


ENGAGEMENT

Our commitment to sustainability includes a strong emphasis on open and inclusive dialogue with a wide range of external stakeholders. We are proactive in engaging with civil society to support the Bank's mandate of fostering transition towards market-oriented economies in countries that respect the principles of democracy and pluralism.

 The EBRD's full Sustainability Report 2014 can be found on our website at sr-ebrd.com

2014 ENGAGEMENT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

In 2014 we continued to actively engage with civil society organisations (CSOs) in countries where we invest, through outreach activities, dialogue and consultation events on the development of the Bank's policies, strategies and projects. This year also marked important changes in our work with civil society. We launched a new initiative – the Civil Society Capacity Building Framework – which aims to improve awareness and capacity among CSOs that are affected by specific EBRD projects, enhance policy dialogue initiatives, and help to establish a stronger partnership between the Bank and civil society.

In 2014 more than 2,700 CSOs were registered with the EBRD and over 380 civil society representatives participated in the 23 thematic meetings that we organised.

CIVIL SOCIETY CAPACITY BUILDING FRAMEWORK

In 2014 the Civil Society Engagement Unit (CSEU) finalised the pilot phase of the Civil Society Capacity Building Framework, a new initiative that was set up to further enhance our proactive engagement with civil society. The aim of the framework is to raise awareness, improve technical knowledge and organisational capacity, and develop outreach and project management skills among community-based civil society groups and organisations. These CSOs are directly or indirectly affected by specific EBRD investment projects and policy dialogue initiatives.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

We actively participate in international sustainability initiatives and policy development, and continue to play a prominent role in international efforts to address climate change. EBRD President Suma Chakrabarti participated in the UN Climate Summit in New York in September 2014 and accepted an invitation to join the advisory board of the UN Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) Initiative, which aims to modernise energy supplies and promote sustainable energy use. Regarding our commitment to SE4All, set at the Rio+20 Conference in 2012, we exceeded our US\$ 8 billion (€7 billion equivalent) target for the end of 2014 by US\$ 1.4 billion (€1.2 billion equivalent).

In addition, President Chakrabarti attended the Global Green Growth Forum in Copenhagen in October to take part in discussions on investing for a low-carbon future and sustainable urban development. EBRD delegates also participated in the UN Climate Change Conference in Peru in December in preparation for the 2015 conference in Paris, where countries are expected to adopt a binding and universal agreement on climate.

Looking ahead, 2015 is likely to be a watershed year for sustainability with the anticipated UN Sustainable Development Goals and the COP21 Climate Change Conference in Paris in December. At the EBRD we remain committed to making these processes a success and to playing our part in achieving their outcomes in the countries where we invest.

CIVIL SOCIETY
ORGANISATIONS

2,700

CSOs registered
with the EBRD



The KyrSEFF team calculates heat loss in Bishkek, the capital of the Kyrgyz Republic.

PROJECT
Building capacity
in energy efficiency

COUNTRY
Kyrgyz Republic

The Kyrgyz Republic is eight times more energy and carbon-intensive than average, according to data produced by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Residential buildings are the main end users of energy, accounting for more than half of the country's total energy use. While there is a growing demand for increased energy efficiency in residential buildings, meeting this demand largely depends on the quality of installation works.

With the help of a think-tank, Energy Centre Bratislava, we launched a technical cooperation project to help improve energy efficiency in the Kyrgyz Republic's residential building sector. The project was partly funded by the Kyrgyz Sustainable Energy Financing Facility (KyrSEFF) – an EBRD credit line managed by local partner banks and microfinance institutions for on-lending to businesses and households that seek to make energy efficiency improvements.