

Aarhus Center in Osh, Kyrgyz Republic

**Theme: «Partnerships for natural
resource management»**

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Theme: «Partnerships for natural resource management»

The mining industry can be economically, socially beneficial and environmentally safe only if principles of responsible mining, conscientious and rational management of natural resources are kept. Non-observance of these principles leads to the following consequences:

- conflicts of people with mining companies
- blocking of roads by local people
- illegal arrest of equipments of mining companies by local people
- spontaneous meetings;
- suspension of production of mining companies;
- environmental pollution

Theme: «Partnerships for natural resource management»

Main reasons of discontent and conflicts between people and mining companies:

- lack of information and transparency in the activities of mining companies
- lack of social packet for the local population and employment
- non-compliance by companies with the requirements of laws on environment protection and subsoil
- imperfection of legal acts;
- destruction of bridges, roads and infrastructure
- pollution of water resources, drinking water sources
- recultivation of disturbed land ;
- felling of floodplain forests;
- abandoned facilities of mining companies

Gold mining





Theme: «Partnerships for natural resource management»

Main tasks of Aarhus Center on conflict resolution:

- information dissemination about mining companies
- informing the public about the changes in the regulatory and legal acts of the Kyrgyz Republic
- conduct of trainings, seminars on the law of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Aarhus Convention
- conduct of meetings to discuss the problems of mining industry
- conduct of public hearings
- building of platform for cooperation between mining companies, state agencies and the public;
- public participation in the decision-making process.

Gold mining in Chatkal





Conducted events

Aarhus Center held the following activities to solve the given problems:

- trainings on public participation and legal acts - 10
- public hearings on mining industry problems - 10
- problem discussing meetings relating to mining industry - 5;
- social inquiry of the mining industry and the environment-1;
- environmental monitoring with participation of international experts -2.

Public hearing in v.Kanysh-Kyia on the activities of mining companies





Achieved results

- 9.08.2012 - adoption of a new law of Kyrgyz Republic on the subsoil
- 12.01.2013 - the Government of Kyrgyz Republic affirmed statute of auction, competition and licensing;
- Experts prepared instruments on conflicts resolution in mining industry, and supplements
- Mining companies stepwise fulfil requirements of local population
- More than 25 people from Chatkal region study in the universities of Kyrgyz Republic at the expense of mining companies;
- Development funds were created in Chatkal, Chon-Alai regions
- Technical recultivation of 60 hectares of disturbed land in Chatkal region was conducted
- Biological recultivation of 35 hectares of land in Chatkal region was conducted
- More than 1000 people are employed in Chatkal region

Recultivation of disturbed land in Chatkal region



Difficulties

- lack of information about environment and transparency in mining companies
- poor performance of state agencies and mining companies in providing information and holding public hearings;
- local tensions and conflicts associated with the activities of mining companies throughout the country;

Public hearing on activities of mining companies in Chatkal region



Training on the Law on the Subsoil in Naryn province





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