

Kyrgyzstan 2015



Kyrgyzstan



MANDATE

Handicap International's overall goal in Kyrgyzstan was to help the most vulnerable people improve their quality of life and to support local organisations to become key drivers for change.

Handicap International's activities in Kyrgyzstan have been over since summer 2015.

SITUATION

Kyrgyzstan is one of the poorest countries in the former Soviet Union and also the most liberal in Central Asia. However, its democracy is far from stable, despite considerable efforts to strengthen its political institutions since the departure of President Kurmanbek Bakyiev. Kurmanbek Bakyiev resigned following protests against his government in April 2010, leading to the formation of a new parliamentary republic in June 2010. Ethnic violence broke out in the regions south of Osh and Jalalabad in June 2010. The emergency has now passed and humanitarian aid is focused on the economic revival of these areas. The situation remains extremely delicate and the new president, Almazbek Atambayev – elected in October 2011 – has the onerous task of running a country which has known its first peaceful handover of power in two decades of independence from the USSR.

INITIAL ACTIONS

Handicap International intervened in Kyrgyzstan for the first time in the summer of 2010 in response to inter-ethnic violence in the south of the country (region of Osh) in June 2010. Our aim was to encourage humanitarian organisations involved in the relief effort to identify the needs of people with disabilities and to ensure they were subsequently taken into account as part of their actions in the field. Handicap International also trained and raised the awareness of international and local organisations present in the field on the issues

of inclusive recovery and development¹ in preparation for the reconstruction phase. Handicap International also helped with the mapping of people with disabilities following the internal displacements of the population.

KEY FACTS

Human development index (HDI)*	125/187 countries rated
Life expectancy*	67.5
GDP per capita(\$PPP)**	3,021\$ per annum
Population**	5.7 million
Surface area**	199,449 sq.km

* UNPD: Human Development Report 2014

** World Bank 2013

Convention on the Rights of Person with Disabilities (CRPD)	Signed: 21 September 2011
Convention on cluster munitions (Oslo)	Not signed
Mine ban treaty (Ottawa)	Not signed

¹ Inclusive development aims to include people with disabilities in development programmes