

**DEFA**

## **Development of financial autonomy of universities in Kyrgyzstan**

Kyrgyzstan is carrying out higher education reforms geared at amending European standards in higher education management. Particular emphasis is placed on the adaptation of the Bologna process and European quality standards in higher education. At present, the transition to three-cycle education has been completed. A national qualification framework has been developed and approved. The development of alternative management tools to the old management models increasingly requires the expansion of autonomy in the activities of higher education institutions. This project is devoted to piloting and expanding new systems of university self-governance and increasing financial autonomy. By means of studying the European partners' experience with expanding their institutional and financial autonomy, a model for university financial autonomy in Kyrgyzstan will be developed, piloted and evaluated. The project plans are to perform a needs analysis, develop an implementation strategy, develop a model university financial autonomy, develop proposals for revision of legal regulations and pilot training activities for staff from universities and ministries representatives. The project will study further prospects for increasing the financial, economic independence of universities in Kyrgyzstan, clarify the current, and projected limits of the powers of universities in the paradigm developed and legally established model of autonomy.