

Review

Regulation on the coordination of international grant and technical assistance in the Kyrgyz Republic

DECEMBER 22, 2025

This review has been prepared in response to requests from foreign noncommercial organizations (FNCOs) providing grants and technical assistance to the Kyrgyz Republic (KR), who are interested in understanding the possible legal and practical consequences of the application of the new [Regulation on the coordination of international grant and technical assistance in the KR, approved by Decree of the President of the KR No. 419 of December 4, 2025](#) (hereinafter referred to as the Regulation or the new Regulation on international assistance).

The new Regulation on International Assistance replaces [the Regulation on the Procedure for Attracting and Using International Grant and Technical Assistance in the Kyrgyz Republic, approved by Resolution No. 389 of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic dated June 19, 2017](#), and introduces an updated procedure for the coordination, approval, registration and monitoring of international grant and technical assistance provided to government agencies.

The purpose of this review is to inform FNCOs and their partners about the key changes introduced by the Regulation, and to highlight issues that may be significant for the planning and implementation of development projects.

1. Scope of application of the Regulation

The regulation applies to a wide range of government bodies that receive international grant and technical assistance, including *the Zhogorku Kenesh, the Presidential Administration, government bodies with special status, judicial bodies, ministries and departments, government bodies under the President's jurisdiction, the offices of the Presidential Plenipotentiary Representatives in the regions, and local government administrations.*¹ These

¹ At the same time, Presidential Order No. 419 takes into account the special status of individual branches of government and stipulates that for the Zhogorku Kenesh and judicial bodies, the submission of proposals for

bodies are recognized as **implementing agencies** and are responsible for initiating, coordinating, implementing, and reporting on international grant and technical assistance projects.

Although the Regulation is formally addressed to government agencies, its application directly affects international development partners and their implementing partners, including FNCOs and other project implementers, since a significant portion of development projects are implemented through government agencies and in partnership with them. For the purposes of applying the Regulation, **an international development partner** is *a foreign state (its administrative-territorial unit) or an international financial institution, its representative office, or another entity under international law authorized by the relevant state or international organization, providing international grant and technical assistance to the Kyrgyz Republic on a gratuitous basis.*

The Regulation defines **international grant and technical assistance** as *a type of gratuitous assistance provided to the Kyrgyz Republic by international development partners to support social and economic transformation. Such assistance may be provided, in particular, through research, the deployment of specialists, the transfer of experience and technology, the supply of equipment and other goods (property), the organization and/or holding of seminars and conferences, construction and reconstruction, and the provision of works and services, including consulting services.*

This provision **does not apply** to the following types of international assistance:

- *international grant and technical assistance projects directly aimed at preparing public investment program projects;*
- *emergency, humanitarian, military and food aid;*
- *assistance aimed at ensuring national security;*
- *emergency assistance.*

The specified exceptions retain separate coordination regimes and are not subject to the approval, registration and monitoring procedures provided for in the Regulation.

It is also important to note that the Regulation, in its scope of regulation, applies exclusively to international grants and technical assistance received by government agencies of the Kyrgyz Republic, which act as formal recipients of such assistance and as executing agencies for projects. Therefore, the Regulation does not regulate grants and other international assistance provided directly to noncommercial organizations, private legal entities, or individuals for the

receiving international grant and technical assistance to the Commission's secretariat is advisory in nature, in contrast to executive bodies, for which the relevant procedures are mandatory.

implementation of their own programs and objectives, provided that such projects are not implemented through government agencies and do not involve their participation as recipients or implementers of assistance.

2. Decision-making procedure and distribution of powers

Unlike the 2017 Regulation, which focused the key role on a single authorized body—the Ministry of Economy and Commerce—the new procedure introduces a more complex decision-making system:

- The regulation was approved by the Presidential Order, which establishes mandatory instructions for government agencies, as well as a mechanism for monitoring their implementation by **the Presidential Administration**.
- A key innovation of the new procedure is **the Commission for the Selection and Approval of International Grant and Technical Assistance Projects**. This Commission makes decisions on large projects (those valued at over \$300,000) and assesses their compliance with national development priorities. The Commission's decisions are binding. The Commission includes the First Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers (Chairman of the Commission), representatives of the Presidential Administration and the Ministry of Economy and Commerce (Deputy Chairmen of the Commission), as well as representatives of the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and relevant departments of the Presidential Administration responsible for economic policy, public investment, and foreign aid coordination.
- The functions of the **Commission's secretariat** are assigned to the authorized state body for economic forecasting (the Ministry of Economy and Commerce). The secretariat independently decides on the feasibility of projects with a cost below the established threshold (\$300,000), conducts a preliminary review of all project proposals, prepares conclusions, submits projects for review by the Commission in established cases, registers approved projects, maintains a register of international assistance, and monitors project implementation and reports.
- **Government bodies and institutions (executing agencies)** act as both initiators and implementers of international grant and technical assistance projects. They are responsible for preparing project documentation, interacting with international development partners, implementing projects, achieving stated results, and submitting reports.

3. Stages of coordination and implementation of international aid projects

The new Regulation introduces a unified and formalized project cycle for international grant and technical assistance, applicable at all stages—from project initiation to completion and results assessment. Unlike the previous regulations, key procedures are in effect prior to project initiation, prior to the signing of an agreement with an international development partner, and throughout project implementation.

- **Project initiation and preliminary approval.** All proposals for international grant and technical assistance must be submitted to the Commission Secretariat for preliminary review, regardless of the project cost or the stage of negotiations with the donor. A set of documents must be submitted for review, including a project presentation, a project passport, and information on previously implemented projects in the relevant field. Projects are assessed based on criteria of alignment with national strategies, sustainability, and absence of duplication.
- **Project approval and financial threshold.** Projects costing up to \$300,000 are reviewed by the Commission's Secretariat, which issues a conclusion on the feasibility of their implementation. Projects costing \$300,000 or more are reviewed by the Project Selection and Approval Committee, which decides whether to approve, revise, or reject the project.
- **Registration, Monitoring, and Reporting.** Approved projects are subject to mandatory registration with the Commission's Secretariat, inclusion in the register of international aid projects, and posting of information on the official website. During project implementation, implementing agencies are required to ensure monitoring and provide quarterly and final reports, as well as additional information upon request. Failure to submit reports will result in the matter being referred to the Commission for review, and project implementation results will be taken into account when considering new initiatives. The regulation also establishes the personal responsibility of the head of the implementing agency for project implementation and the accuracy of the information provided.

4. Transitional provisions and practical consequences

In addition to establishing new project procedures, Presidential Order No. 419 provides for a number of transitional measures. Specifically, government agencies are instructed to submit information on all international aid projects implemented since 1991 within six months, and international organizations are encouraged to provide similar information within three months. Additionally, the decree provides for the digitization of international

aid data to create a centralized database, as well as the alignment of Cabinet of Ministers decisions with the new Regulation.

Regulation and Order No. 419 do not explicitly require re-approval or re-coordination of projects currently under implementation. Prior approval procedures are tied to the initiation phase of international assistance, suggesting that the new procedure applies primarily to future projects. However, the final approach will depend on the position and practices of the Ministry of Economy and Commerce. Project extensions, significant changes to their objectives, budget, or content, as well as the launch of subsequent phases, will likely be considered new initiatives and, accordingly, subject to the new procedure.

The issue of the financial threshold for project approval requires special attention. The threshold of \$300,000 determines only the level of project review (by the Commission Secretariat or the Commission) but does not exempt projects with a smaller budget from preliminary review by the Secretariat and the preparation of a feasibility report, as the Regulation does not establish a minimum threshold below which such procedures are not applied. Given the broad definition of international grants and technical assistance, the Regulation may formally cover not only large projects but also low-budget, short-term forms of technical assistance, including consulting, research, and training activities. In the absence of clear criteria for distinguishing between projects and one-time forms of assistance, uncertainty remains, necessitating further clarification of law enforcement practices.