



PROJECT UPDATE

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In March the Steering board of BCP was conducted and project report for 2012 and plans for 2013 were approved. The representatives from Swiss Embassy, Steering Board member and Federation on Organic Development Bio-KG, observer expressed their commitment and support in strengthening the organic sector development. The Consolidation phase has been officially approved by SECO in June 2013 and project and its partners can follow the yearly targets with confidence.

At the same time the project has focused on joint activities, synergies with OVCD (Khujand, Tajikistan) and LMD (Kyrgyzstan) projects. The exchange visit from Kyrgyzstan to OVCD project and its partners took place in the beginning of July. In order to establish the contacts from private sector the project started to facilitate the collaboration with trading company “Contracting Centre” (Osh, Kyrgyzstan) as a trade agent for organic products from Bio Farmer Cooperative. The relation between organic farmers and the Contracting Center will be agreed on the basis of the Memorandum of

Understanding. From the organizational point of view the project team has been changed. After the probation period the Project Officer shifted to the partner organization ASCS as Board Chairman Adviser. The Office Manager was promoted and started to work as Knowledge Management Specialist.



Gender Equality and Social Equity Workshop, June/ 2013

The workshop on Gender & Social Equity was conducted for all HSI staff and its partner organizations in June, 2013. The main objective of the workshop was to focus on the eight principles of GSE policy and efficient integration into the Country Program of Kyrgyzstan. Following the GSE principles all HSI projects shall revise their targets and indicators in their yearly operations.



**Where to find us?
BioCotton Project**

Address: Jamasheva Str. 1,
Jalal Abad,
the Kyrgyz Republic
Tel.: +996 3722 5 20 12
E-mail: biocotton@helvetas.kg
Webpage: www.helvetas.kg

DO YOU KNOW THAT..?

Intercultural communication (ICC) is very important for our everyday work in globalization era. Working in a global team and dealing with business partners or customers across cultures raises challenges and demands new attitudes and skills. For this reason, ICC workshop was

conducted in May for BCP team and its partner organizations. The two-day workshop was aimed to raise the awareness of the staff members to enable them to reflect themselves and upgrade their competences and skills in Intercultural communication.



ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

The season for production has started. ACSC Bio Farmer reviewed and finalized its production data. The cotton production has decreased by 30% due to low prices in 2012 and farmers are not motivated to grow. In order to compensate the loss from the revenue from cotton the ACSC is planning to enter the local market with rotational organic products. The General Assembly of ACSC was successfully conducted with participation of the two Jogorku Kenesh deputies who were elected to become the ACSC council members. The farmers raised the issues of local market penetration with their organic products and opening local shops in the villages to create the local demand.

The Cooperative has published an article about GMO contaminated crops and food in Uzbek and Kyrgyz languages. Moreover, under facilitation of BCP, Bio Farmer joined the Textile Exchange for the World Environment Day under the project "THINK EAT SAVE". The project has been successfully conducted for children from a rural and remote school №24 in Bazar-Korgon rayon where organic farming takes place. The young organic promoters attended the competition and 14 years old girl from the school won the final prize. Herself-stitched towel with a slogan to ban GMO gave inspiration to many people.



Kyrgyzstan WED finalist, Tursunbek kyzy Dinara, May/ 2013

PF Bio Service was mandated by FOD to coach in organizational development and consultancy in organic agriculture. At same time Bio Service provides consultancies along the value chains with other cooperatives like Alysh-Dan in Batken, Reina Kench in Issyk-Kul and links producers to processors and traders like Agropromexport in Kyrgyzstan and Barakat-Isfara in Tajikistan. In April three persons from Kyrgyzstan, representatives of FOD, BS and BCP started to attend the Organic Leadership Course organized by IFOAM in India.

SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

The project continues to develop its interventions towards the conducive environment for organic sector in the country. The main partner of project in the sector is FOD Bio KG, who leads the dialogue between government, civil society and private sector. The draft law about ban of GMO products has been successfully agreed with government agencies and passed first reading at Plenary Meeting of Parliament. It is expected to go through additional two readings and will be approved by the president.

The Kyrgyz Organic National Action Plan (KONAP) version 4 has been provided by IFOAM expert for consultation among the internal working group. After the comments and additions from the working group the National Plan will be distributed to wider circulation including the public.

The project is continuing to build public private partnerships for the organic movement in Kyrgyzstan. It is one of the key issues of the project exit strategy during the Consolidation phase.



Iskender Aidaraliyev, FOD presedentalist National Organic Forum, December/ 2012