The New Project on Food Laboratories Will Start in 2019

JICA Kyrgyz Office is happy to announce that in April 2019 the new project on the improvement of Human Resources in Food Laboratories for the Improvement of Quality of Milk and Dairy Products will be launched. The Project was initiated by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and on October 9th the Record of Discussion between Kyrgyz stakeholders and JICA was signed. In the framework of the Project, experts on food safety management and HACCP systems will be dispatched to provide trainings for veterinary and sanitation inspectors as well as for laboratory staff. Besides this, the Project will assist in the development of the Training for Trainers (ToT) program for food factory inspection based on the Pre-Requisite Program for food safety and HACCP principles. As a result of the Project’s implementation, distribution of milk and dairy products produced in the Kyrgyz Republic to the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) will be increased by assuring the quality and safety of milk and dairy products. The Project will last for 3.5 years.
PROJECT NEWS

Deeper Blue Color – the Color of Issyk-Kul

“One Village One Product” (OVOP) has been using local resources for dyeing felt products. The color indigo is obtained from usma leaves which are soft, bright and unsaturated. However, production of blue colored felt items from usma leaves is very limited, because the dyeing process is only done during the plant’s harvesting season. Aizome, an Indigo dyeing expert from Tokushima, Japan, came to the OVOP project in Issyk-Kul region. She provided several experiments to get more durable blue color from usma and taught new ways of dyeing, which will enable the project to dye the whole year round.

We will continue working getting a more durable and deeper blue color – the color of Issyk-Kul lake, to please our customers with felt products, which will remind them of the beauty of Issyk-Kul lake.

* the usma plant is usually utilized for traditional eyebrow tinting and for medical purposes in Central Asian countries.

Training on the Cultivation of Sea Buckthorn in Altai

The JICA Forestry Project organized training on “The Cultivation of sea-buckthorn” in Altai, Russia, for staff from the Department of Forest Ecosystem Development and Forestry Enterprises (FE) in the Kyrgyz Republic. Characteristics of different varieties of sea-buckthorn and their differences from wild plants in the Kyrgyz Republic were explained. All participants were amazed at the large size of the fruit, the different tastes of sweet and sour varieties of sea-buckthorn, and most importantly the absence of thorns, which makes it much easier for producers to harvest sea-buckthorn berries.

“Sea-buckthorn from Altai has a high potential for developing business” - Mr. Namatov Taalai, (a forester of Balykchy FE). He also noted the high potential of the Altai sea buckthorn, from the point of view of generating an additional source of income for the local population, as well as the environmental conservation of the wild local plants that grow on the coast of Issyk-Kul Lake.
Training on Drying Fruits and Wild Berries

"Every year in my garden there are a lot of apples that I used to dry, but with the wrong techniques, dried apples became black, wrinkled and had no marketable appearance, therefore I could not sell them. I stopped drying the fallen apples, they remained on the ground. This training was very useful for me, now I will start to dry the fallen apples with the right techniques and I will sell them on the local market and possibly increase my income. I express my gratitude to this project for the useful training", - said a local farmer who participated in the JICA training program.

The JICA Forestry project held a training on drying fruits and wild berries. The training was requested by the Karakol and Jeti-Oguz Forestry Enterprises (FEs) to provide the FE staff and other participants with basic knowledge on drying fruits and wild berries. Participants got acquainted with information about food safety, the prerequisite for the production facility, sanitary and hygienic standards, the HACCP standards, storage, transportation and packaging of finished products. Also information was given about the necessary documents for obtaining a declaration of conformity to the Technical Regulation of the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) for the products.

Ex-trainee of JICA Course Shares Her Impressions

I would like in particular to note the Agrarian College “Hakko Gakuen” which has a fantastic teaching staff. Students study there for 2 years in order to become professional farmers and support their families.

We plan to further apply and disseminate the knowledge gained through the implementation of an action plan prepared in Japan. We are grateful to JICA, the professors, and the organizers of the course who worked as one, together and efficiently to transmit the knowledge, culture and traditions of Japan and ensure a comfortable and productive visit for us.

Aijan Zhakypbek,
Agrarian Platform of Kyrgyzstan.

Our training was given on Hokkaido Island, which has been fully self-sufficient in agricultural products for 200%. Hokkaido products are considered as a standard of quality and taste throughout Japan.

During the training we attended lectures given by leading specialists and professors in the agricultural sector. We gained practical knowledge during visits to farmers’ organizations that focus on organic and ecological agricultural production. We were very impressed by the planning, forecasting, precision, structural work of people in Japan. We have a lot to learn from them!
The Japanese-Kyrgyz seminar on Road Asset Management

In October, Bishkek hosted a technical seminar on road asset management and disaster prevention. The representatives of the leading universities and large private companies from Japan accepted the invitation to join and gave presentations on such topics as road spatial information management, road and bridge maintenance, automatic landslide monitoring systems, and the protection of road infrastructure from disaster. The Kyrgyz side was represented by the Ministry of Transport and Roads, the Ministry of Emergency Situations, Bishkek city municipality, the National Academy of Sciences, the Central Asian Institute for Applied Geosciences, the Kyrgyz State Technical University of Geosciences, the Kyrgyz State Technical University of Construction, Transport and Architecture as well as commercial organizations. In the course of the seminar they discussed with their Japanese colleagues the opportunity of the adjustment and application of the presented technologies in Kyrgyzstan. Also, one practical activity was organized: on one of the Bishkek’s streets the unique all-weather pavement repair material known as “Excel Patch” was demonstrated.

JDS Program Fellow

Story from the 10th batch JDS fellow, Ms. Shirin Toktash who studied at the International University of Japan on the component 1-1 “Public administration”. My name is Shirin. I am one of the 15 fellows who got a JDS scholarship in the 2016-2018 academic years. The JDS program is a good opportunity to get new knowledge on public policy and economics. The main goal of the JDS program is to contribute to the development of the Kyrgyz Republic through enhancing the capacity of government officials. The JDS program would enable you to gain essential skills and tools from university professors, reviewing Japan’s practical experience, and then implementing measures to improve government policy.

Japan is a unique country which was able to achieve rapid economic growth after World War II and it was called the Japanese miracle. The knowledge that you get in Japanese universities will help our country to achieve economic growth like Japan and it will be called the Kyrgyz miracle.