

# INTERIM REPORT

Reporting period (1 February 2012 – 31 July 2012)

1. Overview	
Project title	Conflict prevention and peace building in Kyrgyzstan
Name of partner	HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation (HSI)
Name of Project manager	Ismail Arapov
Approved by	Christian Steiner
Submitted to	Dariha Erketaeva
Date of submission	August 27, 2012

2. General comments	
Update on any organisational matters	<p><i>After some preparatory work in the inception period field activities started in the second quarter 2012. The procurement plan was implemented according to elaborated schedule, but in some cases it needed adjustments to respond to real market situations and conditions. Some procurement processes faced with difficulties due to fear of suppliers of lot of paper work.</i></p> <p><i>Agency activities and issues related to implementation of TASK Activity plan, coordination between TASK members, between local NGOs and some other issues were discussed on monthly basis on Working Group and Board meetings, which contributed to be on track and to improve implementation of the planned work. Due to such meetings some TASK members identified synergies in implementation of respective activities</i></p>
Update on any major issues/risks	<p><i>The months of the reporting period corresponds to the peak of field activities, during which certain difficulties for provision of trainings to our beneficiaries were faced due to the peak of irrigation period, to the peak of shortage of irrigation water, and to the start of the month of Ramazan, which is very important for Muslim people. Such factors created minor obstacles for timely implementation of plans and for construction of planned hydro structures. However, it could be agreed with the beneficiaries that the construction of hydro structures will be intensified and finalized with the decrease of the peak of the irrigation season, so in September major construction works will be completed and indicated obstacles will not hinder to the implementation of the whole activity plan of TASK HSI or affect the quality of the expected results.</i></p>

Any other business/news	
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3. Activity report	
Expected Result	
Activity 0.5	Procurement
Progress status	<p><b>Procurement process is being implemented successfully.</b></p> <p>According to the lots of the elaborated plan and in accordance with the EU requirements, most of the items have already been procured and others are being procured based on needs.</p> <p>Procurement plan of TASK HELVETAS included 10 lots, but later some lots (lot 5 and lot 6) were adapted to real market conditions and they were further divided into sub lots (Lot 5 –Lot 5A, 5B and 5C) and lot 6 (were divided into Lot 6A and Lot 6B). At the end Procurement plan contained 13 lots, including sub lots. One lot – Lot 3 – Computer equipment was purchased during the inception period.</p> <p><b>During the reporting period (February - July) the following lots have been completed fully or some contracts are actual:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lot 2 – ✓<b>Office furniture</b> (3 contracts; Gulkayir-furniture, Gribennikov – Air Conditioner, Cancler – Boards) has been completed</li> <li>• Lot 4 – ✓<b>Visibility</b> has been completed (1 contract – PolygraphCentre “Datka”),</li> <li>• Lot 5 (Sub lots 5A, 5B, 5C- <b>Equipment, consumables and repair work for Vocational Schools</b>) –10 contracts have been completed fully (but 3 contracts are still actual: lot 5A – 1contract - 1 item is to be delivered, Lot 5B – 2 contracts for supply of products are actual),</li> <li>• Lot 6 – ✓Sub lot 6A – <b>portable water measuring devices for selected WUAs</b>(1 contract -Nalad-Yug Ltd)has been completed,</li> <li>• Sub lot 6B – <b>Provision of construction materials for fixed hydro constructions</b>(out of 5 contracts 4 contracts) has been completed and 1 small contract is actual,</li> <li>• Lot 7 – ✓<b>Rent of vehicle</b> (1 contract – AidarovJenish)has been completed</li> <li>• Lot 8 – <b>Selection of training provider</b> for WUAs (1 contract – RAS Jalal-Abad – contract is actual)</li> <li>• Lot 9 – <b>Training on didactics and teaching</b>, (8 contracts in total)in this lot, the procurement process has been completed, but one training is left which will be conducted in September by HSI expert.</li> </ul> <p><b>Two lots; Lot 1- Materials and publications and Lot 10 – Translation</b>, in these lots the procurement is done, but the work is actual and will be completed in the next quarter.</p> <p>So all procurement plan is being implemented based on actual needs, of course, there were some changes and adaptation compared to the initial version of the procurement plan.</p>
Start and end date	<p>Planned: from Month 1 to Month 17</p> <p>Actual:started in Month 3 and be continued to Month 15</p>

Description of Activity implemented	<i>Taking into account the period of real needs of the procurement items, procurement lots were adapted to real market conditions and most of the procurements had been completed and some are still actual. There were certain difficulties in finding the required service/training provider, or necessary suppliers of some items.</i>
Activity results	<i>By the end of the second quarter the following can be mentioned as results of the conducted activity:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The following Lots (Lot 2, Lot 3, Lot 4, Lot 5 with sub lots 5A, 5B, 5C, lot 6 with sub lots 6A and 6B, Lot 7 and Lot 8, and lot 9) have been completed</i></li> <li><i>In two lots (Lot 1 and Lot 10) the procurement procedures are completed, but works are still actual.</i></li> </ul>
Geographical location of activities	<i>Aravan, Kara-Suu rayons of Osh oblast and Jalal-Abad town and Bazar-Korgon rayon of Jalal-Abad oblast.</i>
Key partners	
Coordination with other TASK members	<i>There were close relations with DCA and DRC in implementation of some procurement activities</i>

### **3. Activity report**

Expected Result	<i>2.2. Reduced tension through enhanced socio – economic inclusion and improved economic opportunities in target areas</i>
Activity 2.2.1	<i>Conduct Labour Market Study</i>
Progress status	<i><b>TASK HSI</b> is responsible for conducting Labour Market Studies. Though we have started the activity with three weeks delay, we are on track to meet target, budget and timeframe.</i>
Start and end date	<i>Planned: According to the Action plan this activity was planned to implement starting from Month 2 to Month 6 Actual: It started in Month 3 and had been completed in Month 6.</i>
Description of Activity implemented	<i>In order to reach objectives according to this activity, the Working Group consisting of 20 persons have conducted the Labour Market Study (LMS) in our target areas i.e. in Aravan and Kara-Suu rayons of Osh oblast and in Jalal-Abad town and Bazar-Korgon rayon of Jalal-Abad oblast:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Working group members were instructed&amp;consulted before the start of LMS.</i></li> <li><i>Questionnaires were elaborated by working group.</i></li> <li><i>Working group members were divided into small 10 sub-groups.</i></li> <li><i>Program and schedule of the LMS were elaborated.</i></li> <li><i>Logistic issues were settled by the Project</i></li> <li><i>216 objects (employers) were visited by 10 sub-working groups within April 11-13</i></li> <li><i>49% of the respondents belong to private sector, 37% to state sector and 14% to public sector</i></li> <li><i>Information was collected concerning; the demand of the market for professions, requirements of employers for specific specialists, rates of salaries which can be offered to specialists, importance of age and gender to the employers and etc.</i></li> <li><i>Collected data was analysed.</i></li> <li><i>Recommendations were prepared to the TASK project and to Vocational Schools.</i></li> </ul>

	<i>Working group faced with some difficulties like; bureaucratic approach of employers to interviewers, non-availability of some employers due to the start of field work.</i>
Activity results	<p><b>Short description of gained results;</b></p> <p><i>At a result of LMS the following demanded professions were identified:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>driver,</i></li> <li>• <i>operator of PC and office manager,</i></li> <li>• <i>cook-confectioner,</i></li> <li>• <i>hairdresser-esthetician,</i></li> <li>• <i>electrician,</i></li> <li>• <i>electric and gas welder,</i></li> <li>• <i>seamer.</i></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Training centres identified 2-4 demanded professions for their own area as shown below;</i></li> <li>• <i>VS #63, Bazar-Korgon, Jalal-Abad – (seamer, cook-confectioner, cook-confectioner, operator of PC and office manager, driver)</i></li> <li>• <i>VS # 75, Jalal-Abad – (driver, cook-confectioner, electrician)</i></li> <li>• <i>PTC “Logos”, Jalal-Abad – (operator of PC and office manager, seamer, driver)</i></li> <li>• <i>PTC “Bilim-Nuru”, Kara-Suu, Osh – (operator of PC and office manager, cook-confectioner, seamer)</i></li> <li>• <i>VS # 59, Kara-Suu rayon, Osh – (driver, seamer, electric and gas welder)</i></li> <li>• <i>VS # 112, Aravan rayon, Osh – (PC operator and office manager, electrician, hairdresser-esthetician)</i></li> <li>• <i>LMS report was prepared and submitted to Lead Agency</i></li> <li>• <i>Training Centres attracted pupils for short term courses according to demanded professions</i></li> </ul>
Geographical location of activities	<i>Aravan, Kara-Suu rayons of Osh oblast and Jalal-Abad town and Bazar-Korgon rayon of Jalal-Abad oblast</i>
Key partners	
Coordination with other TASK members	<i>Other TASK members and their local partners like ACT Alliance/ICCO partners: Bio Service, MehrShavkat, RDF, TES-Centre conduct MarketStudies related to agricultural products, producing important and relevant complementary information to our labour market study</i>

<b>3. Activity report</b>	
Expected Result	<i>2.2. Reduced tension through enhanced socio – economic inclusion and improved economic opportunities in target areas</i>
Activity 2.2.3	<i>Vocational, technical and business management training</i>
Progress status	<i>The activity was started in accordance with the approved Action plan, it is in progress and will be continued up the end of the year.</i>
Start and end date	<i>Planned: to start from Month 5 to Month 16 Actual: It will be started in Month 5 and will be completed in Month 16.</i>
Description of Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>In this activity based on concluded contracts four</i></li> </ul>

implemented

Vocational Schools were obliged to train 360 pupils (each VS 90 pupils) and two Private Training Centres (PTC) were to train 140 pupils (70 each PTC and in total VS and PTC were to train 500 pupils). For training of pupils TASK Project was obliged to provide capacity building trainings for the staff of the VS/PTC, to provide equipment, consumables for practical lessons and was to provide support for repair work of VS/PTC infrastructure.

- For this purpose four Needs Assessment workshops were conducted in four places for 4 Vocational Schools (VS) and 2 Private Training Centres (PTC) to identify topics for capacity building trainings.
- At a result of N/A workshops five prioritized topics were selected for capacity building trainings of the staff of VS/PTC (1. Innovative methods of vocational guidance, 2. Module training, 3. Management, 4. Interactive and innovative methods of training, 5. Project management).
- According to EU requirements three trainers were procured to provide capacity building trainings on three topics (2 days each) and on two topics trainers were selected among HSI staff without procurement procedures.
- In May four trainings were conducted on four selected topics (2 days each) by the trainers N. Matikeeva, B. Orozakunova, A. Kasymov and M. Abdikaparov with the participation of 163 staff of VS/PTC. One training was postponed for September, which will be conducted by HSI expert.
- Besides that, procurement procedures were conducted to procure trainers for training of trainers of short term courses and for Curriculum Development. At a result of the procurement procedure, the following trainers were selected for ToT of short term courses; Kubatov, Nishanova, Tsoy, Narimbetov and Omorov. Each of them conducted five days training for trainers of short term courses with the involvement of 34 participants.
- In relation with the provision of equipment, consumables for practical lessons and for provision of repair services of VS/PTC infrastructure, we followed EU procurement requirements and at a result TASK HSI made thirteen contracts with; Akramov Abdulhay, Musaev Askat, Torogeldiev Bakyt, Hodjamiyarova Kanoathan, Yulbarsov Nurmammed, Kubatov Ermamat, Omoshov Eleman, Shamshiev Batyr, Sherova Toydukan, Omoshov Samagan, "Izoel" ltd, "YNA-story" and Musaev Anvarbek. Contract amounts vary from 16000 som up to 633400 som.
- By now all contracts related to VS/PTC infrastructure repair services have been completed, photos are in the drop box.
- All contracts related to supply of equipment have been completed, excluding one item in one contract which will be supplied in August.
- All contracts related to supply of consumables for practical lessons have been completed, excluding two small contracts which will be completed in November

	<p>(supply of products for the profession “Cook-Confectionary”).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project faced lot of difficulties while making contracts with the suppliers due to lot of paper work.</li> <li>• All six VS/PTC started first batch of short term courses at the beginning of June with the involvement of 259 pupils and will last up to the end of August. Second batch of courses will be started in September.</li> <li>• Seven Memorandum of Understandings were concluded between Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation, VS/PTC and oblast, town and rayon departments of Youth, Labour and Employment (YLE), where YLE departments took obligations to pay salaries for masters and teachers of short term courses and scholarships for pupils.</li> <li>• Contracts were elaborated and concluded between HSI and VS/PTC.</li> <li>• In the process of conduction of short term courses monitoring was made by TASK HSI staff and by DCA representatives.</li> <li>• Certain recommendations were made to VS/PTC as a result of conducted monitoring.</li> </ul>
Activity results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Out of planned 500 pupils 259 are being trained in the first batch of short term courses, which will be completed at the end of August.</li> <li>• 163 staff of selected VS/PTC participated in four capacity building trainings (2 days each).</li> <li>• 34masters of short term courses participated in five Curriculum Development trainings (5 days each).</li> <li>• According to EU procurement procedures, thirteen contracts were concluded for supply of VS/PTC with equipment, consumables for practical lessons and for provision of repair services of their infrastructure.</li> <li>• Based on their applications all 6 VS/PTC have got necessary equipment and consumables in the amount of <b>2’132’014</b>som for provision of short term courses</li> <li>• Infrastructure repair works have been completed in all six VS/PTC for the amount of <b>478’241</b>soms.</li> <li>• Close relations were maintained with two oblast, one town and four rayon departments of Youth, Labour and Employment (YLE) and three sided Memorandum of Understandings were made between TASK HSI, YLE departments and VS/PTC.</li> </ul>
Geographical location of activities	Aravan, Kara-Suu rayons of Osh oblast and Jalal-Abad town and Bazar-Korgon rayon of Jalal-Abad oblast.
Key partners	Oblast and rayon departments of Youth, Labour and Employment
Coordination with other TASK members	There is no other TASK member working with Vocational Schools

<b>3. Activity report</b>	
Expected Result	<i>2.2. Reduced tension through enhanced socio – economic inclusion and improved economic opportunities in target areas</i>
Activity 2.2.4	Support water user associations through provision of water management equipment and training
Progress status	<i>The activity was started in accordance with the approved Action plan, it is in progress and will be continued up the end of the year.</i>
Start and end date	<i>Planned: to start from Month 5 to Month 16 Actual: It was started in Month 5 and will be completed in Month 16.</i>
Description of Activity implemented	<p><i>In order to provide portable water measuring devices and support the constructions of stationary water measuring structures and to provide trainings to Water Users Associations (WUAs), we have conducted the following activity:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Conducted needs assessment in WUAs to identify topics for capacity building trainings</i></li> <li>• <i>The following five topics were prioritized for capacity building trainings of WUA staff:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Water measuring and recording of provided water in WUA</i></li> <li>2. <i>Water saving technologies in irrigation</i></li> <li>3. <i>General administration of WUA</i></li> <li>4. <i>Capacity building of WUA management on legal issues</i></li> <li>5. <i>WUA water consumption plan</i></li> </ol> </li> <li>• <i>Based on EU procedure Training Provider was selected (out of three candidates PF Rural Advisory Services of Jalal-Abad oblast was selected) to provide 10 trainings (5 in Aravan and 5 in Bazar-Korgon) to the staff of WUAs</i></li> <li>• <i>WUAs needs are identified in portable and fixed water measuring devices (PWMD) and construction cost estimations were prepared by WUAs and were submitted to TASK project.</i></li> <li>• <i>According to EU procurement procedures producer was selected for portable PWMD and for metal parts of fixes constructions and PWMD were produced and distributed to all selected WUAs.</i></li> <li>• <i>According to EU procurement procedures the following five suppliers were selected for supply of WUAs with materials for construction of stationary water measuring structures:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>DosovErkinbek</i></li> <li>2. <i>RasulovMuhammatshukir</i></li> <li>3. <i>Mursakasimov Musa</i></li> <li>4. <i>PolotovAbdurahim</i></li> <li>5. <i>"SpetsEnergRemont" Ltd</i></li> </ol> </li> <li>• <i>Contract amounts vary from 60'000 som up to 387'200 som.</i></li> <li>• <i>International expert Esther Marthaler was invited from Switzerland to prepare a training module and conduct a test training to WUA staff on mitigation/prevention of water related conflicts.</i></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Trainings were provided to WUA staff on the above mentioned selected five topics.</i></li> <li>• <i>Monitoring was conducted by TASK HSI team and by representatives of DCA to control the quality of trainings.</i></li> </ul>
Activity results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>72 portable water measuring devices (PWMD) and metal parts of stationary water measuring structures were provided to selected 10 WUAs for the amount of 222'738 som.</i></li> <li>• <i>Construction materials (gravel, stone, board) were provided to selected WUAs for the sum of 300'800 som</i></li> <li>• <i>Cement was provided in the amount of 44 tons for the sum of 387'200 som.</i></li> <li>• <i>Out of planned 42 stationary hydro structures 9 were completed, the others were temporarily stopped due to the peak of irrigation season and to the month of Ramazan, and will be completed in September.</i></li> <li>• <i>On selected 5 topics 10 trainings were provided to WUAs staff by RAS Jalal-Abad with the participation of 196 WUA representatives.</i></li> <li>• <i>Water related conflict mitigation/prevention training module was elaborated with the involvement of Swiss expert and test training was conducted with the participation of the expert, and the module is being further adapted to replicate the training by local trainers.</i></li> </ul>
Geographical location of activities	<i>Aravan rayon of Osh oblast and Bazar-Korgon rayon of Jalal-Abad oblast</i>
Key partners	
Coordination with other TASK members	While conducting trainings to WUAs on legal issues lawyers of DRC Agency provided big support to TASK HSI.

<b>4. Visibility</b>	
Provide a detailed list of visibility activities implemented	<p><b>During the reporting period (Feb-July) several visibility activities were conducted</b> by TASK HSI project. The following can be mentioned as examples of conducted visibility activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In April 1860 booklets (5580 pages in total and for the sum of 36'828 som) were published with EU, TASK and HSI logos with brief information about EU "Conflict mitigation and peace building in Kyrgyzstan" project and they were distributed to six selected VS/PTC to create awareness among the population and to attract pupils for short term courses which were used by VS/PTC during the info campaign.</li> <li>• In May 6 special big banners with EU, TASK and HSI logos (6-12 sqm each and for the sum of 6878 som) were prepared for six vocational schools and were fixed on the entrance sides of VS/PTC buildings which indicate the relationship between the VS/PTC and the EU project.</li> <li>• Besides that again in May 132 special banners with EU, TASK and HSI logos ( for the sum of 35'284</li> </ul>



som) were prepared for six vocational schools and they were fixed in different popular places to attract pupils for short term courses. According to the information of beneficiaries those banners contributed a lot to attract the pupils for the selected courses.

- At the beginning of May 62 special banners with EU, TASK and HSI logos (for the sum of 16'573 som) were prepared for selected ten Water Users Associations (WUAs) and they were fixed in different places of the villages of WUAs to create awareness among the WUA members and to indicate the relationship between the WUAs and the EU project "Conflict mitigation and peace building in Kyrgyzstan".
- In April and in May four announcements were made with EU, TASK and HSI logos in Jalal-Abad newspaper "Akiykat" (2 times – 23/04, 17/05) and in Osh newspaper "Rek-Park" (2 times – 24/04, 19/05) for selection of training providers and for selection of suppliers.
- Each of the 6 VS/PTC has got from the TASK project 30'500 som (in total 183'000 som) at the end of April and the beginning of May for PR activities which will be used up to the end according to the elaborated plan of VS/PTC.
- During the reporting period VS prepared 8 programs and broadcasted through local TV about the support of EU, TASK project and 3 articles were published in Jalal-Abad oblast newspaper ("Akiykat") and in Aravan rayon newspaper "Dostuk" (May 19).
- In May 197 certificates were provided to participants-staff of VS/PTC of 2-days and 5-days trainings with EU, TASK and HSI logos.
- Within the reporting period Press Tour was organised by the Lead Agency which visited two project sites of TASK HSI project: 1) WUA "Moviy-Darya" in Aravan rayon and Vocational School #63 in Bazar-Korgon rayon at a result of which articles were published in local newspapers and TV program was broadcasted by Jalal-Abad oblast TV. In the process of the visit to the WUA, journalists were interested in the problems of the WUA "Moviy-Darya" and how they were being settled with the support of the TASK project and how the EU support would contribute to prevent potential conflicts related to water allocation issues and journalists have got satisfactory answers from WUA representatives. While visiting the VS #63 journalists got acquainted with the progress of short term courses, interviewed the pupils, teachers and masters, director of the VS and have got full understanding about the EU support to VS. Journalists were also interested in "how the short term courses contribute to improve economic opportunities in the area" and they have got satisfying answers.

<b>5. Concluded contracts for implementation of the action during the reporting period</b>	
<b>All contracts (works, supplies, services) above 10.000€ awarded for the implementation of the action</b>	<p>During the reporting period 51 contracts were concluded, including 35 procurement contracts and 16 cooperation contracts. All procurement contracts were concluded in accordance with EU procurement procedures. In accordance with the decision of the TASK HSI procurement committee dated on June 1<sup>st</sup>, out of gained 15 requests for quotes, 12 were awarded contracts for supply of equipment, consumables for practical lessons and for provision of repair services. The amount of procurement contracts are different, which varies from 15'000 som up to 633'403 som. Based on the decision of the procurement committee the contract with the biggest amount – 633'403 som was awarded to Yulbarsov Nurmuhammed for supply of three vocational schools with equipment on selected professions. The amount of only two contracts exceeds 10.000€, they are the following:</p> <p>1) <i>Contract name</i> – <b>TASK/Helvetas/27-2012/lot5A/VS/Equipment</b>(total amount <b>633403 som</b>)– was awarded to Yulbarsov Nurmuhammed for supply of the following VS/PTC with equipment:  <b>VS #75</b>– 125690 som (prof-n “Electrician”  <b>VS #63</b>– 187298 som (prof-n “Driver”  - 104100 som (prof-n Computer operator-Office manager).  <b>PTC “Logos”</b>–66326 som (prof-n Computer operator-Office manager)  - 141529 som (prof-n “Driver”  - 8460 som (hairstylist-esthetician).</p> <p>2) <i>Contract name</i> –  <b>TASK/Helvetas/lot7/RentVehicle/Osh.</b>  Based on the decision of the TASK HSI procurement committee, dated February 9, out of invited 4 potential candidates for provision of taxi services contract was awarded to <b>Aidarov Jenishbek</b> who requested reasonable price and offered two types of cars for provision of services. The amount of the contract was foreseen in the amount of 12'000 euro for the whole period, and actual rate for taxi services was fixed at the rate of 12 som per km and 300 som for non-effective days (if run km is less than 50 km/day). Up to now Aidarov is providing good services to TASK HSI project.</p>

<b>6. Cooperation and building synergies</b>	
How would you assess the relationship between your organisation and State authorities? How has this relationship affected the Action?	<p>The relationship between the project TASK HSI and <b>state authorities</b> is on a good level. In the elaborated TASK HSI project proposal, salary payment to teachers and masters of short term courses, and scholarships for the pupils, were not foreseen and we were afraid that those shortcomings may put the successful implementation of the Action into certain risk, because without incentives teachers also may not work with full commitment. That is why we approached the department of Youth, Labour and Employment -YLE (the former migration department) – in order to identify, if they can provide any support to VS related to salary payments to teachers and masters of short term courses and scholarships for the pupils. The</p>

reaction of the YLE department was positive and they also revealed their interest in training of youth. At a result of our meetings with YLE departments three sided MoU were made between HSI, Osh/Jalal-Abad oblast managements of YLE (Aravan, Kara-Suu, Suzak, Bazar-Korgon rayon and Jalal-Abad town departments of YLE) and VS/PTC. On the basis of the MoU two sided contracts were concluded between VS/PTC and respective rayon/town departments of YLE, where YLE departments took the obligation to pay salaries for the teachers/masters and scholarships for the trained pupils. The relations between TASK, VS/PTC and YLE departments were on a good mutual respect level, representatives of YLE departments took active participation at info meetings, in monitoring of courses, at registering of pupils and such good relations highly contributed for the successful implementation of the Action. YLE departments transferred the salaries of teachers/masters of short term courses and scholarships of pupils at conditions stipulated in their contracts.

Similar relationships were maintained with state authorities related to irrigation component also. WUA Support Units (SU), rayon water management departments (RWMD) also took active participation in the trainings provided to WUAs, provided their offices for provision of trainings, shared their knowledge and experiences during the trainings, jointly discussed the problems between WUAs and WUA SU/RWMD. At the beginning of activities close relations were maintained with Osh oblast WUA SU. We are confident that such kind of joint meetings, trainings and discussions would greatly help to strengthen mutual understanding, mutual respect and highly contribute to minimize misunderstandings, to prevent potential frictions/conflicts within WUAs, between WUAs and WUA SU/RWMD, which at the end lead to reach the goals set in the documents of EU "Conflict mitigation and peace building in Kyrgyzstan" project.

Besides the state authorities TASK HSI is closely collaborating with other **Helvetas projects like A-STAR and SEP project.**

With **STAR-A** project we mainly collaborate in relation with the implementation of the VET component of the TASK project. We discuss with the Manager and Coordinator of the STAR project the problems of the VET component and ways of optimal solution of the existing problems, exchange with experiences, participate each other's meetings, trainings. The A-STAR project provided expert trainer while TASK organised capacity building trainings for the staff of VS/PTC. The STAR project was always ready to provide support whenever TASK faced some difficulties, and such support was very helpful for TASK to overcome difficulties.

With **SEP** (Suunu effektivdu paydalanuu - Efficient use of water) **project**, TASK collaborated in relation with the implementation of the Irrigation component of the project. With the manager and expert of the SEP project, we jointly discussed the problems, raised by WUAs and agreed what can be done by TASK and what can be done by SEP project, because some of our beneficiaries were also clients of the SEP project. TASK and SEP representatives

participated each other's needs assessment activities, trainings and coordinated our activities not to double or overlap each other's activities. We exchanged with information, publication materials, experiences which helped us a lot in implementing Irrigation component of the TASK project.

### **Cooperation and building synergies within TASK Consortium.**

Due to the lack of experiences in working in a Consortium, at the beginning of the operation each member of the Consortium faced certain difficulties in implementation of the Action. But some time later we have realized that working as Consortium member has several advantages (compared to individual working) and some of them can be listed as follows:

- Collective discussion of the existing problems/issues (during monthly Board/Working Group meetings) and identify best solutions,
- Take collective responsibility for positive or negative results of the activity, which contributes to increase confidence for implementation of the activity,
- Benefiting from data base or personal resources of other agencies. E.g. during most of the meetings ACTED provided different types of maps or diagrams which helped to visualize the information or issue under discussion and it helped much to understand the situation, or preparation and provision of village passports to other agencies which saved much time and resources of the agencies. In the process of provision of trainings to WUAs, Helvetas faced difficulties with one training topic related to legal issues, and we approached the DRC Agency and they provided two lawyers who contributed a lot to conduct the training and to improve the quality of the training.
- Benefit from each other's trainings. During the meetings information was shared by agencies what kind of trainings are being conducted by this or that agency and interested parties were invited to the trainings. E.g. when IA conducted the training on conflict management, representatives of different agencies were invited and the training was very useful for all of us.
- Benefit from other agency's experts, knowledge/experiences. Whenever we (Helvetas) faced difficulties related to different issues like; procurement, finance, budget, change of different items, settle some problems with EU and etc. and etc. we always referred all those issues to DCA Coordinator, assistant, financial manager or procurement expert and we always got prompt and professional replies from the respective persons which created favourable conditions for our work.
- Save time due to sharing of responsibilities. Working in Consortium was very useful for saving time and efforts due to sharing of responsibilities. E.g. Press Conference and Press Tours were organized which require lot of time and lot of work and all logistical work was done by Lead Agency and other agencies just

	<p>organised visit sites and were involved in such activity for half day or one day, but such events contributed a lot to create awareness among population, among state authorities and helped much create positive image about EU, about TASK Consortium.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unite efforts to improve the quality of work. All the meetings (Board/WG) and discussions followed the aim 'how to improve the quality of work" and there were several cases when each agency contributed to improve the work of other agency. E.g. Selection justifications, this issue was discussed several times and each agency reviewed the justifications of other agencies and submitted its critics, suggestions, remarks related how the quality of the selection justifications can be improved. After such collective review the quality of the justifications was improved to a certain extent.</li></ul> <p>Such positive advantageous of working in Consortium can continued further and if each agency worked independently as individual agency, then it could miss/lose such opportunities. We benefited a lot working as Consortium member.</p>
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**7. Please provide an updated action plan referring to Annex 1**

