

6th GFRAS Annual Meeting
Global Good Practices in Rural Advisory Services
14 - 17 September 2015, Issyk Kul, Kyrgyzstan

FIELD DAY PROGRAM
Irrigation Management (half day)

In Kyrgyzstan agricultural production is possible only with irrigation in almost all areas. With the collapse of the Soviet system, the irrigation water management system also collapsed. In the late 1990ies as a solution to this absolutely critical problem, the government with donor support started to establish Water User Associations (WUA). Nowadays there are over 400 WUAs with various level of functioning in the country. We will visit an advanced Water User Association (WUA) that has introduced water measuring and volume-based payment for irrigation water, an achievement which is still rare in the Kyrgyz Republic. We will also hear about this WUA's efforts in unifying several neighboring WUAs into a WUA federation. We will talk with the WUA staff and member farmers, and see key points in the improved irrigation infrastructure. Hopefully, we'll also be able to meet with a representative of the WUA Support Unit, the only governmental structure in KR that formally provides RAS, though limited to WUA and irrigation management.

The WUA and WUA federation that we will visit are situated in the village of Ananevo in Issyk Kul rayon at a distance of 50 km from the meeting venue, i.e. travelling time will be around 30 min. each way.

Facilitator: Sherip Berdaliev, Manager Chui-Talas RAS

Other key persons: Bratashova Irina, director WUA Federation Suu-Bashy, WUA member farmers

Program:

Time	Activity, discussion topics	Responsible
13.00 - 13.45	Drive from Hotels to village Grigorievka	Facilitator
13.45 - 14.30	Lunch (Cafe Almaz)	
14.30 - 14.45	Drive to the headworks of the irrigation system	Facilitator
14.45 - 15.45	Role and functions of the WUA Federation, structure, role of irrigation for farmers in IK, goals of establishing a WUA Federation, management of water payment, situation on payment for irrigation services, condition of irrigation infrastructure, hydrotechnical and water measuring equipment Role of advisory and training support for efficient water management, water measurement etc.	I. Bratashova, participants

15.45 - 16.15	Drive to visit irrigation infrastructure and meeting with water users	WUA Federation
16.15 - 17.00	Meeting with group of water users, discussion on functioning of WUA and the Federation, irrigation services, water measuring and payment. Murab (responsible for water distribution) demonstrations water measuring with various devices.	Facilitator, WUA Federation
17.00 – 17.30	Discussions, ideas and recommendations by participants	Facilitator, participants
17.30 - 18.00	Drive back to Hotels (if time allows visit to lakeside)	Facilitator