



## FAO'S ROLE IN THE EXTENDED AND REVISED KYRGYZSTAN FLASH APPEAL 2010

### Background

The first half of 2010 saw an upsurge in political turbulence and violent outbreaks in Kyrgyzstan. Widespread protests in April forced the president to resign and were followed by two months of clashes that spilled over into ethnic violence, which particularly affected areas that were home to a substantial Uzbek minority.

Over the last four months, the political and security situation has stabilized and most of those displaced by the violence have returned to their homes. A national election was held in October without major incident, reflecting the wider calm.

However, as the violence and political instability have waned, their impact continues to be felt throughout the country and an estimated 75 000 people remain displaced.

Unresolved tensions, ethnic divisions and the economic consequences of the violence have placed communities at real risk of future conflict. Closure of the borders and resulting lack of trade, and the disruption of livelihoods have particularly affected the agriculture sector on which some 65 percent of the population relies.

On 18 June 2010, Kyrgyzstan launched a Flash Appeal, which was revised in July to reflect changes in the operational environment and the results of rapid needs assessments. However, underfunding of these appeals, particularly in the agriculture and early recovery sectors risks undermining the nascent peace and sparking renewed violence in the country.

The Extended and Revised Appeal is, therefore, being launched to ensure an adequate response to remaining humanitarian needs, enhance protection and strengthen preparedness for potential needs and promote communal recovery.

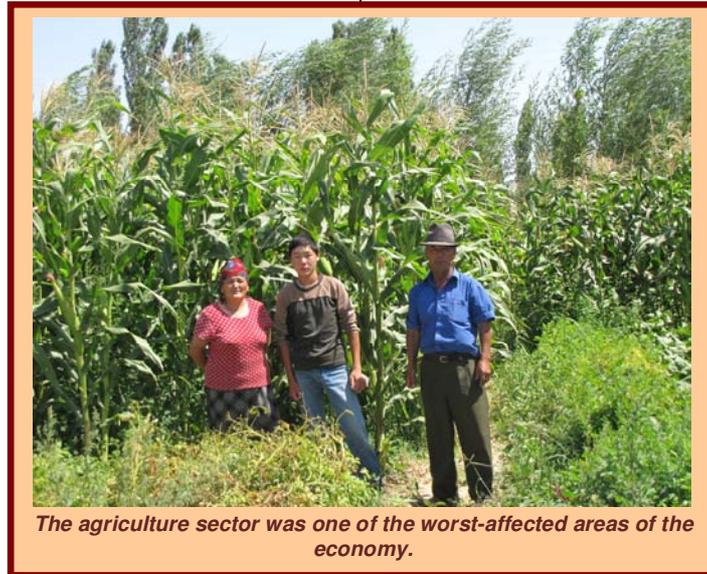
### Challenges facing food security and agriculture

The agriculture sector was one of the worst-affected by the unrest, as the closure of borders led to a disruption of commercial supply routes for key farming inputs. This pushed input prices higher, constraining agricultural production in a country already facing persistently high levels of food insecurity.

Assessments undertaken by FAO and the World Food Programme (WFP) in the aftermath of the crisis highlighted that about 1.4 million people were food insecure, with over a quarter of the population considered to be at high nutritional and health risk due to poor food consumption.

In addition, it was estimated that 340 000 food secure households were at risk of food insecurity as food prices rise and food availability falls during the winter season. Overall, the

food security situation in the country is likely to further deteriorate as continued border closures limit access to markets and food, the impacts of a poor harvest and increased global food prices hit the poorest families, and households adopt negative coping strategies such as the sale of livestock and domestic assets.



### FAO's response

The Food Security and Agriculture Cluster in Kyrgyzstan is co-led by FAO and WFP and promotes a coordinated and effective food security response. Through this Extended and Revised Appeal, FAO is seeking **USD 3.07 million** to:

- provide **time-critical agricultural inputs** and **technical assistance** (e.g. seeds, fertilizers);
- restart **small-scale poultry and livestock production activities**; and
- support the **effective coordination** of emergency agriculture and rehabilitation interventions.





## FAO's COMPONENT OF THE EXTENDED AND REVISED KYRGYZSTAN FLASH APPEAL 2010

**Total FAO requirements: USD 3.07 million**

**Project title:** Immediate support to the most vulnerable and conflict-affected families through the provision of humanitarian farming inputs for the spring 2011 planting season (KGZ-10/A/33358/R)

**Objectives:** To supplement the shortage of farming inputs for the most vulnerable and conflict-affected farmers, enabling them to resume normal farming activities, recover their farming-based livelihoods and improve food security.

**Beneficiaries:** 6 000 most vulnerable and conflict-affected farmers.

**Implementing Partners:** Ministry of Agriculture, NGOs.

**Funds Requested:** USD 1 485 000.

The unrest in April seriously affected the spring planting season, with many farmers unable to reach their fields during the violence. This resulted in weed, pest and disease infestations of their fields and caused yield losses of 20 to 100 percent. The consequent fall in income has been exacerbated by the rise in the cost of fertilizers, fuel and pesticides. In southern regions, many farmers lack the resources to purchase essential farming inputs.

Through this project, FAO will distribute seeds and fertilizers to the most vulnerable families. The beneficiaries will also receive training on compost preparation, soil fertility management and other good agricultural practices. This will help restore and improve their production capacity, and augment soil fertility and crop yields.

**Project title:** Effective coordination of emergency agriculture and rehabilitation interventions to strengthen the overall food security response (KGZ-10/A/33688/R)

**Objectives:** To ensure effective coordination of the agriculture emergency and rehabilitation interventions (including crops, livestock, fisheries and aquaculture, and forestry) as part of the overall food security sector response.

**Beneficiaries:** Government, NGOs, UN agencies.

**Implementing Partners:** NGOs, CBOs, WFP and other UN funds, programmes and specialized agencies.

**Funds Requested:** USD 99 550.

The role of cluster co-lead requires appropriate dedication of resources to: develop response strategies, provide proper technical guidance, elaborate the "who's doing what, where" matrix, draw lessons learned and revise response strategies accordingly, ensure effective and coherent needs assessment and analysis, determine appropriate exit strategies, ensure monitoring and reporting mechanisms are in place and identify core advocacy concerns.

With donor funding, FAO will work closely with WFP to strengthen information systems for food security and agriculture, develop the analytical capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture and other cluster partners, strengthen coordination of food security and agriculture interventions, provide and share standardized tools for needs assessments, and reduce overlap and duplication of activities within the sector.

**Project title:** Emergency support to re-establish livestock and poultry production of the most vulnerable households affected by political instability and violence in southern Kyrgyzstan (KGZ-10/A/39684/R)

**Objectives:** To assist the most vulnerable households to re-establish their animal husbandry and poultry keeping activities to recover their farming-based livelihoods and improve household food security.

**Beneficiaries:** 6 000 most vulnerable households.

**Implementing Partners:** Ministry of Agriculture, local and international NGOs.

**Funds Requested:** USD 1 485 000.

Livestock and poultry production play a critical role in the food security of rural households in Kyrgyzstan. Many families lost their livestock due to the unrest, with some unable to attend to their animals and others forced to sell or slaughter livestock. As the winter closes in, they will struggle to maintain their remaining animals.

FAO is seeking funding to help restore poultry production and livestock husbandry for the most vulnerable households. This will involve procuring and distributing appropriate animals, poultry, fodder and other essential inputs. The Organization will work closely with the state and private veterinary services to ensure the provision of timely animal health services. In addition, farmers will be trained on good production practices and methods of using and processing animal products to enhance their income-generation capacity.

For more information please contact:

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