



## PRESS-RELEASE

### *Best practices of Natural Resource and Sustainable Land Management techniques discussed in Khatlon*

**Khovaling district, 3 July 2013** – In the framework of the EU funded project “Reduction of Land Degradation and Prevention of Desertification through the Development of Natural Resources Management in Tajikistan” a third Project Steering Committee meeting was conducted involving over 50 representatives of Tajik government, civil society organizations, donors, national and international organizations.

Project Steering Committees are the main forum for coordination of project activities, approaches and methodologies, best practices and techniques with all relevant stakeholders, and it provides an update on the project achievements.

The third PSC meeting, conducted in Khovaling on July 3, 2013, was designed to disseminate to stakeholders all the best practices and techniques linked to Natural Resource Management (NRM) and Sustainable land Management (SLM) that were elaborated/adopted throughout the project lifetime.

The disseminated techniques and approaches include: engineering (irrigation, spring catchment and protection, river bank strengthening, infrastructure protection), bio-engineering (land slide stabilization, live palisades, brush layering, contour line fascines, drainage fascines, live witting and etc) and soil/agriculture related activities (greenhouses, tree nurseries, agroforestry, drip irrigation, contour lines and etc).

The next meeting is scheduled for Autumn 2013 at the national level to review/present the results and achievements of the project.

The project aims at contributing to the reduction of poverty of the rural population in Southern Tajikistan through land degradation reduction and desertification prevention (main objective). It is financed under the EU Thematic Programme for Environment and sustainable management of natural resources, including energy and is implemented by an Italian INGO CESVI in partnership with WHH and ATAC. The project started in November 2010 and will continue until November 2013. The project budget is of around 1.6 MLN EUR.

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A project implemented by CESVI in partnership with WHH and ATAC



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The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders. To this end the EU is active in Tajikistan since 1992 and provides approximately EUR 25 million annually in development assistance.