USAID Experience with Legislative Strengthening in the Former Soviet Union

with

Dr. Eric Rudenshiold
Senior Officer in Charge of Kyrgyzstan and the Central Asian Republics at USAID

Kregg Halstead
Chief of Party of USAID's "Kyrgyzstan Parliamentary Strengthening Program" being implemented by DAI

Moderated by

Dr. Sean Roberts
Director and Associate Professor, International Development Studies Program, The Elliott School of International Affairs, The George Washington University

In the two decades since the fall of the Soviet Union and the emergence of independent states on Russia’s periphery, USAID has led the effort to help parliaments in these countries become more effective in passing meaningful legislation, more engaged with citizens, and more independent of the executive branch. This panel will be a discussion of those efforts, with both a comparative regional overview and a more focused look at recent work with Kyrgyzstan’s Jogorku Kenesh.

**Dr. Eric Rudenshiold**, the Senior Officer in Charge for Kyrgyzstan and the Central Asian Republics at USAID, has been instrumental in the design and implementation of USAID's work with legislative institutions in Central Asia, the Caucuses and elsewhere in the region, and will speak on the challenges and successes in those efforts.

**Kregg Halstead**, is the Chief of Party of USAID's “Kyrgyzstan Parliamentary Strengthening Program” being implemented by DAI, and has worked on legislative strengthening, human rights and rule of law programs in the former Soviet Union for almost 20 years.

**Dr. Sean Roberts** is a noted expert on issues of democracy and governance in Central Asia. Between 1998 and 2006 he spent six years in the region designing and managing USAID programs on democracy, civil society and legislative assistance.

Thursday June 7, 2012,
12:30 am-2:00pm
Suite 412
1957 E Street N.W., 4th Floor
http://tinyurl.com/legislativebodies

This event is on the record