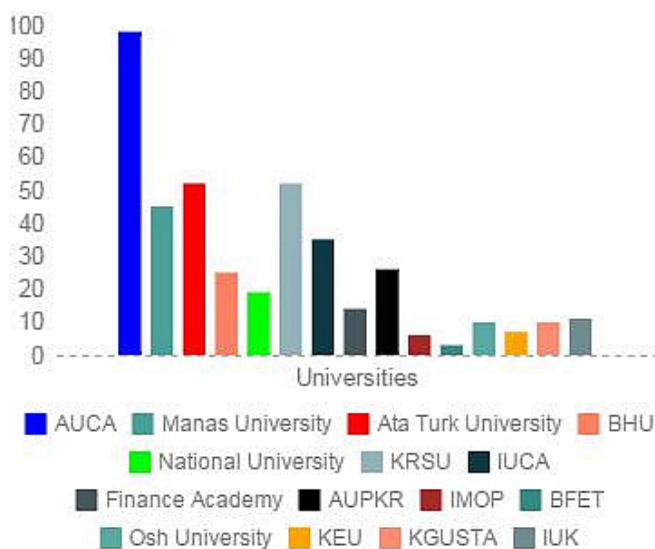


Students4Reforms

Students4Reforms is a network of active students that take part at a Hackathon on the same name for promoting reforms.

15 Universities participated on Students4Reforms project.



Before the project, we organized a public lectures at 4 universities (AUCA, Manas University, Bishkek Finance Academy, National University), where we talked about the project and answered to their questions.

Our experts gave brief master classes on the following topics:

- Pension system in KR
- Taxation
- Labor policy for foreigners in KR
- Budget policy in KR

Most universities have not been able to provide a curator for the project due to lack of the right person. Therefore, we independently conduct the competition in universities with the support of the university administration.



Project timeline:
November 2014 - July 2015

Place:
Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

Organization:
Central Asian Free Market
Institute (CAFMI)



C A F M I

HACKATHONS

7 Hackathons have been conducted.
The project took place in two stages:

- 1 set on the Hackathon was held from December 2014 for May 2015 (3 Hackathons)
We selected 21 students from 68 applicants and divided them for 5 teams.
- 2 set on Hackathon was held from April to July 2015 (4 Hackatons).
From 340 applications we selected 30 participants.



Theme of Hackathons:

1. Reforms on school education
2. Reforms on High education system in KR
3. The health care. The prospects for private insurance in health care in Kyrgyzstan.
4. Dual citizenship.
5. Reduction of bureaucratic procedures. The introduction of the principle of "single window" for public service.
6. Reform of the road patrol service.
7. State budget policy

For 2nd set of Hackathons considering our previous experience we included 3 days workshops "How to write policy paper?" and 2 days training on their topics with invited experts.

We decided include this sessions because of previous experience the level of participants was lower than we expected.

Number of students involved in this new network all together
In the beginning the project was planned from November 2014 to May 2015, but the project lasted until July 2015 From April to July 2015, we conducted 2nd contest for project "Students4Reforms."

**1st call of the Project
(November 2014 -April 2015)**

Students4Reforms wasn't that successful as we expected because of several reasons:

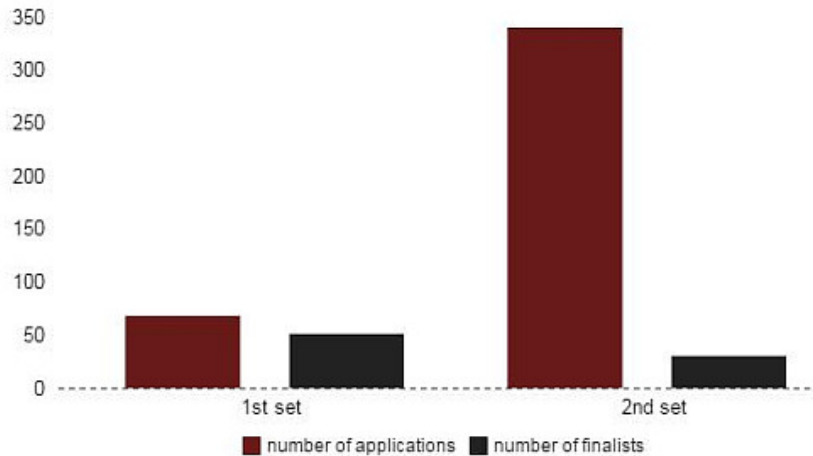
- Bad timing. Our project started at the same time with student`s sessions.
- The level of participants was lower than we expected
- The format was unfamiliar for students.

**2nd call of Students4reforms
(April –July 2015)**

According to previous experience we made changings on our program.

1. Only one main competition. We cut University competitions.
2. Prize for winning teams will give if their policy papers will be good enough to publish it.
3. We add master classes about policy analyze.
4. We changed our marketing strategy focusing more in social media.

Because of this, number of applications increased 5 times.



1st Set
Applications - 68
Finalists - 21

2nd Set
Applications - 340
Finalists - 30

Results

- **408** students participated on the contest.
 - **51** students selected to participate on Hachathons.
- In choosing the finalists, we were guided by the following criteria:

1. *The quality of the essays in the application*
2. *The results of a personal interview. For interview we invited 120 candidates with the best essay*
3. *Analytical skills of the candidate*
4. *Ideological Preferences*



During the Hachathons were written 9 policy papers on following topics:

1. "School education: challenges and solutions"
2. "High education system in KR"
3. "Labor market in Kyrgyzstan"
4. "Budget transparency of education sector"
5. "Dual citizenship"
6. "Cost of public education"
7. "Political parties in Kyrgyzstan before and after election"
8. "Human capital in Kyrgyzstan: why youth are leaving?"
9. "The Shadow economy in Bishkek city"

Policy papers of alumni's will publish on October after the Parliament election.

On October 20th in Bishkek CAFMI will organize a Forum "Transformation human resources into human capital". We will include all policy papers on Education topics to agenda of Forum.



- **36 students** from Students4Reforms project applied for Summer Internship program and **6** of them were selected.

- **3 of alumni's** were hired by our partner and businessman Jorge Parra.

- All **51 alumni's** are members of CAFMI club.

CAFMI Club is a project of CAFMI that addresses the needs of young people from 20 to 28 years old and acknowledges them to ideas of freedom, economic reforms and research. <http://club.cafmi.kg/>



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