

Overview of the Partnership Program for 2003-2006

Ms. Aigul Sultankulova,
Senior Specialist,
Legal and Methodology and
International Cooperation Division

Partnership Program Overview

- Partnership Program was set to serve State Agency on Energy (the successor is National Agency on Antimonopoly Policy and Development of Competition) and National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (USAID) in 2003 by signing Memorandum at first in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan and then in the Kyrgyz Embassy in Washington.

Partnership Program Overview

- The Program provides regulatory framework for the exchange of experiences and information among regulatory bodies of the US and Kyrgyz Republic
- The Program has a goal of improving regulatory practices and strengthening long-term relationships between the regulatory bodies of Kyrgyzstan and the US
- The Partnership Program is the part of the NARUC's energy regulatory activity and funded by USAID Office in Central Asia.

Partnership Program Overview

- Cooperation among the representatives of the regulatory bodies within the framework of the Partnership Program provided with opportunities to exchange information at the management and staff levels and arrange partnership meetings in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, and Olympia, Washington State

Partnership Program Overview

- Four activities have been conducted within the framework of the Program. The first activity took place in August 2003 and allowed management and staff of SEA meet the WUTC delegation
- Memorandum of cooperation between WUTC and SEA was signed
- Activity themes discussed during the working meeting included functions, powers and structure of each regulatory body

Partnership Program Overview

- In December 2003 SEA delegation visited WUTC in Olympia, Washington in order to proceed with presentation of agencies
- The issues related to customers, quality of utility services, public involvement and mass media were examined.

Partnership Program Overview

- In the course of the next Partnership meeting in September 2004, Olympia, Washington, both parties reviewed the issues of monitoring: audit of regulated utility, accounting system, and licensing.

Partnership Program Overview

In general, the Partnership Program can be described as an effective tool for the exchange of experience and fostering mutually beneficial cooperation between regulatory bodies of two countries.

Staff of the National Agency on Antimonopoly Policy and Development of Competition gained valuable knowledge and experience during the Partnership Meetings, which they apply in routine work and energy sector reforming activities in Kyrgyzstan.

Partnership Program Overview

- The next meeting of WUTC and SEA staff took place in April 2004, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- During that Partnership Meetings the parties reviewed and discussed themes dedicated to development of basic rates, structure of rates, profitability of regulated utility, submission of documents required for introducing rates and other issues

Partnership Program Overview

Thank you for your for
attention!