

# News FROM Kyrgyzstan

APRIL - MAY 2015 • NUMBER 13(77) • THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

## Vice – President of JICA visited the country with short official visit



Photos from website: [www.gov.kg](http://www.gov.kg)

From May 22-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 Vice President of Japan International Cooperation Agency, Ms. Kae Yanagisawa, visited the Kyrgyz Republic for an official visit. “Japan is a faithful partner of the Kyrgyz Republic. From the very beginning, when the Kyrgyz Republic first gained its independence, Japan has provided significant support to the Kyrgyz Republic,” said the Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic, Mr. Temir Sariev. The Prime Minister expressed gratitude for JICA’s active participation in the development of Kyrgyzstan through the implementation of important projects in the country. The head of the government stressed the importance of continuing the support project “regarding the preparation of state servants of the Kyrgyz Republic in Japanese Universities.” Mr. Sariev also expressed gratitude for the technical assistance given to help improve the registration process, identification of the electorate, and guarantee the successful execution of voting rights during the presidential and parliamentary elections of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Ms. Yanagisawa also noted the importance of continued cooperation between Japan and the Kyrgyz Republic. During the meeting both parties also discussed deepening trade and economic relations as well as implementing joint projects.

On the same day, Vice-President of JICA, Ms. Yanagisawa met with newly appointed Minister of Finance of the Kyrgyz Republic, Mr. Adylbek Kasymaliev. Further plans for cooperation and the implementation of current projects were discussed during the meeting.

During her brief visit, Ms. Yanagisawa also met with World Bank Country Manager, Mr. Jean-Michel Happi, and UNDP Resident Representative, Mr. Alexander Avanesov, to discuss continued collaboration regarding development and support in the transportation sector as well as the election process in the country in 2015 respectively. ●

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### 2 stage of Training of Trainers Program starts



Opening ceremony

### Capacity Development for Road Disaster Prevention Management



Dangerous part of the road

### Project for the Support of Electoral Systems



Press conference

### Sport event



All participants of event

### Senior volunteers



OVOP products

# Country Report

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## PROJECT NEWS

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### Seed Project Starts **Training of Trainers** Program with a second group



Participants of the program

On 7 April 7th, 2015, the Project for Exportable Vegetable Seed Production started their Trainer Training of Trainers (TOT) for the second batch with a second group of farmers who are aware willing to produce and export vegetable seeds in the future and they are expected to become the leaders in the seed export business in the Kyrgyz Republic. The training program began with an opening ceremony at a training farm established at the Agricultural Cooperative, KOSS, and was attended by representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, the Embassy of Japan, and the JICA Kyrgyz Republic Office who addressed the participants with welcome speeches. Following the

introduction of the purpose of the training and the self-introduction of select trainees, the trainees and guests of the event went on a tour of the site where they viewed an example field, a solar greenhouse constructed by the Project for Growing Seedlings and Storing Harvest.

In 2015, the project expanded its target areas to Osh and Jalal-Abad Oblasts and selected a total of 15 trainees for the TOT program from these aforementioned areas. The training will be conducted under the technical instruction of Japanese experts and is expected to enhance the capacity of trainees by introducing advanced knowledge and techniques about the cultivation of quality vegetable seed. ●

### Capacity Development for **Road Disaster Prevention Management**

The signing ceremony and minutes of meeting for the new technical cooperation project, The Project for Capacity Development for Road Disaster Prevention Management, were held on April 24th, 2015 between JICA and the Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC) at the MOTC.

The Kyrgyz Republic is a mountainous country with roughly 90% of its landscape standing at over 1,000 meters above sea level and about 40% above 3,000 meters. As a result, many roads cross through steep, mountainous terrain and road hazards, such as falling rocks, landslides, and avalanches, often occur in the Kyrgyz Republic.

The project, which is expected to start this coming winter, will be carried out with the support of Japanese experts. The Road Disaster Management Sys-

tem will be introduced in specific target areas where road hazards have frequently occurred. By introducing the Road Disaster Management System, the MOTC will be able to plan and implement appropriate countermeasures for road hazards. As a result of this project, traffic and road safety in these target areas are expected to be greatly improved in the near future. ●



JICA experts with Kyrgyz counterparts

## JICA IN THE MEDIA

*“Within UNDP project under support of Japanese Government 3 vehicles for rescue fire service under the Ministry of Emergency Situation, were provided”*

*April 29, 2015 handover ceremony of equipment with participation of Japanese and Kyrgyz sides was conducted.*

[www.akipress.kg](http://www.akipress.kg)

April 29, 2015

*“Kyrgyzstan is recommended to industrialize agriculture sector”*

*On round table, Mr. Rafkat Hasanov, executive director of NGO “Investment round table” suggested to use experience of “One village – one product” for reorganizing agriculture in the Kyrgyz Republic.*

[www.vb.kg](http://www.vb.kg)

May 13, 2015

*“Festival of culture and friendship between Kyrgyzstan and Japan would be conducted in Bishkek”*

*On May 30, 2015 Kyrgyz – Japan center for human development, due to celebration of 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, conducted festival of culture and friendship of nations of both countries. Concert program, sport performance, cosplay, calligraphy, tea ceremony and other events are made guests happy.*

[www.gazeta.kg](http://www.gazeta.kg)

22 мая 2015

## CALENDAR\*

### JUNE

**17-19** Mission on ex post evaluation of JICA project

**22-24** Mission on loan agreement negotiation

### JULY

**31** Joint coordination committee meeting of Seed project

\*dates may be changed

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## Joint Project for the **Support of Electoral Systems**



Important moment

The signing ceremony for an exchange of notes between the Embassy of Japan in the Kyrgyz Republic and UNDP in the Kyrgyz Republic, as well as the Grant Agreement between JICA office in the Kyrgyz Republic and UNDP in the Kyrgyz Republic on the grant project Automation of the Process of Identification of Voters for the Election Cycle in 2015-2017 was

held on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Giving importance to the implementation of new electoral technology in the upcoming Kyrgyzstan elections, the Government of Japan in cooperation with UNDP decided to support and implement a project to automate the system of voter identification that is seen as an effective tool in counting and voter identification. The total project budget is 6,166,368 USD and consists of two components: 1) providing necessary equipment to the SRS and the CEC (e.g. servers and network equipment, thermal printer paper, UPS, laptop, fingerprint reader, and wall monitor), whose delivery is scheduled for August 2015 (at the request of the Kyrgyz government); 2) Capacity strengthening of staff via training on the proper use and maintenance of equipment and ICT

literacy. This component will develop training materials and conducted training for trainers.

The Japanese government hopes that this project will help citizens exercise their electoral rights and guarantee peaceful and fair elections. ●



Press conference

## Association News



Newly appointed President

April and May 2015 were rather intense months for JICA Alumni Association board members. As a result, several meetings have been held in a short amount of time to discuss important issues related to the structure of the Association and its activities.

The structural aspects of the Association that came under discussion were the official registration of the Association, change of logo, and the election of the President and two Vice Presidents. As for the activities of the Asso-

ciation, two areas were addressed:

- 1) Working on strengthening the network between members through a variety of activities.
- 2) Developing a mid-term strategy of priority areas in the work of the Association. In this regard, the Board has decided to focus on the development of human resources through training courses and seminars on a regular basis. The Board assured that focusing on these two directions will not spread resources too thin and will in fact lead to excellent results from main projects. ●



Vice-Presidents of Association

## Sport Event in Emgek-Taala



Interesting moment!

The JICA Volunteer Initiative Sport Competition was held between pupils of the secondary school named after Kerimbay uulu Sarybay. Four teams of sixth to eleventh grade students participated in the competition. A total of about 120 students attended the competition as well as teachers of physical education. All participants showed excellent physical preparation and the whole event was met and carried out with great enthusiasm. Organizers were concerned that preparation for the

competition was lacking, but the children's laughter, cheers, and encouraging spirit calmed their fears. On the contrary, the event turned out to have exceeded all the expectations of those in charge. About twenty secondary school teachers were invited to the event as spectators. Due to its resounding success, the teachers offered to organize a similar competition between teams of teachers next time. ●



During competition

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## JICA Senior Volunteers



*Morikawa-san's training participants*

Two senior volunteers arrived in Kyrgyzstan during April this year. One of them, Mr. Morikawa Shusaku, has come to Kyrgyzstan every year for the last 5 years. He works at the Kyrgyz Republic Public Broadcasting Corporation. Mr. Morikawa helps local staff produce more interesting, exciting TV shows for viewers. Since Kyrgyzstan is transitioning to digital broadcasting this year, he is providing support for local specialists in this area. Japanese specialist Mr. Morikawa says,

“Digitization is an innovation of modern equipment and technology. At the present time the whole world uses internet, watches digital videos, and listens to digital music. While there may be some downsides to using the internet freely, we can't deny that fact that without internet we can't do anything.” The main goal of our volunteer is to share his expertise and skills with local staff.



*Discussion with OVOP project staff*

The second volunteer, Ms. Mukai, works with the JICA project One Village One Product in Karakol City. She supports local staff in the areas

of finance and marketing. Due to the financial systems of Kyrgyzstan and Japan being quite different, our volunteer will be sharing her expertise regarding Japanese financial practices in order to aid Kyrgyz staff members. ●



*Ms. Mukai with OVOP products*

## News about

### Upcoming Training Courses

Advocating a Law-Oriented Infrastructure to Promote Direct Foreign Investment (B)

(Course duration: August 23-October 10, 2015. Deadline for application form submission is June 15, 2015);

Road Maintenance and Management (A)

(Course duration: November 4-December 12, 2015. Deadline for application form submission is August 5, 2015);

Human Resource Capacity Development on Japanese Hospitality, Omotenashi in Tourism

(Course duration: September 14-October 10, 2015. Deadline for application form submission is July 20, 2015).

## Contact Us

**News from Kyrgyzstan** is a bimonthly newsletter that focuses on JICA's international perspectives and its involvement in local economic development. This newsletter details the work of JICA in the Kyrgyz Republic.

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**JICA** (Japan International Cooperation Agency) is the world's largest bilateral aid agency providing various forms of assistance in over 150 countries around the world.