

Women2030 Monitoring and Review of the Sustainable Development Goals and Development Justice



Kyrgyzstan

Prepared by ALGA

Country Background

The Kyrgyz Republic (Kyrgyzstan) is a landlocked country with a population of over 6.2 million people, with the majority living in the rural areas. Since its transition to an independent republic in 1991, when the Kyrgyz Republic became a democracy with a market economy, the country has experienced significant changes in government administration and in social policies aimed at promoting gender equality and sustainable development. Despite a solid framework to support government efforts to improve the status of women, inadequate attention has been devoted to the specific conditions of rural women and women in agriculture. Discrimination and violence against women remain widespread. Women are generally ill-informed about their rights, and rural women continue to face substantial challenges under the constraints of patriarchal norms that reinforce women's lack of access to and ownership of land as well as other productive resources, lack of access to education and employment opportunities, and low access to advantageous financial services. Bride kidnapping and early marriages add to their woes, in so much as it results in unregistered or religious marriages that deprive women of their basic human rights. To respond to the specific needs of rural women, it is vital to address these issues, and enhance women's participation in decision-making spaces at the national and local levels to respond to the specific needs of rural women.

Architecture for SDGs Implementation

In December 2015, the government established a Coordinating Committee for the Adaptation, Implementation, and Monitoring of the SDGs by 2030 to serve as a consultative and advisory body that coordinates all stakeholders. The government reiterates its commitment to collaborating with stakeholders from different sectors in establishing new finance mechanisms and defining development priorities for implementing Agenda 2030. Between 2016 and 2017, the government hosted more than 40 Working Group meetings with the participation of all stakeholders, including civil society organisations, to plan for the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs.

Since 2012 National Council for Sustainable Development of Kyrgyz Republic was established under the lead of the president of the country. In June 2016, and then in September 2018, Guidance on the National Council was reconsidered and approved by the Presidential Decree # 157 and 188 accordingly. Main goals of the National Council for Sustainable Development is a provision of the legal framework, coordination of the efforts of all branches of the state authority, civil society and international organizations based on partnership, and active participation.

Country population:
6.2 million (2017)

GDP per capita:
1,219.82 USD (2017)

Palma ratio:
1 (2017)

UNDP Gender Inequality Index Value:
0.392 (2017)

UNDP Gender Inequality Index Rank:
91 (2017)

Government budget expenditure:

Military Expenditure: 211.29 Million USD (3.2% of GDP)¹(2017)

Education Expenditure:
16.27% of GDP² (2015)

Health Expenditure:
8.2% of GDP³ (2015)

¹ Retrieved from <https://tradingeconomics.com/kyrgyzstan/military-expenditure>

² Retrieved from <https://tradingeconomics.com/kyrgyzstan/public-spending-on-education-total-percent-of-government-expenditure-wb-data.html>

³ Retrieved from <https://data.worldbank.org/>

Are CSOs included in the mechanisms for developing the national plan and implementation of the SDGs?

Are women's rights organisations included in the mechanisms for developing the national plan and implementation of the SDGs? Is the information/ data accessible?

Women's Priorities: Findings on selected targets and/or indicators

The current status of the government of the Kyrgyz Republic in implementing Goal 5 is presented as follows:

Goal 5: Ensuring gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls



- The Kyrgyz Republic has initiated gender quotas for local and national governance bodies as well as legislation establishing rights for victims of domestic violence, but rural women still face many challenges and remain excluded from decision-making processes.
- Gender stereotypes continue to limit women's participation in decision-making at the national and local levels (for example-women comprise only 19.2 percent of the Supreme Council and hold only 10 percent of local council seats).
- Religious fundamentalisms and patriarchal practices including early and forced marriages, polygamy, and gender-based violence limit women's rights and access to justice.
- Rural women lack access to agricultural inputs and financial resources to support their entrepreneurial endeavours.
- Laws regulating land are gender blind and don't account for cultural traditions that often place land in the hands of men.
- Rural women most often work in the informal sector and lack basic social protections such as sick pay, maternity leave, or retirement.
- Women spend an average of 4.5 hours on unpaid domestic labour, limiting their opportunities and choices for paid work.



Recommendations

In order to achieve meaningful implementation of Goal 5, the government of Kyrgyzstan must:

- Enhance women's and girls' access to education through such means as the provision of quality school education, the elimination or minimisation of school fees, and by establishing schools in close proximity to villages, free vocational education and training;
- Address the underlying contributing factors to climate change and environmental degradation, provide funding for mitigation and adaptation, and support women's access to innovative technologies in agriculture and alternative energy resources;
- Improve rural women's access to public universal health care through such means through mobile clinics and providing comprehensive sexual health education;
- Enhance women's economic opportunities through abolishing discriminatory policies and practices in the labour market and through improving women's access and control over resources; and
- Create opportunities for rural women's meaningful participation in policy and decision-making levels.



support to the rural women, assistance through information, education, micro credit, organization of advocacy campaigns.

ALGA is a rural women's association. It was created by the initiatives of rural women in Kyrgyzstan in 1995. ALGA works for the improvement of the social, economic status and living conditions of rural women and creating enabling environment for women to participate in public life and in the processes of decision making. "ALGA" provides all around



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