Improving Livelihoods of Small Farmers and Rural Women through Value-Added Processing and Export of Cashmere, Wool and Mohair

IFAD Grant 1107 – ICARDA

Progress Report

1 August-31 December 2009

ICARDA, NARS of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Iran and CACSA

Table of contents

1 Introduction 1

2 Project Implementation and Achievements 2

2.1 Iran 2

2.1.1 Selection of Pilot Sites. 2

2.1.2 Component 1. Characterize production systems and improve fibre production of small ruminants in all target sites. 2

2.2 Kyrgyzstan 2

2.2.1 Selection of Pilot Sites. 2

2.2.2 Component 1: Characterize production systems and improve fiber production of small ruminants in all target sites. 3

2.2.3 Component 2: Work on formation and capacity building of women's groups to develop fiber processing and export of value-added fiber and products in all pilot sites 3

2.3 Northern Tajikistan 4

2.3.1 Selection of Pilot Sites. 4

2.3.2 Component 1: Characterize production systems and improve fiber production of small ruminants in all target sites. 4

2.3.3 Component 2: Work on formation and capacity building of women's groups to develop fiber processing and export of value-added fiber and products in all pilot sites 6

2.3.4 Component 3: Develop sustainable market chains that link fiber producers and processors with buyers. 6

2.3.5 Component 5: Linkages (business, scientific and cultural) between the pilot communities and the global communities of producers, processors and consumers of fiber and fiber products 6

2.4 Badakhshan, Tajikistan 7

2.4.1 Selection of Pilot Sites. 7

2.4.2 Component 1: Characterize production systems and improve fiber production of small ruminants in all target sites. 7

2.4.3 Component 2: Work on formation and capacity building of women's groups to develop fiber processing and export of value-added fiber and products in all pilot sites 7

2.5 Regional activities 8

2.5.1 Inception workshop 8

2.5.2 IFAD/FAO/ICARDA Tajik Study tour 8

3 Problems during the reporting period and steps taken to remedy these problems 9

Annex 1: Agenda of the Project Inception Workshop in Khujand, Tajikistan 10

Annex 2: List of participants in the Inception Workshop 13

Annex 3: Agenda of the FAO/IFAD Study Tour on ICARDA project 14

Annex 4: List of participants of the FAO/IFAD Study Tour 15

Annex 5: Project locations in Iran, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan 18

1 Introduction

The overall goal of the programme is to improve the livelihoods and income of small livestock producers and rural women through improved production, processing and export of value-added fiber in producing areas of Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Iran. The target groups are small producers of cashmere, mohair and wool and women processor groups. Pilot sites in Iran, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan were selected to represent typical fiber producing and processing areas.

In each country, teams have been formed to provide the needed expertise. Key partner research institutes (NARS) and organizations were selected based on earlier successful collaborative ICARDA projects, and projects and experiences of Liba Brent and IFAD. The institutional network will be further developed during the project duration. National coordinators from the NARS were selected for each country. They will support the implementation of all project activities, link the project to the Ministries of Agriculture and Academy of Sciences and report to the Project manager and the Principal Investigator. As requested in the grant design document progress and financial reports will be prepared every six months. Additional technical reports will be prepared according to completion of project components or individual activities or when a sufficiently comprehensive mid-term assessment can be provided.

The major collaborative activities in 2009 included:

1. Selection of pilot sites and groups of beneficiaries in Badakhshan/Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Iran[1]
2. Outline of project activities, designing of workplans for 1 August 2009-31 December 2010 with collaborators and team building during the inception workshop held in Northern Tajikistan
3. Fine-tuning of site workplans by the respective teams and beneficiaries with support from international scientists at all project sites, involving additional scientists and partners where appropriate
4. Continuation of goat breeding programs, production of yarn and knitwear in Northern Tajikistan and test marketing of mohair products in the US
5. Formation of women's groups and research on goat/sheep producers and fiber production in Badakhshan and Kyrgyzstan
6. Collection of baseline information on Nomad Cashmere goat production systems at the pilot site in Iran.

The following section reports briefly on activities and achievements by project site and project component for the period 1 August-31 December 2009 in relation to the First Annual Workplan and Budget 2009/2010 (AWPB). As planned in the AWPB the activities under components 3-5 ((3) *Develop sustainable market chains that link fiber producers and processors with buyers*; (4) *Research on changes of income of fiber producers and women processors and their effects on livelihoods and gender roles*; and (5) *Linkages (business, scientific and cultural) between the pilot communities and the global communities of producers, processors and consumers of fiber and fiber products*) will be undertaken in 2010.

[1] The project locations are shown in Annex 5. GPS coordinates are not yet available for all villages and beneficiaries; the collection will be completed in 2010.

2 Project Implementation and Achievements

2.1 Iran

2.1.1 Selection of Pilot Sites.

The selection of pilot sites was based on the importance of Cashmere production and interest of producers in the project. The national project coordinator made several visits to Kerman and Baft City in early September to introduce the project and assure the collaboration of the Animal Research Institute in Kerman and the local animal husbandry and extension services in Baft city.

Figure 1. Kerman Province (light green) is a major Cashmere producer in Iran

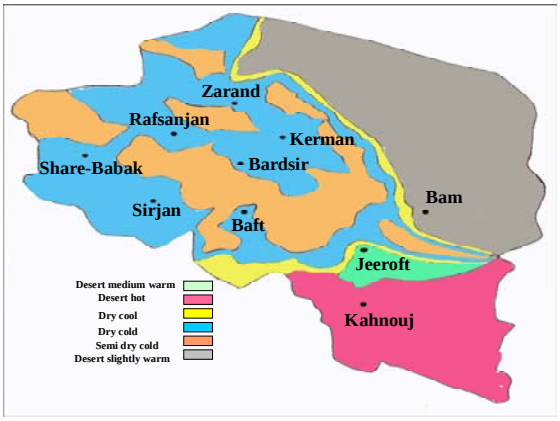

Figure 2. Location of Baft city within Kerman province

During the visit of Joaquín Mueller and Barbara Rischkowsky the project was presented and discussed at the Research Institute in Teheran and in Kerman creating a lot of interest in the local researchers. Nomad farmers were visited and the project activities discussed with them, including the planned processing activities for the women.

2.1.2 Component 1. Characterize production systems and improve fibre production of small ruminants in all target sites.

Activity 1.1. Characterize production systems in all target sites.

The producer survey aims at providing baseline information and to assess the production characteristics and productivity of goats at the start of the project. It will be also used to prioritize interventions in the fields of animal breeding, animal husbandry, fiber harvesting, sorting and preparation, market access, value-added processing, development of sustainable market chains). 30 cashmere producers in approximately 20 km distance from Baft city were interviewed in late fall using ICARDA's structured questionnaire (Table 1). The producers are mainly nomads with about 300 to 500 Cashmere goat owned by a cluster of 3-4 families.

Table 1. Details of the 30 flocks selected at random for cashmere sampling.

No	Name	Place of living	Number of goats (Heads)	Does (Heads)	Cashmere production (kg)	Cashmere harvesting (Month)
1	Moradi Esmail	Arzooeih	286	170	110	Late April
2	Ghassemi Sohrab	Galoogiran	210	150	70	May
3	Ashraf zadeh Dad Khoda	Janat Abad	303	210	150 - 140	Mid May
4	Ashraf zadeh Azam	Janat Abad	373	300	120	June
5	Mousapour Mohammad	Geloo Mahmoudabad	176	120	60	Late April
6	Tahmasb pour Salman	Khobr	211	100	30	Late April
7	Rezvani pour Eshagh	Khobr	253	95	120	Late April
8	Mousa pour Feizullah	Soltani-Baft	180	115	35	Late April
9	Mahmoudi Abbas	Gelook - Baft	381	187	130	Late April
10	Ghassemi Nejad Akbar	Geloo Anjeer	320	150	70	Mid April
11	Ali pour Omid	Se Chah Dehsard	229	120	50	Late April
12	Mousa pour Ahmad	Dashtab - Baft	205	120	70	Early April
13	Mousapour Hedayatull	Sanouheh Dashtab	345	190	100	Mid April
14	Mousa pour Rostam	Dokoohe - Baft	160	71	40	Early April
15	Mousapour Alireza	Dokoohe - Baft	225	130	120	Early April
16	Mousapour Alireza	Zarab	190	80	100	Late April
17	Mahmoudi Yadullah	Sechah Dahsard	140	55	30	Late April
18	Mousapou. M. Hussein	Gelook - Baft	250	105	45	Late April
19	Didar Gol Moradi	Esmailabad - Baft	402	210	100	Mid April
20	Ashrafzadeh Ali	Esmail Abad - Baft	505	230	140	Late April
21	Ashrafzadeh	Esmailabad - Baft	305	105	60	Late April
22	Mousapour Zohrab	Geloo Mahmoudabad	299	196	110	Late March
23	Mousapour Sohrab	Geloodar Kooshki	280	150	130	Mid April
24	Ghassemi Mohmoud	Godar Zarab	142	100	40	Mid April
25	Ebadullah Mousapour	Zarab	295	150	130	Mid April
26	Mousapour Dadmoham	Zarab	225	135	120	Mid April
27	Mousapour Siahkhan	Dahaneh Zardan	185	114	60	Mid April
28	Barzegar Mehdi	Geloo Mahmoudabad	160	80	60	Late April
29	Haj Alizadeh Moharam	Dehsalar	140	75	45	Late April
30	Mousapour Mohamma	Dehsalar	170	90	30	Late April

Their flocks will be sampled in spring to establish the database on fiber quality at the pilot site (Activity 1.2). Among them eight interested breeders will be selected to introduce the agreed selection scheme and breeding structure to establish the nucleus herds (Activity 1.3). The collected data is currently being analyzed and will provide a basic description of nomad cashmere production systems, in particular husbandry and marketing strategies.

2.2 Kyrgyzstan

2.2.1 Selection of Pilot Sites.

The pilot sites and groups of beneficiaries were selected during a joint mission of CACSA staff (Svetlana Balalaeva and Zura Rasalieva), Liba Brent and Asanbek Ajibekov to Naryn from 12-15 November 2009.

2.2.2 Component 1: Characterize production systems and improve fiber production of small ruminants in all target sites.

Activity 1.1. Research on sources of Merino and Tian Shian wool in Naryn.

During the mission informal interviews were carried out with merino wool producers in Naryn to identify suitable breeders in At-Bashi rayon who could supply the felting groups with wool.

Based on the information received from artisans, a list of five farmers of At-Bashi rayon was made. The team met two of the five farmers, namely Monolbai Manatbaev and Jumagul Umaraliev's wife Turkanbubu.

The wife of Jumagul Umaraliev told the team that they sold most of their 5,000 merino sheep this year, as it was not profitable to produce them. At present they have less than 1000 sheep and plan to keep only about 500 sheep in the future.

The farmer Monolbai produces on average 3.5 tons of merino wool and sells all his wool to Chinese traders. In 2009 he sold his wool in bulk for $1.4/kg. A visual evaluation of Monolbai's sheep showed that he produces high quality Merino wool, suitable for felting. Some samples were taken. This information will be checked with Dr. Ajibekov and Dr. Evgenija Lushikhina, the best Merino expert in Kyrgyzstan who works at the Kyrgyz Academy of Sciences and has detailed information on all Merino sheep breeders, including those in Naryn.

After Liba Brent explained to Monolbai the project objectives, he expressed his willingness to cooperate with the project and supply the felt artisans with wool. Ideally, he would like to sell 3.5 tons of wool to the artisans. The project team will further explore the possibilities of collaboration between Monolbai (and other Merino farmers) and the felting groups. One option would be to collect orders/payment from multiple felting groups in Kyrgyzstan and buy several tons of wool from a single farmer who would agree to closely collaborate with the groups regarding fiber quality improvements.

2.2.3 Component 2: Work on formation and capacity building of women's groups to develop fiber processing and export of value-added fiber and products in all pilot sites. Encourage the development of women-led small businesses.

Activity 2.1. Initial discussions with beneficiaries and Instructions regarding sample production

Four women felting groups in four villages in the Naryn region (Table 2) were selected during the mission of the project team (compare description in the AWPB). The project objectives were introduced and felting experiences, challenges of producing felt products for export and required wool quality and types of wool for felting discussed.

Table 2: Selected villages and number of felters

Location	Number of Women
Lahol	10
Min-Bulak	15
At-Bashi	15
Acha-Kaindy	15

Activity 2.3. Production of first felt product samples organized.

All women in the four groups were given the task to produce first felt product samples (one chair-mat of new design in shyrdak technique) by 1 January 2010, in order to evaluate the creative capacity of the groups and the skills of each group member. This will help to agree on training needs and the degree of support required. The samples were delivered by all groups.

Activity 2.2. Research on Felting Machines.

In the same November mission the team visited the workshop of the crafts organization at At-Bashi village to examine their equipment for felt production which was found unsuitable with exception of wool washing machine. The team then visited a yurt producer named Sapar in Kyzyl-Tuu village. Sapar constructed a felting machine and after several improvements this machine can produce daily 8-10 layers of high quality felt (2 x 3 meters). Sapar has made on order several smaller machines of the same construction, producing the same quality felt. Felt samples were taken to show to artisan groups. An agreement with Sapar was reached on producing 2 felting machines for the felting groups to be ready in spring. The machines cost $1,000 with installation and 1 year warranty. Felting is a very labor-intensive process and felting machines will greatly help the felting groups with producing quality felts for export.

2.3 Northern Tajikistan

2.3.1 Selection of Pilot Sites.

The pilot sites and groups of beneficiaries were selected in September-October 2009 during visits of the researchers to the Asht region and through discussions with producers and women's groups.

2.3.2 Component 1: Characterize production systems and improve fiber production of small ruminants in all target sites.

Activity 1.1. Research on Angora goat and mohair production in the Asht district.

The project team had several discussions about Angora goats and mohair production and the need for quality fiber for local processing with farmers collaborating with the NGO "Agency Support Development Process – NAU". The project team established two breeding nuclei for producing superior breeding animals with the most interested farmers that had at least some above average females (Table 3); based on fiber fineness one nucleus was formed for black and one for white Mohair goats and the selected nucleus females were separated from their flocks and kept for the mating period by one of the nucleus farmers. Data collection on nucleus animals was initiated. In addition three farmers agreed to establish nucleus flcks within their own flocks that were mated separately (Table 4). Three farmers in B. Gafurov are very interested and are observing the project activities but did not separate superior females for mating.

Table 3. List of farmers from new project site that contributed animals to the two nucleus flocks (Jamoat Oshoba, Asht district)

No	Name	Flock size as of Jan. 2010		GPS-coordinates	Color of goats
		total	included in nucleus		
1	Urunboev Tirkashali	145	30	N 40^0 40' 766" E 70^0 26' 188"	White
2	Turaev Makhmud	131	16	N 40^0 38' 111" E 70^0 30' 606"	Dark
3	Turaev Bozorboy	50	6	N 40^0 38' 111" E 70^0 30' 606"	Dark
4	Abdulloev Egamberdi	122	8	N $40^0$36,540 E $70^0$33,389	Dark
5	Meliboev Okhunjon	185	6	N $40^0$35,941 E $70^0$33,389	Mixed
6	Abdulloev Goibberdi	78	4	N $40^0$36,540 E $70^0$33,389	Dark
7	Mirzoakhmedov Ikromali	65	5	N $40^0$36,540 E $70^0$33,389	Dark
	Total	**776**	**75**		

Table 4. List of farmers with nucleus breeding groups within their flocks and observer farmers (Asht and B. Gafurov district)

No	Name	Flock size as of Jan. 2010		GPS-coordinates	Color of goats	District	Participation in the project
		total	included in nucleus				
1	Khakimov Khaydarali	130	24	N 40^0 42' 272" E 70^0 24' 137"	Dark	Asht	Breeding
2	Kholmatov Usarboy	180	37	N 40^0 42' 472" E 70^0 26' 030"	Dark	Asht	Breeding
3	Mamarasulov Suyunboy	125	27	N 40^0 36' 475" E 69^0 42' 485"	Dark	B.Gafurov	Breeding
4	Toshbekov Bektur	86	0	N 40^0 36' 470" E 69^0 42' 488"	White	B.Gafurov	Observer
5	Saidaliev Jumaboy	165	0	N 40^0 36' 470" E 69^0 42' 488"	Mixed	B.Gafurov	Observer
6	Kasymov Anorboy	170	0	N 40^0 36' 470" E 69^0 42' 488"	Mixed	B.Gafurov	Observer
	Total	**856**	**88**				

2.3.3 Component 2: Work on formation and capacity building of women's groups to develop fiber processing and export of value-added fiber and products in all pilot sites. Encourage the development of women-led small businesses.

Activity 2.1. Work with women's group on producing yarn and products for export.

New women's groups were selected in several villages in the Asht district (Table 5). Among the group members lead spinners were identified and trained to produce yarn and samples of knitted products according to export standards developed by the project.

Table 5: Women Groups in Khujand by location and activity

Location	Number of Women	Activity
Chairukh	10	Spinning
Oshoba	20	Spinning
Markhamat	15	Spinning
Opon	4	Spinning
Alma	5	Spinning
Shvar	3	Spinning
Gulshan	10	Spinning
Takeli - old site	4	Spinning
Terakli	5	Spinning
Gulshan	4	Knitting
Taboshar	2	Carpets
Khodzhand	2	Carpets
Dulana	2	Weaving

2.3.4 Component 3: Develop sustainable market chains that link fiber producers and processors with buyers.

Activity 3.1. Test-marketing yarn and products in the US.

Yarns produced by the women were successfully test-marketed in a yarn store in the US. In addition samples of yarn and knitted products were also test-marketed at a fair trade show in the US. Several orders from retailers for yarn and knitted products have been received. From the proceeds from yarn and scarf sales a revolving fund was established to support the producers in buying high quality raw material and other inputs.

2.3.5 Component 5: Linkages (business, scientific and cultural) between the pilot communities and the global communities of producers, processors and consumers of fiber and fiber products

Activity 5.1. Progress on developing linkages between Tajik and American Angora goat producers and between the spinners and the American public.

The project has begun developing linkages between Tajik and American Angora goat producers that are expected to lead to the import of new genetic material to Tajikistan.

The project also began developing ties to persons and communities that support handicrafts and fair trade such as the HandEye magazine http://www.handeyemagazine.com/ that is interested in publishing a piece about the Tajik spinners.

2.4 Badakhshan, Tajikistan

2.4.1 Selection of Pilot Sites.

The project team (Fazliddin Ikromov, Khonun Davlatquadamov and Liba Brent) spent eight days (27 October-3 November 2009) in the Askar Zamirov Dzhamoat in the Iskashim region. Nine pilot villages (Garmchasma, Khuilal, Snib, Sist, Khaskhorog, Dasht, Vozd, Andarob and Devlokh) near the city of Khorog were selected and groups of cashmere goat producers identified in each village.

2.4.2 Component 1: Characterize production systems and improve fiber production of small ruminants in all target sites.

Activity 1.1. Research on production of cashmere goats in the pilot region

Informal interviews were carried out with goat producers in the eight pilot villages. Cashmere goat breeding and husbandry was discussed with the farmers and goat flocks in each village visually assessed. 10-20 fiber samples were collected from each flock (the flocks have 250-300 goats on average). The visual assessment of the village flocks and sample collection show that the goat population in the villages is very diverse – there are various crosses of the cashmere and Angora goats as well as different types of native meat goats. Clearly, the crosses of the Altai goats produce the largest volume of cashmere (300-500 grams). Some villages still have as many as 30% of the Altai crosses but other villages have only 20% or less. The local meat goats represent about 60-70% of the flock and produce about 50-200g of fine cashmere. The volume and style of cashmere among the native goats seems highly variable. In addition there are about 10-20% of Angora/Cashmere crosses (again, some villages have more of those than others). The “Cashgoras” produce a blend of guard hair, kemp, mohair and cashmere fibers. This information was compiled in the site description presented in the AWPB.

2.4.3 Component 2: Work on formation and capacity building of women’s groups to develop fiber processing and export of value-added fiber and products in all pilot sites. Encourage the development of women-led small businesses.

Activity 2.1. Initial discussions with beneficiaries and instructions regarding cashmere harvesting and yarn sample production.

Eight women groups were selected in the 8 pilot villages. The project objectives were explained to the women and spinning experiences, challenges of producing luxury cashmere yarn and products for export were discussed. The women groups also shared their views on cashmere quality, cashmere harvesting and current markets.
Then the mohair yarn production supported by the project in Northern Tajikistan and lessons learned that could be applied in the cashmere project were presented.
It was agreed that the activities in spring 2010 should focus on improving cashmere harvesting (combing versus shearing) and production of yarn samples from combed, de-haired cashmere.

Activity 2.2. Research on cashmere combs.

Research on sources of cashmere combs for the artisans was conducted and the best cashmere combs were found in Afghanistan.

2.5 Regional activities

2.5.1 Inception workshop

The Inception Workshop of the IFAD funded Project was held in Khujand, Tajikistan, from 24-26 September, 2009 including a field day on 25 September. The Inception Workshop was attended by representatives from IFAD, Heads and the collaborating scientists from the NARS in Iran, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan, Long Term Project Consultants from University of Wisconsin, Madison, and INTA (Instituto Nacional de Tecnología Agropecuaria), Bariloche, and scientists from ICARDA Headquarters in Aleppo, Syria, and its Regional office for CAC in Tashkent (see Annex 1 and 2). The Meeting was hosted by the Tajik Academy of Agricultural Sciences and the Tajik Research Institute of Livestock. The first day was dedicated to presentations to provide the background for the working groups at the second day. The working groups discussed and prepared first draft workplans and preliminary budgets. These drafts were refined later by the national teams with Liba Brent in Central Asia and with Barbara Rischkowsky and Joaquín Mueller in Iran.

During the field day on 25 September 2009 participants visited the villages Markhamat and Oshobo located in the Asht district of the Sogd province in Tajikistan. In Markhamat village participants met with the women groups processing mohair. These groups had been established by the NGO “Agency Support Development Process NAU” (ASDP NAU) founded in 1999. At this meeting, Joaquín Mueller, Breeding Specialist, INTA, made a presentation on the mohair goat improvement program implemented in Argentina. His presentation was followed by Liba Brent, Socioeconomist, who explained to women what had been done in the integrated feed and livestock project to add value to mohair and to organize the communities of women processing mohair. Visitors got acquainted with the existing mohair processing practices of local women communities and observed several flocks of white and colored mohair goats. Matazim Kasymov, Project Coordinator for Northern Tajikistan, briefly explained the idea of the community based breeding plan, and answered the participants’ questions related to the feeding, grazing, and shearing practices, and identification of mohair quality.

2.5.2 IFAD/FAO/ICARDA Tajik Study tour

The participants of the inception workshop met with the IFAD/FAO/ICARDA Study Tour (Annex 3) on 27 September 2009 in Khujand, Tajikistan. The Participants of the study tour were members of institutions involved in IFAD funded investment/loan projects in Tajikistan including representatives of Tajik state agencies and local authorities (Annex 4). During the meeting, both groups shared information on the activities being implemented to improve the livelihoods of the rural communities in Tajikistan.
Presentations were made by Mr. Nazirov, Director of the IFAD Kathlon project; Dr. Brent (introducing the ICARDA project *"Improving Livelihoods of Small Farmers and Rural Women through Value-added Processing and Export of Cashmere, Wool and Mohair"*; Drs.

Kasymov and Mueller (on breeding programs); and Ms. Balalaeva (about the activities of CACSA).

During the subsequent days (28-30 September) the study tour was scheduled to visit the pilot site of the new IFAD grant program in Northern Tajikistan. The study tour focused on visiting the Asht and Taboshar regions and meeting with project beneficiaries – women mohair spinners and Angora goat farmers. During the 3 days of fieldtrips they were supposed to learn about mohair production and processing and how to develop a market chain that links fiber producers with processors and processors with western consumers of mohair products.

3 Problems during the reporting period and steps taken to remedy these problems

The need for additional expertise in organizing the production-marketing channel and developing the appropriate market infrastructure for women's groups has been recognized. To meet this demand, Liba Brent has been working with IFAD to organize a supervision mission by an experienced marketing consultant to Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.

As to be expected in the start-off phase of a new project at new sites several changes in the team members and in budget allocations have been made to adjust to the realities on the ground. This process is expected to continue during the first year until a more comprehensive understanding of the organizational requirements to deliver the project objectives will have been reached.

A difficulty that has been greatly underestimated is the uncertainty of the flight connection between Dushanbe and Khoroq. Flights are often cancelled because of unsuitable weather conditions and the road conditions in late fall, winter and spring may be hazardous which makes traveling in key periods for interventions (e.g. shearing and mating) quite unpredictable.

Annex 1: Agenda of the Project Inception Workshop in Khujand, Tajikistan (24-26 September 2009)

Day 1, 24 September 2009

Welcome and opening remarks
Chairperson: Dr. Ma'tazim Kosimov, Coordinator, Northern Tajikistan

10:00-10:30	Inaugural Address by Dr. Fazzlidin Ikramov, National Coordinator, Tajikistan
	Inaugural Address by Academician Djamin Akymaliev, National Focal Point, Kyrgyzstan
	Opening statement by Dr. Antonio Rota, IFAD
	Welcome by Dr. Barbara Rischkowsky, ICARDA
10:30-10:40	Formation of the Steering Committee Dr. Barbara Rischkowsky
10:40-10:45	***Group photo***
10:45-11:00	***Coffee break***

Introductory Session
Chairperson: Academician Djamin Akymaliev, National Focal Point, Kyrgyzstan

11:00-11:30	Introduction on project goals and design Dr. Barbara Rischkowsky

Northern Tajikistan – the model for the project
Chairperson: Antonio Rota, IFAD

11:30-12:00	Building a mohair value chain in Northern Tajikistan: methods and results Dr. Liba Brent, Principal Investigator
12:00-12:30	Participatory Small Ruminant Breeding Programs Dr. Joaquin Mueller
12:30-13:00	Improving goat husbandry and fiber quality and grading of fleeces for marketing Dr. Ma'tazim Kosimov, Coordinator, Northern Tajikistan
13:00-14:00	***Lunch break***

Northern Tajikistan – the model for the project (cont.)
Chairperson: Dr. Gulomkodir Safaraliev

14:00-14:30	Market research – methods, results and gaps Mr. Shamsiddin Mahmudov

New Research Sites
Chairperson: Dr. Hamidreza Ansari-Renani, Dr. Liba Brent

14:30-15:00	Cashmere production in South Tajikistan

Dr. Fazzlidin Ikramov

15:00-15:30 Merino wool production in Nurjan, Kyrgyzstan
Dr. Asanbek Ajibekov

15:30-16:00 Present and future cashmere production in Iran
Dr. Hamidreza Ansari-Renani, National Coordinator, Iran

16:00-16:30 Coffee break

New Research Sites (cont.)
Chairperson: Dr. Fazzlidin Ikramov

16:00-16:30 CACSA – organizing women processors in Kyrgyzstan
Ms. Svetlana Balalaeva

16:30-17:00 Livestock genetic conservation in Iran
Dr. Hamidreza Ansari-Renani, National Coordinator, Iran

Concluding Session Day 1
Chairperson: Dr. Asanbek Ajibekov

17:00-17:30 Conclusions from the first day (important differences between research sites)
Formation of thematic working groups for the second day
Dr. Liba Brent and Barbara Rischkowsky

Informal dinner

Day 2, 25 September 2009, Field visit

Day 3, 26 September 2009

Plenary – Introductory session
08:30-8:45 Introduction to the working groups and budget considerations
Dr. Barbara Rischkowsky

Working Groups
08:45-10:30 Working groups discussing workplan (approach/methods, outputs, activities) and budgets for the period Oct 2009-Dec 2010

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-13:00 Working groups continued

13:00-14:00 Lunch break

14:00-15:00 Working groups continued

Plenary – Reports from working groups
Chairperson: Dr. Liba Brent

15:00-15:30 Working group 1

15:30-16:00 Working group 2

16:00-16:30 Coffee break

Plenary – Reports from working groups (cont.)
Chairperson: Dr. Barbara Rischkowsky

16:30- 17:00 Working group 3

Plenary – Concluding Session
Chairperson: Dr. Fazzlidin Ikramov

17: 30-17:50 Summary of workplan and next steps
Dr. Barbara Rischkowsky and Liba Brent

17:50-18:00 Other management issues (dates and venue of next PSCM, IFAD's supervision mission)
Dr. Barbara Rischkowsky

18:00-18:10 Closing remarks by Dr. Antonio Rota

Workshop dinner

Annex 2: List of participants in the Inception Workshop (24-26 September 2009)

	Name/Surname	**Role in the project and in home institution**	**Organization**
ICARDA and Project Consultants			
1	Dr. Barbara Rischkowsky	Project Coordinator, Acting Director DSIPSP	ICARDA
2	Mr. Nariman Nishanov	Professional Officer, Socioeconomics	ICARDA-CAC
3	Dr. Habibulo Hamdamov	Professional Officer, Livestock Productivity in IFAD Grant 816	ICARDA-CAC
4	Dr. Liba Brent	Principal Investigator (PI) and long-term consultant	University of Wisconsin
5	Dr. Joaquin Mueller	Consultant Breeding Programs	INTA
IFAD			
6	Mr. Antonio Rota	Senior Technical Adviser, Livestock and Farming Systems	IFAD
7	Ms. Laura Puletti	IFAD Focal Point	IFAD
8	Ms. Svetlana Balkhova	Country Program Officer (CPO)	IFAD office in Tajikistan
Kyrgyzstan			
9	Acad. Djamin Akymaliev	ICARDA Focal Point, Director General	Kyrgyz Research Institute of Crop Husbandry
10	Dr. Asanbek Ajibekov	National Coordinator, Director	Kyrgyz Research Institute of Livestock and Rangelands
11	Mr. Jayik Jumakmatovich Isakov	Socioeconomic Researcher, Assistant Professor of the Marketing Department	Kyrgyz Agrarian University
12	Ms. Svetlana Balalaeva	CACSA Representative	Central Asian Crafts Support Association
Iran			
13	Dr. Hamidreza Ansari-Renani	National Coordinator, Head of Research Department	Animal Science Research Institute
Tajikistan-Sogd Province			
14	Dr. Ma'tazim Kosimov	Site coordinator Head of the Sogd branch	Tajik Research Institute of Livestock
15	Mr. Shamsiddin Mahmudov	Socioeconomic Researcher, Director of NGO	"Agrotechnology", NGO in Khujand
16	Mr. Farkhod Kasymov	PhD Student Breeding	Tajik Research Institute of Livestock
Tajikistan-Dushanbe			
17	Dr. Fazzlidin Ikramov	National Coordinator, Director	Tajik Research Institute of Livestock
18	Dr. Gulomkodir Safaraliev	Socioeconomic Researcher	Tajik Research Institute of Livestock
19	Mr. Qonun Davlatqadamov	Livestock Researcher	Tajik Research Institute of Livestock
20	Mr. Askarov Akhror	Interpreter	Uzbekistan

Annex 3: Agenda of the FAO/IFAD Study Tour on ICARDA project "*Improving Livelihoods of Small Farmers and Rural Women through Value-added Processing and Export of Cashmere, Wool and Mohair*"(27 September-1 October 2009)

Sunday, 27 September 2009

09.00 – 10.00	Opening of the Study Tour
10.00 – 11.00	Introduction of study tour participants
11.00 – 11.15	Mr. Nazirov, Director of the IFAD Kathlon project
11.15 – 11.45	Coffee break
11.45 – 12.45	Dr Brent: introduction of the ICARDA project Questions
12.45 – 13.45	Lunch
13.45 – 15.00	Dr Kosimov and Dr Mueller: Breeding programme
15.00 – 15.20	Coffee break
15.20 – 16.20	Dr Balalaeva: Marketing, the CACSA association
16.20 – 17.00	Ante questionnaire and feedback
19.00 – 22.00	Dinner

Monday, 28 September 2009

09.00 – 17.00	Asht Region, Marhamat and Oshoba Villages: Meeting women groups - Dr Brent

Tuesday, 29 September 2009

09.00 – 17.00	Asht Region, Marhamat Village: Meeting with farmers – Dr Kosimov

Wednesday, 30 September 2009

09.00 – 17.00	Tabashar Region: Tolbulok Village Meeting with farmers – Dr Kosimov
	Meeting with women carpet producers – Dr Brent
19.00 – 22.00	Dinner

Thursday, 1 October 2009

09.00 – 11.00	Opening Report preparation: 2 groups
11.00 – 11.20	Coffee break
11.20 – 12.30	Report finalisation
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch
13.30 – 15.00	Report discussion
15.00 – 15.20	Coffee break
15.20 – 16.00	Post-Questionnaire
16.00 – 17.00	Conclusion
19.00 – 22.00	Farewell Dinner – Certificate distribution

Annex 4: List of participants of the FAO/IFAD Study Tour (26 September-1 October 2009)

Kathlon livelihood support project:

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14. Ms. Laura Puletti
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Khodjand (participants) :

15. Dr. Matazim Kosimov
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16. Mr. Farhod Kasimov
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Academy of Agricultural Sciences;
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Asht:

17. Mr. Faizullo Abdulloev
Manager of Agency
Supporting the Process of Development (ASDP) NAU
Asht

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Special guests at opening session:
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Mr. Nariman Nishanov, Socioeconomics
Dr. Khabibulo Khamdamov, Livestock Productivity
CGIAR Program for Central Asia and the Caucasus
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Tashkent 100000, Uzbekistan
Tel 0099871 2372 130

Annex 5: Project locations in Iran, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan

Figure 3. Baft City in Kerman Province/Iran

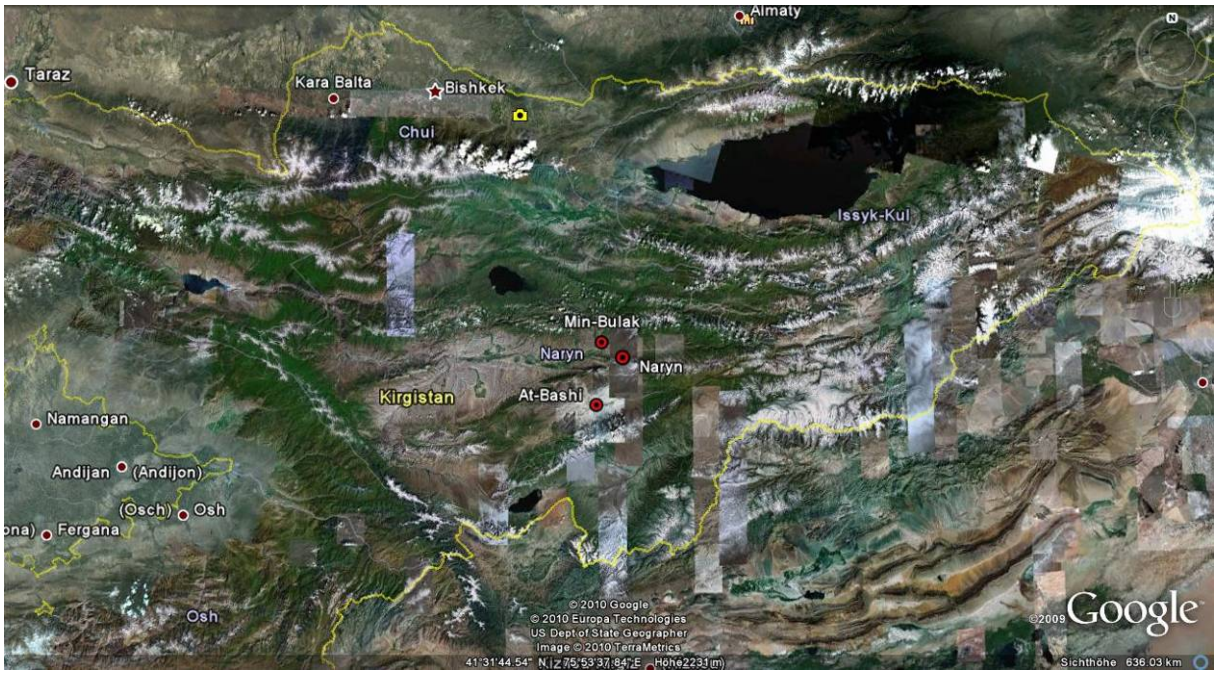

Figure 4. Location of two villages with felting groups near Naryn in Naryn Province/Kyrgyzstan

Figure 5. Location of two target villages near Khoroq in Gorno-Badakhshan Province/ Tajikistan.
(Note: the other seven villages are in the same location about 5-15 km distance).

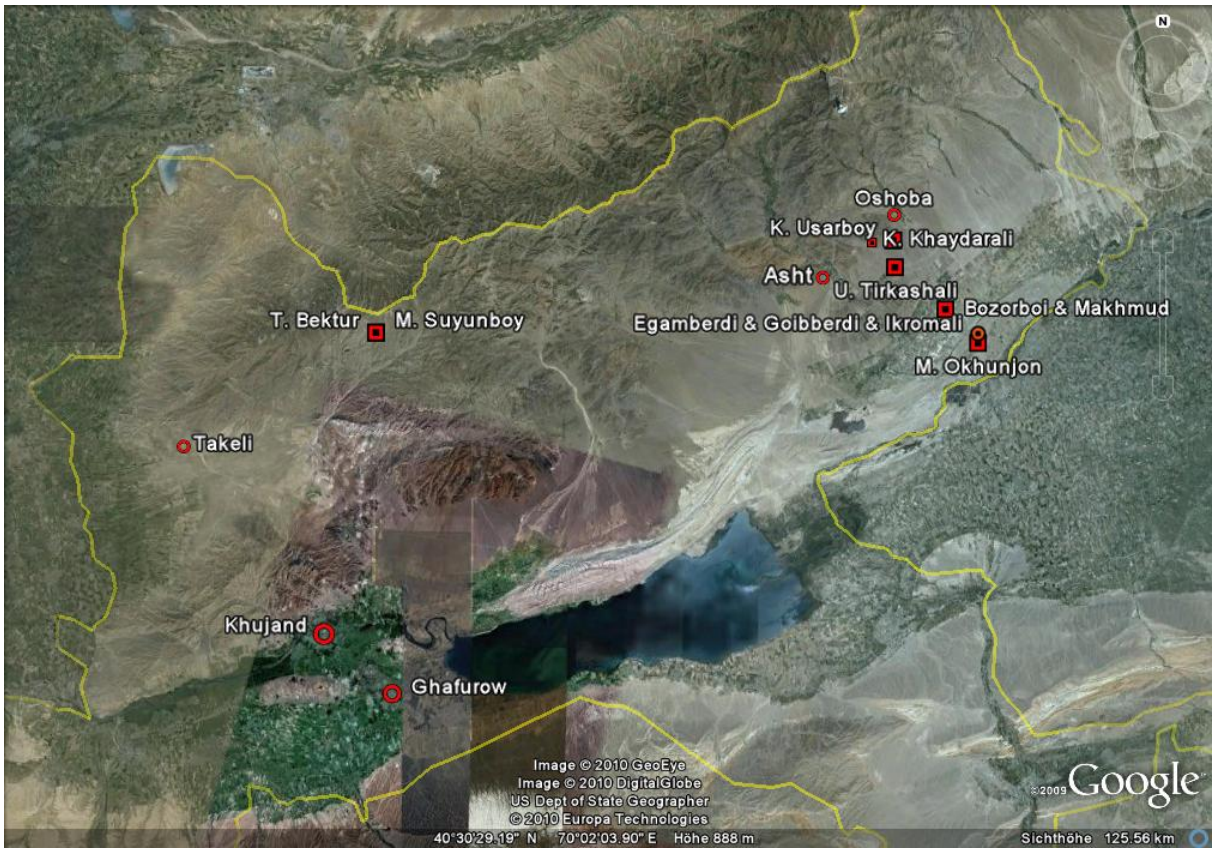

Figure 6. Location of nucleus goat farmers in Asht and B. Gafurov district in Sogd Province/Northern Tajikistan
(Note: Oshoba and Takeli are project villages with spinners' groups, while Khujand, Asht and Ghafurov are district cities.)