

# News FROM Kyrgyzstan

JULY-AUGUST 2014 • NUMBER 9(73) • THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

## Representatives from **the House of Councilors of Japan** in the Kyrgyz Republic



Photo: [www.gov.kg](http://www.gov.kg)

**In the beginning of August 2014, representatives from the House of Councilors of Japan** visited the Kyrgyz Republic for an official visit to monitor the ODA implementation in the Kyrgyz Republic. The schedule was quite busy as the delegation from Japan had opportunity to meet with the prime minister of the Kyrgyz Republic, Mr. Otorbaev. He mentioned the successful collaboration between the government of Japan and the Kyrgyz Republic and expressed gratitude to JICA for the development of human resources in the Kyrgyz Republic, particularly of civil servants. "Taking into consideration the fact that the Kyrgyz Republic is the only country with a parliamentary democracy, we are interested in fostering a connection between the parliaments of both countries," said Mr. Otorbaev. Besides that, the Kyrgyz Republic needs direct investment from Ja-

pan's private sector and Mr. Otorbaev asked for support to deliver this request to the business sector of Japan. The head of the Japanese parliamentary delegation, Mr. SATO, informed the Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic that the purpose of the official visit was to monitor the implementation of ODA projects in the Kyrgyz Republic. Mr. SATO pointed out the effectiveness of the official visit of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Mr. KISHIDA, to the Kyrgyz Republic in July 2014 where it was announced that the government of Japan is planning to provide a loan in the sum of 120 million USD. Representatives from the House of Councilors of Japan also had the opportunity to meet with speaker of the Supreme Council, Mr. Jeenbekov, the governor of the Issyk-Kul oblast, Mr. Kaptagaev, and others. ●

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Road maintenance equipment



New equipment

New group of volunteers from Japan



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**Second Phase of JDS Project (2015-2018)**



Signing ceremony

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In the conference

# Country Report

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## PROJECT NEWS

### Road Maintenance Equipment Project to Begin in Three Regions of the Country



Asphalt plant

Due to the financial support of international finance institutions, a number of projects to rehabilitate international corridors have been implemented in different regions of the country over the last couple years. In this regard, it is critically important to keep the newly constructed roads as well as existing roads in good condition by executing proper operation and road maintenance.

For these purposes, JICA has been continuing their support in the fields of operation and maintenance by procuring road maintenance equipment for the Osh, Jalalabad, and Talas regions of the country under the new Grant Aid Project for a cost of 2 billion 491 million Japanese yen (about 25 million USD). Under the project, 374 units of equipment and machinery will be provided

to the Ministry of Transport and Communication (MOTC) for the operation and maintenance of roads including services such as road repair, snow removal, post-disaster reconstruction, and support operations such as servicing and repairing equipment via mobile workshops. There are 4 asphalt plants with a capacity of 35tons/hour and 4 aggregate plants with a capacity of 35tons/hour which will be installed in the village of Karatai in Osh Province, the village of Jergetal in Jalalabad Province, the village of Aksai in Talas Province, and the village of Kurshab in Osh Province. Previously, similar equipment and machinery for road maintenance was provided by JICA to the Naryn, Issyk-Kul and Chui Provinces. ●

### New Group of Volunteers from Japan

On July 3rd new members of JOCV arrived in Bishkek. This time all of them will work in the education field. One of them was dispatched to a secondary school by A. Osmonov in the city of Cholpon Ata where she will teach informatics. The second volunteer will teach English in a secondary school in the village of Kegety. The third volunteer was invited to the Children's Center of Ecology, Regional Studies, and Tourism under of Ministry of Education of the Kyrgyz Republic where she will teach ecology to children. The fourth volunteer came to Kyrgyzstan to teach Japanese to children in a boarding school in the village of Vorontsovka (Tash Tobo). All of them started working at the

beginning of the new academic year and will work in Kyrgyzstan for two years. Two of these new volunteers are participating in village homestays where they will participate in Kyrgyz traditions and daily life. We wish luck to our volunteers in their new endeavors. ●



JICA volunteers

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## JICA IN THE MEDIA

*"The Kyrgyz-Japan center invites Bishkek citizens to a celebration of the Japanese holiday "TANABATA."*

*On the 5<sup>th</sup> of July, 2014 KRJC invites everyone to participate. The organizers of this event are the Kyrgyz-Japan Center and KNU.*

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

July 1, 2014

*"Kyrgyzstan and Japan discussed the implementation of a project providing aviation equipment for Manas Airport and a state enterprise, Kyrgyz Aero Navigation".*

*The prime minister of the Kyrgyz Republic, Mr. Otorbaev, met with the general director of East and Central Asia and Caucasus, JICA, Ms. Yanagisawa, to discuss further cooperation.*

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

July 15, 2014

*"Fifteen civil servants from Kyrgyzstan will improve capacity through cooperation with JICE".*

*Since the implementation of the JDS project, 116 students have been sent to Japan. Eighty-four of them have completed their master's degree.*

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

August 11, 2014

## CALENDAR\*

### OCTOBER

**1-3** Senior Vice President of JICA arrives to KR

### NOVEMBER

**End** Preparatory survey mission on GA project "Avalanches prevention"

\*dates can be changed

# Country Report

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## Training in Japan

Starting in the summer of 2014, JICA launched several technical cooperation projects including training in Japan specially designed for Kyrgyzstan's needs. This type of

training allows a large number of participants – no less than 8 people – to be invited to Japan for training. Also because these projects are

planned for three years, a minimum of 24 participants from Kyrgyzstan will be able to take part in the training. ●

## Strengthening Business Associations in Kyrgyzstan



Training participants

Training was initiated by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of KR (CCI KR) for the purpose of strengthening the role of business associations (BA) in Kyrgyzstan. The goals of this training are 1) strengthening of the BA themselves; 2) strengthening dialogue between public and private sectors; and 3) studying self-regulating organizations of Japan. In the current stages of development, more and more attention is being paid to private sector's development as it operates as the engine of the economy. However there has not been a mutual agreement among stakeholders yet. While the government is taking measures to improve the business environment, business owners are not completely satisfied. In turn entrepre-

neurs are either not interested in contributing to better business conditions or their voice is too weak due to lack of experience lobbying and dialoging in the public sector.

The training will provide participants with an understanding of the situation with BA of Japan, which services they provide to its members, and how they build relationships with the government. This year training representatives of the biggest BA of Kyrgyzstan and Ministry of Economy of KR participated. The dialogue among participants was definitely strengthened. We hope that in the near future we will see a dynamic development among the associations that participated. ●



During the lecture

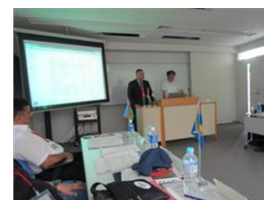
## Agribusiness



During seminars

This year agribusiness training was launched. Shamkeev Baktybek, one of the participants, discussed the training's effectiveness. It was very useful to see famous Japanese approaches to manufacturing and business including Kaizen and 5S (a system of production and labor organization). For example, workspace cleanliness and compliance of labor discipline are checked weekly in Japanese enterprises. The secret to Japanese management is keeping everything in order and paying attention to details. Japanese business management practices are also unique in that they are based on a clear vision of the company's mission by all staff, detailed strategic planning, operational management, quality con-

trol, and an analysis of results. The patriotism of Japanese people shown by their willingness to support local producers is another source of admiration. One of the things that makes these businesses attractive is their quality services (for example in cafés), as well as the organization of demo presentations on how ingredients are cultivated and dishes are cooked. Given the fact that requirements for the quality and safety of food products have recently become stricter, this training has been very timely for Kyrgyzstan's participants. We are happy to inform you that Kaizen and other effective approaches for doing business are taught in the Japan Center in Bishkek! ●



Presentation of Mr. Shamkeev



# Project News

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## Second Phase of JDS Project (2015-2018)

A group from Japan visited Kyrgyzstan on August 19-21, 2014 to conduct a preparatory survey for the Japanese Grant Aid for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS). This preparatory survey is conducted every 4 years in order to revise and modify the JDS project in Kyrgyzstan. The leader of the survey group was Ms. Miyako KOBAYASHI, Director, Grant Aid Project Management Division 2, Financial Cooperation Implementation Department. She is in charge of JDS operations at JICA headquarters.

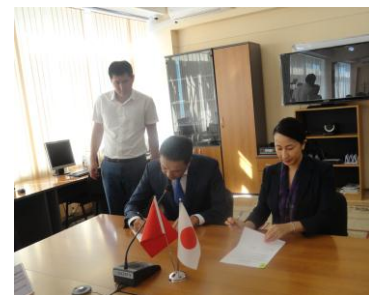
The main purpose of the visit was to explain the second phase of the project and to improve it. These improvements maximize the efficiency of the project implementation and allow state and municipal participants to get a master's degree

from a leading university in Japan such as the International University of Japan, Meiji, Ritsumeikan, Hiroshima, and Tsukuba.

During their stay in Kyrgyzstan the groups' members tried to improve the program by defining topical sectors, identifying problematic issues (e.g. insufficient number of applicants) and finding solutions together with Kyrgyz state authorities (State Personnel Service, Government Office, President's Office, etc.).

The result of the preparatory survey was a signing of the minutes of discussion between JICA and SPS. In this regard, it is essential to note that two new areas were given priority for this project: 1) strengthening policy to make peace and stability possible. Components include 1-1 public policy (including interna-

tional relations, peace building, and local administration) and 1-2 economic policy/business management; 2) strengthening policy to make industrial development possible. Its components include 2-1 transport and 2-2 agriculture and rural development. ●



During a tour of the site

## Human Resources - the Basis of Country Development

Japan is one of the few leading countries which has developed without natural resources. There are several factors contributing to the economic development of Japan. One factor is efficient use of human resources. Kyrgyzstan, being a small country without natural resources, is similar to Japan. Since Japanese human resource management is extremely developed, Kyrgyzstan can glean a lot from Japanese experiences. In this regard, JICA and the State Personnel Service (SPS) of the Kyrgyz Republic organized activities for human resource development in the Kyrgyz Republic.

On July 11, 2014, a conference was conducted on the topical issues of human resource management in the Kyrgyz Republic where the target group consisted of state secretaries and the staff of the Personnel Affairs Department of the state authorities of Kyrgyzstan. In addition, a week-long workshop was organized for employees of SPS and the Personnel Affairs Department with lectures on the following themes: adaptation and motivation of civil servants, strategic planning, teambuilding, performance assessment, and others. Two professors, Sangyub Ryu and Hun Mung Park, from the International University of Japan were invited to this workshop. They shared their advanced knowledge and experiences related to Japan, the USA, and Korea. The workshop became a platform where all participants were able to not only listen to the lectures, but were also able to discuss problems, share experience and ideas, and network with each other. At the end of the workshop, the participants had a unified understanding of existing problems and the importance of their work for human resource management and development. Participants expressed their desire to gain further training in Japan due to participation in the JICA training courses. ●

### Contact Us

News from Kyrgyzstan is a bimonthly newsletter which 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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