**Trip Report**

Dushanbe, Tajikistan

June 1 – 3, 2014

TATYANA MARGOLIN & GINA LENTINE

**BACKGROUND**

The Foundation’s main priority is to strengthen the ability of citizens and civil society activists to advocate for protection of their rights and opportunities, fulfilling a function that the state should theoretically carry out but fails to do. From our visit, it was evident that for the areas of public health, early childhood education, and arts and culture, the Foundation is doing the best work it can in spite of extremely limited resources, massive “brain drain” in light of young activists leaving the country for better economic opportunities in Moscow, and shrinking political space.

The Foundation’s programs for transparency, accountability, human rights, and media were bright spots in an otherwise bleak political landscape. It is in these particular realms that the Foundation has managed to make some significant changes and gain some traction. For its human rights initiatives, which mainly address anti-torture mechanisms, OSIAF-TJ not only works with a solid coalition of human rights NGOs within the country, but conducts advocacy efforts with several international bodies, including the UN Group on Universal Periodic Review, CEDAW, UNDP, and the OSCE, thus bringing international attention to issues of torture and human rights violations in Tajikistan. In general, OSIAF-TJ, like the Foundation in Kyrgyzstan, seems adept at forging partnerships and receiving money from a wide array of international donors.

We got the impression that OSIAF-TJ is a tightly controlled operation. The Executive Director, Zuhra Halimova, runs the show in terms of programs, strategy, and operations. She is very closely involved with the day-to-day operations of every program area, and chaired most of our meetings while in Dushanbe.

**Foundation contacts:**

* 1. Dilovar Munavvarov, Program Director on Human Rights, Legal Reform, and Access to Information: [dilovar@osi.tajik.net](mailto:dilovar@osi.tajik.net)
  2. Nigora Abidjonova, Public Health Program Director: [nigora@osi.tajik.net](mailto:nigora@osi.tajik.net)
  3. Nazarkhudo Dastambuev, Director for Education Programs: [nazarkhudo.dastambuev@osi.tajik.net](mailto:nazarkhudo.dastambuev@osi.tajik.net)
  4. Ilhom Abdulloev, PhD, Programs Director – Business Development and Arts and Culture Programs: [ilhom@osi.tajik.net](mailto:ilhom@osi.tajik.net)
  5. Nasima Nazrieva, Arts and Culture Program Coordinator: [nnazrieva@osi.tajik.net](mailto:nnazrieva@osi.tajik.net)

**VISITS**

**Program on Human Rights, Legal Reform, and Access to Information – Dilovar Munavvarov**

**Access to Information:**

* The media program run by the Tajik Foundation is combined with the law and anti-torture programs. The program focuses predominantly on anti-torture monitoring efforts, as well as media laws and increasing the proliferation of/access to Tajik language news. There is also some emphasis on open data access, as well as developing the use of social media/ICT in TJ. Re: the anti-torture programs, there’s some crossover here with our working groups that address human rights issues – core and fields. The foundation collaborates with its counterparts in KZ and KG.
  + According to Zuhra, TJ has a flourishing news scene with many different perspectives, particularly when it comes to Tajik-language news (though this isn’t as much the case with Russian-language news).
* Media law focus: we met with a coalition of media lawyers (funded by the Foundation) who lead a series of trainings as well as a course for journalists and lawyers; they also publish commentary and guidelines on media laws in TJ and how to navigate them.
  + One interesting project in particular focuses on Google Translate and Wikipedia to address the limited scope and the poor Tajik translations of these resources.
* Increasing professionalism among journalists is a key component of the program (common to all three Central Asian Foundations). The media lawyers’ coalition also runs a school for journalists in partnership with Internews Tajikistan and RFE/RL.
* Access to information and accountability program: the media program carries out projects relating to transparency and accountability efforts in Tajikistan. They work in partnership with a coalition of NGOs. Some of the activities mentioned included an “Index on Budget Transparency,” and conducting monitoring of the state-run energy sector (www.bcquest.tj). OSF is one of the only organizations addressing this sort of work (again, the Anti-Corruption Working Group might take an interest in this).
* There is also a significant focus on telecommunications and Internet, as few providers have control of essentially the entire telecoms market in TJ. Access to information is often controlled and blocked by state services. To that end, the TJ Foundation cooperates with groups in Moldova, the Baltics, and Kazakhstan on the issue of shrinking access.
  + Challenges with content, esp. TV: a lot of it is essentially TJ government propaganda. There is only one independent TV channel in Dushanbe, and the regional networks are very weak. In TJ’s regions, people will often watch Afghan or Uzbek channels instead of TJ channels.
    - Asia-Plus also came up as a point of contention: “Intelligentsia against Asia-Plus.”
  + One important component of the media program is cultivating the use of social media and ICT platforms in Tajikistan and greater Central Asia for the purposes of transparent and objective journalism. The program emphasizes the use of multimedia as a platform for alternative information – Dilovar spoke in particular about infographics. The Foundation leads the Social Innovation Camp in Central Asia for young activists, web designers, journalists, and others interested in learning how to use social media to “make the world a better place.” According to Dilovar, many religious women took part in the workshop. The website is: [www.mometavonem.tj](http://www.mometavonem.tj) and their Facebook page is: <https://www.facebook.com/SiCamp/info>
  + The Foundation’s ICT/access to information partners are GIPI (Global Internet Policy Initiative), NGO Khoma, PF Internet, and Center for ICT. Respective contacts are Mrs. Parvina Ibodova, Dr. Rustam Kosimov, and Mr. Asomudin Atoev.

**Human Rights and Legal Reform**

* The main focus of the human rights program is on anti-torture issues, which is also a priority for EP through their “Human Rights: Cores” concepts. The program also addresses strengthening the training and knowledge of lawyers based in the GBAO (Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region) region of TJ, since that region has a dearth of lawyers. The lawyers carry out cases addressing women’s rights/domestic violence (per the PDN code). There is quite a bit of cross-regional cooperation in terms of working groups and meetings to exchange “best practices,” with the KZ and KG Foundations, as well as with the Georgian Foundation on the criminalization of torture.
* The Foundation cooperates closely with the OSCEoffice in Dushanbe, particularly re: the Human Dimension Implementations Meeting. The main objective is to present an alternative to state policies on development of gender, human rights, and media. They also work closely with the OSCE on the implementation of the Istanbul Protocol, especially concerning medical examination and documentation of torture.
* Other challenges on the horizon for the coalition of lawyers include the Law on Public Associations, which was passed in in 2007 and required all existing NGOs to undergo re-registration or else face termination (a recurring theme throughout this region in other countries, particularly Kazakhstan, Russia, Azerbaijan, etc.). The new Law on State Registration of Legal Entities and Individual Entrepreneurs, which was passed in 2009, requires that NGOs either register with the Ministry of Justice (where they are subject to more scrutiny) or the local tax authorities, but by default public associations (including political parties) are strongly encouraged to register with the MoJ.
* They have had more success in the past few years (particularly during the 2013 elections) bringing their cases before the court and advocating for anti-torture mechanisms, but there is still a long way to go.

**We met with a coalition of NGOs that address anti-corruption and transparency issues. The members of the coalition included** **Tojinisso Azizova, Director of the NGO “Lawyers;” Asomudin Atoev, Director of the ISPA; and Anna Shukurova, the Executive Director of the Union of Professional Consultants of Tajikistan**. Dilovar also took part in the meeting.

* These NGOs are strong partners of the Foundation’s transparency and accountability program, particularly the EITI, which addresses corruption issues tied to electricity and extractive industries in Tajikistan.
* The coalition has tried to shift its focus more onto budget transparency, as well as challenges of extractive industries and geological issues rather than focusing solely on electricity. They are running an info campaign in the regions to share information on local political decisions, budgets, and even more basic matters such as when the electricity is going to be turned off.
* Only 2.3% of state budget is reported to come from extractive industries – they think in reality it is a lot more (but they think no more than 15%)
* 16 companies do extraction, 76 do research to investigate whether they want to do extraction – lots of $$$ here. Whenever they have tried to get any info, they have faced obstacles in the form of state secret laws – to change these laws would involve a costly effort, so a bit of catch-22
* They’ve done several seminars in the regions to inform local residents about potential that this $ can generate for the region as people are totally unaware that this extraction is even going on in their areas. At the same time, there are some regions that are fully controlled/supported by big companies
* They joined “Public What You Pay” – don’t have many good notes on this, do you? If not, let’s follow up with Dilovar as this is really important b/c this coalition is really looking to cooperate regionally

**Meeting with the access to information coalition: Parvina Ibodova of the Civil Internet Policy Initiative; Rustam Kosimov, an expert on ICT issues; and Asomudin Atoev, Director of the Association of ISPS of Tajikistan.** Dilovar chaired the meeting.

* Many Russian telecommunications companies, such as Beeline, TJCell, and Megafon have control of essentially the entire telecoms market in Tajikistan. There are four national channels, and five regional channels. A lot of people in southern Tajikistan watch Iranian and Afghan TV channels. Access to information is often controlled and blocked by state services.
* To that end, the TJ Foundation cooperates with groups in Moldova, the Baltics, and Kazakhstan on the issue of fostering diversity in media content. There are major challenges with content, esp. TV. Most of it is essentially government propaganda. There is only one independent TV channel in Dushanbe, and the regional networks are very weak. In Tajikistan’s regions, people will often watch Afghan, Iranian, or Uzbek channels instead of Tajik channels

Providers are caught between two fires: on the one hand, they want unlimited access, but they’re also heavily dependent on the govt.

* One important component of the media program is cultivating the use of social media and ICT platforms in Tajikistan and greater Central Asia for the purposes of transparent and objective journalism. The program emphasizes the use of multimedia as a platform for alternative information – Dilovar spoke in particular about infographics and data mapping as tools for public awareness campaigns and information-sharing on electricity, water, state/local budgets. The Foundation leads the Social Innovation Camp in Central Asia (last year’s iteration was 29 June – 3 July, and it took place in Tajikistan). The SICamp is for young activists, web designers, journalists, and others interested in learning how to use social media to “make the world a better place.” According to Dilovar, many religious women took part in the workshop. The website is: [www.mometavonem.tj](http://www.mometavonem.tj) and their Facebook page is: <https://www.facebook.com/SiCamp/info>.
* Government fears internet, especially access to it by youth. Thus electronic/mobile devices are banned in educational institutions – the govt sites health concerns for this – totally absurd!
* In the law on mass communications the internet will be equated to media – in Kazakhstan this is already the case, and also in Russia. Thus individuals blogging can be held liable for libel, etc. if they’re equated to mass media (i.e., Alexander Sodiqov).
* The key aim of the coalition is to create an independent regulatory mechanism of media – entrance into the WTO is promising as it requires creation of such mechanism (Tajikistan joined just over a year ago).
* With support of the Foundation and OSCE the coalition held a conference in March on telecomm and will likely soon adopt an action plan
* TJ is absolutely unprepared for digital switchover. There are currently 15 independent channels and there are no conditions for them to go digital. In the switchover everyone will depend on one provider (now they can choose). Content will also be impacted heavily. This is the case with many countries in the region so may be potentially interesting to explore a regional conversation on this.

**Meeting with the Foundation’s anti-torture coalition: Nigina Bakhrieva, Director of the NGO “Nota Bene” and a former Board Member of OSIAF-TJ; Sergey Romanov, Director of the NGO “Human Rights Center;” and Nargis Zokirova, Director of the Bureau for Human Rights. Anna Crowley, Program Manager for Migration Initiatives**, and Dilovar took part in the meeting as well.

* This core group of NGOs comprises OSIAF-TJ’s fealty to the field of human rights and anti-torture initiatives. They also serve as mediators between the government and civil society, and bring cases before local and government bodies for open discussion.
* They work on prisoners’ rights, children/families, assisting NGOs with legal/registration challenges, and anti-torture monitoring. In eastern Tajikistan, where the state commonly shuts off access to electricity, they work on human rights issues tied to access to electricity and even water.
* They have also participated in trainings and information exchange with their counterparts in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, so there is a lot of regional collaboration in terms of exchanging best practices and shared frameworks. They took part in the anti-torture conference that was held in Almaty in mid-May 2014, which was co-sponsored by the Kazakh Foundation. They recently took part in a training in Bishkek, and some of their partners from the Khatlon oblast took part in a similar training in New York.
* They cooperate with the local ombudsmen in Dushanbe and Khujand to help attract attention to issues of torture in Tajikistan. They also publish information from their monitoring efforts on Facebook.
* The judicial system in Tajikistan is rife with corruption and is not independent from the executive branch. Because of this lack of independence, it is very difficult to ensure that the Istanbul Protocol and other international standards and norms for human rights are upheld.
* The coalition tried to work with the State Penitentiary Service on the problem of torture in prisons and treatment of prisoners, but it did not go over well and the coalition had to stop its work. They have had more success monitoring the police/law enforcement units, courts, and the prosecutor’s office.
* Previously, when the well-known lawyers’ association “Amparo” was denied registration on spurious charges, the coalition assisted them in re-registering as a new organization, “Accent.”
* The coalition brought up the fact that not a lot of young people study law, mainly because it ends up being a dangerous career, especially if the focus is on human rights law or anti-torture issues. This is a real gap in Tajikistan. The coalition has faced a lot of harassment and accusations of being sponsored by the United States and acting as tools of western imperialism, particularly in light of the events in Ukraine.

**Education Program - Nazarkhudo Dastambuev**

* The Education Program’s priorities are: social inclusion and fostering integrity in the education system both on the local and national levels. Nazarkhudo Dastambuev, the Program Director, mentioned that working on education issues in Tajikistan is a very politicized issue, even though there is no direct work with political systems, elections, etc. The question of social/economic justice and rights is a priority issue for the Tajik Foundation.
  1. The Foundation’s “Step by Step” Program is a country-wide social inclusion program, the end goal of which is to provide access to education for all Tajik children, irrespective of economic background, physical or mental disabilities, and language barriers. The Foundation funds “Step by Step” centers within schools, *detskie sady,* community learning centers, and other sites for childhood education throughout the country. The Foundation was the first organization to implement such a program in Tajikistan. As part of this program, they also sponsor curriculum development and extra academic help for minority children (particularly Uzbeks and Afghans).
* They work closely with the Education and Social Inclusion Program at the Foundation in Kyrgyzstan, share best practices, and have carried out several inter-regional trainings and workshops focused mainly on social inclusion. Like the KG Foundation, they also sponsor out-of-school and after-school activities that promote understanding and aim to break down perceived cultural barriers, particularly between ethnic minorities and majorities (in this case, Uzbeks and Tajiks). Previously, they periodically discussed shared frameworks for social inclusion with the Foundations in Ukraine, Azerbaijan, and Mongolia.
* Thanks to the Foundation’s program, 98% of the secondary education system in Tajikistan now has the social inclusion programs (after-school, out-of-school, etc.) that the Foundation sponsors, but primary education remains a huge gap and is a necessary focus area for the Education Program.
* In cooperation with the government and the World Bank, the Foundation supports the National Testing Center (NTC), which we visited. NTC administers a countrywide, standardized university entrance examination in several different subject areas. We visited the National Testing Center during our second day in Dushanbe. The NTC is part of a large operation to foster more transparency in the educational system, as well as to increase access to education for those students who were in the past “left behind” by the system. Another important piece of this initiative is the attempt to standardize and otherwise improve the overall education system in Tajikistan.
* Nazarkhudo also mentioned that their program collaborates with their counterparts in the Kyrgyz Foundation who work on education and social inclusion issues. The Kazakh Foundation has a Social Inclusion Initiative that focuses more specifically on people with disabilities, but they are trying to advocate for and ultimately adopt the Latvian model of flexible education standards for people with disabilities in Kazakhstan.

**Public Health Program – Nigora Abijonova**

* The Foundation’s Public Health program is comprised of four focus areas:
  1. Sex workers’ rights, the Foundation works with both male and female sex workers. They are partnered with an umbrella organization that teaches sex workers about their rights, and also helps sex workers who are also drug users gain access to prophylactic medicine and treatment.
  2. Children’s health and rights: Only 7% of children in Tajikistan are deemed “healthy” by doctors, so the Foundation has a focus on children’s health, wellness, and rights. They work particularly in the Khatlon oblast of Tajikistan, and they work with UNICEF on children’s health issue. UNICEF co-funds several of the projects.
  3. Psychological health: the Foundation conducts evidence-based documentation in concert with its partners on the treatment of those with psychological problems, particularly by state hospitals and clinics. Some of OSIAF-TJ’s model and methods were copied and replicated by other international donors because of their success in collecting data and information on this topic.
  4. Palliative care: Nigora mentioned that there is massive corruption related to health care, and there has been very little effort in the way of state-level reforms to improve access to health care, particularly for the poor. Morphine access is a major issue in this field.
* Work with UNICEF; work in Dushanbe and in the regions. Previously did a lot of co-funding with PHP, but not anymore; now their key network partner is JI.
* We met with **Khanoat Khamidova, Director of the Judicial Training Center under the Council of Justice of the Republic of Tajikistan, and Chairman of the Board PO League of Women Lawyers of the Republic of Tajikistan.** **Mansur Sattorov, a lawyer from the NGO “SPIN +,”** also took part in the meeting. With the support of the Foundation, the League wrote a training manual on human rights and healthcare. It provides information on patients’ rights in healthcare and how they can use litigation to advances these rights. Now with the support of the government they train judges on this manual, teaching them human rights norms so that when judges hear cases on this they’re familiar with the issue. They have drawn from the experiences of Armenia and Georgia in setting up these trainings and writing the manual (and have worked with OSF Foundations there).

**Arts and Culture Program – Ilhom Abdulloev**

* The purpose of the arts and culture program is to strengthen alternative forms of artistic and culture expression outside of what is supported by the government. The government tends to support nationalist narratives. Also, there are very few economic opportunities for artists, who tend to leave the country and Russia for work instead, and few art festivals. We met with Dushanbe Art Ground (a fealty to the fields grantee). They run several interregional (within Central Asia) competitions for artists, and take part in the “Spaces on the Run” festival. Every May in Dushanbe, they sponsor something called the “Rumi Festival” that features young people who use innovative theater for social change.

**NEXT STEPS**

* **Human rights, Field/Cores:** The human rights/anti-torture coalition members specifically asked about the possibility of EP helping to bring together a network of lawyers in the wider Eurasia region (including Central Asia, the Caucasus, Ukraine, and Moldova) who work on anti-torture issues as well as helping NGOs to register in the face of oppressive legislation and bureaucratic red tape. They want to exchange best practices and learn from their counterparts’ experiences, particularly in Moldova, Georgia, and Ukraine. They are already well-networked in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan; they have had some exchanges with Georgia but would like more. We should talk to Kristin and Ana to ask whether EP is planning on fostering a network of activists who work on these issues; if not, maybe it’s something we can take up directly with the Foundations.
* **Human Rights Field/Cores (Social Inclusion):** Nazarkhudo also mentioned that their program collaborates with their counterparts in the Kyrgyz Foundation who work on education and social inclusion issues. The Kazakh Foundation has a Social Inclusion Initiative that focuses more specifically on people with disabilities, but they are trying to advocate for and ultimately adopt the Latvian model of flexible education standards for people with disabilities in Kazakhstan. It would be worth looking into a regional initiative on social inclusion that encompasses Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Armenia, and Georgia.
* **Media/Transparency:** 
  1. Follow up with the media team to introduce them to the media lawyers’ coalition and tell them more about the internship component of EP’s media program. The media lawyers’ coalition also runs a school for journalists in partnership with Internews Tajikistan and RFE/RL.
  2. EP will bring the coalition into several of our planned regional initiatives for 2015 concerning open data, investigative journalism, and/or increasing access to alternative information and voices. EP has designated line items for several conferences and trainings on these topics for 2015. Dilovar mentioned that they are already in close contact with their counterparts who work on media in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan. It would be very useful to bring them together with the investigative journalists’ coalition in Armenia (HETQ) through the Regional Academy for Good Governance (co-funded by EP’s media and transparency programs). A “shared frameworks” meeting on the implications of the digital switchover for the Caucasus and Central Asia is planned for 2015 (through EP’s media program with co-funding from the Foundations), so it would make sense to include this group. Karina should be put in touch with the coalition so they can be included in the meeting.
* **Transparency:** 
  1. The transparency coalition was quite eager to expand its partnerships in the Eurasia region beyond Central Asia. There has already been a lot of overlap and crossover between their counterpart coalitions and Foundation partners in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan, and they want to work regionally, particularly with counterparts in the Caucasus and possibly Ukraine and Moldova (where it is relevant). It would make sense to bring them into the Regional Academy of Good Governance that EP’s transparency/accountability program is planning for 2015. They mentioned they’d particularly be interested in the topics on open data the political economy of state capture.
  2. Put the coalition in touch with Elizabeth Eagen. Elizabeth mentioned that she hopes to expand the Information Program into Central Asia, but needs the proper partners to work with.
  3. The transparency coalition mentioned that they need money for their trainings (specifically on Publish What You Pay work), particularly for capacity building. EP should consider cooperating with the Tajik Foundation to bring the members of this coalition into some of the trainings and conferences

**DUSHANBE VISIT AGENDA**

**June 1 - 3, 2014**

**Sunday June 1**

**Arrival: \*Gina 10:00am** Almaty–Dushanbe flight Air Astana KC# 0131

**12:00** Lunch at Hyatt with Zuhra Halimova

**13:30** Program staff meeting

**15:00-18:00** Program presentations by Program Directors and some Coordinators

**18:00** Home based Palliative Care Program –meeting with  Ms. Niolbi Khasanova, Head of Association of nurses and midwifes, Director of the City Nursing hospital and visit  PC patient at home *with Nigora Abidjanova/ PH Program Director*.

**19:30** Dinner

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**Monday June 2**

**Arrival: \*Tatyana 4:30am** Istanbul-Dushanbe, #0254

**Gina**

**8:30** Driver will pick up and drop to office

**9:00** Meeting with Jamila Nabieva Head of Kindergarten no 1 in the site, a National Coordinator for the Index for Inclusion Regional Project with *Nazarkhudo Dastambuev/Program Director*

**10:00** Meeting withDevelopment for transparency coalition members at OSI office

* ***Mrs. Tojinisso Azizova*** *is a head of NGOs Coalition “Transparency for Development* which was established in 2012 with the purpose to promote EITI in Tajikistan. Mrs. Azizova is a lawyer by academic background who worked previously as a deputy of the Minster of Justice. Currently she is a director of NGO “Lawyers”
* **Mrs. Anna Shukurova** is an economist with more than 10 years of professional experience in the field of business consulting and enabling business environment projects. She is executive director of the NGO "Union of professional consultants of Tajikistan. Mrs Shururova has deep understanding of EITI principles, attended international trainings on the extractive industry issues and is a member of “Transparency for Development” Coalition

**11:00** Tatyana will meet with Zuhra, Tolib Tohiri/Finance Director, Irina Kalashnikova/Grants Manager

* Tatyana may join Gina for the next meetings or  meet with program staff

**12:00** Gina and Tatyana will have Lunch with Dilovar, Ilhom, Nigora, Nazarkhudo/ PDs

at Indian Restaurant

**13:30** Access to information and service partners: CIPI, Khoma, PF Internet, Center for ICT *with Dilovar Munavvarov/Program Director* OSI office

* **Mrs. Parvina Ibodova** is well known lawyer and legal experts on ICTD issues. She deals with policy and regulatory issues of Internet in Tajikistan since September 2001 when she joined the Global Internet Policy Initiative (GIPI). She has also made a considerable contribution in building local capacity of two communities, ICT and mass media.
* **Dr. Rustam Kosimov** is one of the prominent experts in ICT4D in Tajikistan and the CA region. He was managing two largest ICT for education development projects in the country: (1) Schools online promoting capacity building and internet connectivity for rural schools across the country; (2) Regional research on ICT in basic education. He holds a PhD in theoretical physics from the Silesian University in Katowice.
* **Mr. Asomudin Atoev** is an expert on ICTD in Tajikistan. He is currently leading the Association of ISPs of Tajikistan. Graduated with an MSc from Manchester University, he has dedicated himself to the field of ICTD for the last 20 years. As an International Policy Fellowships (IPF) 2004-2005 fellow, he conducted research on issues concerning the intellectual property rights in software market of the Central Asian countries with rapid expansion of the Internet in the region (<http://www.policy.hu/atoev>).

**15:00** Meeting withAnti-torture coalition's NGO members at OSI office

* **Mrs. Nigina Bakhrieva** is a human rights specialist, with expertise in monitoring and advocacy, strategic lawsuits, and the practical application of UN Human Rights mechanisms for legal protection, including drafting of individual complaints and alternative reports to the UN Human Rights Committee and other relevant UN committees. Mrs. Bakhrieva has been the Director at public fund “Nota Bene” since 2010. She is a prior board member of OSIAF Tajikistan.
* **Mr. Sergey Romanov** has been the Director of NGO “Human Rights Center”(HRC) since 2010.
* **Mrs. Nargis Zokirova** is a human rights activist and a director of Bureau of Human Rights with extensive experience in various human rights issues, including relocation of local communities, access to justice, discrimination against people with AIDS/HIV, trafficking, and others

**16:30** Site visit to National Testing Center–megaproject funded by OSI, WB, Government of TJ / Dr. Teshaev and Dr. Jafarov with *Nazarkhudo Dastambuev/ Program Director.*

**18:00** Meeting with Director of *Dushanbe Art Ground  (DAG)* – Jamshed Khalikov and Curator of projects–Stephan Russ. DAG is NGO partner organization which advocates for the development of contemporary art practices in Tajikistan.  *Site visit with Nasima Nazrieva/ Arts &Culture Coordinator*

**19:00** Dinner with Zuhra Halimova Parviz Mullojanov/ Board Chairman atSerena.

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**Tue, June 3**

**8:30** Meeting withKhamidova Kanoat, Head of Training center for Judges under

the Council of Justice and Mansur Sattorov, lawyer from NGO SPIN +. *Nigora Abidjanova/ PH Program Director and Zarina Kurbanbekova/PH Coordinator*

**10:30 Departure to airport** Almaty Air Astana 12:30