



Issue No. 7
October 2016

WFP Newsletter

Highlights

- WFP and the Kyrgyz Government form multi-agency partnership to provide vocational training for the most poor and vulnerable
- KOICA and WFP launch three-year development partnership
- WFP and PepsiCo Foundation provide support for school meals in Chui province
- DFID and WFP launch a mobile app to support disaster preparedness
- WFP and NISS partner to improve evidence-based policymaking
- Japan and WFP collaborate to provide food-processing equipment to rural women
- WFP and the National Statistics Committee agree to work to improve food security statistics
- Kyrgyz Government representatives take part in the Global Child Nutrition Forum
- Annual meeting of Inter-Ministerial Working Committee on school held
- SIFI organises hygiene and hot meals masterclasses for school cooks

WFP and the Kyrgyz Government form multi-agency partnership to provide vocational training for the most poor and vulnerable

In July 2016, WFP concluded a multi-agency Memorandum of Intentions for Mutual Cooperation to provide short-term vocational training courses for poor and vulnerable people in food-insecure areas of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The memorandum, signed by the Ministries of Labour and Social Development; Education and Science; Agriculture, Food Industry and Melioration; the Agency for Primary and Secondary Vocational Education, and the Kyrgyz National Agricultural University, will support the design of 64 short-term courses on agricultural techniques, food processing, preserving methods and climate adaptation activities.

WFP will provide USD 100,000 to design

and test the course curriculum in the two pilot districts of Bazar Korgon and Kochkor with the subsequent scale-up at the national level. The Kyrgyz Government will integrate these courses into the public vocational education system to ensure continuity and national ownership.



KOICA and WFP launch three-year development partnership

In October 2016, the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and WFP signed a three-year grant agreement for USD 4 million to improve food security, nutrition and resilience to climate risks, economic shocks and natural disasters. This will assist more than 80,000 vulnerable people in Batken, Jalalabad, Naryn, Osh and Talas provinces.



strengthen the resilience of vulnerable households to external shocks and risks. This activity will be implemented within the framework of WFP's existing productive safety nets and resilience project, which is grounded on partnerships with local government and communities to identify specific challenges, needs and activities.

The grant highlights KOICA's strategic vision to address development by pursuing global harmony and facilitating the socioeconomic development of partner countries. It underscores the need to enhance food security and nutrition as a foundation for sustainable development.

With this funding, WFP will be able to assist more vulnerable people by supporting community works, income generation activities, vocational skills, agricultural productivity and nutrition awareness.

Under the agreement, the grant will be used to develop skills and knowledge, build sustainable livelihoods and

WFP and the PepsiCo Foundation provide support for school meals in Chui province

In September 2016, WFP with the financial support of the PepsiCo Foundation, introduced the provision of daily hot meals for 2,100 students at five primary schools in Chui province.

This joint initiative of WFP's School Meals Programme and the PepsiCo Foundation has enabled schools to receive over seventy items of modern canteen equipment, which is critical for delivering nutritious and hygienic meals. This equipment includes electric stoves, multi-deck ovens, dough-mixing machines, refrigerators and water boilers.

In addition, to a focus on ensuring the sustainable delivery of school meals, this initiative provided complementary support through improving food procurement practices, building the professional skills

of school cooks, repairing canteens, and developing nutritious school menus.



DFID and WFP launch mobile app to support disaster preparedness

In October 2016, WFP and DFID launched an online and mobile application called the Information Analysis and Management System (IAMS). The online system

of Emergency Situations to manage preparedness and response for disasters in real time. It will significantly improve systems capacity within the Crisis Management Centre, which has been using an outdated paper-based information system to collect and analyse the data on disasters. Aligned to this is the publicly available mobile application, "112 Kyrgyzstan", through which smartphone users can inform the Crisis Management Centre about fires, accidents and other emergencies.



The IAMS tool will facilitate the immediate exchange of information on disasters and emergencies from disaster sites to the Crisis Management Centre, and allow emergency services to respond quickly and effectively to the address the needs of affected people. The web analysis tool helps to identify the areas affected by disasters and coordinate emergency operations.

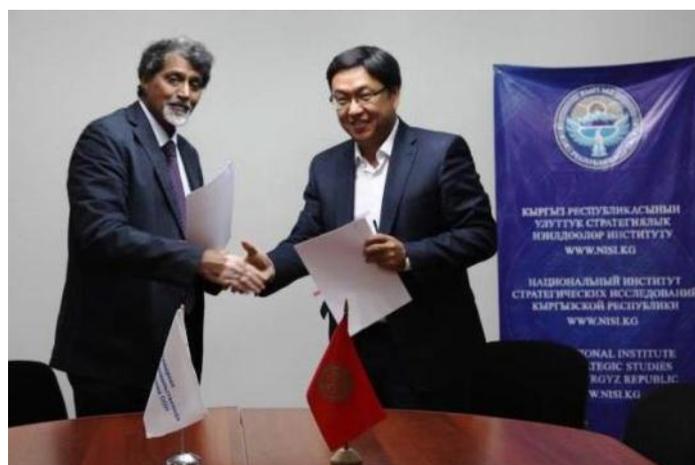
enables the Crisis Management Centre of the Ministry

An important element of the project was to support capacity building for staff of the Crisis Management Centre, who took part in training seminars to learn how

WFP and NISS partner to improve evidence-based policymaking

In August 2016, WFP and the National Institute for Strategic Studies (NISS) signed a Memorandum of Understanding. The agreement outlined the commitment of the two agencies to enhance the government's capacity in evidence-based policymaking with a strong emphasis on food security analysis, social protection, disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and nutrition.

The signing of this MoU also demonstrates a strong commitment from WFP and NISS to enhance their partnership. Both parties will collaborate on preparing an updated Food Security Atlas and monthly price monitoring bulletins. WFP and NISS will also jointly conduct country-wide studies on the socioeconomic development of vulnerable communities.



Japan and WFP collaborate to provide food-processing equipment to rural women

In September 2016, WFP provided food-processing equipment (including canning, fruit drying, and juice extracting tools) to support the economic empowerment and entrepreneurship of rural women in eight rural municipalities in Batken, Jalalabad, Naryn, Osh and Talas provinces. This equipment is one of the components of a Japan-funded project to enhance the economic role of rural women. Currently the project has benefited 3,100 poor and vulnerable rural households and 18,000 community members by improving income generation opportunities, capacity building and training on women-led entrepreneurship and rehabilitation of livelihood assets for rural women.

The project exemplifies the strong global commitment of the Government of Japan in developing its initiative "A Society in Which All Women Shine", to promote

women's empowerment and gender equality in developing countries.



WFP and the National Statistics Committee work to improve food security statistics

In July 2016 WFP and the National Statistics Committee signed a Memorandum of Understanding



to collaborate to improve food security statistics and data analysis in the Kyrgyz Republic.

The memorandum focuses on building the capacity to design and implement rational policies in the area of food security and nutrition. One of the results of this cooperation will be a Food Security Atlas, which provides a province and district level analysis of the food security situation in the country on the basis of the four key dimensions of food security: availability, access, utilisation and stability.

WFP and the National Statistics Committee will also work together on disseminating food security data using Geographical Information Systems and a StatKG mobile application, which will facilitate easy access to the official statistical data for the general public.

Kyrgyz Government representatives take part in the Global Child Nutrition Forum

From 5-9 September 2016, a government delegation from the Kyrgyz Republic, including representatives from Ministries of Education and Sciences, Health, Agriculture, Melioration and Food Industry, and Jogorku Kenesh took part in the 18th Global Child Nutrition Forum in Yerevan, Armenia.

As the largest global event on school meals and child nutrition, the Global Child Nutrition Forum hosted representatives of government agencies, the private sector, international organisations, civil society and academia from 40 countries, who shared their experiences, successes and challenges in implementing school meals programmes in various country contexts.

Thanks to WFP's support, the Kyrgyz delegation attended this event and had an opportunity to learn about best practices in school meals in foreign countries as well as to share their own experiences

gained through with the National School Meals Programme in the Kyrgyz Republic.

The Global Child Nutrition Forum was jointly organised by the Government of Armenia, the Global Child Nutrition Foundation and WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil.



Annual meeting of Inter-Ministerial Working Committee on school meals held

Under the chairmanship of Vice Prime Minister for Social Affairs Gulmira Kudaiberdieva the annual meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Working Committee of the WFP's school meals optimisation project took place on 10 August 2016.

The representatives of the Ministry Education and Science and WFP presented the activities implemented in 2016, the progress made in achieving the objectives of the National School Meals Programme as well as the programme plans for the academic year 2016-2017.

The Inter-Ministerial Working Committee is a body established by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic to coordinate with WFP and other agencies in the implementation and reform of the National School Meals Programme. It is comprised of representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry

of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Melioration and Food Industry, WFP, UNICEF and Mercy Corps. WFP provides technical assistance to the work of the Inter-Ministerial Working Committee.



SIFI organises hygiene and hot meals masterclasses for school cooks

In October 2016, the Social Industrial and Foodservice Institute (SIFI), a Russian-based NGO and co-implementing partner of WFP's school meals



optimisation project, delivered a two-day training for

98 cooks from schools in Chui and Issuk Kul provinces. The training had two components: theoretical and practical. The former included topics on sanitary and hygiene rules, equipment standards, technological procedures and storage requirements, whereas the latter emphasised applying knowledge on practical culinary exercises. Participants were divided into the groups of five people, and tasked to prepare hot meals, pastries, and salads in accordance with the requirements of school meals.

According to the participants, combining theoretical material with practical exercises helped them to understand the links between hygiene and meal preparation as well as to enhance their practical skills in delivering daily nutritious school meals.

Cooks training is an integral part of the capacity development for the long term sustainability of the National School Meals Programme.

WFP is 100% funded through voluntary donations

Should you require further information on WFP projects in the Kyrgyz Republic, please contact:

Emma Goatman, Reports Officer
emma.goatman@wfp.org

Kubanychbek Akmatov, Reports Officer
kubanychbek.akmatov@wfp.org

Elizabeth Zalkind, Public Information Officer
elizabeth.zalkind@wfp.org

About WFP

The World Food Programme is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide. Born in 1961, WFP pursues a vision of the world in which every man, woman and child has access at all times to the food needed for an active and healthy life.

WFP's goal in the Kyrgyz Republic is to support the national Government to improve food security and build the resilience of vulnerable populations against the impact of recurrent natural disasters, economic shocks and food price spikes.