

## Implementation of conservation agriculture in some countries of Central Asia



Consultation on Conservation Agriculture  
Kazakhstan, 2009

makes it possible for the use of purchased inputs to be optimized and utilized efficiently. This technology was promoted in Central Asia to make production systems more sustainable and having the fragile ecosystem more protected. In 1999 FAO organized the first regional workshop on Conservation Agriculture for Central Asia in Shortandy, Kazakhstan. In the meantime several CA projects have been implemented by FAO in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, and several research institutes have started to work on CA in the region. However, only in Kazakhstan a fast uptake could be seen.



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of countries of Central Asia, Azerbaijan, Turkey and Russia and three international organizations: FAO, CIMMYT and ICARDA.

FAO had supervised the implementation of several projects that provided a good basis for directional changes in agricultural development with a primary focus on agricultural production and sustainability.

And recently FAO-SEC in the process of implementing a regional project funded by the Turkish Trust Fund Program for 600,000USD entitled “Conservation Agriculture and Resource Conserving Technologies for Irrigated areas in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan”- GCP/RER/030/TUR.

Related document:

[Adoption of Conservation Agriculture and the Role of Policy and Institutional Support](http://www.fao.org/ag/ca/CA-Publications/Kazakhstan%202009.pdf)

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World trend in Conservation Agriculture (CA) includes the practice of no-till, in combination with soil cover and crop rotation has been found to be the best solution for addressing the causes and symptoms of land degradation, including the loss of soil biological health and porosity, soil erosion, organic matter losses, and soil salinity. Additionally, Conservation Agriculture systems are capable of sequestering carbon in the soil as well as reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It has also an important role to play in climate change mitigation **strategies**. In many countries no-till systems are being practiced on a large scale resulting in major economic advantages by saving of resources such as land, machinery, energy and labour. These advantages increase with the fuller use of Conservation Agriculture because of improvement in factor productivities which

As a follow up to the above activities FAO-SEC in collaboration with CIMMYT organized an International consultation entitled “No-Till with soil cover & crop rotation: a basis for policy support to conservation agriculture for sustainable production intensification” that was held in Astana-Shortandy, Kazakhstan from July 8-10, 2009. The total number of participants amounted to 150 including 70 scientists from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Turkey, Russia, 70 farmers from Kazakhstan and Russia and 10 other stakeholders. Also two key-note speakers from USA and four scientists from FAO as well as scientists from two International centers ICARDA and CIMMYT took part in the IC. In total 35 papers were presented by scientists