



## EURASIA

**Armenia** – The Association for Foreign Investment and Cooperation (AFIC) participated in a meeting with the Ministry of Economy, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Finance Corporation, and the Yerevan Chamber of Commerce. Ministry representatives presented government activities on reforming the economy. AFIC used the opportunity to discuss possible cooperation between these institutions to support the new CIPE/AFIC program focused on business advocacy.

**Azerbaijan** – On February 24, the Alliance of Business Associations held a seminar on protection of private property rights. Prominent Azerbaijani lawyer Fuad Agayev spoke about the existing legal framework including codes, laws, and resolutions regulating property rights and the most common violations of these rights. The discussion resulted in a proposal from the participants to set up a special public committee to monitor and record all violations of property rights, and to hold press conferences to inform the media and the public.

**Kazakhstan** – CIPE partner Shanyrak held a focus group on February 18 with 12 entrepreneurs from Almaty to find out the most pressing issues facing the participants. Of the 12, 6 were unregistered, 7 had no access to credit, and 10 had experienced difficulties with government authorities.

**Kyrgyzstan** – The National Alliance of Business Associations (NABA) is electing delegates to send to a government council following an invitation from Deputy Prime Minister Akylbek Japarov at NABA's third annual forum. This will allow NABA to represent the interests of the business community on new laws and regulations directly to government officials and policymakers. NABA is also sending representatives to a new assembly of local governments and civil society leaders that will serve as an advisory council to the government.

Have questions about CIPE events? Contact Caroline Scullin by e-mail ([cscullin@cipe.org](mailto:cscullin@cipe.org)) or phone (202.721.9200).  
*The CIPE calendar is online at [www.cipe.org/calendar](http://www.cipe.org/calendar).*