



For distribution:
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PRESS RELEASE

USAID and Public Fund Ergene Handing Over Food for People in Need

Two 40-foot containers of donated food have been delivered to the Kyrgyz Republic in the framework of USAID Program "Food for Peace". The combined weight of the food is 37,506 kg and its total value is \$86,638 USD. The donated food will be prepared locally to provide two million portions of soup. This aid was delivered by USAID and the American non-governmental organization *Resource & Policy Exchange, Inc. (RPX)*. The Public Foundation "Ergene" will conduct distribution and delivery of the food.

Bishkek, Ministry of Labor and Social Development at 215 Tynystanov Street, December 17 at 14:00: A handover ceremony of humanitarian food delivered to Bishkek for people in need will be held. Participants in the handover ceremony will include: Mr. Andrew Segars, USAID Deputy Country Representative for the Kyrgyz Republic; Mr. Madamin Karataev, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic; Mr. Kubanychbek Mambetaliev, States Secretary, Ministry of Labor and Social Development of the Kyrgyz Republic; Ms. Taalaigul Sabyrbekova, Director of Public Fund Ergene; and Ms. Atakeeva G., Head, Municipal Authority on Professional and Technical Education.

The food will be distributed to residents of psychoneurological, narcological and other social institutions. The program aims to strengthen food security and enrich the diets of those in long-term treatment and housing. Twenty-six institutions from all regions of Kyrgyzstan will receive donated food (distribution list attached).

The donated food, *Harvest Lentil Pro*, is manufactured by U.S. company Breedlove Dehydrated Foods. The nutritious recipe consists of dried vegetables (carrots, potatoes, soy), lentils, rice, and is fortified with vitamins and minerals.

Since 2006, USAID's Food for Peace Program has delivered two million servings of dehydrated food to over 22,000 children and adults with chronic mental illnesses in Kyrgyzstan. In April 2008, RPX and Breedlove delivered one million servings to earthquake-affected families in Southern Kyrgyzstan.

RPX's mission is to equalize health care standards, improve access to information and local participation in government around the world. This mission is addressed by providing support and strengthening activities of nonprofit organizations in developing regions.

Ergene is Kyrgyz non profit organization with focus on women health, mental health and infectious diseases prevention in Kyrgyzstan.

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