

PRESS-RELEASE

Studying successful Food cluster activities in Upper Austria

BISHKEK, from May 4th to May 11th, 2014, the Austrian NGO Hilfswerk Austria International organized a visit to study the activities of a successful food cluster in Upper Austria in the frame of the project "Economic development in Central Asia through the promotion of Business Intermediary Organizations and SMEs in the processing sector". This project is funded by the European Union program "Central Asia-Invest III".

The event is an equal collaboration of Central Asian and European civil society organizations.

The goal of the event was to study the activities of a successful food cluster located in Upper Austria. This trip allowed participants to become familiar with a cluster approach. This approach provides a radically new method of competition, cooperation and direction. Of special interest is the synergy caused by the institutional interaction of industrial enterprises, research institutions and the government sector.

Representatives of relevant government agencies and nongovernmental organizations from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan took part in this introductory visit.

A project implemented

By:



Hilfswerk Austria
International

Address: 156, M. Tursunzade Str.,
Dushanbe,

Tel: (992 37)228-93-85
aslanov@hilfswerk.tj
www.hilfswerk.tj



This project is funded
by the European Union

Delegation of the European Union to the
Kyrgyz Republic

21 Erkindik Boulevard, Business Centre Orion,
5th floor Bishkek, 720040, Kyrgyz Republic

Telephone: +996 312 26 10 00
Fax: +996 312 26 10 07

E-mail: delegation-kyrgyzstan@eeas.europa.eu

Website: <http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/kyrgyzstan>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/eudelkg>

The European Union is made up of 27 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.

The international non-governmental organization Hilfswerk Austria International implements in equal partnership with regional organizations in Central Asia its third project as part of the “Central Asia – Invest” program of the European Union.

This series of projects, which have been implemented for the last five years by a joint team of six regional and international organizations, aims at Central Asia’s integration into the global economy by developing the fruit and vegetable processing sector as well as increasing the competitiveness and export capacity of SMEs.

Project Partners:

ASTI (Association of Scientific and technical Intelligentsia) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization that supports the development of democratic society in Tajikistan by utilizing the wealth of potential resources contained in the local scientific and technical intelligentsia, and increasing the capacity of the non-commercial sector through the distribution of information, coordination, education and consultation. <http://www.asti.tj>

National Association of Small and Medium Business of Tajikistan (NASMB) is a nongovernmental, non-profit membership organization, which unites small and medium sized companies as well as business support organizations and other business related organizations, promotes their interests and protects their rights via provision of different valuable services. NASMB was established in 1993 and has been in re-registered on 04 March 2008 in the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Tajikistan. Address: 43, Buzurgzoda Str., Dushanbe, telephone: (992 44)625-00-08; Fax: (992 37)224-70-79; info@namsb.tj; www.namsb.tj.

The Training and Extension System Centre (TES Centre) is a Kyrgyz Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) that aims to increase people’s income from farming with the help of qualitative training and advisory work. TES is recognized by the Government of Kyrgyzstan and was founded in 1999 jointly by GTZ and the Osh State University.

AFVE – Association of Fruit and vegetable Enterprises in Kyrgyzstan was founded in June 2003 and at the present moment it unites the majority of fruit and vegetable enterprises in Kyrgyzstan, developing the industry of fruit and vegetable processing and enterprise through ensuring the favorable business – environment and market development of processed products. Union of legal entities "Association of fruit and vegetable enterprises" is a non-government, non-profit organization uniting legal entities on voluntary bases and on basis of common interests involved in production and processing of agricultural produce.

WIFI - The Institute for Economic Promotion - The Institute for Economic Promotion (WIFI) is a department of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber. With a market share of 20 percent, WIFI is the largest training and adult education institute in Austria. Beside the training courses, WIFI’s task is to provide advice and consultancy to businesses and thereby helping companies to cope with the challenges of structural change by providing the information they need about new technologies. WIFI is the spring board for new training methods and products, innovations and SME programs.

In 1990, WIFI started to export its vast experience in adult education, which led to the WIFI International Network, which provides further education programs throughout the CEE / SEE regions. The WIFI International Network benefits from the vast expertise of its mother organization and with which it not only addresses the specific needs of local SMEs, but also generally promotes entrepreneurship.

with funding from
Austrian
 **Development Cooperation**

The project is co-financed by Austrian
Development Agency ADA

