

News FROM Kyrgyzstan

JUNE - JULY 2018 • NUMBER 31(95) • THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

First Visit of the JICA President to the Kyrgyz Republic



On the 27th - 29th of June, 2018 JICA President Dr. Shinichi Kitaoka visited Kyrgyzstan for the first time. On the 28th of June, Dr. Kitaoka observed OVOP project workshops in Issyk-kul region. While communicating with female producers, the importance of supplementary income for women was raised. This extra income was made possible through the implementation of the OVOP project, and according to the women, is not only used for everyday spending, but also for education or buying clothes for their children. Dr. Kitaoka also visited dig site in Ak-Beshim of the ancient city of Suyab, which is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage. At the dig site, the President of JICA discussed the possibility of attracting tourists with a KR government official. On the 29th of June, Dr. Kitaoka met with the President of the Kyrgyz Republic, Zheenbekov S., and the Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic, Abylgaziev M. Dr. Kitaoka stressed JICA's commitment to continuing cooperation with the Kyrgyz

Republic, focusing on regional development, promoting the private sector and human resource development.

Dr. Kitaoka and Mr. Abylgaziyev witnessed the signing ceremony for "The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS)" and the "The Project for the Improvement of Equipment of Manas International Airport".

Also, Dr. Kitaoka participated in an informal meeting with fellows of JDS, and highly praised the great success of fellows who are working in the center of the government of the KR.

Dr. Kitaoka noted that Kyrgyzstan was the 100th country that he had visited. "This moment is very important for me. I really liked Kyrgyzstan, I was surprised how similar the Kyrgyz and Japanese people were and how Kyrgyzstan intended to expand the good relationship with Japan and JICA. We will make every effort to effectively implement all our projects in Kyrgyzstan." •

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The first regional OVOP shop opened in Osh



OVOP regional shop, at Osh City, 1 Bayalinov Street (In Osh Nuru Hotel).

The first regional OVOP Shop (“Nomad Store”) was opened in Osh. The Opening Ceremony took place on July 3, 2018, in Osh city, where representatives of local authorities, OVOP Committee members of Osh oblast, representatives of donor organizations, producers and other related parties were invited. The guests were introduced to the goods produced within the frame-

work of the OVOP Project and in cooperation with donor organizations such as WFP, UNDP, Helvates in Osh, Jalal-Abad and Batken oblasts. After the explanation of each new product, the guests had a chance to taste the food products; they especially liked aiwa jam made from local quince. “Nomad Store” offers local products made of regional resources such

as dried fruits, jams, products made from Batken apricot, cosmetics products, organic cotton yarn, souvenirs, as well as products from Issyk-Kul Oblast, and will be the hub shop to promote local products in the Southern part of Kyrgyzstan. We hope it will play an important role in promoting local products and contributing to the development of the region’s economy.●

JICA IN THE MEDIA

The project “One Village One Product is an important tool for regional development. Prime Minister of the KR Abylgaziev M. got acquainted with the activity of “One Village One Product” (OVOP) Association. The Government’s priority is regional development. “Considering the importance of the project, we are ready for further cooperation”, - said the Prime Minister. Chief Representative of JICA informed that the project concept is aimed at creating additional work places in rural areas, promoting domestic products to foreign markets and promoting integrated development of the regions. The OVOP Association plans to expand its activities in all areas of the country.

www.knews.kg
May 28, 2018

“A meeting was held between the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the KR, Ms. Kemelova D. and the Director General of the Caucasus, Eastern and Central Asia Department of JICA, Mr. Fujiya”. During the meeting a wide range of issues related to the further development of JICA technical cooperation, as well as the strengthening of cultural and humanitarian interactions between the Kyrgyz Republic and Japan were discussed.

www.akipress.kg
May 26, 2018

“A teacher from Japan speaks in fluent Kyrgyz and plays komuz”. Takumi Kakihana worked for two years at the school in Kegeti village, Chui region. During this time he taught the children English language and learned to play komuz. “In Kyrgyzstan I helped English local teachers and in some matters they helped me. Thus, we exchanged the experience and methodology of teaching a foreign language”, said the volunteer.

www.bilim.akipress.kg
June 20, 2018

Japanese culture festival came to Issyk-Kul



Fisherman dance - “Sooran Bushi”.

Festivals of Japanese culture are already well known and loved by children. They look forward to these events which take them on a journey to the culture of the Land of the Rising Sun. So, on the 19th of May 2018, a festival supported by JICA volunteers was held in one of the schools in the Ak-Suu

district of the Issyk-Kul region. The festival program was as fascinating as always. Volunteers, together with the children, sang songs, danced and played a traditional Japanese game known as “Fukuwarai”, where player with a blindfold must make a portrait from pre-prepared fragments. Besides this, volunteers introduced the children to the basics of karate, and “Kara-Jorgo” physical exercise to promote a healthy lifestyle. (Link for “Kara-Jorgo” physical exercise, prepared by JICA volunteer https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eUKK_kCRPgM) Participants of the festival left with a pleasant impression of the event. Our volunteers will continue introducing Japanese culture to children.●

CALENDAR*

AUGUST

*dates may be changed

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The main airfield of the country has been re-equipped



Review of the airfield equipment.

On June 29, under the grant project for improving the equipment of “Manas” airport, a ceremony of transfer of the air navigation system took place. The ceremony was attended by JICA President, Mr. Shinichi Kitaoka, who was in Kyrgyzstan on a two-day visit, and the Prime Minister of the KR, Mr. Muhammetkaly

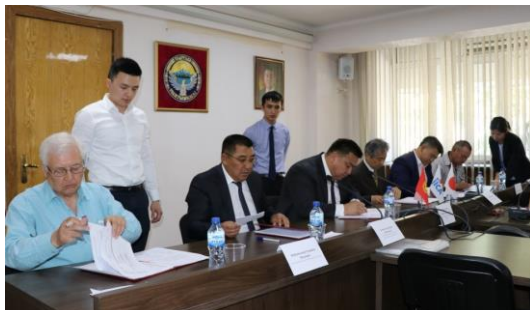
Abulgaziev. The airport's air navigation equipment supplied under the Japanese loan in 1999 served the recommended period and had to be renewed in order to meet flight safety standards.

The installed equipment represents the ground devices located near the runway. They produce radio signals allowing aircrafts to navigate both horizontally and vertically before landing, which is especially meaningful in bad weather and low visibility conditions.

In the framework of another Project's component, 49 units of machinery were transferred to “Manas” airport in October last year. In particular, one fire truck was provided in addition to the two which were

already in the possession of the airport. According to ICAO standards, the airports of the 9th category, to which “Manas” belongs, must have at their disposal at least three fire-fighting vehicles with a combined capacity of 36,400 liters of water. Beyond that the airport received snow removal machines for clearing the runway as well as an aircraft tow tractor, potable water vehicles, aircraft air-conditioning units, container and luggage carts and other equipment.

TLC of local type will be constructed in Kochkor



Ceremony of memorandum signing.

The ceremony for the signing of the Memorandum of understanding on the establishment of the Trade Logistics Center of local type (LTLC) in the Kochkor district of Naryn region was held. The memorandum has been signed by the parties implementing the pilot project for the promotion of agriculture logistics through the establishment of LTLC. The main goal of the pilot project is to develop the business model of LTLC based on the agricultural cooperative.

What is expected: ① LTLC will contribute to increase of Kochkor farmer's income from potato sales, ② LTLC will as follows consolidate small individual deliveries into large quantities, ③ will provide services on washing, storing, sorting, and packing the products. Amanbai Kayipov, Plenipo-

mentary representative of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic in Naryn region: “Construction of the LTLC is very important for Naryn region, especially during the year of the region's development. Currently, farmers in Kochkor store their products in inappropriate conditions and have many losses. With the conditions that LTLC is has set, farmers could sell potatoes in spring at a better price and increase their income. I wish that this project is implemented successfully and becomes an example, a model for other agricultural cooperatives”. Murashev Nurbek, Minister of Agriculture, Food Industry and Melioration of the KR expressed support for the project and noted the importance of TLC creation in the KR: “Establishment of trade-logistics centers, warehouses for vegetables with the application of the world's best modern practices and technology in line with international standards could solve most of the problems in promoting agricultural products on internal and international markets”.



Kochkor district. Site, where TLC local type is planned to be constructed.

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Japan's best practices in the dairy sector will be brought over to Kyrgyzstan



Visit to the Fujihira company that produces the mini kits/equipment for livestock husbandry.

A training on the "Improvement of Technologies and Systems of Veterinary and Animal Husbandry for the Production and Distribution of Raw Milk" organized by the JICA project for Market-Oriented Milk Production in Chui Province (MOMP) was held in Japan. 11 representatives of the dairy sector from Kyrgyzstan took part in the training. Participants were familiarized with Japan's experience in developing and managing of the dairy sector as well as dairy cow husbandry, feeding and milking

technologies. Participants expressed much interest in the management and operation of dairy processing factories where founders of the factory are milk producers (farmers) united in a cooperative. Thus, everybody in the production chain is interested in increasing the quality of milk and dairy products. As noted by Mr. Zhuzupbek Moldokmatov, Chairman of the "Chui Sut" Association of the milk producers: "It is necessary to introduce Japan's system of cooperation to the dairy industry of Kyrgyzstan".

As a result of the training, participants analyzed the problems in milk production and prepared the Action Plan for introducing the gained knowledge and the development of the most important sector in livestock husbandry of Kyrgyzstan. Moreover, by the initiative of the Chuy province Governor, at Council for the development of dairy sector in Chuy province will be established. Participants of the training course in Japan and other relevant representatives of the dairy industry will be members of the Council and will consider important issues of the sector and solve them with joint efforts. ●

Soroban in Kyrgyzstan!



Important moment.

2-3 June 2018, SOROBAN Olympic was held in the "Vitias" resort center in Issyk-Kul region, and was organized by Ms. Zhibek Sharapova, who graduated from a mini MBA course of KRJC (Kyrgyz-Japan Center for Human Development) which teaches the Japanese methodology of business management. More than 300 students from 5-16 years old participated, including students from Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Russia. So-

roban is a material for calculation which has more than 600 years of history in Japan and is quite effective for developing concentration and good memory. Needless to say calculation skills will also be significantly developed.

Chief Representative of JICA, Kikuchi Kazuhiko: "I am very impressed and surprised that not only the participants but also waiting students stood up and calculated with them (see photos) silently with concentration. Mathematics is one of the most emphasized subjects in Japan". We do hope that in future in Olympics, Japanese and Kyrgyzstani representatives will get together and compete, which will also serve as a great message of friendship to the younger generation! ●

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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