

A Bi-monthly Newsletter published by the EU-UNDP Border Management in Central Asia (BOMCA) Programme funded by the European Union January-February 2007

REGIONAL CONFERENCE DISCUSSES IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION'S INTEGRATED BORDER MANAGEMENT CONCEPT IN CENTRAL ASIA

A two-day Regional Conference to discuss implementation of the European Union's Integrated Border Management (IBM) concept in Central Asia was held on 27-28 February in Bishkek.

To promote the IBM approach, two projects, "Legal Assistance" and "Training for Border Staff" have been implemented by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD).

The participants of the Conference discussed the status quo in the Central Asian countries in the field of IBM, training work plans and future perspectives of the national strategies.



Approximately seven hundred and fifty border guards, customs and police officers were trained in Tajikistan in 2005. The same training-of-trainers approach to field training was replicated in Kyrgyzstan. IBM trainings were conducted during September 2006–January 2007 for 240 border agencies' staff from 18 border crossing points, 23 customs stations and personnel of veterinary, phytosanitary and sanitary departments.



KYRGYZ BORDER GUARDS, CUSTOMS AND POLICE INSPECTORS TRAINED IN DOCUMENT EXAMINATION AND VISA SECURITY

A training course on Document Examination and Visa Security for the staff of the Border Service, the State Customs Inspectorate under the Government and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic was organized during 19-23 February in Bishkek.

During a five-day training session the border staff, customs and police officers were trained in detecting document fraud and use of special technical equipment on document verification and examination.

The training also covered visa policy; validity, paper production and printing of travel document and visas; biometric identification systems; and operational, forensic and technological ways to detect travel documents, as well as security features to protect visas against fraud and corruption.



The European Union is funding a number of projects under its Border Management in Central Asia (BOMCA) Programme. The overall objectives of the Programme are to enhance security in Central Asia and contribute to an increased flow of persons and legal goods across Central Asian borders. The specific objective of BOMCA is to strengthen the Central Asian states' capacities in managing their borders in accordance with European best practices. BOMCA is a multi-annual assistance Programme funded under the EC TACIS instrument.



