

# In Kyrgyzstan, UN chief Guterres highlights importance of governance for sustainable development

11 June 2017 – Underscoring the importance of accountable and inclusive governance and institutions for the successful implementation of the [2030 Agenda](#) for Sustainable Development, United Nations [Secretary-General](#) António Guterres today called for public services to be more responsive, efficient and collaborative.

[Public service is a critical component for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) [...] we need to pioneer new approaches, work differently, take risks and innovate,&#8221 Secretary-General Guterres said at the Taza Koom Conference on Public Service in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

&#8220We need governance that is capable of delivering results and earning public trust; governance that is coherent and accountable; governance that is inclusive and that listens to all the country's citizens; governance that upholds human rights and leaves no one behind.&#8221

The Taza Koom is a project that seeks to transform digital technologies and e-governance to improve not only the way the State and the administration function, but also the way the people can benefit from new technologies and the impact on their lives.

Further in his remarks, the UN chief also spoke of the need to fight corruption to ensure effective and accountable public services, and highlighted the need for mechanisms that not only support people but also includes the poorest and the most vulnerable, so that they are able to not only define their needs but also to be a part of the efforts in ways to address those challenges.

&#8220As the President said, it [is] clear that 'Taza Koom' can be a way to empower the poorest and the most vulnerable,&#8221 said Mr. Guterres, noting that the UN would continue to assist the country in these efforts.



Secretary-General António Guterres shakes hands with Kyrgyz President Almazbek Atambaev during their meeting at the Ala-Archa state residence in Bishkek. UN Photo/Vyacheslav Oseledko

Earlier today, Secretary-General Guterres held a meeting with Almazbek Atambaev, the President of Kyrgyzstan.

Speaking to the media at a press conference, alongside the President, Mr. Guterres [hailed the country's efforts for democracy, rule of law and protection of human rights](#), as well as a vibrant and active civil society.

“I am also sure that Kyrgyzstan will play a very important role in what I hope will be future developments in Central Asia for better cooperation, better integration among the different countries and peoples of [the region] to guarantee its prosperity and its development,” he said.

Also today, Mr. Guterres took part in the commemoration of the June 2010 events in Osh, where he laid a wreath at the Mother’s Tears monument and expressed his condolences to the families of the victims as well as solidarity with the people of Osh, of Jalal-abad and all other places where the violence broke out.

The Mother’s Tears [monument] should remind all of us that societies in the world are becoming multiethnic, multireligious, multicultural and that must be seen as a positive thing. It is a richness, not a threat,” he said, underscoring: “Diversity needs to be cherished, not condemned.”