

Tension Amelioration Strategy for Kyrgyzstan (TASK)

November 25, 2010

Problems

- Economics is the number one predictor of conflict
- Economic diversification as a means to reducing inequalities and ethnic tensions
 - Current lack of economic opportunities linked to ongoing ethnic tensions
- As a primarily development/economic initiative, CIDA will be the lead agency from Canada

Workshops

- Local
 - Afternoon of discussion and drafting problem diagnostics, ending with shared meal, music, and mingling.
- Regional
 - 2-day conference including presentations of local diagnostics
- National
 - 3-day conference to present findings to national leaders and discuss implementation of solutions and next steps

National

National Government

- Parliamentarians
- Civil Servants
- Industry Leaders
- Ambassadors
- NGOs

Provincial

9 Provincial Districts

- Provincial leaders
- Business Leaders
- Representatives from each local workshop

Local

5 in Osh Province

2 in each of smallest provinces

3 in medium-sized provinces

- Concerned Citizens
- Religious leaders
- Local business leaders
- Local development NGOs

Workshops

- Community based and participatory model
 - Stakeholders' interest represented
- Our workshops are organized to discuss local economic problems and objectives and to identify local infrastructure capacities requiring support
- Each workshop should end with a diagnostic for the locale / region
- Diagnostics brought to the national level
- Budget: predict that the budget will be sufficient to cover costs
- Timeframe: 3 years; final report within 6 months after national conference

Considerations

- What performance can be expected?
 - Ability to participate
 - Production of a diagnostic reports
- Performance assessment
 - Process-based, not outcome based
 - Production of new, quality ideas
 - Degree of cross-ethnic collaboration on solutions
- Monitoring
 - Use of a facilitator to ensure that all participants have the ability to voice concerns and suggestions

Considerations

- What agency/NGO will be tasked with coordination?
 - Central Asian Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Institute
- Follow Up
 - 1 year post-project, another national conference held to discuss progress
 - Findings funnelled back through to regional and local levels

Pre-Project Risk Assessment

- Minimal conditions for risk already met
 - Relative stability
 - Realization that economic problems exist
 - Unintended consequences?
 - None perceived
- Avoiding worst-case scenario
 - Human development
 - Poverty
 - Disparity between North and South
 - Ethnic tension
 - Poor economic recovery
- Contingency
 - Program can be carried out regardless of the formation of a governing coalition, BUT
 - Implementation requires support of government and industry leaders
 - In case of outbreak of violence, program must be paused