

**STDF PROJECT GRANT APPLICATION FORM**

**KYRGYZ REPUBLIC**

**ENHANCING CAPACITY FOR  
FOOD SAFETY MANAGEMENT  
IN THE KYRGYZ FRUIT AND  
VEGETABLE INDUSTRY**

**REQUESTED BY THE:**

**ASSOCIATION OF FRUIT & VEGETABLE ENTERPRISES**

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## GLOSSARY

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| AFVE  | Association of Fruit & Vegetable Enterprises                    |
| CAC   | Codex Alimentarius Commission                                   |
| CAREC | Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (programme)          |
| CSM   | Centre for Standardisation and Metrology (Min of Economy)       |
| EAEU  | Eurasian Economic Union   |
| TR    | Technical Regulation  |
| EDP   | Export Development Plan 2015-2017 (Govt of Kyrgyz Republic)     |
| FBO   | Food Business Operator  |
| GAP   | Good Agricultural Practice                                      |
| GDP   | Gross Domestic Product  |
| GHP   | Good Hygienic Practice  |
| GOST  | State Standards dating from the time of the Soviet Union        |
| HACCP | Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (system)                 |
| IE    | International Expert  |
| .IPPC | International Plant Protection Convention                       |
| ISO   | International Standards Organisation                            |
| KG    | Kyrgyz Republic   |
| KGS   | Kyrgyz Som (unit of currency)                                   |
| KMS   | Centre for Standardisation and Metrology (Min of Economy)       |
| MoA   | Min of Agriculture (Dept of Chemicalisation & plant protection) |
| MoE   | Min of Economy (Centre for Standardisation & Metrology)         |
| MoH   | Min of Health (Dept of Sanitary & Epidemiological Surveillance) |
| MRL   | Maximum Residue Limit   |
| NE    | National Expert   |
| NSC   | National Statistical Committee (Government of Kyrgyz Republic)  |
| NSDS  | National Sustainable Development Strategy                       |
| NVQ   | National Technical & Vocational Qualification                   |
| OC    | Official Control (agency of Government)                         |
| PSC   | Project Steering Committee                                      |
| SPS   | Sanitary and Phytosanitary                                      |
| STDF  | Standards Trade Development Facility                            |
| TBT   | Technical Barrier to Trade                                      |
| TNA   | Training Needs Analysis   |
| TR    | Technical Regulation (of the EAEU) <sup>1</sup>                 |
| WTO   | World Trade Organisation  |

<sup>1</sup> Technical Regulations (TR) normally refer to TBT related requirements but in the case of the EAEU TR's contain a mix of SPS measures and TBT requirements. They are sometimes referred to formally as SPS Technical Regulations but this distinction is rarely made in practice by EAEU member states.

### Exchange Rate:

USD1 = 67.85 Kyrgyz Som (KGS)

Exchange rates correct as of 4 August 2017

## STDF PROJECT GRANT APPLICATION FORM

### Project Brief

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Project Title</b>   | <b>Enhancing capacity for food safety management in the Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable industry</b>   |
| <b>Objective</b>   | Increased share of domestic and EAEU markets for Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable products  |
| <b>Budget requested from STDF</b>                                      | USD 570 000   |
| <b>Total project budget</b>  | USD 746 210   |
| <b>Duration of project</b>   | 3 years   |
| <b>Full name and contact details of the requesting organization(s)</b> | <b>Ms Dilbar Alimzhanova (Russian speaker)</b><br>Director, Association of Fruit & Vegetable Enterprises (AFVE)<br>99 Timiryazev Street, Bishkek, 720001<br>Kyrgyz Republic<br>Email: <a href="mailto:fruit@elcat.kg">fruit@elcat.kg</a><br>Tel: + 996 555 50 04 45 |
| <b>Full name and contact details of contact person for follow-up</b>   | <b>Ms Larisa Kozlova (National SPS and HACCP expert, English speaker)</b><br>Email: <a href="mailto:gmnkg@mail.ru">gmnkg@mail.ru</a><br>Tel: + 996 555 63 00 40 (international calls)   |

### I. BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

#### 1. Relevance for the STDF

This project proposal is the result of a project preparation grant (PPG) for the Kyrgyz Republic (KG) that was approved in October 2016 by the STDF Working Group, under the title "Develop a project to improve food safety capacity in the private sector, including compliance with Codex standards and EAEU regulations" (STDF/PPG/659). The aim of the PPG was to prepare a project to support food safety capacity building so that food enterprises can export their fresh and processed fruits, berries and vegetables to regional markets (particularly Russia and Kazakhstan). The PPG was implemented during March – September 2017 by an international consultant, in collaboration with the Association of Fruit & Vegetable Enterprises (AFVE) of the Kyrgyz Republic. This project proposal was selected for STDF funding on a basis of the following background.

The agriculture sector of Kyrgyzstan

According to the National Statistical Committee (NSC), some 66% of KG's population of 6 million people live in rural areas with 2.1 million living below the poverty line. Approximately 32% of the working population relies on agriculture for their primary source of livelihood. Unsurprisingly agriculture is vital for the economy, ranking second after extractive metal industries. In 2018 agriculture contributed 12.7% to GDP which is slightly higher than in 2017 and made up 12.3% to GDP. Agricultural production is

dominated by smallholdings (average 1.35ha/farm) which contribute with the 90% of the total agricultural production, coming from 323,000 small family run farms and the remaining 10% from former cooperatives and larger commercial farms. Notably, 51.9% of the value of agricultural production is represented by cash crops, (47.6%) from livestock (45.6%) and 0.24% from fisheries, forestry and hunting. Commercial agriculture is mainly focused around the fertile Fergana valley in the south and Chui and Talas valleys in the north. Major processing centres are located close to these production areas. Export of agricultural products is an important source of income, in 2016 agriculture accounted for 24% of exports from KG and brought in revenue worth USD406 million. The Government of KG sees development of commercial agriculture and agricultural exports as being a national priority (see Section 3) for sustainability and increasing incomes for rural households. There have been positive signs of progress, between 2010 and 2015 planted areas and yields of fruits and vegetables increased by 10-12%. However, yields are still only 10% of global optimal values, most farms are small with limited resources for investment.

In 2017 enterprises of all types produced per capita 36.4 kilograms of meat, 261.8 kilograms of milk, 85.9 eggs, 283 kilograms of grain, 238,3 kilograms of potato, 182.8 kilograms of vegetables, 40.5 kilograms of fruits and berries.

A summary of the major exports of processed fruits and vegetables from KG is given in table 1. Apricots and apples are the major fruits, processing of vegetables is dominated by tomato for production of paste and sauces and cucumbers for pickling. Table 2 provides a summary of the types of fruit and vegetable processing carried out by AFVE members for domestic and export markets. Fruit and vegetable processing is dominated by tomato products, pickled vegetables, fruit juices and dried fruits (mainly apricot). There is a wide range of other products produced in much smaller volumes including fruit jams and jellies, potato crisps and spice pastes such as lecho and adjika.

**Table 1** Summary of fruit and vegetable products processed for export from KG in 2012

| <b>Commodity</b>   | <b>Tonnage (processed)</b> |
|--|----------------------------|
| Apricot  | 7,535 tonnes               |
| Tomato   | 1,936 tonnes               |
| Apple  | 1,644 tonnes               |
| Cucumber   | 1,003 tonnes               |
| Berries (strawberry, raspberry, blackcurrant & sea-blackthorn) | 528 tonnes                 |
| Others <sup>1</sup>  | 436 tonnes                 |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>13,082 tonnes</b>       |

Source: NSC

**Table 2** Summary of types of fruit and vegetable processing carried out by AFVE members in 2012 for domestic and export markets

| <b>Product</b>                         | <b>AFVE processors (%)</b> |
|--|----------------------------|
| Tomato products (paste, sauce & juice) | 31%                        |
| Pickled vegetables (jars & cans)       | 22%                        |
| Fruit juices & compotes                | 19%                        |

<sup>1</sup> Pear, beans, mushrooms, melon, plum, peach, courgette, cabbage, carrot, peppers, squash, eggplant, cherry, grapes, potato, onion & fig.

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Dried fruits  | 13% |
| Processed mushrooms (dry & pickled)                       | 4%  |
| Others (jams, jellies, crisps, hot-sauces & spice-pastes) | 11% |

Source: AFVE data

## Kyrgyzstan and the EAEU and its implications for agriculture trade

The KG joined the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) on 12 August 2015. The other Member States of the EAEU are Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia, with a total population of over 180 million people. The EAEU regulatory framework for sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures became effective in KG on 12 August 2015. But the country has a transitional period of 3 years to implement the new regulatory requirements in accordance with EAEU TR 021\2011, 022\2011, etc. (Until 12 August 2019).

In joining the EAEU, the KG Government hoped to expand export markets for agro-food products. Prior to joining the EAEU in August 2015, agri-food exports had been expanding but following accession there has been a marked decline in exports and a significant increase in agri-food imports from Russian and Kazakhstan. For example, exports of apple juice/beverage products fell from 2,948 tonnes worth USD 3 586 000 in 2014, to 696 tonnes worth USD 1 200 000 in 2015. In contrast, imports of apple juice increased from 2,543 tonnes worth USD 4 175 000 in 2014 to 3,929 tonnes worth USD 7 579 000 in 2015. These changes were due in part to the reduction in the value of the rouble but most FBOs agree that difficulties with conforming to the EAEU SPS requirements was the most significant factor impacting negatively on sales of KG agri-foods in domestic and export markets.

KG is currently benefiting from a transitional period for EAEU regulatory compliance and hence FBOs will not have to demonstrate conformity with EAEU regulations for domestic sales until 12 August 2019. However, this is not case for Russia and Kazakhstan where importers and retailers already have to demonstrate conformity for all food products imported or sold or face heavy penalties. Unsurprisingly Russian and Kazakh businesses have demanded that KG FBOs demonstrate conformity with EAEU regulations for market access. As of mid-2017 only 3 members of AFVE had demonstrated conformity, 2 other FBOs were in process of introducing modern food safety management systems. Domestic supermarket retailers are competing to offer high quality safe products, for this reason conformity with EAEU regulations has been demanded as a business to business requirement even though it is not yet a legal requirement.

KG food processors and farmers face major challenges in adopting modern risk based food safety management systems. The food business operators and farmers are unfamiliar with risk based control systems and require expert support. KG has ~50 “experts” in food safety management but these experts have limited experience of risk assessment and practical aspects of the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) and require upgrading of their knowledge. Knowledge of food safety as part of good agricultural practice (GAP) on farm is essential for compliance with EAEU requirements but only a few of the national experts have any experience in this area. There is a lack of standardisation of food safety training making it difficult to judge the likely competence of a national expert. Course curricula have not been developed for different levels of competence, which undermines the effectiveness of any training programmes. FBOs and national experts have also complained of insufficient access to high-quality advisory and training materials on food safety

management in Russian (official) or Kyrgyz (national) languages. Several FBOs pointed out that there is no centre for training in food safety management and no regular programme of training courses. Food safety training has been seen as a short-term project-based activity relying on external experts but this is unsustainable.

The official control (OC) agencies of the KG Government are required to verify conformity with the law via state surveillance in the form of inspection of the food safety management system and laboratory-based verification of the compliance of samples of the end-product. The OC agencies lack experience of modern food safety management systems, modern methods of inspection/auditing of food safety management systems and international (Codex & ISO) standards. The OC agencies are more familiar with end-product based certification of conformity and state standards (GOST standards) which mostly date from the time of the Soviet Union. GOST standards are mostly product specific and contain a mixture of SPS measures and TBT regulations in one document. The EAEU regulations refer to both international and GOST standards as a means of complying with the requirements of the SPS agreement of the WTO but the GOST standards do not meet WTO requirements. OC agencies and FBO's need to adopt international standards for long-term sustainability of the SPS control system.

The formal agri-food sector in KG has already been damaged due to non-compliance with EAEU regulatory requirements. On 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017 the Kazakh border service blocked the entry of all cargo shipments coming from the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic to Kazakhstan including those passing its territory in transit. The argument presented by Kazakh officials was that KG authorities violate international trade rules and practices including the EAEU customs code, technical regulations and SPS measures.

#### Project summary

The proposed project will play a vital role in enabling KG to meet its SPS obligations and avoid exclusion from EAEU markets due to non-compliance with food safety requirements. A prompt start for the project will enable the Government of KG to provide sufficient evidence of intention to comply for an extension of the transition period for EAEU regulatory compliance to be granted (the transition period expires in August 2019). The FBOs will be in strong position to demonstrate to their customers in Russia and Kazakhstan that action is being taken to manage food safety risks effectively and for achievement of full regulatory compliance within the life of the proposed project. It is recognised that it is in nobody's interest for trade to be disrupted but both FBOs and KG Government must be able to show that they have a time-bound plan of action for achieving conformity with EAEU food safety regulations.

The STDF/PPG/569 proposal adds value to existing donor initiatives of World Bank, European Union, GIZ, KOICA focused on food safety management addressing key weaknesses in national capacity to implement and inspect modern food safety management systems based on international standards. Furthermore, the proposed project can make a valuable contribution to the growth of the KG agri-food industry by supporting adoption of modern risk-based food safety management systems in line with WTO requirements. The proposed project is relevant for STDF support because it focuses on addressing SPS challenges throughout the value-chain to improve food safety and quality, productivity and promoting trade. The proposed project will build on and foster synergies with other relevant past and ongoing interventions by various partners (SECO, EU, GIZ, USAID JICA & Codex Trust Fund) for fruit and vegetable value-chains and state official control agencies. By focusing on key SPS challenges



the project will add value and help consolidate the results and sustainability of the other investments.

The project is based on a collaborative private public partnership approach and will support the development, roll out and application of innovative and replicable approaches to build capacity for food safety management in the fruit and vegetable value-chain and modern approaches for assessment of conformity with food safety regulation for the official control agencies. The proposed project was developed by the Association of Fruit and Vegetable Enterprises (AFVE) of Kyrgyz Republic through an STDF PPG approved in October 2016, and has strong local ownership and demand.

The project will be implemented with the support of FAO as the implementing agency. FAO as leading UN agency on food and agriculture, will bring technical and capacity development expertise to the project, particularly covering the fields of food safety, plant health and plant protection, value chain development, organic agriculture, social protection and nutrition, to support the progress toward sustainable food systems for healthy diets. A balanced diet is needed throughout the year to maintain good health and nutrition.

Close cooperation with other ongoing projects focused on the creation of fruit and vegetable networks and capacity building for official monitoring agencies will be facilitated. This will contribute to a coordinated and coherent approach for building national capacity on SPS related issues related to fruits and vegetables.

## **2. SPS context and specific issue/problem to be addressed**

### **2.1 The Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) has posed Kyrgyzstan a regulatory challenge in terms of SPS compliance**

Food business operators (FBO) and official control agencies' biggest challenge was problems with demonstrating conformity with EAEU technical regulations. KG is a former member of the Soviet Union and current national legislation for food safety management is modelled on the Soviet model which pre-dates the SPS agreement of the WTO. The old system is based around demonstrating conformity of the food product with the relevant technical regulations and GOST standards (Russian state standards system). The food business operator (FBO) was responsible for producing a conforming product but responsibility for establishing conformity with the standards rested with the official control (OC) agencies of the state. The OC agencies would take samples of the end-product and conduct tests against the relevant GOST standards. If the product was found to be in conformity a conformity certificate would be issued that was normally valid for 3 years. This system has some merits but is not in line with modern thinking on food safety management. The old system is not based on international standards, does not manage food safety risks effectively and does not manage risks arising in primary production.

The regulatory system for food safety management of the EAEU is an interesting hybrid of old and new practice. Four of the five current member states of the EAEU are members of the WTO and signatories of the SPS and TBT agreements, the fifth member (Belarus) is in process of accession to the WTO. The EAEU's regulatory framework of SPS measures was originally modelled on the old systems but in 2011 there was a change for harmonising the SPS regulatory system of the EAEU with international standards (CU Decision No. 625 of 7<sup>th</sup> April 2011 & CU Decision No. 721 of 22 June 2011) and make provision for acceptance of equivalence of SPS measures

on a scientific basis (CU Decision 835 of 18 October 2011). The result is an evolving framework of SPS regulations that contains features of both old and new systems. Current requirements for food safety are in line with the guidelines and codes of practice of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) and reference international standards but GOST standards are also recognised and a modified version of the procedures for demonstrating conformity is maintained. Unlike normal WTO practice, the technical regulations of the EAEU are not purely SPS or TBT but contain a mixture of SPS and TBT measures in the same regulation. Even the title “technical regulation” can be confusing to those unfamiliar with the EAEU. Internationally technical regulation is usually used to refer to TBT measures. This is not the case with the EAEU. EAEU technical regulations are sometimes referred to as SPS technical regulations but this distinction is rarely made in practice.

The basic framework of technical regulations of the EAEU for ensuring food safety of foods of non-animal origin consists of the following pieces of legislation.

TR/021/2011 General requirements for the safety of foodstuffs. TR/021/2011 requires food businesses to implement GHP and HACCP to establish vertical and horizontal traceability up and down the value-chain and to ensure safety in production of raw materials (essentially management of food safety from farm to fork). The FBO must manage food safety risks at farm level. TR/021/2011 accepts international standards (CAC) as the basis for ensuring food safety and specifies the need for state surveillance authorities (competent authorities) to inspect and confirm conformity of the food safety management system. A declaration of conformity from the state surveillance authority is needed for sale of product on domestic markets and export within the EAEU.

EEC Decision 149 of 18 December 2015 establishing uniform maximum residue limits (MRL) for plant protection products within the EAEU<sup>2</sup>. The list of pesticide & crop MRLs links to Article 13 of TR/021/2011 for food safety on farm.

TR/005/2011 Food safety of packaging, covering aspects such as food grade packaging materials, prevention of migration of hazardous materials from plastic films, metal foils etc. and safe use of glass and metal containers.

TR/022/2011 Food labelling – This contains mainly TBT requirements but food safety requirements for labels such as traceability codes, instructions for safe storage & customer practice and notification of 15 allergenic substances.

TR/023/2011 Safety of juice products produced from fruits and vegetables – Supplementary requirements for management of food safety risks associated with fruit and vegetable juices including preservatives.

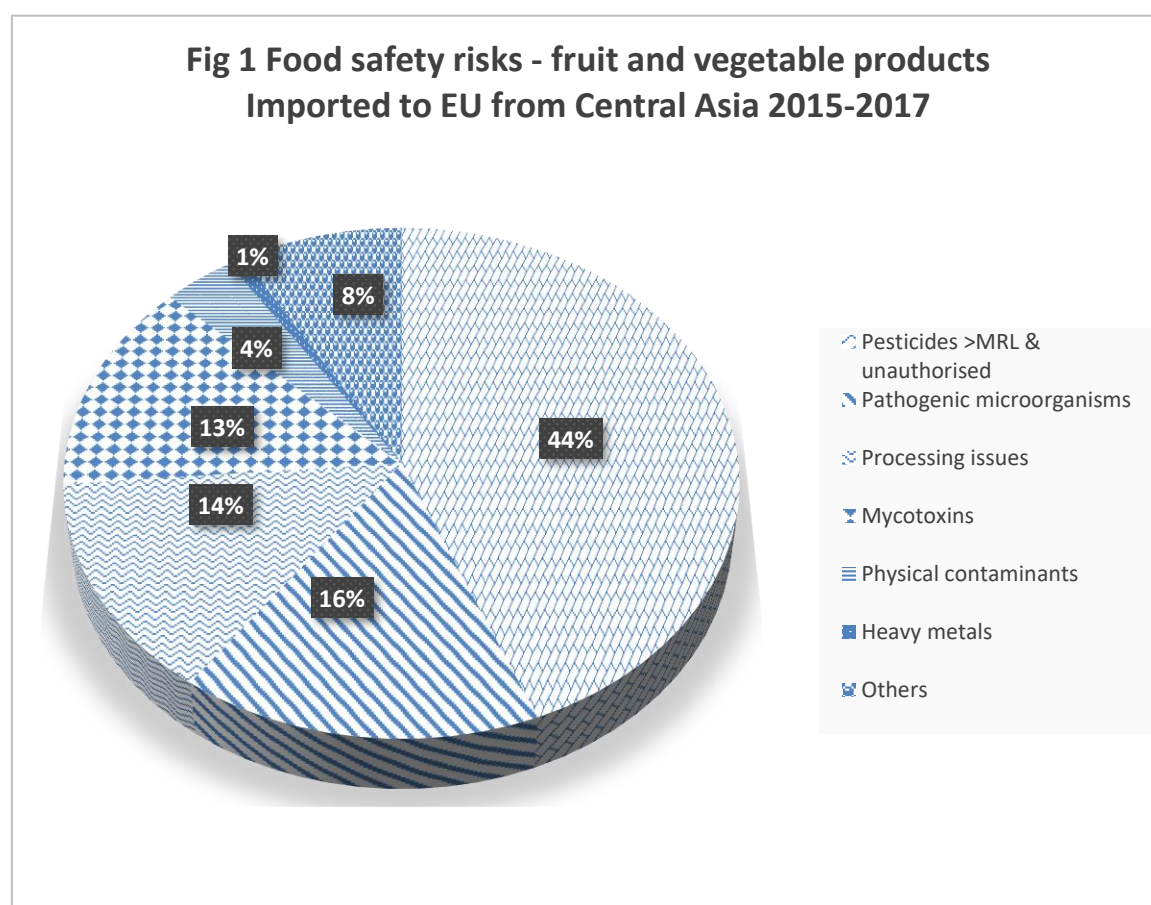
TR/029/2012 Safety of food additives, flavourings and technological aids for processing. Includes lists of permitted substances, hygienic standards for production and maximum levels permitted in specific food types.

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<sup>2</sup> EEC Decision 149 of 18/12/2015 is not equivalent to or harmonised with EC/149/2008 of the European Union some MRL's are the same but many are significantly different.

## 2.2 Food safety risks associated with the production and processing of fruits and vegetables in Kyrgyz Republic

During preparation of the STDF/PPG/569 proposal, discussions were held with owners and visits made to fruit and vegetable processing industries and farms along the Chui valley from Kara-Balta to Tokmok. A questionnaire on food safety issues was sent out to all members of the AFVE in KG. Representatives of the food processing industries had anecdotal experience of food safety incidents and the evidence of potential food safety risks was seen during the field visits. Discussions were held with the Ministry of Health as the appointed agency for state surveillance of food safety risks. They mentioned problems with biological and chemical risks in fresh and processed fruits and vegetables in KG but did not provide quantitative data.



Source: Derived from EU RASFF raw data (June 2015 to June 2017)

To understand better the potential of food safety risks in the KG environment an analysis was made of the EU RASFF database for food safety imports of fruit and vegetable products from Central Asian countries (Turkey, Iran, China, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Afghanistan) from June 2015 to June 2017 (see figure 1). The majority (44%) of incidents were associated with exceedance of MRL for pesticides and use of unauthorised or banned active ingredients. Lozowicka et al, (2015)<sup>3</sup> analysed samples of tomatoes and cucumbers collected from smallholder farms on the Kazakh side of the border in the Chui valley over 2 years. Smallholders

<sup>3</sup> Lozowicka *et al*, (2015) Studies of pesticide residues in tomatoes and cucumbers from Kazakhstan and the associated health risks. *Environmental Monitoring & Assessment* **187**, 609-628.

were using 28 different active ingredients for control of insect pests and fungal diseases. 34% of tomato and 21% of cucumber samples contained residue levels that exceeded the MRLs established by the EAEU. 28% of tomato samples were contaminated with high levels of pesticides (endosulfan and dicofol) which are banned in the EAEU and have been banned in Kazakhstan since 1983. When the AFVE team visited a tomato farm (supplying fruit for processing) near Kant on the Kyrgyz side of the border in the Chui valley, the farmer denied using any pesticides on his farm. However, the team saw a large pile of empty pesticide containers close to the field edge, a boom sprayer and equipment for mixing pesticides. There was clearly a case for introduction of food safety management systems on farms to manage the potential risks.

During discussions with the Ministries of Health and Agriculture, concerns were raised over the risk of foodborne illness associated with contamination of fruit and vegetable products with foodborne pathogenic microorganisms using irrigation water as a vehicle for transmission. The international consultant (Dr Graffham) made a presentation to public sector agencies and fruit and vegetable processors at the STDF/PPG/569 project development workshop to show how simple GAP measures and low-cost GAP measures could be used to manage food safety risks on small-scale fruit and vegetable farms in KG.

### **3. Links with national/regional development plans, policies, strategies, etc.**

This proposal is closely aligned to the policies and priorities of the Government of Kyrgyz Republic (KG) for development of competitive export orientated agri-food industries as a route to sustainable economic growth that will also raise household incomes and increase development for people in rural areas who constitute the bulk of KG's population.

The Government's goals and objectives for sustainable development are defined in the National Sustainable Development Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2013-2017 (NSDS) which states:

Goal 1 addresses the development of competitive export potential for sustainable growth.

Objectives:

1. Create the basic conditions for a more attractive foreign trade regime.
2. Improve competitiveness of goods and liability of producers of goods.

The Export Development Plan for 2015-2017 (EDP) and Program for the Development of the Food and Processing Industry of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2017-2021 were developed by the Ministry of Economy ([www.mineconom.gov.kg](http://www.mineconom.gov.kg)) to deliver the objectives of the NSDS. The objective of these documents are the development of production and to create favourable conditions for export of goods and services with a primary focus on the EAEU. The EDP seeks to address the negative trade balance of KG and over reliance on unsustainable extractive industries.

Fruit and vegetables (fresh & processed) are the second most important export for KG accounting for 7.5% of export revenue in 2015 (gold was the most important with 36.5% of export revenue). The EDP defines processed fruits and vegetables as a priority sector for development with the highest score for export potential and medium-high potential for socio economic development. Unprocessed fruits, nuts and vegetables

came second in priority for development with medium export potential and medium-high potential for socio-economic development.

According to the EDP 2015-2017, limited capacity for quality and food safety management is a major constraint limiting exports of fruit and vegetable products to the EAEU. The major areas of concern are:

- implementation of HACCP by food processing industries is hindered by limited finances and misunderstanding of the importance of HACCP by FBOs;
- lack of suitable technical information to support FBOs adoption of HACCP;
- difficulties in recruiting competent technical experts;
- need to reform the inspection system in-line with international standards;
- the current inspection system is largely orientated towards inspection of finished products;
- lack of food inspectors with relevant basic technical education, knowledge and experience required to perform adequate inspections of HACCP systems.

Access to affordable finance by FBOs is being addressed by the Government of KG's USD 60 million fund for interest free loans to support FBO's to make the necessary capital investments to upgrade infrastructure and equipment to meet EAEU regulatory requirements for market access.

The main objectives of the EDP are to create favourable conditions for export of goods with a primary focus on the EAEU, reduce reliance on unsustainable extractive industries and use high-value sustainable agro-food industries to reduce the negative trade balance, improve incomes and reduce poverty in rural KG. Processed fruit and vegetable products are the most important sustainable export for KG and attained the highest scores for export potential and medium scores for socio-economic development potential. However, the EDP identifies lack of technical information on modern food safety management, absence of suitable training programmes, limited knowledge and experience of state inspectors and national experts and obsolete inspection systems as major hindrances to the achievement of the objectives of the EDP.

The proposed project will make immediate and important contributions towards delivering the objectives of the EDP by:

- increasing the capacity and competence of national technical experts;
- providing advice, technical support for FBO's to implement GHP & HACCP and supporting smallholder farmers to adopt GAP to ensure food safety management in primary production;
- training and supporting inspectors from the MoA, MoH and MoE to adopt modern approaches for inspection of risk-based food safety management systems;
- providing recommendations for the official control agencies to reform regulations and procedures for assessment of conformity moving away from end-product testing towards auditing of food safety management systems.

By the end of the proposed project it is reasonable to suggest that if 30% of AFVE's member companies demonstrate conformity with EAEU food safety requirements this, could help deliver the EDP trade objectives through an estimated:

- 10% increase in value of sales to high-value domestic markets;
- 5% increase in sales to EAEU (Russia and Kazakhstan);

- 3% in sales to non-EAEU international markets (EU, CIS, China, Mongolia and Turkey)

Improvements in the performance of the F&V processing industry will help deliver the EDP objectives on rural income and poverty reduction via a ~20% increase in income from sales for the 320 000 smallholders that supply the industry with 90% of their requirement for fruits and vegetables.

Finally, and most importantly the proposed project will avoid the disastrous economic consequences of exclusion from EAEU markets due to non-compliance with food safety requirements once the transitional period expires in August 2019. A prompt start for the project will enable the Government of KG to provide sufficient evidence of intention to comply for an extension of the transition period to be granted. The FBOs will be in strong position to demonstrate to their customers in Russia and Kazakhstan that action is being taken to manage food safety risks effectively and for achievement of full regulatory compliance within the life of the proposed project.

#### **4. Past, ongoing or planned programmes and projects**

A review of past, ongoing or planned programmes and projects that could have relevance for the proposed project for food safety in fruit and vegetable processing in KG is set out in Table 3 below. Food safety management is clearly recognised as important in KG with 8 projects either completed or ongoing. Six of these projects have direct relevance for management of food safety in fruit and vegetable processing and one (Codex Trust Fund) will provide training for Government personnel on CAC standards (recognised by EAEU as a basis for conformity with food law). The majority of the investments place emphasis on HACCP for processing industries and implementation of the ISO22000:2005 standard, but very little attention was paid to food safety on farms until recently. However, the GIZ project in Jalal-Abad Oblast and EU funded Central Asia Invest IV project are attempting to address the weakness in food safety on farms by promoting GLOBALGAP for adoption of fruit and vegetable farmers in Southern KG.

GLOBALGAP is likely to be unaffordable and unsustainable for most KG smallholders. Donor investments might fund certification but past experience in sub-Saharan Africa and South-East Asia indicates that smallholders will be unable to pay for maintaining certification once the project is finished unless subsidised by a processor or exporter.

The previous and ongoing investments by the donor agencies offer valuable resources in terms of existing training materials and a certain level of capacity among national experts and this resource will prove a useful basis for the proposed project. However, there are still gaps that the Project will contribute to address:

1. There is no permanent or regular programme for training in food safety management in KG that can be accessed by fruit and vegetable processing industries (NB the OC agencies have internal training programmes for their staff).
2. Discussions with national experts, FBOs and representatives of Government agencies revealed that most of the training has been either too theoretical or focused on the mechanics of ISO22000 and GLOBALGAP without covering the fundamentals and practical aspects of risk assessment. This is a major flaw as it makes it more difficult for national experts to apply their knowledge in processing or farm environments.

3. Some of the donor supported projects look to the EU as a potential destination market for KG fruit and vegetable products and believe that GLOBALGAP is essential for primary production and ISO22000:2005 is needed for the processing factories. These standards are complex and expensive to implement and maintain. They are not essential for demonstrating compliance with either EAEU or EU regulations for food safety management. Much simpler and lower-cost systems can be developed around the internationally agreed standards of the CAC. Only a few of the companies supported by donor investments have managed to establish and maintain ISO22000:2005. This is partly due to costs but lack of demand from Russian and Kazakh buyers has also influenced business decisions on investments in ISO 22000. It is likely that in the medium term more customers will ask for ISO 22000:2005 but a CAC based system is a more realistic and achievable starting point for most fruit and vegetable processors in KG. The majority (~90%) of fruit and vegetables processing come from small-scale farms with average production areas of 1.35ha and very limited resources. Implementing GAP based food safety measures on the farm will be a challenge but achievable if CAC standards are adapted to Kyrgyz conditions.

**Table 3** Past, present and planned donor projects for improving capacity in food safety management for fresh and processed fruit and vegetable value-chains in Kyrgyz Republic

| Title  | Date               | Donor & Value                        | Relevance  |
|--|--------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Promotion of sustainable economic development in Jalal-Abad Oblast       | 2016-2019          | GIZ (Swiss & German support)         | Focus on food safety management of fresh and processed berries – to improve market access. Provision of training for FBO & NE on ISO22000 and GLOBALGAP. Support to x2 FBO's & farms to implement GLOBALGAP & ISO22000. AFVE is a beneficiary. |
| Central Asia Invest (CAI) IV Boosting small business competitiveness     | 2017-2020          | EU & Hilfswerk                       | Development of state programme to support enterprises to implement food safety standards (ISO22000 & GLOBALGAP). AFVE is a beneficiary, potential for shared trainings and development of training materials.                                  |
| CTF project for Kyrgyz Standardisation and Metrology Service             | 2017-2020          | Codex Trust Fund USD 150 000         | Codex standards, training for OC agencies – synergies with & potential for shared trainings under output 3 of proposed STDF project.   |
| CAI II & CAI III   | 2011-12 / 2014-15  | EU & British Expertise EUR 1 180 235 | HACCP training for NE's and support for x2 FBO's to adopt ISO22000. AFVE developed HACCP manual (CAI-III) potential resource for training materials but EU focus not EAEU  |
| Trade promotion project for KG (KYR/61/103)                              | 2006-2008          | Swiss Government & ITC               | General training on HACCP for NE's & support for x3 fruit and vegetable processors to implement ISO22000. Training materials & lesson learning from FBO experience.  |
| Agro-Horizon Project   | 2014-2018          | USAID USD 22 million                 | Support smallholder fruit and vegetable farmers to improve productivity & x2 F&V processors to implement ISO22000:2005. Potential for lesson learning from FBO's experiences.  |
| Capacity development in FSM for FBO's and OC agencies in KG & Tajikistan | 2014-2016 (closed) | Turkish Government & FAO             | General training on HACCP provided for OCs, FBOs & NEs – Potential to re-use/adapt training materials.   |
| JICA Agriculture and business promotion programme                        | 2017-2022          | JICA USD 4 714 520                   | HACCP systems for milk and dairy value chains in conformity with EAEU TR/033/2011. No direct relevance.  |

4. The past and current donor support projects have focused on training in GAP, GHP and HACCP and provision of support for selected food processing factories. The procedures and approach for official inspection of a modern risk-based food safety management system to determine conformity with regulatory requirements has been neglected. Senior staff in the Ministries of Health and Agriculture expressed concern that their inspectors lack the necessary knowledge and experience to assess conformity of a food safety management system. Inspectors are still relying on end-product testing to GOST standards to establish conformity, which is unacceptable as it does not meet the requirements of TR/021/2011.



The proposed project will address all of the weaknesses highlighted above (see section 9) and will thus add value to and strengthen the outcomes and impact of the support provided by other donors. There are clearly synergies between the proposed project and the ongoing investments of GIZ and the EU funded CAI-IV projects. AFVE is a beneficiary of both of these projects and GIZ have expressed a willingness to partner with AFVE for delivery of the proposed project and to invest financial resources to help deliver the activities. In the inception phase of the project, the exact nature of collaboration will be determined. There is scope for sharing of training materials and joint training programmes where appropriate.

## **5. Public-public or public-private cooperation**

The KG Export Development Plan for 2015-2017 (EDP) calls for public and private sector agencies to come together to enhance the competitiveness of Kyrgyz agro-food export industries as a driver for sustainable growth, fruit and vegetable processing has been identified as the most important sector (see Section 3).

The AFVE as the representative of >90% of fruit and vegetable processors in the formal sector (see Section 15) believes that the FBOs must take the lead in developing and implementing modern food safety management systems throughout the value-chain. AFVE has access to >40 national food safety and quality management experts. The association has a management board consisting of representative Directors of F&V processors elected by the member FBOs of the AFVE. The management board fully supports the proposed project and has provided a letter of support (see Appendix 4), to act as the leading collaborating organisation from the private sector and will work with fruit and vegetable industries and smallholder farmers nationally.

The private sector is responsible for ensuring food safety of its products but the public sector has the remit to set legal requirements and for verification of conformity with food safety regulations. AFVE has consulted with and has the full and active support of the relevant authorities, namely:

- Ministry of Health, Department of State Sanitary & Epidemiological Surveillance;
- Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Chemicalisation & Plant Protection;
- Ministry of Economy, Centre for Standardisation and Metrology.

The Ministry of Health (MoH) has responsibility for surveillance and verification of conformity with food safety regulations in food processing and retail. The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) is responsible for surveillance and verification of conformity with regulations at farm level. The MoA is familiar with phytosanitary inspections and verification of correct use of pesticides. However, the MoA inspectors are unfamiliar with the wider picture of food safety management on farms required by Article 13 of TR/021/2011. They need support on farm based food safety risks and approaches for inspection of conformity with food safety laws. The Kyrgyz Centre for Standardisation under the Ministry of Economy (MoE) is the official Codex contact point and has responsibility for ensuring that regulation and application of regulatory requirements for food safety follow international standards. The roles of the different partners are discussed in Section 6 of this proposal.

## 6. Ownership and stakeholder commitment

This project application has the support of relevant government agencies in KR, as well as the AFVE Board, member companies and farmers. During the PPG, discussions were held with a range of fruit and vegetable processors, members of the board of AFVE, farmers and government officials of the MoA, MoH & MoE (for letters of support see Appendix 4). Questionnaires were sent to all member companies of AFVE to assess the status of implementation of food safety management systems and to gauge interest and support for the proposed project.

AFVE represents the interests of >90% of fruit and vegetable processing industries and several dairy and meat processors (in the formal sector) in KG. The 48 member companies of AFVE employ >3,500 people. The AFVE was founded in 2003 with the objective of supporting the strategic development of the Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable processing industry. AFVE provides training services, market intelligence and market access support for its members and plays a role in political lobbying and representing members' interests through interaction with public sector agencies for regulatory reform. AFVE also has an umbrella brand ("Food of the sun") to promote sales of members products.

The AFVE has an annual turnover of ~USD 300 000 per annum and currently employs 5 staff<sup>4</sup>. The permanent staff of AFVE will provide implementation support for the project team (project leader, national food safety expert & project leaders assistant). AFVE maintains a database of 40 consultants (with expertise in food safety management & wider SPS issues) who provide technical services for industry on production and processing of fruit and vegetables and provide expert inputs on donor funded projects for AFVE. The association has a point of contact for association members in the south of KG based in the city of Osh. AFVE's main premises are in Bishkek consisting of offices, a conference/training room equipped with an HDMI display system and white boards, kitchen and two bathrooms. The association derives ~90% of its income from commercial activities such as rental fees for space at trade exhibitions, charges for use of the food of the sun brand and training course fees for non-members. The remainder of the normal income comes from annual membership fees. AFVE works closely with major public-sector agencies such as the Ministries of Agriculture, Economy and Health on SPS issues and is closely linked with AGRO-ASIA a private sector e-platform who also provides M&E services (see section 19).

The (MoA, MoH and MoE are actively supporting the proposed project with in-kind contributions of USD 54 210 (total in-kind contributions by AFVE are USD 60 000). The Centre for Standardisation and Metrology (KMS) under the MoE will play an important role in helping with development and delivery of the food safety training programme and design of the food safety management systems by ensuring that course and system contents are based on the international standards of CAC and ISO. The MoA will work with the project team to develop and roll-out a programme of inspections of farms to determine conformity with food safety requirements as per Article 13 of TR/021/2011. MoA extension staff (State farm advisory & training services) will partner with national experts and private sector extension personnel to support smallholder farmers to implement simple cost-efficient food safety management systems on their farms. The MoH will work with the project team to develop and roll-out a risk based programme for inspection of GHP and HACCP systems in fruit and vegetable processing industries. The MoH will provide laboratory

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<sup>4</sup> Including short-term experts such as Mr Edil Kalashev, working on specific and target oriented tasks.

testing facilities for testing of end products, samples of raw materials and water as part of verification of conformity of farms and processing industries with food safety regulations. The MoA and MoH will jointly assess reforms to regulations for state assessment to move from traditional end-product testing to verification of operation of food safety management systems.

## II. PROJECT GOAL, OBJECTIVE, OUTPUTS & ACTIVITIES (LOGICAL FRAMEWORK)

### 7. Project Goal / Impact

The goal of the proposed project for the Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable industry is for “Increased competitiveness and sustainability of Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable industry resulting in increased sales to high-value markets impacting positively on the livelihoods of 323 000 smallholder farmers”.

### 8. Target Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries will be the the 48 AFVE FBOs to process fruit and vegetables, that have expressed a desire to participate in the proposed project to implement modern food safety management systems. The project team will work with the FBOs and farmer groups to select at least 1 500-2 000 smallholder farmers in the main producing regions (Chui, Talas, Osh, Issy-Kul, Jalal-Abad & Batken) for support to implement modern food safety management systems on farm. Smallholders will be selected on the basis of willingness to commit to the project and on past history of taking the lead in their community as reliable and consistent suppliers of produce. The peer group training technique will assist in upscaling of the training programme as leading smallholders can play a role in training other members of their group (with mentoring support from the FBOs).

The fruit and vegetable processing companies employ >3 500 people (mostly in rural/peri-urban locations) but most have been operating at 25-30% of capacity since accession to the EAEU in August 2015. The FBOs believe that implementation of modern food safety management systems will restore access to lucrative markets in Russia and Kazakhstan and open-up new opportunities in Turkey, Iran, China and the EU. Based on past performance, the FBOs believe that employment opportunities could double if new market opportunities are created generating 3 to 4 thousand new jobs in the fruit and vegetable processing.

#### (a) Gender-related issues

The state guarantees equal rights and opportunities for all citizens, through legislation and national strategy and action plan for gender equality (2013-2020). Women have high rates of literacy, school enrolment and form a significant share of tertiary education students. However, there are significant gender-based gaps, - such as both vertical and horizontal professional segregation in the labour market; women’s underrepresentation in decision-making at virtually all levels and across all sectors; gender pay gap; and high rates of gender-based violence, higher in rural areas. Between 2011 and 2015, the salary of women in agriculture compared to the salary of men declined from 99.7 to 81.8 percent<sup>5</sup>.

Agriculture is the largest sector of employment for both women and men in the country: around a third of all workers are employed in it (34.5 percent of all employed women

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<sup>5</sup> National Statistical Committee. 2016. Women and Men of the Kyrgyz Republic. 2011-2015. Bishkek

and 29.6 percent of men<sup>6</sup>. Over 400 000 business units and over 700 000 rural households produce over 98% of the total agricultural production in the country. Rural areas are marked by higher poverty and labour migration from rural to urban areas and abroad.

Rural women are heavily involved in informal and seasonal work in the agri-food industries (which includes a range of various tasks, including fruit and vegetable picking, and their preservation). Such labour is usually low-paid, and its informal character does not guarantee access to social protection.

Gender disparities also manifest themselves through rural women's limited access to land, water, credits and other productive assets, as well as constraints and barriers in access to technologies, information and knowledge which could help them to strategically improve their status.

The unequal distribution of reproductive and family responsibilities are also a contributing factor to women's economic dependence and vulnerability. Social practices assign women with the responsibility to perform all household chores and provide care to children and other members of the households (so called 'unpaid domestic work'), including the elderly and the sick. On average, women spend four hours and 30 minutes per day on household chores, which accounts for 18.8 percent of their daily time, compared with about one hour and 20 minutes, or 6.5 percent of men's time. Women also spend double the amount of time per day on childcare compared with men<sup>7</sup>. Rural women also contribute to agricultural work in their smallholdings and family farms, and as a rule, this contribution, critical for agricultural productivity has little or no recognition, let alone adequate payment. That means that in addition to asset and income poverty, women face time constraints preventing them to engage in gainful economic engagement.

Food production, and food safety and quality, as primary issues for all societies, have strong gender dimension. Women perform most of the manual work on the fields and orchards, and as such, are disproportionately exposed to the harmful effects of fertilizers and pesticides. In the households where men migrated in search of better-paid jobs, women are responsible for day-to-day management of the family farms. Thus, awareness and knowledge of individuals, who are involved in agricultural activity, about food safety are of utmost importance. Due to lack of time, poor women have less access to technologies and information; and as a result, they may not be able to follow food safety standards, which further put them in a disadvantaged position in terms of access to external markets.

Taking into account these considerations, the project team will carefully address gender concerns throughout the project life cycle to achieve FAO Gender Equality objectives: advancing equality of women and men to have equal access and control over income, land and other resources; promoting women and men's equal participation as decision-makers in rural institutions (e.g. water user's associations, land distribution); promoting equal access to agricultural goods and services, including markets; reducing women's work burden. Starting from the project formulation and design stage, and throughout the project implementation, the project will ensure that issues related to food safety and gender considerations are analysed, assessed properly and adequate action is undertaken. The farm training programmes will target rural women, to maximise their opportunities in access to knowledge on food safety, fruits and vegetable production, processing and marketing, to increase the productivity

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<sup>6</sup> National Statistical Committee. 2015. Women and Men of the Kyrgyz Republic. 2010-2014. Bishkek.

<sup>7</sup> National Statistical Committee

of their farms, contributing to sustainability of their farms, as well as the project outreach and impact.

The Project team will use the FAO Gender mainstreaming and human rights based approach: guidelines for technical officers, available at <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i6808e.pdf>; and Environmental and social management guidelines available at: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4413e.pdf>. These guidelines (with the quick guide and checklists available in the annexes) will be shared with the project team at the Inception workshop, and training provided. The main project coordinator(s) at the country level will be made responsible on its implementation.

The Project team will also use the FAO National gender profile of agricultural and rural livelihoods of the Kyrgyz Republic for gender background information (<http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5763e.pdf>).

The project monitoring and evaluation framework will be made gender-responsive, and indicators proposed to measure progress. All data will be collected in a sex-disaggregated manner.

The FBO's and MoA extension agencies have committed themselves to integrate FAO's approach as part of their regular training programmes for smallholder farmers involved in commercial and non-commercial horticulture.

Through these measures, it will be possible to overcome rural women's constraints limiting rural women's productivity and ensure that both women and men benefit from the project and contribute to the increased efficiency of the agricultural sector in their communities.

## **9. Project objective, outputs and activities (including logical framework and work plan)**

The objective of the proposed project for the Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable industry is for "Increased share of domestic and EAEU markets for Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable products" **Output 1. Capacity of Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable industry to adopt GAP, GHP & HACCP enhanced**

**1.1 Baseline data collection, inception review phase of project.** – this is an important, but concise, first step in the project. It will cover information gathering on project activities, rapid review of needs from the private sector and OCs, re-confirming and planning the approach for outreach and training of farmers and FBOs, gender analysis of the target group in the private sector and OCs, sustainable provision of training curriculum, and collection of baseline data on the OVIs. The results of this baseline data collection/inception phase will re-confirm project activities or update them as necessary.

**1.2 Promote the cooperation between AFVE industries and smallholder producers and other relevant actors of the F&V value chain in order to implement food safety management systems.** – As part of the STDF/PPG/569 a food safety questionnaire was circulated to 48 member companies of the AFVE, and at least 60% of them have indicated a strong desire to receive support from the proposed project to implement modern food safety management systems. An important step of the new project will be to sign formal agreements with each company and hold awareness and sign-up sessions with ~1 500-2 000 smallholder farmers who supply produce to the food processing companies.

**1.3 Assessment of the farm and processing sites to understand status, gaps, risks and requirements of current food safety systems in the country with respect to the TR/021/2011.** – A simple baseline audit of current infrastructure and practice for food safety management will be made for the selected FBOs and their smallholder suppliers. This will enable the project team to determine likely food safety risks, weaknesses in the current system and changes and additions needed to establish conformity with TR/021/2011. The data from food safety audits will also provide the M&E team with a baseline for assessment of the successful delivery of the project objective.

**1.4 Development of supporting materials for conformity with food safety requirements of TR/021/2011 (including, manuals, guidelines, inspection checklists & templates for record keeping).** – The project team will develop sets of supporting documentation and templates for record keeping for both GHP/HACCP in the processing factories and GAP for ensuring food safety on farm. Not all factories will require this material as some have well established systems already. However, material will be needed for virtually all of the smallholder farms and many of the FBOs. The project team will assess materials already in use by FBOs and recommend any changes required for conformity with TR/021/2011.

**1.5 Roll-out of food safety management systems (GAP, GHP & HACCP as appropriate) for farm and processing sites supported by the project.** – This activity involves provide expert advice, technical support and mentoring for the FBOs and their smallholder suppliers to adopt food safety management systems that conform to the requirements of EAEU regulations. This activity is linked to provision of training services under output 2. The national experts involved in provision of support as part of activity 1.4 will be trained to Level 4 (see activity 2.3) in risk assessment and food safety management for production and processing of fruits and vegetables. Company technical advisers will be trained to at least Level 2 with a preference for training to Level 3. Advisers who show an exceptional level of aptitude will be offered training to Level 4 (see output 2).

**Output 2. Capacity of Kyrgyz service providers on risk assessment, GAP, GHP & HACCP in line with international standards increased.**

**2.1 Review of international standards (CAC & ISO) & supporting material on food safety management in Russian and English.** – The AFVE project team plans to maximise efficiency by making use of existing food safety training materials especially those already in Russian. Material on GHP prepared for the STDF/PG/326 project in Thailand and Vietnam was translated into Russian for another project and is in the public domain. This material meets international requirements and will provide a useful starting point. The content of the training programme and food safety management systems will be based on the standards of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) and International Standards Organisation (ISO), a list of the most important standards for the proposed project is given in Appendix 7.

**2.2 Training needs assessment (TNA) for private and public-sector service providers and potential instructors.** – The AFVE has compiled a database of 90 national experts in food safety working for private sector service providers, public sector agencies and as technical advisers for specific fruit and vegetable processing factories. At least four of the national experts are already trained to a high standard and have most of the skills and experience (with the exception of GAP) necessary to play a leading role in delivery of the outputs of the proposed project. However, the knowledge, experience and skills set of most of the national experts has not been

formally assessed. A training needs analysis will be used to evaluate the status of each consultant. The intention is to train all the national experts to at least intermediate level (level 2). However, the best of the group will be encouraged to accept training to advanced (level 3) level. The most able of the instructors will be encouraged to accept training as instructors (Level 4). It is hoped that a minimum of 10 of the 30 in the database will pass the level 4 examination and form a core of high calibre Kyrgyz experts in food safety management. These experts will drive the process of delivery of the proposed project and provide a strong basis for sustainability of national expertise and reduce reliance on external experts. The capacity and role of MoA in providing information and skills development to farmers should be reviewed and considered as an element of a sustainable support to farmers after the project is finished.

**2.3 Development of a standardised training system (with syllabuses & training outcomes for 4 levels of competence) that meets international standards for national technical/vocational qualifications.** – To maximise effectiveness of national expertise in food safety management, it will be necessary to develop a standardised training system with syllabuses, training outcomes, database of questions, model answers and instructors' procedures for delivery of training programmes and administration of examinations. The KG training programme will be designed around established international best practice for national technical and vocational qualifications (NVQ) for food safety management with 4 levels of competence equivalent to NVQ level 1-4 in the EU. Effective management of the materials and ensuring they are used for future training will be determined, including the role of AFVE as a user of the materials in future training for its membership. Persons wishing to register as instructors will have to pass the level 4 instructors examination. Courses at levels 2 to 4 will be delivered by registered instructors under formal conditions. The level 1 peer group training course is intended to be delivered informally to line workers on farm or in the factory by supervisors or managers who do not need to pass more than level 2. Level 1 will not have a formal examination as this is not appropriate for this type of course.

**2.4 Development of appropriate training materials on risk assessment, GAP, GHP, HACCP and modern inspection/auditing techniques for different target groups (farms, processors, service-providers & government inspection services).** – There is already a useful resource of material for formal training in GHP and HACCP in KG, but little or no material for GAP or modern inspection methods. The concept of peer group training is also quite novel and suitable materials have not been developed. The proposed project will make use of and adapt existing materials wherever possible but new material will be prepared as required and the international expert will undertake to ensure that all training material is accurate and meets international standards for NVQ courses.

**2.5 Delivery of training programmes following a cascade approach (training of instructors who cascade training to wider group of stakeholders).** – The proposed project is designed to provide training to at least 1 500 beneficiaries consisting of ~ 1 500 – 2 000 smallholder farmers, 60 national experts, ~70 company technical advisers with the balance from the MoH, MoA and MoE and the Technical Universities and vocational training institutes involved in provision of training in agriculture and food technology. The international expert will take the lead in training the initial group of 10 instructors to level 4. The level 4 qualified instructors mentored and supported by the international expert will train ~20-30 national experts to at least level 3 (see 2.3). The core team of national experts will cascade the training to at least level 2 for the company technical advisers, ministry, and University and technical college personnel. Training for smallholder farmers will be delivered mainly by company technical advisers, lead farmers and agricultural extension personnel (public & private sector).

The international and national experts will provide oversight and quality assurance for the training process and take corrective action as appropriate to ensure accuracy of training content and effective delivery of training messages. This activity will also include training to inspectors in MoH and MoA as required – in order to complement Output 3 ensuring the update of new inspection approaches and skills on risk based food safety management systems.

**2.6 Awareness creation and wider dissemination of training and supporting materials using an innovative phone (2G) and internet based e-platform with targeted services for farmers (GAP) and food business operators (GHP & HACCP).** – Electronic versions of all of the training and supporting materials produced by the project team will be supplied to the STDF and made freely available on the AFVE website. Sets of training and advisory materials and templates for record keeping will be accessible at no cost on the AGRO-ASIA e-platform (see Section 19). The AGRO-ASIA e-platform is a commercial service funded through advertising of inputs and services for farmers and food processors in Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan. Registration is free and there is no cost for download of material in the public domain such as that generated by donor funded projects.

**Output 3. Capacity of competent authorities to inspect and certify HACCP based systems in Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable processing industries as being compliant with the regulatory requirements of the EAEU enhanced.**

**3.1 Development of procedures for risk assessment and inspection of regulatory conformity of food safety management systems for F&V processing industries.**

- The proposed project will partner with the MoH to develop revised inspection procedures for risk-based assessments of conformity of food safety management systems in-line with international standards (ISO19,011). The revised inspection procedure will replace the current process of end-product testing against the obsolete GOST standards and general inspection of hygiene of premises. The role of the MoA for on-farm audits and inspection will be assessed and strengthened as necessary. Ensuring a clear, efficient and stream-line inspection system by MoH and MoA is a priority. The new approach will require the inspector to have the ability to assess food safety risks at the factory or farm site. Inspection will include verbal discussion of the food safety management system, document and record checks and inspection of facilities and actual practice against the verbal and written records. Inspectors can take samples of end-products, raw materials or water used for production of processing for verification purposes. Sampling can either be part of a randomised system or be triggered if the inspector has specific concerns that can only be confirmed by laboratory analysis.

The final version of the revised inspection procedure will be handed over to the MoH for roll out as part of the normal procedures of the MoH for assessment of conformity prior to issuing an official declaration of conformity as per Article 20 of TR/021/2011. As a result, FBOs, and on-farm producers will be clear on the requirements and processes with which they need to comply.

**3.2. Updating regulations to support the uptake of GAP, or GHP/HACCP in fruit and vegetable chain** – During the inception phase, it will be determined whether there is a need to update any national regulations (secondary). TR/021/2011 as a Regulation of the EEU is directly transposed to national legislation and does not require any legal drafting. However, the review may show other complementary tasks that need to be addressed to ensure the legal requirements to be met by FBOs and farmers are clearly set out.



## **10. Environmental-related issues**

The proposed project deals with implementation of modern food safety management systems for production and processing of fruits and vegetables. The main opportunities for environmental benefits occur in primary production. Introduction of measures for good agricultural practice (GAP) on farm will improve management of inorganic fertilisers and pesticides on farm. Production protocols, traceability, improved record keeping, better training and inspection procedures will reduce unnecessary and inappropriate use of chemicals and help to eliminate unregistered and banned pesticides from farms that supply exporters and processing industries and thus reduce potential for environmental contamination with persistent pollutants.

This would be a great improvement on the current situation where abuse of pesticides is known to be widespread (especially for tomato and cucumber production – see section 2) but poorly documented and virtually uncontrolled by the public or private sectors in most cases. As mentioned in Section 2.2, the AFVE team visited a tomato grower who supplies a tomato processing factory. The farm manager denied using any pesticides on his crops but the team observed a large pile of empty pesticide containers, a sprayer and locked chemical store on farm. It was not clear if any records of pesticide usage were kept and the factory owner had no knowledge of pesticide usage at the farm (a breach of Article 13 of TR/021/2011). There was no evidence of facilities for safe handling of pesticides or disposal of tank washings on farm, a major water course was noted within 4 metres of the chemical store, sprayer and pile of empty pesticide containers. The problems highlighted here would be solved if the farmer and factory owner came together to introduce simple food safety management measures for traceability and pesticide usage in compliance with the requirements of TR/021/2011 of the EAEU.

Introduction of good manufacturing/hygienic practices and HACCP in the processing factories in line with the requirements of TR/021/2011 will improve management of chemicals and water used in processing and disposal of waste materials. These measures are intended to ensure the safety of the food product by preventing cross contamination, pest reservoirs and inappropriate use of processing agents but will have the side benefit of reducing the potential for contamination of the surrounding environment by the factory.

The environmental implications for proposed project are positive, and there are no obvious negative implications from introduction of improved food safety management systems for production and processing of fruit and vegetable products.

## **11. Risks**

In the design of the logical framework we made the following assumptions:

- smallholder farmer groups are committed to implementation of better practices (Medium risk);
- private sector partners support smallholder groups to implement better practices effectively (Low risk);
- private sector partners find adoption of GHP & HACCP too costly (Low risk);

- KG fruit and vegetable products achieve better access to high-value export and domestic markets and obtain price premiums that feedback to the smallholder farmer (Low risk).

A failure in one or more of these assumptions would impact negatively on delivery of the proposed activities; hence the risks associated with each of these assumptions must be managed effectively.

The FBOs are at the heart of this proposal as it is they that must invest in modern food safety management systems to meet regulatory and market access requirements in the EAEU. The biggest challenge facing the fruit and vegetable processors is the relatively high level of capital investment needed to upgrade obsolete infrastructure and processing equipment to meet international standards. This has proved restrictive and is the major reason why only ~25% of members of AFVE have made the necessary investments. This issue has been rated as low risk due to the intervention by the KG Government which has released USD 60 million in the form of interest free loans for capital investment by food businesses to meet international standards. During the project implementation, it will be important to monitor and link to the uptake of interest free loans by the fruit and vegetable processing sector (FBOs). Continuous improvements in food safety management systems by FBOs will only be assured when capacity development and training support is coupled with parallel improvements in infrastructure and facilities where they are weak. Sustainability of the project and reaching the project targets depend on this. The proposed project complements the financial support of the KG Government with long-term improvements to technical capacity that address key weaknesses in risk based food safety management.

Improving access to high-value domestic and international markets is essential for the long-term survival and growth of agri-food industries in KG. Exports of fresh and processed fruits and vegetables have decreased dramatically since KG joined the EAEU in August 2015 and higher end domestic retailers are dominated by products imported from Kazakhstan, Russia and Turkey. The solution is to modernise the food processing sector, ensure conformity with international standards and improve efficiency to maximise competitiveness of the KG fruit and vegetable industry. This factor has been rated as low risk because the main areas of weakness affecting competitiveness of KG food products are being addressed by the KG Government fund for FBOs and the outputs of the proposed project.

The greatest level of risk occurs at the level of smallholder production. Smallholders supply >90% of the fruits and vegetables used by the formal processing and export sectors. KG has >300 000 small-scale farms (1-3ha) involved in production of fruit and vegetables for commercial sale. These farms have limited capacity and resources and most have no experience of ensuring food safety on farm. Many processors have formal relationships with groups of smallholders to produce for the factory but >25% of FBOs rely on casual purchases on the open market to supply the factory with little or no traceability. There is a medium level risk that smallholder farmers will be unwilling or unable to implement food safety management systems on farm. The project team will work closely with the FBOs and smallholder suppliers to develop and support implementation of smallholder friendly food safety management systems. This will be achieved by adapting the international standards of the CAC into food safety protocols that are simple to implement and maintain at minimal cost to the smallholder but which meet the regulatory requirements of the EAEU.

## 12. Sustainability

The proposed project will engage committed local stakeholders from private and public sectors to develop and roll out modern systems for food safety management throughout the fruit and vegetable value chain. A multi-tiered training programme for food safety and quality management that meets international standards will be developed and delivered to increase capacity at all levels ranging from smallholder farmers (that account for >90% of production) through to national experts on food safety management who play a critical role in supporting food processing industries. Support will be provided for fruit and vegetable processors and their suppliers to develop and implement food safety management systems based on international standards. A training programme on modern approaches for inspection of risk based food safety management systems will be developed and delivered for personnel in the official control agencies of the MoA, MoE and MoH. Recommendations and advice will be provided to the official control agencies to enable them to revise regulations and procedures for surveillance, inspection and registration of conformity of farms and food processing industries with the regulatory requirements of the EAEU in-line with international standards.

The private/public sector stakeholders are committed to maintain, use, sustain and scale-up the outcomes of the proposed project in the future. It is based on strong national demand, local ownership and buy-in. This will enhance and ensure sustainability.

The private and public sectors are aware that conformity with international standards for food safety management within two to three years is a make a break or break issue for the future competitiveness of food production and processing in KG. Failure to comply with these requirements will drive many firms out of business and increase dependence on imported foods from Kazakhstan and Russia. The Government of KG has shown its commitment by creating a USD 60 million fund for interest free loans to FBOs for capital investments to upgrade their factories to international standards. The members of the AFVE are unanimous in their commitment to supporting and maintaining the outcomes of the proposed project in the long-term. AFVE as a representative of >90% of the FBO's in the formal sector has committed resources to mainstream the outputs of the proposed project into its training programme and advisory services. Smallholder farmers who supply food processing and export industries are concerned about the possibility of loss of market due to the EAEU regulatory requirements and have expressed willingness to work with their FBO's to implement and maintain food safety management systems on their farms. Prior experience of smallholders involved in export horticulture elsewhere in the world indicates that additional costs for maintaining a food safety management system will not exceed 1-2% of the smallholders' annual income from fruit or vegetable production. The proposed project will provide training to at least 1 500 – 2 000 smallholder farmers in the key production areas for F&V in KG. The FBO's are committed to continuing to roll-out the training programme for the rest of their 320 000 growers beyond the life of the project. This process will be aided by the cascading peer group training approach whereby the project team will train several farmers in a smallholder group (typically at least 100 smallholders per group) who will then extend training to the rest of the members of the group (mentored by technical staff from the processing company that buys their produce). Ensuring the availability of training materials and their use in ongoing training initiatives will be assured.

The Ministries of Agriculture, Health and Economy are mandated to provide inspection and surveillance of food safety and quality from farm to fork in KG. They have personnel and resources allocated in their annual budgets to deliver these functions.

The outcomes of the proposed project will enable the OC agencies to reform their regulations and procedures for inspection and surveillance of conformity with food safety requirements on farm and in packing and processing industries. Routine delivery of a modern risk-based inspection and surveillance system will not greatly increase normal operational costs. The main cost would be the non-recurring additional burden of extra training for personnel in the new areas of practical aspects of risk assessment and inspection of food safety management systems. These costs would be shared between the proposed project and the OC agencies. Post-project completion refresher training would be covered under the annual training budgets of the OC agencies.

### III. BUDGET

#### 13. Estimated budget

A summary of the USD costs for the proposed project for the Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable industry is given in appendix 3. A detailed breakdown USD is provided in the attached spreadsheet. The spreadsheet provides details of the breakdown of individual costs in terms of numbers of days of input, costs per day etc.

#### 14. Cost-effectiveness

The KG fruit vegetable industry (processed & unprocessed products) supports the livelihood of 32% of the working population. The end-products of the industry have excellent potential for sale into high-value domestic and export markets especially to Kazakhstan and Russia. Accession to the EAEU in August 2015 was intended to increase access to Kazakh and Russian markets for Kyrgyz produce. However, when compared to pre-accession figures (2014 data) sales of fruits and vegetables to Russia and Kazakhstan fell by approximately 30% in 2015 and have not recovered. Industry and Government stakeholders identify problems with conforming to EAEU regulations for food safety management and access to resources for upgrading of private sector infrastructure and equipment as the main reasons for difficulties in accessing markets where they had been expanding.

Russia has provided funding for upgrading of laboratory equipment for the competent authorities in KG. The Ministry of Economy of the Government of KG has created a USD 60 million fund that will provide interest free loans for the fruit and vegetable industry for infrastructural upgrades. Several donors have invested funds to support improvements to food safety for selected aspects of fruits and vegetables. However, these investments focus on specific products and geographical areas and place emphasis on international expertise. Support for longer-term development of national capacity in food safety management is under supported and there appears to be almost no provision to support the competent authorities to develop the procedures and skills required for assessment of conformity of a modern risk-based food safety management system. Much emphasis is being placed on HACCP for food industries but management of food safety risks at farm level is receiving limited support. These gaps in support undermine the excellent efforts of the other donor agencies, Government of KG and EAEU authorities. If these gaps are not addressed the KG fruit and vegetable industry will continue to be undermined and will face an uncertain future when the transitional period for KG compliance with EAEU regulations expires in August 2019.

The proposed project developed by the AFVE is designed to cross link and integrate with other donor investments, and addresses the weak areas of food safety in primary production, support for competent authorities to develop the capacity to assess food

safety management systems and long-term national capacity (private and public sector) to manage food safety risks along the value-chain. The potential for increased income via improvements to food safety management far outweighs the total cost of the investment required for the proposed project. Although developed for the fruit and vegetable sector many of the outcomes of the project have much wider applicability for example modern approaches for assessment of conformity of food safety management will be usable for other food sectors such as meat, dairy and fish.

#### IV. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION & MANAGEMENT

##### 15. Implementing organization

The project will be implemented with the support of FAO as the implementing agency. FAO as leading UN agency on agriculture, will bring technical and capacity development expertise to the project, particularly covering the fields of food safety, plant health and plant protection, organic agriculture, value chain development, social protection and nutrition, to support the progress toward sustainable food systems for healthy diets.

FAO and AFVE have discussed collaboration on implementation of the project. FAO expects to enter into a Letter of Agreement with AFVE in this regard.

The support from AFVE<sup>8</sup> for selected project activities representing its membership in the fruit and vegetable sector will be an important contribution to the project and will help ensure the project's results and sustainability. AFVE is also ready to provide an important interface between the FBOs and the OC agencies throughout the project. AFVE believe that having a strong partnership vested in a national organisation ensures that activities are better orientated to national requirements, provides a much greater sense of ownership and greatly improves the chances of long-term sustainability of project outcomes.

As a partner with FAO in this project, AFVE will:

- contribute to providing information and guidance during the baseline review, inception phase of the project;
- participate in the selection of the project's target group and advise on potential consultants, taking into account the needs and assessment of the situation in the sector;
- act as the main interface with the fruit and vegetable FBOs throughout the project, facilitate dialogue and feedback on project activities, including
  - create awareness and registration of AFVE member companies and small F & V producers wishing to implement food safety management systems;
  - support the review of supporting materials and training programs for food processors and small farmers for the adaptation of GAP, GHP and HACCP.
- contribute to the training needs assessment (TNA) for private and public service providers and potential trainers;
- working closely with project consultants, support the organization of the food safety system audits for farm and processing sites to determine status, gaps, risks and requirements to demonstrate conformity with TR/021/2011;- working closely with project consultants, support the organization and roll-out of the training of FBOs, and farmers on GAP, GHP, and HACCP;
- provide training facilities at AFVE premises;

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<sup>8</sup> [www.afve.org](http://www.afve.org) or <http://eng.afve.org/> (English version)

- disseminate materials through the AFVE website, and facilitate communication with Agro-Asia for dissemination of information and materials through the Agro-Asia e-platform and network.
- interact with enterprises, farmers, consultants, state authorities and local governments on the progress in implementation of GAP, GHP and HACCP, including data collection on progress in meeting the project OVs.

AFVE has a long history of successful partnerships with international donors working on developmental initiatives relevant to the fruit and vegetable industry and managing ~USD760 000 in donor funds since 2003. Early partnerships included work for Helvetia (2003-2004) worth ~ EUR 67 000 and work on an ADB/ITC/Helvetia project between 2004-2010 worth ~ EUR 384 000. AFVE were partners in the EU funded Central Asia Invest III project and developed a manual on HACCP and guide to the EU harmonised regulatory framework for SPS measures in 2014-2015. They are currently partnering with Hilfswerk International of Austria to deliver a ~650,000€ project for fruit and vegetable producers and processors in the South of KG as part of the EU funded CANDY-IV project. They are working with GIZ (2016-2020) to deliver ~USD 50 000 of support for a GIZ project working with selected growers and food processors to implement GLOBALGAP and ISO22000:2005 as one route for demonstrating conformity with EAEU regulations and access requirements for certain high-value export markets.

AFVE is committed to mainstream work under this project into its core operations (such as training programmes and advisory services for food industries) moving forward, including after the project to allocate its own budget to ensure sustainability and continuity.

## **16. Project management**

To ensure quality control, stakeholder engagement and expertise, and independent oversight of delivery of the activities, a Project Steering Committee (PSC) will be established. The PSC will convene 4 weeks prior to each scheduled date for reporting to the STDF. The PSC will have the authority to make recommendations for any adjustments required to ensure optimal and timely delivery of project activities and work plans. The permanent membership of the PSC will consist of the Director of AFVE, the overall project leader, representative of MoH and MoA, FAO, project leaders from the partner organisations and the M&E specialist.

FAO, as the implementing agency will provide technical, operational and financial oversight of the project activities. This will include working with experts from both public and private sectors, and when necessary engaging national and international consultants to support specific project activities. National experts can include independent consultants or personnel working in MoA, MoH, MoE. FAO will lead the preparation of the 6 monthly progress and final reports to the donor, facilitating input from AFVE and other stakeholders and partners involved in project delivery. The financial reports will be provided by FAO in accordance with the scheduled agreed with STDF and will follow the rules and guidelines defined by STDF.

AFVE will be the lead organization facilitating essential collaboration and engagement with FBOs in its membership. AFVE will perform the agreed activities through the signing of a Letter of Agreement with FAO. The results achieved will be reported to STDF through the 6-monthly reports. AFVE will need to provide financial reporting to FAO on the use of the allocated funds. Where other private and public-sector partners agree to undertake specific activities, the Letter of Agreement modality will be used as the contractual arrangement.

As the project progresses, it may be important for ad hoc attendance by other agencies such as potential donor partners for specific activities as required. Attendance by external agencies will ensure the outputs, experiences and lessons achieved under the project can be picked up and mainstreamed in other bigger programmes (such as the multi-donor funded Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program “CAREC”), ensuring coherence, synergies and maximising impact potential.

## V. REPORTING, MONITORING & EVALUATION

### 17. Project reporting

FAO as main implementing agency will be responsible for provision of progress reports to the STDF. These external reports will be sent by email to the STDF at 6 monthly intervals on the last working day of the month. A separate financial report with reconciliation of funds and invoice for the next 6 months of funding will also be prepared (electronic and paper copy as per specifications of the STDF). Both management and financial reports will be prepared according to the requirements of the STDF and based on the Implementation Assignment Agreement signed with FAO.

The exact dates for each report will be determined when the start and finish dates for the project are agreed. However, an outline reporting schedule for progress reports to STDF is given below.

Year 1 end of quarter 2: Project inception report  
Year 1 end of quarter 4: Progress report (end of year 1)  
Year 2 end of quarter 2: Progress report  
Year 2 end of quarter 4: Progress report (end of year 2)  
Year 3 end of quarter 2: Progress report  
Year 3 end of quarter 4: Final report including report of the dissemination seminar for the Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable industry & donor representatives

The progress reports are intended mainly for project management purposes but will also document success stories provided by the M&E team. The project implementing team will also produce technical reports and materials related to the delivery of the activities. Copies of all materials will be provided to the STDF in an electronic format.

Each partner organisation will provide the project leader with a 6-monthly progress report. These internal progress reports (in Russian) will be scheduled for delivery 6 weeks prior to the scheduled date for reporting to the STDF. This is to allow time for extraction, translation and incorporation of findings into the progress report for the STDF.

### 18. Monitoring and evaluation, including performance indicators

M&E activities are very important to measure results and eventual success of the project. Having adequate M&E expertise from the beginning of the project will be important to determine the M&E for planned activities, responsibilities and project results. The AFVE works shares office facilities and works closely with AGRO-ASIA Ltd. AGRO-ASIA has personnel that specialise in providing monitoring and evaluation services and it is proposed that AGRO-ASIA will provide M&E for the proposed project. The M&E team for the proposed project will have responsibility for reporting to AFVE. Internal M&E reports will be generated on a quarterly basis. The yearly reports which feed into the progress reports to the STDF will be delivered to the AFVE by AGRO-ASIA 6 weeks before the reporting deadline for the STDF progress report. This

is to allow time for synthesise of the M&E findings into the progress report and for discussion of the M&E data by the Project Steering Committee and FAO.

The main job of the M&E team will be to collect the data (disaggregated whenever relates to human beings) and provide the analysis necessary for measurement of delivery and impact of the project in terms of progress towards meeting the objectively verifiable indicators (OVIs) defined at objective and output level of the logical framework (see Appendix 1).

The objective level OVIs state that within 3 years there is 30% increase in F&V companies certified as conforming to EAEU food safety requirements by competent authorities. Ministry of Health and Agriculture surveillance data records at least a 25% decrease in food safety related non-conformances for fruit and vegetable products by the end of the project.

By the end of the project KG fruit and vegetable industries record a 10% increase in value of sales to domestic markets, 5% increase in sales to EAEU and 3% in sales to non-EAEU international markets (EU, CIS, China, Mongolia & Turkey) when compared with pre EAEU accession data for 2014. Incomes of smallholder suppliers increase by 20% due to improved performance of the fruit and vegetable industry.

These OVIs are the real measure of impact of the proposed project providing an assessment of whether adoption of EAEU compliant food safety management systems results in significant increases in volume and value of product sales and better income levels for smallholder farmers.

The output level OVIs are more mechanistic and will provide the project partners, AVRE project leader and the Project Steering Committee with a measure of progress with delivery of the project. The OVIs for each output are as follows.

**Output 1** By the end of year 3 of the project:

- 1.1 By the end of the project at least 30% of AFVE member companies & their smallholder suppliers are trained in and implement improved food safety management systems and demonstrate conformity with EAEU regulations.

**Output 2** By the end of year 3 of the project:

- 2.1 By the end of the project at least 10 national experts trained to instructor level (level 4) and 20-30 national experts trained to instructor level (level 3) in risk assessment, food safety management and peer group training techniques. Instructors roll-out training programmes for F&V industry and official control agencies (see output 2.5).

**Output 3** By the end of year 3 of the project:

- 3.1 By the end of the project at least 45% of ~400 MoH state surveillance inspectors are trained in, and adopt modern approaches for assessment of conformity of risk-based food safety management systems.

The M&E activities start in year 1 with analysis of current status of food safety management conformity of farms and processing industries via the food safety system audits, capacity and requirements of national experts via the training needs assessment and current status and needs of the official control agencies in order to



inspect and certify conformity of food safety management systems as per TR/021/2011. In years 2 and 3 of the project the M&E will make regular monitoring visits to the smallholders and processing sites and compile and analyse data on implementation of food safety management systems, progress towards certification of conformity with TR/021/2011 and volumes and values of product sales. The M&E team will also meet with representatives of the MoH, MoA and MoE to compile data and stakeholder feedback on progress with implementation of modern approaches for inspection of regulatory conformity of food safety management systems.

## **19. Dissemination of the projects results**

Access to information in Russian and Kyrgyz on modern food safety management systems and audit based approaches for verifying compliance is vital for FBOs and OC agencies in Kyrgyz Republic. By using the correct information, they are able to demonstrate conformity with the requirements of the EAEU framework of technical regulations for SPS measures. The proposed food safety project is designed to draw together and provide translations, interpretations and adaptations of existing materials (mainly in English) on modern approaches for food safety management and verification. The project team will also develop practical guidance for FBOs and OC agencies on how to conform with EAEU technical regulations on food safety and other new materials such as peer group training materials and standardised training packages with distinct levels to meet the needs of different user groups.

The material generated by the proposed project in Kyrgyz Republic will form a valuable resource that must be made available as widely as possible for stakeholders in Kyrgyz Republic and other countries that use the Russian language. AFVE's membership covers >90% of fruit and vegetable processing industries and several dairy and meat processors in the formal sector in KG. The AFVE is well placed to disseminate project outputs to its members in electronic and paper format. Materials generated by the project will be made freely available for public access via the AFVE website and the electronic resource library on the STDF website.

AFVE works closely with an electronic information provider AGRO-ASIA ([www.agro-asia.com](http://www.agro-asia.com)). AGRO-ASIA operates an e-platform for agri-food production and processing information mainly focussing on Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan. The platform is available in Russian (some parts have translations into Kyrgyz, Tajik and English) and can be accessed via 2G mobile phone applications or internet. Much of the material is designed for download and offline access to reduce communications for the end user. The e-platform provides a wide range of information, guidance, training materials, market information and trading opportunities in the area of agri-food production and processing. Access to information and downloads (>50,000 downloads made since 2016) is free for all users, the platform is funded via fees paid by businesses wishing to advertise services such as production and processing equipment, agro-chemicals and materials for food processing such as packaging materials, food additives etc. AGRO-ASIA's mobile applications are promoted by the operators of kiosks (micro-shops) in rural areas of KG and Tajikistan who receive a small fee for each subscriber they help to download the mobile application. AFVE and AGRO-ASIA will partner to make food safety management outputs of the proposed project freely available on the AGRO-ASIA e-platform. This would be a valuable extension of the range of services available on the platform to include food safety management systems and practical guidance on conformity with EAEU technical regulations. AGRO-ASIA is very popular in KG and Tajikistan but is also accessed by users in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Russia.

APPENDIX 1: Logical Framework of the proposed project for the Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable industry<sup>9</sup>

|                                      | <b>Project Description</b>  | <b>Measurable indicators / targets</b>   | <b>Sources of verification</b>  | <b>Assumptions and risks</b>   |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| <b>Goal</b>                          | Increased competitiveness and sustainability of Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable industry resulting in increased sales to high-value markets impacting positively on the livelihoods of 323,000 smallholder farmers | 10% increase in value of sales to domestic markets, 5% increase in sales to EAEU and 3% in sales to non-EAEU international markets (EU, CIS, China, Mongolia & Turkey) within 3 years (measured against pre EAEU accession baseline data for 2014). Incomes of smallholder suppliers increase by 20% due to improved performance of F&V industry.  | KG National Statistical Committee data for national and export sales of fruit and vegetable products and rural household income survey.<br><br>Commercial data from AFVE member companies.<br><br>Import statistics from countries targeted by KG F&V industry.   | At least 30% of AFVE member companies commit to upgrading of infrastructure and implementation of GHP & HACCP.<br><br>Smallholder farmer groups (that supply AFVE companies) commit to implementation of better food safety management practices.<br><br>The Government of KG maintains its commitment to provide USD60 million in interest free loans to support SPS related infrastructural upgrades for food processing industries.<br><br>Ministries of Health & Agriculture commit to increase capacity to inspect conformity of risk-based food safety management systems. |
| <b>Immediate objective (purpose)</b> | Improvements to food safety & quality of Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable products enable increased volume and value of sales to target markets.  | Increased sales to domestic & export markets (see goal).<br><br>30% increase in F&V companies certified as conforming to EAEU food safety requirements by competent authorities by the end of the project.<br><br>Ministry of Health and Agriculture surveillance data records at least a 25% decrease in food safety related non-conformances for fruit and vegetable products by the end of the project. | KG National Statistical Committee data for national and export sales of fruit and vegetable products and rural household income survey.<br><br>AFVE member companies SPS and sales records. GAP records of smallholder F&V farmers.<br><br>Food safety surveillance & EAEU regulatory conformity data from Ministries of Health & Agriculture.<br><br>EAEU food safety surveillance data from EAEU appointed agencies "Rosselkhoznadzor" & "Rospotrebnadzor". | Smallholder farmer groups are committed to implementation of better food safety management practices.<br><br>Private sector partners support smallholder groups to implement better food safety practices effectively.<br><br>Private sector partners have the resources to implement GHP & HACCP and upgrade infrastructure.<br><br>KG fruit and vegetable products achieve better access to high-value export and domestic markets and obtain price premiums that feedback to the smallholder farmers.   |
| <b>Expected results (outputs)</b>    | 1.0 Capacity of Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable industry to adopt GAP,   | 1.0 By the end of the project at least 30% of AFVE member  | 1.0 AFVE member companies training and food safety  | 1.0 AFVE member companies and smallholder farmer groups are  |

<sup>9</sup> See the CIDT Handbook on Project Identification, Formulation and Design, available on the STDF website, for guidance on the preparation of logical frameworks.

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|                   | <p>GHP &amp; HACCP enhanced.</p> <p>2.0 Capacity of Kyrgyz service providers to provide advice, training and expert inputs on risk assessment, GAP, GHP &amp; HACCP to international standards increased.</p> <p>3.0 Capacity of competent authorities to inspect and certify GAP &amp; HACCP based systems in Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable processing industries as being compliant with the regulatory requirements of the EAEU enhanced.</p>   | <p>companies &amp; their smallholder suppliers are trained in and implement improved food safety management systems and demonstrate conformity with EAEU regulations.</p> <p>2.0 By the end of the project at least 10 national experts trained to instructor level (level 4) in risk assessment, food safety management and peer group training techniques. Instructors roll-out training programmes for F&amp;V industry and official control agencies (see 1.0 &amp; 2.0).</p> <p>3.0 By the end of the project at least 45% of MoH state surveillance inspectors are trained in, and adopt modern approaches for assessment of conformity of risk-based food safety management systems.</p> | <p>management records and copies of valid certificates of conformity issued by the MoH.</p> <p>2.0 Copies of level 4 certificates for instructors and evidence that the syllabuses, content and administrative procedures of the KG food safety training system meet international standards for national technical/vocational qualifications (levels 1-4).</p> <p>3.0 Training and state surveillance records for regulatory conformity of the MoH.</p> | <p>committed to implementation of better food safety management practices.</p> <p>2.0 National experts commit to training programme, pass examinations in food safety management at national technical/vocational level 4 and are certified as instructors for risk-based food safety management.</p> <p>3.0 Ministry of Health commits to increase capacity to inspect conformity of risk-based food safety management systems.</p>  |
| <b>Activities</b> | <p>1.1 Baseline data collection, and project inception review phase</p> <p>1.2 Promote the cooperation between AFVE industries and smallholder producers and other relevant actors of the F&amp;V value chain in order to implement food safety management systems.</p> <p>1.3 Assessment of the farm and processing sites to understand status, gaps, risks and requirements of current food safety systems in the country with respect to the TR/021/2011.</p> <p>1.4 Development of supporting materials</p> | <p>1.1 By the end of Q1, updated baseline data will be collected, an M&amp;E frame for the project agreed and OVis and other indicators confirmed or amended.</p> <p>1.2 By end of Q2 of Yr1 at least 50% of AFVE companies commit to work with the project.</p> <p>1.3 By Q3 of Yr1 food safety system audits complete.</p> <p>1.4 By Q4 of Yr1 final versions of supporting</p>   | <p>1.1 A baseline review document complete</p> <p>1.2 Copies of signed collaborative agreements available for processing industries and smallholder farms/groups.</p> <p>1.3 Copies of food safety systems audits, database of baseline data and analysis of status of conformity, food safety risks and food safety management system requirements.</p>   | <p>Ready access to updated information, availability of private sector and public sector to contribute to the review.</p> <p>At least 50% of AFVE member companies commit to upgrading of infrastructure and implementation of GHP &amp; HACCP.</p> <p>Smallholder farmer groups (that supply AFVE companies) commit to implementation of better food safety management practices.</p> <p>Private sector partners support smallholder groups to implement better food safety practices effectively.</p> <p>The Government of KG maintains its commitment to</p> |

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|  | <p>for conformity with food safety requirements of TR/021/2011 (including, manuals, guidelines, inspection checklists &amp; templates for record keeping).</p> <p>1.5 Roll-out of food safety management systems (GAP, GHP &amp; HACCP as appropriate) for farm and processing sites supported by the project.</p> <p>2.1 Review of international standards &amp; supporting material on food safety management in Russian and English.</p> <p>2.2 Training needs assessment (TNA) for private and public-sector service providers and potential instructors.</p> <p>2.3 Development of a standardised training system (with syllabuses &amp; training outcomes for 4 levels of competence) that meets international standards for national technical/vocational qualifications.</p> <p>2.4 Development of appropriate training materials on risk assessment, GAP, GHP, HACCP and modern inspection/auditing techniques for different target groups (farms, processors, service-providers &amp; government inspection services).</p> <p>2.5 Delivery of training programmes following a cascade approach (training of instructors who cascade training to wider group of stakeholders).</p> | <p>materials based on international standards and adapted to KG requirements available.</p> <p>1.5 Implementation starting in Q1 of Yr2 end Q4 Yr3. Support supplied on a demand driven basis to at least 48 F&amp;V FBO's and 1,500 - 2,000 smallholder farmers who supply produce to the FBO's.</p> <p>2.1 By Q1 of Yr1 review of available materials with assessment of gaps completed.</p> <p>2.2 By Q3 of Yr1 TNA complete for 90 national experts from private and public sectors. Initial team of instructors identified.</p> <p>2.3 By Q1 of Yr2 standardised training system adapted to EAEU and KG requirements in Russian and Kyrgyz.</p> <p>2.4 By Q1 of Yr2 training materials for use in the KG food safety training system completed and presented to MoA &amp; MoH for approval.</p> <p>2.5 Starting in Q1 of Yr2 and completion by end of Q3 of Yr3. ~10 instructors trained to level 4. Instructors roll-out training programmes to FBO's and farms (Level 2 or 3</p> | <p>1.4 Electronic copies of all supporting materials available in Kyrgyz, Russian and English.</p> <p>1.5 Copies of implementation reports from national and international experts and feedback from farmers and companies.</p> <p>2.1 Copy of review of reference material with assessment of gaps requiring development of new material.</p> <p>2.2 Copies of individual training needs assessments, gap analysis and agreements with potential instructors.</p> <p>2.3 Copy of syllabuses, training outcomes, sample questions and model answers/rationales for multi-choice options for each level.</p> <p>2.4 Copies of training materials in Kyrgyz, Russian and English.</p> <p>2.5 Training reports, trainee feedback and copies of certificates.</p> | <p>provide USD60 million in interest free loans to support SPS related infrastructural upgrades for food processing industries.</p> <p>Ministries of Health &amp; Agriculture commit to increase capacity to inspect conformity of risk-based food safety management systems.</p> |
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|  |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|--|---|--|
|  | <p>2.6 Awareness creation and wider dissemination of training and supporting materials using an innovative phone (2G) and internet based e-platform with targeted services for farmers, including women-farmers and women working in farms as contributing family members (GAP) and food business operators (GHP &amp; HACCP).</p> <p>3.1 Development of procedures for risk assessment and inspection of regulatory conformity of food safety management systems for F&amp;V processing industries.</p> <p>3.2 National regulations updated as required</p> | <p>as appropriate). FBO/farms use peer-group approach train workers to level 1.</p> <p>2.6 Starting in Q2 of Yr2 electronic copies of training and supporting materials in public domain via websites and e-platform.</p> <p>3.1 By end of Q2 of Yr2 revised inspection requirements and protocol completed and presented to MoH for approval.</p> <p>3.2 Review completed, and regulations updated or amended as required</p> | <p>2.6 Copies of training resource materials available electronically via AFVE website, AGRO-ASIA E-platform and links to the websites of the Chamber of Commerce and Union of Manufacturers and Entrepreneurs.</p> <p>3.1 Copies of inspection protocols and procedures for assessment of conformity of food safety management systems for F&amp;V processing industries.</p> <p>3.2 Copy of review available, and drafts of any regulations</p> |  |
|--|--|--|---|--|

**APPENDIX 2: Work Plan proposed project for the Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable industry<sup>10</sup>**

| Activity  | Responsibility  | Year 1 |     |    |    | Year 2 |    |    |    | Year 3 |    |    |    |
|---|---|--------|-----|----|----|--------|----|----|----|--------|----|----|----|
|   |   | Q1     | Q2  | Q3 | Q4 | Q1     | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1     | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
| <b>Output 1 Capacity of Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable industry to adopt GAP, GHP &amp; HACCP enhanced.</b>   |   |        |     |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |
| 1.1 Baseline data collection, inception review phase of project   | IE & NEs, AFVE,   | 1.1    |     |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |
| 1.2 Promote the cooperation between AFVE industries and smallholder producers and other relevant actors of the F&V value chain in order to implement food safety management systems.        | AFVE (NE)   | 1.2    | 1.2 |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |
| 1.3 Assessment of farm and processing sites to understand the status, gaps, risks and requirements of current food safety systems in the country with respect to the TR/021/2011.           | AFVE IE & NE's  | 1.3    |     |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |
| 1.4 Development of supporting materials for conformity with food safety requirements of TR/021/2011 (including, manuals, guidelines, inspection checklists & templates for record keeping). | IE & NE's, Private and public-sector partners                 | 1.4    |     |    |    |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |
| 1.5 Roll-out of food safety management systems (GAP, GHP & HACCP as appropriate) for farm and processing sites supported by the project.  | AFVE NE's, Private and public-sector partners supported by IE |        |     |    |    | 1.5    |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |

<sup>10</sup> Please shade or otherwise indicate when the activity will take place.

| Activity   | Responsibility  | Year 1 |    |    |    | Year 2 |                                      |    |    | Year 3 |    |    |    |
|--|---|--------|----|----|----|--------|--------------------------------------|----|----|--------|----|----|----|
|  |   | Q1     | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1     | Q2                                   | Q3 | Q4 | Q1     | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
| <b>Output 2.0 Capacity of Kyrgyz service providers to provide advice, training and expert inputs on risk assessment, GAP, GHP &amp; HACCP to international standards increased.</b>  |   |        |    |    |    |        |                                      |    |    |        |    |    |    |
| 2.1 Review of international standards & supporting material on food safety management in Russian, Kyrgyz and English.  | AFVE IE & NE's, MoH, MoA                                      | 2.1    |    |    |    |        |                                      |    |    |        |    |    |    |
| 2.2 Training needs assessment for private and public-sector service providers and potential instructors.   | AFVE IE & NE's  | 2.2    |    |    |    |        |                                      |    |    |        |    |    |    |
| 2.3 Development and implementation of a standardised training system that meets international standards for national technical/vocational qualifications.  | IE & NE's   | 2.3    |    |    |    |        |                                      |    |    |        |    |    |    |
| 2.4 Development of appropriate training materials on risk assessment, GAP, GHP, HACCP and modern inspection/auditing techniques for different target groups (farms, processors, service-providers & government inspection services). | IE & NE's, MoA & MoH  | 2.4    |    |    |    |        |                                      |    |    |        |    |    |    |
| 2.5 Delivery of training programmes following a cascade approach (training of lead instructors who cascade training to wider group of stakeholders).   | IE, NE's (private & public-sector partners) supported by AFVE |        |    |    |    | 2.5    |                                      |    |    |        |    |    |    |
| 2.6 Awareness creation and wider dissemination of training and supporting materials using an innovative phone (2G) and internet based e-platform with targeted services for farmers (GAP) and food business operators (GHP & HACCP). | AFVE & AGRO-ASIA  |        |    |    |    |        | 2.6 (Material added upon completion) |    |    |        |    |    |    |

| Activity  | Responsibility   | Year 1 |     |     |     | Year 2 |    |    |    | Year 3 |    |    |    |
|---|--|--------|-----|-----|-----|--------|----|----|----|--------|----|----|----|
|   |  | Q1     | Q2  | Q3  | Q4  | Q1     | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1     | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
| <b>Output 3.0 Capacity of competent authorities to inspect and determine conformity of GAP &amp; HACCP based systems in Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable processing industries with the regulatory requirements of the EAEU enhanced.</b> |  |        |     |     |     |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |
| 3.1 Development of procedures for risk assessment and inspection of regulatory conformity of food safety management systems for F&V processing industries.  | Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture supported by IE/NE's |        |     |     | 3.1 |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |
| 3.2 Updating regulations to support the uptake of GAP, or GHP/HACCP in fruit and vegetable chain  | IE, NE, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture              |        | 3.2 | 3.2 |     |        |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |



### APPENDIX 3: Budget (USD)<sup>11</sup>

The following table provides a summary of the budget for the proposed project in USD. Full details of budget breakdown in USD are provided in the attached spreadsheet.

|   | STDF          | In-kind        |                |
|---|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Output 1 Capacity of Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable industry to adopt GAP, GHP &amp; HACCP enhanced.</b>   |               |                |                |
| 1.1 Baseline data collection, inception review phase of project   | 34,061        |                |                |
| 1.2 Promote the cooperation between AFVE industries and smallholder producers and other relevant actors of the F&V value chain in order to implement food safety management systems.  | 18,092        |                |                |
| 1.3 Assessment of the farm and processing sites to understand the status, gaps, risks and requirements of current food safety systems in the country with respect to the TR/021/2011.   | 37,511        |                |                |
| 1.4 Development of supporting materials for conformity with food safety requirements of TR/021/2011 (including, manuals, guidelines, inspection checklists & templates for record keeping).   | 39,362        |                |                |
| 1.5 Roll-out of food safety management systems (GAP, GHP & HACCP as appropriate) for farm and processing sites  | 49,058        |                |                |
| <b>Output 2.0 Capacity of Kyrgyz service providers to provide advice, training and expert inputs on risk assessment, GAP, GHP &amp; HACCP to international standards increased.</b>   |               |                |                |
| 2.1 Review of international standards & supporting material on food safety management.  | 8,925         |                |                |
| 2.2 Training needs assessment for private and public-sector service providers and potential instructors.  | 15,105        |                |                |
| 2.3 Development and implementation of a standardised training system that meets international standards.  | 33,297        |                |                |
| 2.4 Development of appropriate training materials on risk assessment, GAP, GHP, HACCP and modern inspection/auditing techniques for different target groups.  | 20,568        |                |                |
| 2.5 Delivery of training programmes following a cascade approach (training of lead instructors who cascade training to wider group of stakeholders).  | 151,944       |                |                |
| 2.6 Awareness creation and wider dissemination of training and supporting materials using an innovative phone (2G) and internet based e-platform.   | 6,013         |                |                |
| <b>Output 3.0 Capacity of competent authorities to inspect and determine conformity of GAP &amp; HACCP based systems in Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable processing industries with the regulatory requirements of the EAEU enhanced.</b> |               |                |                |
| 3.1 Development of procedures for risk assessment and inspection of regulatory conformity of food safety management systems for F&V processing industries.  | 32,912        |                |                |
| 3.2 Updating regulations to support the uptake of GAP, or GHP/HACCP in fruit and vegetable chain  | 43,255        |                |                |
|   |               |                |                |
| <b>Other operating and direct costs</b>   | <b>42,607</b> |                |                |
| <b>Indirect support costs</b>   | <b>37,290</b> |                |                |
| <b>STDF contribution:</b>   | <b>USD</b>    | <b>570,000</b> |                |
| <b>Beneficiary contribution:</b>  | <b>USD</b>    |                | <b>114,210</b> |
| <b>FAO contribution</b>   | <b>USD</b>    |                | <b>62,000</b>  |
| <b>Total Budget:</b>  | <b>USD</b>    | <b>746210</b>  |                |
| <b>Beneficiary in-kind as % of total:</b>   | <b>%</b>      | <b>20</b>      |                |

The AGRO-ASIA e-platform is maintained commercially through advertiser's fees and charges for downloads of commercial materials such as market intelligence reports. There will be no charges for uploading of the projects food safety material or for processors & farmers to download this material.

<sup>11</sup> Use the headings in the budget table above as a basis to prepare a budget table, preferably as an Excel chart.

AFVE, Kyrgyz government institutions and AFVE members contribute to the project through provision of lease of premises to be used by the Project, equipment, infrastructure, utilities, and in-kind contributions by AFVE F&V processors during the implementation of the Project.

### Annualized Budget - Oracle Format by Project Years - Against Previous Budget

| Parent Account | Parent Account Description                            | Account | Account description               | Org   | 1       | 2 | 3 | 4 | Total Original Budget |
|----------------|---|---------|-----------------------------------|-------|---------|---|---|---|-----------------------|
| 5013           | Consultants   | 5543    | Consultants - Locally-recruited   | FEKYR | 6,044   | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6,044                 |
| 5013           | Consultants   | 5570    | Consultants Budget                | FEKYR | 203,150 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 203,150               |
| 5014           | Contracts   | 5650    | Contracts Budget                  | FEKYR | 90,800  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 90,800                |
| 5021           | Travel  | 5900    | Travel - Duty Budget              | FEKYR | 61,216  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 61,216                |
| 5023           | Training  | 5920    | Training Budget                   | FEKYR | 82,528  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 82,528                |
| 5027           | Technical Support Services                            | 6111    | Report Costs                      | FEKYR | 6,500   | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6,500                 |
| 5027           | Technical Support Services                            | 6116    | Project Evaluation Costs          | FEKYR | 6,000   | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6,000                 |
| 5027           | Technical Support Services                            | 6150    | Technical Support Services Budget | FEKYR | 46,365  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 46,365                |
| 5028           | General Operating Expenses                            | 6300    | General Operating Expenses Budget | FEKYR | 19,950  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 19,950                |
| 5029           | Support Costs   | 6130    | Support Costs Budget              | FEKYR | 37,290  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 37,290                |
| 5050           | General Operating Expenses - internal common services | 6500    | Chargeback Budget                 | FEKYR | 10,157  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10,157                |
| Grand Total    |   |         |                                   |       | 570,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 570,000               |

**Appendix 4:** Letters of support from organizations that support the project request

**Appendix 4 Contents:**

Letter of support from the Management Board of the AFVE in Russian & English

Letter of support from Sokoev Processing Company in Russian

Letter of support from OSCO Processing Company in Russian & English

Letter of support from the Ministry of Agriculture in Russian & English

Letter of support from the Ministry of Economy in English

Letter of support from the Ministry of Health in Russian & English

Letter of support from the Kyrgyz Standardisation and Metrology Centre in Russian & English



720001, Кыргызстан, г. Бишкек, пр.Тевиркова 99. тел: (+996 312) 46-27-44, E-mail: [fruit@elcat.kg](mailto:fruit@elcat.kg), Website: [www.afve.org](http://www.afve.org)

Протокол № \_\_\_\_  
Встречи Совета Ассоциации  
Объединения юридических лиц «Ассоциация плодовоовощных предприятий»

«2» августа 2017 года

город Бишкек

**Присутствовали:**

- Крестьянское хозяйство «Кирби» в лице Предпринимателя Менкус И.Г.;
- Акционерное общество закрытого типа «Десерт», в лице Заместителя Председателя Правления Ташматова А.Ю.;
- Общество с ограниченной ответственностью «Сокоев», в лице директора Сокоев Дж.С.;
- Общество с ограниченной ответственностью «ТОКМОК-ПЛОДОВООЩ» в лице Генерального директора Букученковой Д.А.
- Директор Ассоциации Алимжанова Д.И.

Председатель собрания – Алимжанова Д.И.

Секретарь собрания – Адылбекова А.А.

**Повестка дня:**

**1. Усиление направления технического регламента № 21/2011 и внедрении элементов НАССР на предприятиях**

Ассоциация уже много лет ведет активную работу по консультированию и помощи по внедрению стандартов безопасности на предприятиях. Но в связи с нехваткой финансовых и человеческих ресурсов, 90% предприятий членов ассоциации все еще не могут внедрить стандарты безопасности.

В августе 2017 года вступил в силу технический регламент № 21/2011 Евразийского экономического союза (ЕАЭС) «О безопасности пищевой продукции», принятый в 2011 году (ранее нотифицированного в ВТО).

**2. Слушали:**

В ходе проведения настоящего заседания, заслушивались мнения всех присутствующих по существу вопросов, изложенных в повестке дня настоящего протокола заседания.

**Решили:**

В связи с тем, что вступил в силу технический регламент № 21/2011 срочно принять меры по усилению мер, направленных на внедрение стандартов ИАССР на предприятиях.

**Подписи:**

Председатель собрания

Секретарь собрания



*[Handwritten signature]*

/ Алижанова Д.И.

*[Handwritten signature]*

/ Адилбекова А.А.

## **The Minutes of a Joint Meeting of the Association of Fruit and Vegetable Enterprises**

**2 August 2017**

**City of Bishkek**

### **Attended the meeting**

1. Peasant Farm "KIRBI": Mr. Menkhus I.G.
2. Joint Stock Company "Dessert", Mr. Tashmatov A. Y., Deputy Chairman
3. "SOKOEV" LTD., Sokoev J., Director
4. "TOKMOK Plodoovossch" LTD., Ms. Boukanchieva D.A., Director
5. The Association of Fruit and Vegetable Enterprises of the Kyrgyz Republic, Ms. Alimzhanova D.I. Director

### **The Agenda**

I. To increase efforts in order to implement EAEU Technical Regulation No. 021/2011 "On Food Safety" and to introduce Hazard Analysis and Control Critical Points (HACCP) at AFVE`s enterprises;

The Association has been holding an intensive consultative assistance on introducing safety management standards among the Association Members for many years. However, due to financial and human constraints about 90 % of the Association`s Members has not introduced yet safety management standards. In August 2017 the EAEU`s Technical Regulation No. 021/2011 "On Safety of Food Products" entered into force, which was notified to WTO earlier.

### **Discussion**

Participants have listened to all attendants who expressed the will to speak on the topic as indicated in the agenda.

### **Decision**

Due to entry into force of the Technical Regulation 021/2011 of the Eurasian Economic Union "On Food Safety" it urgently advised to take measures aimed at introduction of HACCP based standards at enterprises.

### **Signatures**

**Chairman of the meeting**

**Secretary**

**Seal**

Лого Сокоев

Всемирная торговая организация (ВТО)  
Орган по стандартам и развитию торговли (STDF)

Уважаемые господа,

ОсОО «Сокоев» выражает глубокое уважение Секретариату Всемирной торговой организации и членам Рабочей группы STDF.

ОсОО «Сокоев» стояла у истоков основания Ассоциации плодоовощных предприятий. За годы существования, ассоциация показала себя как одна из самых сильных ассоциаций в Кыргызстане, которая объединяет большинство плодоовощных предприятий нашей республики. В качестве членов мы получаем неоценимую помощь в развитии нашего сектора. Они помогают нам в решении самых сложных задач.

АППК проводят ежегодные отраслевые встречи, ежегодные семинары с торговыми компаниями из России, Казахстана и других стран, обеспечивают участие в выставках для членов ассоциации, выпускают методические пособия, информируют о разных событиях, касающихся плодоовощного сектора, помогают в консультировании, и многое другое.

ОсОО «Сокоев» полностью поддерживает подачу заявки от Ассоциации плодоовощных предприятий Кыргызской Республики и поддерживает проект, направленный на внедрение международных стандартов и передовой практики, таких как GHP и HACCP на предприятиях пищевой промышленности в Кыргызской Республике.

В августе 2017 года вступает в силу технический регламент № 21/2011 Евразийского экономического союза (ЕАЭС) «О безопасности пищевой продукции», принятом в 2011 году (ранее нотифицированного в ВТО). Согласно которому, надзорные органы имеют право проверить на наличие стандартов уже с августа 2017 года.

Наше предприятие, нуждается в помощи по внедрению стандартов HACCP и GHP. На данное время это самая актуальная задача, которая стоит перед нашим предприятием. Мы надеемся, что заявка от АППК будет одобрена, и мы получим качественную помощь во внедрении стандартов безопасности HACCP и GHP. Ведь мы хотим, чтобы наш потребитель получал самую лучшую и безопасную продукцию.



 Сокоев Дж.С.



«ОСКО»  
Общество  
с ограниченной  
ответственностью

Кыргызстан Республикасы, Т-0013, Бишкек обл., Сапармурат улуу, 1. Мекен: «Ал-Балкычтын стандартына, тасма-тармактык уюму»  
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Тел.: +996 312 484888, info@osko.kg.com,  
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г. Бишкек, Кыргызская Республика

Дата: 21.08.2017г

Иск. № 4/08

Всемирная торговая организация (ВТО)  
Орган по стандартам и развитию торговли (STDF)

Уважаемые господа,

ОсОО «ОСКО» выражает глубокое уважение Секретариату Всемирной торговой организации и членам Рабочей группы STDF.

Наше предприятие является активным членом Ассоциации производителей предприятий с момента ее основания, с 2003 года. На протяжении этих лет, ассоциация помогает нам в решении многих проблем, являясь мостиком между нами и государственными органами. Благодаря ассоциации, мы можем быть уверены, что будем услышаны государством. Также, АППК делает огромную работу для процветания и продвижения плодовоовощного сектора в Кыргызстане. Это организация ежегодных встреч с торговыми предприятиями из других стран, участие в выставках, выпуск вспомогательных методических пособий, информирование о разных событиях, касающихся плодовоовощного сектора, помощь в консультировании, проведение ежегодных отраслевых встреч и многое другое.

ОсОО «ОСКО» всесторонне поощряет подоту наших от Ассоциации производителей предприятий Кыргызской Республики и поддерживает проект, направленный на внедрение международных стандартов и передовой практики, таких как GHP и HACCP на предприятиях пищевой промышленности в Кыргызской Республике.

С момента вступления Кыргызской Республики в ЕАЭС, перед нами, предприятиями встал вопрос о внедрении таких стандартов как GHP и HACCP. В августе 2017 года вступает в силу технический регламент № 21/2011 Евразийского экономического союза (ЕАЭС) «О безопасности пищевой продукции», принятый в 2011 году (ранее нотифицированного в ВТО). Согласно которому, каждое предприятие на территории КР должно внедрить принципы HACCP.

Наше предприятие, как и большинство предприятий в КР нуждается в помощи по внедрению стандартов HACCP и GHP. Надеемся с вашей помощью, ассоциация нам в этом поможет. И мы сможем производить абсолютно безопасную продукцию, которая будет востребована не только у нас в стране, но и за ее пределами.

С уважением,

Генеральный директор ОсОО «ОСКО»



Кашперов А.Х.



«ОСКО»  
Общество  
с ограниченной  
ответственностью

Кыргызская Республика, 724815, Чуйская обл., Сокулукский р-он, п. Манас, Ат-Башинская птицефабрика, завод вакуумной сушки.  
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**Bishkek city, Kyrgyz Republic**

**Date: 08.21.2017**

**Outgoing No.**

**4/08**

**World Trade Organization (WTO)**

**The Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)**

**Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**“OSKO” LTD. expresses its highest consideration to the Secretariat of the World Trade Organization and the members of the STDF Working Group.**

**Our company has been an active member of the Association of Fruit and Vegetable Enterprises (AFVE) since its inception in 2003. Throughout the years the association helps us to solve many problems serving as a bridge between us and the government bodies. Thanks to the association we can be assured that we are heard by the state. Moreover the AFVE does a great job for the prosperity and promotion of the fruit and vegetable sector in Kyrgyzstan. It includes arrangement of annual meetings with trade enterprises from other countries, participation in exhibitions, preparation and distribution of supporting methodological guides, information on various events related to the fruit and vegetable sector, assistance in consulting, annual industry meetings, etc.**

**“OSKO” LTD. fully endorses the application from the Association of Fruit and Vegetable Enterprises of the Kyrgyz Republic and supports a project aimed at the introduction of international standards and best practices such as GHP and HACCP at food industry enterprises in the Kyrgyz Republic. Since the time of accession of the Kyrgyz Republic into the EAEU we, local enterprises, face a problem of implementing standards such as GHP and HACCP. In August 2017 the Technical Regulation (TR) No. 021/2011 of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) "On food safety", adopted in the EAEU Member States in 2011, enters into force. According to this TR, each enterprise within the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic must implement the principles of HACCP.**

**Our enterprise, like most enterprises in the Kyrgyz Republic, needs an assistance in the implementing the HACCP and GHP standards. We hope that with your assistance, the association would help us in doing this. Eventually we would be able to produce absolutely safe products, which will be on demand not only in our country, but also abroad.**

**Sincerely yours,  
Director General “OSKO” LTD.**

**A.H. Kashveev**

КЫРГЫЗ  
РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫНЫН  
АЙЫЛ ЧАРБА, ТАМАК-АИ  
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МИНИСТЕРСТВО  
СЕЛЬСКОГО ХОЗЯЙСТВА,  
ПИЩЕВОЙ ПРОМЫШЛЕННОСТИ  
И МЕЛГОРАЦИИ  
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02.07.2017 № 02-7/2017

**Всемирная торговая организация (ВТО)  
Орган по стандартам и развитию торговли**

**Уважаемые члены рабочей группы STDF,**

Министерство сельского хозяйства, пищевой промышленности и мелкого предпринимательства Кыргызской Республики выражает свое самое глубокое уважение Всемирной торговой организации (ВТО).

Кыргызская Республика является членом международных организаций по разработке стандартов, таких как Международная организация по охране здоровья животных (МЗЖ), Международная конвенция по защите растений (МКЗР), Комиссия Codex Alimentarius. В республике постоянно поддерживается работа по разработке и внедрению новых стандартов, направленных на обеспечение безопасности пищевых продуктов, защиту растений и здоровья животных с учетом возможностей для расширения региональной и международной торговли.

В 2015 году Кыргызская Республика присоединилась к региональному экономическому соглашению, которое называется Евразийский экономический союз (ЕАЭС), которое состоит из четырех государств-членов ВТО, а именно Республики Армения, Республики Казахстан, Кыргызской Республики и Российской Федерации, а Республика Беларусь активно движется вперед, чтобы стать полноправным членом ВТО. Правила и практика ЕАЭС, как указано в Договоре об учреждении ЕАЭС, а в соответствующих технических регламентах и санитарных и фитосанитарных мерах, подчеркивают приоритет международных стандартов, таких как, например, технический регламент № 21/2011 «О безопасности пищевой продукции», где требуется внедрение и поддержание международно признанных принципов HACCP, а также требований по прослеживаемости по всей цепочке производства продуктов питания. Поскольку импорт первичных сельскохозяйственных продуктов и обработанных пищевых

продуктов, поступающих в Кыргызстане растет, мы надеемся на продолжение этой тенденции путем внедрения системы HACCP и надлежащей сельскохозяйственной практики среди местных перерабатывающих компаний и фирм.

Кыргызская Республика увеличила продажи сельскохозяйственной продукции на региональные рынки, такие как Таджикистан, Казахстан и Россия. Наши переработчики и фермеры смогли улучшить продажи в Турцию (фасоль) и Европейский Союз (фасоль, мед и абрикос), а Китайская Народная Республика серьезно рассматривает возможность импорта продуктов из Кыргызской Республики.

После присоединения к ЕАЭС министерство сельского хозяйства, пищевой промышленности и мелкоранжи Кыргызской Республики отмечает возросший спрос на свежие и переработанные фрукты, ягоды и овощи, для выращивания которых в республике очень хорошие условия. Однако средние и крупные оптовые и розничные сети в государствах-членах ЕАЭС требуют строгого выполнения стандартов безопасности и качества.

Мы считаем, что благодаря Органу по стандартам и развитию торговли (STDF), возглавляемому Всемирной торговой организацией (ВТО), наши переработчики и фермеры восполнят пробел в наращивании потенциала, что приведет к успешному внедрению стандартов и практике GHP, HACCP и GAP в производственном процессе. В 2016 году Министерство сельского хозяйства, пищевой промышленности и мелкоранжи Кыргызской Республики поддержало заявку от Ассоциации плодоовощных предприятий Кыргызской Республики на финансирование технико-экономического обоснования по внедрению международных стандартов и практик в области фитосанитарных и санитарных мер.

Принимая во внимание سخائبые вызовы, мы решительно поддерживаем дальнейшее финансирование проекта, возглавляемого Ассоциацией плодоовощных предприятий Кыргызской Республики и готовы сотрудничать в его реализации.

Министерство сельского хозяйства, пищевой промышленности и мелкоранжи Кыргызской Республики пользуется настоящей возможностью, чтобы выразить уверенность в своем сильном высоком уважении Всемирной торговой организации и надеется на плодотворное сотрудничество с целью дальнейшего расширения.

С уважением,

Заместитель министра



Э.Чадыев

## **World Trade Organization (WTO)**

### **The Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)**

Dear Members of the STDF Working Group,

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food Industry and Melioration of the Kyrgyz Republic presents its highest consideration to the World Trade Organization (WTO).

The Kyrgyz Republic is a member of international standard setting organizations such as International Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), Codex Alimentarius Commission. It continuously supports development and introduction of new standards aimed at food safety, plant protection and animal health with specific concern over expansion of regional and international trade.

In 2015 the Kyrgyz Republic acceded the regional economic agreement called the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) which consists now of four WTO Member States, namely the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic and the Russian Federation while the Republic of Belarus is actively moving forward to become a fully-fledged WTO Member State. The EAEU's rules and practices, as indicated in the EAEU Treaty and relevant technical regulations and sanitary and phytosanitary measures, highlight the priority of international standards, for instance, the EAEU's Technical Regulation No. 21/2011 "On Safety of Food Products" calls for introduction and maintenance of internationally recognized HACCP principles and traceability requirement along the entire food production chain. Since export of primary agri-products and processed food originated in Kyrgyzstan is increasing we are of the view to support this trend via introduction of HACCP system and Good Agriculture Practice in local processing companies and farms. Kyrgyz Republic has increased sales of agriculture products to regional markets such as Tajikistan, Kazakhstan and Russia. Our processors and farmers managed to improve sales to Turkey (kidney beans) and the European Union (kidney beans, honey and apricots), while People`s Republic of China seriously considers possible import of products from Kyrgyz Republic.

Since accession to the EAEU the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Industry and Melioration observes increased demand for fresh and processed fruits, berries and vegetables to which our land is well endowed. However, middle and large wholesale and retail markets in EAEU Member States require for strict safety and quality standards. We believe that through the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) run by the World Trade Organization (WTO) our processors and farmers would fill the gap in capacity building resulting in successful introduction of GHP, HACCP and GAP standards and practices in the production process. In 2016 the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Industry and Melioration of the Kyrgyz Republic supported the application from the Association of Fruit and Vegetable Enterprises of the Kyrgyz Republic to finance feasibility study on introduction of international standards, principles and guidelines in the area of phytosanitary and sanitary measures.

Having taking mentioned above in mind we strongly support further funding the Project requested from the Association of Fruit and Vegetable Enterprises of the Kyrgyz Republic and express our intention to cooperate with potential project.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food Industry and Melioration of the Kyrgyz Republic avails itself of this opportunity to renew the assurances of its highest consideration to the World Trade Organization, and looks forward to fruitful cooperation with the view to further expand global trade.

Sincerely,  
Minister

КЫРГЫЗ  
РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫНЫҢ  
ЭКОНОМИКА  
МИНИСТРЛИГИ



МИНИСТЕРСТВО  
ЭКОНОМИКИ  
КЫРГЫЗСКОЙ  
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MINISTRY OF ECONOMY OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

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25.08.17 № 12-2/1175

На № \_\_\_\_\_ от \_\_\_\_\_

World Trade  
Organization (WTO)  
Secretariat

The Standards and Trade  
Development Facility  
(STDF)

The Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic avails itself of this opportunity to present the assurances of its highest consideration to the Secretariat of the World Trade Organization and Members of the STDF's Working Group.

The Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic, as one of principal government bodies in the area of economic development and trade, fully endorses the application of the Association of Fruit and Vegetable Enterprises of the Kyrgyz Republic to support a Project aiming at introduction of international standards and best practices such as GHP and HACCP among food processing companies in the Kyrgyz Republic. The need for those standards becomes crucial for successful expansion of trade and export due to compulsory requirements laid down in the Technical Regulation No. 21/2011 of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) "On Safety of Food Products" adopted in 2011 (notified to the WTO), which enters into force in the Kyrgyz Republic in August 2017.

This Technical Regulation, among other obligatory provisions, requires Kyrgyz food processors to introduce and to maintain HACCP (Article 10) and to trace food products (Article 13) and food ingredients which implies new challenge for local processors. In order to make domestic producers competitive vis-à-vis various importers Kyrgyz' processors must change their production methods while

local farmers would be obligated to follow best agriculture practice such as Good Agriculture Practice (GAP) to satisfy the traceability requirement.

The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic attaches great importance to increase production and export of products with value added which originate inside the country as agriculture and food processing make up significant input in overall Gross Domestic Product (GDP). These sectors accounted for almost 50% to national GDP in last 5 years. Moreover, fruit, berry and vegetable processing in the Kyrgyz Republic represents integrated production and sale circle starting from growing of raw materials to full processing and selling inside the country and exporting to regional markets such as the EAEU (Kazakhstan, Russia, i.e. the WTO Members).

The Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic believes that international assistance in introducing international standards would greatly help domestic fruit and vegetable processors to expand production and export of domestically produced goods, to alleviate poverty in rural area and add value to local products.

The Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic renews its assurances to the World Trade Organization of its highest consideration.

Sincerely,

Deputy Minister



A. Sazbakov

КЫРГЫЗ РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫНЫН  
САЛАМАТТЫК САКТОО МИНИСТРЛИГИ

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МИНИСТЕРСТВО ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ  
КЫРГЫЗСКОЙ РЕСПУБЛИКИ

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№ 05/d-2-1379  
На № \_\_\_\_\_ от 14.08.2017г.

Всемирная торговая организация (ВТО)  
Орган по стандартам и развитию торговли

Уважаемые члены Рабочей группы!

Департамент по профилактике заболеваний и государственному санитарно-эпидемиологическому надзору Министерства здравоохранения Кыргызской Республики выражает самое глубокое уважение Всемирной торговой организации.

С августа 2017 года пищевые перерабатывающие предприятия Кыргызской Республики должны выполнить требования, установленные в Евразийском экономическом союзе (ЕАЭС) путем полного выполнения технического регламента № 21/2011 «О безопасности пищевой продукции». Данный технический регламент устанавливает обязательное требование для всех субъектов, занимающихся производством и продажей продуктов питания, внедрять и поддерживать системы на основе HACCP для обеспечения безопасности пищевых продуктов. Это требование рассматривается как предпосылка для местных производителей для успешного размещения продуктов питания на общем рынке ЕАЭС.

В то же время, Департамент профилактики заболеваний и государственного санитарно-эпидемиологического надзора Министерства здравоохранения Кыргызской Республики, являющийся уполномоченным государственным органом по осуществлению контроля (надзора) за пищевой продукцией, обращает внимание Органа по стандартам и развитию торговли на необходимость дальнейшего наращивания потенциала по осуществлению контроля на предприятиях, внедряющих системы HACCP, уделяя особое внимание оценке и анализу рисков с тем, чтобы на рынке размещались только безопасные продукты. На сегодняшний день существующий метод контроля и надзора основан на контроле над производством и лабораторном анализе, тогда как анализ опасных факторов с учетом анализа рисков и критических точек контроля (HACCP) по-

прежнему является новым методом контроля для местных инспекторов, ответственных за проведение проверок.

Учитывая вышесказанное, мы считаем, что заявка от Ассоциации плодоовощных предприятий Кыргызской Республики заслуживает серьезного рассмотрения и поддержки со стороны уважаемых членов Рабочей группы STDF.

Директор



Т.Б. Исakov



КЫРГЫЗ РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫНЫН  
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МИНИСТЕРСТВО ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ  
КЫРГЫЗСКОЙ РЕСПУБЛИКИ

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№ 02/02-д-1349  
На № \_\_\_\_\_ от 14.02.2014г.

**World Trade Organization  
Standards and Trade Development Facility**

**Dear Members of the Working Group,**

The Department on Disease Prevention and State Sanitary and Epidemiology Surveillance of the Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic expresses its highest consideration to the World Trade Organization.

Since August 2017 the Kyrgyz Republic's food processors must comply with the requirements set by the Eurasian Economic Union through full implementation of the Technical Regulation No. 21 "On Safety of Food Products". This Technical Regulation sets forth mandatory requirement for all entities involved in food production and sales to introduce and maintain HACCP based system to ensure food safety. This requirement is seen as a prerequisite for local producers for successful placing of food into the EAEU common market.

The Department on Disease Prevention and State Sanitary and Epidemiology Surveillance of the Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic is the State authorized body to carry out official control over food products. The Department draws the attention of the Standards and Trade Development Facility to the need for further capacity building in the Department on HACCP based control and surveillance with focus on risk assessment and analysis in order to allow only safe products to be placed in the market. To date existing method of control is based on production control and laboratory analysis while risk assessment on the basis of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) is still a novel method for local food inspectors.

Having this in mind we believe that application from the Association of Fruit and Vegetable Enterprises from Kyrgyz Republic deserves serious consideration and support from distinguished Members of the STDF Working Group.

Director

T. Isakov

КЫРГЫЗ РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫНЫН ЭКОНОМИКА МИНИСТРЛИГЕННӨ КАРАШТУУ  
СТАНДАРТТАШТЫРУУ ЖАНА МЕТРОЛОГИЯ БОЮНЧА БОРБОРУ

ЦЕНТР ОУ СТАНДАРТИЗАЦИЯ  
И МЕТРОЛОГИИ ПРИ МИНИСТЕРСТВЕ  
ЭКОНОМИКИ КЫРГЫЗСКОЙ  
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Всемирная торговая организация (ВТО)  
Организация по стандартам и техническим условиям  
(СТДФ)

Уважаемые коллеги,

Центр по стандартизации и метрологии при Министерстве экономики Кыргызской Республики пользуется широкими возможностями, чтобы сделать заверения в своем самом высоком уважении Секретариату Всемирной торговой организации и членам Рабочей группы СТДФ.

Центр по стандартизации и метрологии при Министерстве экономики Кыргызской Республики, являясь Китайским пунктом Комитета Экспертной Ассамблеи и Подкомитетом при Центре по стандартизации Кыргызской Республики, как один из ведущих государственных органов, активно способствует развитию экономики в торговле, полностью поддерживает работу Комиссии по Ассоциации национальных предприятий Кыргызской Республики и поддерживает проект, направленный на повышение прозрачности национальной промышленности в Кыргызской Республике международным стандартам и международной практике, таким, как GHP и HACCP.

Необходимость внедрения этих стандартов приобретает решающее значение для успешного развития внешней торговли и является в связи с обязательными требованиями, установленными в техническом регламенте № 21/2011 Евразийского экономического союза (ЕАЭС) «О безопасности пищевой продукции», принятом в 2011 году (ранее интегрированного в ИТО), и который вступает в силу в Кыргызской Республике в августе 2017 года.

Настоящей Технической рекомендацией, помимо других обязательств государства, требуется, чтобы вырытые производители продуктов питания и напитки и производители системы HACCP (части 10) и контролировали сырьевые продукты (части 13) и вырытые ингредиенты, что является важным шагом для местных производителей. Для того, чтобы отечественные производители конкурировать с развитыми иностранными производителями в Кыргызстане должны улучшить свои методы производства, а на время вне местных фирм надо следовать лучшей доступной международной практике, такой как «Добровольная отраслевая добросовестная практика» (GAP) в целях удовлетворения требованиям по безопасности.

Правительство Кыргызской Республики придает большое значение увеличению производства и экспорту продуктов с добавленной стоимостью, особенно внутри страны, поскольку это имеет большое значение и является промышленностью высокой занятости наряду с другой важной отраслью – туризмом (ПВП). Эта сфера составляет почти 50% национального ВВП за последние пять лет. Кроме того, переработка фруктов, ягод и овощей в Кыргызской Республике представляет собой интегрированный цикл производства и продаж, начиная с выращивания сырья и заканчивая полной переработкой и реализацией как внутри страны, так и экспортно на региональные рынки, например, в страны ЕАЭС – Казахстан и Россию – которые также являются членами ВТО.

Для соответствия требованиям ЕАЭС Центр по стандартизации и метрологии при Министерстве экономики Кыргызской Республики оказывает содействие бизнесу в применении, преимущественно международных стандартов ISO, Codex Alimentarius, UNECE и др. стандартов, проводит обучение и консультации по ним.

Центр по стандартизации и метрологии при Министерстве экономики Кыргызской Республики считает, что международная торговля и для контроля международных стандартов в национальной системе поможет отечественным производителям фруктов и овощей увеличить производство и экспорт товаров с добавленной стоимостью, улучшить безопасность в отечественной местности и повысить ценность местных продуктов.

Центр по стандартизации и метрологии при Министерстве экономики Кыргызской Республики подтверждает свои намерения и свое стремление повысить уровень Восточной морской организации.

С уважением,

Директор Центра по стандартизации и метрологии  
при Министерстве экономики Кыргызской Республики



Б. Джайитов

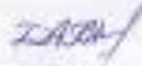
Согласовано:

Зам. Директора



М.Н. Касуров

Исполнитель,  
Начальник Управления стандартизации



Д.Т. Айбырманов

КЫРГЫЗ РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫНЫН ЭКОНОМИКА МИНИСТРЛИГИНЕ КАРАШТУУ  
СТАНДАРТТАШТЫРУУ ЖАНА МЕТРОЛОГИЯ БӨЛӨМӨСÜ БӨЛҮМҮ

ЦЕНТР БО СТАНДАРТИЗАЦИЯ  
И МЕТРОЛОГИЯ ИЛИ АДМИНИСТРУЦИЯ  
СТАНДАРТИЗАЦИИ И МЕТРОЛОГИИ  
РЕСПУБЛИКИ



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World Trade Organization (WTO)

The Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)

Dear Colleagues,

Center for Standardization and Metrology under the The Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic avails itself of this opportunity to present the assurances of its highest consideration to the Secretariat of the World Trade Organization and Members of the STDF's Working Group.

Center for Standardization and Metrology under the The Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic is Cadet Contact point, National Standardization Body of the Kyrgyz Republic, as one of principal government bodies called to promote the development of the economy and trade.

In the area of economic development and trade, fully releases the application of the Association of Fruit and Vegetable Enterprises of the Kyrgyz Republic to support a Project aiming at implementation by the Kyrgyz Republic food processing companies of international standards and best practices such as GHP and HACCP. The need for implementation these standards becomes crucial for successful expansion of trade and export due to complexity requirements laid down in the Technical Regulation No. 21/2011 of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) "On Safety of Food Products" adopted in 2011 (notified to the WTO), which enters into force in the Kyrgyz Republic in August 2017.

This Technical Regulation, among other obligatory provisions, requires Kyrgyz food processors to implementation and to maintain of HACCP Systems (Article 10) and to control of food products (Article 13) and food ingredients which implies new challenge for food processors. In order to make domestic producers competitive vis-à-vis various exporters Kyrgyz processors must change their production methods while local farmers would be obligated to

follow best agriculture practice such as Good Agriculture Practice (GAP) to satisfy the traceability requirement.

The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic attaches great importance to increase production and export of products with value added which originate inside the country as agriculture and food processing make up significant input in overall Gross Domestic Product (GDP). These sectors accounted for almost 50% to national GDP in last 3 years. Moreover, fruit, berry and vegetable processing in the Kyrgyz Republic represents integrated production and safe circle starting from growing of raw materials to full processing and selling inside the country and exporting to regional markets such as the EAEU (Kazakhstan, Russia, i.e. the WTO Members).

To comply with the requirements of the EAEU, the Center for Standardization and Metrology under the Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic assists its business in the adoption, application of international standards of ISO, Codex Alimentarius, UNECE and other standards, and provides training and conducts of consultations on international standards, including HACCP and ISO 22000.

Center for Standardization and Metrology under the The Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic believes that international assistance in introducing international standards would greatly help domestic fruit and vegetable processors to expand production and export of domestically produced goods, to alleviate poverty in rural area and add value to local products.

Center for Standardization and Metrology under the The Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic wishes its assurances to the World Trade Organization of its highest consideration.

Sincerely,

Director of the Center for Standardization and Metrology  
under the The Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic



B. Aitambayev

**Appendix 5:** List of Codex and ISO standards with potential for use in STDF/PPG/569

The proposed project supports implementation of improved food safety management systems and inspection/auditing procedures based on international standards. The project will use the following Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) and International Standards Organisation (ISO) standards.

**CAC standards / codes of practice and guidelines**

CAC/STAN-192-1995 General standard for food additives.

CAC/RCP/1-1969 Recommended International Code of Practice for general principles of food hygiene.

CAC/RCP/2-1969 Code of Practice for hygiene of canned fruit and vegetable products.

CAC/RCP/3-1969 Code of Practice for hygiene of dried fruits.

CAC/RCP/5-1971 Code of Practice for hygiene of dehydrated fruits and vegetables including edible fungi.

CAC/RCP/6-1972 Code of Practice for hygiene of tree nuts.

CAC/RCP/8-1976 Code of Practice for hygiene in processing and handling of quick frozen foods.

CAC/RCP/49-1995 Code of Practice for packaging and transport of fruits and vegetables.

CAC/RCP/49-2001 Code of Practice concerning source directed measures to reduce contamination of food with chemicals.

CAC/RCP/50-2003 Code of Practice for prevention and reduction of patulin in apple juice and apple juice ingredients in other beverages.

CAC/RCP/53-2003 Code of Practice for hygienic practice for fresh fruits and vegetables.

CAC/RCP/56-2004 Code of Practice for prevention and reduction of lead contamination in foods.

CAC/RCP/59-2005 Code of Practice for prevention and reduction of aflatoxin in tree nuts.

CAC/RCP/65-2008 Code of Practice for prevention and reduction of aflatoxin contamination in dried figs.

CAC/RCP/68-2009 Code of Practice for reduction of contamination of food with poly aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) from smoking and direct (heat) drying processes.

CAC/GL/17-1993 Guidelines for visual inspection of canned foods for unacceptable defects.

CAC/GL/60-2006 Principles of traceability/product tracing as a tool within a food inspection and certification system.

CAC/GL/61-2007 Application of the general principles for food hygiene for the control of *Listeria monocytogenes* in food.

CAC/GL/69-2008 Guidelines for the validation of food safety control measures.

CAC/GL/79-2012 Application of the general principles for food hygiene for the control of viruses in food.

**ISO standards**

ISO 19011:2011 Guidelines for auditing management systems.

ISO 22000:2005 Food safety management systems – Requirements for any organisation in the food chain.

ISO 22005:2007 Traceability in the feed and food chain – General principles and basic requirements for system design and implementation.

ISO TS 22003:2007 Food safety management systems – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of food safety management systems.

ISO TS 22004:2005 Food safety management systems – Guidance on the application of ISO 22000:2005.