

# News FROM Kyrgyzstan

FEBRUARY – MARCH 2015 • NUMBER 12(76) • THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

## Greetings to Dear Readers



Chief Representative of JICA, Mr. Kikuchi, Prime Minister of Kyrgyz Republic, Mr. Sariiev, Charge d'affaires of Japan, Mr. Harada  
photo provided by Government office

My name is Kikuchi Kazuhiko. It is a great pleasure for me to be a Chief Resident Representative of JICA Kyrgyz Republic office as a successor of Mr. Oyama.

When I informed to my colleagues that I would work for Kyrgyz Republic, they said I was so lucky that I could live in a wonderful country.

It is my first visit not only in Kyrgyzstan but the Central Asian region as well. And my first impression about Kyrgyz Republic is remarkable – nature of your country is beautiful and beside that people are so friendly.

On March 15, 2016 I have just arrived to the Kyrgyz Republic and I have already had great opportunity to attend so important events, conducted by our office in the Kyrgyz Republic as joint JICA and KOIKA seminar on Disaster prevention field and besides that Annual meeting of JICA Alumni Association. I am very pleased to see that many people have a close relationship with JICA and our activities.

During my assignment here, I, through JICA projects, would like to make my best efforts to deepen the good relationship between Kyrgyz Republic and Japan. I have just started to learn about this country.

While I have 26 years' experience in JICA, I cannot make use of my experience properly without your close cooperation. Any kinds of information, opinion and suggestions from your side will be highly appreciated.

Considering your suggestions and ideas we can create new projects to improve economic situation in the Kyrgyz Republic. Once again I'm very happy to be here in attractive country.

I'm looking forward to seeing Kyrgyz people with the warm hospitality, and enjoying beautiful nature.

Mr. KIKUCHI Kazuhiko, Chief Representative of JICA in the Kyrgyz Republic.



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## PROJECT NEWS

### Seminar “Study of foreign investors who expand overseas”



During the seminar

**March 10, 2016, Kyrgyz-** Japan Center for human development (KRJC) held a seminar on the topic “Study of foreign investors who expand overseas » for business course alumnus, who are interested in how foreign companies make decisions about foreign investment (in the Japanese example), as well as how to establish relationships with them. During this seminar information was provided on the main

reason for the development of Japanese companies on foreign markets, on the decision making process of expanding overseas (the particular things that foreign investors look for when exploring foreign markets), on the study of corporate governance, on the introduction of how to build a business in Japan (JETRO “websites” and “ROTOBO network”), and they were given examples of successes and failures of Japanese companies abroad. The lecturer of the seminar was Ichiro Kumakiri who is an expert of JICA and works as an investment advisor of Investment Promotion Agency under Ministry of Economy. He has more than 30 years of experience in the international banking sector. He is a specialist in investment and project financing for business. He worked at the “PPP and Investment Promotion Center” in the KR from 2010 to 2012 and then worked as an International Business Advisor “Small Medium Enterprises and Regional Innovation, Japan” for the last 3 years. This is the second time he has worked in Kyrgyz Republic. We hope that this workshop was informative and in the near future, we will see growth in the relationships between Japanese and Kyrgyz SMEs. ●

## New phase of the KRJC project

**In March the current phase** of the “Kyrgyz Republic –Japan Center for Human Development” – a joint project of JICA and KNU named after J.Balasagyn, will be finished. However, the continuation of the project is planned in April, which focus more on human development in the fields of quality control, innovative management, and so on. The decision is caused by gradual changes in the structure of the economy as well as Kyrgyzstan’s accession to the EEU. In the beginning stage of the new phase, a needs and problems survey of business sector of Kyrgyzstan will be undertaken in order to design more suitable and effective courses/business consultations for Kyrgyz businessmen. The new phase of the project (April 2016 – March 2021)

will be a new round further deepening cooperation between our countries with a focus on establishing business relations between the business communities of both countries. ●



Signing ceremony on next phase of the projet

## JICA IN THE MEDIA

“Committee of the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic (Parliament) approved a bill of financing by JICA rehabilitation of part of the road of Osh-Batken-Isfana”

16 of February 2016 Committee on transport, communication, architecture and construction of the Jogorku Kenesh approved ratification of Yen loan Project “International Main Roads Improvement”.

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

February 16, 2016

“In Japan Kyrgyz Felt product exhibition was opened”

Within framework of promotion of exports of Kyrgyz products and under support of JICA project “One village - one product” on February 15, 2016 exhibition of felt products was opened in Tokyo. Exhibition would be continued up to February 20, 2016.

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

February 17, 2016

“Seed companies of Japan has sent vegetables seeds for trial growing in condition of Kyrgyzstan”.

Top management of National seed inspection met with representative of JICA project and discussed further cooperation.

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

February 29, 2016

## CALENDAR\*

### APRIL

**30** Central Asian Speech Contest would be conducted in Almaty

### MAY

**12** Japanese culture day in Naryn city

\*dates may be changed

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## Gained experience to be hard worker forever



During the training course in Japan

**Two weeks in Japan passed as one moment.** There were a lot of different meetings; we have seen how small business works in Japan, how business and public sectors interact with each other.

A tax system of Japan is very impressive. To encourage citizens, a system with two types of tax forms was introduced – white and blue.

White form is a simplified type of report: entrepreneurs do not have special obligations, but at the same time do not have any privilege. The blue one forces entrepreneurs to have accounting system, to fix all trade and financial operations, to conduct a balance of payments. But in this case they may use tax preferences. Visiting a small enterprise producing flat springs in Amagasaki showed us a good sample of the close relations between small businesses and giant companies, such as Mitsubishi and Toyota. Big business offers work to small business. The protective relationship of government to small business can serve as a good sample for the Kyrgyz Republic.

In Japan it is considered an element of social support, so the Government sector tries to ensure that they do not become bankrupt.

Two thirds of entrepreneurs in Japan unite in different business associations (BA). Compared to Kyrgyz BAs, one of functions of which is protection of entrepreneurs and representing their interests in state bodies, Japanese BAs regulate sector standards, labor, pensions, relations with employees, and simplify doing business. Advocacy for Japanese BAs is not such a critical task.

Bulatova Iulia, Lawyer, CCI KR ●

## “Dostuk Dastorkonu” Festival



On festival

**O. Isaev secondary school** had an school festival on February 27. The event was named “Dostuk Dastorkonu”. “Dostuk” means friendship, “Dastorkonu” means table-cloth. However, Dastorkon is also a symbol of the hospitality of the Kyrgyz people. The event’s goal was to let Kyrgyz children have an opportunity to meet foreigners and learn about the world and peace. The event consisted of three parts. The first part was music concert. Students and guests from foreign countries gave performances such as dancing, singing, playing musical

instruments and talks which were related to each country. During the concert, participants also put the dishes they cooked on the “Dastorko, nu”. The second part was an activity called “If the world was the village of 100 people”. Students and foreign guests together played and enjoyed this activity. During this activity, participants learned about what the world is like and what some of its problems are using their role cards. The third part was a potluck party. All participants brought their own national food and through sharing food, participants recognized interesting food from each country. There was a nice peaceful atmosphere everywhere during this festival and it is hoped that this occasion widened Kyrgyz students’ minds and will help lead them to a peaceful future. ●

## VII Лыжный фестиваль



**The festival was held** on February 20, 2016 in the ski base “ZIL”. During the Festival, lottery tickets were raffled among the participants of the festival to raise funds for charity. In total 181500 KGS were gathered.

The collected fund was decided to use for: public organization of parents of children with autism, “Hand in Hand”, public organization “Social Village” Manas”, temporary Center for children “Nurmeaysa”, public organization “Jany Ba-

shat” and Ms. Ulanova Nariste (7-month-old baby) who needs the transplantation of some part of liver as she has diagnosis: primary manifestation of cirrhosis, biliary tract atresia.

The organizers are going to keep on conducting this event as it became very popular among the citizens. ●



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## Information regarding Road Sector Projects by the JICA Kyrgyz Office



Meeting with representatives of Osh mayor office within framework of survey

In February 2016, JICA completed the survey named “Data Collection Survey on Osh City Road Transportation”. The main purposes were to grasp the existing/future traffic flow in Osh City and existing road facilities in Osh City and to seek the possibilities of the practicable projects which will be implemented by JICA for MOTC or Osh City. In this survey, Japanese experts were observing the existing

traffic volume within Osh city and analyzed the results, then predicted the traffic volume in the near future around and within Osh City. At the result of this survey, JICA grasped the existing black spots in the traffic flow and identified some of bottlenecks in the near future according to the increase in the traffic volume in Osh City. Apart from that, inspections and evaluations of the existing bridges and traffic control/safety facilities were carried out. As a result of all the activities, the survey team grasped the crucial issues of traffic flow in and around Osh City and can make some proposal for projects which should be implemented by overseas donors, including JICA, to the MOTC or Osh City in the near future. In accordance with the survey, JICA will consider the feasibility of their projects.

Beginning in 2016, JICA plans to implement a new TC Project called “The Project for Capacity Development for Road Disaster Prevention Management”. The main activities of this Project are to make a Database system for the data of road disasters in the selected pilot project sites, to make short-term and long-term budget plans for the prevention of road disasters, and to enhance the capacity of the MOTC staff in prevention of road disasters, for example, the inspection and analysis of road disasters. As mentioned above, JICA has been planning and implementing a lot of road sector projects continuously within the Kyrgyz Republic.

### JICA Mid-term Evaluation for the Project for the Promotion of Exportable Vegetable Seed

JICA Mid-term Evaluation Mission for the Project for Promotion of Exportable Vegetable Seed Production was dispatched to Kyrgyzstan during the period from 21 February to 11 March 2016. The Team headed by Mr. Tomochika Motomura, Senior Advisor to the Director General, Rural Development Department, JICA HGs reviewed the implementation, achievements, and progress of the Project, and made an evaluation based on five criteria. During the period, the team interviewed Japanese experts and officials working with the Project, counterpart organizations, participants in the ToT program, and made field visits to the project sites and farms of ToT participants. As a result, the Team prepared a Project Evaluation Report summarizing the achievements of the Project giving recommendations for the remaining period of implementation and presented their findings to the meeting of the Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) held on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March 2016. The Team concluded that the Project has made steady progress even though the Project has faced several constraints and difficulties. The Team positively judged that the Project has been implemented mostly as planned and is working toward the achievement of the project purpose. ●



Field trip



Meeting with representatives of Ministry of agriculture

### 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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