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# FINAL REPORT

**2007**



**Center ‘Interbilim’**

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Dear colleagues!

We are glad to present the Final Report of our organization for 2007 to your attention. The last year was successful and fruitful for the Center “Interbilim” by our opinion. The successful activity of the Center “Interbilim” is explained by several reasons. First of all, novelty and urgency of the projects implemented by the Center “Interbilim”. Development of leadership, advocacy, human rights, strengthening institutes of civil society: NGOs/CBOs, increasing capacity of youth are the innovational trends of the activity of the Center “Interbilim” during the last years.

The second reason of the success lies in the relevance of the activity of the Center “Interbilim”. All implemented and current projects of the Center “Interbilim” meet the existing demands of society.

Professionalism and high level of responsibility are the main components of the effective work of the Center “Interbilim”. The team of the Center is probably its main asset. Constant aspiration for self-development, devotion to work, dynamics, openness and solidarity are inherent to our staff members.

International support: consultative, technical and financial is important; a lot of progressive ideas of the Center “Interbilim” would not be put into practice without it.

In 2007 the Center “Interbilim” acquired a lot of new wonderful partners and friends developing the projects together with the Center “Interbilim”.

All activity of Center “Interbilim” is built for triumph of legislation, justice and well-being in our society. Our activity can be compared with the road leading to justice. A lot of things were not done yet. It is difficult to break the wall of the authoritarian power. But it is the most important that the civil society of the Kyrgyz Republic realizes its own significance and the Center “Interbilim” plays a great role in it.

*Regards,*

*Director of the Center “Interbilim”*  
*Asiya SASYKBAEVA*

## **II. Situation in Kyrgyzstan in 2007: political, economic and social**

The past year of 2007 did not become the period of stabilization and reforms for Kyrgyzstan. The socio-political and socio-economic crisis in which the country continued to stay in 2007 represented serious difficulties for the further development of Kyrgyzstan as a state.

The political development of Kyrgyzstan in 2007 was closely connected with the lingering process of the constitutional reform- more than 2-year struggle between various interests and the next aggravation of the authority and the opposition.

The Constitutional reform ended with adoption of the presidential project of Constitution and Election Code at the Referendum and formation of the new Parliament through party list elections as a result of the held pre-term parliamentary elections in December 16, 2007.

In the adopted Constitution at the Referendum the norm concerning usurpation of power being a serious crime disappeared as well as the norm that bowels of the earth and natural resources should not be privatized. In the new Constitution the local self-government and courts were deprived of independence, and social guarantees for getting free education and medical services disappeared at all. But the authorities of the President were extended.

The past electoral campaigns in 2007: Referendum and pre-term parliamentary elections became the dirtiest and the most cynic in the history of independent Kyrgyzstan. It was also noted by the local observers as well as international ones in the face of OSCE mission on observation of elections. The authority trampled the constitutional rights of Kyrgyzstan people. Tens of thousands of voters were deprived of voting right. For the first time in the history of Kyrgyzstan hundreds of voters went to courts to prove their own right to vote. The elections were not elections of a democratic state but paid appointment of people pleasing the President and the authorities to deputy seats. The Central Electoral Commission (CEC) did not present the results of the parliamentary elections to the public for the first time in the history of electoral right of Kyrgyzstan.

In 2007 the public-political movements, NGOs, political parties continued to demand from the President and the authorities to carry cardinal political, economic and social reforms and fulfillment of their pre-election promises made to Kyrgyzstan people in July 2005.

The crisis also appeared in the system of the state governing. In 2007 a line of high officials publicly expressed its own disagreement with the carried policy of the country governing body. The constant cadre rearrangements, dismissal of the government, mess with the appointment of the General Procurator witnessed impossibility of the authority to govern and control the situation in the country.

The external debt of Kyrgyzstan made 2, 27 billion of US dollars at the beginning of 2007. It seriously undermines the capacity of the state to provide funding of social obligations, decreases opportunities for reduction of poverty and leads to delay of economic growth that at final promotes development of social inequality. The number of officially registered unemployed made 73, 7 thousands of people In 2007 by the data of the National Statistic Committee of Kyrgyzstan and it was increased in comparison with January 2006 by 5, 5 %.

The poverty level remained the same- 50 %. By the data of UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) Kyrgyzstan took the first place among the countries of the Southern-Eastern Europe and CIS on level of child's poverty. Elderly people of Kyrgyzstan called the pension policy of Kyrgyzstan as the "program of extermination of older generation"; three of each four pensioners live under poverty level (monthly pension of 70% pensioners does not exceed 25 US dollars that is twice less than a consumer basket). The last year was remembered to Kyrgyzstan people

by the constant increase of prices for the main food products (bread, butter, milk) and tariffs for electricity, gas and water.

These and other reasons pushed most of the country civic population and oppositional politicians to unite and to hold the mass peaceful meetings in 2007 with demand to the authorities to stop imitating democracy, violating laws and human rights, getting rich at the expense of the state and people's funds. A line of meetings was held throughout the country as in 2006. They were the single method to display their own civic position and will, to attract attention of the authorities to the existing problems in Kyrgyzstan.

In reply the authority chose the forced way out of the crisis situation. Dispersal of the participants of April peaceful meeting with usage of special devices, confiscation of personal property of its organizers and participants, arrests of leaders of the opposition and their followers, repressive measures in relation to the meeting participants witnessed the decision of the authorities to act against their own people by the authoritarian methods and extermination of the opposition and otherwise-minded. The decision of the court in relation to the participants of the events of April 19, 2007 demonstrated how much the court system was dependent, weak-willed and under control of the authorities. The participants of the peaceful April meeting were condemned in the situation of violation of all laws and lack of evidences of their fault. After the April meeting the authority strengthened pressure in relation to opposition, its activists and supporters in the form of more steadfast attention of the services of national security, and from the side of tax bodies – to the oppositional political parties.

Evaluating the situation with speech freedom, peaceful meetings and associations in Kyrgyzstan in 2007 it should be noted that there were no any positive moments observed even the Constitution guarantees these rights. The authority openly limited the freedom of holding peaceful meetings, issued the anti-lawful regulations about holding meetings only in allowed places by the authorities and in cases of preliminary notification about them. The journalists from independent mass media were pressured and intimidated. In total 21 facts of pressure on mass media and journalists were fixed in 2007. The most terrific and shocking for the civic society was the death by shooting of the Kyrgyzstan journalist A. Saipov.

Summarizing it we will note that during the last two years the current authority in Kyrgyzstan that came as a result of events of March 24, 2005 actively moulds the public consciousness of Kyrgyzstan by its own understanding of legislation and democratic values and by its actions and builds so called “controlled” democracy. It negatively influenced on the institutes of civil society and first of all on NGO sector in 2007. It will be said about development of NGOs in Kyrgyzstan in the next chapter of our Report.

### **III. Development and activity of NGOs in Kyrgyzstan in 2007**

Non-governmental organizations of Kyrgyzstan represent more than one of the main sectors of civil society for today. It is the main indicator. The analysis of the situation demonstrates that the NGO sector of Kyrgyzstan is mobile and flexible even more than all branches of authorities and other institutions. Another strong feature of Kyrgyzstan NGOs lies in their efforts to promote ideas of democracy, transparency, responsibility and protection of civic rights and freedoms, and also provision of various services beginning from social and ending with informational ones to the population.

Exactly they are the reasons why the current authority as well as previous one does not strive for equal partnership with NGOs and very often perceives independent NGOs as the force threatening the system of the “controlled democracy”. Reacting to this imaginary and

artificially exaggerated threat the authority tries to discredit NGOs in the public opinion using controlled mass media, sticking various labels to NGOs (“anti-people’s”, “promoting interests of the West and USA”, “spies”, “executors of the orders of international organizations”, “NGOs are politicized”, etc). Thus, in 2007 NGOs received such accusations not only from the state institutions like the Ministry of Justice, but also from the organizations dealing with protection of human rights: Institute of Ombudsman and Commission on human rights within the President of Kyrgyzstan.

In 2007 NGOs, their leaders and activists became very often the subjects of legal persecution and anti-legal pressure and threat from the side of the state especially from the services of national security (arrests, search, initiation of criminal, administrative and civic proceedings, paralyzing checks, etc). In 2007 the human right defending organizations of Kyrgyzstan continued to remain victims of threats and court persecutions from the side of law-enforcement bodies and administrations of the regional and oblast levels. Thus, in June 2007 the administration of law-enforcement bodies tried to make staff members of the human rights defending organization “Spravedlivost” from Jalalabat to keep silence as they made known the facts of violations of legislation by the state officials to the public. In May 2007 the activists of ecological NGOs acted to protect civic rights of local population when the foreign investor of the gold mining “Djeryi” simply ignored its interests.

In 2007 in parallel with the company to discredit the independent NGO sector the authority established quasi- NGOs, organizations controlled by the authority, loyal and obedient. They appeared very often during the important events for the country, for instance, before the Referendum or parliamentary elections. The process of “domestication” of NGOs was actively created with the system of the state grants and the authority constantly acted so that the activity of NGOs would be built exclusively on social work.

In 2007 the authority tried to involve the NGO sector in opposition with the authority by any means including the controlled NGOs, once there was the danger of the split inside the sector. The fear for existence and opportunity to continue work was observed among the part of Kyrgyzstan NGOs. The complex public- political situation in the country and actions of the authority contrary to democratic and legal principles influenced on the activity of NGOs and solidarity among organizations.

A lot of people started to fear for dealing with human rights defending organizations, for participating in the process of making decision, organizing public campaigns and actions, taking part in peaceful meetings, providing support to human rights defending organizations, signing petitions and appeals with the demands to the President and the government.

The attitude of the public of Kyrgyzstan to NGOs contrary to the authority remained extremely positive in the whole. In May 2007 the International Republican Institute conducted the research “Spirits in the country” that showed that more than a half of the country’s population treated the activity implemented by NGOs positively.

In 2007 the academic interest to NGO sector was increased. During the whole year there were discussions with the representatives of various institutes of civil society in relation to models of civic society and role of NGOs in development of the society.

The past year was remembered by the process of active search for their own model of development, critical analysis of their own activity, strengths and weaknesses in the NGO environment. There was an attempt to develop the program of further development of NGO – sector at the Second National NGO Forum held in June 2007. One of the reasons of holding the National NGO Forum was the discussion related to politicization of NGO sector that started at

the beginning of the year and continued the whole year. The ordered theme by the authorities divided the society and the sector itself for two camps: supporters and opponents. The Center “Interbilim” considers that politicization is artificial and dictated theme. Formation of public opinion and influence on people making decisions (politicians) is one of the tasks of any NGO, and the more NGOs are involved in the activity of the public policy the better for the public.

In spite of all difficulties and obstacles made by the authority in relation to independent organizations the NGO sector of the Kyrgyz Republic was able to withstand and demonstrate its devotion to protection of civic rights and freedoms and promotion of democracy in Kyrgyzstan.

#### **IV. Activity and achievements of the Center “Interbilim” in 2007**

##### **1. Advocacy: Protection and promotion of the public (civic) rights and interests.**

During the reporting period the activity of the Center “Interbilim” (hereinafter CIB) was implemented in the frame of the tasks defined by the project proposals for the period of 2006-2007-2008:

- 1. To reflect and protect opinions and reaction of representatives of civil society to initiatives and solutions of the governmental structures contradicting the Constitution, democratic principles and the main human rights and freedoms.**
- 2. To initiate and develop long-term strategies to influence on formation of effective policy affecting improvement of lives of socially vulnerable groups of population.**

In 2007 the CIB took the role of the “first voice” initiating advocacy activity, acted on behalf of the civic society and was a uniting commencement as during the previous years. By its model the CIB demonstrated to the civic organizations of Kyrgyzstan how to properly and professionally protect civic rights and interests and proved by it that advocacy was a necessary element of work of any independent organization.

However such actions do not say about the wish to be ahead at all. These actions were undertaken probably due to the necessity to protect weak institutes of civil society that were learning to take responsibility for solution of serious tasks in the situation of “screw-tightening” and continuous violations of human rights by the institutions of authority.

“Cluster groups”, other NGOs, initiative groups of citizens, public-political actors, political parties, representatives of mass media, independent experts and various networking organizations participated in advocacy campaigns organized by the Center “Interbilim”.

For instance at the beginning of January 2007 the Kyrgyzstan NGOs at the initiative of the CIB **expressed indignation over at the decision of the Security Council of the Kyrgyz Republic** recommending the President to sign a new version of the Constitution. In the appeal of NGOs it was said that *“we consider the decision of the Security Council as hasty and unreasoned action. As a matter of fact several people determined the fate of the Main law of the country. We consider that the project of the Main law of the country dated December 30, 2006 should not be adopted by with a stroke of the presidential pen”*.

As a result of the campaign and legal analysis of the Constitution the project dated December 30, 2006 was rejected. Another working group to develop a new version of the Constitution was formed by the presidential Decree.

The CIB implemented a great activity to establish constructive trustworthy relations with all sectors of the society, joint search for way out of the crisis situations. The CIB in conjunction with the partners conducted Forums, Round tables, produced video-rolls, TV debates, organized meetings in the format “authority- opposition- civic society” for organizing public dialogue and building communicative spaces.

In 2007 the CIB conducted such events as:

1. *Civic action of disagreement of NGOs with the decision of Security Council of Kyrgyzstan recommending the President to sign the version of the Constitution of December 30, 2006 (January);*
2. *Campaign for protection of members of the public movement “For reforms”;*
3. *Press-conference devoted to the further actions of public movements against the entry in the program for highly in debt poor countries (HIPC) (January);*
4. *Press-conference on results of the advocacy campaign for protection of rights of teachers and medical workers of Moscow region of Chui oblast (February);*
5. *Meeting of representatives of civic sector of Kyrgyzstan with the members of the Venetian Commission in relation to the situation around the Constitutional reform (February);*
6. *Civic Forum “Road to justice: dead end or is there a way out?” (March);*
7. *Civic campaign against the program HIPC (January- March);*
8. *Round table: “April 2007: Lessons Learned” (April);*
9. *Press conference concerning the danger in the situation of repression of dissent, pluralism and opposition in the country (April);*
10. *Campaign to protect the activists of Talas NGOs/CBOs arrested in Talas (May);*
11. *Campaign for protection of civic sector as the reaction to the statement of one state official that the grantees have no rights to participate in political actions (July);*
12. *Action for protection of the young human rights defender M. Kuleshov arrested for audio recording and photography of speakers during the open discussion of the project Constitution (September).*

With the goal to implement the programs on elections the CIB organized and held a line of educational, informational and advocacy events during the period of September till December 2007.

**As a result of the program activity related with elections the CIB achieved the following results:**

*Result is a momentary and changeable modification connected with the project goals presented as direct result of the project activity<sup>1</sup>.*

- The team of trainers/consultants on electoral right and independent observation of elections, able to work with various auditory, speaking Kyrgyz language;
- Corresponding training methods and materials on electoral right and independent observation were developed in Russian and Kyrgyz languages;
- Capacity of the team of trainers/consultants able to work with various auditory was built;
- Temporary civic committees to observe the Referendum and protect rights of voters were established;

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<sup>1</sup> On materials of INTRAC.



- 24 trainings were conducted for observers;
- 404 observers were trained;
- Voting during the Referendum day on October 21, 2007 and parliamentary elections on December 16, 2007 was publicly independently observed;
- Informal team of observers was formed, they meet and communicate with each other;
- Capacity of local civic activists, students and youth leaders was strengthened in the sphere of rights and independent observation;
- Two suits to courts were brought to call into question the results of voting at the two polling stations: # 125 and # 1144 in Bishkek;
- The CIB monitoring participants gained experience of bringing a suit to court to protect civic and electoral rights;
- Partnership relations between the organizations- project partners were established and strengthened;
- The monitoring participants became more active at sites;
- Press conferences for mass media were held on results of observation during the voting day;
- Final reports on results of voting were developed and distributed among international and non-governmental organizations;
- Internet site on elections was created: [www.tando.kg](http://www.tando.kg).

### **Impact/influence of the CIB activity in the sphere of elections**

*Impact is the long-term sustainable consequence being direct or indirect result of interference. The impact can be connected with primary situation for the sake of its solution the project was initiated or with unpremeditated consequences (probably affecting those who were not target beneficiaries). The impact can be either positive or negative<sup>2</sup>.*

The analysis of the activity of the CIB in the sphere of elections demonstrates that components of its success were its urgency and timeliness for Kyrgyzstan. The activity of the CIB and its partners promoted increase of experience of work in the sphere of civic education, development of trainings to train electoral rights, education of voters, preparation of handouts, monitoring and evaluation of projects, observation of elections. The activity in the sphere of electoral right provided the CIB with sustainability in the following aspects:

1. training (the seminar program and handouts on training of voters and observers were developed);
2. monitoring (project monitoring and monitoring (observation) of voting during the election day);
3. administration (selection of cadre, team building, human resources management, project management).

The educational component of the given activity promoted the professional growth of young participants. For instance, some young people, students apply interactive methods during their seminars in the universities now, consult other students, attract them to active public work, to volunteer activity and to participation in independent observation.

The activity of the CIB in the sphere of elections promoted unity, unification of civic activists of various age from various regions of the country; the informal network of independent

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<sup>2</sup> On materials of INTRAC

observers of the CIB was established. “We became one family, other people would like to join us”. “We acquired knowledge in electoral right for the first time and now we know how to behave during violation”. Conditions for development of confidence of citizens and establishment of mutual supporting and active relations were created among the project participants.

The activity implemented by the CIB in the sphere of elections also promoted civic activity, gave the specific “push”. For instance, a line of observers in conjunction with the CIB brought court suits to call into question the results of voting at some election polling stations.

### **Samples of success, positive peculiarities of the CIB activity on elections:**

- Involvement of a greater number of women, youth, studentship in formation of the team of independent observers and implementation of the activity on elections at sites;
- Significant number of the program participants made women and young people especially from the rural areas;
- Contribution of partnership organizations of the CIB in implementation of some activity;
- Calling into question the results of voting at some polling stations of Bishkek city at court instances;
- Reports of observers of Osh region as evidences were submitted to the court where the political party “Ata-Meken” called into question the decision of the CEC on exclusion of the party from the distributed mandates as the party did not overcome the required barrier equal to 0,5% in Osh;
- The fact that a lot of voters and also members of electoral commission marked the insistence and non-partisanship of the CIB observers can be called also as success. From one side they were glad that such generation was growing. They said: “They will grow up as good people”. From the other side representatives of the executive authority who were present at the polling stations asked and sometimes demanded from the young people to “close eyes for violations”, to “pretend that nothing happened”.

## **2. Lobbying: Reformation of Constitution, Election Code, Children’s Code of the Kyrgyz Republic**

One of the main conditions of legal democratic state and civic society is participation of NGOs in the law making process. Lobbying activity takes of one the key trends of the CIB activity.

Taking into consideration and requirements of 2007 lobbying activity of the CIB was concentrated at the following aspects:

- *Reformation of the Constitution*
- *Improvement of electoral system of Kyrgyzstan (Election Code);*
- *Improvement of the national legislation in the sphere of protection of children's rights.*
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Implementing lobbying activity the CIB demonstrates the NGO community advantages of the lobbying activity. Lobbying campaigns undertaken by the CIB in collaboration with the other organizations witnessed necessity of building law making activity in the third sector. By its lobbying activity the CIB demonstrates to NGO community what opportunities, instruments and procedures NGOs possess for lobbying activity. They are development of alternative legislation projects and lobbying them in the parliament and executive authority, appeals to the state institutions and also speeches with statements, petitions, collection of signatures in the letters of inquiry to authorities.

“The cluster groups of the CIB, other NGOs, CBOs, and also political parties, public movements, business communities see the CIB as a defending organization, civic and public advocate”.

With support from the CIB they freely defend their own interests and lobby in the higher bodies of authority. Each of the cluster groups realizes and sees support not only in the CIB but also in all partnership organizations and former target groups included in the CIB programs.

From its side the CIB realizes that any initiative to lobby some issues is impossible without support of its target groups. Alternative views on various issues (in the sphere of education, ecology, social provision, medical services and others) are developed exactly with the target groups, platform of ideas and actions is established; there is the influence on the public discussion on various themes.

#### **Participation of the CIB in reformation of the Election Code of the Kyrgyz Republic**

Necessity in conduction of the **campaign to introduce changes and amendments in the Election Code of the Kyrgyz Republic** by the CIB appeared due to the continuous court processes, complaints and lack of rights of voters, meetings and demonstrations to protect any candidate for deputies. Everything proved that changes and additions in the Constitution were required. Besides that decrease of percentage of participation of young people in elections causes alarm in Kyrgyzstan. Young voters do not perceive their participation in elections as a real action. As the results of the sociological research conducted by the CIB in 2005 demonstrated that before during the parliamentary elections most of young people did not display active participation and did not want to participate in the political life of the country. People intended to participate in elections will vote for the candidate when there is a lot of information about him (usually they get this information from the administration of higher institution). 18 years old voters call the reason of such attitude – lack of goal in relation to elections, lack of faith in the honest results of elections.

In spite of that the CIB continued training of young people on electoral right, basics of independent observation and involvement in the law making process in 2007.

The work on making changes in the project of Election Code developed by the Working Group consisting of representatives of civil society, legislative and executive authority commenced in

spring of 2007. During April-May of 2007 young people – members of youth departments of the political parties, NGOs, students of higher institutions worked on making changes and amendments (analysis) in the Election Code at the initiative of the CIB and with support of lawyers-experts. Young activists participated in the parliamentary hearings in Jogorky Kenesh where the legislation project on changes and amendments in the Election Code was discussed. They presented their own recommendations to the legislation developers for improvement. For instance, they suggested regulating legislatively the issue related to voting of students living in dormitories so that they could keep their own constitutional right fully.

**The results of the CIB analysis of the Election Code of the Kyrgyz Republic became the following:**

- **Recommendations on changes/passing them into the new version of Election Code**
- **Comparative table** of the current Election Code and the last version of the Election Code

Comparative table was a significant contribution of the young activists – beneficiaries of the CIB in the process of improvement of the Election Code. The comparative table made easier the discussion of the last version of the Election Code and made the given process more convenient and accessible. It was also the effective method to extend discussion and increase awareness of citizens about the last version of Election Code.

The comparative table was presented at the public meetings devoted to discussion of the Election Code version and it was also distributed among partners and constituencies through e-mail. Copies of the table were distributed in the regions.

From April till August 2007 the CIB organized a cycle of events that led to the following results:

- **Participation in Open Parliamentary Hearings on discussion of the new version of Election Code (June 6).** The initiative of participation of young civic activists belonged to the CIB. 10 young activists – beneficiaries of the CIB from Osh, Naryn, Chui oblasts and Bishkek participated in the hearings. The first opportunity appeared for young activists to participate in hearings of such higher level, they could present suitably their own recommendations to the deputies of Jogorky Kenesh and to the developers of the project Code.
- **Meetings with the Code project developers- Committee on the constitutional law of Jogorky Kenesh.**

The CIB organized several meetings with the given Committee, mainly with the head of the Committee I. Masaliev, Committee members: A. Beknazarov and A. Salyamova. During these meetings the Committee members and activists of the CIB discussed the current situation of youth in the sphere of electoral rights, disadvantages of the current Election Code, main changes in the new edition of Election Code and presented their own recommendations.

At final the young leaders – beneficiaries of the CIB gained experience of negotiations with the people making decisions.

- **Participation of young activists of the CIB in meetings of the Parliamentary Committee on discussion of the new version of Election Code (June 20, 2007).**

The deputy A. Beknazarov invited activists of the CIB to the meeting of the Parliamentary Committee who participated at the previous meetings with the Committee members.

Observation of the discussion process of the Election Code project served as good experience for the project participants. After the session the Committee shared the Decision of the Committee on discussion of the Election Code.

- **Round table on discussion of the new version of the Election Code (Osh, June 25, 2007).** The Round table was organized with goal of development of skills and experience of the CIB beneficiaries in the sphere of law making through discussion of

the new version of Election Code and development of recommendations. The organizer of the Round table was the Osh Resource Center “Interbilim” (hereinafter ORC) with support of the partner organization – International Fund of Electoral Systems (IFES). The participants of the Round table were the heads of the Central Electoral Commission in Osh oblast, oblast and city electoral commissions, representatives of civic society, youth organizations, CIB beneficiaries and journalists (in total 20 people).

The Round table provided the CIB beneficiaries with the opportunity to share their own opinion and recommendations. And also they asked the specialists on electoral rights qualified questions and shared their own opinion about the new version of the Election Code. The discussion was held lively and interestingly.

The recommendations of the CIB beneficiaries on improvement of the Election Code were collected and processed by the lawyers of the CIB and then they were submitted to Jogorky Kenesh.

- **Presentation “Comparison of electoral systems of Armenian and Kyrgyz Republics”** (June 25, 2007).

In July the CIB organized participation of young activists- its own beneficiaries in the meeting devoted to the presentation of the international organization IREX: “Comparison of electoral systems of Armenian and Kyrgyz Republics”. At final the young activists were introduced with the electoral systems and practice of Armenia and could compare it with the system of the Kyrgyz Republic. It was useful for beneficiaries to share experience and discuss advantages and disadvantages of the two electoral systems.

- **Organization of TV program “Electoral system: challenges and opportunities”** (in conjunction with the projects “Open Kyrgyzstan” of Soros Foundation) with participation of the staff members, lawyers, beneficiaries and partners of the CIB (September 14, 2007).
- **Lobbying Committee** was formed (11 members: 5 young activists, 4 leaders of civil society: A. Sasykbaeva, Ch. Jakypova, S. Argymbaev, A. Dautalieva).

#### **Participation of the Center “Interbilim” in reformation of the Constitution of Kyrgyzstan**

The autumn of 2007 was marked by the following worsening of relations between the authority and society. The reason for that was the following: In September the President issued the Decree on conduction of the Referendum to adopt the projects of the Constitution and Election Code. The Decree and presidential projects of the Constitution and Election Code were unexpected not only for politicians and parliamentarians but also for the society in the whole. The whole work on making changes in the project of the Election Code suggested by the independent Working Group and implemented by the civic society in the first part of 2007 was rejected and unacknowledged. Disrespect of the higher authority to the efforts of civil society was displayed.

After the Decree the civil society at the initiative of the CIB wrote the Open Letter to the President, prime-minister and the speaker of the Parliament in which it was noted that *“it is necessary so that citizens will be introduced with the text of the Constitution and make deliberate choice. The narrow-minded statements that people will vote for any Constitution in order to finish with the prolonged reform can not be accepted seriously. We believe that the President Bakiev does not share these doubtful prognoses as he received power from the hands of people in contrast to numerous politicians, experts and policy specialists. It means that his legitimacy is equal to legitimacy of the Constitution, if it is adopted deliberately and legally at the Referendum. However by appointing the shortest terms for conduction of the Referendum the President thereby excluded the opportunity of valuable discussion of the project by the civic society and political forces”*.

The **Forum of public-political forces** was organized in Bishkek on 24, 2007 at the initiative of the CIB, at which its participants demanded from the President of the country to postpone the terms of conduction of the Referendum for a later period in compliance with the Constitution and to prolong the terms of familiarization with the text of amendments in the Main Legislation of the country and Election Code. “People of the Kyrgyz Republic as a single source of power should get irrefragable opportunities for discussion of the texts of the Constitution and Election Code and make deliberate choice of the system where they will have to live”, - marked the Forum participants.

In parallel with the resolution sent to the President of the country the Forum participants with the support of the CIB developed the letter to the deputies and the speaker of the Parliament in which they asked to “*review competence of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic to bring out two volumetric and important issues for the country like the new version of the main legislation of the country: Constitution and Election Code for such short period before the Referendum of October 21, 2007, and also legitimacy of his statement concerning the formation of his own political party*”.

In parallel the CIB organized conduction of the public hearings (debates) in the rural regions of the country. At their completion the CIB sent the results of the meeting with the population to the Government and the President.

Besides that the CIB and legal clinics “Adilet” turned to Jogorky Kenesh with request to send the presidential project of the Constitution to the Venetian Commission of the Council of Europe for conduction of independent expertise.

But the authority again ignored the requirements of civil society and did not postpone the terms of conduction of the referendum.

Brining out two main legislations of the country to the Referendum was a rude violation of civic rights (right for information, right for choice, etc) and the Law of Kyrgyzstan “On Referendum”.

Each legislation required very cautious and careful thought out choice from citizens. But time, access to documents, skills of analytical thinking, sufficient experience and information are needed for making carefully thought out choice. But the compressed terms left before the Referendum limited all opportunities of satisfying requirements for active participation of people in the Referendum and conduction of democratic Referendum.

It was obvious that population especially in the rural area needed assistance in getting necessary information and consultations in relation to new project legislations.

Taking into consideration the situation in the country and the fact that the dominating part of the population especially in the remote regions does not have a wide access to information, and it is deprived of active participation in discussion of legislation projects brought out to the Referendum; the CIB considered it necessary to organize public discussions (public hearings) in the regions of the country.

At the beginning of October 2007 the CIB initiated and conducted the public campaign the goal of which was to increase awareness of citizens and first of all of young people on the project Constitution and Election Code.

**The results of the public campaigns of the CIB were the following:**

- **Legal analysis of new versions of the Constitution and Election Code.** The goal of the legal analysis is to provide assistance to the public in training and making analysis of these two main documents. (*Note: only 32 days were left before the Referendum after the day of issuing Decree*);
- **Brochure** that can be used as educational handout was developed. The given brochure contained new ideas and/or there were changed articles of the new Constitution projects and Election Code with comments on each of them;

- **16 public hearings in 16 rural regions of Kyrgyzstan;**
- **1,200 copies of the brochures** with legal analysis of legislation projects were distributed at the public hearings;
- As minimum **2,000 indirect beneficiaries** (copying information) were covered by the public hearings;
- As minimum **2,687 people** were informed on the Project Constitution and Election Code;
- **687 people** received direct expertise and evaluation of the new versions of the Constitution and Election Code from independent experts;
- Direct and indirect beneficiaries received detailed and exact information and analysis of the Referendum questions;
- The population of **16 regions** learned about the legislation projects in the shortest times with the help of experts;
- The public hearings provided citizens of **16 regions** to carefully make **deliberate** choice at the referendum.

The facilitators of the public hearings were the young activists: beneficiaries and lawyers of the CIB and also external experts on electoral and constitutional rights invited by the CIB. The public hearings appeared to be the most effective method of informing people on the content of the project Constitution and Election Code.

#### **Participation of the CIB in reformation of legislation in the sphere of protection of childhood**

From 2002 the CIB and its partnership organizations: members of the NGO network on child's rights (Center of Protection of Children, Center of Support "Pokolenie") promoted creation of legislative base in Kyrgyzstan with the goal to bring it to conformity with the best interests of children though lobbying.

During the period of 2002 till 2006 the CIB participated in developing the project of Children's Code of the Kyrgyz Republic. At final the Network achieved introduction of four significant changes that significantly improved the given document in the Code. The Children's Code was adopted in June 2006.

In 2007 the CIB being in the structure of the Network started to **develop secondary legislation** to the Children's Code of the Kyrgyz Republic. The organizations- members of the Network including the CIB were included in the working Group on development of mechanisms of the Children's Code of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The Network implements the activity with the ministries and departments responsible for protection of children with the goal to **monitor implementation of target children's programs** in Kyrgyzstan.

**The table on submitting reports by Kyrgyzstan to the UN Committee on child's rights on implementation of the Convention on Child's Rights** and Facultative Protocol to the Convention of Child's Rights concerning trafficking children, children's prostitution and children's pornography was developed in compliance with the strategic plan. Under the given schedule Kyrgyzstan must report to the UN Committee on child's rights in 2010. Correspondingly the Network will prepare the alternative report to that time.

Organizing and conducting public campaigns, actions and attracting people of various ages, professions, ethnic and religious belongings the CIB cultivated civic dignity in them, delivered experience on promotion and protection of civic rights and freedoms. The restless attitude to events happening in the country and contribution in establishment of stability and serenity demonstrated to the public that each citizen can become the participant of a new life, that he has right to make, to demand from the government to fulfill its obligations, has right to

participate in the process of making decisions. Through advocacy campaigns the CIB demonstrated the example that people should not silently observe the unfair actions and decisions of the authorities.

### **3. Institutional support to the civic society: informational, training and consultative**

The CiB is one of the few non-governmental organizations that from the first days of its activity works in the direction of institutional and organizational development of the institutes of civil society applying the complex approach: thematic trainings, seminars, consultations, needs assessment, researches and others.

As in previous years in 2007 the training-consultative program was required by NGOs, community-based organizations, initiative civic groups, bodies of local self-government, political parties and international organizations. The given program has one of the distinguished features: it is based on demands of clients.

In 2007 the relevant themes of the trainings for NGOs, community-based organizations, bodies of local self-government, political parties were “advocacy and lobbying”, “Basics of electoral right and independent observation of the electoral process in Kyrgyzstan”, “Social mobilization for solution of local problems”, “Project Design and effective usage of local resources”, “Review of concept of the budget system/formation of local budget”, “Effective governing in village administrations”, “Involvement of local community in the process of making decisions at the local level”.

The interest of civic institutes in the given trainings was caused at first by the wish to change the situation at places and promote development of open and democratic elections in the country. It is pleasant to note that more young people (students, youth leaders, volunteers) are among the clients – receivers of the training services of the CIB in 2007.

in 2007 the CIB completed the program activity to strengthen the cluster groups. The third year of work with the cluster groups supposed independent work of the target NGOs in compliance with the plan.

2007 was the trial year for sustainability of the CIB cluster groups as they were to use at maximum acquired knowledge and skills in their activity thanks to 2-year mentorship of the CIB. At that the CIB had the passive role of an expert and a consultant.

The methodology of work of the CIB with the cluster groups was concentrated on individual consultations, study tours and informational technical support.

“During 2 years we accustomed to be the “hotbed” organizations when the CIB constantly conducted trainings, consultations, and each step was discussed and the rights ways of solutions were chosen. In 2007 we felt taste of independent NGOs. At the beginning it was not comfortable as the greater responsibility for making decision is taken by the organization but then we realized that it is possible to work without fears with a rich luggage of knowledge and skills and moreover to work successfully”, - Ergeshova Kanpasha, PF “Joosh Aryk”.

In 2007 the CIB paid special attention to individual consultations. The given type of consultations promoted the development of practical skills of the cluster groups, work with the painful points of organization, taking into consideration the specific of activity of each NGO. During consultations the target groups had the opportunity not only to get valuable



recommendations and suggestions but also to learn mastership of consulting. It influenced best of all on correctives and improvement of activity of the cluster NGOs.

At the conducted consultations such issues as how to select correctly the strategy of advocacy campaigns, how to conduct needs assessment of beneficiaries on problems, solution of which lies in advocacy and lobbying, how to improve reporting, how to avoid conflict situations, how to shape appeals, letters and others were discussed.

The cluster groups liked such consultations very much as painful issues of one concrete organization were discussed, practical ways of solution were jointly developed.

The consultations were conducted for improvement of the program and organizational activity of the cluster NGOs, and they were also conducted with the goal to train them to participate in the process of making decisions and to correctly search for ways of solution of the existing problems in the organization.

In 2008 the CIB will organize the internal evaluation of the work of the cluster groups in order to evaluate the impact of the 3-year work.

The cluster NGOs regularly visit events of each other, help each other during their organization and holding. For instance such cluster groups as Public Association “Dostoinstvo” and “Taza-Tabigat” constantly initiated various joint actions to protect human rights. Another organization – PF “Inclusive education” annually conducts action “We’ll hear disabled” devoted to the Day of Disabled People on December 3. Almost all target groups participate at the given action, some of the make contributions in the form of gifts, prizes and others.

During conduction of individual consultations for each target group the cluster NGOs tried to participate in them at maximum choosing the theme and the trend of the consultation: advocacy activity, social partnership, fundraising, PR activity, organizational development and others.

There were the cases of appearance of conflict situations connected with the advocacy campaigns, lobbying interest of beneficiaries. There were often conflicts provoked and connected with distrust to their activity. For solution of such problems the cluster groups gather very often for so called consultation and try to find solutions, they realize that emergence probability of such problems once more is high at their territory and they understand and support each other.

**The results of the activity of the CIB with the cluster groups can be called the following:**

- Almost all target (cluster) groups possess tools to define problems connected with advocacy and protection of rights;
- Learned to develop advocacy strategies and effective promotion of interests;
- Developed projects on advocacy and lobbying and could mobilize local resources for implementation of the project goal connected with the protection of rights and participation of people in making decision on the defined problem;
- The number was increased and the quality of conducted advocacy campaigns by the target NGOs was improved;
- Trust of local authorities to the cluster NGOs was strengthened;
- Partnership relations with the local self-governments and other subjects of civil society were established. They hold various events in partnership with the self-governments and other subjects of civil society;

- Learned to develop technologies of communication and carrying on a constructive dialogue;
- All cluster groups improved their own capacity to deliver information and knowledge to their beneficiaries;
- The cluster NGOs possessed tools of interactive conduction of trainings/seminars, learned to design educational materials of their own organizations;
- Practiced in holding Round tables and meetings with cluster groups a lot;
- Team work in organizations was improved, leadership qualities of leaders/members of the cluster NGOs were strengthened;
- Capacity of the cluster groups to plan and evaluate their own demands was improved.

#### **4. Leadership Development. The CIB Program “School of Leadership”**

In 2007 the CIB continued to implement the 3-year program “School of Leadership” (hereinafter LS). 2007 was the second year of its implementation. In parallel the CIB tracked the results of the work of the first LS and held events for the participants of the first year of training. Thus, in July 2007 the most active six participants of the LS were sent to Poland for study tour with the goal to exchange experience with the Polish famous leaders and organizations of development.

23 civic activists became the participants of the second LS in 2007 as a result of the contest selection.

The training component of 2007 was changed a bit in comparison with the training component of the program of 2006. For instance the number of trainings was increased to 5; terms of practice were decreased to 2-3 days, during the rest days mini-seminars were conducted upon the request of the participants. For instance, seminars on local self-government and diversity management (ethnic groups) were conducted for the participants of LS – 2006 due to their request.

Additional seminars on development of personal and leadership capacity were conducted for the participants of the LS- 2007.

Competent trainers from international as well as local organizations and also experts in the sphere of human rights and legislation were invited for conduction of educational Modules (seminars) in the LS.

One of the LS Modules was conducted by the international trainer from Holland Addie van Dalen having a great experience in development of leadership.

During the intervals between the educational Modules the LS participants had mini-practice in various ministries and departments, in the Parliament of Kyrgyzstan, met with famous public actors and leaders of NGOs, famous politicians and businessmen.

The component of grant support was foreseen in order to apply the acquired knowledge and skills during the training in the LS. After each educational Module the LS participants received home tasks to develop project-proposals.

In 2007 the Grant Committee of the LS approved 16 projects of the program participants. Contracts were concluded with the grant receivers, Financial Instructions were distributed to learn the administrative requirements on financial reporting during getting the grant in the frame of the CIB program “School of Leadership”. 16 projects were implemented by the LS

participants during the period of September 2007 till December 2007. More detailed information about implementation of the projects is given in the program report of the LS.

The CIB periodically conducted monitoring of the implemented projects. The CIB developed a Form of Monitoring Report including questions on project implementation, development of abilities and questions for further assistance by the program executors. Questions were developed in order to provide participants with support during implementation of their projects and also for their professional and personal growth. The form of the Monitoring Report was developed with assistance of the international consultant of the program Kristel Maasen. The List of Leadership Qualities was also developed at the initiative of the program consultant as the tool to make self-analysis of own leadership qualities.

**The following results were received as the result of the LS program activity on building capacity of the program participants:**

*For instance, at the level of community:*

- Several participants of the LS became members and coordinators of the public movement of youth “I do not believe” acting against falsification of the results of the pre-term parliamentary elections;
- Several participants of the LS became independent observers during the Referendum and pre-term parliamentary elections.

*At the level of career promotion:*

- One of the LS participants was invited to work as a coordinator on children’s participation in the international organization Every Child;
- One of the LS participant entered the list of 100 members of the oppositional party, as the party representative participated in pre-election campaign during the pre-term parliamentary elections of 2007;
- One of the LS participants became the chairman of the Territorial Investment Committee of the Village Council.

*At the level of improvement of knowledge and skills:*

- “Knowledge and outlook were improved after the LS trainings”
- One participant said that he knew the budget issues and he can provide help in its any issue. By his words he had only theoretical knowledge but after meetings, seminars he strengthened his knowledge.
- “Influence on me as a leader: I successfully applied skills of delegating authorities to my colleagues”.

*At the level of personal development:*

- “Communication with people was improved, I became more confident, more active, acquired more knowledge, started to find solutions very quickly and reaction was changed. Partnership relations were improved; they became more interested and well-disposed. Attitude of the community was changed, trust appeared”;
- “Thanks to the program I could achieve a lot: I became confident, learned to freely express my thoughts, learned orator’s art, I go to negotiations bravely with the local authorities”. If she was shy before to say a word then now she can speak publicly and listen to each speaker”;
- “I felt longing of people to me, they consult with me on a lot of issues. I feel success in communication with people”.

At the level of changing behavior at the personal level:

- “A line of complexes disappeared”;
- “I became another man: now I can make speeches before the public, others praise me”.

### 5. Inter-sector interaction of the CIB

Following its mission the CIB continued to develop interaction between the civil society and the authorities in 2007. In 2007 the CIB implemented the following activity in the face of the Osh Resource Center (hereinafter ORC) with the goal to provide accountability, transparency of local bodies of authorities before the population, increase of capacity of the local authorities:

- **To provide assistance in decreasing corruption in the regions of Osh oblast through improvement of social services**  
*and*
- **Building capacity of representatives of 16 village administrations in the south of the Kyrgyz Republic: Osh, Jalalabat and Batken oblasts.**

The CIB closely collaborated with the southern office of OSCE representation in the frame of the activity to decrease corruption in the regions of Osh oblast.

Training of representatives of village administrations in Osh, Jalalabat and Batken oblasts were conducted in the frame of the joint project of the CIB and ACTED.

Thanks to the implemented work in the sphere of corruption in the regions of Osh oblast through improvement of social services in 2007

- **More than 250** participants of the meetings and Round tables, representatives of the state structures, civil society and population increased legal consciousness in the struggle with corruption, obtained skills of joint defining reasons and carrying on a dialogue, joint development of mechanisms and recommendations on decreasing manifestations of corruption;
- Activity of local institutions on prevention of corruption became active. The state establishments that participated in the events undertook such measures as provision of free legal consultations to citizens, informational- explanatory work in relation to people getting social benefits. Local NGOs became active in prevention of corruption: **anti-corruption week was appointed and spent with their efforts during the period of December 3 till December 10, 2007.**
- Citizens of Osh and oblasts have access to getting legal information, they know where to address in the case of manifestation of corruption;
- Citizens became active in prevention of corruption. The number of appeals to the ORC made **23** during the implementation of the given activity.

The following events can be marked as the main events that promoted improvement of inter-sector interaction and decrease of corruption in the regions of Osh oblast:

- **Sociological survey** among the population of Osh oblast for defining the quality level of social services and legal knowledge of the privileged category of population;
- Formation of **anti-corruption group** of 12 people with representation of various structures (NGOs, state bodies and journalists);
- Holding **2 Round tables** (Osh, Kara-suu) to discuss corruption zones, reasons for their appearance and their consequences;
- Development of the **scheme of appealing** of citizens to the state structures in cases of manifestation of corruption facts;
- Conduction of **two-day seminars** for members of anti-corruption working group with the goal of developing the plan of activity to improve services of social protection;
- Preparation and fixing **100 informational display boards in 90 village administrations of Osh oblast and 10 territorial Councils of Osh;**
- Producing **video-roll and video-film** about opportunities of decreasing corruption in the sphere of social services;
- Conduction of **anti-corruption week** during which various events were held in Osh;
- Holding **regional conference** on the results of anti-corruption activity.

The capacity of representatives of 16 village administrations in the south of the Kyrgyz Republic: Osh, Jalalabt and Batken oblasts was increased through learning the needs of each pilot village administration on the basis of which the corresponding educational component was developed.

Each village administration had right to chose 4 urgent themes for training necessary for development of local community and increasing capacity of village administration. Preliminary presentations of the ORC staff members for training potential of the participants promoted the right selection of themes. Not only opinion of the participants but also opinion of representatives of ACTED and the conducted evaluation of the situation in each village administration were taken into consideration during the final selection of the themes.

The ORC suggested the representatives of 16 village administrations the following themes for selection:

1. Basics of local self-government;
2. Social mobilization for solution of local problems;
3. Project Design and effective usage of local resources;
4. Review of concept of the budget system/formation of local budget;
5. Participation of population in the budget hearings;
6. Strategic planning of area;
7. Effective governing in village administrations;
8. Involvement of local community in the process of making decisions at the local level;
9. Social partnership/building communication;
10. Basics of small and average business.

The following themes caused the interest of representatives of village administrations: social mobilization for solution of local problems, project design and effective usage of local resources, review of concept of the budget system/formation of local budget, participation of population in the budget hearings, strategic planning of area, effective governing in village administrations, involvement of local community in the process of making decisions at the local level and social partnership/building communication.

**List of village administrations where the ORC conducted trainings:**

Osh oblast	Jalalabat oblast	Batken oblast
1. Aktash village administration, Karasuu region	1. Akjol village administration, Aksy region	1. Alga village administration, Kadamjai region
2. Tort Kol village administration, Uzgen region	2. Mogol village administration, Bazarkorgon region	2. Suubashi village administration, Batken region
3. Kyzyl Too, Uzgen region	3. Seidikum village administration, Bazarkorgon region	3. Tortgul village administration, Batken region
4. Too Moun, Aravan region	4. Karajygach village administration, Aksy region	4. Leilek village administration, Leilek region
5. Sary Bulak, Karakuldga region		5. Katran village administration, Leilek region
6. Sarytash village administration, Alai region		
7. Sary Mongol village administration, Alai region		

All participants marked importance of the program as well as its practical side as a result of conduction of the training program on building capacity of representatives of village administrations. *“At the trainings the problems that were not fabricated but were real that worry the villagers of our village administrations for today were examined”, - the participant in Sary Bulak village administration (Karakuldga region, Osh oblast).*

**Success stories, positive peculiarities of the activity of the CIB on decreasing corruption in the regions of Osh oblast through improvement of social services:**

- Agreement was concluded with Medical Sanitary- Epidemiology Commission on presence of the Working Group members during the meeting of the Medical Commission;
- Measures in relation to people who were not present during the sociological survey were taken by the city social protection department. 27 people getting social benefits were struck off the register;
- National agency on prevention of corruption supported the plan of activity of the Anti-corruption Working Group –document of advisable character for implementation by the local institutions;

- The anti-corruption week was held for the first time.

### **Influence/impact of the activity of the CIB in the sphere of decreasing corruption in the regions of Osh oblast through improvement of social services:**

- Further independent work of the Anti-corruption Working Group, plan of which was approved for the period till September 2008. In accordance with this plan the local legislation on social guarantees will be revised, appeals and recommendations to the higher bodies of authority with the goal to bring sizes of payments and benefits in compliance with the size of the living wage will be developed. The Working Group will also systematically update information of the display boards as normative-legal acts are changed.
- The gained expertise of the ORC and also video and educational materials prepared in the frame of the given activity will become the resource for increasing capacity of NGOs and the state bodies fighting against corruption.
- The local organizations planned to spend annual anti-corruption week.

### **6. Public relations of the CIB. Working with mass media. Publications.**

In 2007 CIB continuing the tradition of pluralism implemented informational work among the mass media as well as public in the whole. For the CIB the work with information takes one of the important places in development of the strategic plan. The goal of this activity is to increase awareness of the civil society especially in the regions on the urgent issues, problems of society and others. Another goal of this work is to form right and correct understanding of the society about NGOs, their role and place in development of civil society.

Informational promotion (publicity) of the CIB was aimed at support and development of relations with bodies of authorities, Parliament, non-governmental and international organizations, mass media and population including promotion and protection of interests of own cluster groups and clients, providing feedback.

For working with information the CIB uses its own informational resources like specially created electronic list-serves, sites [www.interbilim.org.kg](http://www.interbilim.org.kg) in three languages and [www.tando.kg](http://www.tando.kg), periodical publications in form of collection of articles, informational bulletin, press-releases, informational booklets and others. The publications of the CIB are in demand and needed by the public.

#### *Electronic list-serv*

This information resource is a source of various information for people being interested in development of civil society, human rights defending organization, who work in NGOs and oriented at filling information vacuum and it is a peculiar space for alternative independent information.

#### *Web-site*

In August 2007 the CIB launched its information internet web-site: [www.interbilim.org.kg](http://www.interbilim.org.kg)

It is possible to get news about events in the civic society, news of the CIB and its partners, to learn about the process of the program activity of the CIB and other useful information.

Another site [www.tando.kg](http://www.tando.kg) was launched by the CIB in October 2007 before the Referendum and it is fully devoted to the theme of elections and rights of voters.

#### *Publishing activity*

In 2007 the CIB published methodological guidelines “Methodology and approaches of educational component of the program “Trust. Interaction. Collaboration” in two languages as a result of the three-year program “Trust. Interaction. Collaboration” on the joint participation of citizens and bodies of local self-government in solution of problems at sites.

In 2007 the CIB in conjunction with INTRAC published the collection of articles “Impact of anti-terrorist measures on development of civil society in Central Asia” that presented collective expertise of the situation in the Central Asia, Russia and Great Britain.

The CIB applies various forms and methods of collaboration (interview, press-conferences, press releases, problematic articles, participation of journalists in the CIB events) in its work with mass media.

300 materials beginning from short news messages and finishing with the articles related to the problems were published in printing mass media during 2007.

In 2007 the CIB continued collaboration with international editions and informational agencies.

### **V. Development of the CIB**

From the moment of its activity the CIB constantly pays attention to capacity building of the staff members of the organization. For increasing qualification of each staff member the CIB constantly looks for opportunities using local as well as international resources in order to send its staff members to seminars and study tours. The great attention is paid to training of the new and young staff members of the CIB.

The program of personnel training is built on needs assessment of staff members of the organization in trainings. As a result of the constant increase of qualification of the staff members the CIB has expertise on advocacy and lobbying, monitoring and evaluation, management, administration based on improvement of services, provided by the bodies of local self-government, budget law and fiscal decentralization, building communication and leadership development.

In 2007 the staff members of the CIB strengthened their capacity in the sphere of electoral process and monitoring and evaluation of programs, development of educational programs and strengthening capacity of young leaders.

The professional staff of the CIB and the team of external trainers-consultants allowed conducting educational programs and providing consultations concerning each trends of activity of NGOs and CBOs (community-based organizations) and also consultations for local self-governments depending on their level of development and request.

Availability of professional competence of the CIB staff members in various trends of activity of NGOs, CBOs allowed speaking of the growing interest from the side of various organizations to the training and consultative services of the CIB.



The components of success of the training- consultative trend of the CIB by the opinion of the CIB are at first constant learning of demands and adaptation of training Modules in compliance with the demands of target group, secondly, revision and development of new training Modules in two languages, for the third, simplicity of access and practical adaptability in conditions of local environment.

In 2007 the CIB continued to organize ordered trainings. In February 2007 the CIB conducted the training on advocacy for the team of “ADRA–Kyrgyzstan”. New international organizations like ACTED became customers of the CIB as a result of the required training Modules and qualitative conduction of trainings by the CIB.

Participating in various international meetings, conferences, Forums the staff members of the CIB as experts also continued increasing their capacity acquiring new knowledge from the practical experience of other organizations.

The CIB continued working upon its sustainability and extension of financial base with the goal of effective realization of its mission and providing qualitative services. At the moment the CIB has such sources of financial sources like donor grants and paid services (conduction of ordered trainings and evaluations).

As a result of strengthening capacity the CIB and financial base there were three projects developed in 2006-2007, one of which was planned for 2007-2008-2009. All projects were supported by the international donors.

## **VI. ATTACHMENT. Activity of the CIB in figures**

Number of visitors ( <i>registered</i> )	2 100
Number of consultations ( <i>registered</i> )	1 500
Number of conducted trainings	78
Number of supported projects of the cluster groups	11
Number of users of Computer/Internet/electronic mail/copy machine/printer/telephone/fax	250
Number of published, books	2
Number of Round tables	24
Number of public campaigns, actions	18
Number of appeals developed by the CIB	18
Number of TV-debates, discussions	4
Number of press-conferences	14
Number of conferences/presentations	14
Number of Forums	4
Number of produced video production	3
Number of monitoring of elections	3
Number of evaluations	2
Number of publications /plots on activity of the CIB in mass media	300

