

Message from the chair

On behalf of the board and members of Transparency Azerbaijan I would like to thank you for the interest you take in our work. The year of 2006 was important for Azerbaijan and our organization: the country saw finalization of its first State Anti-corruption Strategy for 2004-2006. This year we have set up three more Advocacy and Legal Advice Centers in Lenkoran, Guba and Sheki; initiated a partnership project with Baku Stock Exchange; hosted Transparency International workshop for 28 international participants and successfully passed re-accreditation as national chapter by Transparency International.

Fuad Suleymanov,
Chairman of board

About Transparency International

Transparency International is an international non-governmental organization, leading anti-corruption movement all over the globe. Berlin based Transparency International Secretariat coordinates anti-corruption activities in more than 90 countries of the world through its national chapters. The chapters are independent local NGOs free to choose their own policies and raise funds for their activities. Transparency International is based on the principle that as corruption is a country specific phenomenon, local organizations can be much more efficient than any efforts taken or imposed from the outside.

About Transparency Azerbaijan

Transparency Azerbaijan was established in October 2000 by representatives of civil society and academia; fully accredited as a national chapter in October 2001 and re-accredited in August 2006. We work mainly in the areas of public awareness raising, business ethics and research into reasons and forms of corruption in Azerbaijan and ways to reduce this destructive social phenomenon. We also render legal aid to witnesses and victims of corruption and assist the Government in drafting policy and legislative acts.

Corruption Perception Index 2005

On 6 November 2006 Transparency International released its most well known product – Corruption Perception Index for 2006, which ranks countries in terms of the degree in which businesses people and country analysts, both residents and non-residents perceive corruption to exist in the public and political sectors. That year Azerbaijan received 2.4 point (out of total 10 for corruption free country) and ranked 130 among 163 countries surveyed that year. Though this is the country's best score since its inclusion in 2000, with the rating under 3.0 in a group with Indonesia, Burundi, Zimbabwe, it is clear that there still is a strong perception of endemic corruption in the country and there is much to be done by the government with a strong input from the civil society.

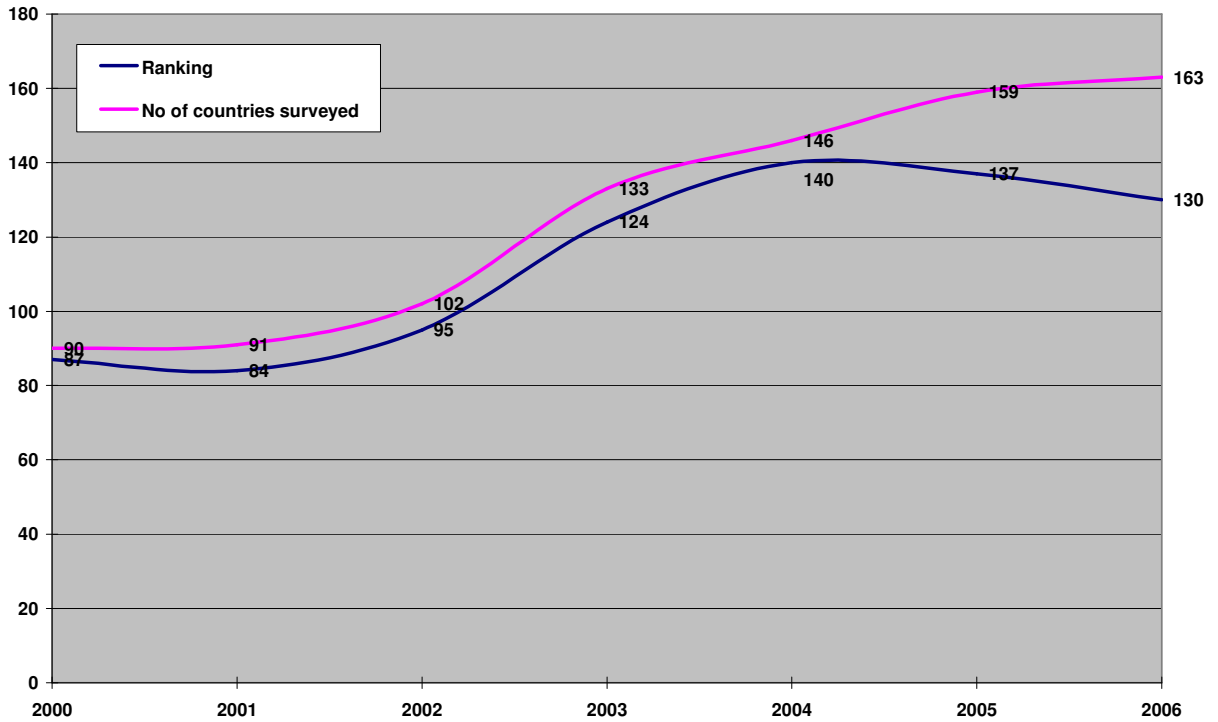
*Ranking and score of Azerbaijan in Transparency International Corruption Perception Index
2000- 2006*

Year	Ranking	No of countries surveyed	Country's score
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2000	87	90	1.5
2001	84	91	2.0
2002	95	102	2.0
2003	124	133	1.8
2004	140	146	1.9
2005	137	159	2.2
2006	130	163	2.4

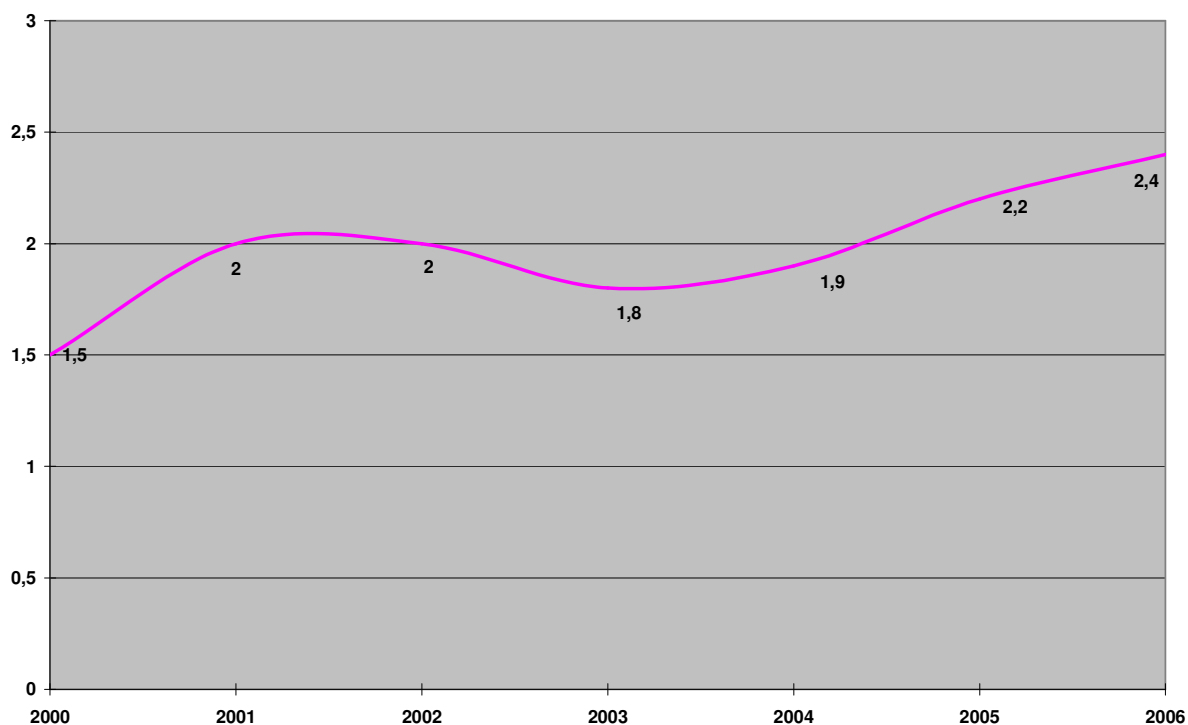
The Diagram represents ranking of Azerbaijan in Corruption Perception Index for 2000-2006.

Ranking of Azerbaijan in CPI (Corruption Perception Index)



The Diagram below represents the score of Azerbaijan in Corruption Perception Index for 2000-2006 on the scale from 0 (for a country perceived as overrun by corruption) to 10 (for a corruption free country).

Score of Azerbaijan in Corruption Perception Index for 2000-2006



Transparency Azerbaijan' specific place among country's civil society institutions

The chapter is the only civil society organization in Azerbaijan which assists the population to build up resistance against corrupt practices of petty officials by providing them with legal advice under Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC) project. The chapter has clearly demonstrated that the civil society can efficiently serve as barrier between the populace and corrupt officials, as well as productivity of the government – NGO cooperation in combating corruption.

Another major contribution of the chapter is spreading of business ethics skills among SMEs, as well as legal and businesses administration students, alongside with dissemination of Business Ethics code concept among local SMEs.

Chapter's centres in Ganja, Lenkoran and Guba serve as NGO hubs and training grounds for young activists in the provinces, while the central office in Baku specialises in providing expertise on the state of corruption and assessment of efforts of various anti-corruption players in the country.

Our donors

USAID and ABA CELLI

OSCE Office in Baku

British Embassy and Global Opportunities Fund

Good Governance Program, US Department of Commerce

2006 Projects

- Advocacy and Legal Advice Centers in Baku and Ganja, donor USAID and ABA CEELI, period January –September
- Advocacy and Legal Advice Center in Lenkoran, donor USAID and ABA CEELI, period June-December
- Advocacy and Legal Advice Center in Guba, donor OSCE Office in Baku, period July-December
- Advocacy and Legal Advice Center in Sheki, donor OSCE Office in Baku, period November-December
- Corporate Governance and Transparency as Challenge for Azerbaijan Businesses, British Embassy and Global Opportunities Fund, October 2005-October 2007
- Transparency International Advocacy and Legal Advice Centers workshop, December

Advocacy and Legal Advice Centers (ALAC) project

The goal of the ALAC is to provide citizens with the means to become actively involved in the fight against corruption in their societies. Direct beneficiaries of the project include ordinary citizens who do not have access to information and justice.

Legal aid. A corruption hotline provides citizens with a convenient channel to report corruption, even if they do not live in the city where the centers are located. The hotline also acts as a “screening” mechanism, allowing genuine cases to be referred to the centers for face-to-face consultations. The hotline is staffed by volunteer law students, overseen by legal assistants. It is also possible to make complaints in writing or via web site, although experience is not particularly efficient as few people are initially able to articulate the act of corruption concisely.

If there is prima face evidence of corruption, as reported to the hotline, more detailed legal advice and counseling is provided during face to face meetings with lawyers. This involves helping clients to articulate and identify the act of corruption, assisting them to draw up effective complaints (e.g., evidence, documentation) and providing advice as to how to pursue the complaints. TI does not legally represent or “take on” individual cases. Rather, it empowers complainants to act.

Advocacy. Fact-based advocacy is critical to the success of the ALACs. Indeed, it is the centrality of this advocacy component, which differentiates the ALACs from purely legal clinics. In other words, data generated from real complaints is used as the basis for advocacy campaigns. TA uses a range of advocacy tools, e.g., regular press conferences, radio phone-ins providing advice and publications.

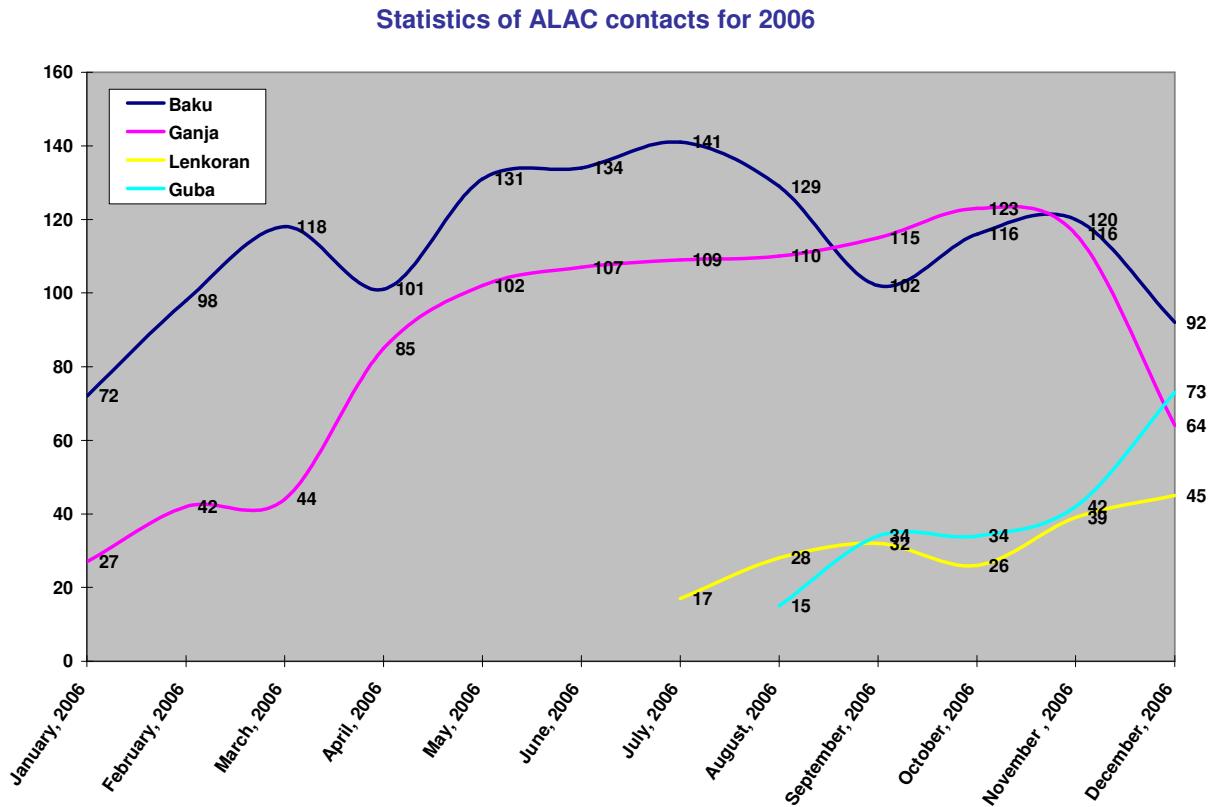
Education. Anti-corruption education is organized for special target groups: refugees, legal students, etc. Since November 2005 TA had an experience of running joint program entitled “Transparency” on radio Liberty Azeri desk. However the funding was end by 2006, in spite of that, Radio Liberty decided continue on their own and expanded the broadcast time from 12 minutes per week up to 1 hour per week.

Transparency Azerbaijan succeeded in designing and implementing of additional activities to original ALAC’s pillars.

Capacity Building: support is provided to state authorities to strengthen their capacity to process complaints. Transparency Azerbaijan developed good working relations with the Ministry of Education and is a member of the anti-corruption working group of the Ministry. Transparency Azerbaijan advocated for establishing of an anti-corruption coalition with participation of the government, civil society and mass media. This idea was supported by a number of stakeholders and a network was established with Mr. Alimamed Nuriyev as its coordinator.

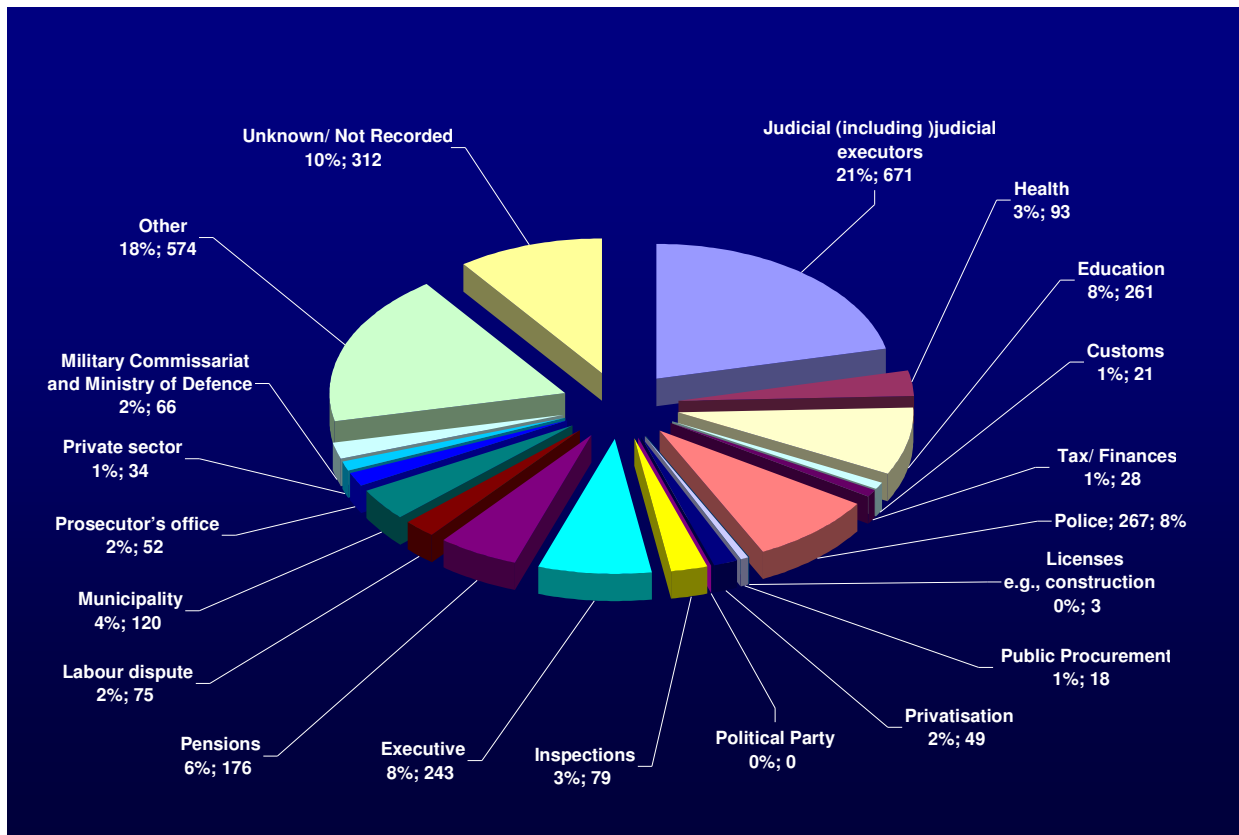
Public outreach campaign through mobile trainings and seminars: At the end of the year 2006, Transparency Azerbaijan run a pilot project focusing on various social groups (civil society activists, disabled, rural population, national minorities, refugees and IDPs, etc). under OSCE Baku office funding.

Statistics of initial calls/contacts by citizens for 2006



Areas of complaints for ALAC as of December 31, 2006

As demonstrated below, the areas of the utmost public concern since the project start in 2005 and 31 December 2006 were: the judicial system, police, system of education, municipalities and local executive power bodies.



Other activities and events

- 6 November 2006 – Presentation of Corruption Perception Index 2006
- 104 December Transparency International ALAC workshop for 28 international participants

Future Activities

We plan to continue rendering legal aid to the citizens in close cooperation with the state agencies, especially, the State Anti-corruption Commission and State Anti-corruption department under Prosecutor's Office. We will disseminate business ethics principles among SMEs. We also plan to continue to consult the legislators on the new anti-corruption legal instruments.

Our partners

State Anti-corruption Commission
 Ministry of Education
 Anti-corruption Department under General Prosecutor's Office
 Constitution Research Foundation
 Entrepreneurship Development Foundation
 Azerbaijan Marketing Society
 Corruption and Society magazine
 Center for Innovations in Education
 Society for Human Rights
 Legal Education Society
 Association of Azerbaijan Lawyers
 Eurasian Lawyers' Association
 Young Lawyers Union
 Fund of Struggle Against Corruption

2006 publications

- Small Steps on the Ground, article in Transparency International Annual report 2006

Members of the board and executive

	Name	Main occupation	Role within TA
1	Fuad Suleymanov	Ph.D. in Legal Studies, Civil Society Programs Manager, OSI – Assistance Foundation – Azerbaijan.	Founder Chairman of Board
2	Sabit Bagirov	Entrepreneurship and Market Economy Development Assistance Foundation, ex-chairman of Board, Ph.D. in Engineering, President	Founder Ex-chairman of board
3	Durdana Mamedova	Head of Department on Constitutional Issues, Constitution Court of Azerbaijan Republic, Ph.D in Law .	Founder Board member
4	Rena Safaraliyeva	Associate Professor of Chair of English Stylistics, State Languages University, Full Doctor in Linguistics	Founder Executive Director Board member without the right of vote
5	Rashid Hajiev	Director, Media Rights Institute	Board member
6	Intigam Aliyev	Director, “Advocate Service” private law firm	Board member
7	Annagi Hajiyev	President, Azerbaijani Lawyers Association	Board member

Our employees and contact details

Website: www.transparency-az.org and www.alac-az.org

<p>Baku central office Baku, Azerbaijan, AZ 1001 Jafar Jabbarly street 16, floor 1, apt 7 Tel: (99412) 418 11 09; 497 68 15 Tel/Fax: (99412) 596 20 38 Toll free: (088) 7070707 E-mail transpaz@azeronline.com</p>		
Position	Name	Education

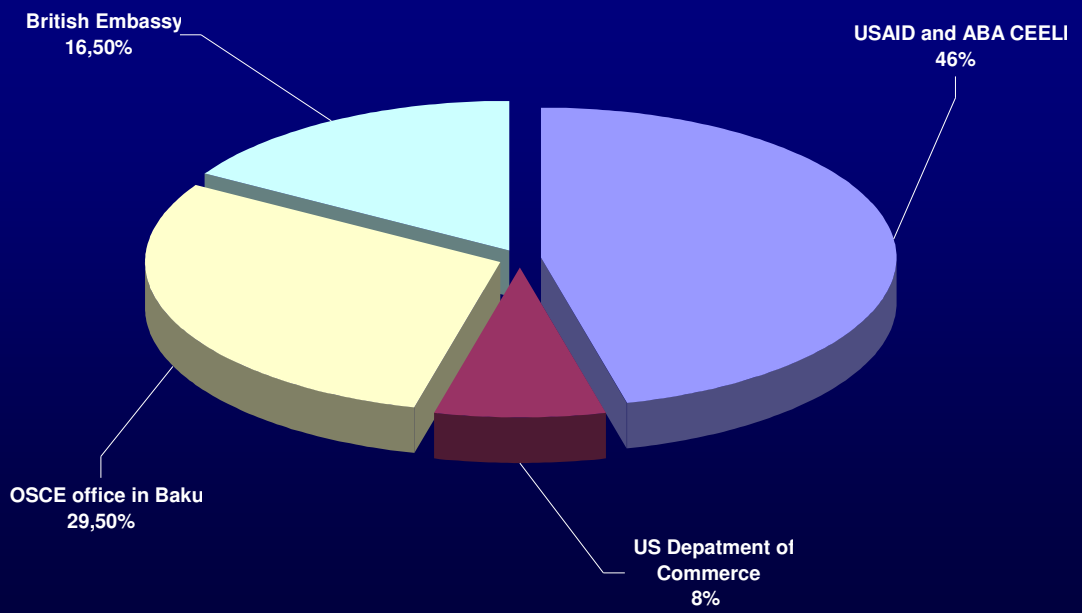
1	Executive director	Rena Safaralieva	Ph. D degree in General Linguistics from Foreign Languages University, Moscow and Full Doctor degree, Azerbaijan Languages University	rena@transparency-az.org
2	Projects senior coordinator	Fikrin Bektashi	Post graduate student at the Academy of Sciences of the Azerbaijan Republic, at the Institute of Philosophy and Law; Master degree in Law from Western University, Baku	fikrin@transparency-az.org
3	Senior lawyer	Yusif Agayev	Master degree in Law from Kazakhstan State University	yusif@transparency-az.org
4	Senior legal assistant	Elvira Gulahmedova	Master degree in Law, 2-nd year postgraduate student, Azerbaijan State University	elvira@transparency-az.org
5	Project assistant	Parvana Persiyani	Bachelor degree in European Studies, 3-d year student, Baku Languages University	parvana@transparency-az.org
6	Administrative/finance officer	Zamina Alieva	Baku Computer College, diploma in administration and IT	zamina@transparency-az.org
7	Accountant	Natavan Hajieva	Master degree in accounting, Public Economy Institute, Tashkent	natavan@transparency-az.org
Ganja center				
Ganja - Az 2010, Azerbaijan M.A.Abbaszade str.69 Tel/fax: (994 22) 59 05 92 Toll free: (088) 2020202				
8	Lawyer/office director	Sevinj Mammadova	Bachelor degree in Law, Azerbaijan International University	sevinj@transparency-az.org
9	Assistant	Nijat Huseynov		nijat@transparency-az.org
Lenkoran center				

			Lenkoran AZ 4200, Azerbaijan Mirmustafakhan str, 24 Tel: (994 171) 4-08-94 Fax: (994 171) 5-17-25 Toll free: (088) 3030303	
10	Lawyer	Ehtiram Fattayev	Bachelor degree in Law, Azerbaijan International University	ehtiram@transparency-az.org
11	Coordinator/ office director	Humay Narimanova	Bachelor degree in Languages, Lenkoran State University	humay@transparency-az.org
			Guba center Guba AZ 4000, Azerbaijan Fatalikhan str, 65 Tel/fax: (994 169) 5-18-37 Toll free: (088) 4040404	
12	Lawyer/ office director	Eldar Kerimov	Master degree in Law, St-Petersburg State University	eldar@transparency-az.org
13	Coordinator	Samir Alibekov	Bachelor degree in Geography, Azerbaijan State University	samir@transparency-az.org
			Sheki center Sheki AZ 4000, Azerbaijan Fatalikhan str, 65 Tel/fax: (994 169) 5-18-37 Toll free: (088) 4040404	
14	Lawyer	Kamala Mammadova	Bachelor degree in Law, Dagestan Government University	kamala@transparency-az.org
15	Coordinator	Elchin Musayev	Bachelor degree in Languages, Lenkoran State University	elchin@transparency-az.org

Financial Data

Our donors in 2006

TI-Azerbaijan donors in 2006



Our expenditure in 2006

\$ 172,000

Our expenditure by categories

TI-Azerbaijan expenditures in 2006

