



### Kyrgyzstan

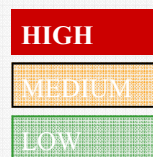


- Location: Central Asia, west of China
- Area: Total - 198,500, sq km; Land - 191,300 sq km; Water - 7,200 sq km
- Natural Resources: hydropower, deposits of gold and rare earth metals, coal, oil, and natural gas
- Population: 5,284,149 (July 2007)
- Languages: Kyrgyz 64.7%, Uzbek 13.6%, Russia 12.5% (official), Dungan 1%
- Government Type: Republic
- Legal System: based on French and Russian laws
- Executive Branch: Chief of State: President Kurmanbek Bakiyev, Head of Government Acting Prime Minister Iskenderbek Aydaraliyev
- Political parties: Asaba, Union of Democratic Forces, Ar-Namys, Ata-Meken,
- National Election: Presidential Election 16 December 2007

### Challenges:

- Demonstrations against the government are likely to continue throughout 2008 due to accusations that the December 2007 election was rigged and authoritarian rule by President Bakiyev. In addition, the government is likely to face tough opposition by the only opposition party in the Parliament, the Social Democrats.
- The influence of organized crime within government institutions remains strong after the Tulip Revolution. Several parliamentarians are former businessmen that enjoy a criminal reputation and have at times attempted to undermine the power and influence of President Bakiyev.
- Anti-corruption legislation has been somewhat effective, however, implementation of reforms are still necessary. The political opposition is accusing President Bakiyev of corruption and nepotism.

**Challenges: High**



### Opportunities:

- Tenders (open and invited) and government procurement opportunities are available upon request.

### Actions:

- CIN can identify and recommend local officials that are not influenced by criminal organizations and that are free from corruption.