



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT TITLE: Towards better national and regional locust management in Caucasus and Central Asia

PROJECT SYMBOL: GCP/SEC/004/TUR

Recipient Countries: Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

Resource Partners: Turkey (FAO/Turkey Partnership Programme)

Government/other counterparts:

* Ministries of Agriculture as appropriate in each country

Expected Starting Date: March 2014

Expected End Date: February 2019 (five-year duration)

Budget: USD 600 000

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Central Asian countries are periodically plagued by the Moroccan Locust (DMA), the Italian Locust (CIT) and the Migratory Locust (LMI). During outbreaks and upsurges, they attack a wide range of cultivated plants and can cause severe damage, thus jeopardize food security and livelihood of rural populations. The main hot spots are located close to or overlap the borders between neighboring countries. During recent years, there was a significant worsening of locust situation in Central Asia, with an increase of almost 87 per cent of infested areas between 2006 and 2010 (from 2.5 million to 4.6 million hectares) in the five concerned countries, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Similar trend occurred in the adjacent countries, Afghanistan and the Russian Federation, as well as in Azerbaijan.

In 2006-2008, Caucasian and Central Asian countries sent official requests for national and regional assistance to the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), highlighting the need for capacity development and regional approach. In response, FAO collected relevant data and prepared an Analytical Report, which served as the basis for preparing the "Five-year Programme to improve national and regional locust management in CCA". This Programme was endorsed by all countries in October 2009 (Regional Consultation, Kazakhstan); after identification of sufficient funds, it was officially launched in October 2011 (Technical Workshop, Georgia). The present project is part of this multi-funded Programme.

The ultimate beneficiaries of the project are the communities living in the locust outbreak and invasion areas and whose food security will be preserved through improved crop and rangeland protection. Other beneficiaries are the plant

protection services of the concerned countries, whose institutional, technical and human capacities will be strengthened and updated.

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to safeguard food security and livelihoods of rural populations in Caucasus and Central Asia by preventing, controlling and limiting the threats posed by locusts to crops and rangelands. The outcome of the project will be the improvement of national capacities as well as the coordination of the overall Programme in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan for better national and regional locust management.

The project, of USD 600,000, will have a five-year duration, from March 2014 to February 2019. Its first output will be the development of locust management capacities in a long-term perspective, though the funding of post-graduate studies for nationals of the concerned countries. The second output will be the immediate development of countries' capacities on locust survey and control operations carried out in the respect of human health and the environment. This will be achieved through the provision of technical assistance and delivery of equipment on three key aspects: locust monitoring to better anticipate and mitigate locust disasters; locust spraying and campaign management for better response to locust outbreaks; and impact monitoring of locust control operations on human health and the environment. The third and last output will be the overall implementation and coordination of the Five-year Programme.

The project will be implemented by the Plant Production and Protection Division (AGPM) at FAO-Headquarters in close collaboration with the FAO Sub-regional Office for Central Asia (SEC) and the national FAO Officers in the various countries as well as in liaison with the Plant Protection Services in charge of locust management within the Ministries of Agriculture (MoA) of the six concerned countries.

Last updated in December 2017

For more information, visit: www.fao.org/locusts-cca/