



PRESS-RELEASE

EU project has supported provision of training and coordination meeting "Legal issues of development of handicrafts in the Kyrgyz Republic"

Bishkek, 28 of April 2015 - the training of trainers (ToT) "Legal issues of development of handicrafts in the Kyrgyz Republic", focused on topical legal issues concerning the crafts sector in the country and took place in Osh on 17 April. It was organized in as part of a coordination meeting attended by **Ms. Akylay Kojomberdieva** - Head of the Entrepreneurial Policy Department of the Ministry of Economy.

The objective of the event was twofold: on one hand increasing the knowledge of SMEs and artisans in key areas of legislation affecting the handicraft sector (training); and on the other hand, to collect suggestions from the artisans as well as presenting the problems of development of the handicraft sector, draft a law on craft activities, and to draft a resolution amending the state classification of economic activities for the further development of crafts in Kyrgyzstan (coordination meeting). During the event, important issues related to tax and customs of the craft sector were discussed, as well as the coordination among handicrafts stakeholders, and how to strengthen the role of the handicraft sector in the economy. The training was provided by **Bishkek Business Club** with the contribution of **CACSARC**, within the framework of the project "*Handicraft and business through regional integration and fair trade market*", funded by the European Union under the *Central Asia Invest* Programme. Thirty people participated in the event and all of them had the opportunity to share their opinion proposing adjustments and recommendations on mentioned topics. It should be noted that the international NGO **Cesvi**, together with three regional partners, are implementing the project in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan: the National Association of Small and Medium Business, the Union of Craftsmen, in Tajikistan, and the Bishkek Business Club, in Kyrgyzstan.

The overall objective of the project is to promote the private sectors of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan with a special emphasis on the regional integration of the handicraft sector. This objective will be achieved through capacity building and support to Tajik and Kyrgyz handicraft intermediary organizations.

For further information, please contact Luca Pagliara, Cesvi Project Manager (luicapagliara@cesvioverseas.org) or Talant Smailov, BBC Project Manager (project.manager@bdk.kg).

A project implemented by



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The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders. To this end the EU is active in Tajikistan since 1992 and provides approximately EUR 25 million annually in development assistance



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