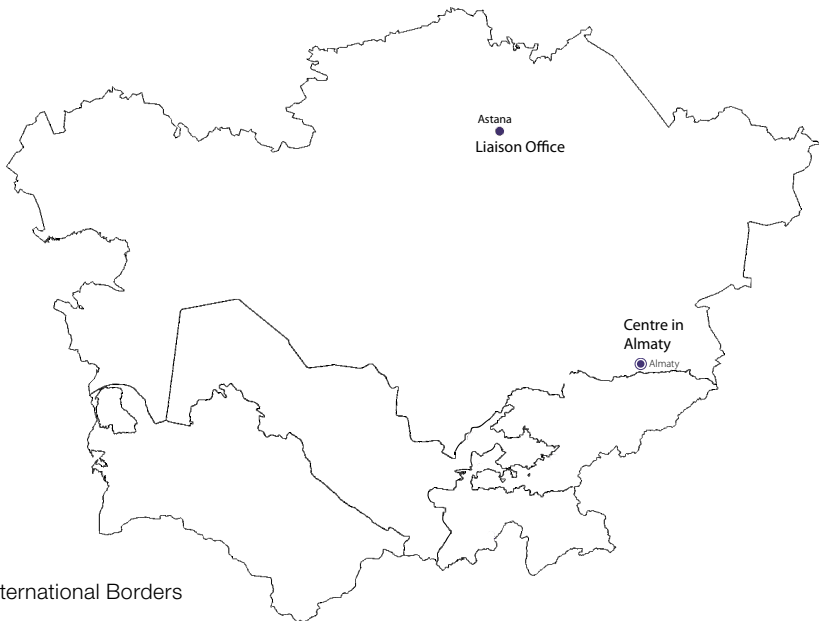


# Central Asia

## Centre in Almaty

The Centre devoted special attention in 2006 to supporting the follow-up of Kazakhstan's international commitments, such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). The Centre further enhanced co-operation between state institutions and civil society and encouraged both to participate across the spectrum of its programmes.

Prioritizing its activities, the Centre focused on the development of modern policing and the fight against terrorism. It worked to combat corruption, money laundering and the financing of terrorism and supported ecology and environmental education. The Centre also focused on combating trafficking in human beings.



The boundaries and names on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the OSCE.

### Politico-military dimension activities

**Development of a modern police force.** The Centre helped develop the Kazakhstani police force through an exchange of best practices with community police in Spain and with police regulators in the United Kingdom. In support of these activities, the Centre arranged a conference in which police personnel shared views on the crime prevention activity of law enforcement bodies and the role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in this process.

**Destruction of hazardous weapons and munitions.** Responding to Kazakhstan's

security and environmental concerns, the Centre, in co-operation with the Office of the Co-ordinator of Economic and Environmental Activities and the Forum for Security Co-operation Support Unit, continued to provide assistance for the elimination of the highly dangerous rocket fuel component *Melange*.

**Combating terrorism.** The Centre supported training of Kazakhstani officials and military officers to enable them to give special attention to ensuring respect for human rights while fighting terrorism.

**Confidence building.** To promote confidence- and security-building meas-

ures in line with the *Vienna Document 1999*, the Centre delivered a series of regional arms control training courses for military officers from Central Asian countries.

### Economic and environmental dimension activities

#### ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

**Combating money laundering and financing of terrorism.** The Centre published a practical manual for entrepreneurs



Representatives of the OSCE and Kazakhstan's Ministry of Defence discuss rocket fuel disposal during a visit to *Melange* storage facilities in Saryozek, south-eastern Kazakhstan.

OSCE/Aidar Botagorov



OSCE/Madina Ibrashvina

An NGO representative, a member of the local authority and an oil company representative discuss the rules for preparation and implementation of public hearings at the Atyrau Workshop on 19 October.



OSCE/Madina Ibrashvina

The Vice-Minister of Environment Protection Alzhan Braliev and a pupil from a primary school in Shropshire, United Kingdom, during a study tour on education for sustainable development in December

of small- and medium-sized enterprises on the role and duties of state bodies in fighting corruption. To assist the authorities to combat money laundering and the financing of terrorism, the Centre conducted a series of roundtables in nine regions throughout Kazakhstan, a country of comparable geographic size to western Europe. Experts were invited not only from Central Asia, but also from OSCE partner States, such as Afghanistan and Mongolia.

## ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES

**Promotion of the Aarhus Convention on the environment.** The Centre developed a manual that explains how to organize public hearings for different types of environmental decisions, such as the elaboration of national and regional plans, environmental impact assessments or permits for economic activities that might affect the environment.

**Promoting environmental security.** The Centre disseminated information on radiological safety to people living in or near contaminated areas of the former nuclear Semipalatinsk test site. Following up an information campaign in the area, the Centre focused on youth coming from the Semipalatinsk district, who learned basic radiation safety and the ground rules of behaviour in contaminated areas during a two-week summer camp in Almaty.

**Education for sustainable development.** The Centre intensified its activities in the field of education for sustainable development, and focused in particular on integrating concepts of sustainable environmental development into Kazakhstan's educational programmes.

## Human dimension activities

**Implementation of international commitments, electoral reforms, democratization.** Starting in February, the Centre conducted a series of seminars on the implementation of ICCPR, primarily focusing on the harmonization of national legislation and international commitments, with special emphasis on freedom of association and assembly, freedom of religious beliefs and expression and anti-torture measures.

On electoral reforms, the Centre, in co-operation with Kazakhstan's Central Election Commission, supported further improvement of election legislation in line with the ODIHR recommendations, through roundtable discussions with broad participation by representatives of political parties and civil society.

The Centre continued to support democratic development in the country. Two conferences on promoting public participation in parliamentary decision-making and on local self-government development were organized with the Centre's assistance.

**Anti-trafficking activities, gender equality.** The Centre drew attention to forced labour and trafficking of children by facilitating the organization of a Central Asian regional conference on the issue, together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Following assessment missions in several regions, the Centre organized workshops and training on trafficking for local officials, law enforcement officials and journalists.

On gender issues, the Centre, together with national and international experts,

facilitated the establishment of a working group that is drafting legislation on gender equality and conducted informal hearings and roundtable discussions on the draft. The draft law, which largely reflects the United Nations *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*, was accepted by Parliament in 2006 for further consideration.

**Rule of law.** In co-operation with the ODIHR experts, the Centre focused on rule of law activities, such as following up on a two-year trial monitoring project, with the aim to promote improvements within the judiciary. The Centre also provided comments on draft laws under consideration in Parliament, especially related to freedom of assembly and the media. The Centre contributed to further penitentiary system reforms, such as improving respect for human rights and health in prisons, and advocating the introduction of public monitoring of police cells.

**Media developments.** The Centre continued to monitor media developments, and support journalistic education, especially in the regions. The topics covered included the interaction between media and civil society as well as media legislation, which is in the focus of public debate. In order to enhance co-operation between officials and journalists, the Centre conducted a training programme throughout the country to improve the exchange of information between state organs and media outlets.

### Head of Centre:

Ambassador Ivar Vikki

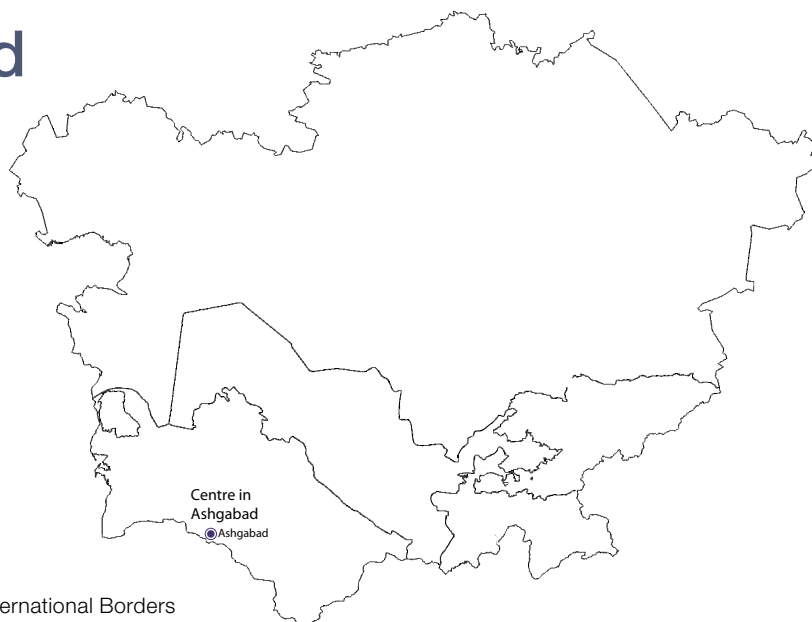
Revised unified budget: €1,936,100

[www.osce.org/almaty](http://www.osce.org/almaty)

# Centre in Ashgabad

*The Centre intensified its efforts to assist Turkmenistan in translating OSCE commitments and values into policy, increased its outreach activities and strengthened its co-operation with the UN and international donors.*

*The Centre's activities remained focused on border security, combating terrorism and trafficking in drugs and small arms and light weapons, promoting small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), raising public awareness on environmental issues, implementing international human rights law in the national legal system and supporting civil society development. It paid special attention to education and youth employment. A number of individual legal cases brought to the attention of the authorities were positively resolved.*



The boundaries and names on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the OSCE.

## Politico-military dimension activities

**Border security and management.** In close co-operation with Turkmenistan's law-enforcement authorities, the Centre carried out a one-week practical training course on border management at border crossing points in Turkmenbashi and Turkmenabat. Four international experts shared their expertise and best practices on the operational aspects of border management and co-operation across the border with Turkmenistan's border and customs officials.

**Combating trafficking in drugs.** The Centre supported the UN Office on Drugs and Crime in implementing a two-week practical training course for Turkmenistan's law enforcement

officials on drug searches in railway cars and on vessels. Together with the European Union's TACIS programme, it helped to organize a two-week practical training course on screening procedures for persons and goods at border crossing points.

**Promoting confidence and security building.** The Centre continued activities under its programme *Promoting confidence and security building in Central Asia* and organized two two-day workshops on combating illicit arms trade and on tracking small arms and light weapons. Seven international experts addressed issues ranging from improving stockpile security and destruction of surplus small arms and light weapons to control over international arms brokering. They paid special attention to the threat stemming from man-portable air defence systems (MANPADS) to civil aviation.

**Policing training.** The Centre organized a one-week practical training course on community policing at the Turkish Police Academy in Ankara and facilitated the participation of a high-ranking Turkmenistan police officer in the OSCE Chiefs of Police Meeting in Brussels.

"Community policing is about creating a forum for the community to have an input into how their community is policed, what issues are important for their safety and having a police that is representative of and upholds the values of a democratic society."

–Ambassador Ibrahim Djikic, Head of the Centre in Ashgabad.



Border management training, Turkmenbashi ferry



Border management training: drug search on a vessel



The Centre continued to support English-language and computer classes for State employees, scientists and students throughout the country initiated by the TACIS Programme in close co-operation with Turkmenistan's State Customs Service and the Supreme Council of Science and Technology.

## Economic and environmental dimension activities

**Development of the tourism sector.** The Centre organized a conference on sustainable tourism development focusing on private entrepreneurship. The Centre also supported the publication of tourist brochures about the ancient sites of Merv and Nisa, and a study visit for Turkmenistan tourism experts to the United Kingdom.

**Lectures on the global economy.** The Centre organized lectures on the global economy at two universities in Ashgabad. The lectures addressed globalization, sustainable development and international economic relations.

**Support to small- and medium-sized enterprises.** The Centre published a six-volume collection of domestic law on entrepreneurial activities and supported training projects for aspiring entrepreneurs.

The Centre organized a study tour to Lithuania for teachers of a private business school operating under the Union of Entrepreneurs. As a follow-up to the study tour, an enterprise simulation class was set up at the school.



Participants at a sustainable tourism development conference in May visit the archaeological site of Nisa.

**Raising environmental awareness.** The Centre provided support to the implementation of the country's *Environmental Action Plan* and, in co-operation with the municipality of Khazar, organized a summer camp on ecology for more than 30 school children from low income families. In addition, the Centre supported the development of environmental protection resource centres for the Nature Conservation Society of Turkmenistan in Ashgabad and Mary.

## Human dimension activities

**Supporting legislative reform.** The Centre continued to offer legal expertise and advice on best practices for the country's legislative reform, specifically on the *Law on Migration* and on the *Criminal Procedure Code*.

**Democratization and civil society.** The Centre sponsored the participation of civil society representatives in seminars abroad, and supported activities of youth non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such as the development of resource centres that provide access to information and deliver language and computer courses, and the organization of youth summer camps focusing on education, health and safety issues.

### Spreading the word

More than 2,500 visits were received by the Centre's Information Unit which provides information about the OSCE, computer facilities and a small library, and hosts presentations, workshops and roundtables on OSCE-related topics.

**Promoting human rights.** Three Turkmenistan Members of Parliament took part in a study trip to France to meet Deputies and to get acquainted with the French legislative process. The trip focused on developing legislation in compliance with international human rights standards.

The Centre, in co-operation with Turkmenistan's Foreign Ministry, organized three seminars on international human rights law. The courses focused on OSCE human dimension commitments and



Participants at a human rights seminar for Turkmenistan prosecutors and judges in Ashgabad in November

means to implement them effectively into the domestic legal system. Judges and prosecutors, law enforcement officials and legislators attended.

**Monitoring.** The Centre delivered more than 1,200 legal consultations on issues ranging from lack of due process of law and disregard for property rights to restrictions on freedom of movement, and brought individual cases to the attention of Turkmenistan's authorities.

### Promoting education

The Centre facilitated the publication of English textbooks and a tri-lingual Turkmen, Russian and English aid for English teachers, as well as materials on preventing HIV/AIDS developed by U.S. Peace Corps volunteers and local experts. The Centre also supported training courses on health issues, and promoted the Master's Programme in Political Sciences at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek and other educational opportunities for students.

### Head of Centre:

Ambassador Ibrahim Djikic

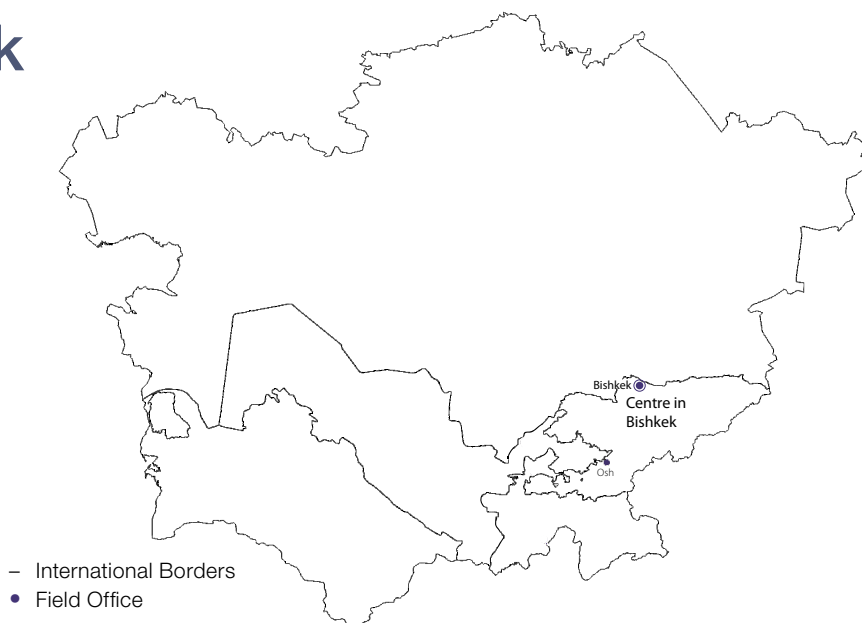
Revised unified budget: €1,211,600

[www.osce.org/ashgabad](http://www.osce.org/ashgabad)

# Centre in Bishkek

Issues of constitutional, legal and economic reforms dominated political discussions and developments in the Kyrgyz Republic in 2006. The Centre supported these reforms, focusing mainly on enhancing political stability and legal reform, improving the human rights situation and assisting media development, ecological security, good governance and the development of the economy.

The Centre continued its long-term commitment to supporting police reform and the OSCE Academy in Bishkek. It strengthened its outreach and programmatic activities in the regions by enhancing its co-operation with local and regional authorities and civil society institutions via a regional network of local project co-ordinators.



The boundaries and names on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the OSCE.

## Politico-military dimension

**Police programme.** The Centre, partnering with relevant governmental and judicial bodies and civil representatives, helped develop a legal and institutional framework for substantive police reform. It assisted with planning, co-ordination and implementation. The Centre also extended community policing activities to the regions by strengthening capacity of the Ministry of the Interior's community policing unit and of neighbourhood inspectors in the pilot zones. It also conducted outreach activities such as police open days. The Centre helped build the skills of anti-riot units in Bishkek and Osh, paying special attention to the need to respect human rights while maintaining public order. The Centre also provided training and

equipment to increase the operational efficiency of police investigation units, upgraded the emergency response centre in Osh and set up dog handlers' units.

**Supporting the development of political parties.** In co-operation with international and local partners, the Centre focused on increasing the potential of political parties by providing training on issues such as internal party democracy and management, regional branches development and modern campaigning techniques. The Centre supported initiatives aimed at training young representatives of political parties and stimulating women's participation in political life.

**Supporting youth policy development.** The Centre paid attention to the improve-

ment of public policy mechanisms and decision-making processes in the area of youth. Focus groups, roundtables and national events were held to ensure wide discussion of topical issues and youth policy development elaboration. As a result, the policy paper on the problems of youth participation in the country's development was published.

**Addressing inter-ethnic tension.** As tensions rose in the country's north at the start of the year, the Centre supported peaceful development in areas that had seen problems between different ethnic groups. A *Peace-building and Community Mobilization* approach helped to overcome underlying conflict potential and funnelled energies toward common community needs. The Centre also promoted



Youth in a training session on the functioning of the political system



Two attendees discuss a presentation at the General Assembly of the Kyrgyz Community-Based Tourism Association.

harmonious multi-ethnic co-existence through feature articles in the media and popular magazines.

## Economic and environmental dimension activities

**Economic issues.** The Centre focused on spreading the activities of business associations throughout the country in an effort to improve the business community's lobbying efforts for governmental reform and its understanding of fundamental issues affecting the private sector. Tourism sector development remained a Centre priority, given its importance for rural area income generation.

**Environmental issues.** Environmental risks are a major threat to the well-being of the population of Kyrgyzstan. The Centre raised awareness about those risks amongst donors through roundtable meetings, documentary films and by providing capacity-building support to relevant state agencies.

**Good governance.** The Centre worked with the newly established National Agency for Corruption Prevention. The Centre hired an international expert to assist the Agency with developing a strategy and action plan.

**Supporting local media.** The Centre and Field Office in Osh facilitated the opening of Public Media Centres in three provinces to enhance possibilities for local media and to improve access to information for the rural population. The Centre supported public television reform and helped provide training to local journalists on writing analytical pieces and to

local authorities on public relations. It also helped provide legal consultation and mediation to local media outlets and journalists. A group of journalists was trained on labour migration issues.

## Human dimension activities

**Constitutional and legal reform.** The Centre supported constitutional reform and promoted the transparency, consistency and inclusiveness of the process. It assisted the ODIHR and the Council of Europe's Venice Commission in providing suggestions on the draft of the new Constitution, facilitated stakeholder discussion on the amendments and engaged in public-awareness raising about the constitutional process. The Centre also supported electoral system reform and capacity-building of domestic election observers.

**Implementation of international human rights standards.** The Centre continued to support the Training Centre for Prosecutors, trained young lawyers on the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* and facilitated the access of the indigent population to free legal aid. The Centre initiated activities aimed at promoting human rights in temporary detention facilities and at the Adaptation and Rehabilitation Centre for Juveniles of Bishkek.

**Promoting gender balance and fighting trafficking in human beings.** An analysis of local budgets from a gender perspective, supported by the Centre, facilitated the capacity-building of local parliamentarians in budget planning, management and monitoring. The Centre provided suggestions on the draft of the new State Programme on Anti-trafficking

and facilitated the review of this document by the authorities, local NGOs and international experts.

## Osh Field Office

In 2006, the OSCE Field Office in Osh directed its activities towards the implementation and consolidation of political and economic reforms undertaken at local levels and addressed, together with local authorities and civil societies, the roots and origins of locally identified tensions.

## Politico-military dimension activities

The Office worked with concerned communities and local authorities to address tensions at the border and near-border areas. It identified existing and emerging sources of potential conflict and launched processes to decrease tensions through mediation and negotiation. The Office also focused on inter-ethnic relations through initiatives targeting youth and journalists covering ethnic-related issues. Finally, the Office triggered a political dialogue between political parties' representations and the wider public at the local level and provided training courses for existing and newly established political parties' branches.

## Economic and environmental dimension activities

The Field Office worked in close co-operation with local authorities and

### OSCE Academy

In its fourth year of work, the Academy, whose focus is regional security issues, graduated 21 students in its third class of Master of Arts in Political Science (Central Asia). It launched its fourth Masters course with 25 students who came mainly from Central Asia. The Academy lengthened its programme into a 14-month course, with greater emphasis on thesis research and practical internships.

In July, the Academy concluded a regional research project on *Legal Aspects of Border Management in Central Asia*, which was published in book form.



An OSCE Academy student addresses a comment to the podium during a discussion with German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier in November.

OSCE





OSCE

Building confidence between the police and the public in the south of the Kyrgyz Republic



OSCE

A police officer talks to children at a Police Open Day in Osh.

business actors to promote economic development in the regions, improve both legislation and the business environment and attract investment. The Office also worked to protect the environment in the south of the country through capacity building and educational and advocacy programmes.

The Office worked with local authorities to improve conditions for private investment. It targeted its work at improved government-business relationships, de-

velopment of investment analysis skills, and the systematic collection and distribution of information on credit, investment and businesses.

### Human dimension activities

The Office focused on building confidence between law enforcement bodies and the public and improving the conditions of detention and treatment of detainees.

The Office also contributed to increasing access to justice for the rural population through free legal aid. The Office continued to tackle trafficking in human beings and supported initiatives promoting gender equality and the prevention of domestic violence, especially in rural areas.

#### Head of Centre:

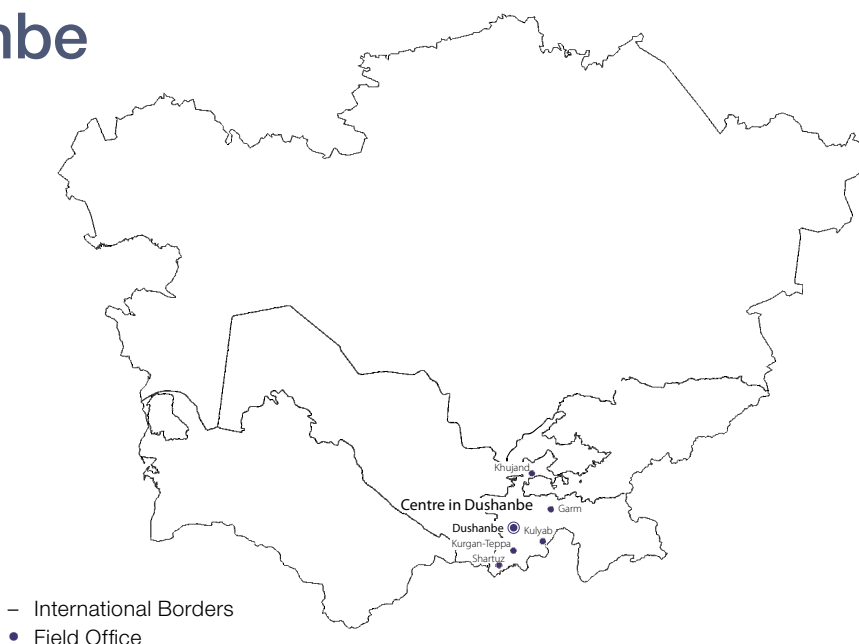
Ambassador Markus Mueller  
Revised unified budget: €3,153,200  
[www.osce.org/bishkek](http://www.osce.org/bishkek)

## Centre in Dushanbe

*The Centre enhanced its politico-military activities with the launch of a second phase of its small arms, light weapons and conventional ammunition programme. It also continued its assistance to demining efforts. It developed a number of resource centres in support of several economic groups and took up the issue of radioactive waste in the north. The Centre also focused on human rights education among young people and on media and gender issues.*

### Politico-military dimension activities

**Small arms, light weapons and conventional ammunition.** The Centre successfully completed the first phase of its programme to destroy small arms and conventional ammunition. It identified a new demolition site in Lohur, south of Dushanbe, and 34 tons of ammunition were destroyed during capacity-building



The boundaries and names on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the OSCE.

training on ordnance disposal. In Dushanbe, the Centre created a small arms destruction facility where 26,000 weap-

ons were destroyed. It refurbished seven storage sites for small arms, light weapons and conventional ammunition.

**De-mining.** With support from the Centre, the *Fondation Suisse de Deminage* cleared 307,356 square metres of land. De-mining teams destroyed 1,100 anti-personnel mines and 657 unexploded ordnance.

The Centre supported the Ministry of Defence in implementing its observation and data-exchange commitments as outlined in the OSCE's *Vienna Document 1999*. Tajik inspectors, supported by the Centre and trained by the Russian Federation and Germany, conducted in France their first active quota inspection under the *Vienna Document*. The Tajik Ministry of Defence Verification Centre was connected to the OSCE's global network for information exchange.

**Political dialogue and elections.** The Centre facilitated dialogue between the government and religious organizations, ensuring an atmosphere of mutual confidence. The Centre's *Law and Religion* project provided joint training and enhanced legal and political awareness for local authorities, Muslim clergy and political parties.

The Centre co-organized ten meetings of the Social Partnership Club to stimulate constructive dialogue between the government, political parties and public organizations on important national issues. The Social Partnership Club is a key component of the Public Council, established under the peace agreement of 1997, which brings together all political parties, national minorities and civil society and functions as a representative, advisory and co-ordination organ.

Although some shortcomings were reported by ODIHR's election observation mission, the OSCE supported *Education Seminars on Election Standards* which resulted in a number of concrete improvements during the 6 November presidential election.

The Centre supported the *Civic Education for Youth in Tajikistan* and *Civic Education Summer Camps* which raised awareness among youth of issues such as human rights and democracy. Several youth groups were formed following the camps to further disseminate the knowledge gained.

**Countering violent extremism.** National experts participated in international work-



A French explosive ordnance disposal expert provides training in the destruction of ammunition.

shops on combating terrorism and drug trafficking, and on improving travel document security. The Centre supported a project on countering violent extremism and terrorism, which raised awareness among the population on the modus operandi of extremist groups.

## Economic and environmental dimension activities

**Labour migrants' rights – support to land reform and small businesses.** Within the framework of the poverty reduction programme established by the government, the Centre supported the creation of three information networks of resource centres for labour migrants,

farmers and entrepreneurs. All centres provide information, training and practical assistance on topics such as new agricultural technologies and drafting of business documents. Potential labour migrants may receive individual counselling.

**Capacity-building on environmental issues.** The OSCE-established Aarhus Centre in Dushanbe provided technical assistance to the State Committee on Environment and Forestry in finalizing the new *Law on Nature Protection* and five by-laws.

Under the project *Survival through Action*, the Centre helped train the population of Taboshar in the economic use of scarce potable water to avoid the use of radio-nuclide-contaminated open water sources.



Tajik women at a sewing workshop in Kalanak, Rasht Valley. The workshop was started with OSCE support in 2005 and continues to function after funding ending, providing both jobs and training.

OSCE

OSCE/Bess Brown





Planting trees at an irrigation channel in Kumsangir, Khatlon to stabilize the banks and avoid erosion

**Preventing erosion.** The Centre conducted an awareness-raising campaign in Khatlon focusing on land reduction caused by erosion. The Centre also planted some 30,000 poplar and spruce trees in areas vulnerable to erosion, in order to reduce population pressures on the local environment and prevent land degradation.

**Raising awareness.** The Centre supported Green Patrols, which raise awareness of environmental issues among youth. It offered the 70-most-active pupils and students a chance to participate in the *National Ecological Youth Summer Camp* and the *International Youth Ecological Forum*.

## Human dimension activities

**Human rights.** The Centre organized a summer camp, introducing 20 university students from around the country to theoretical and practical aspects of human rights protection. In co-operation with the UN Office of Peace-Building in Tajikistan, the Centre supported Tajikistan's efforts to become a leading participating State by offering human rights as a subject in the secondary school curriculum. The Centre also worked with the Tajik NGO *Human Rights Centre* in monitoring more than 100 trials.

**Judicial and legal reform.** The Centre, in co-operation with other local and international organizations, organized 11 conferences and roundtables on such diverse topics as prison conditions; institution of a human rights ombudsman;

independence of the judiciary; and review and analyses of draft laws on: freedom of conscience and religion, and NGOs and public associations.

**Media development.** The Centre supported print media in the most populous and poor areas of the Khatlon region. In Kurghonteppa, the OSCE sponsored the independent newspaper *Bomdod*, which became a forum for political dialogue. The Centre also continued its support to the only independent Uzbek-language periodical in Tajikistan, *Nafosat*. It provided technical assistance in printing two newspaper start-ups, *Sobytiya* and *3+1 Kishovarz*.

Some 400 people a month visited the two information centres, established with OSCE support in 2004, in Dushanbe and the Rasht Valley. The information centres train journalists and journalism students, provide access to the Internet and other information sources as well as technical support in news research and production.

An OSCE-initiated Internet election portal provided better access to background information on the presidential election in Tajikistan on the website of the independent news agency Asia Plus ([www.asiplus.tj](http://www.asiplus.tj)).

**Raising gender awareness.** The Centre worked with the Tajik State Employees Training Institute and the Institute for Upgrading the Qualifications of Secondary School Teachers to include gender issues in the curriculum.

The Centre also provided training courses on gender issues, attended by a total

of 100 government employees and 80 teachers.

**Rights enforcement mechanisms.** The Centre supported a forum for representatives of governmental agencies, women's NGOs and the international community, which enabled the parties to better define their respective responsibilities for the implementation of the national *Gender Action Plan*.

**Women's resource centres.** The nine OSCE-supported women's resource centres continued to provide psychological and legal support in addition to playing a preventive role through the organization of events such as seminars on gender awareness and women's rights and courses for the economic empowerment of women. The Centre contributed to capacity-building for managers of the women's resource centres.

**Anti-trafficking.** The Centre focused on capacity building and regional co-operation of the Tajik Interdepartmental Commission on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and local NGOs by supporting their participation in international and regional conferences.

### Acting Head of Centre:

Klaus Rasmussen

Revised unified budget: €3,936,700

[www.osce.org/tajikistan/](http://www.osce.org/tajikistan/)

# Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan

On 30 June, the OSCE participating States established a new form of co-operation with the Republic of Uzbekistan. The Centre in Tashkent became the Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan.

The Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan was tasked with assisting the Government in its efforts to ensure security and stability, including fighting against terrorism, violent extremism, illegal drug trafficking and other transnational threats and challenges; supporting the Government with regard to further socio-economic development and the protection of the environment; and assisting the Government in the implementation of OSCE principles taken within the Organization's framework, including those related to the development of civil society.

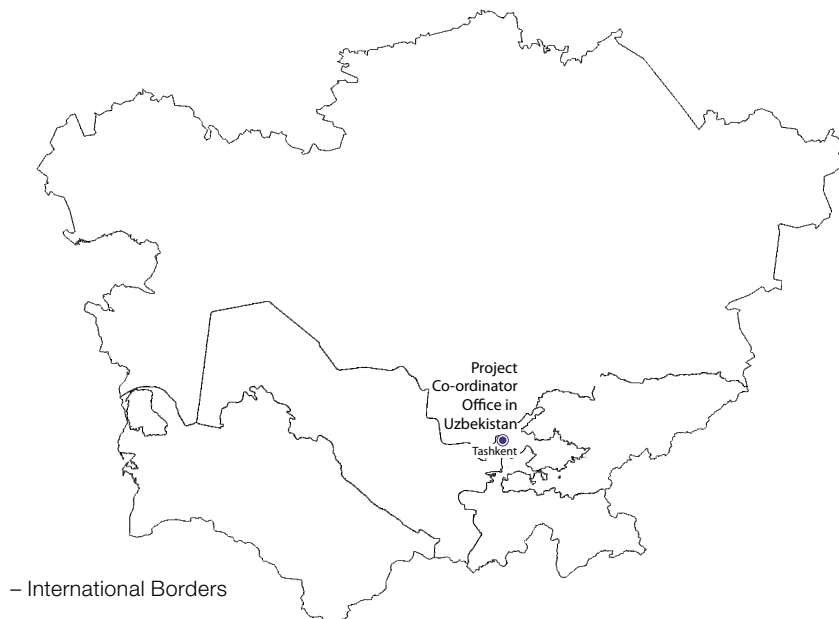
The field operation continued the OSCE's work to assist the authorities in fighting terrorism and drug trafficking. The field operation strengthened its efforts in the economic and environmental fields, focusing particularly on the promotion of entrepreneurship and good governance in local communities. The OSCE also encouraged gender equality and worked against trafficking in human beings.

## Politico-military dimension activities

**Capacity-building.** The Project Co-ordinator facilitated the participation of Uzbek officials in a number of workshops organized under OSCE auspices, focusing on issues such as combating terrorism, travel document security and suppressing illicit drug trafficking. Following up on these trips, the Uzbek authorities presented their recommendations for future joint activities with the field operation.

**Internet cafe for journalists.** The field operation provided free Internet access for media representatives during the first part of the year. Journalists, media professionals and students of journalism faculties used the resources of the Internet cafe and training courses offered to improve their computer and Internet skills.

**Legal clinic for journalists.** The field operation organized consultations and legal support for journalists and media



The boundaries and names on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the OSCE.

representatives during the year. The lawyers of the OSCE-supported Legal Clinic briefed journalists and media representatives on media-related legislation, advised journalists on compliance with national legislation before publishing their articles, and provided legal defence and representation in courts.

Together with the EuropeAid Co-operation Office, the field operation established an Information Training Centre for deputies to the Lower House of Parliament and provided equipment, assistance in daily operation and guidance for elaborating an appropriate centre. In addition, the field operation and EuropeAid published a book on the *Legislative Chamber of Parliament of Uzbekistan* and organized a study tour for parliamentarians to European Union countries and Russia.

## Economic and environmental dimension activities

**Labour migration management.** In January, the field operation facilitated participation of a delegation in a workshop on *Labour Migration Management in Central Asia* held in Almaty. The delegation included representatives from the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Centre for Effective Economic Policy under the Ministry

of Economics, the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Population and the Centre for Social and Marketing Research.

**Promoting entrepreneurship.** The field operation held training courses on the basics of entrepreneurship for youth jointly with the National Youth Social Movement and offered a series of business training courses for women in co-operation with the Women's Committee of Uzbekistan. Under the project *Promoting Development of Arbitration and Supporting Farmers in Uzbekistan*, the OSCE, the Farmers' Association of Uzbekistan and the NGO *Legal Problems Research Centre* implemented training courses to educate local lawyers in the development of arbitration



Small- and medium-sized enterprises youth training. Young participants were required to develop their own business ideas, which were reviewed by experts and trainers.

OSCE



OSCE

Leaders of mahallas, or self-governing communities, are trained in financial and legal skills at courses supported by the Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan.

and on farmers' rights. On the basis of the participants' comments, the OSCE developed recommendations to help them deal with the obstacles they face in running their businesses.

**Fight against drug trafficking.** The OSCE's field operation funded publication of 1,000 copies of the *Information Bulletin regarding the drug situation in Central Asia in 2005*, which was prepared by the National Information-Analytical Centre on Drug Control under the Cabinet of Ministers of Uzbekistan. It is drawn from information received from the national centres on drug control in neighbouring countries.

**Security issues in regional transport.** The Project Co-ordinator supported the participation of an Uzbek delegation at the OSCE's *Economic Forum* which focused on transport issues. As a follow-up, the office published a guidebook which contained International Road Transport rules and regulations and practical tips for locally based international truck drivers.

**Promoting good governance in local communities.** During the first half of the year, about 150 representatives of the self-governing communities or mahallas in the Ferghana Valley participated in a pilot training course on the basics of budgeting, accounting and financial reporting initiated by the Republican Mahalla Foundation. This training, organized by the Project Co-ordinator, provided participants with the tools needed to manage communities efficiently and raised aware-

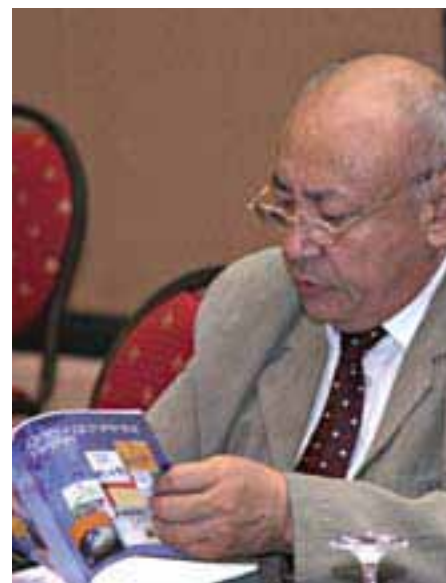
ness about the representatives' rights, opportunities and responsibilities.

**Environmental education.** The OSCE supported the working group which is drafting a secondary school curriculum on environmental education focused on water conservation issues.

## Human dimension activities

**Empowering women.** The field operation, together with governmental, non-governmental and international organizations, followed up the training course *Improvement of the National Mechanism on Gender and Development* with a series of regional trainings that reinforced participants' capacity to promote gender equality issues. The office also supported two television documentaries on portraits of Uzbek women leaders, organized two roundtables in the regions on the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)* and supported publication of 100 copies of the handbook on *National and Monitoring Reports on CEDAW Implementation in Uzbekistan*.

**Preventing trafficking in human beings.** From February to July, the field operation focused its activities on the prevention of human trafficking with two awareness-raising campaigns conducted in close co-operation with regional law enforcement authorities. The field operation translated into Uzbek the ODIHR *Handbook on National Referral Mechanisms*.



OSCE

The Project Co-ordinator and the Authorized Person for Human Rights in Uzbekistan's Parliament launched a handbook on ombudsmen.

**Building capacity at the ombudsman institution.** In February, the field operation supported the ombudsman institution by organizing seminars on its work and related workshops in the regions. The OSCE funded the publication of 1,000 copies of the handbook *Ombudsmen of the World*, which details a number of countries' experiences in developing ombudsman institutions. In co-operation with the Uzbek Ombudsman, the field operation organized a conference on *Strengthening Co-operation between the Ombudsman and the Legislative Chamber of the National Parliament* with the participation of international experts.

**Support to legal education.** The field operation supported the development, publication and distribution of the manual *Legal Remedies at Civil Courts*.

**Prison reform.** The field operation provided 1,100 books in Russian and Uzbek and free access to the Internet for teachers and trainees of the Prison Training Centre's Resource Unit, which was established by the field operation in co-operation with the Ministry of the Interior in 2005. About 400 staff members from different penitentiary establishments throughout Uzbekistan took advantage of these opportunities.

## Project Co-ordinator:

Ambassador Miroslav Jenca  
Revised unified budget: €1,015,300  
[www.osce.org/tashkent](http://www.osce.org/tashkent)