

Draft for Week at ICARDA

“Community Action in Integrated and Market Oriented Feed-Livestock Production in Central and South Asia”

The Steering Committee and the Regional Workshop of the ICARDA-IFAD Project titled ‘Community Action in Integrated and Market Oriented Feed-Livestock Production in Central and South Asia’ were organized in Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan, from 12 -13 September 2007. The Regional Workshop was attended by Dr. Carla de Gregorio, Grants Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific Division of IFAD, Dr. Raj Paroda, ADG (IC), Barbara Rischkowsky, Project Coordinator, ICARDA, Dr. Liba Brent, International Consultant, University of Wisconsin. Also the heads and the collaborating scientists from Pakistan, the CAC-NARS, and scientists from the Regional office for CAC in Tashkent participated in the Meeting. The Meeting was hosted by Dr. Rysbek Nurgaziev, Director Kyrgyz Research Institute of Livestock, Veterinary, and Rangelands, Bishkek.

The Grants Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific Division of IFAD Dr. de Gregorio emphasized that this project has been designed to improve livelihoods of smallholders through technology options, involve women in marketing and processing of livestock products, build capacity for participatory research, and disseminate knowledge on best bet practices.

Dr. Raj Paroda expressed support of the project on behalf of Dr. Mahmoud Solh, Director General of ICARDA. He also noted that linking of this project to other ongoing development projects in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan is also desirable. In this regard he stated that conservation of rangeland and livestock genetic resources in each country involved to the project is a very perspective area where support can be provided by the CACILM Programme and international donors, such as IFAD, ADB and others.

Dr. Barbara Rischkowsky, Project Coordinator, ICARDA, made an overview of the progress in the project and also enumerated some constraints in implementing the complex project including a delayed start of the project, change in project coordination, difficulties in recruiting the project staff, and redirection of emphasis to small farms.

During the deliberations it emerged that Central Asia stands to gain by emulating the successful South Asian example wherein integrated community based feed-livestock production, marketing and processing, and involvement of women lead to white revolutions in Central Asia.



