

Technical Workshop on Locusts in Caucasus and Central Asia (CCA)
Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 12- 16 November 2012
Situation update on locust survey and control equipment

- Item 8 of the Provisional Agenda -

Background

The “Five-year Programme to improve national and regional locust management in Caucasus and Central Asia (CCA)” includes the delivery of locust survey and control equipment (activities 3.1.2 and 4.1.2 of the Roadmap for Programme implementation), with the objectives to strengthen the operational locust monitoring and control capacity of the beneficiary countries.

Although the available funds during Year 1 of Programme implementation were not sufficient for delivering the equipment envisaged in the Five-year Programme, few equipment could nevertheless be delivered, for demonstration purpose only at that stage. This was possible to USAID and FAO (Regular Programme) funding.

As agreed during the 2011 annual workshop, such equipment included:

For Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan (FAO Regular programme funding):

- Survey kits: 3/country
- Satellite phone: 1/country
- Global Positioning System (GPS): 5/country
- MicroUlva (hand-held sprayer): 20/country
- Micron AU 8000 (knapsack sprayer): 5/country
- Micronair AU 8115 (vehicle-mounted sprayer): 1/country
- Personal protective clothing (PPE) kits: 30/country

For Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Russia, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan (USAID funding):

- Survey kits: 3/country
- Satellite phone: 1/country
- Global Positioning System (GPS): 5/country
- MicroUlva (hand-held sprayer): 3/country
- Micron AU 8000 (knapsack sprayer): 2/country
- Micronair AU 8115 (vehicle-mounted sprayer): 1/country
- Personal protective clothing (PPE) kits: 10/country

In addition, the national project TCP/KYR/3305 was approved in February 2012 and become operational on 19 March 2012. During this two-year project, it is envisaged to procure additional locust control equipment for Kyrgyzstan, as follows:

- Conventional pesticides: 6,000 litres to treat 6,000 ha
- Insect Growth Regulators: 2,000 litres of to protect 10,000 to 12,000 ha
- Micro Ulva (hand-held sprayer): 20
- Micron AU 8000 (knapsack sprayer): 3
- Micronair AU 8115 (vehicle-mounted sprayer): 2
- Control kits: 2
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kits: 100
- Kit for measuring blood AChE levels: 1
- Office equipment: 1 desktop, 1 laptop, printer/scanner, photocopier, softwares, mobile phones and 1 digital camera.

Equipment purchase and delivery during Year 1 of the Five-year Programme implementation

The procurement process (involving, as per FAO rules, preparation of technical specifications and purchase requests, launch of tenders, selection of supplier and eventually issuance of purchase order) started in November 2011. The equipment was for *ordered* for all countries by January 2012, against FAO Regular Programme and USAID funding. Additional sprayers were ordered for Kyrgyzstan in August 2012, against TCP/KYR/3305.

The equipment *delivered* to countries during Year 1 of Five-year Programme implementation is the following:

COUNTRIES	LOCUST EQUIPMENT RECEIVED AS OF 31 OCTOBER 2012						
	Survey kits	Satellite phone	Global Positioning System (GPS)	MicroUlva (hand-held sprayer)	Micron AU 8000 (knapsack sprayer)	Micronair AU 8115 (vehicle-mounted sprayer)	Personal protective clothing (PPE)
On FAO Regular Programme and TCP/KYR/3305 (in bold for Kyrgyzstan):							
Afghanistan	3	1	5	20	5	1	30
Kyrgyzstan	3	1	5	20 + 20	5 + 8	1 + 2	30
Tajikistan	3	1	5	20	5	1	30
On USAID funding:							
Armenia	3	1	5	3	2	1	10
Azerbaijan	3	1	5	3	2	1	10
Georgia	3	1	5	3	2	1	10
Kazakhstan	0	0	0	3	2	1	0

COUNTRIES	LOCUST EQUIPMENT RECEIVED AS OF 31 OCTOBER 2012 (cont.)						
	Survey kits	Satellite phone	Global Positioning System (GPS)	MicroUlva (hand-held sprayer)	Micron AU 8000 (knapsack sprayer)	Micronair AU 8115 (vehicle-mounted sprayer)	Personal protective clothing (PPE)
Russia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Turkmenistan	0	0	0	3	2	1	0
Uzbekistan	3	0	0	3	2	1	0

Equipment was supposed to be delivered before the start of the 2012 campaigns, i.e. March 2012. It was delivered with the following timing:

COUNTRIES	LOCUST EQUIPMENT RECEIVED AS OF 31 OCTOBER 2012						
	Survey kits	Satellite phone	Global Positioning System (GPS)	MicroUlva (hand-held sprayer)	Micron AU 8000 (knapsack sprayer)	Micronair AU 8115 (vehicle-mounted sprayer)	Personal protective clothing (PPE)
On FAO Regular Programme and TCP/KYR/3305 (in bold for Kyrgyzstan):							
Afghanistan	March		March		February		March
Kyrgyzstan	March		May		February + October		March
Tajikistan	March		April		February		February
On USAID funding:							
Armenia	July		April		February		April
Azerbaijan	October		August		February		August
Georgia	June		April		February		March
Kazakhstan					October (<i>shipped/not collected</i>)		
Russia							
Turkmenistan					February		
Uzbekistan	October (<i>Satphone not authorized and sent back</i>)		October (<i>error of recipient by supplier</i>) – to be resent		February		to be delivered in November

Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan (FAO Regular Programme) and Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia (USAID funding)

No particular problem was encountered with the delivery of the goods for these countries except for delays for some items. At arrival, inspection was carried out at discharge by a third-party: everything was found in order and without deviations from

the FAO's technical specifications, except in Georgia where one GPS was found missing and was replaced soon after by the supplier.

Regarding the equipment to the benefit of Kyrgyzstan on the national project TCP/KYR/3305: in view of the date in which the project became operational (mid-March 2012), such equipment would not have been available for the 2012 campaign. The procurement process therefore started in October 2012 so that goods could be delivered for the 2013 campaign. Only the additional sprayers were ordered and delivered earlier (in August and October 2012 respectively) because the order placed for Russia had to be cancelled and sprayers were thus re-rerouted to Kyrgyzstan (increasing the number to match the quantity envisaged in the TCP).

Other countries:

*Kazakhstan: In February 2012, all orders were put on hold as the Office of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Kazakhstan could not ensure the custom clearance of the goods due to their new internal legal procedures (there was no FAO local office in the country which could have provided assistance). The process was stuck until, upon request from FAO, the final recipient, i.e. the Committee for the Agro-Industrial Complex Inspection (hereafter called the "Committee") of the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), suggested to use the services of the Republican Methodical Center for Phyto-Sanitary Diagnostics and Forecast (hereafter called "Methodological Center"). The latter would act on behalf of the Committee and ensure the custom clearance of the equipment. The procurement situation is currently as follows: the sprayers arrived in the country early October. The Methodological Center informed that the custom authorities had requested the payment of custom taxes and that they could not accept the sprayers or any other item (there was no agreement to which they could refer to, the project document not being signed). Afterwards, the Committee informed that the sprayers had to be addressed to the National State Enterprise "Phytopsanitary" (NSE), dealing with control equipment. FAO is currently in liaising with NSE. The GPS were shipped (early October) but the recipient has not confirmed yet their receipt while delivery of survey equipment and PPE was put on hold after the above-mentioned issue.

*Russia: It was decided to cancel all the orders issued due to custom clearance issues. Indeed, there is no FAO Representation in the country and the UNDP Office in the country informed that it was not allowed to custom cleared the goods with tax exemption for a third party. Such transfer was still possible, but only if custom duties and fees would be paid in full. It was not possible to identify the amount of such tax, which would have nevertheless be paid by the final recipient. The situation was frozen and the order was therefore cancelled.

*Turkmenistan It was initially planned to deliver the equipment through the UNDP office in Ashgabat as there is no FAO Representation in the country. However, UNDP could not assist in the custom clearance process due to difficulties to get in touch with the final recipient, the Plant Protection Service of the Ministry of Agriculture. The same problem prevented UNDP to obtain, the registration of GPS and satellite phone by the Ministry of Communications. Therefore, all deliveries remain on hold today, except for the Micron sprayers which were delivered to UNDP in February 2012. In this case, the supplier

shipped the goods without waiting any feedback from the final recipient. The workshop should be the occasion to discuss with the final recipient how to handle communications issues on procurement as well as the custom clearance of the remaining equipment.

*Uzbekistan: In February 2012, sprayers were delivered to the final recipient, the Department for Foreign Investments and Monitoring of Projects, Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (Tashkent). Afterwards, due to a change in legislation, UNDP could not assist anymore FAO and the suppliers for custom clearance of the goods. The process was stuck until UNDP provided FAO with the contacts of its clearing agent in August 2012. The situation is now as follows:

- GPS were delivered early October 2012 but the supplier sent them by mistake to the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources, and not to UNDP. The final recipient and UNDP could not carry out custom clearance and the GPS were sent back to the supplier, which will re-ship the goods to UNDP.
- Survey equipment and one satellite phone were delivered at the end of September 2012. The survey equipment was collected in October by the final recipient. The satellite phone was not accepted due to lack of permission to use it in Uzbekistan; it was therefore sent back to the supplier early October 2012. This was explained in two Letters addressed to the Office of the United Nations Representative in Uzbekistan by the State Committee of RadioWave of Uzbekistan (State Company) and by the Department of Diplomatic Service in Uzbekistan addressed.
- PPE kits: the supplier has delayed their shipment. FAO is inquiring on this issue.

Lessons learnt and recommendations

1. The project agreement should be signed as soon as possible by the beneficiary countries since it may help obtaining exemption letter for duty free custom clearance.
2. The final recipient should be clearly identified and indicated to FAO in order to be inserted on the shipping documents.
3. Goods are usually shipped to FAO or UNDP offices, which take care of the authorization for duty free import. Afterwards the goods are delivered to the final recipient. If there is no local FAO office and UNDP that can assist in obtaining custom clearance, the recipient institutions should request the exemption letter to the relevant national authorities once all shipping documents are received from the supplier, then contact FAO and liaise with the supplier to go forward with the shipment. If these conditions are not met, FAO cannot deliver the goods in the country.
4. In case of communication material, the final recipient should guarantee to FAO, prior issuance of the purchase order, that the equipment can be accepted in the country.
5. The option of the local procurement for items which are available on the local market can be explored. However, the supplier would need to be able to provide

the goods in compliance with the FAO technical specifications and without VAT in the price (as per FAO rules).

6. It's of utmost importance that the Final recipient communicates with FAO, UNDP and the supplier.

Annex: List of final recipient in CCA countries

COUNTRY	FINAL RECIPIENT
Afghanistan	Plant Protection and Quarantine Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) Kabul, Jamal-Mana, Ministry of Agriculture <i>Focal points: Mr Ghulam Mohammad SAEDI/ Mr Mohammad Iqbal KARIMI</i>
Armenia	State Non-Commercial Organization (SNCO), "Center of veterinary, food safety and phytosanitary services", Ministry of Agriculture <i>Focal points: Mr DANIELYAN/ Mr Gevorg HARUTYUNYAN</i>
Azerbaijan	Plant Protection Center of the State Phytosanitary Control Service, Ministry of Agriculture <i>Focal points: Mr Alladin AIVAZOV/ Mr Ilham BAYRAMOV/ Ms Khoshgadam ALASGAROVA</i>
Georgia	Phytosanitary Department, The National Food Agency, Ministry of Agriculture <i>Focal points: Mr Zurab LIPARTIA/ Mr Bejan REKHVIASHVILI</i>
Kazakhstan	Committee of State Inspection in Agroindustrial Complex, Ministry of Agriculture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Methodological Center phytosanitary diagnostics and prognosis" (survey equipment) - National State Enterprise "Phytosanitary " (control equipment) <i>Focal points: Ms Gulnara YUSUPOVA</i>
Kyrgyzstan	Department of Chemistry and Plant Protection, Ministry of Agriculture and Melioration <i>Focal points: Mr Zhanybek DERBISHALIEV/Mr Vladimir PAK</i>
Russia	Federal State Institution "Russian Agricultural Center (Rosselchozhcenter), Ministry of Agriculture <i>Focal points: Mr Alexander MALKO/Mr Dmitrie GOVOROV</i>
Tajikistan	State Republican Unitary Enterprise (SUE) "Locust Control", Ministry of Agriculture <i>Focal points: Mr Kiyomudin GANIEV</i>
Turkmenistan	Plant Protection Service, Ministry of Agriculture <i>Focal points: Mr Meret GELDIYEV</i>
Uzbekistan	Department for Foreign Investments and Monitoring of Projects Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of The Republic of Uzbekistan <i>Focal points: Mr Odiljon ISAKOV/ Mr Furkat GAPPAROV</i>