

Food Security seminar in Kyrgyzstan

Bishkek, 15 May 2013 – Review of food security status at the Global level and in Kyrgyzstan took place today at the Ministry of economy KR under FAO support in the framework of the project “Strengthening of the National Food Security Information System in the Kyrgyz Republic”. Representatives of ministries and department responsible for food security and safety as well as statisticians, NGOs, UN agencies and other partners participated at the event.



National Sustainable Development Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic adopted 14 January 2012 and Government Plan for 2013-2017 define food security a National priority and major goal of agricultural sector development. Access to full and true information and analysis tools are extremely important in this regard to monitor current situation, develop prognosis and effectively formulate policy in the area of food security.

H.E. Temir Sariev, Minister for economy highlighted at the meeting, today out of ten food first demand prods Kyrgyzstan produces only three, the rest are imported. “Having good natural resources and opportunities the country has to import food not always good quality”, said the minister.

He also informed that Kyrgyzstan is processing just 10% of produced agricultural products and significant part of harvested production is lost. Ministries and local governmental bodies must create favourable conditions to store and processing agriculture production. “Particularly we accepted VAT-exempt privileges for processing companies for 6 months and free them of tax benefits for three years aimed at raise interest in local and foreign businessmen”, -he said.

Besides in the end of this year Ministry of economy will arrange assessment of the quality of life in Kyrgyzstan. Kyrgyzstanis living in rural areas rarely consume fish and their diet is mostly unvaried. IN this regards UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) put forward support in development of aquaculture aimed at expanding fish production. “We must also develop organic husbandry and expand production of ecologically clean food not only for internal market but for export as well, - informed minister.

State Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Melioration, Nurlan Duysheev highlighted major role in food production plays agriculture. Currently Ministry of agriculture and Ministry of economy put efforts to attract investments into creation in Kyrgyzstan quality storehouses for agriculture sector. “In accordance to the Law we provide privileges, help farmers with favorable credits, provide them with technique and equipment in leasing. One of the main problems is just small part of grown production is processed and in the process of harvesting and transportation we lose big part of production because old storehouses are all out of modern requirements”, he said.

Dorjee Kinlay, FAO Representative in the Kyrgyz Republic said processing sector development is one of the ways to eradicate rural poverty and guarantee food security. He underlined four strategic FAO goals in Kyrgyzstan - Enhanced Capacity to assess and plan for Food and Nutrition Security; promotion of Sustainable Agricultural Productivity Growth; Capacity Development for Reducing Rural

Poverty and Improved Resilience in responding to Climate Change, Crisis and Disasters.



Guljahan Kurbanova, FAO economist gave a presentation of food crisis and food prices volatility, Lubov Ten, National FAO expert presented analysis and evaluation of the Food Security National Information System in KR, Gulzeinep Mursabekova, Head of the Agriculture Statistics of the National Statistic Committee presented evaluation of food balance in the Kyrgyz Republic.

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