

FAO Sub-regional Office for Central Asia (FAO-SEC)

FAO-Turkey Partnership

Programm

A World Free from Hunger



Ankara, 28 May

**Mobilizing Resources and
Technical Assistance
for Agriculture and Rural Development**



FAO-Turkey Partnership Programme (FTPP)

Along the FAO rules and procedures, the FFTP, which is fully funded by the Turkish Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA), is basically expected to provide financial and technical resources for implementing two types of projects/programmes:

1. Government Cooperative Programme (GCP) Trust Fund projects or from a single donor to one or multi-country projects.

A GCP is an agreement between several parties:

- FAO
- one (MARA) or more donors (when other donors like TIKA provide co-funding)
- one or more beneficiary countries within the SEC Sub-region or neighbouring countries
- possible other regional/sub-regional organizations and/or financing institutions

The GCP represents a financing modality under which a donor government, and other possible regional/sub-regional organizations and/or national and international financing institutions, entrusts funds to FAO for the provision of technical assistance services - including policy advice, normative activities and capacity development - to a specific developing country or to a group of countries within the same Sub-region (a Sub-regional project), possibly also including countries of different regions/sub-regions (an inter-regional or global project).

2. Unilateral Trust Funds (UTF) or beneficiary country-funded projects

An UTF is an agreement between two or three parties:

- FAO
- the donor country which is at the same time the beneficiary country
- possible other financing institutions

This funding modality allows beneficiary countries to benefit from FAO's technical expertise through UTFs which are fully funded by the same beneficiary country (in the case of FFTP, Turkey), either from national resources and from the proceeds of loans, credits and grants made available by international financial institutions or bilateral donors.

FAO Turkey Partnership Programme (FTPP)

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Background & Scope

The Government of Turkey, represented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) and FAO concluded, in mid-2006, an Agreement whereby setting up an FAO-Turkey Partnership Programme (FTPP) with an annual trust fund contribution by the Government of Turkey of USD 2 million over an initial period of five years (2007 – 2011) at the benefit of the countries assisted by the FAO Sub-regional Office for Central Asia (based in Ankara and covering Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan).

The primary objective of the FТПP, as described in the Partnership Framework Agreement (PFA), is to provide a substantive, financial and operational framework for active cooperation in the areas of food security and rural poverty reduction in the above beneficiary countries.

The main partners of the FТПP are the Government of Turkey, through MARA, and FAO.

The Turkish International Cooperation Agency (TIKA), the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) and the State Planning Office (SPO) are also invited to contribute to FТПP-related activities.

The FТПP is demand-driven, as much as it responds to the priority problems identified by national and/or sub-regional stakeholders and is expressed in the form of official requests.

National ownership of FТПP-funded programmes and projects approved and implemented in each beneficiary country is ensured by concerned governments driving the process of integration of the FТПP support within national development strategies and programmes. For this purpose each participating country has nominated an FТПP National Focal Point.

Substantive Scope of FТПP

FTPP is primarily defined by the six broad areas set forth in Article III of the FAO/Turkey Agreement (i.e.: Food Security; Agricultural and Rural Development; Natural Resources Management, including Forestry and Fisheries; Agricultural Policies; Food Safety; Animal and Plant Genetic Resources).



Approach & Thematic Area

The 1st Steering Committee Meeting was held on 28 May 2009 in Ankara in order to present and discuss eligible pre-selected project proposals at sub-regional, multi-country and national level received from the countries of the SEC Sub-region.

At the end of its First Meeting, the SC approved four (4) sub-regional, three (3) multi-country and three (3) national projects, for a total budget of USD 4,200,000.

The FTTP follows and pursues, to the possible extent, a programme approach, in order to facilitate the integrity, coherence and synergy of the FTTP-assisted interventions at individual programme/project level and/or at country and sub-regional levels, under the following three main thematic areas:

- 1) Food security and food safety
- 2) Natural resources management
- 3) Institutional reform and national capacity enhancement

The FTTP assists country-level and multi-country or sub-regional projects and programmes.

In order to reinforce its harmonizing role and the potential synergies with other ongoing and/or pipeline initiatives in the sub-region, at least 50% of the resources allocated each year by the FTTP are addressed to support and/or complement activities at multi-country and sub-regional level.

The FTTP promotes and counts on intra-regional cooperation whereby Turkish expertise and national

expertise available in other countries of the sub-region are mobilized as a form of partnership in the implementation of FTTP programmes and projects.

Such intra-regional cooperation is intended to economize the operations of the FTTP and at the same time contribute to the enhancement of sub-regional partnerships and alliances as well as to greater self-reliance of the expertise available in the sub-region.

This aspect of the FTTP can be seen as an example of the FAO South-South Cooperation scheme.

The governing body of the FTTP is a Steering Committee, usually meeting once a year and having as members MARA and FAO, and as observers TIKA, MoEF, SPO and MFA.

MARA and FAO agreed to prepare and counter sign a specific protocol endorsing each approved project for funding under FTTP.



Central Asia Regional Programme for Fisheries and Aquaculture Development- FishDev

The development objective of this sub-regional programme is to increase the Central Asian fisheries and aquaculture sector performance in terms of its capacity to generate food, employment and income, and in terms of its economical viability, environmental compatibility and social acceptability.

The programme is structured in such a way that it is expected to achieve within a 5-year period the following outcomes:

- 1) A formally established regional fisheries and aquaculture arrangement in the form of Regional Fishery Body or Network covering the participating countries;
- 2) Strengthened policy, legal and institutional frameworks for fisheries and aquaculture sector;
- 3) A Capacity development and education programme for fisheries and aquaculture professionals of the region established and functioning;
- 4) Increased sustainability in the management of fisheries and aquaculture.

Assistance in the rehabilitation process of the fisheries sector in Central Asia is urgently required as fisheries production and the availability of fish for consumption has decreased significantly since the collapse of the Soviet Union and independence of the Central Asian Republics in 1991. The programme responds to the needs for more sustainable fisheries and aquaculture development and management in the Central Asian region.

The programme supports the establishment process of the Central Asian and Caucasus Fisheries and Aquaculture Commission. Other areas in which the programme will be active in 2010 include amongst others: Development of Better Management Practices (BMPs) for carp culture; Training in fish feed management and fish nutrition; Organization of various study tours for fishery and aquaculture sector policy makers and private entrepreneurs to Turkey and Thailand; Fishery sector policy assistance to Tajikistan, and Training in fisheries and aquaculture statistical information collection and analysis.

Funding Modality:
FTPP

Beneficiary Countries:
7 SEC Countries

Duration:
5 years

Budget:
USD 1,500,000

Thematic area:
Natural Resources Management

Project Symbol:
GCP/RER/031/TUR

It will be the first programme of this kind in the Aral Sea Disaster Zone countries to promote a mechanism for enhancing the exchange of information and mutual support in the management and development of the fisheries and aquaculture sector enabling it to deal with trans-boundary fisheries issues.



Initiative for Pesticides and Pest Management in Central Asia and Turkey

Funding Modality:
FTPP

Beneficiary Countries:
7 SEC Countries

Duration:
3 years

Budget:
USD 450,000

Thematic area:
Capacity Development

Project Symbol:
GCP/RER/035/TUR



The overall objective of the Project is to assist the countries of Central Asia, with a specific focus on Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, to reduce risks to health and environment from obsolete pesticide stockpiles and from pesticides in current and future use.

The expected project outputs are:
1) a detailed inventory of obsolete pesticides and a needs assessment for legal institutional and technical capacity development;

2) technical capacity development to strengthen pesticides management; and,

3) implementation of proven methodologies for obsolete pesticide management and pesticide risk reduction.

The project is designed primarily to evaluate the scope of obsolete pesticides problems in CA countries by assisting them to carry out a detailed inventory and risk assessment.

In addition, the project will identify country needs for further legal, institutional and technical capacity development in pests and pesticides management and, as a consequence, to identify and move towards elimination of their obsolete pesticides stocks.

The project links directly with existing or developing initiatives such as the project *Capacity building on Obsolete Pesticides and Persistent Organic Pollutants*, and other GEF-supported activities, as well as the actions of other UN agencies, bilateral technical agencies and NGOs active in the relevant fields.

The project will pave the way for sustainable solutions by implementing proven methodologies for obsolete pesticides management and pesticides risk reduction.



FAO-Turkey Partnership Programme
Regional Projects

Seed Sector Development in Central Asian Countries

The main objective of the project is to contribute to the development of the seed sector in the sub-region and concerned countries and to a better integration into the international seed sector for improving food security levels.

The project will facilitate the assessment of, and enhancement of the current situation of the seed sector in Central Asia, leading to the preparation of national and a sub-regional seed master plan that will contribute to the overall goal of food security, economic growth, environmental sustainability and poverty alleviation in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

The project will also develop the foundations for a sustainable, environmentally friendly seed production, supply and trade system, which will represent a new base for regional cooperation and trade in the concerned six countries and Turkey.

The sub-regional master plan will serve as a road map in order to move forward and will clearly indicate the problems, gaps and possible solutions and activities to be carried out on the short, medium and long-term.

The sub-regional and national master plans will be the basic source for further activities and projects in the sub-region and each concerned country. They will help governments and donors to allocate their resources according to a common, coherent vision and plan.

Funding Modality:
FTPP

Beneficiary Countries:
7 SEC Countries

Duration:
2 years

Budget:
USD 250,000

Thematic area:
Food Security/Safety

Project Symbol:
GCP/RER/034/TUR



The project is expected to alleviate food insecurity in the concerned countries through the assessment of the current situation of the seed sector and the preparation of seed master plans at national and sub-regional level.

Funding Modality:
FTPP

Beneficiary Countries:
Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan
Tajikistan
Turkey
Uzbekistan

Duration:
2 years

Budget:
USD 150,000

Thematic area:
Capacity
Development

Project Symbol:
GCP/RER/029/TUR

Capacity Development for Analysis and Strengthening of Agricultural Innovation Systems (AIS) in Central Asia and Turkey

The expected outcome of the project is the increased capacity at national and sub-regional level to analyze existing agricultural innovation systems (AIS) in each participating country and in the Central Asian sub-region as a whole, in order to identify gaps and recommend interventions to strengthen the AIS.

The increased capacity to improve AIS will include information management and knowledge sharing in form of a sub-regional network of resource persons.

As a result of the project the following outputs will be produced:

1. In-depth country studies on AIS for each participating country, including at least three case studies per country on the successful use of ICT-enabled information and communication systems.
2. An inter-country comparison and sub-regional synthesis of existing AIS.
3. Three trained national resource persons per participating country (15 altogether) for the analysis and strengthening of AIS.

4. A sub-regional project document for strengthening existing and establishing new AIS.

5. A sub-regional network of trained resource persons.

The project will contribute to the WFS objectives of reaching sustainable food security for all and will address the development goals of the participating countries in line with MDG 1 on Eradication of Poverty and Hunger, and MDG 7 on Ensuring Environmental Sustainability.



The project impact will be better addressing farmers priorities and market-orientation through AIS, and covering needs and gaps of local stakeholders, such as baseline information, to recommend measures for improving the effectiveness and relevance of the existing agricultural innovation systems.



Conservation Agriculture for Irrigated Areas in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan

The expected long-term impact of the project is the improved rural livelihoods and food security levels through increased productivity of irrigated farming systems in four Central Asian countries - Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan - using the principles and practices of conservation agriculture to achieve a more sustainable land and water management.

Conservation agriculture practices provide a strategic entry point for sustainable land management. Furthermore, diversification and improved productivity through such newly introduced or adjusted farming practices, have a great potential to revitalize the withered economies of Central Asian countries while enhancing and conserving the quality of natural resources.

The experience gained through various national and international projects in the Central and Southern Asian region, shows that the use of conservation agriculture (CA)

practices can lead to many ecological and economic benefits, as well as to an integrated rural development also in irrigated crop environments.

In view of the increasing demographic pressure and internal market demand, there is an urgent need to increase agricultural production in all the countries covered by the project.

Funding Modality:
FTPP

Beneficiary Countries:
**Azerbaijan
Kazakhstan
Turkmenistan
Uzbekistan**

Duration:
2 years

Budget:
USD 600,000

Thematic area:
**Natural Resource
Management**

Project Symbol:
GCP/RER/030/TUR



At the end of the project, it is expected that improved water and soil conservation techniques and measures will have been sufficiently validated by a core group of farmers and an expanded program will have been prepared for farmers of new areas.

Funding Modality:
FTPP

Beneficiary Countries:
*Kyrgyzstan
Tajikistan
Uzbekistan*

Duration:
2 years

Budget:
USD 400,000

Thematic area:
*Natural Resource
Management*

Project Symbol:
GCP/RER/027/TUR

The project aims at improving farmers' access to information and knowledge on new technologies and methods for water and land use improvement at field and farm level and to test them in field conditions.

Boosting the Livelihoods of Farmers in Fergana Valley by Improving Land and Water Productivity and Strengthening Water User Associations

The project aims to assess the real demand of farmers and WUAs for technical support and knowledge development to be tested in field conditions, disseminate through local partners the technologies and methods for improved water and land use at field and farm level and to develop capacities and disseminate training and educational materials.

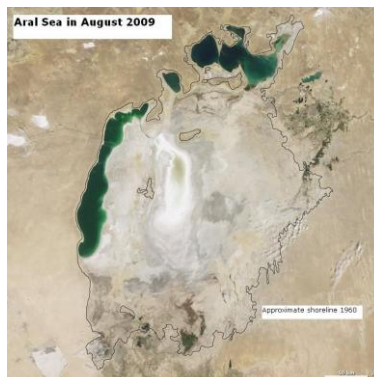
Improvement of water and land management by means of introduction of improved technologies, methods and know-how in irrigation and agricultural practices, is expected to make sufficient water available for farmers in the tail ends. Consequently, it is expected to help increasing their production and incomes and contribute to improving their livelihood conditions.

As water scarcity is increasing in the Central Asian Countries and the agricultural production heavily depends on water availability, the basic emphasis of the project will be on enhancing water productivity and decreasing overall water consumption.

This is a constant process that includes the following actions:

- 1) Determination of water requirements for various crops depending on agro-climatic conditions using available FAO methodologies;
- 2) Calculation of irrigation scheduling based on physical and economic parameters;
- 3) Optimization of irrigation methods depending on soil characteristics, crop requirements and other relevant prevailing social and economic conditions; and
- 4) Optimization of agronomical practices, including tillage.

In order to guarantee the sustainability of project deliveries, a proper irrigation advisory service will be established in each project area in the three countries where the project will be implemented, namely, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.



Identification, Assessment and Stewardship of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) in Azerbaijan and Turkey

The GIAHS Initiative aims to establish the basis for the identification, recognition, conservation and sustainable management of agricultural systems and their associated landscapes, biodiversity, knowledge systems and cultures.

Food and livelihood security of the population depending on these systems is enhanced by empowering local communities and their social organizations and by introducing incentive mechanisms and innovative market access and payment for environmental services.

It is expected that the implementation of the proposed project would take place in one region in each country where it will contribute to the needs of the local population and protect rural livelihoods by ensuring a proper and holistic management of natural resources.

The GIAHS project in Azerbaijan and Turkey will focus on the integration of family and traditional farming communities in the broader national socio-economic development agenda, through the identification and assessment of the socio-economic, cultural and ecological goods and services provided by existing farming systems, in a way to address poverty and food insecurity of local communities through their empowerment and the sustainable management of natural resources.

The project will be implemented in accordance with human rights principles i.e. participation, accountability, non-discrimination and attention to vulnerable groups, transparency, human dignity, empowerment and rule of law (PANTHER).

Funding Modality:
FTPP

Beneficiary Countries:
**Azerbaijan
Turkey**

Duration:
2 years

Budget:
USD 250,000

Thematic area:
**Capacity
Development**

Project Symbol:
GCP/RER/028/TUR



Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems are defined as "Remarkable land use systems and landscapes which are rich in globally significant biological diversity evolving from the co-adaptation of a community with its environment and its needs and aspirations for sustainable development".

The proposed project aims to redress the erosion of GIAHS by firstly creating awareness on the importance of GIAHS for ensuring food security and enhancing livelihoods of the local communities nurturing GIAHS systems.

Home Based Nursery Development for Improved Food Security and Environmental Protection in Tajikistan

Funding Modality:
FTPP

Beneficiary Countries:
Tajikistan

Duration:
18 months

Budget:
USD 200,000

Thematic area:
Food Security/Safety

Project Symbol:
GCP/TAJ/006/TUR

The overall objective of the project is to provide assistance in increasing the amount of fruit tree seedlings and, by that, providing some of the most vulnerable groups of the population, especially rural women, with new sources of income, by means of creation of nurseries for the direct sale of seedlings to farmers.

Another very important problem in rural areas is the shortage of fuel, especially during winter time. In this connection, an intensive illegal wood cutting from the forests is taking place, including in forests of the first category which are aimed at soil-protection and water-saving purposes.

The project will also aim at creating adequate conditions for the cultivation of fast-growing trees which can produce building material and fuel wood and promote preservation of unique mountain and Tugai (riverside) forests.

The basic results to be achieved from this project are as follows:
1) during the first year about 480 home-based tree nurseries, mostly run by women, with an annual production capacity of 1.2 million seedlings established in 120 villages in 24 project districts;

2) protective plantations established by planting of about 240 000 seedlings in selected sites of project villages;

3) local project development committees established, experience gained and institutional capacities built up for sustainability and expansion of home-based nurseries and multipurpose tree plantations in the subsequent period.



Creation of multipurpose and fast-growing tree species plantations would contribute in solving current serious deforestation problem caused by illicit cuttings for meeting fuelwood and round wood needs of local populations.



Promotion of Water Saving Technologies in the Uzbek Water Scarce Area of the Transboundary Podshaota River

The long-term expected outcome of the project is to achieve a sustainable agricultural production in the Podshaota trans-boundary small river basin by implementing irrigation water saving technologies. This trans-boundary basin is divided between two countries, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, and the regime of water flow is governed upstream .

The project expected short-term outcome is increased irrigation water productivity, minimization of water deficits , thus stabilizing crop productivity in the Uzbek territory.

The project is technically and socially sustainable as it deals with developing farmers' capacities not only to manage better their irrigated agriculture, but would ultimately have an impact on farmers financial strength which has a direct impact on the whole rural communities in the project area.

There are five (5) major project expected outputs:

- 1) address the quantitative assessment of water resources in Podshaota transboundary small river basin;
- 2) demonstrate efficient water management practices and water saving technologies through extension services on irrigation;
- 3) participatory training and extension to enhance and empower farmers' capacities and skills,
- 4) development of the recommendation to reduce agricultural water dependencies on regime of transboundary small river flow; and
- 5) creation of mechanisms to ensure regional level replication of project demonstration site results.

Funding Modality:
FTPP

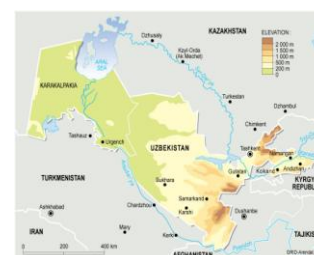
Beneficiary Countries:
Uzbekistan

Duration:
2 years

Budget:
USD 200,000

Thematic area:
Natural Resource Management

Project Symbol:
GCP/UZB/002/TUR



The project addresses some of the key issues identified in Central Asian Countries through the UN Common Country Assessments (CCAs) of the UN Development assessment framework (UNDAF) specifically by improving access to water resources for rural populations and raising awareness on the importance of improved resource governance at the local level.

Capacity Building in Sustainable Forest Management Planning and Forest Fire Management in Syria

Funding Modality:
FTPP

**Beneficiary
Countries:**
Syria

Duration:
2 years

Budget:
USD 200,000

Thematic area :
*Capacity
Development*

Project Symbol:
GCP/SYR/014/TUR

The project is expected to contribute to the enhancement and capacity development of the forestry organizations through:

- 1)preparation of an Ecosystem Based Functional Forest Management in a selected forest area in Syria, by a team composed of specialists assigned by Turkey and Syria;
- 2)preparation of a forest fire management plan for the same area;
- 3)on-the-job training for the Syrian foresters during the preparation of the above plans;
- 4)practical training courses for selected Syrian staff in Turkey and in Syria;
- 5)organization of workshops for the presentation, discussion and elaboration of new ideas and related expected results with experts and stakeholders' representatives; and,

6) strengthening of institutional capacities for monitoring and assessment of forest resources and analysis of the results of forest management activities.

At the end of the project, there will be adequate number of Syrian forestry staff who gained, through on-the-job training and training courses, enough knowledge and experiences in forest inventory and ecosystem based functional forest management planning, forest fire management and monitoring and assessment of forest resources and forestry implementations.



The expected outputs from the project include: An Ecosystem Based Functional Forest Management Plan; Forest Inventories (area, growing stock, increment, water resources); a Forest Management Plan; and forest fire management plans.



Workshop on the Formulation of Agriculture and Rural Development Investment Projects

April 26-30, 2010, Ankara, Turkey



The main objective of the workshop is to provide participants with a clear understanding of the investment projects cycle, and of relevant techniques and tools for project formulation based on FAO/TCI best practices and the standard requirements of main IFIs.



A total of 27 participants from various MARA General Directorates attended the Workshop



Workshop on RuralInvest

May 20-30, 2010, Ankara, Turkey

The main objective of the workshop is to train future trainers (ToT) among MARA staff in RURALINVEST toolkit, so as to be able to assist field technicians, local institutions, producers associations and entrepreneurs in:

- 1) assessing local priorities for development investments
- 2) generate specific investment profiles
- 3) fully design rural investment projects including their technical and economic feasibility analysis.

A total of 17 participants from various MARA General Directorates attended the Workshop.

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**SIGN THE PETITION
TO END HUNGER**



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