

Local Market Development Project

Helvetas Swiss association for International Cooperation
ICCO, Dutch Cooperation Development Organisation

1

Planning Seminar in Issyk-Kul

On 14th April this year an activities planning seminar for the Farmers – Suppliers – Koopromservis Processing Plant chain was held attended by the head of processing plant and cooperative and project representatives and 20 suppliers from the Tyup, Zhetyorguz, Tonsk, and Issyk-Kul regions, some of whom were experienced and some new ones for whom this was the first season as suppliers. Beforehand, 17 possible procurement points for produce had been chosen by the cooperative.

At the seminar it was decided that the head of the processing plant and the cooperative would, by the end of April, check out the possible procurement points and work out a financial plan that set out its monthly financial needs during the season. By the end of May the procurement points will have been organised, the new purchasers trained by the cooperative and ready to work by the time the season starts and equipped with containers and scales. When the season starts there will be monthly meetings of the working groups, the first of which will be at the beginning of June. To make things easier for the purchasers and the processing plant three working groups have been set up in Balykchee, Oytal and Akterek. The contract for the delivery of raw materials to the processing plant should have been signed by the beginning of July. Besides substandard produce for the processing plant agents can procure high quality produce for export to other countries.

2

Training laboratory

The idea to create a so-called training laboratory where partners can acquire necessary working knowledge was greeted by all the partners with great enthusiasm and has come to fruition this year. The 1st April in Osh saw the second training day of the Training Laboratory on the subject of monitoring attended by people responsible for monitoring from organisations working with the LMD project in the south of Kyrgyzstan. At first the partner organisations presented the whole of their work on signing contracts between farmers' groups and processing plants. A system for monitoring and evaluating project activities on working with farmers' groups was

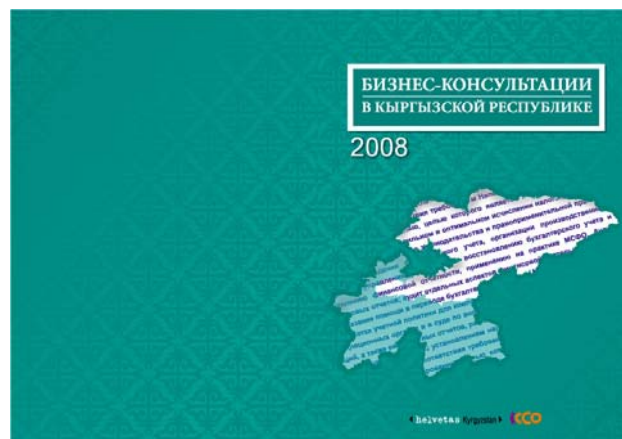
presented, after which a demonstration was given on how to work with the Access database and the results of the evaluation of farmers' groups who have been working with the project since 2005-2006 and research into the project's influence on farmers' groups. Participants keenly discussed the results of this research such as the conclusions based on it that could help organisations work together in the future. At the end of the day the task for the next laboratory day was set, namely how to break down general database information into separate sections on farmers, land resources, economics, credit, acquiring seeds, and farmers' groups.

The next Training Laboratory Day will be on the theme: Marketing and economic analysis and will be held at the beginning of September.

3

Business Consultation in the KR Brochure

In april of this year the project, together with AgrolInformAsia updated the Business Consultation in the Kyrgyz Republic 2008 Handbook and printed 500 copies. An electronic version can be found on the AgrolInformAsia website.



This Handbook traditionally gives information about companies offering advisory services on 15 different segments, including agriculture in the KR. Interested organisations can acquire brochures from AgrolInformAsia Ltd at info@agro-asia.com.