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<tr>
<td>AIS</td>
<td>Agricultural Innovation Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>BAIF</td>
<td>Bharatiya Agro Industries Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>BATEM</td>
<td>West Mediterranean Agricultural Research Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>CACAARI</td>
<td>Central Asia and the Caucasus Association of Agricultural Research Institutions</td>
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<td>CACFish</td>
<td>The Central Asian and Caucasus Regional Fisheries and Aquaculture Commission</td>
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<td>CCA</td>
<td>Caucasus and Central Asia</td>
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<td>CEM</td>
<td>General Directorate of Combating Desertification and Erosion</td>
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<td>CGIAR</td>
<td>Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research</td>
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<td>CIMMYT</td>
<td>International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center</td>
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<td>COFI</td>
<td>FAO Committee on Fisheries</td>
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<td>DAD-IS</td>
<td>FAO's Domestic Animal Diversity System</td>
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<td>ECO</td>
<td>Economic Cooperation Organization</td>
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<td>ECOSA</td>
<td>ECO Region Seed Association</td>
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<td>ERC</td>
<td>Regional Conference for Europe</td>
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<td>ESA</td>
<td>FAO Agricultural Development Economics Division</td>
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<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</td>
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<td>FAOSEC</td>
<td>FAO Subregional Office for Central Asia</td>
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<td>FSIS</td>
<td>Food Safety and Inspection Service</td>
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<td>FETUR</td>
<td>FAO Representation in Turkey</td>
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<td>FISHDEV</td>
<td>Central Asia Regional Programme for Fisheries and Aquaculture Development</td>
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<td>FPMIS</td>
<td>Field Programme Monitoring and Information System</td>
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<td>FTPP</td>
<td>FAO-Turkey Partnership Program</td>
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<td>GASF</td>
<td>Gender and Agricultural Statistics Framework</td>
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<td>GAP/RDA</td>
<td>South-eastern Anatolia Regional Development Administration</td>
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<td>GDP</td>
<td>Gross Domestic Product</td>
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<td>GFCM</td>
<td>General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean</td>
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<td>GFRAS</td>
<td>Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services</td>
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<td>GIAHS</td>
<td>Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>GIEWS</td>
<td>Global Information and Early Warning System</td>
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<td>GoT</td>
<td>Government of Turkey</td>
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<td>GPS</td>
<td>Global Positioning System</td>
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<td>IC</td>
<td>International Consultant</td>
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<td>ICARDA</td>
<td>International Center for Agricultural Research</td>
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<td>LTO</td>
<td>Lead Technical Officer</td>
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<td>LTU</td>
<td>Lead Technical Unit</td>
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<td>MAP</td>
<td>Medical Aromatic Plants</td>
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<td>MARA</td>
<td>Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs</td>
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<td>MFAL</td>
<td>Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (as of 2011)</td>
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<td>MoD</td>
<td>Ministry of Development</td>
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<td>MFA</td>
<td>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
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<td>MFWA</td>
<td>Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs</td>
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<td>MoU</td>
<td>Memorandum of Understanding</td>
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<td>NC on LD</td>
<td>National Consultant on the Legislation Development</td>
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<td>NPC</td>
<td>National Project Coordinator</td>
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<td>PCM</td>
<td>Project Cycle Management</td>
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<td>PSC</td>
<td>Project Steering Committee</td>
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<td>SC</td>
<td>Steering Committee</td>
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<td>SEC</td>
<td>Subregional Office for Central Asia</td>
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<td>SFWRCRI</td>
<td>Soil, Fertilizer and Water Resources Central Research Institute</td>
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<td>SOC</td>
<td>Soil Organic Carbon</td>
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<td>SPO</td>
<td>State Planning Organization</td>
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<td>TAC</td>
<td>Technical Advisory Committee</td>
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<td>TAGEM-GDAR</td>
<td>General Directorate of Agricultural Research and Policies</td>
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<td>TCDC</td>
<td>Technical Cooperation between Developing Countries</td>
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<td>TIIKA</td>
<td>Turkish International Cooperation Agency</td>
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<td>TUIK</td>
<td>Turkish Statistical Institute</td>
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<td>VCA</td>
<td>Value Chain Analysis</td>
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1. BACKGROUND

The Government of Turkey, represented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA)\(^1\) and FAO concluded an Agreement in 2006 to set up FAO-Turkey Partnership Programme (FTPP). According to this Agreement, Turkish Government agreed to make an annual trust fund contribution of USD 2 million over an initial period of five years (2007 – 2011) at the benefit of the countries assisted by the FAO Sub-regional Office for Central Asia, based in Ankara and covering Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

![Figure 1: Geographical coverage of the FTPP Activities](image)

The FAO Turkey Partnership Programme is designed to promote three major themes:
- Food Security and Safety;
- Natural Resources Management;
- Institutional Reform and National Capacity Enhancement.

1\(^{\text{a}}\) Ministry's name was changed into the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MFAL) in 2011.
The Programme has five major objectives:

- To strengthen FAO’s strategic capacities in core areas of its mandate, for pursuing the priorities of food security and rural poverty reduction, as set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;
- To reinforce the involvement of MFAL in the upstream policy dialogue of concerned fields of mutual interest;
- To progress towards broader consensus on the fundamental objectives and strategies of development cooperation in relevant areas, allowing for an active endeavor;
- To facilitate synergies of actions between both parties; and,
- To provide a substantive, financial and operational framework for active cooperation.

2. PARTNERS AND GOVERNING BODIES OF THE PROGRAMME:

The main partners of the FTPP are the Government of Turkey, through MFAL, and FAO. The governing body of the FTPP is the Steering Committee. It usually meets once a year to review the status of ongoing projects and to review project proposals under pipeline for selection and funding as well as other agenda items.

The co-chairs of the Steering Committee are MFAL and FAO. Representatives from Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA), Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs (MFWA), Ministry of Development (MoD) and Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) are also invited as observers.

The first FTPP Steering Committee (SC) meeting was held on 28 May 2009 with the participation of representatives from the MFAL, MFWA, MoD, TIKA and MFA and FAO.
During the course of the implementation of the FTPP, six Steering Committee Meetings were held respectively in May 2009, May 2010, May 2011, December 2011, March 2013 and May 2014 in addition to several ad-hoc and informal meetings.
3. FTPP IMPLEMENTATION AND ACTIVITIES

The FTPP is implemented based on the Operational Framework, which provides detailed information on programme approach, eligibility criteria, set up and functions of the Steering Committee, national focal points, and procedures for submission and approval of national, regional and multi-country level proposals and for the subsequent implementation and monitoring and evolution of FTPP supported projects.

In April 2011, a Technical Review Committee was established. The main purpose of this informal body is to follow up on the implementation of the programme, address pending matters and to formulate suggestions for consideration by the steering committee and/or the co-chairs. It is composed of representatives from the technical and operational departments of MFAL and FAO Turkey. Starting from April 2011 until October 2014, ten technical review meetings were held in order to review the ongoing projects. (April 2011, August 2011, December 2011, March 2012, August 2012, January 2013, June 2013, October 2013, February 2014 and October 2014)

As of December 2014, there are 29 projects funded by the programme; 7 sub-regional; 11 multi-country; and 11 national. The total funding available through the FTPP is USD 10,100,000. As of December 2014, there are 15 operational; 12 at completion stage; one forthcoming and two cancelled projects.

Since the beginning of the programme, USD 53,000 was accumulated in the interest account. Upon the request of MFAL, this amount was used for two training programmes for MFAL staff: Formulation of agricultural and rural investments projects in April 2010; and Rural Invest in May 2010. Upon the Ministry’s request for having training on sector impact analysis, a series of training sessions was organized for General Directorate of Agricultural Research and Policies (GDAR). The training was on “Pilot Policy Assistance Activity on “Socio-economic impact analysis of policy options by means of Value Chain Analysis (VCA) approach”. Within this programme FAO’s Agricultural Development Economics Division (ESA) provides policy assistance to MFAL through the VCA pilot activity.
3.1. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION

Since 2009, 29 projects were approved and funded under the partnership programme with a total allocation of USD 10,100,000. The distribution of ongoing projects/approved budgets, since the first SC, in relation to the total budget is as follows:

Total budget: USD 10,100,000
- Regional: USD 4,100,000
- Multi-country: USD 3,950,000
- National: USD 2,050,000

- Total allocation for 28 projects (15 ongoing + 12 completed) is USD 9,740,000 which corresponds to 97% of the total FTPP funding.
- 15 ongoing projects with an allocation of USD 4,380,000.
- 12 projects were completed with a total budget of USD 5,360,000.
- 1 forthcoming project with a budget of USD 200,000.
- Two projects were cancelled.
The first one is “Trans-boundary Animal Diseases and Zoonoses Project” with a budget of USD 200,000 and the unused budget was transferred to ongoing “Cattle Production Improvement in Central Asia Project -GCP/SEC/001/TUR”.

The second one is “National capacity enhancement and elaboration of strategies on mobilization of foreign investments to the agricultural sector of Uzbekistan Project -GCP/UZB/003/TUR” with a budget of USD 160,000. The next SC will provide the guidance for reallocation of the unused budget.

Over 50 Turkish technical staff has taken part in the formulation and implementation phases of the approved projects.

The distribution of approved budgets in relation to thematic areas since 2009 is as follows:

Natural Resources Management: USD 3,730,000
Food Security and Safety: USD 1,130,000
Capacity Development: USD 5,240,000

**Total: 10,100,000**
3.1.1. COMPLETED:

1. Home Based Nursery Development for Improved Food Security and Environmental Protection in Tajikistan

Overview:
The objective of the project was to increase income and to enhance livelihood and food security of the most vulnerable households (particularly of rural women) in rural Tajikistan, through increasing areas and diversifying production from tree plantations, for improved conservation of soil and water resources and restoration of forest and woodland ecosystems.

Under the project, the following activities were conducted or implemented:

- The Project Steering Committee (PSC) was established with members from the Ministry of Agriculture, Agriculture Academy of Science, Environment Protection Committee and Forestry and Hunting State Department. The main role of the Committee was to provide necessary advice and technical guidance and to monitor the project progress, both in terms of activities and budget.
- The inception workshop was held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, in May 2010. 232 home-based nurseries were established and 5000 forestry and fruit seedlings were distributed to the beneficiaries.
- Project orientation meetings were conducted at district, Jamoat (sub-district) and village levels. During these meetings the project goals, objectives, outputs, implementation approach and planned interventions were discussed. Orientation meetings were organized in step-by-step approach from district to village level.
- Criteria for selection of beneficiaries were reviewed and agreed by the Steering Committee and Interest Groups and were established in accordance with the following criteria:
  - poor groups of the rural population living under the conditions of extreme poverty;
  - landless households or the households owning small land plots who are producing insignificant amount of crops;
farmers who wish to be engaged in growing of trees, but have no knowledge in this field;
- rural unemployed, and those engaged in their own business;
- poor rural women, especially those who are head of households and poor rural youth.

- Different models were developed for establishing small nurseries to fit the needs of various project areas. In several geographical zones, growing different small nursery models were developed and based on these models, agriculture inputs (seeds and grafts) were distributed to the beneficiaries of the project.

- Local tenders were announced in March and November 2010, and following goods were purchased: 197 thousand pomegranate, grapes, oleaster, poplar grafts and 518.5 kg of acacia, pine, persimmon, cercis, apple, pear, peach, almond, pecan and apricot seeds. Forestry and fruit tree seeds and grafts were distributed among selected households and 222 home based nurseries were established. Additionally in November 2010 through distribution of the inputs, the number of home based nurseries was increased from 222 to 232 though establishing of 10 new home based nurseries.

- The visibility strategy for the project was developed by the project management team and was developed based on the Visibility Guidelines for External Actions. The visibility actions were based on recommendations for each type of activity, and included organization of press conferences, preparation of leaflets or brochures, newsletters, promotional items and other audio-visual products. The aim of all these activities was to publicize Turkish Government's contributions through the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock and to give due credit to the support for funding of the project activities.

- 12 training sessions were conducted on growing of fruit and forestry seedlings and its grafting for the project beneficiaries.

- 12 training sessions were conducted on Establishment of protection (multipurpose) plantations and nursery development plan for the project beneficiaries;
Under the project one bulletin, one guideline and four booklets on nursery establishing from the cuttings, growing of forest tree seedlings, like acacia cercis were designed and published. The project staff also worked on developing and printing of other publications such as bulletins, hand outs and guidelines on conservation and restoration of natural resources, ecosystems and all these items were distributed during the field visits.

A Field Visit/Study Tour was organized to Turkey in October 2010. The delegation visited public and private nurseries, Provincial Directorates of Environment and Forestry in İzmit, Adapazari, Eskişehir with the objective of improving the theoretical and practical knowledge of the participants on nursery development and its further implementation in Tajikistan.

A detailed work plan was prepared by National Consultant on Legislation Development in collaboration with the National Project Manager for identifying the important problems of the nursery. As a result "Draft findings and recommendations report" has been prepared supporting nursery communities and promoting multipurpose plantations in Tajikistan. Additionally, project specialists proposed amendments and additions for a number of existing laws with the aim of improving the legislation in the seedling growing field.
2. Capacity Building in Sustainable Forest Management Planning and Forest Fire Management in Syria

**Overall Status:** Activities completed  
**Beneficiary Country:** Syria  
**Duration:** Two years (08 Jan 2010-30 Jun 2012 with the extension)  
**Budget:** USD 199,992+USD 30,000 increase  
**Thematic area:** Capacity Development  
**Project Symbol:** GCP/SYR/014/TUR

**Overview**

The objective of the project was to establish the adequate institutional capacities to undertake ecosystem based participatory forest management planning, implementations, monitoring and assessment in Syria.

The Project activities were smoothly carried out in line with the work plan and in close collaboration between the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Turkey and Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform, Syria.

Forestry organizations of both countries have provided in-kind and cash contributions for the implementation of project activities. The Turkish Ministry of Environment and Forestry staff undertook several missions to the selected pilot project areas of forest inventory, monitoring, assessment, management planning, GIS, forest fire management, silviculture and forest information systems.

Forestry Calliper, Compass, Height measurer/meter, Increment Borer, Bark gauge/bark thickness measurer, GPS, Binocular with compass, Satellite images and Laptop which were required equipments or tools for implementing activities in the field were purchased.

Inception workshop was organized in Idlep, Syria, with high level participation on 20 January 2010.
2nd workshop on “Assessment of the Project's Progress and Achievements, Support for the Follow up Activities” combined field trip was held in Idleb, Syria between 27-29 July 2010 in order to review and assess the progress and activities from the beginning of the project.

The 3rd workshop on “Delivering Forest Management Plan, Assessment of the Project’s Progress and Achievements” was held in Damascus, Syria, 12-13 January 2011.

In summary, the project was implemented in close collaboration with the Forestry General Directorate and Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform, and relevant national stakeholders. The project contributed to the achievement of the following outputs:

- An Ecosystem Based Functional Forest Management Plan prepared with the stakeholders participation, based on ecosystem-based multi-functional forest management methodology for a selected forest management unit in Syria.
- A forest fire management plan prepared with the stakeholders participation, for the same forest management planning unit.
- A database and an information system on forest parameters and socio-economic indicators of local forest communities established.
- Syrian forestry organization gained adequate knowledge and experiences in sustainable forest management planning and implementations, through on-the job training and training courses.

All planned activities under the project have been successfully implemented and the project was operationally closed. Financial closure of the project is pending due to the ongoing crisis in Syria.

3. Mutually Acceptable Mechanism of Integrated Use of Water Resources in Central Asia through Applying a Scenario Approach

| Overall Status: Operationally and financially closed |
| Beneficiary Country: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Afghanistan |
| Duration: One year (20 January 2012-31 December 2012) |
| Budget: USD 449,970 |
| Thematic area: Natural Resource Management |
| Project Symbol: GCP/INT/137/TUR |
Overview

The objective of the project was to strengthen regional cooperation and promote sustainable natural resource management through enhanced mutual understanding and improved decision making.

The participatory and emergent scenario thinking approach has proved effective in conducting a rapid and comprehensive analysis of the development issues related to the complex water-agriculture-energy nexus in the Aral Sea basin.

During a series of 5 regional workshops, a comprehensive set of four scenario logics for the Aral Sea basin has been progressively developed jointly by Central Asian countries and Afghanistan and agreed upon by all riparian states. These four plausible and relevant scenario logics describe how the future of the Aral Sea basin might evolve by 2040 and will serve as the basis for preparing comprehensive scenario stories. Given that the detailed scenario stories could not be developed and validated during this project phase, four draft scenario synopses provide a condensed overview about the way Central Asia might turn out in the future for all four scenario logics (Box: ‘Draft four scenario synopsis’).

However, the focus is not on the scenario set but it is on the process gains. A key result of the exercise was the insights gained by examining relevant questions against the backdrop of the scenario set with the convergence of views that emerged among the riparian countries.

In addition, experts from Central Asia and Afghanistan have also acquired fundamental skills in scenario building and the ‘scenario thinking’ process.

A brochure (text, layout and graphics) in English and Russian was published and, in the framework of the United Nations International Year of Water Cooperation, a video ‘Searching for Water Peace’ was made available on YouTube to communicate the project results. The Terminal Report was also produced.
A concept note has been drafted for the second phase of the project which aims at: mainstreaming the ‘scenario-thinking’ in the five Central Asian countries to enhance policy dialogue (at both national and regional levels) and strengthen regional cooperation for the sustainable management of natural resources in the sub-region. Estimated budget for this second phase project is 800,000 USD for a period of 18 months.

“FOUR DRAFT SCENERIO SYNOPSIS”

‘Wise Owl’: the regional outlook improves when effective agricultural reforms combined with small but targeted investments in water infrastructure boost agricultural productivity and reduces worries about structural water deficits.

‘The Camel with Six Humps’: favorable economic conditions combined with overall modernization of the agricultural sector reduce pressure on the region’s water resources and opens a window for enhanced regional cooperation.

‘Swan, Lobster, and Pike’: in spite of large public investments, agricultural modernization proves elusive and the region struggles to achieve water security.

Dead End: budget strains and ineffective reform policies conspire to weaken the agricultural and energy sectors and bring the region into a downward spiral.

4. Capacity Development for Analysis and Strengthening of Agricultural Innovation Systems (AIS) in Central Asia and Turkey

Overall Status: Operationally and financially closed
Beneficiary Country: Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Uzbekistan
Duration: Two years (12 Jul 2010-31 Mar 2013 with the extension)
Budget: USD 150,000+additional USD 70,000
Thematic area: Capacity Development
Project Symbol: GCP/RER/029/TUR

Overview

The project objective was to increase capacities at national and sub-regional level to analyze existing agricultural innovation systems (AIS), in order to identify gaps and recommend interventions to strengthen AIS at national and sub-regional level, especially for information management and knowledge sharing. The results achieved for each projects outputs are described as follows:

- Five in-depth country studies on AIS which will include at least three case studies per country on successful use of ICT enabled information and communications systems.
- Inter-country comparison of country studies and sub-regional synthesis.
- Fifteen trained national resource persons (three per country) in analysis and strengthening of AIS.
• Sub-regional project document for strengthening existing and/or establishing new AIS.
• Network of resource persons on AIS established for the sub-region.

A sub-regional project document entitled "Realizing the potential of agricultural innovation in the sub-region to improve farmer’s livelihoods and food security" has been drafted, cleared and translated in Russian. This follow up project aims at strengthening the Agricultural Innovation Systems (AIS) in each participating country and in the Central Asian sub-region as a whole. It will include Azerbaijan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan with an estimated budget of USD 2,14 million. The increased capacity to improve AIS will include information management and knowledge sharing as well as a focus to accelerate the pace of innovation in the sub-region. The project will produce the following outputs:

• Facilitated learning processes in the region by developing a platform for exchange of experience and knowledge exchange visits in the region;
• Explore and fund innovative partnership at national and sub-regional level;
• Capacity development program develop the enabling environment a national and sub-regional level to develop policies that enable innovation.

It is foreseen to organize a side-event during the upcoming ERC where the main elements of the draft project document will be presented.

5. Initiative for Pesticides and Pest Management in Central Asia and Turkey

| Overall Status: Operationally closed |
| Beneficiary Country: Six FAO-SEC countries except Uzbekistan |
| Duration: Three years (10 Aug 2010-31 Dec 2013 with the extension) |
| Budget: USD 450,000 |
| Thematic area: Capacity Development |
| Project Symbol: GCP/RER/035/TUR |

Overview

The objective of the project is to assist countries of Central Asia to reduce risks for health and environment from obsolete pesticide stockpiles and from pesticides current and future use with specific focus on Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

A workshop was organized in October 2010 in Menemen, Izmir, to present the current status of pests and pesticides management in the beneficiary countries. A pesticide management gap analysis was carried out to identify weaknesses in the areas of inspection and quality control.

Major outputs of the project can be listed as:

• completion of the obsolete pesticide inventory;
• training the national specialists on the Pesticide Stockpile Management System (PSMS);
• entering the inventory data to the PSMS;
• and review of the national legislation on pesticide management.

Several regional training workshops on pesticide registration and PSMS as well as on-the-job trainings during the inventory of obsolete pesticides were carried out. The inventories are completed in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey and in the South Kazakhstan. Unfortunately the project document was not signed by Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan due to that an inventory in these countries was not carried out.

These outcomes serve as the basis for formulation of a new project funded by GEF on lifecycle management of pesticides and disposal of POPs pesticides in Central Asia and Turkey. However the project activities were mainly focused on obsolete pesticides and less attention was paid to pesticide and pest management. The project did not cover the activities aimed for development of the strategy for pesticide reduction, review on IPM/IVM and current activities, existing infrastructure for bio-control agent production and applications and development of a detailed "National Prevention Plan". These activities partly covered by study on status of plant protection in Central Asia carried out by SEC in 2011/12, discussed and presented in the Regional Workshop "Save and Grow": Promotion of Conservation Agriculture and Efficient Plant Protection Methods.

The workshop report was sent out to the Ministries of Agriculture of the countries in the region and published on SEC website. Review on the IPM and the implementation of the International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management in the countries of the region is started in the framework of the project coded GCP/RER/040/EC.

6. Conservation Agriculture and Resource Conserving Technologies for Irrigated Areas in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan

| Overall Status: Activities completed |
| Beneficiary Country: Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan |
| Duration: Two years (1 Jan 2011-31 Dec 2013 with the extension) |
| Budget: USD 600,000 |
| Thematic area: Natural Resource Management |
| Project Symbol: GCP/RER/030/TUR |
Overview

The objective of the project is to improve rural livelihoods and food security levels through increased productivity of irrigated farming systems in four Central Asian countries - Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

A regional inception workshop was held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan on 31 January - 1 February 2011 with the participation of officials and researchers from Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and ICARDA. Additionally, national inception workshops were conducted in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

Project activities and outputs were presented during major regional events such as:

- World Congress on Conservation Agriculture on 26-29 September 2011 in Brisbane, Australia,
- Side event of the 28th ERC, Baku, April 2012,
- Regional Workshop on Registration of Pesticide Applying Equipment, 28 May – 01 June 2012, Menemen, Turkey,
- Regional workshop on Save and Grow, 4-6 December 2012, Antalya, Turkey,
- Conference on Desertification and Land Degradation, 17-18 June 2013, Ghent, Belgium.

The field equipment (no-till drills, sprayers, moisture meters, etc.) delivered to the project sites that allowed establishing demonstration of no-till technology in combination with the residue retaining and diversification of cropping system.

In Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan field days and FAO backstopping missions were conducted. The project outcomes disseminated through the national TVs and other mass media. The project national personnel contributed in the study carried out by FAO SEC in cooperation with CIMMYT and ICARDA on the status of conservation agriculture in Central Asia.

The study outcomes printed in a form of a report, including the guidelines for policymakers on promotion of conservation agriculture in the national policies, and were submitted to the Governments of SEC countries. The outcomes of the project will be replicated in other projects foreseen in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan on promotion of conservation agriculture through development of farmers’ field schools (FFS).
Project final workshop was conducted on 10-11 December 2013 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan with the aim of discussing the project achievements, carrying out gap analysis and defining future of Conservation Agriculture in the region.


| Overall Status: Operationally and financially closed |
| Beneficiary Country: Kyrgyz Republic |
| Duration: Two years (1 Sep 2011-31 Dec 2013 with the extension) |
| Budget: USD 200,000 |
| Thematic area: Capacity Development |
| Project Symbol: GCP/KYR/008/TUR |

Overview

The objective of the project was to set priorities for the agriculture sector of the Kyrgyz Republic and to specify its role in the sector during the implementation of agrarian reform.

Draft Strategy has been finalized in close collaboration with the Government, private sector and independent experts. The Ministry of Agriculture and Melioration presented the strategy to the Government for further review. The final document will serve as a reference for shaping policies in the agriculture sector of the country.

Project NTE extended until the end of 2013, as per the Government’s request, additional technical inputs from FAO were provided to elaborate more on Livestock sector strategic development.

In January 2014, the Minister requested FAO assistance in revisiting the draft strategy in terms of its timeframe, and extend it till 2017 to be in line with the National Sustainable Development Strategy by 2017. FAO agreed to provide technical assistance through other resources.
8. Stewardship of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) in Azerbaijan and Turkey

Overall Status: Activities completed
Beneficiary Country: Azerbaijan, Turkey
Duration: Two years (15 Jul 2010-30 Sep 2014 with the extension)
Budget: USD 250,000
Thematic area: Capacity Development
Project Symbol: GCP/RER/028/TUR

Overview

The objective of the project was to establish basis to identify, recognize, conserve and sustain management of agricultural systems and to associate landscapes, biodiversity, knowledge systems and cultures.

The project focuses on integrating family and traditional farming communities to national socio-economic development agenda. It also tries to address poverty and food insecurity of local communities through sustainable management of natural resources.

After a successful introduction workshop at the beginning of the project in the pilot area, 25 case studies were received and six of them shortlisted by the project steering committee as potential GIAHS sites. 3 of the 6 shortlisted potential GIAHS sites in the pilot area were identified as “GIAHS proposal” and dynamic conservation plans of these three sites are under preparation. While assessments of the potential sites in the pilot area were on the way, GIAHS labeling and marketing studies in the pilot area were completed. GIAHS introductory materials printed and distributed to related stakeholders. The GIAHS initiative and the project were introduced to related stakeholders in Blacksea, Aegean and Mediterranean Regions. It is expected to receive remarkable GIAHS proposals from these regions.

A working group has been established for identification of labeling and certification procedures and rules for Turkey. The Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (TAGEM) has led the process.
Proposed GIAHS sites in Turkey

From conserving cheese in Diyarbakır’s extremely hot climate conditions to cultivating rice in Karacadag’s volcanic topography to the production of olive in mountainous landscapes of Kilis. These are the proposed Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) that have evolved over centuries in harsh and remote landscapes – and in extreme climates – thanks to the knowledge of local people of Turkey.

Now, in order to spread this initiative at national level towards dynamic conservation of agricultural diversity in Turkey and Azerbaijan, six agricultural systems have been identified as potential GIAHS sites in Turkey under FAO-Turkey Partnership Programme (FTPP). Six of the shortlisted sites were selected from South-eastern Anatolia of Turkey.

DIYARBAKIR Natural Dyeing and Weaving Systems

Natural dyes are extracted from dye plants by Diyarbakır’s rural women to be ultimately used in dyeing sheep wool in order to make traditional carpets and rugs. It is a traditional art and a considerable source of income for rural women. As the synthetic paints became dominant in the market because of its cheap price, this embodiment of biodiversity and rich culture were gradually abandoned.

DIYARBAKIR Karacadag Rice Production Systems

Karacadag, a volcanic area in the southwest of Diyarbakır, is considered to be unsuitable for agriculture due to fluctuations in rainfall and rocky characteristic of its land. However, farmers found their way to harvest rice in this conditions which resulted with production of a special and delicious type of rice that also meets important part of regional consumption demand.
DIYARBAKIR Cheese Production Systems

Made of sheep milk, cheese is produced in a special way in Diyarbakır in order to avoid unhygienic consequences in hot weather conditions. Following the fermentation, raw cheese is minced and boiled in hot water. The boiled cheese are shaped like a rope and braided. One of the most nutritious dairy product remains healthy and long lasting in this way.

DIYARBAKIR Sultan Seyhmus Fig Production Systems

Resistant against drought in rocky areas, the fig variety known as Sultan Seyhmus adapted itself to local climate and geographical conditions. Chemical pesticide use is not preferred as to farmers define it as “almost organic”. It is mostly consumed in dried form and very important part of income for local community.

KILIS Karasi Grape Production Systems

The history of Kilis black grape stretches back thousands years ago in the region. Since there is limited amount of water for irrigation, this special type of grape adapted itself to the conditions where no other crops could be harvested. In order to tackle with this difficult situation, farmers increases the level of humidity by benefiting from morning dew as they lay down the vine stock in parallel with the soil surface.

KILIS Olive Production Systems

Olive, which is a type of crop that needs proper rainfall, is produced in harsh climate conditions (to the extent that 300-400 mm precipitation rate in a year) and mountainous agricultural landscapes of Kilis. Yet, it is very rich with its oil ingredient in a land where livestock is not a common income resource. Farmers produce this variety with natural and low-cost practices. Organizations and stakeholders were identified and informed on GIAHS project. One partnership was established with the GAP International Agricultural Research and Training Center,
Three regional information meetings (in Diyarbakir, Izmir and Samsun) and 2 GIAHS meetings were held in selected pilot sites. The National Project Manager in Azerbaijan has completed the field studies and submitted his reports for 4 GIAHS regions (Gajimarda village Astara district, Artupa village Astara district, Khinalig Guba district, Ashla Lankaran district).

Joint final workshop was held in Ankara on 4 -5 September 2014 (39 participants from 11 institutions, including Research Institute and Provincial Directorate, from Turkey and 5 participants from 3 institutions from Azerbaijan). GIAHS project terminal report was prepared. 500 Turkish and 500 English GIASH flyers were published for dissemination.

9. Protection and cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants in West Mediterranean region in Turkey

| Overall Status: Activities completed |
| Beneficiary Country: Turkey |
| Duration: Two years (8 May 2012-8 Dec 2014) |
| Budget: USD 180,000 |
| Thematic area: Natural Resource Management |
| Project Symbol: UTF/TUR/58/TUR |

**Overview**

The objective of the project was to improve preservation and utilization of genetic resources of medicinal and aromatic plants by enhancing technical capacities, collection and conservation of germplasm in the gene bank, cultivation in the experimental plots as well as improved policy and strategies.

The major activities conducted under the project can be listed as:

- The inception workshop was conducted in May 2012 in Antalya, Turkey. The work plan was discussed and reviewed by the stakeholders in the workshop.
- The training on evaluation and characterization of MAP species was conducted on June 2012 in Antalya.
• Trainings for trainers on quality evaluation of raw material were conducted in November and December 2012 in Eskisehir and Antalya respectively.
  • The training on Biochemical assays of the active ingredients including comparisons of the properties of wild and domesticated progeny and to ascertain the genetic diversity of the accessions was conducted in July 2012.
  • The project was presented in the FAO Regional Expert Consultations on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants held in April 2012 in Budapest, Hungary and in November 2013 in Antalya, Turkey.
• The project was presented in the “First Mediterranean Symposium on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants” in Gazimagusa, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus during 17-20 April 2013.
• Backstopping missions by SEC and AGP conducted, the progress of the project evaluated and work plan reviewed.
• Demonstration plots for cultivation of MAP were established in BATEM.
• National Network of MAP as a web-site established and located under BATEM website (www.map.batem.gov.tr).
• Leaflets, posters and booklets on MAP conservation and utilization for beneficiaries were developed and printed.
• Study tour for the national counterparts in the Agroscope Institute of MAP of Switzerland was conducted.
• Upon the completion of all project activities, a closing workshop took place on October 23-24, 2014 in Antalya with detailed presentations explaining the past activities to the participants and further discussions on future activities.
• The terminal report is being drafted and will be finalized soon.
• Turkey’s MAP Network was improved with photos, presentations and articles.
10. Improving Food Security, Food Safety and Living Standards of Vulnerable Populations in Tajikistan through Effective and Sustainable Control of Brucellosis in Animals and Humans

**Overall Status:** Activities completed  
**Beneficiary Country:** Tajikistan  
**Duration:** Two years (1 Jan 2012-30 Sep 2014 with the extension)  
**Budget:** USD 180,000  
**Thematic area:** Capacity Development  
**Project Symbol:** GCP/TAJ/009/TUR

**Overview**

The overall objective of the project was to improve the income and living standards of the vulnerable people, particularly women and children through improving delivery of health services for controlling brucellosis in both humans and livestock.

The project aimed to strengthen the achievements already made in the past and contributes to cost sharing with the government for vaccination services to be provided to farmers. Due to the limitation of funds, the project has been implemented only in Rasht Valley. The project supports continuation of a proven methodology that reduces the prevalence of brucellosis in both humans and animals. The SVIS veterinary and laboratory personnel are the direct counterparts in the project. The final beneficiaries are the livestock owning population of Rasht Valley (eight districts in DRD) and Nurek as a result of the expanded animal vaccination coverage and awareness on the best hygiene practices for reducing the risk of infection with brucellosis.

800,000 doses of REV-1 vaccine against brucellosis were procured and delivered. Three vaccination campaigns for sheep and goats were successfully completed by end of 2014. 8 workshops on cost sharing were held in project districts. Epidemiological data on registered cases of brucellosis and information from the National Center of Veterinary Diagnostic on testing of samples collected from sheep and goats on brucellosis was collected.
The project was extended for 9 months to evaluate the effect of vaccination on the level of disease in animals and human and to compare the result with areas that had no vaccination. A sero-monitoring programme was conducted successfully to assess the implementation of previous vaccination campaigns that were carried out by the project. The result of this sero-monitoring will be used for the national brucellosis control program in Tajikistan.

Around 20,000 sera from all districts of Tajikistan were collected. The sera were tested with Rose Bengal Test. RBT shows an overall level of brucellosis in Tajikistan between 2-3%. The results showed lower level of brucellosis in the vaccinated districts than districts without vaccination. A report will be prepared presenting the results of the sero-monitoring after the sera has been tested by ELIZA and analyzed.

The project terminal report will be prepared and will include the analysis of the brucellosis situation in the country.

11. Central Asia Regional Programme for Fisheries and Aquaculture Development - FishDev

| Overall Status: Activities completed |
| Beneficiary Country: Seven FAO-SEC countries |
| Duration: Five years (5 Dec 2009-4 Dec 2014) |
| Budget: USD 1,799,998 (initially USD 1,500,000. Additional allocation of USD 300,000) |
| Thematic area: Natural Resources Management |
| Project Symbol: GCP/RER/031/TUR |

Overview

The development goal of the Central Asia Regional Programme for Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (FISHDEV Central Asia) is to increase the Central Asian fisheries and aquaculture sector performance in terms of its capacity to generate food, employment and income, and in terms of its economical viability,
environmental compatibility and social acceptability. The programme addresses the scope of the FAO Turkey Partnership Programme (FTPP), and particularly focuses on the fisheries and aquaculture sector as listed under “Area 3 Natural Resources Management, including Forestry and Fisheries” of the FTPP. The programme is structured in such a way that it can achieve within a five year period the following outcomes:

- A formally established regional fisheries and aquaculture arrangement in the form of Regional Fishery Body or Network covering the participating countries;
- Strengthened fisheries and aquaculture sector policy, legal and institutional frameworks;
- A capacity building and education programme for fisheries and aquaculture professionals of the region established and functioning; and
- Increased sustainability in the management of fisheries and aquaculture.

**MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS:**

*Increased Regional and Global Collaboration*

- The Central Asian and Caucasus Regional Fisheries and Aquaculture Commission (CACFish) is a Regional Fisheries Management Organization established under the article XIV of the FAO Constitution and it is one of the marked achievements of the FishDev Programme. The Inaugural Session of CACFish was held in Istanbul, Turkey (19-21 December 2011). The 5-Year Work Programme for CACFish has been prepared. The first session of Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the CACFish was organized in Kiev, Ukraine from 20 to 22 November 2012. The programme will further act as a catalyst for the development of the CACFish and the implementation of a framework for sustainable fisheries and aquaculture in the region.

- Increased membership of FAO-SEC countries in the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI),
- Increased population of FAO-SEC countries in the global for a such as COFI and its Subcommittee on Aquaculture Introduced the FAO-SEC countries to the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.
- Increased institutional capacity building in fisheries and aquaculture
Review studies and projects for the Region

- Carried out fishery and aquaculture sector review in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan
- Prepared several fishery and aquaculture projects in the Central Asia and Caucasus region

Policies and planning for the Region

- The following national fishery and aquaculture policies, strategies and planning documents were produced with FAO-SEC support:
  - A national fisheries and aquaculture development policy and a strategy for Kyrgyz Republic
  - Azerbaijan: A national fisheries and aquaculture development policy and a strategy prototype for Azerbaijan
  - Uzbekistan: Conception of aquaculture and capture fisheries development of the Republic of Uzbekistan (2008-2016)
  - Tajikistan: Policy and Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture Development for Poverty Alleviation in Tajikistan (2010-2025)

Capacity building activities

FAO-SEC organized capacity building and training in fisheries and aquaculture for numerous stakeholders in its member countries in 2009-2012:

- 10 intergovernmental meetings,
- 16 regional workshops and trainings,
- 3 national workshops,
- 1 expert workshop,
- 3 study tours covering fish culture and inland fisheries.
- Trained more than 400 participants.

Awareness raising and information dissemination

FAO-SEC contributed to translating the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and six of the Code’s Technical Guidelines into Russian, and supported their publication and dissemination. FAO-SEC also participated in preparation, publishing and disseminating key publications from the FAO
Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, as well as technical papers, circulars and reports and EIFAC Occasional Papers. 30 publication in total were prepared. At the Fourth, the latest, Tri-Partite Review Meeting of Fishdev, the Programme Partners acknowledged the great contribution of the Programme to the increased regional cooperation and institutional capacity building. The Programme was viewed as a successful umbrella cooperation instrument with integrated and catalytic roles.

Financial support, effort and ownership of the donor country, Turkey were highly appreciated. Support and contribution of FAOSEC was also noted. The ownership, close interest and support of partners were identified as key factors leading to the full success of the Programme.

12. Cattle Production Improvement in Central Asia Countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall Status: Activities completed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiary Country: Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration: Two years (11 Oct 2011-31 Dec 2014 with extension)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Budget: USD 600,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thematic area: Capacity Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Symbol: GCP/SEC/001/TUR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Signature date of FAO-MARA Agreement: 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Country signatures: Completed</td>
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</table>

Overview

The objective of the project is to start modern, robust and self-supported beef and dairy cattle production improvement programmes in Central Asia and Caucasus. The project aims to improve livestock productivity by establishing district-based cattle producer associations, to access to better feed, to disseminate modern livestock farm husbandry and management practices and to support modern milk marketing associations.

Main Achievements of the project can be listed as:

- Assessment missions to all three countries were completed.
- Project offices were set up.
- Several local level trainings on the subjects of Irrigation/trickle, pasture use and management, livestock feeding, setting up the cattle identification and registration systems were organized in all countries. 665 farmers were trained on cattle husbandry practices. The original expected number was 150 (50 for each country). The project has achieved more than 100% of the expected outcome.
- Demo plots for forage production were established in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Azerbaijan (4, 8 and 5 respectively).
- Cattle Producer’s Associations in selected pilot districts were established and the following equipment were procured and delivered to CPA’s to support them:
  - Two pneumatic seeders (AZE, TAJ)
  - Three maize silage cutting machines (AZE, KYR and TAJ)
  - Two grain pressing machines for feed preparation (AZE, TAJ)
  - One fodder mowing machine (AZE)
  - One fingerwheel haymaker (AZE)
  - One tractor (KYR)
- 2000 lt. capacity milk collection and cooling tanks and milk quality analyzers were supplied to all three countries and milk cooling and collection centers have been set up under Cattle Producer’s Associations instead of Milk Marketing Associations to achieve the project outcome. Milk Collection Scheme was established through a Letter of Agreement.
- So far the number of registered farmers of the associations are 355 in total; 72 in Azerbaijan, 158 in Kyrgyzstan and 125 in Tajikistan although the original expected number was 150 (50 for each country).
- A study tour to Bursa and Balikesir provinces of Turkey was conducted for 28 participants from 3 countries (9 from Azerbaijan, 9 from Kyrgyzstan and 10 from Tajikistan). The programme was prepared to show the participants livestock husbandry practices in Turkey, forage farming, role of Cattle Breeders Associations in Turkey, agriculture and livestock related industries in Turkey. The experience of Turkish farmers and industry was transferred and shared with the participants.

All project activities were concluded successfully; the terminal report was being drafted and final workshops were organized in each country; leaving the use of equipment procured under this project to the CPA’s is requested.
3.1.2. ONGOING

1. Promoting Management of Animal Genetic Resources in SEC Countries

**Overview**

The project aims to support the Ministries of Agriculture in Azerbaijan, Turkey and three Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan) in formulating a national livestock breeding policy and strategy for the sustainable use and development of livestock, and to establish networks linking stakeholders and supporting the institutional development and capacity-building on national and subregional level.

Therefore, the objectives of the project are to strengthen and/or implement operational National Focal Points for the management of animal genetic recourses in Central Asian countries as well as in Azerbaijan and Turkey and to assist in the establishment of a sub-regional focal point for animal genetic recourses using the FAO guidelines for the development of Regional Focal Points and to support the development of National Strategies and Action Plans for the management of animal genetic recourses. Main achievements of the project can be listed as:

- Project activities and work plan has been revised according to the current status and needs of the beneficiary countries.
- National breed inventories were carried out in Azerbaijan, Tajikistan and Kazakhstan.
- Information material on Animal Genetic Resources was prepared in Azerbaijan, Tajikistan and Turkey.
- All participating countries organized national conferences, round tables with experts etc. and/or regional meetings.
- All participating countries have nominated a National Consultant, strengthened their National Focal Points and raised awareness on the value of Animal Genetic Resources.
- Tajikistan became a member of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.
• All participating countries have developed a draft NSAP and are currently working on the final versions.
• Final Sub-regional workshop was organized in Tajikistan on 23-25 September 2014.
• The workshop participants signed a resume expressing their will for a continued sub-regional cooperation beyond the duration of the workshop.
• A non-cost extension from 21st October 2014 to 30th April 2015 was approved by the donor allowing carrying out additional activities falling within the scope of the project, an effective use of the project means left and an increased sustainability of the project outputs.
• A final project meeting is planned for 1April 2015 in Istanbul to discuss future cooperation and possible follow up projects.

2. Identification and formulation of a regional project to strengthen scientific, technical and institutional cooperation to support responsible fisheries in the Black Sea

**Overall Status:** Operationally active

**Beneficiary Country:** Turkey, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Russian Federation

**Duration:** One year (15 May 2012-31 Mar 2015 with the extension)

**Budget:** USD 100,000

**Thematic area:** Natural Resources Management

**Project Symbol:** GCP/RER/025/TUR

**Overview**

The objective of the project is to prepare a full-fledged project document that enables assessing the needs and expectations on the subject of fisheries management and research in the Black Sea region.

Major outputs and activities of the project can be listed as:

• Each of the Black Sea littoral states has produced a national overview report by a national consultant.
• A consolidated report has been produced based on these reports and sent to the countries for comments.
• A series of formulation meetings has been conducted with the countries to get feedback on the report and to discuss national and international fisheries issues.
• The countries have been requested to send the Official National Priorities for cooperation among the Black Sea littoral states.
• For the Coordination Workshop which was organized at the FAO Regional Office in Budapest, October 2013, a Concept Note, based on inputs from all Black Sea littoral states on a future Black Sea Fisheries cooperation, was produced based on the inputs above.

• Consensus was obtained at the workshop on the draft content of activities and concept for the Project Document of the new next phase project.

• The Final Validation meeting was organized in January 2014. The meeting strived to obtain consensus and endorsement among the six littoral states on the final content of the Project Document which was subsequently submitted for the donor community for funding and negotiation.

• Beneficiary countries agreed on establishing cooperation and having a HQ in one of the Black Sea countries and an 80 pages document was formulated for this aim.

• 30 pages document for the next phase of the project was formulated and due to the estimated USD 15 million budget it is thought to be a comprehensive GEF project.

3. Capacity Building for Sustainable Management of Mountain Watersheds in Central Asia and Caucasus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall Status: Operationally active</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiary Country: Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Turkey, and Uzbekistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration: Two years (20 Jan 2012-30 Jun 2015 with the extension)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Budget: USD 300,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thematic area: Capacity Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Symbol: GCP/SEC/002/TUR</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Overview**

The objective of the project is to reduce degradation in soil and water and biodiversity resources and to increase environmental, economic and social benefits from upstream and downstream mountain watersheds at the beneficiary countries.

The project focuses on building up national capacities to improve management of natural resources and reversing land degradation. The project provides practical training programmes based on the recommendations resulting from the FAO-led global review of watershed management experiences.

**Main Activities can be listed as:**

The first regional workshop on Participatory-Integrated Watershed Management and Rehabilitation was jointly organized by the General Directorate of Combating Desertification and Erosion (CEM), Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency (TIKA) and FAO from
5 to 9 November 2012, as a first step to the implementation of the project. Within the context of the regional workshop, the first steering committee meeting took place on 7 November 2012.

During the meeting, project work plan was reviewed, updated and it was aimed to identify project country’s needs, priorities and their expectation within regional project.

The second regional workshop on “Integrated Participatory Watershed Management: Planning, Rehabilitation and Income Generation” was jointly organized in Mersin and Kahramanmaraş, Turkey. The regional workshop aimed to train the participants on integrated-participatory micro-watershed planning and rehabilitation, and income generation and livelihood improvement, institutional development and inter-ministerial cooperation.

With support of project partners, a third regional workshop/training on “Nursery, Seed and Arid Zones Afforestation Techniques” organized in Istanbul/Eskisehir between 7-12 April 2014, to increase awareness, knowledge, experience on nursery development, seed production and afforestation techniques in Arid Zones, meet with National Project Coordinators and TCDC consultants in order to strength communication, cooperation among each other and discuss further decided steps to be taken under the work plan of project and train experts on seed/plant production and nursery establishment and management by showing and implementing quite number of practices in the field.
The regional workshop was attended by 40 experts from the five project countries including nursery engineers and practitioners, nursery directors, watershed specialists as well as representatives of watershed management units including particularly seed and seedling, nursery management, afforestation/deforestation, combating erosion and desertification and FAO SEC.

Within the framework of the project, in cooperation with Kyrgyz National Experts and International Experts, a Micro-catchment Plan (MCP) for the selected Cholok Kaiyndy watershed area in Kyrgyzstan have been drafted. A practical training combined with field trip to be conducted in Mersin, Turkey between 23-27 September 2014 in order to demonstrate better technical applications in the selected watershed and to increase knowledge, experience and capacity of national experts and local authorities of selected watershed in Kyrgyzstan, to provide a hand on trainings for the Kyrgyz experts responsible for implementations in the selected watershed and increase knowledge and experiences on watershed management.

The training was attended by totally 23 participants including 10 participants invited from the Kyrgyzstan and representatives of the host country agency from the Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs, regional unions as well as Water Management experts and staff from FAO SEC sub regional office for Central Asia.
In September 2014, a mission consisted of project and Turkish government experts conducted to the Kyrgyzstan, came together with national experts, member of local commities and villagers, identified possible activities to be implemented in the pilot area.

For the upcoming periods of the project, with great support of TIKA, It is planned to realize closure workshop with some field applications including afforestation, rehabilitation and income generation activities in by the mid of 2015.

4. Promotion of Water Saving Technologies in the Uzbek Water Scarce Area of the Transboundary Podshaota River Basin

**Overall Status:** Operationally active  
**Beneficiary Country:** Uzbekistan  
**Duration:** Two years (2 Dec 2010-31 Dec 2014 with the extension)  
**Budget:** USD 199,987  
**Thematic area:** Natural Resource Management  
**Project Symbol:** GCP/UZB/002/TUR

**Overview**

The objective of the project is to achieve a sustainable agricultural production in the Podshaota transboundary small river basin by implementing irrigation water saving technologies, and to increase irrigation water productivity and minimization of water deficits thus stabilizing crop productivity.

In 2012, the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture in Uzbekistan indicated that the low implementation of the project is due to the transboundary nature of the project since Uzbekistan
water management activities depend upon the upstream countries. Therefore, in order to increase the practical relevance of the project results, amendments were made to the structure of the project with a focus on strengthening the capacities of a water user association for the production of high-value crops (with the adoption of water saving irrigation technologies).

FAOSEC Land and Water Officer carried out a technical backstopping mission in November 2012 to review the institutional framework and coordination, strategy/methodology and the work plan of the project, specifically addressing the problems highlighted below. Since then, team members (e.g. national project manager, technical assistant and national specialists) were recruited in June 2013, also procurement process of automatic mini-weather stations initiated in October 2013.

The first component of the project is completed. A complete water balance of the Podshaota river basin with an in-depth assessment of water resources (availability and requirements) has been provided to improve the decision-making on water resources allocation and use in the basin. Unfortunately, the procedures for acquiring all types of 'specialized equipment' are very lengthy and complex in Uzbekistan and no permission and necessary petitions are being processed by the beneficiary institution for the procurement of the stations. Payment of project staff is not (timely) released by UNDP Uzbekistan and this situation hampers progress reporting to FAOSEC.

SEC Land and Water Officer carried out a technical backstopping mission again in September 2014 to plan the activities related to the demonstration of selected water saving technologies, capacity development of all stakeholders at all levels and awareness raising of decision-makers on options for coping with water scarcity.

Water resources availability, requirements and management strategies assessed. Pilot water user associations, pilot farmers and demonstration fields identified. Efficient and cost-effective irrigation water saving systems planned and designed for demonstration in the pilot area.

Challenges

- Uncoordinated planning of investment and technical support provided by development partners.
- Absence of communication from counterparts hindered project implementation and progress reporting.
- Late procurement of water saving technologies is coinciding with the end of the cropping season.
5. National Geospatial Soil Fertility and Soil Organic Carbon Information System

Overview

The outcome of the project is to establish a National Geospatial Database for Soil Fertility and Soil Organic Carbon (SOC) Information System for Turkey with reliable data and information on upper soil fertility, soil carbon content and chemical fertilizer consumptions. The Soil Fertility & SOC Information System will be accessible via WebGIS server service to various users ranging from farmers to researchers and decision-makers.

Inception workshop was held in Ankara on 4 October 2012 with SFWRCRI with the participation of project partners, stakeholders, and FAO experts to share experiences on soil management and digital soil mapping, and to review project the logical framework and finalize the work plan.

By the end of November 2014, 7885 from soil archive belonging to 81 provinces of the country have been analyzed and some of physical and fertility parameters and soil organic carbon contents of the soils were determined. Some soil properties of Turkey's top soils (0-30 cm) are: SOC, SOM, P, K, S, B, EC, pH, CaCO₃, Soil Texture, CEC, Fe, Cu, Zn, Mn. It is seen that about 100% of the agricultural soils in the archive were taken to the laboratory and their analyses have been completed.

Project task force meeting was held to plan project activities and work plan with the participation of relevant MFAL and FAOSEC staff on 19 December 2014.
With the help of FAO's soil expertise, the Ministry's research staffs are being trained on soil organic carbon analysis, digital soil mapping and the development of a web-based GIS portal for soil data sharing and dissemination.

The working group members were being trained on digital soil mapping (DSM) to carry out mapping soil properties. They implemented case studies successfully on chosen agricultural watersheds to perform geostatistical methods for modeling soil organic carbon.

Turkey National Soil Organic Carbon map, one of the biggest outputs of the project, has been produced by International Consultant. The mapping system for soil fertility will also shortly be finalized and ultimately all of the data will be shared online with users. It is essential to have data on the levels of carbon in soils because soils play an important part in maintaining a balanced carbon flow at a global level. Soils have a direct role in capturing greenhouse gases whose increased levels in the atmosphere are one of the causes of climate change.

As a part of 2015 International Year of Soils activities, following the Eurasia Soil Partnership meeting in Turkey, the final workshop of the project will be held in mid-June. FAO aims to highlight the importance of soils, which is also included in the Post-2015 Development Agenda as being the "foundation for sustainable agricultural development, essential ecosystem functions and food security."

6. Seed Sector Development in Countries of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)

Overall Status: Operationally active
Beneficiary Country: ECO countries
Duration: Two years (1 May 2013-30 April 2015)
Budget: USD 400,000 (USD 350,000 FTPP + USD 50,000 ECO)
Thematic area: Food Security/ Food Safety
Project Symbol: GCP/INT/123/MUL
Overview

The objective of the project is to contribute to the development of the seed sector in ECO countries and to better integrate within the international seed sector for improved food security.

The major activities conducted under project can be listed as:

- The inception workshop was conducted on 27-28 June 2013 in Ankara, Turkey.
- National Consultants and the Project Team Leader / Regional Project Coordinator were identified and recruited.
- It should be noted that in countries that already have a seed policy (AFG, AZE and KGZ) only one national consultant has been appointed. For countries that need to develop a policy (currently PAK, TAJ and UZB) there are three consultants with separate areas of responsibility, although their work will be closely coordinated and all will contribute to formulation of the draft policy.
- A Regional workshop on Formulation of Seed Policy Documents and Harmonization of the National Legislation organized on 01-03 October 2013 in Kyrgyzstan in parallel to ECOSA 5th Seed Trade Conference.
- A Regional Workshop on Review of Seed Legislation and Formulation of Seed Policy Document was organized on 10-11 January 2014 in Turkey in parallel to ECOSA 6th Seed Trade Conference.
- Guidelines for preparation of the reports by the NC and country reports as well as formulation of the national seed policy document developed and deadlines for submitting reports and conducting the national seed policy workshops defined.
- The status of seed sector, including seed legislation and seed economy reviewed in the project countries and reports developed.
- Draft Seed Policy Documents prepared/reviewed for Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
• National Seed Workshop held in Islamabad, Pakistan on 13-14 November 2014.

• No cost extension of the project until the year-end was requested to finalize the Regional Seed Agreement and its Implementation Strategy.

• Final workshop will be organized in parallel to ECOSA Seed Trade Congress to be held in September 2015 in Pakistan or Azerbaijan in the case of extension.

Through this project with the enhancement of seed trade among countries, farmers and private seed enterprises should find quality seed at affordable prices – which could ultimately lead to a more robust seed sector at national level.

In the long term, food security will be strengthened by an improved seed sector in each country – particularly in Central Asian counties and Azerbaijan, where farmers depend on imported seeds.

7. Enhancing Visibility of the FAO-Turkey Partnership Programme

**Overview**

The main objective of the project is to increase level of awareness on the FAO Turkey Partnership Programme and to ensure visibility for all the projects being implemented under this programme as well as showing practical effects of the projects.

The major activities conducted under project can be listed as:

• LTO for the project was appointed from FAO Regional Office in Budapest.

• A communication strategy and a workplan were prepared by LTO and FAO SEC communication assistant.

• A Task Force Meeting was conducted with the representatives of MFAL’s communication team, to discuss the Ministry's resources and capabilities for contributing to the FAO-Turkey Partnership Programme visibility project.

• It was noted that all projects under the FAO-Turkey Partnership Programme would receive coverage, to varying degrees, through web, media outreach and/or other channels.
The projects coded GCP/SEC/007/TUR (Rural Women), GCP/SEC/010/TUR (Food Safety Risk Management) and GCP/RER/031/TUR (FISHDEV) were selected as the most convincing and interesting examples that should receive more coverage.

During LTO’s visit in Ankara, Ministry of Agriculture’s Training, Extension and Publications Department was visited.

A communication consultant is in the process of recruitment for developing a 3-minute multimedia presentation on the FAO-Turkey Partnership Programme, an important element of the visibility plan, on the basis of a written Creative Brief and background material to be provided by FAO. The duties of consultant also include production of a foundation brochure for FTPP and FAO Turkey and other promotional materials indicated in the communication strategy.

8. ECO Regional Centre for Food Security (ECO RCC FS)

| Overall Status: Operationally active |
| Beneficiary Country: ECO countries |
| Duration: Three years (1 Jun 2013-31 May 2016) |
| Budget: USD 499,211 |
| Thematic area: Food Security and Capacity Development |
| Project Symbol: GCP/RER/044/TUR |

Overview

The objective of this project is to assist the ECO Secretariat and member countries in the implementation of an Regional Programme for Food Security (RPFS), as well as strengthening capacities of both ECO and member states to ensure a successful and sustainable implementation and monitoring of the RPFS.

Major activities conducted under the project can be listed as:

- ECO-RCC website, www.eco-rccfs.org, was launched in July 2013 for disseminating information on RCC events, RPFS and enhancing communication among ECO Member States.
- A special training on writing and presentation rules and skills was carried out for the ECO-RCC staff in Ankara on 24-27 June 2013 as an activity of the Project.
- The Regional Programme Coordinator, Mr. Ömer ÖZEL, visited Iran on 08-10 September 2013 to deliver a presentation to the ECO Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR) at the ECO Secretariat Headquarters on establishment of ECO-RCC, its goals and working principles, past and future activities of the Centre as well as RPFS.
• The First Programme Steering Committee Meeting and Inception Workshop were organized between 23 and 25 September 2013. The Meeting was attended by the delegations from the ECO Member States such as Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Republic of Azerbaijan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kyrgyz Republic, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Tajikistan and Republic of Turkey. In addition, Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) also participated at the Meeting as observers.

• Procurement process of first group of office equipment was finalized including 1 multi-function printer, 4 notebook computers, camera, sound recording, projector and a computer server.

• The first phase of the Food Security and Project Cycle Management Training Program was successfully completed in Ankara on 18 November - 7 December 2013. The training program was jointly carried out and sponsored by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock of Turkey (MFAL), Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA), FAO, and Middle East Technical University (METU). Trainees from Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan as well as Turkey participated in the three-week training program at METU Continuing Education Centre in Ankara, Turkey. During the training program, the trainees had the opportunity to visit several units of MFAL (General Directorate of Food and Control, General Directorate of Agrarian Reform, Department of Strategy Development, Gene Bank, National Food Reference Laboratory) and some agricultural food processing establishments in Beypazari, Ankara.

• 2nd session of the Training Programme on PCM and Regional Food Security Project Formulation was organized in June 2014 in collaboration with TIKA and University of Wolverhampton in Izmir.

• Preparations are ongoing for identifying and planning missions to various ECO Member countries.

• RCC members regularly participate at various international meetings on Food Security Topics.
• RCC members regularly participate at various capacity building programmes like Russian Language Courses.

• The ECORCC staff visited Kyrgyz Republic in November 2014 in order to learn more about the current status and priorities on agriculture and food security in the country.

• 2nd Project Steering Committee Meeting and the Interim Project Workshop will be organized in the first quarter of 2015.

9. Capacity Development Support to Rural Women on the Socio-Economic and Gender Aspects of Sustainable Rural Development

**Overview**

The objective of the project is to increase capacity of rural women and women associations through training and awareness rising on food security, nutrition, production of hygienic food. Through this project, establishment of women associations will be encouraged to involve actively in the economic and social lives of their communities.

Major activities conducted under the project can be listed as:

• The work plan has been revised and activities are to be further adjusted upon conduction of the inception mission with the stakeholders. The national project manager, the lead national consultant and the international consultant have been recruited.

• Field visits as part of the needs assessment was carried out between 18-24 March 2014 in Kastamonu, Antalya and Kars, the three pilot provinces of the Project to analyse the gaps and needs of the training programmes which have been conducted by extension agent. During these field visits, face-to-face meetings/ interviews and focus group meetings were carried out with female farmers and extension agents in order to prepare Gender Sensitive Service Delivery Needs Analysis and to enable an environment for learning by doing and exchange information.
Draft Needs Assessment Report for Turkey, including the preparation for the field visit; the findings from the meetings held during the field visit; the results of the meetings summarising the extension approaches at the local policy and decision-making level and brief conclusions and observations sections; was prepared and submitted for the review of the Ministry.

Gender Sensitivity and Gap Analysis Workshop was held on 14 April 2014 to identify the current status of the extension agents in terms of gender sensitive service delivery.

Inception Workshop: "Empowered Women, Safe Food, Sustainable Development" was held on 15 April 2014 in Ankara, Turkey.

All additional reports relevant with Needs Assessment report which will be prepared after these researches will include women statistics in Turkey such as; population and demography, education, migration, employment, decision making etc., rural women and extension system in Turkey, extension agents that identify problems and recommended solutions of the extension staff as focus group with their own expressions.

A workshop on Gender Sensitive Agricultural Extension Training Content and Guideline for Turkey was held in November 2014.

The "Gender Sensitive Agricultural Extension Training Workshop" was held in Antalya, Turkey, from 8 to 11 December 2014 with the participation of 30 extension staff from pilot provinces.

The training content and programme for rural women and study visit to abroad for extension staff and rural women will be prepared and conducted in late March 2015 and in April 2015, respectively.

Being one of the leading actors promoting empowerment of rural women, food security and livelihoods, FAO will continue to share its experiences with national extension service staff in undertaking gender-sensitive needs assessment by giving its support for designing and providing training that targets the specific needs and priorities of rural women.
10. Capacity Development in Food Safety Risk Management of Food Processing Enterprises and National Authorities in Kyrgyz Republic and Republic of Tajikistan

Overall Status: Operationally active
Beneficiary Country: Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan
Duration: One year (01 Oct 2013-30 Apr 2015 with extension)
Budget: USD 200,000
Thematic area: Capacity Development
Project Symbol: GCP/SEC/010/TUR

Overview
The objective of the project is to increase capacities of main stakeholders, including officials of line ministries, food inspectors and food processors to develop risk-based preventive systems for food safety hazards management and control.

Major Progress:

- All consultants have been recruited.
- Inception mission was organized to Kyrgyzstan in November 2013.
- Mid-term evaluation in Tajikistan finalized.
- The duration of the project was extended until 30 April 2015.
- Workshops were held in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan to finalize the development and dissemination of HACCP guidelines.
- A mission was conducted in the beginning of November to promote Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and the preparation of four GAP guides was in progress upon Tajikistan's request.

Although Turkey is not a direct beneficiary of this project, Turkey contributes considerably to the activities of this project through provision of technical assistance by national experts who are involved in the project activities; exemplifying one of the fundamental principles of the partnership programme.
11. Strengthening National Capacities for Production and Analysis of Sex-disaggregated Data through the Implementation of the FAO Gender and Agriculture Framework (GASF)

**Overall Status:** Operationally active  
**Beneficiary Country:** Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey  
**Duration:** Two years (03 Jun 2013-29 May 2015)  
**Budget:** USD 330,000  
**Thematic area:** Capacity Development  
**Project Symbol:** GCP/SEC/008/TUR

**Overview**

The objective of the project is to have more detailed sex-disaggregated data on the agro-rural sector integrated into national data collection and reporting activities.

**Major Progress**

- The project has been officially launched through initiation of inception mission to Turkey during 16-20 September 2013 concluded by the inception workshop on September 19, 2013 in order to meet with the national stakeholders and project partners: TUIK and MFAL of Turkey.

- A Roundtable Meeting was organized in FAO-SEC Office in January 2014 for the identification of main national gender issues in the agricultural and rural sector with the participation of relevant stakeholders form different Ministries. Based on the discussions during the Roundtable, the list of priority gender issues and corresponding selected indicators by sex for agricultural holdings in the household sector was drafted.

- National Gender Paper on main gender issues in the agro-rural sector and existing agro-rural policies was revised and submitted to Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MFAL) and Turkish Institute of Statistics (TUIK) in July 2014.

- A meeting with TUIK, MFAL was organized in order to discuss and agree on the proposed draft list of gender indicators. The proposed List of Gender Indicators to be shared with TUIK requesting the availability of 24 indicators for sex-disaggregated data which TUIK reported that only one indicator called «number and percentage of household members, by sex, employed in the agricultural and/or the non-agricultural sector» was available and the rest were not available.

- The draft on National Gender Profile for Kyrgyz Republic was prepared and discussed in the Roundtable Workshop with national stakeholders in Bishkek in October 2014.
• For the next phase of the project producing data; an opening workshop and round table discussions in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan are in plan.

Challenges:
• Since TUIK was involved in the formulation of the project, the agency's participation and contribution to the project activities has been ensured with some delays.

12. FAO GIEWS Price Database and Analysis Tool

| Overall Status: Operationally active |
| Benefiticiary Country: Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan |
| Duration: One year (01 Jul 2013-30 Jun 2014) |
| Budget: USD 150,000 |
| Thematic area: Capacity Development |
| Project Symbol: GCP/SEC/006/TUR |

Overview
The main objective of the project is to further develop FAO-GIEWS Price Tool software through creation of a national component that could be used at country level; and to improve food price monitoring for preventing food crises and helping to implement required national policies.

Major Progress

• The inception mission has been conducted between 17-26 September 2013 to Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Azerbaijan in September 2014.
• In Kyrgyzstan it has been agreed that the NSC best suited to host the implementation of the activities because of IT strength (Price system, FSIS portal, etc) and to be discussed further with FSIS working group during next session.
• In Tajikistan, FSIS project confirmed agreement to support the project implementation. It is recommended to make an agreement on hosting the project by State Agency or MoA.
• Test version of National Price Tool installed in June in Kyrgyzstan and in October in Tajikistan and positive results were obtained.
• The integration of the beta version of GIEWS system into the systems of the beneficiary countries was completed; the alpha version of the system was already available in Tajikistan and Azerbaijan.
• Backstopping and training missions were conducted in November 2014 to Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.
• An extension until 30 June 2015 is requested.
• Procedures need to be put in place in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan to automate as much as possible regular upload of data in price database.
• Contents of database and supporting documentation in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan will be finalized and made available for public.
• Support will be provided for introduction semi-automated/automated reporting in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan based on Price Tool.
• Population of data in price database in Azerbaijan will be introduced.


Overview
The objective of the project is to improve legislation, strengthening institutional capacity, training national experts and using the principles and practices of organic agriculture. At the end of the project it is expected that legal basis for promotion of organic agriculture will be improved, organic farming techniques and measures will be sufficiently validated by a core group of farmers and an expanded program will be prepared for farmers of other districts.

The activities have been carried out under this project

• Inception mission was conducted between 24-29 November 2014. Project objectives were presented and discussed in the inception workshop with a wide group of stakeholders. The detailed workplan was developed and future steps were identified.
• Workshop report sent to MFAL requesting to cooperate and provide technical support.
• TCDC Consultants on Economy, Marketing, Inspection and Certification of Organic products will be recruited in the near future.

14. Strengthening of national and institutional capacity on land consolidation

Overview

Overall Status: Operationally active
Beneficiary Country: Turkey
Duration: One year (17 Mar 2014-16 Feb 2015)
Budget: USD 100,000
Thematic area: Capacity Development
Project Symbol: GCP/SEC/060/TUR
Overview

The main purpose of the project is to strengthen institutional capacity on the assessment of land consolidation and improve land consolidation works.

Status

- Project document was drafted by FAO staff and international consultant in collaboration with the MFAL staff, and the project is operationally active as of March 2014.
- NPCs were appointed by MFAL.
- Task Force Meeting was organized to discuss and plan the project work plan. International consultants were recruited.
- Inception Mission and Training Programmes on Monitoring and Evaluation were organized in June 2014.
- A field mission was conducted to Beyazaltin village in Eskisehir region around 200 km west of Ankara. A land consolidation project was implemented in the village during 2007-10. The main objectives of the project had been to: i) reduce land fragmentation, ii) renew irrigation system and increase area covered by irrigation and iii) construct new field and access roads in the project area. This visit provided a general outlook of the land consolidation projects conducted in Turkey for the project team.
- On 5 June 2014, the project team participated in the project launch workshop, which was held at GDAR meeting room. During the workshop, Morten Hartvigsen briefly introduced the project activities and expected outcome. Morten Hartvigsen together with Richard Eberlin had a presentation of FAO experiences with land consolidation. Finally, Morten Kvistgaard briefly introduced the concept of program evaluation.
- The training programme on monitoring and evaluation of land consolidation programs and projects was conducted on June 2014 with the participation of 35 staff members including GDAR, DSI (state water authority) and the cadastre agency. International consultants gave extensive presentations on monitoring and evaluation of land consolidation program and projects in Turkey; pilot evaluation of the land consolidation process and procedures; and environmental impact assessment (EIA) of land consolidation projects.
- Budget increase of 25,000 USD has been requested from the donor to enable the participation of the two international consultants at the second mission of the project. The consultants would provide additional important guidance for GDAR, including the design and implementation of an evaluation of the pilot project with environmental, economic and social dimensions. However, such additional contribution is not possible under the current project budget.

The Closure Workshop will be organized as a side event to the LAND NET Conference which will be organized in September 2015 in Turkey. The LAND NET Conference brings together more than 100
experts, aiming at exchanging research and practical experiences on agricultural land tenure and land management within the Europe wide LAND NET group. In this regard, the project will be extended for 9 (nine) months until 16 November 2015 so that intended Project Closure Workshop in September 2015 is organized accordingly.

15. Towards Better National and Regional Locust Management in Caucasus and Central Asia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall Status:</th>
<th>Pending countries signature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiary Country:</td>
<td>Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration:</td>
<td>Five years (01 March 2012 - 28 February 2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget:</td>
<td>USD 600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thematic area:</td>
<td>Capacity Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Symbol:</td>
<td>GCP/SEC/004/TUR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Overview**

The main objectives of the project are to improved national and regional locust management in Caucasus and Central Asia through national capacity development on locust monitoring and control in the recipient countries, and to coordinate and implement the overall Five-year Programme in the recipient countries.

**Status**

- The annual regional Technical Workshop on Locusts in Caucasus and Central Asia (CCA) held in Tbilisi, Georgia, on 17-21 November 2014 in the framework of the multi-funded “Programme to improve national and regional locust management in CCA”, of which Project GCP/SEC/004/TUR is part.
- Project activities and work plan were revised taking into account the project current status and updated needs of the beneficiary countries.
- A mission of a Pesticide Expert was conducted to Kyrgyzstan in July 2014 to make recommendations and improve management of pesticide containers used for locust control.
- Another mission of a Toxicologist Expert was conducted in Kyrgyzstan in July 2014 for vegetation sampling and pesticide residue analysis. Laboratory analyses are currently on-going and resulting study will be prepared by International and National Consultants.
- Three students from CA countries will pursue a post-graduate course on locust management (to start in academic year 2015/2016).
3.1.3. FORTHCOMING:

1. Improving Livelihood of Rural Population in Azerbaijan through Increased Apiculture Productivity

**Overview**

The main objective of the project is to improve household income through increased honey production in general and per honeybee colony specifically. This will be achieved by improving colony management skills, improving the quality and availability of honey bee queens, better technical assistance from beekeeper associations and by involving women in all management and marketing processes.

**Status**

- Assessment mission was carried out and recommendations were prepared.
- The project document was prepared and technical clearance was received from the Project Review Committee.
- The project document was sent to Azerbaijan for country signature.
3.1.4. CANCELLED

1. Food Security and the Importance of the Healthy Animal and Their Products: Regional Networking for Control and Prevention of Emergent and Re-emergent Transboundary Animal Diseases and Zoonozes

Overall Status: Cancelled  
Beneficiary Country: ECO countries  
Duration: Two years  
Budget: USD 200,000  
The budget was transferred to the GCP/SEC/001/TUR Cattle Production project

2. National capacity enhancement and elaboration of strategies on mobilization of foreign investments to the agricultural sector of Uzbekistan

Overall Status: Cancelled  
Beneficiary Country: Uzbekistan  
Duration: Two years  
Budget: USD 160,000  
Project Symbol: GCP/AZE/005/TUR  
The project will be reformulated in the second phase of FTPP
3.2. SECOND PHASE OF THE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

The Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock (MFAL), the Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs (MFWA) and FAO agreed to start up new partnership agreements over an initial period of five years (2015 – 2019). The objectives of the Programmes are to provide a substantive, financial and operational framework for active cooperation in the areas of Food Security and Poverty Alleviation and Sustainable Management of Forests and Tree Resources in the countries of Central Asia (Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) and also other countries of mutual interest. The agreements between FAO and the two ministries were signed at a high level ceremony with the participation of Agriculture and Forestry Ministers and FAO Director General on 4 June 2014.

With the above mentioned agreements the Government of Turkey is committed to continue its leading role in the Central Asia region with a widened coverage in assisting countries to improve their levels of food security as well as regional and rural development.

Operational Frameworks has been drafted in consultation with the respective Ministries and project proposals for the second phase are still being collected.
3.2.1 SUBSTANTIVE SCOPE OF FTPP II

- Food Security and Nutrition
- Agricultural and Rural Development
- Protection and Management of Natural Resources, including Fisheries, Aquaculture, Animal and Plant Genetic Resources
- Agricultural Policies
- Food Safety

3.3 FTPP NEWSLETTER

The first FTPP newsletter was prepared in May 2009 in Turkish, English and Russian. The aim of this publication was to increase publicity and visibility of the programme to a wide range of audience. The newsletter focused on key elements of the FTPP and approved projects. It was decided that future issues will include elements on the progress made and best practices.

The last newsletter which provides information on FTPP and ongoing activities of the FTPP in order to raise awareness and ensure the visibility of the programme was published in 2011; the new one is being prepared and will be printed to reflect the developments up to date.

Other visibility materials such as newsletters, fact sheets, brochures, calendars, posters also including audio-visual productions will be produced under the “Enhancing Visibility of FAO-Turkey Partnership Programme (FTPP) (GCP/SEC/009/TUR) Project” focusing on the Government of Turkey's role as a major resources partner for FAO in the Central Asia region. The exchange of information between institutions, projects and activities will also play a key role to facilitate learning from experiences, good practices and creating synergies. The dissemination of the achievements of the FTPP will pave the way to the sustainability of the results of the programme.
4. LESSONS LEARNT

FTPP has proven to be a successful new partnership and regional programme. It has made substantive progress towards the planned outcomes and also making significant contributions to FAO's work in relation to the Millennium Development Goals and its policy assistance activities with member countries in Central Asia. Furthermore, under FTPP a number of activities are being conducted in the participating countries with considerable potential to positively affect the lives of people.

FTPP not only provided support to the activities of the Sub-regional Office for Central Asia, but also resulted in the dissemination of Turkish experience with countries of the region and contributed substantively to international cooperation capacity of the MFAL. FAO-Turkey Partnership Programme provided an opportunity to transform both FAO's and MFAL's vision and efforts into an operational tool for contributing to the development of the countries in the region especially in the areas of food security and rural poverty reduction. Therefore, the continuation of these catalytic contributions is vital for all stakeholders.

After the operationalization of the FTPP, based on the main challenges/bottlenecks, the main lessons learnt can be summarized as follows:

- Sense of ownership should be strengthened among the partner countries and the Turkish Government's role should be identified in this strengthened co-ownership and partnership.
- At the launch of the second phase of the programme, high level participation from all the countries of the region should be promoted for ensuring the continuous support from the relevant offices during the project approval, formulation, signature and implementation stages.
- Delays in project formulation and difficulties in finding good consultants with a strong command of the English/Russian language for project formulation and implementation should be taken into consideration at the onset of project approval, formulation and implementation phases. Additionally, there is need for funding during the project formulation stage.
- There is also a need for a well-functioning planning, monitoring and evaluation system.
- The time consuming processes currently in place such as translation of the final project documents into Russian and national languages before their official submission to the relevant countries; and the finalization of the signature procedures by the beneficiary countries (requiring at least six to twelve months each, depending on the various internal
procedures in different countries) should be taken into consideration. If possible, alternative solutions should be discussed between the donor country and beneficiary countries.

- FTPP Technical Review Meetings which are being held in every three months are good tools for monitoring the implementation of the projects, pointing out the problems, searching for solutions and formulating suggestions for consideration by the Steering Committee and/or the Co-chairs. Therefore it’s important to maintain the meetings in the way it used to be with participation of the national counterparts (MFAL, MFWA) and FAO’s technical and operational staff.

- Having National Focal Points in each country is a mechanism that did not perform well up till now. The identification of the role and contribution of the National Focal Points should be clearer and their role should become more effective by raising awareness and facilitating cooperation among the respective institutional bodies of Governments, NGOs and other relevant stakeholders.

- The projects which have specific project managers who follow project activities on a daily basis have shown more success in terms of timely management and implementation though most of the projects have limited budget to recruit project managers/assistants.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- The planning of second phase programme should include a careful analysis and evaluation of the work that has been done in the first phase. The achievements and shortcomings, the possibilities of new directions and the strengthening of the weaknesses should be carefully taken into consideration.

- A balance should be established between: a) the objective of having an impact on long term substantive matters and institutional reforms; and b) the short term objectives of rapid results at the country level. It is recommended that the long term structural objectives should receive considerably more weight in the second phase of the programme.

- It should also be considered that approval, formulation, clearance, signature and implementation of all projects consume considerable time and effort. Therefore, for efficiency and effectiveness, second phase of FTPP should avoid funding the projects with limited budget and duration, and thus have low impact on the development of the countries.

- FTPP should continue to focus on improvement of national policy, legal and regulatory frameworks; introducing issues by considering the countries’ needs, with the demand driven and participatory approach in order to make a significant contribution to region’s overall development and ensure ownership. In addition, the overall implementing strategy applied in each country should be adapted to the special circumstance of those countries.

- After the SC approval, the full formulation process and related investments should start only once official confirmation of Government(s) interest/commitment is ensured. This would also
strengthen the sense of ownership by the concerned Governments. This issue should also be taken into consideration during the second phase of the FTPP.

- National project design should reflect countries’ priorities and be in line with Country Programme Frameworks (CPF) to ensure ownership of the Governments and better address the needs of the beneficiaries.