal	Newspaper “Aiyl Demi”
3	TynalievMyrzakat	Newspaper “Kyrgyz tuusu”
4	Tzoi Maxim	Internet-edition of “Vecherniy Bishkek”
5	Lim Evgeniya	IA “Tushtuk”
6	ShestakovaNataliya	TV “NBT”
7	Myrzakuluulu A.	IA “Tushtuk”
8	KachievEldar	IA “AKIpress”
9	Nixdorf Alexander	IAP “Comment.kg”
10	TokonovaChinara	PF “Door Mredia”
11	BaybekovErkin	Department under the Ministry of Energy
12	BeishovAyzatbek	Department under the Ministry of Energy
13	DobretsovaNadezhda	Chairperson of the Board DPI
14	OtunchievaNurilya	PF “Unison”
15	BerdibekovaAidai	PF “Unison”
16	AbdyrasulovaNurzat	The member of the Public Supervisory Board, independent expert
17	Lee Larisa	Media consultant
18	JamankulovaNurgul	Project manager
19	BuzurmankulovaAltynai	Project assistant

The **press-session** on internal resources for economic investment and market of negotiable papers was organized by DPI. Nellie Simonova, a head of the financial company ‘Senti’, who was the Speaker of that day, gave useful information about investment, described the work of brokers and explained why the market of negotiable pares don’t develop. As she said, the biggest problem for people is the resisting doubts. “Our citizens used to save money at home, under the «matrass», and can’t understand that money have to work. Money is not a goal; it is only a tool for something more important”, - said expert.

Totally, there were 14 participants, 9 of which were the media representatives.

List of participants of the press-session on: “Internal resources of economy investment and what does prevent for its promotion?”

#	Name	Organization/position
1	Lazutkina Margarita	Newspaper "Dlya Vas"
2	Kurmankulova Nurjamal	Newspaper "Ayul Demi"
3	Chumakova Lika	Newspaper "Delovoy Kyrgyzstan"
4	Bayramukova Irina	Newspaper "Times of Central Asia"
5	Dudka Irina	IA "24 kg"
6	Bekturova Roza	freelancer
7	Kondrishin Pavel	"5 th channel" TV
8	Lee Nataliya	"5 th channel" TV
9	Luneva Galina	Newspaper "Slovo Kyrgyzstana"
10	Dobretsova Nadezhda	Chairperson of the Board DPI
11	Simonova Nelli	Head of financial company "Senti"
12	Kerimova Jyldyz	DPI
13	Djunushalieva Aynura	DPI
14	Shamshidinova Gulyaim	Independent expert
15	Lee Larisa	Media consultant
16	Jamankulova Nurgul	Project manager
17	Buzurmankulova Altynai	Project assistant

One more press-session was on the new initiative of the Kyrgyz Government concerning the back the past when there was the three-level budget system, powerful oblast and rayon authorities and governors. The theme of the press-session sounded as: "New initiative of the government: back to 2009". This event was directly connected with initiative of the government of Kyrgyzstan by new bill in power of local self-government. According to opinions of some experts this bill will not make government stronger but can bring total irresponsibility on territory of the country.

As speakers there were invited Jalalbek Baltagulov, head of the confederation of local self-governments and Azamat Akeleev, a Chairperson of public supervisory board of Ministry of Finance KR. Nadezhda Dobretsova also took part in discussing and explained journalists what kind of problems can this new bill bring.

Expert expressed their doubts about this new "old" initiation of Kyrgyz Government since by their opinion I will have the opposite effect: the gap between the state and citizens may increase, and the whole power on decision-making activities will stay in the hands of local state administrations; financial issues will remain unresolved because the local authorities do not have sufficient powers or authority.

Totally, 21 people participated at the event, 13 of which were the media representatives.

List of participants of the press-session on: "New initiative of the government: back to 2009".

N ^o	Name of participant	Organization/position
1	Sydykova Aslan	IA «AKIpress»
2	Sorokina Zinaida	Newspaper «Vecherniy Bishkek»
3	Tzoi Maxim	Internet-edition «VB»

4	Luneva Galina	Newspaper «Slovo Kyrgyzstana»
5	Lazutkina Margarita	Newspaper «Dlya Vas»
6	Karasartova Rita	Institute of Public Analyzing
7	Bayramukova Irina	Representative of Times of Central Asia in KR
8	Mambetova Aygerim	IA “Kabar”
9	Kobzeva Elena	TPK «HTC»
10	Imanaliev K.	TPK «HTC»
11	Timirenko	TPK «5 channel»
12	Abdybarisova	TPK «5 channel»
13	Te Elena	TPK «5 channel»
14	Okombaeva Liya	TPK «5 channel»
15	Kerimova Jyldyz	Specialist on LSG
16	Dobretsova Nadezhda	Chairperson of the Board, DPI
17	Bekiev Bekbolot	Legal Expert, DPI
18	Chekirov Asylbek	Expert on Local Budgets, DPI
19	Baltagulov Jalalbek	Director, Union of Local Self-Governments of the KR
20	Akeleev Azamat	Chairman, Public Supervisory Board of Ministry of Finance KR
21	Mambetova Asel	Legal Expert

Informational seminars (press-session) “Budget of Kyrgyzstan for 2014” (2013/12/20)

DPI team has conducted press-session for journalists and representatives of media. The theme of the seminar on December 20, 2013 sounded as “Budget of Kyrgyzstan for 2014”. The theme attracted a lot of media representatives, because of permanent problems and questions around the republic budget. One side supposes that taxes are too small to provide the “necessary life” of country; the opposite side thinks that tax rates are too high for people.

Independent experts in sphere of finances and specialists from Ministry of Finance of KR were invited as speakers. During the press-session there was a good discussion which prolonged even during the coffee-break.

List of participants press-session on: “Budget of Kyrgyzstan for 2014”

№	Name of participants	Organization/Media
<i>Media</i>		
1	Maxim Tzoi	IE «Vecherniy Bishkek»
2	Galina Luneva	Newspaper «SlovoKyrgyzstana»
3	NurjamalKurmankulova	Newspaper «Aiyl Demi»
4	AlimdjanValiev	IA «TUSHTUK»
5	AkmaralBorukeeva	TRC NTS
6	КудайбердиеваСалтанат	TRC NTS
7	DariyaSytenkova	IA «24kg»
8	MeerimAbdramanova	Radio «Birinchi radio»
9	Mahaizru Tierra	TV «Piramida»
10	PavelShlonchak	TV «Piramida»

11	MunaraShadymanova	IA «KyrTAG»
12	Marina Skolysheva	IA «K-News»
13	Islam Joldoshev	«Jetigen» magazine
14	Anara Abdullaeva	IA «Akipress»
15	Alexander Nixdorf	IA «Comment.kg»
16	Rasul Ergeshov	Radio BBC
17	Zamirbek Kojomuratov	TV NBT
18	Nadezhda Usova	TV EITR
Speakers/Organizers		
19	Asylbek Chekirov	Expert on Inter-budget relations
20	Nazira Tiuliundieva	Expert on Budget
21	Nazar Malaev	Press service of Ministry of Finance KR
22	Kanat Asangulov	Head of department at Ministry of Finance
23	Bekbolot Aliev	Head of department at Ministry of Finance
24	Nadezhda Dobretsova	Chairperson of the Board/DPI
25	Nurgul Jamankulova	Project manager/DPI

Similar media events were held for Jalal- Abad and Batken journalists. From the first minutes it became clear that the Batken journalists and the media in general is not enough experts and events such as our press session. Participants felt a bit awkward and just listened. During the event, only permanent member and longtime CIPE projects Mamazhan Berdishev, who was previously a correspondent of KNIA Kabar and now CEO of Batken regional television company. He asked leading questions and helped explain the participants' topic in the local dialect. By the end of press-session participants asked some questions and asked DPI to arrange such event for Media more often.

In Jalal-Abad became immediately apparent that journalists experienced, savvy in matters of local and national budgets. Participants included both new young journalists and editors and journalists who have solid experience in economic journalism.

List of participants of press-session in Batken 13.02.2014

№	Name of journalists	Media
1	Nurila Anarbaeva	Batken TV
2	Rysbaev Begaly	Newspaper «Orukzar»
3	Abylkasymova Tahmina	Newspaper «Shahter jolu»
4	Hudayberdieva Burayma	Newspaper «SuLei info»
5	Tajibaeva Gulchehra	Newspaper «Kyzyl tuu»
6	Djumabaeva Buuzat	Newspaper «Ata Jurt»
7	Maksut kyzy Nooruzgul	Newspaper «Batken tany»
8	Mamytova G	Batken TV
9	Abdisamatova S	Batken TV
10	Mahamat kyzy Asylkan	Batken TV
11	Kanybek kyzy Aychurok	Batken TV
12	Aykynov Hasit	Ombudsman in Batken oblast

13	Berdishev Mamajan	Press-secretary of Batken regional administration
14	Berkbaeva Arzyhan	Radio «Zaman»

List of participants of press-session in Djalal-Abad 14.02.2014

№	Name of journalists	Media
1	Yakubov Arstan	Newspaper «Akyikat»
2	Akjolova Meymanbu	Newspaper «Jalal-Abad unu»
3	Karasartov Orozaly	Newspaper «Aymak»
4	Kambarbekov Kamchybek	Newspaper «Ayul akikaty»
5	Joldosheva Anipa	Newspaper «Kara-Kul nuru»
6	Andarbekova A	Jalal-Abad TV
7	Douldaev T.	Jalal-Abad TV
8	Boronbaev Uluk	7 channel
9	Elebaeva Mirgul	7 channel
10	Janybaeva Anarhan	IA «Kabar»
11	Saparov Jalil	Express newspaper
12	Zakir kyzy Jumagul	Newspaper «Jalal-Abad unu»
13	Toktogulova Gulnur	7 channel

Informational seminars (press-session) “Consequences of not- joining the Kyrgyzstan to Custom Union” (2014/01/24)

The next press-session was not less interesting for media, as the question of joining Kyrgyzstan to Custom Union is actively discussed during the last year. The main risk and fear for people is raising of goods prices. Even the present time most of people can't afford some services and goods of better quality, surely the possibility of price rising frightens citizens.

List of participants press-session on: “Consequences of not- joining the Kyrgyzstan to Custom Union”

№	Name of participants	Organization/Media
<i>Media</i>		
1	Maxim Tzoi	IE «Vecherniy Bishkek»
2	Galina Luneva	Newspaper «SlovoKyrgyzstana»
3	Nurjamal Kurmankulova	Newspaper «Aiyl Demi»
4	Myrzakat Tynaliev	Newspaper «Kyrgyz Tuusu»
5	Olga Semenuta	TRC NTS
6	Kapylga uulu Aibek	TRC NTS
7	Tatiana Kudryavtseva	IA «24kg»
8	MeerimAbdramanova	Radio «Birinci radio»
9	Ekaterina Toktobaeva	TV «Piramida»
10	Ermek Azizov	TV «Piramida»
11	Meerim Madambekova	IA «KyrTAG»

12	Anna Myachikova	IA «Polit.kg»
13	Islam Joldoshev	«Khan Tengri» magazine
14	Eldar Kaliev	IA «Akipress»
15	Alexander Nixdorf	IA «Comment.kg»
16	Sovetuulu Melis	Newspaper «JanyAgym»
17	Maxat Elebesov	TV NBT
18	Timur Anvarov	Newspaper «Megapolis»
19	Nuriya Shagapova	Newspaper «Dlya Vas»

Informational seminars (press-session) “Eclipse of the sun or why we immediately have to save energetics from the corruption” (2014/03/18)

The third press-session on 18th of March on theme of corruption in Energy system. So the original theme in invitations was sound as “Eclipse of the sun or why we immediately have to save energetics from the corruption”.

Independent experts and members of the Anticorruption business council were invited as speakers. AlmazNasyrov, one of speakers prepared presentation and gave some information to journalists about big companies, which guilt was proved during the last years.

The list of participants you can see below.

№	Name of participants	Organization
Media		
1	Galina Luneva	Newspaper «SlovoKyrgyzstana»
2	MyrzakatTynaliyev	Newspaper «Kyrgyz Tuusu»
3	TimurAnvarov	Newspaper «Megapolis»
4	Islam Joldoshev	«Khan Tengri» magazine
5	AltynaiSmailbekova	IA «AKIpress»
6	Alexandr Nixdorf	IA «Comment.kg»
7	MahinurNiyazova	IA «24kg»
8	NurjamalKurmankulova	Newspaper «Aiyl Demi»
9	KubatChekirov	Radio «BBC»
10	NazgulKonurbaeva	Radio «BBC»
Experts/speakers		
11	BahadyrKadyrov	Anticorruption business council
12	TilekKalkynbaev	Anticorruption business council
13	NuripaMukanova	Anticorruption business council
14	Lira Usubalieva	PU «IM: Lyustraciya»
15	NikolayKravtsov	Independent expert
16	RasulUmbetaliev	Independent expert
17	AlmazNasyrov	Independent expert
18	NadezhdaDobretsova	Chairperson of the Board of DPI
19	Larisa Lee	Media-consultant

Informational seminars (press-session) “Corruption in the Health service” (2014/03/25)

On 25th of March DPI has arranged one more event for Bishkek journalists. The theme of the press-session – Corruption in the Health service, was different from previous; however it was popular among the community. There were invited some speakers, including the Ministry of Health service Dinara Saginbayeva. Also there were the chairman of the Association of hospitals KR Kubanychbek Djemuratov and chief of the treatment and prevention aid management sector Anara Eshhodzhaeva.

The theme of the corruption, especially in sphere of Health service became very interesting for journalists, as long as it directly connected with life and health of people. The list of participants is given below.

№	Participants	Media/organization
Media		
1	Jolobova Elena	Newspaper “Dlya Vas”
2	Kurmankulova Nurjamal	Newspaper “Ayul Demi”
3	Shamshiev Suyunbek	IA “24 kg”
4	Elena Meshkova	Newspaper “SlovoKyrgyzstana”
5	Miroshnik Marina	IE “Vb.kg”
6	Torogeldieva Shirin	IA “Kabar”
7	Pechurin Evgeniy	TV “5 channel”
8	Maalaev Usen	TV “5 channel”
9	Esenova	“Birinci radio”
10	Borombaeva Munara	IA “KirTAG”
11	Shaibekova Jazgul	IA “AKIpress”
12	Ulitina Ekaterina	IA “Tushtuk”
13	Alexeenko Svetlana	IA “Tushtuk”
14	Nixdorf Alexander	“Delovoysobesednik” magazine
15	Pavel Gromskiy	Newspaper “Megapolis”
Speakers		
16	Dinara Saginbayeva	Ministry of Health service KR
17	Kubanychbek Djemuratov	Chairman of the Association of hospitals KR
18	Anara Eshhodzhaeva	Chief of the treatment and prevention aid management sector

Informational seminars (press-session) “Corruption system in the Fund of the State Property” (2014/03/27)

The last event within the Project on 27th of March. It was the press-session for capital journalists on one of the most interesting themes among the people – Corruption system in the Fund of the State Property. This organization is one of the most secretive state authorities, although their work is not connected with military secrets. That’s why almost 20 representatives from different types of media have participated at the press-session. Two experts from Anticorruption business council (ABC) NuripaMukanova and Ivan Drobotko were invited as speakers. Unfortunately, there were not any specialists from SPF.

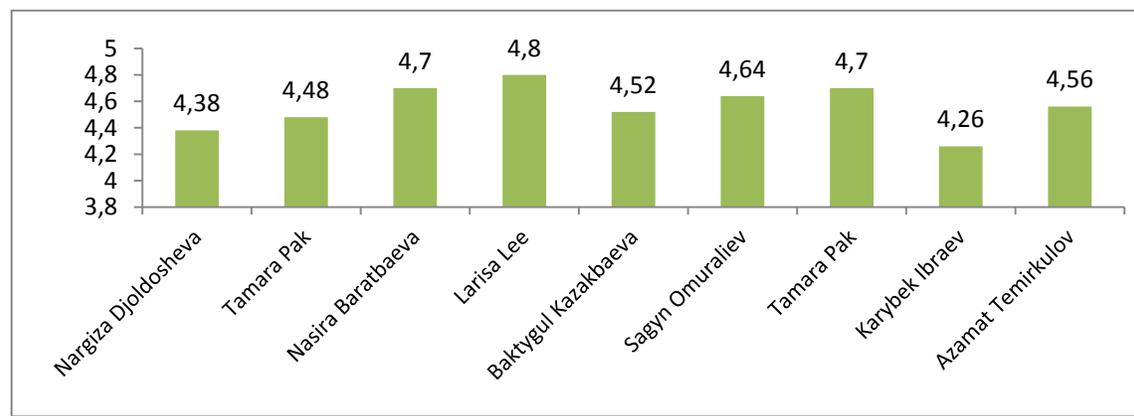
Please, see the list of participants below.

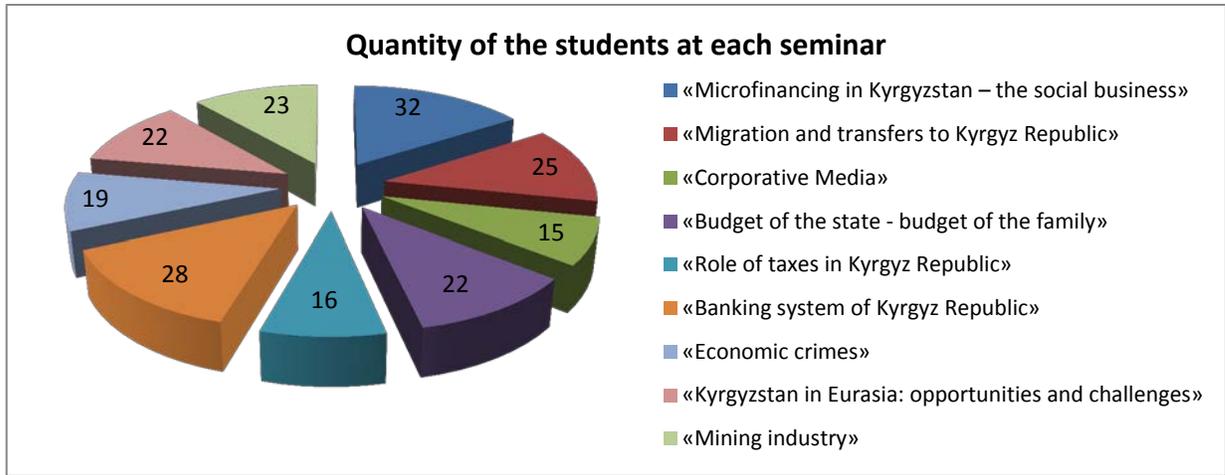
№	Journalists/participants	Media/Organization
1	Jolobova Elena	Newspaper “Dlya Vas”
2	Begalieva Nazgul	IE “Vecherniy Bishkek”
3	Usenova Kulbubu	“Birinci radio”
4	Shadymanova Munara	IA “KirTAG”
5	Abdullaeva Anara	IA “AKIpress”
6	Kojoev Janybek	IA “Tushtuk”
7	Shamshiev Suyunbek	IA “24 kg”
8	Adahanov Dooronbek	“Delovoysobesednik” magazine
9	Bekturova Roza	Freelancer
10	Joldoshev Islam	“Khan-Tengri” magazine
11	Bayramukova Irina	“Khan-Tengri” magazine
12	Tynaliev Myrzakat	Newspaper “Kyrgyz tuusu”
13	Tashboltoeva	“Piramida” TV channel
14	Kornina Mariya	NBT TV channel
15	Dalbaeva Baktygul	NTS TV channel
16	Semenyuta Olga	NTS TV channel
17	Stroynova Evgeniya	“Europe” radio
18	Muratov D.	“Business times” magazine
19	Nuripa Mukanova	Anticorruption business council
20	Ivan Drobitko	Anticorruption business council
21	Ismailova Ayjamal	Anticorruption business council

- **Nurturing New and Future Economic Journalists**

To obtain feedback from the master class participants there were questionnaire conducted at each workshop, also at the end of each master class the students could to speak about what they thought was good, and that should be modified.

So on the basis of the questionnaire data it was revealed that the most interesting seminars for the students were the presentations by Larisa Lee, Tamara Pak and Nasira Baratbaeva, where the average rate was from 4.7 to 4.8 points. The lowest rate for the presentation was for Nargiza Djoldosheva - 4.38 points and 4.26 points - Karybek Ibraev. Average rate for the other speakers who made presentations was about 4.5 points. (See table below).





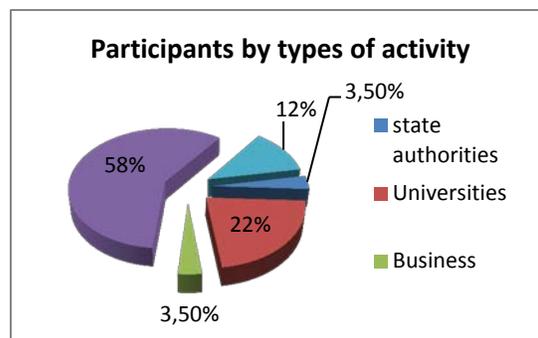
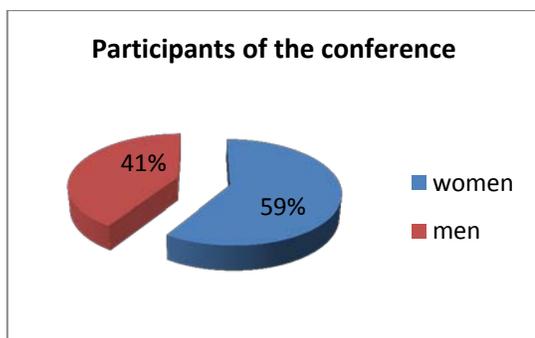
- ***Solicit feedback on the New Economic Journalist Guide identifying its usefulness to prospective journalists and journalism faculty:***

Abdykalvi Tuybaev, the Head of Journalism Department: *“This Manual shows us the hard work of our students – future journalists. I’d like to emphasize that such master-classes in association of theory and practice are very useful. As we heard from our students who attended those classes each lecturer was specific and tried to convey to students the different concepts of their field, so that it was easier for them to understand and work with them. I would recommend this manual to be included into the program of the Department classes”.*

Altyn Asanova, the Dean of the Faculty of Journalism and IT: *“Totally, we had 9 thematic classes starting from November 2012 till the end of April 2013. Many things were new for our students. But they did their best, and this is the final product – results of those classes I could see from this Manual. I liked very much that each step is accompanied by advice from the experts. This is very helpful for our students in order to work on their mistakes. If in the future we’ll have such kinds of supportive master-classes we would remember all these recommendations and try to do it better”.*

- ***One day Conference***

The conference for journalists, professors, and deans of journalism faculty from different universities and representatives of public organizations, cooperating with media was arranged on December 5, 2013. Totally more than 70 people participated at the two-day conference.



Jaroslav Romanchuk was invited as a main guest and speaker of the first day. He presented two themes on Macroeconomic information as an instrument of economic journalism and Freedom of Media and humanity's wealth. Both presentations of the speaker were very interesting, informative and bright. Every theme had a heated discussion, where Romanchuk tried to give participants full information in questions, which have interested people.

The second day on December 6, 2013 was organized as a practical seminar of working with statistic figures. As speakers were invited chiefs and specialists from National statistic committee of KR.

They presented the most important statistic information concerning the migration, agriculture, statistic and statistic authorities, even presentation about illegal economy. Media-consultant has prepared some practical exercises for participants. During the seminar specialists from NSC KR explained which mistakes usually make journalists in their articles and materials.

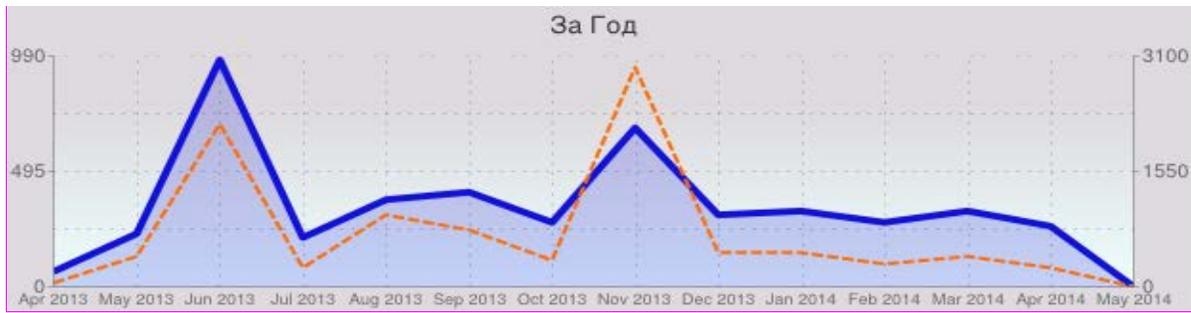
Participants of the two-day conference were kindly asked to ask some questions, mainly concerning the statistics and using it by media. The answers from them, please, see below.

#	Questions	Answers for the questions			
1	Are you agreed with the statement that economic journalism of the country reflect the level of it economic development?	Yes – 38%	Yes, but not in full measure - 51 %	No -11%	
2	How do you think if the economic journalism can influence on economy?	Yes, on every person, firm, organization - 56%	Yes, but only on professionals (politics, businessmen) - 37%	No 3,50%	It is difficult to answer - 3,50%
3	How do you think which statement is the most convenient for our country	Battle with corruption is not business of media, journalists can't influent on corruption - 8%	Media actively fight with corruption, create the situation for official investigations - 38%	Media actively right about facts of corruption, but there is no any effect - 54%	

4	Does everyone have access to these sources?	Yes, everyone has opportunity - 5%	Who really wants can easily find them -72%	Only "special" persons have access to such sources -18%	It is difficult to answer - 5%
5	Do you think such information sources can be useful and understandable for everyone?	Yes, information is understandable for everyone - 26%	Information is not understandable for the most - 46%	Information is understandable only for experts - 28%	
6	Who can give the economic information in our country in more understandable way?	Economic experts - 58%	Staff-journalists - 33%	All journalists - 2%	Nobody - 7%
7	Who is more objective during the speak about economy of our country?	Economic experts - 64%	Staff-journalists - 24%	All journalists - 0%	Nobody -12%
8	Can you help to develop the economic journalism in your opinion?	Yes – 49%	I will make efforts - 46%	I am not interested in it - 2,50%	I don't think that I can do it -2,50%
9	How do you think is statistic figures important in righting the articles?	Yes, it is important 70%	Important, but we can show them in common without details - 30%	No - 0%	
10	Do you use quantitate information in writing articles on economic themes?	Yes, every time - 59%	Yes, but rarely - 36%	I can't see the necessity 0%	I can't answer - 5%
11	Which kind of information do you want to study additionally?	International ratings - 36%	macroeconomic figures -38%	Statistic information - 26%	I don't need the trainings -0%

- **Website for Journalists and Public**

During the project implementation period about 70 posts on the events of the project and in the sphere of economic journalism were published on the website for economic journalists in general. In the "Library" section 13 educational and methodological manuals on economic journalism, including tutorials published projects CIPE were placed. As a main value of the site we can consider the database of experts in various industries and economic issues, where there is an opportunity for journalists to contact with 102 experts from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan , Kazakhstan, Georgia , Azerbaijan and the Russian Federation. Site attendance is given below.



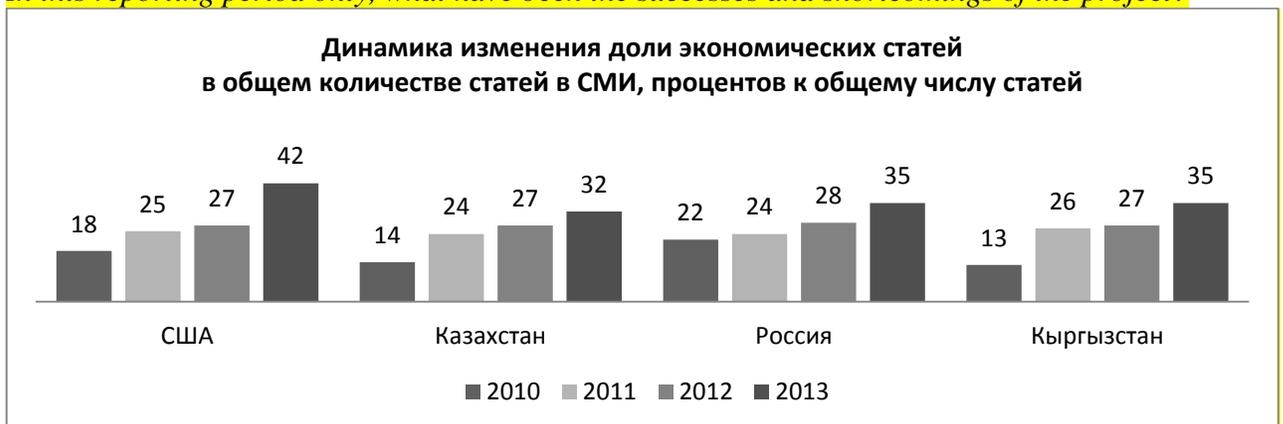
In regard to the problems it should be noted that, unfortunately, when choosing a service provider - Developer website – the DPI guided by price, determined to make a website with minimal costs. However, as a result the site development was not very high quality, the development and launch of the site is very long, in full force and effect until the site has not earned, as it is inconvenient to administer. DPI shall at his expense to modify the site and make it truly useful platform for the development of economic journalism in the region.

II. ANALYSIS OF IMPACT

Please state the relevance of this project and its specific objectives to democracy promotion. The project helped the journalists to improve their analytical capacity and objectivity in covering events and processes in economics and management. With the help of the communication events of the project a bad law on the status of Bishkek was stopped, the law on usury was changed, governmental economic programs were adjusted. All this was achieved due to the fact that the media got more sources of quality expertise and launched a broad debate on important public issues. Thus, the project has raised the level of participation of citizens in decision-making through performance of the media.

In this reporting period only, what have been the successes and shortcomings of the project? In general, the economic content in the media has grown and strengthened, largely due to CIPE projects. In print media in Kyrgyzstan the share of economic articles in 2013 reached 35 percent (versus 13% in 2010). Growth rate of economic articles share in the media in Kyrgyzstan is one of the highest - 7.3 % per year - and cedes only to the speed of increase of the economic articles share in the U.S. media.

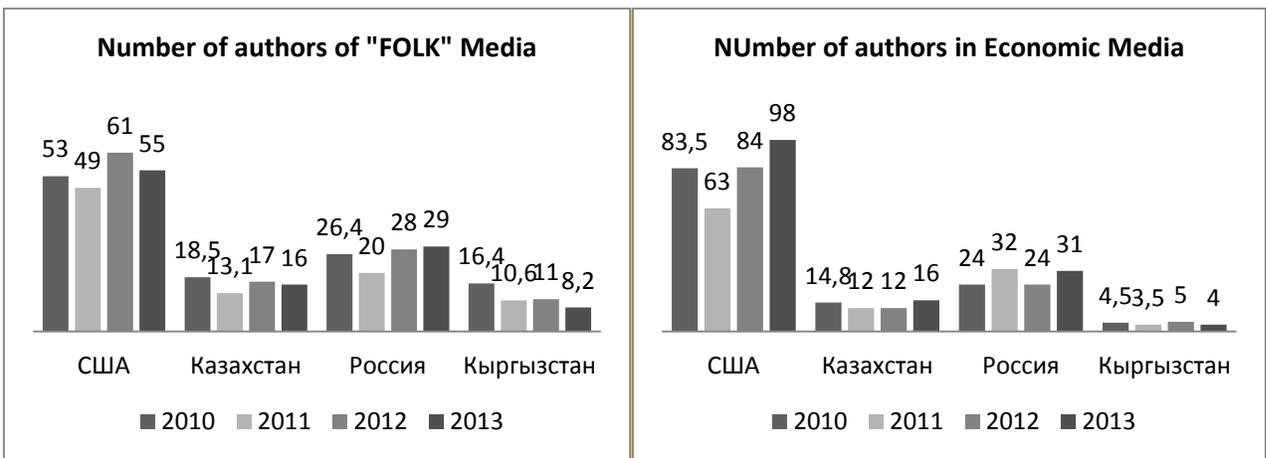
In this reporting period only, what have been the successes and shortcomings of the project?



The press tours were very successful, which significantly increased the capacity of the regional journalists. A considerable resonance was raised by the master classes for students at BHU - other universities want to use this form of work with students with the help of DPI. DPI through all communication activities created a platform for the media, which regularly works and gathers 20 journalists on each event. Our connection with the regional journalists was strengthened. The attitude of the media editors to the economy was changed - they are willing to let the journalists to participate in the DPI communication activities and post media articles about the economy. The main problem as high turnover in the media remains, causing capacity of the journalists in reporting issues of economics and management inadequate, which requires continued efforts.

Have there been unexpected results or reactions to the project?

Threat that the project is not able to handle is that the number of authors in the print media is reducing. Kyrgyzstan by the number of reporters is far behind from other countries. Moreover, in the "folk" (large scale, popular) media in Kyrgyzstan there is a clear trend of decline in the number of authors, which is supported by empirical observations – the journalists in Kyrgyzstan recede . While in the ECONOMIC MASS MEDIA of Kyrgyzstan the number of authors is almost 25 times less than in the U.S. media (17 times in 2012), almost 8 times less than in Russia (5 times in 2012) and 4 times less than in Kazakhstan (2.5 times in 2012).



Please include any other information of an analytical nature that is relevant to this project, especially as it relates to democracy promotion.

The press session on the initiative of the government to reform the system of regional governance had a great impact on the Government. The danger of the initiative was that the new management scheme can create great opportunities for corruption, and outright theft of the budget funds in the regions, because instead of the formula for allocation of funds between the regions, which operates today, the Government offered to give this right to the rayon heads, i.e., make the distribution process as the subjective nature for money that would be a direct and good condition for corruption. Discussion at the press session opened large discussion in the media and expert community. In result, the Parliament deputies and prepared media were more aware of the implications of the corrupt government initiatives. And when the Government came to the Parliament to defend this bill, the deputies -

members of the Budget and Constitutional Committee negatively perceived the bill and rejected it without even admitting to the plenary. The influence of the media on the deputies was evident as they spoke the words of the experts that have been disseminated by the media after the press session. Moreover, despite all the promises of the Government to take this initiative again in the Parliament in the fall of 2013, the Government has failed to do so, as the mass media has formed very negative attitude to this initiative in the society. Now the Government with the help of the experts, including DPI experts, is looking for other ways to resolve the crisis in the system of regional governance, but without attempting to reduce the democratic foundations of local self-government.