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APPROACH TO PARTICIPATORY MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Final Report

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Acronyms

ARIS	Kyrgyzstan Community Development and Investment Agency
APMNR	Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources
CACILM	Central Asian Countries Initiative for Land Management
DM	Democracy and Conflict Mitigation Office, USAID
EFCA	Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia
GEF	Global Environment Facility, United Nations Development Programme
GPS	Global Positioning System
GTZ	German Development Cooperation
KRJC	Kyrgyz Republic-Japan Center for Human Development
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture
MSDSP	Mountain Societies Development Support Program
NBN	Neighborhood Building Network
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
OTI	Office of Transition Initiatives, USAID
PF	Public Fund
PIA	Public Information and Awareness
RDF	Rural Development Fund
RDI	Rural Development Institute
UCA	University of Central Asia
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources (APMNR) Project sought to help mitigate and manage conflict in two *ayil okmotu* (rural communities) along the Kyrgyzstan-Tajikistan border.

Subsequent to Cooperative Agreement No. 116-A-00-00013-00, executed on March 27, 2009 between USAID and Rural Development Institute (RDI), this final report covers activities approved by USAID in the workplan attached as Annex One. Activities were undertaken by RDI and its local implementing partner, Rural Development Fund (RDF), with whom RDI has a sub-agreement.

This report first provides some background on the issues that the APMNR Project attempted to address, as well as the goal and objectives of the Project. It briefly introduces each activity in the workplan (see Annex One), provides a summary of major results achieved, identifies obstacles encountered during implementation, and details progress made towards program objectives with an emphasis on measurement using indicators established in the workplan. Project activities are listed below.

1. Situational Analysis
2. Integrate International Experience
3. Community Mapping of Resource Allocation and Use
4. Conflict Management Plan
5. Micro-Projects
6. Public Information and Awareness
7. Lessons Learned



2.0 BACKGROUND

This Project, the Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources (APMNR), sought to develop a community-driven approach to manage conflict over natural resources and test it in two *ayil okmotus*¹ along the Kyrgyzstan-Tajikistan border. The *ayil okmotus* of Ak Say and Ak Taty are located in the Batken Oblast in Southern Kyrgyzstan, and border the Tajik enclaves of Chorkhu and Vorukh.

Relations between ethnic Kyrgyz and Tajiks in the APMNR pilot areas can be tense, and the tension has escalated to violence more than once in the recent past. Both the Tajiks and Kyrgyz in the area have limited livelihood options since Soviet-era markets dissipated and Soviet-supported industry closed. The area generally suffers from poor infrastructure, and greater poverty than other areas of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. Extreme weather patterns and reliance on labor out-migration and agriculture for survival also contribute to poverty in the area.

There is significant evidence of interdependence between the Tajiks and the Kyrgyz in the area. The two groups often engage in trade of goods and services, and they share important resources and infrastructure. With unclear borders, the communities are intermixed, sometimes with one neighbor having a Kyrgyz passport and another having a Tajik passport. Pastureland is the nexus of interdependence and tension between Tajiks and Kyrgyz. Every Kyrgyz and Tajik household owns at least a few head of livestock, yet, there are no pastures in the Tajik enclaves of Vorukh and Chorkhu. Tajiks must rely on Kyrgyz pastures to feed their livestock during the grazing season.

To address pasture use needs, the Tajiks and Kyrgyz in the pilot area make informal arrangements for Tajik animals to be grazed on Kyrgyz land. These informal and non-transparent arrangements are formed in a context of unequal or conflicting power relationships, contradictory legal frameworks, a lack of alternatives, and an environment of mistrust.

The current legal framework for pastures in Kyrgyzstan permits these informal use arrangements such as they are. However, at this juncture pasture management in Kyrgyzstan is undergoing far-reaching reforms that are changing the pasture tenure regime in border areas. Moreover, there are different legal rules for foreigners grazing on Kyrgyz pastureland depending on whether the land is managed by a *leskboz* or the *ayil okmotu* causing some conflict between these two institutions and some confusion among both the Kyrgyz and the Tajiks. Positively, in recognition of the importance of pastures in the Batken region and their role in igniting conflict, the presidents of both Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan expressed their will for local solutions to the problem via a Joint Statement of two Presidents in 2008.

With all this in mind, the Project proposed the following outputs, which are linked to each activity in the Project workplan (see Annex One)

1. Improvement in community's/stakeholders knowledge of nature and extent of conflict in Ak Say and Ak Taty which will provide basis for Conflict Management Plan
2. Improvement in quality and quantity of tools available to communities to manage conflict over natural resources

¹ The *ayil okmotu*, also known as a body of local self-governance, is the lowest level of formal governance in Kyrgyzstan. The term refers both to the administrative head of the *ayil okrug* and to the geographical administrative area.

3. Increase collaboration between ethnic groups in Ak Say and Ak Taty in managing conflict over natural resources
4. Increase opportunities for generating income in Ak Say and Ak Taty from conflict free use of natural resources
5. Increased awareness of Project goals and activities among key stakeholders and pilot community members
6. Broadening institutional and policy-makers' options for peaceful management of conflict over natural resources along border areas

3.0 ACTIVITY REPORT

3.1 *Activity One: Situational Analysis*

The Situational Analysis report is the culmination of research conducted under Activity One (Situational Analysis) and Activity Three (Community Mapping) of the APMNR Project workplan. The purpose of the Situational Analysis report is to study and understand the various dimensions, scale, levels, and consequences of conflict in the pilot areas. The underlying goal is to develop a specific understanding of the causes of conflict in the pilot area and then, with the target communities, establish a broad framework for resolving those conflicts peacefully.

The report supports Project Output One: *Improvement in community's/ stakeholders knowledge of nature and extent of conflict in Ak Say and Ak Taty which will provide the basis for the Conflict Management Plan.* Progress on this output is measured by the level of understanding of the nature and extent of conflict over natural resources in Ak Say and Ak Taty amongst the community and stakeholders, and by the number of community stakeholders trained in a reflection workshop. The report is a deliverable of this Project.

Field research for the Situational Analysis report took place primarily within the Ak Say and Ak Taty *ayil okmotus* and partially in the Chorkhu and Vorukh enclaves. The purpose of the field research was to gather qualitative data on the nature and extent of conflict over natural resources in the target villages from both the Kyrgyz and Tajik perspective; to understand who benefits from, and who is negatively impacted by, the current arrangements for natural resource use; to understand the political context in greater detail; and to learn how the current patterns of natural resource management impact livelihoods, income, power, and institutional arrangements in the area.

The field research used village transect walks, participatory mapping, and participatory community assessment including focus group, key stakeholder, and individual and household interview techniques. Research was conducted with Kyrgyz and Tajik people, local authorities, religious and opinion leaders, shepherds, livestock owners, and users of pasture secondary resources (for other than grazing purposes). Women and men were interviewed separately. Members of the research team also met with NGOs based in Bishkek, Osh and Batken working on relevant issues, and with *raion*, *oblast*, and *jamoat* authorities.

Research was conducted in two phases. First, a rapid community assessment was undertaken by whom RDF to identify major resource constraints, primary resource user groups, and key stakeholders, and to gain a general understanding of the socio-political context. On the basis of this first round of research, the issues were prioritized and refined and a general framework for the

second phase of field work was devised. The second phase of field research was conducted by RDI and RDF, and included a social scientist, a natural resource and mapping specialist, lawyers, community-based development specialists, and pastures specialists among others. Research in Tajik communities was conducted by a social scientist from Tajikistan. Finally, the results from the situational assessment were validated with key stakeholders and informants and adjusted where necessary.

Key Findings

Research revealed that, while the legal framework for pastures in Kyrgyzstan largely permits the informal pasture use arrangements between Kyrgyz and Tajiks in Ak Say and Ak Taty, pasture management in Kyrgyzstan involves a complex multitude of governmental and institutional authorities. In addition, while a new pasture law was passed in 2009, it has not been fully implemented and does not address some of the institutional cross-over issues identified in the Situational Analysis.

Partially because of the complex legal framework, and also because of the importance of the resource, there are a number of stakeholders--institutional and individual--who have an interest in the pasture use arrangements. Each of those stakeholders is also affected in some way by the other factors that contribute to the latent conflict in the pilot area.



Among the contributing factors identified through research are:

- **Target populations have few livelihood options** - Pastures are important as a source of income for both the Tajiks and Kyrgyz in the pilot areas. This is especially true for those households--the overwhelming majority--who have limited choices for earning an income.
- **Lack of access to, or insufficient quantities of, arable land** - Pressure on pastures is compounded by the lack of access to, or insufficient quantities of arable land, especially in Tajikistan where much of the land is still held by local governments. Tajik livestock owners cannot rely on cultivation for incomes, nor can they grow fodder for their stock and forgo grazing.
- **Lack of transparency in, and access to decision-making** - For a range of reasons, both Tajiks and Kyrgyz have little access to, or input in decision-making which affects them.

When faced with a lack of awareness of, and information about pasture decisions, research found that people often point to prejudice to explain why things are as they are.

- **Communication between the Kyrgyz and Tajiks is limited** - Similarly, research indicated that people in the area are prone to drawing antagonistic conclusions about events when there is a lack of consistent communication between Kyrgyz and Tajik communities. Kyrgyz and Tajik communities and families live side-by-side and share the same resources, yet for the most part, cannot communicate with one another due to the absence of a common language, and the lack of mechanisms for communicating.
- **Despite interdependence of Kyrgyz and Tajiks, ethnic tensions remain** - Evidence of significant interdependence between Tajiks and Kyrgyz suggest that conflict is not insurmountable, but misinformation and limited communication exacerbate tensions and lead to conflict.
- **Un-demarcated borders between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan** - Border issues have resulted in national attention on the pilot areas. The lack of clearly demarcated borders in some areas means that rules can be broken unwittingly, but it also fuels the perception of border encroachment—and thus loss of land—which exists in the pilot communities.
- **Tension exacerbated by mixed settlement patterns** - In light of the communication and information issues, lack of recognized borders, and differing rights to critical resources, the mixed settlement patterns of the pilot areas feeds latent conflict between the Kyrgyz and Tajiks.
- **Other important resources in the area are similarly prone to conflict** - Water, electricity and other important resources also have a history of being contested between the Kyrgyz and Tajiks in the pilot areas. This history forms the backdrop for tension over pastures.

Despite these factors which contribute to conflict in the pilot communities, the opportunity to mitigate and manage conflict in the pilot area is great. There is significant interdependence between the Tajiks and Kyrgyz, and it is clear that a few steps to improve transparency, information and communication, refine pasture management procedures, and improve conflict management skills, have the potential to create change in the pilot communities, as well as in other areas along the Kyrgyz-Tajik border which share similar problems.

Major Results, Obstacles and Progress towards Objectives

The Situational Analysis report has proven an important foundation for the entire APMNR Project on a number of levels. In many ways, the situational analysis was the most in-depth study that had been undertaken into the dimensions of conflict in the target area. For this reason it served as the important starting place for refining future Project activities and, importantly, for opening the door to discussions with the national government on what might be practical solutions to the conflict in the target areas. In addition, the subsequent validation of the situation analysis findings with the community assisted their understanding of the inter-relatedness of natural resource management arrangements and other conflicts. It was anecdotally stated by key community members that the Situational Analysis report helped them better communicate about conflict within, and outside of their community.

Challenges and constraints

The main challenge in conducting the situation assessment centered on engagement with Tajik communities. At the Project onset it was anticipated that Tajiks would participate to a greater extent in all the activities than was ultimately possible in practice. This was due to a number of factors,

including difficulties crossing borders and gaining the appropriate travel documents, and the fact that Tajik society is more “closed” to outsiders than Kyrgyz society. In addition, the situation assessment helped us to understand that because the conflict centered around pasture use and the Kyrgyz hold all the pastureland, much more effort needed to be focused in Kyrgyzstan where the reduction in the impetus for conflict could best be managed. In the future, it is recommended that a Project like this one locate a Tajik or cross-border NGO with whom it can partner, and with whose help engagement from Tajiks may be more likely.

Progress towards objectives

This activity sought to improve the communities and stakeholders’ knowledge of the nature and extent of conflict in Ak Say, Ak Taty and Chorkhu and Vorukh enclaves, and to provide a basis for the Conflict Management Plan. This result was measured by assessing the level of understanding of nature and extent of conflict over natural resources in Ak Say, Ak Taty and Chorkhu and Vorukh enclaves amongst the community and stakeholders, and the number of community stakeholders trained in reflection workshop.

Indicator One: Number of community stakeholders trained in reflection workshop

The community reflection workshop was held on 15 January 2010 at which **23 local leaders** or otherwise influential people within the communities reflected on a range of disputes identified by the communities, grouped them into 19 major conflict issues, and discussed their underlying causes and implications based on the framework the Project prepared.



Indicator Two: Increased understanding of nature and extent of conflict over natural resources in Ak Say and Ak Taty amongst community and stakeholders

These 23 community opinion formers, who were organized into the Neighborhood Building Network (a group of selected community representatives formed to assist implementation of the

project, discussed in more detail below), demonstrated improved understanding of the 19 conflict issues judged by the following indicators:

- The terms ‘conflict’ or ‘dispute’ are no longer taboo, and local leaders began freely using them in everyday vernacular
- Local leaders and community members articulated their vision regarding the conflicts arising from the use of Kyrgyz pasture by Tajik pasture users during the roundtable consultations on 28 October 2009, and then put forward specific, locally-acceptable solutions at the regional consultations on 28 October 2010 regarding the draft interstate agreements and associated sub-agreements in Batken, Batken *oblast*, as well as during the national workshop on 18 November 2010 in Bishkek:
 - **Roundtable consultations:** 47 community members and 12 representatives of state agencies (state *oblast* and *raion* administrations, the state veterinary service, and *leskboz*) attended
 - **Regional consultations:** 8 members of the pilot community and 10 state agency representatives participated
 - **National Workshop:** 59 total participants, of which 5 were community members and 6 were representatives of state agencies from Batken *oblast*
- Community members proposed a wide range of ideas for mitigating and preventing the kinds of conflicts identified in the situational analysis
 - 19 micro projects were prepared based on the communities’ understandings of the conflicts and possible means to address them
 - 19 micro project groups were involved in formulating and implementing micro projects, each consisting of at least 5 members (overall, 95 people were involved in implementation)

In addition, the situation assessment was used as the basis for gaining a “place at the table” with the Pasture Department, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry as they considered how to address pasture management issues in border areas. Being that it was one of the few accurate depictions of what was happening in the communities, the Situational Analysis acted as a catalyst for the Pasture Department’s ongoing interest in the Project and its results.

3.2 Activity Two: Integrate International Experience

The purpose of this activity was to identify and select a suite of community-based approaches for conflict management, based on international best practice. This activity was in support of Output Two: *Improvement in quality and quantity of tools available to communities to manage conflict over natural resources.*

After some revision based on results of the situation assessment and on feedback from communities, this activity focused on identifying: (1) steps for creating a community-driven Conflict Management Plan; and (2) comparative experience on certain conflict challenges. Rather than create a separate report, the activity was designed to flexibly address the Project's research needs. In particular, when a question arose for which the community or the Project team did not have a ready answer, research was conducted to identify potential options from international experience.

Major Results, Obstacles and Progress towards Objectives

Information gained in this activity was used to create the Conflict Management Plan (Activity Four).

3.3 Activity Three: Community Mapping of Resource Allocation and Use

The purpose of this activity was to use community mapping techniques to assist the situation analysis of Activity One and to prepare spatially referenced map data for use in the implementation of the Conflict Management Plan. This activity was in support of Output Two: *Improvement in quality and quantity of tools available to communities to manage conflict over natural resources*, and Output Three: *Ease tension and improve collaboration between ethnic groups in Ak Say and Ak Taty in managing conflict over natural resources*.

Following an initial scoping visit to Batken Oblast in February 2009, the Mapping and Natural Resources Specialist developed a two-stage mapping approach, combining a simple sketch mapping approach and a more in-depth data collection exercise leading to the development of a detailed computer-generated map. This approach was considered appropriate for a number of reasons, including:

- The approach was extractive, allowing the team to collect research data and inform the situational analysis (Activity One). It was also transformative, allowing the community to develop a map product that could be useful in the Project and the community context.
- The level of complexity was appropriate to the participating communities, who were well educated, literate, and organized.
- Good digital geographic data was publicly available, helping form a baseline for the computer aided map.
- This approach was relatively inexpensive, and required very little specialized equipment.

In February 2009 the Project invited a local GIS and Mapping Specialist, Dr. Ainura Nazarkulova, to join the team on a short-term consultancy basis. Dr. Nazarkulova's appointment was essential to the successful completion of community mapping activities. Based in Bishkek, Dr. Nazarkulova assisted the Project team with data acquisition, base map preparation, digitization and production of the community maps.

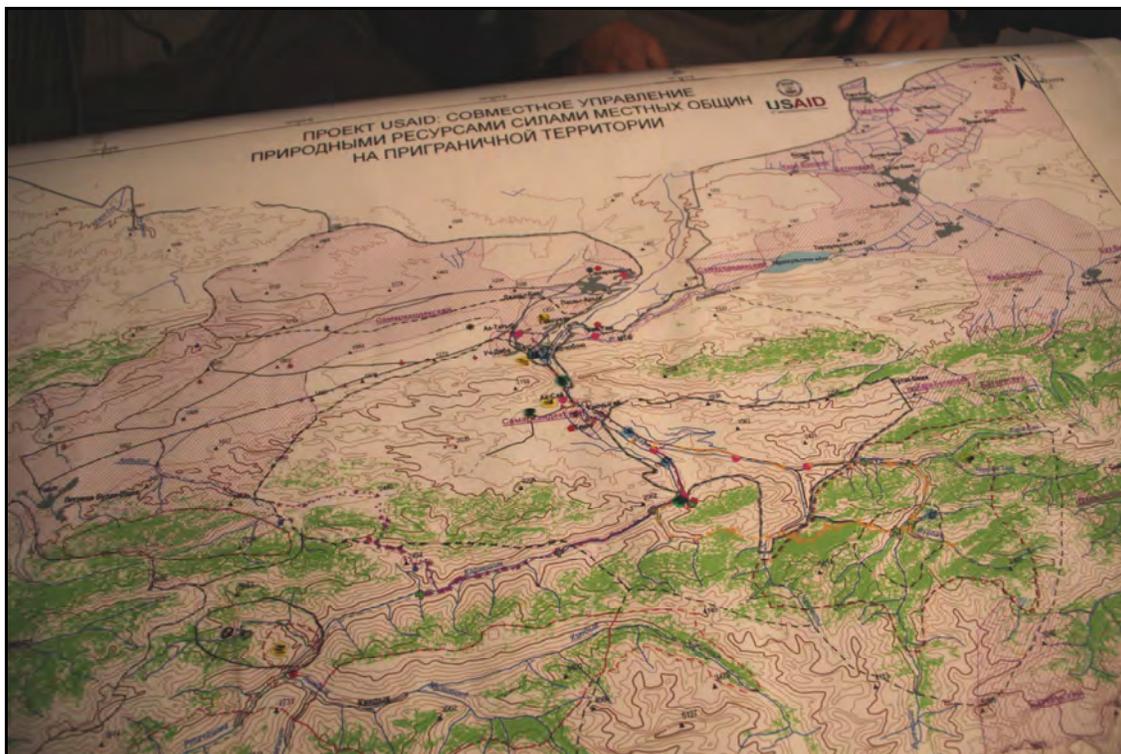
The Mapping and Natural Resources Specialist oversaw the acquisition of baseline map data required for developing community mapping tools and creating the final community maps. A number of meetings were held in Bishkek to establish the reliability and availability of map data, and the Project selected the company GIS Service for its ability to provide vector data covering a wide variety of geographical features. Relevant attributes derived from census data were also available. While this data is publically available, the costs of obtaining it from the relevant agencies and digitizing it outweighed the convenience of purchasing it directly from GIS Service. GIS Service also provided wide format printing services to the Project.

The Mapping and Natural Resources Specialist developed a curriculum for training a team of researchers from RDF in Community Mapping Techniques and GPS survey. This curriculum was presented in the 'Community Mapping Manual' and associated GPS guidance materials.

After a period of training during May 2009, the research team traveled to Batken Oblast to train community members, and to undertake supervised mapping exercises to further develop their skills and understanding. This included a one-day training workshop for community members on GPS surveying directed by the RDF team. During this period the RDF research team worked closely with the Mapping and Natural Resources Specialist and the RDF Batken office to develop protocols for GPS data management and the management of field data collection activities undertaken by community members.

Community mapping activities continued through 2009 and 2010, with the community developing maps representing their specific interests and concerns. Members of the community were involved directly in data collection using GPS instruments, and in developing map symbology that could be clearly understood by their peers. It was important that the community felt that they had ownership of the final map outputs, and with this in mind, community members were involved in each stage of the process of preparing the community maps. Community leaders took the opportunity to review and make detailed edits to the maps under development.

After much discussion and revision, the community leaders settled on two map outputs; one showing infrastructure and institutions, the other showing resources, such as pastures. The final maps were formally handed over to the community in December 2010.



Major Results, Obstacles, Progress towards Objectives

The process of developing the Community Maps added more depth to the situational analysis (Activity One). The first stage, and to some extent the second stage of the mapping exercises were extractive, allowing the team to gather detailed data very quickly, and helping to inform the situational analysis research.

The maps have already been used as reference tools by the community to develop the Conflict Management Plan (Activity Four). Translating sketch maps to the more formal community map allowed for the presentation of information on the occurrence and magnitude of resource conflicts, which proved very useful for Project planning and prioritizing. The maps provide a great deal of detailed information, such as the difference between a bridge that is functional and one that requires repair, or between soil which is degraded and soil which is hazardous. The maps also show the locations of conflicts and the institutions and conditions surrounding them, making them an important tool for easily describing these issues.

Another advantage of the community maps in hard copy or digital form is that they can be easily shared and, most importantly, easily understood. The visual representation of issues can facilitate better communication between communities because the media is understood and widely respected.

The community mapping activity has contributed to increasing community/stakeholder knowledge of the nature and extent of conflict, and to easing tension and increasing collaboration between ethnic groups in the communities to manage conflict over natural resources. The communities regard them as working tools to help them manage and resolve conflicts over natural resources. Community leaders have demonstrated confidence in using the maps as a tool for advocacy and decision-making, and the maps have already been employed for advocacy, quite independently of the project.

On one occasion, *leskboz* pastureland had been identified by authorities for leasing to neighboring Tajik livestock keepers because local authorities were under the impression that this territory was underused by Kyrgyz shepherds and thus suitable for a leasing arrangement. Community leaders quickly recognized that this land was in fact used by a number of shepherds, and that a leasing arrangement might put their livelihoods at risk, possibly even resulting in disputes or conflict. Using the community map to identify the territory in question and demonstrate its current uses, community leaders appealed to local authorities, who decided leave the land under the use of Kyrgyz shepherds, thus mitigating a potential future source of conflict.

Deliverables for this activity include:

- Curriculum for community mapping with detailed checklists and refresher exercises, presented as the “Community Mapping Manual” (completed June 2009, and provided as Annex Two)
- Field guide for community mappers (completed May 2009)
- Curriculum for GPS training of the trainers (completed June 2009)
- Digitized and printed community maps (completed November 2010)

The community mapping activity and community maps were presented by community leaders and the Mapping and Natural Resources Specialist at the Project workshop in Bishkek in November 2010.

Challenges and constraints

While the community mapping activity was generally straightforward, and was completed successfully, the team encountered a number of challenges, namely:

1. Travel - During the early part of 2010, travel to the Project area was complicated by unrest and security concerns in Kyrgyzstan. The RDF team based in Bishkek was unable to travel to the Project area during this period.
2. Female participation - It was important to ensure that the tools and methodologies for mapping included guidance on appropriate female participation, and community researchers were appropriately trained to deliver gender-sensitive training. Women participated, and took a leading role in the desk-based mapping exercises and attended the training workshop on GPS Surveying. However, because the GPS data collection activity required community mappers to travel into remote areas to collect data, the community nominated people who had the best knowledge of these areas to undertake the work. As a result, no women were involved in this aspect of the work.

Progress towards objectives

Indicator One: Change in capacity of trainers on community mapping techniques

Trainers at RDF can now confidently use, and train others in using community mapping techniques. These techniques include sketch mapping, detailed layer mapping, and GPS data collection. Since mid-2009 the RDF trainers have trained other members of RDF in the community mapping techniques, and have successfully applied aspects of the mapping methodology on another RDF project in Kyrgyzstan.

The Project employed a Mapping Specialist to prepare the digital maps from data collected by the community. Members of the RDF team expressed an interest in learning some of the Geographical Information Systems techniques and software required to prepare digital maps so that these tasks needn't be outsourced in the future.

Indicator Two: Change in community capacity on community mapping techniques

Members of the community developed two community map products, one showing infrastructure and institutions, the other showing resources, such as pastures. Community leaders reported that they enjoyed the process of developing the community maps, and plan to continue to use the community maps for future decision-making. As noted above, community leaders have already used their understanding of the community maps to their advantage to resolve an issue regarding pasture leasing. The community has also used the GPS receivers provided to them by the Project to help plan a housing development.

Indicator Three: Community created maps produced as part of the Conflict Management Plan

The community maps form a basic reference document for the Conflict Management Plan, as each conflict is documented on the maps. The maps were also useful during the implementation of the plan to communicate ideas, and as focal points for plans and agreements.

3.4 Activity Four: Conflict Management Plan

The purpose of this activity was to facilitate the communities' development of a plan to manage conflict related to natural resources based on the situational analysis, international best practices, mapping techniques, and Kyrgyz and Tajik informal and formal conflict resolution mechanisms. This activity supported Output Three: *Ease tension between ethnic groups in Ak Say and Ak Taty in*

managing conflict over natural resources. The Conflict Management Plan (translated into English) is attached to this report as Annex Three.

The first step in completing this activity was to form the Neighborhood Building Network (NBN). The NBN is a group composed of the representatives of two *ayil okmotu*, deputies of *ayil kenesh*, five village headmen, the chairpersons of pasture committees, village elders, women and young people. The NBN was created based on the principle of balanced representation of all pilot villages. With Project team assistance, the NBN developed a governance structure, including a charter specifying its rights and responsibilities. The NBN played a critical role in creating the Conflict Management Plan, and in implementing and administering the micro-projects (Activity Five).

In accordance with the Project workplan (*see* Workplan Annex One), a series of reflection workshops were held with the NBN, where the findings of the situation analysis were shared and validated with community leaders.

The framework for developing the Conflict Management Plan was based on the steps shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Steps for Creating a Community Based Plan for Managing Conflict over Natural Resources

Step	Description
Analyze situational analysis with communities.	NBN identify and analyze each issue identified in situational analysis (and others that might not be identified). It may be necessary to break each issue into smaller issues or components, use a conflict analysis tool, which analyzes issues by impact, duration, significance, magnitude, and mitigation options.
Develop a community vision of the desired future.	Work with the NBN to establish a base of common interests and concerns among all stakeholders. Look forward to the future, to what they want for children and grandchildren with regard to conflict and to natural resources. This vision should be specific and detailed.
Legitimize the vision with the whole community.	The NBN should share and legitimize the vision statement with the whole community. How the vision is legitimized depends on the community, but it should be one that helps the entire community agree with and support the vision.
Compare the situational analysis with the vision of the future.	Ask the NBN to identify the main discrepancies between the situation analysis and their vision for the future. Is the current status of conflict and natural resources management moving away from or towards that vision? For each component, ask what action steps might be needed to get to that vision, then put those components or steps in appropriate sequence. Specify the key areas or problems that need to be tackled (i.e., these would become the components of the strategy) and the broadly desirable outcomes (objectives) for each such component. Identify those which can be influenced by the community and those which would require the support of external stakeholders, such as regional or national agencies.
For each component of the strategy, identify what needs to be done to progress towards the desired future.	The objectives identified up to this point need to be transformed into workplans that answer specific questions such as: What exactly shall be done? Who shall do it? By when? Where? How? With what financial means and human resources? Towards what specific aims? What indicators will be used to measure progress?

Step	Description
Agree on a course of action.	<p>Consider these methods for coming to an <i>agreement</i> on a Conflict Management Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ List alternative options that were discussed and facilitate their direct comparison. Once the group has weighed the pros and cons of each, have them decided on the best alternative. ▪ Stimulate explicit discussion of the hypotheses and basic assumptions underlying alternative options. Have the group identify the underlying interests for each and then weigh the pros and cons of each. ▪ Call for an expert opinion on controversial issues or issues that clearly need more information for the best decision to be made. ▪ At the beginning of the session, ask the community representatives to devise incentives that will encourage them all to agree on a given option. ▪ Use the micro-grant project as a means to encourage compromise. <p>At the end, consider developing a simple logical framework for the course of action agreed upon. This framework will capture the objectives, activities and tasks and can be used as the basis for the plan.</p>
Write and share plan (and associated agreements)	<p>Specify what needs to happen—such as specific objectives, actors, means and activities, and follow up protocol—to foster each component of the strategy. Also write complementary agreements dealing with other building blocks leading to the common vision of the desired future, e.g. project implementation contracts, by-laws to set up a group or organization, a letter of intent to perform certain activities, a memorandum of understanding between local authorities.</p>

In addition to the steps identified above, the Project took specific steps to address the capacity needs of the NBN, charged with implementing the Conflict Management Plan, including:

1. Capacity building to understand the nature of conflict. In October 2009 RDI/RDF with CAMP Ala-Too (a local NGO) delivered a four-day interactive training for the local leaders who formed the NBN. The training primarily focused on informing key locally-based decision makers about general aspects of conflicts over natural resources as well as their contributing factors. It specifically focused on the following topics:
 - Causes of conflicts over natural resources
 - Dynamics of escalating conflict
 - Costs of conflicts (social, ecological and economic)
 - Analysis of conflict, its stakeholders or actors, their interactions
 - Modes of communication during the conflicts
 - Conflict prevention methods
2. Capacity building to design micro-projects to address conflicts (for Activity Five: *Micro-Projects for Implementing Conflict Management Plan*). Seminars on how to prepare and then implement micro-projects added to the capacity of the NBN members to manage

community efforts and resources to mitigate or prevent conflicts. There were eight seminars conducted on such topics as:

- Principles of participatory allocation of micro-grants;
- Preparation of micro-project concepts;
- Convening the Grant Committee and carrying out pre-selection of micro-project concepts;
- How to present micro-project ideas;
- How to organize the mobile voting;
- How to implement the micro-projects; and
- How to conduct monitoring and evaluation

The seminars were supplemented by multiple individual and group consultations from April through December 2010. The consultations focused on both preparation of the micro-project design and the implementation process.



Major Results, Obstacles, Progress towards Objectives

As expected, the community leaders received solid grounding on the dispute management methods and gained a broader understanding of the nature, extent and contributing factors of local conflicts over natural resources. NBN members thoroughly discussed nineteen conflict issues (identified in the situational analysis) and jointly developed locally acceptable solutions, which were included in the Conflict Management Plan.

The Conflict Management Plan is a deliverable under this activity (a translated summary of which is provided as Annex Three).

Challenges and constraints

One of the challenges the Project encountered developing the management plan was the personnel turnover in both pilot *ayil okmotu*. Over the course of almost two years, several key people changed positions, including the heads of *ayil okmotu* in Ak-Say and Ak-Tatyr and land specialists in both *ayil okmotu*. The Project team had to build rapport with new appointees of the *ayil okmotu* and engage them in the process of developing and implementing the Conflict Management Plan.

Progress towards objectives

Indicator One. Number of people trained on techniques for managing conflict.

Twenty three leaders from **five** villages of Ak-Say and Ak-Tatyr *ayil okmotus* received consistent and focused trainings on conflict management techniques and benefited from **eight** seminars on the preparation and implementation of micro-projects as well as multiple individual and group consultations. Apart from the core group of local decision makers (NBN), over **400** people attended events (including the AgitConcert and Mobile Voting) dedicated to managing disputes around natural resources.

Indicator Two. Number of conflict situations in which new competencies were applied via the Conflict Management Plan.

Under the implementation of the Conflict Management Plan, community members tried to address **14** conflict situations drawing upon the skills and knowledge they received from trainings and seminars. Some efforts out of **14** complemented each others' attempts, while others (**five** initiatives) engaged Tajik community members to resolve or mitigate the targeted disputes.

Indicator Three. Level of social participation in the Conflict Management Plan.

The level of participation from the pilot communities was substantial and continuous. Engaging local leaders in the process of devising the Conflict Management Plan from the outset helped build the capacity of the local leaders to analyze the conflicts, forge consensus, and develop locally appropriate solutions. It also ensured ownership over the process as well as its outcomes. RDF made sure that women, youth and the elderly were given opportunities to provide meaningful input.

3.5 Activity Five: Micro-Projects

The purpose of this activity was to support the implementation of the Conflict Management Plan by funding micro-projects that support some aspect of that plan. This activity was in support of Output Four: *Increase opportunities for generating income in Ak Say and Ak Tatyr from conflict-free use of natural resources*. A short report describing the innovative micro-grant selection, management, and monitoring process is attached as Annex Four to this report.

RDF and RDI developed a micro-grants framework based on agreed upon principles (*see* Box 1) and incorporated the following components:

1. Information campaign;
2. Micro-grants selection criteria and participatory procedures;
3. Implementation of micro-projects;
4. Participatory monitoring and evaluation;
5. Mechanisms for updating the Conflict Management Plan.

Box 1: Principles of the micro-project

- Micro-grant funds worth 30,000 USD (1,350,000 KGS) will be distributed amongst applicants from five villages in Ak Taty or Ak Say *ayil okrug*s
- Proposed micro-projects should aim to address one of the conflict issues identified in the Conflict Management Plan
- Timeline for implementation should be no more than 3 months
- Requested amount should be from 300 USD (13,500 KGS) up to 3,000 USD (135,000 KGS) per micro-project
- No less than 20% of community input should be provided (in labor and/or in kind and/or in cash) to ensure ownership over the micro-project
- Between 300 USD (13,500 KGS) and 5,000 USD (225,000 KGS) given to micro-projects involving joint implementation by citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic and Republic of Tajikistan within pilot area

Implementation of micro-project activity took place in following phases:

- Information campaign – **March 2010**
- Submission of micro-grant concepts – **April 2010**
- Convening of the Grant Committee (made up of community members) and conducting the Pre-selection of micro-grants – **May 2010**
- Development of full proposals and conducting technical review of micro-projects to examine their feasibility – **June 2010**
- Mobile Voting to determine successful micro-projects – **August 2010**
- Implementation of the micro-projects – **September through December 2010**
- Monitoring and evaluation – **November and December 2010**

Major Results, Obstacles, Progress towards Objectives

Out of **24** submitted, **14** micro-projects were selected and effectively implemented to ease tension and raise collaboration between ethnic groups in target areas. See the Micro-grant Report in Annex Four for a table showing micro-grants awarded.

All **five** villages participated in the micro-grants program. Of **14** micro-projects, **five** were implemented in Ak-Say, **three** – Uch-Dobo, **one** – Kok-Tash, **three** - Ak-Taty and **two** Orto-Boz.

Five micro-projects represented joint endeavors between Kyrgyz and Tajik people to address disputes identified in the priority issues. Incentives for Kyrgyz-Tajik cooperation were built into the micro-grants conditions (see Box 1) allowing joint projects to request double the amount that could be granted to projects involving only Kyrgyz or Tajik communities. Such joint projects were intended to foster and reinforce emerging or existing joint efforts between Tajik and Kyrgyz groups to address pressing conflict issues in the target area.

Two micro-projects sought to provide additional income-generating opportunities for women by establishing sewing workshops in Ak-Say and Uch-Dobo villages.

A novel participatory approach for granting, administering, and monitoring micro-grants was developed and tested. Key elements of the approach included vesting substantial decision-making

power in community members and downward accountability and transparency of the NBN sub-committee charged with leading the micro-project activity.



Of 14 micro-grants, **four** were women-led projects focusing on income-generating activities, strengthening communication between Tajik and Kyrgyz women, and building neighborly relations between Tajik and Kyrgyz children. In addition, thirty percent of the NBN sub-committee members leading the micro-grant activity were women.

Challenges and constraints

Political instability and insecurity in the country postponed the launch of micro-projects till the end of August 2010. Because of the unrest in Bishkek (April 6-7, 2010) the entire Project was postponed for one month until the situation stabilized and economic and social life resumed in Batken Oblast. For three weeks, beginning from early April till early May, field work outside of Bishkek was deemed unsafe and the Project had to shift the timeline for all planned activities, especially activities related to micro-grants, to the later dates.

In early June, due to the inter-ethnic unrest between Uzbek and Kyrgyz communities in Osh and Dzhahalal-Abad, field activities were again put on hold. The Project was unable to make trips to Batken until the end of July 2010. As a result, all activities planned under the micro-grants activities had to be postponed until August-September, 2010.

In addition, the lack of the quality suppliers in Batken and Osh *oblasts* affected the timing of the micro-projects. Certain projects required procurement of items that are not available in Batken or nearby Osh Oblast. This resulted in a delay in Project delivery.

Finally, while it was generally agreed that the 20% community contribution of either labor or cash towards each project was important to ensure commitment, it also caused a time delay. Most micro-grantees who pledged to contribute 20% in cash found the commitment more onerous than they envisaged. For future similar activities, the contribution should be reduced to 10-15% to ease the burden and prevent time delays. Annex Four contains a report on micro-grant activities.

Progress towards objectives

Indicator One. Number of micro-projects proposed, selected, and implemented.

There were **24** micro-project proposals submitted, of which **14** were selected and implemented.

Indicator Two. Number of trainings and consultations delivered to potential/actual grantees on how to prepare grant proposal.

There were eight seminars delivered to the NBN and micro-project groups, and over 30 individual and group consultations were conducted on how to prepare and implement micro-projects (see Table 2 below).

Table 2: Seminars and consultations with NBN on micro-project activity

	Topic	Delivered by	Number of participants	Date
1	Seminar on the main principles and conditions for extending micro-grants	RDF	23	March 2010
2	Seminar on how to prepare micro-project concept (simple logframe) and budget	RDF	24	April 2010
3	Seminar on how to organize Micro-grant Committee, evaluate micro-project proposals and de-select the unviable projects	RDF	23	April
4	Seminar on how to prepare flip-chart presentations for the Micro-grant Committee (Pre-selection stage)	RDF	24	May 2010
5	Seminar on developing full micro-project proposal and budget	MehrShavkat	20	June 2010
6	Seminar on how to implement the Open Village Mobile Voting for micro-projects	RDF	23	August 2010
7	Seminar on implementation of the micro-grants (procurement rules, financial reporting, accountability for the communities)	RDF	14	August 2010
8	Seminar on how to conduct participatory M&E of the micro-projects	RDF	23	October 2010

Indicator Three. Specific relevance of grant proposals to Conflict Management Plan.

The micro-project proposals submitted and those selected for implementation aimed to address conflicts that were identified in the Conflict Management Plan. The types of conflicts that communities sought to address within the Conflict Management Plan are provided in the table below.

Table 3: Types of conflicts that micro-projects aimed to address

Number of micro-projects	Type of conflict to be addressed (based on the Conflict Management Plan)	Status
1 micro-project	Conflict from the illegal use of the fuel wood and other non-grazing pasture resources by Tajik on Kyrgyz lands	Completed
1 micro-project	Conflicts associated with the safe passage of Kyrgyz livestock through Tajik enclave Vorukh (22 km route)	Suspended
6 micro-projects	Conflicts related to lack of or poor communication between Tajik and Kyrgyz communities (between women, children, youth)	Completed
2 micro-projects	Create additional income-generating opportunities to discourage out-migration and mitigate the effects of ‘creeping migration’	Completed
1 micro-project	Disputes related to water distribution between Tajik and Kyrgyz communities	Completed
1 micro-project	Strengthen the sustainability of the NBN to manage or prevent disputes	Completed

3.6 Activity Six: Public Information and Awareness

The purpose of this activity was to ensure that pilot communities and key stakeholders understand Project objectives and activities, and to ensure that pilot communities are informed of the initiation and progress of the Conflict Management Plan. This relates to Output Five: *Increased awareness of Project goals and activities among key stakeholders and pilot community members.*

To understand the opportunities and constraints of information dissemination in the target areas and to key stakeholders, a public information and awareness (PIA) survey was undertaken in May-June 2009. The survey was intended to identify those sources of information that are most trusted among target groups, where and how target groups receive new information, and principle messages that resonate with target groups. In keeping with the Branding and Marking documents, this survey informed the Public Information and Awareness Strategy, which was completed in December 2009, and is included as Annex Five to this report.

Key findings of the survey include:

- Traditional community celebrations and events are important venues for information exchange amongst community members irrespective of their nationality, sex and age.
- *Bazaars* were identified as the second most important venue for information distribution by local people because that is where people hear news and announcements, exchange information and purchase newspapers
- TV-based information was identified as commanding the highest level of confidence amongst community members, followed by newspapers and radio stations.
- *Ayil okmotu* were stressed as being primary sources of policy and legislative related information for local communities.
- Mosques were also ranked as being important sources of information, although information channeled was said to be repetitive and boring.
- Schools serve as an important forum where news and information are rapidly exchanged, primarily through teachers and students
- Schools and school children disseminate information promptly and accurately

The PIA strategy drew upon a combination of information channels and awareness raising events to attain its objectives. PIA events and campaigns (see the workplan of the PIA Strategy as Annex Five) focused on the following target groups:

1. Pilot communities
2. Local and regional governments, local institutions
3. Central level stakeholders: Government, the Parliament, donor agencies
4. General audiences, including NGOs, civil society groups

Major Results, Obstacles and Progress towards Objectives

“Beypil Jamaat”: Children’s art competition and journalism competition

Over 180 children from five village schools participated in the children’s art competition. The competition sought arts, crafts and written submissions from students on the theme of *beypil jamaat*



or peaceful community. A selection committee was formed from members of the NBN, deputies of the local *kenesh*, school teachers, and chairpersons of the pasture users union to evaluate submissions based on (a) extent to which the piece addressed the theme, and (b) artistic value of the work.

Twenty-seven finalists were selected and brought to Batken town (Batken Oblast) for the award ceremony, where the three winners were announced. The competition winners were reported on local newspapers and radio, and the Deputy Mayor of Batken distributed the prizes.

A journalism contest, on the same theme, ran in parallel to the children’s contest. The competition sought to motivate journalists as well as other experts to contribute positive

stories on relations between Tajiks and Kyrgyz in border areas. Winners were offered a small monetary award. Unfortunately, the timing of the journalism competition coincided with civil unrest in Kyrgyzstan, and submissions for the competition were limited in number.

Printed collateral

Various information materials and memorabilia were produced according to branding guidelines, including Project brochures and folders, notebooks, caps and T-shirts, bags, and desk calendars. Desk calendars in English and Kyrgyz describing the traditional methods of conflict resolution amongst Kyrgyz communities were presented to USAID, existing and potential partners of the Project both in Bishkek and Batken, state agencies such as the State Oblast and Raion Administrations, pilot *ayil okmotus* and other beneficiaries.

Mobile concerts

In collaboration with CAMP Alo Too, the target communities engaged in conflict resolution skills training and educational theatre on the subject of resolving conflicts. Over 100 people per village attended the theatre, and the events were also used to communicate Project information.

Regional and national level meetings

Throughout the Project, a number of important regional and national level meetings were held with key stakeholders.

These included:

1. A Project launch meeting for all regional stakeholders (local government, local and national, NGOs and donor agencies);
2. Round table consultation on the results of the situational assessment with the Pasture Department (Ministry of Agriculture), regional authorities, ayil okmotu, members of the NBN, and representatives of the local communities and the courts of ak sakals;
3. Regional consultations on the revised legal instruments, including the interstate agreements, which were held in Batken, Chorkhu and Vorukh; and
4. A national workshop held at the Project's conclusion (see Activity Seven below)

Challenges and constraints

Outside of the time constraints encountered because of the changing security situation in the country during the Project's implementation phase, there were no significant obstacles encountered in the implementation of this activity.

Progress towards objectives

This activity was linked to Output Five: *Increased awareness of Project goals and activities among key stakeholders and pilot community members.*

Indicator One: Number of community members and stakeholders who are aware of Project goals and activities

Through Project staff observation, participant counts at each event, and numbers of printed materials distributed, it is estimated that over 1,600 community members and stakeholders were aware of project goals and activities.

3.7 Activity Seven: Lessons Learned

The purpose of this activity was to capture lessons learned from the Project and, in particular, the effects of the Conflict Management Plan on a selected resource-related constraint in the target

communities, and to present findings and recommendations to communities, and key local, regional and national stakeholders. This activity served Output Seven: *Broadening institutional and policy-makers' options for peaceful management of conflict over natural resources along border areas.*

Under this activity the Project conducted end-of-Project reflection meetings with the community, and an end-of-Project workshop with key national, regional, local stakeholders from government, civil society, NGOs, donor agencies.

Community Reflection

The main findings from the community reflection meetings are as follows:

1. Broad participation of the communities and inclusiveness in implementation arrangements proved essential to building trust and getting successful results in Project activities.
2. Organizing the community leaders and working through the NBN laid a solid foundation for effective work throughout the Project implementation period.
3. Convening the Grant Committee from community members and representatives of the NBN ensured the transparency of decision-making regarding allocation of the micro-grants and helped significantly to build trust with the target communities.
4. The 23 members of the NBN were rightfully chosen, representing the voices and perspectives of the five target villages.
5. It was the first time that local communities were given the right to meaningfully participate in the selection of micro-projects.
6. Micro-grants selection formula used during the Mobile Voting was successful, as it ensured that the selection process and outcomes were accepted by the communities.
7. Community mapping proved to be a straightforward and helpful tool for community analysis and action. It was also interesting for the local mappers to learn mapping techniques and to participate in the creation of the community map of conflicts.
8. Opening a bank account for each micro-project leader proved a transparent and efficient way to deliver funds to the micro-project groups.

Suggestions for future consideration:

1. The requirements for financial accountability and reporting should be simplified as these proved to be onerous for micro-project groups.
2. Community mapping process should cover more conflicts that are beyond the immediate vicinity of the villages (e.g. remote pasture where conflicts are also widespread around natural resources).
3. Time allocated for implementation of micro-projects should be more than 3 months to allow for the effective completion of all activities.

National Workshop

A national workshop was held on November 18, 2010 in Bishkek. The workshop agenda and a list of attendees are included in Tables 4 and 5 below.

The national workshop drew significant attention from different stakeholders, including local NGOs and civil society organizations, members of parliament, state agencies (such as the Pasture Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and the Forestry agency), and donor agencies. More than 60 people attended the workshop, including representatives of local government and the communities of Ak Say and Ak Taty, representatives of Batken *leskhoz*, the *akim* (mayor) of Batken

Raion and deputy governor of Batken Oblast also attended. In addition, deputy *akim* and a head of *ayil okmotu* of Leylek Raion, an area neighboring the Project pilot communities, attended.

The recommendations for the way forward presented at the workshop were based on the overarching conclusions: (1) that border communities are best suited to managing conflict over natural resources; (2) community management should be part of a larger, state-sponsored, principle-based policy for managing natural resources in border communities; and (3) that such a policy must have a supportive legal framework, must include a standardized assessment of local context, must supplement but not replace existing institutions and arrangements and must be bottom-up and inclusive.

Importantly, the national workshop presented an opportunity for key NBN members from the pilot communities to share opinions and insights with key national and regional stakeholders, and touched upon the existing conflicts around access to pastures by foreigners according to the new Pasture Law (as of 26 January 2009), and Kyrgyz Government initiatives to conclude Interstate Agreements with Tajikistan and Uzbekistan on Kyrgyz pasture use.

The most important Project recommendations for the national and regional audience at the workshop focused on legal arrangements needed to promote peaceful use of pasture resources in border areas. These recommendations were presented by Mr. Bekbolot Bekiev, RDI legal consultant. The legal recommendations were based on the need to reconcile the community's needs with those of the national and regional government. Recommendations included: (1) a draft Interstate Agreement between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan based on general principles; (2) a draft memorandum of understanding, which aimed to decentralize agreements on pasture use and coordination between local leaders in Tajikistan (*jamoat*) and Kyrgyzstan (*ayil okmotu*); and (3) recommendations to address legislative and regulatory inconsistencies, which provide that conjoined pastures are managed by different agencies, that is, *leskhoz* manage pastures in state forest fund lands, and pasture committees or *ayil okmotu* manage other pastures.



Children's art submitted under Activity Six

During the workshop, RDF presented a multimedia montage or “photofilm” on the APMNR Project (see Annex Six for access instructions) and the art work produced as part of the children's art competition in Activity Six.

Major Results, Obstacles and Progress towards Objectives

Challenges and constraints

The national workshop was largely viewed as a success by those in attendance.

Progress towards objectives

Amongst the key steps made towards the objectives of this activity were:

1. Influential national policy makers from the Pasture Department and the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry were not only in attendance, but agreed to consider the legal recommendations made by the Project.
2. Community members had the opportunity to express to national and regional leaders their thoughts not only on the issues but on the approach developed by the Project; and that their experience was generally positive.
3. Local leaders from other border *aiyl okmotu* (e.g. Leilek Raion) experiencing similar issues had the opportunity to learn about the approach and to consider options for addressing them in their community.

Indicator One: Number of policy-makers informed of Project's lessons learned and recommendations

Throughout the Project, *aiyl okmotu*, *rayon*, and *oblast* authorities were kept informed of progress. In October 2009 a stakeholder's consultation was held in Batken with approximately thirty stakeholders including national, regional and local leaders, and community representatives. Eighty-two people attended the completion workshop, held on 18 November, 2010, fifteen of whom were representatives of national level ministries or agencies, four representatives from Batken Oblast administration, and numerous others representing education and research institutions, NGOs, CSOs, bi-lateral and multilateral donors, foundations and members of local government.

Indicator Two: Replication of model approach in another border area

The completion of this Project spurred interest in a similar approach being used in two other *aiyl okmotu*. The Project team has submitted a proposal to USAID/DCHA/CMM for funding to replicate the approach (among other things) in those *aiyl okmotu*.

Table 4: National Workshop Agenda

<u>Project:</u> Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources (APMNR) supported by USAID and implemented by the Rural Development Institute (RDI, USA) and the Rural Development Fund (RDF, Kyrgyz Republic)		
<u>Date:</u> 18 November, 2010		
<u>Time:</u> 09.30 – 15.00		
<u>Venue:</u> Hotel Jannat, Bishkek		
Time	Theme	Speaker
9.00 – 09.30	Registration of participants	
09.30 – 09.50	Opening remarks: on the issues around the management of pastures in border areas of the Kyrgyz Republic	Abdimalik EGEMBERDIEV, Director of the Pasture Department under the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) of the Kyrgyz Republic
09.50 – 10.00	Welcome address	Lena ZEZULIN, Acting Democracy Specialist, USAID in the Kyrgyz Republic

Time	Theme	Speaker
10.00 – 10.15	On the international experience: main principles managing conflicts over natural resources in border areas	Renee GIOVARELLI, Chief of Party, (RDI)
10.15 – 10.40	On the main findings of the Situational Analysis of Ak-Say and Ak-Tatyr <i>ayil okmotu</i> , Batken Oblast	Asyl UNDELAND, Country director of the Project, consultant of RDI
10.40 – 11.05	On the lessons learned from the application of the community mapping approach to managing conflicts over natural resources in Ak-Say and Ak-Tatyr <i>ayil okmotus</i> , Batken Oblast	John LECKIE, Project consultant on community mapping, RDI
11.05 – 11.30	On the community plan for conflict management: arrangements to manage conflicts at local and national levels	Nurzhan DZHUMABAEV, Project coordinator, RDF
11.30 – 11.45	Q & A Session	Moderated by Erlan KARYPBAI UULU
11.45 – 11.55	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11.55 – 12.25	On the legal recommendations regarding the use of the border pastures of the Kyrgyz Republic by the foreign pasture users.	Bekbolot BEKIEV, legal advisor, RDI
12.25 – 12.40	Q & A Session	Moderated by Erlan KARYPBAI UULU
12.40 – 13.00	On the process and selected results of the micro-grants program	Erlan KARYPBAI UULU, coordinator of micro-grants program, RDF
13.00 – 13.30	On the Project implementation process in Ak-Say and Ak-Tatyr <i>ayil okmotus</i> : perspectives from the community members	1) Maksat IMETOV, head of the Ak-Tatyr <i>ayil okmotu</i> 2) Sairam ZULPKAROVA, chairperson of the Ak-Say <i>ayil kenesh</i> 3) Batyrbek ESHMADOV, chairperson of Ak-Tatyr Pasture Committee 4) Kadyr KUDAYAROV, chairperson of Ak-Tatyr <i>ayil kenesh</i> 5) Nurali AKHMATOV, deputy director of Batken <i>Leskhoz</i>
13.30 – 13.45	Q & A Session	Moderated by Erlan KARYPBAI UULU
13.45 – 14.00	Summary of the main conclusions and recommendations	Elisa SCALISE, Project manager, RDI
14.00 – 14.10	Concluding remarks	Abdimalik EGEMBERDIEV, Director of the Pasture Department under MOA
14.10 – 15.00	<i>Lunch</i>	

Table 5: List of workshop attendees

	Name	Affiliation
1	Abdymamytova Jiyde	Manager, Association of Forest and Land Users
2	Aikynov Khait	Head of Batken Raion State Administration, Batken Oblast
3	Akmatov Nurali	Deputy Director of Batken Forestry Department
4	Alagushev Kyrgyzbai	Member of Supervisory Board, RDF
5	Alymkulova Mahabat	Project Management Specialist (DM), USAID
6	Asipjanov Almaz	Project Management Specialist (Energy and Ecology), USAID
7	Bagdasarova Nina	PR Specialist, PF Center of Social Integration
8	Bayaliev Mairambek	Social Mobilization and Potential Development Specialist, ARIS

	Name	Affiliation
9	Botoev Atambek	Deputy head of Batken Oblast State Administration
10	Burkhanov Aitkul	Chairman, Association of forest and land users
11	Gareeva Aida	Coordinator, PF CAMP Ala-Too
12	Glushkova Marina	Programs Director, PF Center of Social Integration
13	Dear Chad	Research Coordinator, University of Central Asia
14	Doolbekova Jyldyz	Regional Program Coordinator/Manager of TCF, Central Asia Office, Christensen Fund
15	Egemberdiev Abdymalik	Director of the Pasture Department, Ministry of Agriculture of the Kyrgyz Republic
16	Eshmadov Baatyrbek	Chairman of the Pasture Committee of Ak-Tatyr <i>Ayil Okmotu</i> (District) of Batken Oblast
17	Ibraimova Elmira	Executive Director, ARIS
18	Ibragimov Shamil	Executive Director, Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia (EFCA) in Kyrgyzstan
19	Imetov Maksat	Head of the Ak-Tatyr <i>Ayil Okmotu</i>
20	Isakov Esengul	Deputy, Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic (National Parliament)
21	Ismailov Kubanychbek	Project Coordinator, Agricultural Investment and Services, ARIS
22	Jumaliev Kurmankul	Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, ARIS
23	Jumaliev Nurlan	Departmental expert, Administration of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic
24	Kadyrova Aidai	Executive Director Charity Fund Babushka Adoption
25	Kalmamatov Baktybek	Deputy, Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic (National Parliament)
26	Kazunori Huriguchi	Business Programs Director, Kyrgyz Republic-Japan Center for Human Development (KRJC)
27	Karasartov Shaibek	Director, PF Learning, Counseling and Innovations Centre
28	Karl Goeppert	Director, Helvetas-Kyrgyzstan
29	Kachkynbaeva Lilia	Regional Coordinator, Support of Regional Economic Cooperation in Central Asia German Development Cooperation (GTZ)
30	Khamraev Abdyvali	First Deputy Head of Leilek Raion State Administration, Batken Oblast
31	Khalov Midin	Head, Sumbulinsk <i>Ayil okmotu</i>
32	Kojomuratova Janyl	Director, PF CAMP Ala-Too
33	Koichumanov Bakytbek	Head of Department of Forest Ecosystems Development, State Agency on Environment Protection and Forestry
34	Konokbaev Kanybek	Project Development Specialist, OTI, USAID
35	Kudaibergenov Kubat	Attorney, Department of Pastures, Ministry of Agriculture of the Kyrgyz Republic
36	Kudayarov Kadyr	Chairman of Ak-Tatyr <i>Ayil Kenesh</i>
37	Lohsl Geoffry	Supervisory Contracting Officer, USAID
38	Mamatov Tologon	National Officer, Sustainable Land Management in the High Pamir and Pamir-Alai Mountains (PALM)
39	Markus Pesch	Natural Resources Program, German Development Cooperation (GTZ)
40	Paramonov Nikolai	Chief specialist on development of local government, the National Agency for Local Government
41	Parpiev Anarbek	Deputy Director, Department of Cadastre and Real Estate Registration, State Registration Service under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic
42	Peter Goodman	Senior Economist, the World Bank
43	Postnova Evgeniya	Senior Programme Assistant, Economic Environmental Dimension, OSCE Centre in Bishkek
44	Saparaliev Ashym	Reforms Monitoring Specialist, Department of Pastures, Ministry of Agriculture of the Kyrgyz Republic

	Name	Affiliation
45	Soltobekov Talant	Authorized Representative for the Southern region, The Legal and Business Development Foundation
46	Tairov Mairambek	Director, Agricultural Projects Implementation Division, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Kyrgyz Republic
47	Turusbekov Esen	Project Officer, Department for International Development
48	Yrsaliev Bakyt	Deputy Head of Department of Forest Ecosystems Development, State Agency on Environment Protection and Forestry
49	Zezulin Lena	Acting Democracy Specialist, USAID in the Kyrgyz Republic
50	Zulpukarova Sairam	Chairman of the <i>Ak-Sai Ayyl Kenesh</i>
51	Asyl Undeland	Consultant of RDI
52	Bekbolot Bekiev	Legal Advisor, RDI
53	Elisa Scalise	Project Manager, Approaches to Participatory Management of Natural Resources Project, RDI
54	John Leckie	Project Consultant on Community Mapping, RDI
55	Renee Giovarelli	Chief of the Party, Project Leader, Approaches to Participatory Management of Natural Resources Project, RDI
56	Abdijapar Sadykov	Coordinator for the southern region, RDF
57	Azamat Omorbekov	Attorney, RDF
58	Erlan Karypbai uulu	Coordinator of Micro-grants Program, RDF
59	Jyldyz Tabaldieva	Director, RDF
60	Nurzhan Dzhumabaev	Project Coordinator, RDF
61	Amanbaev Iskenderbek	Program Officer, Local Market Development, ICCO
62	Annaklycheva Dzhamal	Project Implementation Specialist of the Regional CACILM Secretariat
63	Baimambetova Gulnara	Member of Supervisory Board, RDF
64	Bekobolotov Kumar	Executive Director, Soros Foundation
65	Bokoeva Nurjamal	National Coordinator, Support of Regional Economic Cooperation in Central Asia, German Development Cooperation (GTZ)
66	Dzhangaracheva Mira	Manager, Poverty Reduction Program, UNDP
67	Djoldoshev Nurlan	Program Coordinator, Budget Transparency & Accountability Program, Soros Foundation
68	English Kate	Permanent Representative, Department for International Development in Kyrgyzstan
69	Ermatov Egemberdi	Deputy, Jogorku <i>Kenesh</i> of the Kyrgyz Republic (National Parliament)
70	Fattahov Bakhtiyarjan	Director of the National Agency for Local Government
71	Fairman Ann	Research Specialist, UCA
72	Hornbrook Jonathan	Program Director, Support of Regional Economic Cooperation in Central Asia, German Development Cooperation (GTZ)
73	Isabekov Narynbek	Director, Department of Cadastre and Real Estate Registration, State Registration Service under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic
74	Iosipenko Natalya	PR Assistant, World Bank in the Kyrgyz Republic
75	Kochoev Muratbek	National Coordinator of Micro-grants Program, GEF/UNDP in the Kyrgyz Republic
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4.0 CONCLUSION

Border communities should and do manage conflict over natural resources that affect them. There are a number of reasons for this: (1) the communities experience first-hand the implications of failing to manage conflict in their daily interactions with others, their access to key services, and their livelihoods, (2) and, in the case of Kyrgyzstan, it is also legally required that such conflict be managed at the local level. However, without state support, local level arrangements can be fragile and may in fact fuel further tension, leading to conflict. State support can both strengthen and improve what are otherwise informal arrangements, but also ensure that state level concerns are reflected on the ground.

At a bare minimum, the state should develop a consistent and supportive legal framework based on an accurate understanding of local circumstances before making intra- or inter-state level laws, regulations and agreements. The legal framework should be inclusive and bottom-up to supplement, but not replace, local solutions.

In sum, border communities are best suited to managing conflict over natural resources. But to be sustainable and long-lasting, community management should be part of a larger, state-sponsored, principle-based policy for managing conflict over natural resources in border areas.

ANNEX ONE

Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources

Workplan

June 30, 2009

1. INTRODUCTION

This Project intends to mitigate conflict in two municipalities along the Kyrgyzstan-Tajikistan border. The Project will help the communities create a viable, enduring and open process for managing conflict over natural resources which integrates Kyrgyz and Tajik knowledge and international best practices. The Project pilot areas are two border communities in southern Kyrgyzstan, Batken Oblast, (Kyrgyzstan), near the Tajik enclaves of Vorukh and Chorku (Tajikistan).

The Project pilot areas are located in the Ferghana Valley, which is famous for its excellent farming characteristics and cultural diversity, crossing the borders of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. At the same time, the Ferghana Valley is also considered a potential hotbed for conflict because of a scarcity of resources and employment options, high population density, and declining living standards. In addition, the area contains ethnic enclaves where borders are not always agreed upon between nations; relations between ethnic Kyrgyz and Tajiks can be tense.

The Project will be implemented primarily in two neighboring *aiyl okmotu* (rural municipalities) - Ak Say and Ak Taty. The Project has support from the *aiyl okmotu*, *raion* and *oblast* authorities. The Ak Say municipality consists of four villages, with a total population of about 6000 Kyrgyz and Tajiks, comprising more than 1,300 households. Ak Taty municipality consists of four villages, with a population of about 5,500 and about 1,250 households. The Project will also engage with community members and local administrations of neighboring Vorukh and Chorku areas in Tajikistan.

2. PROJECT GOAL

The goal of this project is to increase the capacity of communities to manage conflict over natural resources in Tajik-Kyrgyz border areas. It will do this by creating an approach for developing a resource conflict management plan. The approach will include technical guidance and practical tools and will integrate traditional Kyrgyz and Tajik knowledge, norms, and conflict resolution practices with international best practices.

3. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The Project has four objectives:

- Support and strengthen local capacity for sustainable joint management of land and resources and related conflicts in two areas along the Kyrgyz-Tajik border to mitigate the potential for conflict between the Kyrgyz and Tajik populations.
- Ensure that all community members have access and input to the development of the conflict management plan, including the elderly, women, and most vulnerable.
- Ensure that the Project's objectives and activities are transparent and communicated to relevant Kyrgyz and Tajik populations via a public awareness and information strategy, with the goal of obtaining both populations' acceptance of the joint management of resources.
- Capture the lessons learned throughout the Project with the goal of potential duplication in other border areas.

4. PROJECT PURPOSE

The purpose of the Project is to develop an approach to management of conflict over natural resources in two *aiyl okmotus* in Batken Oblast

5. PROJECT OUTPUTS

The outputs of this Project are as follows:

- (1) Improvement in community's/stakeholders knowledge of nature and extent of conflict in Ak Say and Ak Tatyr which will provide basis for conflict management plan
- (2) Improvement in quality and quantity of tools available to communities to manage conflict over natural resources
- (3) Ease tension and increase collaboration between ethnic groups in Ak Say and Ak Tatyr in managing conflict over natural resources
- (4) Increase opportunities for generating income in Ak Say and Ak Tatyr from conflict-free use of natural resources
- (5) Increased awareness of Project goals and activities among key stakeholders and pilot community members
- (6) Broadening institutional and policy-makers' options for peaceful management of conflict over natural resources along border areas

6. ACTIVITIES SUMMARY NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

There are seven activities under the Project, each with associated sub-tasks. In the narrative description below, these activities are organized in functional groups. In the implementation plan, Table 3, each activity is organized by output.

Activity 1: Situational Analysis of Pilot Areas

The purpose of this activity is to conduct a conflict situational analysis, which is the study of the various dimensions, scale, levels, and consequences of conflict with a view to understanding its causes.

- 1.1 RDI and RDF will conduct a desk study of existing conflict and resource assessments by other donors in the Ferghana Valley and, specifically, in and around the two pilot areas.
- 1.2 RDF will recruit a regional coordinator, and an administrative support staff person to work from a Batken Project office. The Batken office will support all Project activities on the ground and liaise with regional partners.
- 1.3 RDF will produce initial Project informational materials to be used during introductory meetings in the two pilot *aiyl okmotu* and surrounding communities.
- 1.4 RDI and RDF will develop a research framework, including protocols, illustrative questions, and major themes, for the Conflict Situational Assessment.
- 1.5 RDI and RDF will conduct a Conflict Situational Assessment in pilot areas. The Assessment is intended to identify resource conflicts, the geographical location of the resource conflicts, the resource user groups, and to conduct an initial assessment of who benefits from or is negatively impacted by the current resource use in terms of economics and power. It will also clarify the broader social and political context, and identify extant Kyrgyz and Tajik conflict resolution and natural resource management practices. The assessment will be completed in phases. It will involve individual, household, and focus group interviews and a community mapping exercise (see Activity 3) with various resources users and stakeholders the two pilot *aiyl okmotu* and the Tajik bordering Tajik enclaves. Interviewees will include Tajik and Kyrgyz women, men, local authorities, border guards, and opinion/community/religious leaders.
- 1.6 RDI and RDF will conduct a legal review of all relevant Kyrgyz and Tajik laws.
- 1.7 RDI and RDF will analyze findings from the Conflict Situational Assessment and will create a report based on their findings.

Activity 2: Integrate international experience on managing conflict over natural resources

The purpose of this activity is to identify and select a selection of conflict management approaches, based on international experience, that are best suited to the situation in the pilot communities.

- 2.1 RDI will conduct comparative research on international best practices for community based management of conflict over natural resources, which will culminate in a selection of conflict approaches which are applicable in the given conflict, social, legal, political context. This comparative research will inform the development of other sub-activities. The document will include four to five relevant case studies, and will consider the most appropriate means of community participation in each (for instance, certain approaches may be more amenable to a community advocate rather than a joint council).
- 2.2 With assistance from local leaders (both informal and formal) and based on the Situational Analysis completed in Activity 1, RDF will conduct a short feasibility assessment of each of

the conflict management approaches identified for subsequent presentation to pilot communities.

Activity 3: Community Mapping of Resource Allocation and Use

The purpose of this activity is to use mapping techniques to assist the situation analysis (activity 1) and to prepare spatially referenced map data for use in the implementation of the conflict management plan.

- 3.1 RDI will develop techniques and tools for community mapping of conflict over natural resources, and will develop a training curriculum and field guide for these tools. The tools will assist with the situation analysis, the development of a map of resource conflict, and with the implementation of the conflict management plan.
- 3.2 RDI will train RDF (the trainers) using the curriculum developed under Activity 3.1. The training will include field tests, feedback and review.
- 3.3 RDF will prepare Terms of Reference, communication materials, and management structure for community mappers. RDF will train community researchers on community mapping techniques. .
- 3.4 RDF, assisted by RDI will assist the community researchers and the border pilot community to develop a “joint resources map without borders,” which will include, for example, identification of “pastoral corridors”, i.e. routes needed for the passage of herds. This data will serve as a tool for the management of conflict over natural resources under Activity 4.

Information about the mapping activities will be disseminated under Activity 6 for public information and awareness.

Activity 4: Conflict Management Plan

The purpose of this activity is to facilitate the communities’ development of a plan for the management of conflict related to natural resources, based on the situational analysis, international best practice, mapping activities, and formal and informal conflict resolution methods.

- 4.1 RDI and RDF will hold a community reflection workshop. At the workshop, key representatives of the community will be presented with the situational analysis findings, mapping outputs, and a suite of conflict management approaches that are feasible for their given circumstances. This will also be an opportunity to verify or modify conclusions on findings, to identify effective forms of communication between stakeholders; to share knowledge between stakeholders about each others’ underlying motivations, needs, fears, cultures and values, and to clarify detail concerning the conflict situation (e.g. location, timing, gains, losses, resource requirements, etc.).
- 4.2 On the basis of this reflection workshop, the community will select the conflict management approach they believe will best serve their needs. This will also include a choice on the best mechanism for community involvement.

- 4.3 On the basis of the community decision, the community will develop a Conflict Management Plan. The conflict management plan describes the overall strategy for managing conflict, combined with the proposed process of consensus-building and an initial set of conflict mitigation or prevention options. The plan will also allow for capacity building, including training where needed. The components of a particular plan are situation-specific, but it is likely to take into account the most practicable conflict management strategy (or combination of strategies) and a description of the capacity-building measures (communication skills, leadership training, awareness raising about the process of consensus-building, etc.) required.
- 4.3 RDF will facilitate the communities' implementation of the new plan for resolving managing resource related conflicts. RDF will deliver any community training and capacity building to the extent it is required.
- 4.4 With assistance from RDF, the communities may revise the plan based on monitoring and evaluation in the field. RDF and RDI will review and comment on the revised plan.

Information about the policy and plan will be disseminated under Activity 6 for public information and awareness.

Activity 5: Micro-Projects for Implementing Conflict Management Plan

The purpose of this activity is to support the implementation of the Conflict Management Plan by funding micro-projects which support that plan.

Once the pilot border communities demonstrate capacity to work together to manage the land resources and develop conflict resolution measures, RDI and RDF will implement a modest grants program to support cooperation among the communities. These projects are likely to include, pasture and forest usage (e.g., secondary usage of pastures – bee-keeping, hunting, gathering of herbs), and cross-border economic activities. Each project will be awarded not more than \$5,000.

- 5.1 RDI and RDF will conduct an assessment of viable income generating activities in the pilot areas. This will be part of the situation assessment.
- 5.2 RDI and RDF will develop a framework for community development of selection process and criteria of micro-grant proposals.
- 5.3 Communities will develop micro-grant criteria and a transparent process for selection based on their specific circumstances.
- 5.3 Micro-projects are implemented by grant winners with support from RDF, and possibly other NGO partners. Micro-projects are overseen by community.
- 5.4 RDI and RDF will develop a report summarizing each of the micro-projects, comments on the issues, challenges and successes of each, and key lessons learned.

Reports on funding and implementation of each micro-project will be disseminated in both communities under Activity 6.

Activity 6: Public Information and Awareness (PIA)

The purpose of this activity is to ensure that pilot communities understand Project objectives and activities, and to ensure that pilot communities are informed of the initiation and progress of the conflict management plan.

- 6.1 RDF will conduct a public information and awareness survey which identifies the constraints and opportunities for information dissemination, and the most trusted and reliable sources of information and means of communicating with pilot communities, and key stakeholders.
- 6.2 RDF and RDI will develop a public information and awareness (PIA) strategy to guide the Project's PIA efforts. The Project team will ensure that the strategy includes reaching all pilot community groups, including women and vulnerable groups. The PIA strategy will comply with the Project Branding and Marking requirements.
- 6.2 RDF, with RDI assistance, will implement the PIA strategy, which may include drafting PIA materials, holding community meetings, creating a short educational film, and other appropriate means.

Activity 7: Lessons Learned

The purpose of this activity is to capture lessons learned from the Project and, in particular, the effects of the conflict management plan on a selected resource related constraint in the target communities, and to present findings and recommendations to communities, and key local, regional and national stakeholders.

- 7.1 RDF and RDI will develop a conflict management monitoring and evaluation plan.
- 7.2 Throughout the Project, RDF, with RDI assistance, will monitor and evaluate results and impacts of Project activities. The monitoring will be ongoing and will advise on mid-project adjustments as required.
- 7.3 RDF and RDI will organize an end of project reflection meeting with communities to capture the communities' impressions of the Project, major successes and challenges, and to make recommendations for future activities.
- 7.4 Near conclusion of Project activities, RDF and RDI will convene a workshop with key stakeholders to discuss Project's findings, experiences, and lessons learned.
- 7.5 RDF and RDI will develop policy and legal recommendations for the Government of Kyrgyzstan and the Government of Tajikistan regarding managing conflict over resources in border areas
- 7.6 Following the stakeholder workshop, RDF and RDI will summarize the findings and best practices in community management of resource related conflict. The team will identify specific challenges and recommend strategies for resolving them. The team's efforts will culminate in a summary report for GoK and GOT as well as recommendations to USAID regarding potential implementation of the Project in other border communities.

Program Reporting

The Project will submit quarterly performance reports and a final report to the AOTR, the Agreement Officer and the DHCA/CMM per the USAID co-operative agreement and other relevant regulations.

7. STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

Table 1: Division of Responsibilities

Activity	Lead	Technical Backstopping
Activity 1	Asyl Undeland	Renee Giovarelli/John Leckie
Activity 2	Elisa Scalise	Renee Giovarelli/Asyl Undeland/ John Leckie
Activity 3	John Leckie	Renee Giovarelli
Activity 4	Elisa Scalise	Renee Giovarelli/Asyl Undeland/John Leckie
Activity 5	Asyl Undeland	Renee Giovarelli
Activity 6	Asyl Undeland	Renee Giovarelli
Activity 7	Asyl Undeland	Renee Giovarelli/John Leckie

8. PERFORMING TO OBJECTIVES

Table 2: Logframe

LOGFRAME				
Objectives Hierarchy	Measureable Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions	Activities (ref: over)
Goal: To increase the capacity of communities to manage conflict over natural resources in Tajik-Kyrgyz border areas	Increased capacity of border communities to manage conflict over natural resources by October 2010	Key informant interviews; focus groups in <i>raion</i> and <i>aiyl okmotu</i>	Relations between Tajiks and Kyrgyz in target communities remain relatively constant	
Purpose: To develop an approach to management of conflict over natural resources in two <i>aiyl okmotus</i> in Batken Oblast	One conflict management approach adopted and piloted in each <i>aiyl okmotu</i> by October 2010		Relations between Tajiks and Kyrgyz in target communities remain relatively constant	

Objectives Hierarchy	Measureable Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions	Activities (ref: over)
<p>Output 1 : Improvement in community's/ stakeholders knowledge of nature and extent of conflict in Ak Say and Ak Tatyр which will provide basis for conflict management plan</p>	<p>Level of understanding of nature and extent of conflict over natural resources in Ak Say and Ak Tatyр amongst community and stakeholders; Number of community stakeholders trained in reflection workshop</p>	<p>Key informant interviews; focus groups <i>aiyl okmotu</i>; workshops</p>	<p>Legal, security and political context do not change significantly between assessment and reporting/ dissemination of report</p>	<p>Situation Assessment (1); Community Reflection workshop (4)</p>
<p>Output 2: Improvement in quality and quantity of tools available to communities to manage conflict over natural resources</p>	<p>Number of tools/approaches available to community to manage conflict over natural resources; Level of participation in training or workshops</p>	<p>Key informant interviews; workshops</p>	<p>Legal, security and political context do not change significantly between assessment and mapping exercises</p>	<p>Community mapping (3); Comparative report on conflict management (2)</p>
<p>Output 3: Ease tension and increase collaboration between ethnic groups in Ak Say and Ak Tatyр in managing conflict over natural resources</p>	<p>Number of people trained on techniques for managing conflict; Number of conflict situations in which new competencies are applied via the conflict management plan; level of social participation in conflict management plan</p>	<p>Observation; key informant interviews; focus groups in <i>aiyl okmotu</i></p>	<p>Legal framework identified in Activity 1, does not change in a way that impacts resource chosen</p>	<p>Conflict management plan (4); Community mapping (3)</p>

Objectives Hierarchy	Measureable Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions	Activities (ref: over)
Output 4: Increase opportunities for generating income in Ak Say and Ak Tatyrr from conflict free use of natural resources	Number of micro-projects proposed, selected, and implemented; % change in income for grantees; Number of trainings and consultations delivered to potential/actual grantees on how to prepare grant proposal; specific relevance of grant proposals to conflict management plan	Micro-project proposals; selected grantee interviews	Individuals in Ak Say and Ak Tatyrr are sufficiently interested in micro-grants which support the implementation of the conflict management plan	Micro-grants (5)
Output 5: Increased awareness of Project goals and activities among key stakeholders and pilot community members	Number of community members and stakeholders who are aware of Project goals and activities	RRA focus groups in Ak Say and Ak Tatyrr, and other stakeholders, observations of local implementing staff	Media and other information sources in the target areas remain relatively constant	PIA campaign (6)
Output 6: Broadening institutional and policy-makers' options for peaceful management of conflict over natural resources along border areas	Number of policy-makers informed of Project's lessons learned and recommendations; replication of model approach in another border area	Feedback survey of key stakeholders and policy makers; workshops	Policy makers have a genuine interest in addressing conflict over natural resources in border areas	Lessons learned (7)

9. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN: ACTIVITIES TO OUTPUTS

Table 3: Implementation Plan

Implementation Plan		
Activity description	Timeline	Deliverables
Output 1 : Improvement in community's/stakeholders knowledge of nature and extent of conflict in Ak Say and Ak Tatyrr which will provide basis for conflict management plan		
Conduct desk research on conflict and natural resources for Ak Say and Ak Tatyrr, and region generally (1)	Month 1	Situation analysis report; Workshop
Develop field assessment research framework (1)	Months 1-2	
Review relevant Kyrgyz, Tajik laws and regulation, and local agreements. (1)	Month 6	
Conduct situation assessment (1)	Months 4-8	
Write situational analysis report (1)	Months 8-9	
Hold community reflection workshop covering situation analysis, map, and conflict management approaches (4)	Month 10	
Output 2: Improvement in quality and quantity of tools available to communities to manage conflict over natural resources		
Conduct study on conflict management approaches in the natural resource context, based on international best practices (2)	Months 6-7	Report on best practices for managing conflict over natural resources
Conduct a short feasibility assessment of each approach and create a shortlist of those applicable for each community (2)	Month 8	
Develop tool for community mapping of conflict over natural resources (3)	Months 5-6	
Write training curriculum and field guide for these tools (3)	Months 5-6	Mapping tool
Train trainers on community mapping techniques (3)	Month 5	
Train community on community mapping techniques (3)	Month 7-8	
Output 3: Increase collaboration between ethnic groups in Ak Say and Ak Tatyrr in managing conflict over natural resources		
Community selects the conflict management approach that is best suited to their needs (4)	Months 10-11	Joint resources map without borders.
Community develop a conflict management plan based on that approach (4)	Month 10-11	
Community implement conflict management plan, selecting one or more resources to focus on (e.g. pastureland) (4)	Months 11-19	Conflict management plan
Using mapping techniques community create joint resources map without borders (3)	Month 10-11	
Monitor implementation of conflict management plan and adjust as needed. (4)	Months 11-19	

Activity description	Timeline	Deliverables
Output 4: Increase opportunities for generating income in Ak Say and Ak Tatyra from conflict free use of natural resources		
Develop framework for selection and oversight of micro-project grants (5)	Month 11	Guidelines for selection and management of micro-projects
Community develop criteria, process for selection, and process for monitoring micro-project grants that is suited to their unique conditions (5)	Months 11-19	
Selected micro-projects are implemented by grant-winners (5)	Months 11-19	Micro-grant reflection report
Monitor micro-projects and provide substantive assistance to grantees where needed. (5)	Month 19	
Draft micro-project reflection report for inclusion in final report (5)	Month 19	
Output 5: Increased awareness of Project goals and activities among key stakeholders and pilot community members		
Conduct public information and awareness survey on best messaging and means of communicating to key stakeholders and pilot communities (6)	Month 5	PIA Strategy
Develop PIA strategy, considering branding and marking requirements (6)	Month 7	
Deliver PIA campaign, including production and dissemination of materials (6)	Months 7-19	PIA Materials
Monitor effectiveness of campaign messaging and tactics (6)	Month 7-19	
Output 6: Broadening institutional and policy-makers' options for peaceful management of conflict over natural resources along border areas		
Organize and hold a community reflection meeting to capture impressions, successes, challenges, and recommendations (7)	Month 19	Final report
Plan and convene a workshop with key stakeholders, which discusses findings, experiences, lessons, learned and recommendations (7)	Month 19	
Draft final report which includes feedback from communities, stakeholders, recommendations for future activity, and lessons learned. (7)	Month 20	



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ANNEX TWO



Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources

Community Mapping Manual

June 2009



The USAID Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources Project is one of the many assistance projects supported by the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Since 1992, the American people through USAID have provided about \$400 million in programs that support Kyrgyzstan's democratic institutions, health care, education, and economic growth.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This manual introduces concepts and approaches relating to community mapping for natural resources management. It gives details of a specially developed mapping methodology for the Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources Project. This methodology has three phases:

1. Preparation and Situation Analysis
2. Implementation of mapping
3. Planning

This document explains the rationale for each of these phases, and introduces the key concepts and principles related to each phase. Methodologies for each phase are clearly outlined, with associated guidance checklists.

While the principle purpose of the document is to act as an outline and checklist of the community mapping methodology, additional background detail has been provided so that it may also function as a training manual.

Annexes include a community mapping training exercise, and a list of recommended reference material and case studies available on the internet.

A note about definitions:

The phrases ‘community mapping’, ‘participatory mapping’ and ‘participatory GIS’ are often used interchangeably. While the mapping methodology proposed for the Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources Project has a strong participatory element, it is mostly driven by the goals and objectives of the Project, and cannot be described as wholly participatory. With this in mind, the term ‘Community Mapping’ is used throughout this document.

2.0 BACKGROUND TO COMMUNITY MAPPING

2.1 Uses of Community Mapping

Community mapping has been successfully employed for a wide range of applications, some of which are summarized below. Further reading, including specific examples are included in the annex.

- ***A tool for advocacy*** – Community based mapping can be used to prepare maps and accompanying information which communities may use to support their decision making, rights advocacy, and dealings with other communities, local authorities, Government, or other third parties.
- ***Conflict Resolution*** – Community mapping, when accompanied by efforts to develop relevant institutions and build capacity for advocacy within communities, can act as a tool for conflict resolution. This conflict may be within or between communities, or between an indigenous community and an outside force (governmental interests or private interests). There are a number of examples from Central and South America, and from Indonesia,

where indigenous people have used mapping techniques to defend their territorial rights and access to resources from encroachment and exploitation by outsiders (see annexed website references for examples).

- **Research** – Mapping can be an invaluable tool for researchers. Combined with other participatory research methods, community mapping can allow researchers to explore issues quickly, without sacrificing depth. Mapping engages a community in ways which many other research methods do not, and a great deal may be learned by studying both the process and the output of a mapping exercise.
- **Natural Resource and Land Use Planning** – Mapping adds an extra dimension to land use planning. It allows participants to identify the geographic boundaries of influence of institutions involved in land use planning, be these local authorities, government agencies, co-operatives or water user groups. Additionally, by creating a community map, important secondary uses of land may be shown, such as grazing or firewood collection, which might otherwise not be evident on conventional ‘formal’ maps. The community map may form the basis of a resource management plan, and may act as a useful tool for new or existing institutions concerned with land use planning.
- **Identifying Land Rights** – One of the main drivers behind the development of community mapping methodologies has been its use in assisting communities to identify their territories and agreeing to and asserting their rights over land.

2.2 *Types of Community Mapping*

A number of approaches to community mapping are available. Each offers a different level of complexity and technological sophistication. Most successful approaches adopt a combination of one or more of these methodologies depending on time available, budget, and the requirements of the project.

- **Sketch Mapping** – Community mapping at its simplest, this method involves simply mapping out the community or study area using a large sheet of paper, a black board, a sand pit or even by marking features with piles of colored chalk or stones. Using this method it is important to take thorough notes, and to observe the process of mapping, and the interactions between participants very carefully.
- **3-D Modeling** – This approach involves constructing a three dimensional scale model (showing the relief of the area) of the study area using locally available materials such as wood, clay or wire fencing materials. The model may then be used as a 3-D map by the community to facilitate decision making and even to test theories about resource management. This approach has been found to be particularly accessible to communities as the scale model is easier to understand than conventional two-dimensional maps, and the final output serves as an excellent tool for communication.
- **Computer Based Mapping** – Using Geographical Information Systems (GIS) software it is possible to create impressive and professional quality digital maps. Generally, the data needed to produce these maps is generated through mapping the community area using a pre-existing digital or hardcopy topographic map of the area. Additional map features are added by the community, supported by additional features collected using Global Positioning System (GPS) units. GPS technology is relatively simple to use and the community

themselves can be engaged in collecting this data.

- **Satellite Mapping** – A more recent development in community mapping has been the use of satellite image data as the basis for maps. This has largely been a result of the increased resolution of this imagery (comparable now to aerial photography) and the decreased cost of purchasing the imagery.

The image below shows how this technology was successfully employed in Rwanda in order to demarcate land parcels. Locally trained ‘para-surveyors’ were selected from communities and given the task of demarcating land parcel boundaries over satellite images, in co-operation with landowners, neighbors, and local land committees. These boundaries were then digitized and a formal map of land occupation, following general boundaries principles was produced.

Figure 1: Using Satellite Imagery for Land Registration in Rwanda



For the Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources Project we will use a combination of the sketch mapping approach and the computer generated mapping approach.

2.3 Advantages of Community Mapping

Using participatory mapping techniques offers some specific advantages over other widely used participatory research techniques:

- **Provides a focal point** – The map provides a hub around which leaders, the wider community, researchers and other outsiders may gather. It may remove language or literacy barriers which might otherwise discourage some participants.
- **Links the social dimension to the geographic dimension** – By using a map to represent the social aspects of community relations, resource constraints, or conflicts the spatial component provided by the map allows communities and researchers alike to identify patterns or trends which may otherwise not have been recognized.
- **A tangible output, owned by the community** – The final output – the map – may be used by the community for future planning and resource management activities. It may have uses beyond the scope of the project, perhaps for educating young people about the community

and environment at large.

- **Can highlight social relations** – For researchers, studying the way people interact with each other during mapping sessions may bring new insights into social hierarchies, existing alliances, and modes of co-operation
- **Scalable** – Community mapping can begin at the village level but can be extended to encompass the wider community and environment. It may also be replicated in other areas, allowing for comparison and collaboration.

2.4 *Philosophy and Ethics*

When beginning community mapping fieldwork it is important to consider the ethical and philosophical foundations which guide the practical approach. The following is a list of eight key things to remember; it is not exhaustive but serves as a good starting point for mapping exercises.

1. **Inclusive and enabling** – Community mapping exercises should attempt to include as diverse a range of opinions and perspectives as possible. It is important to establish an enabling environment where women, or those who might not otherwise be “empowered” to speak publicly, can participate confidently in the community mapping process. This may mean organizing separate mapping sessions with women’s groups. Ultimately the community has the best and most intimate knowledge of their territory, and the mapping process should give an opportunity to all members of the community to share their knowledge.
2. **Goes beyond ‘ownership’** – Community mapping should examine more than simply ‘who owns what’. Often user rights and secondary or tertiary uses of land, such as grazing or fruit picking, are as important to community and individual livelihoods as the facts of ownership.
3. **Keep it simple** – The techniques and technology used should be as appropriate and inclusive as possible. The aim of community mapping is not to train communities to be expert cartographers or GIS specialists, but rather to take part in a process on their terms. By using simple technologies which the community can relate to they will feel able to concentrate on sharing their knowledge, without feeling intimidated by complex instruments or concepts.
4. **The process matters** – The process of creating the maps can be just as important as the final end product. It may be that the process gives participants the opportunity to hear and respond to alternative views, take time to discuss and perhaps even resolve issues with other members of the community.
5. **Be aware** – Be aware and beware. One of the intentions of community mapping is to bring communities together, providing a common focus and the potential to resolve disputes, conflict and other problems. Despite this, badly planned or executed mapping exercises have the potential to exacerbate or create conflicts. We should be aware of how controversial or sensitive issues are approached and should pay attention to non-verbal cues, like group dynamics or body language.
6. **The end of the beginning** – Production of the map is just the start of a process of planning and advocacy. This should be driven by the community, but is often supported by external projects. The community may often find opportunities to use their map outside the scope of any associated project activities.
7. **The Community owns the map** – The community is the definitive owner of the map. It is their knowledge which is represented by the map. All mapping materials should be returned to the community at the end of the mapping exercise.

8. ***No magic formula*** – Above all, we should be aware that there is no ‘magic formula’ that can be applied to community mapping work. While maintaining a general philosophy and attitude to the work is important, different situations and contexts require flexible and creative approaches.

3.0 METHODOLOGY FOR COMMUNITY MAPPING

The Community Mapping Process proposed for the Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources Project follows a three phase process.

Three phases:

1. Preparation and Situation Analysis
2. Implementation of mapping
3. Planning

The next section of this document explains the rationale for each of these phases, and introduces the key concepts and principles related to each phase. Methodologies for each phase are also outlined, with associated guidance checklists.

The approach involves a combination of the sketch mapping approach and the computer generated mapping approach. Members of the community will participate in the development of sketch maps, more accurate, spatially referenced maps, and the collection of GPS data. This information will then be processed into digital maps by a GIS Specialist. This approach is appropriate for a number of reasons:

- The mapping process is both extractive – allowing us to collect research and inform our situational analysis – and also transformative, allowing us to develop a map product that can be useful in both the project and the community context.
- Good digital geographic data is publicly available, helping to form a baseline for the computer aided map.
- This approach is cheap – very little specialist equipment is required.

In addition, the participants in the community mapping process are well educated, literate, and organized, and will be able to easily engage with, and direct the process.

3.1 Phase 1: Preparation and Situation Analysis

The first stage of the mapping process will help to establish good relationships with the study communities and to ensure good working relations with any relevant institutions that are active in the study area.

Using straightforward sketch mapping techniques at this stage will familiarize the community with the concepts of community mapping. It will also allow the Project team to identify and select members of the community who will act as researchers on behalf of the Project.

A thorough analysis of the outputs of this first stage of community mapping will help to formulate clear objectives for the second stage of the mapping exercise.

Tools for phase 1 mapping:

This phase of mapping will make use of some very basic sketch mapping techniques. These techniques do not require any previous knowledge of cartographic techniques. However, it is important to approach the mapping in a structured manner.

In order to maximize the useful information collected from the first phase of mapping, the Project team must keep in mind six important questions:

1. WHO?
2. WHERE?
3. WHAT?
4. WHY?
5. WHEN?
6. HOW?

When issues are raised by participants in community mapping, they should be pursued exhaustively so that the research team have a comprehensive understanding of the issue. By remembering to ask: WHO, WHERE, WHAT, WHY, WHEN, and HOW the researchers can quickly establish what ideas are common knowledge, what is rumor, what is a minor anecdote, and what is an important issue.

While undertaking this phase of mapping it is important to observe the process of creating the map, as well as analyzing the final output. By paying close attention to the process we may be able to observe nuances which are not immediately obvious from the final map. For example, what do people draw on the map first? Do they give more space on the map to a specific resource, like crops or water resources? How do people interact with each other when preparing the map?

There is no hard and fast rule as to how to interpret the process of making a map, but our careful observation may direct us to ask a particular question, or phrase a question a certain way, leading to a better understanding of the issues, and more thorough research.

3.1.1 Phase 1 Methodology

The Project team should establish relationships with relevant local institutions and community leaders through introductory meetings explaining the nature of the Project and the basic concepts of the practical research. These leaders will be able to assist the team in identifying key informants who will make up focus groups for the first phase of community mapping. These key informants should be augmented by any members of the community who are willing to participate in mapping activities.

It may be necessary to hold several focus groups in different communities or comprising different social groups (separate groups for male and female participants for example). When planning phase 1 fieldwork, the research team should aim to conduct sufficient mapping focus groups to ensure adequate coverage and participation of all the groups within the study area.

Materials and Equipment:

Before leaving for the field it is important to ensure that all of the materials needed are in plentiful supply and working properly. The following checklist details the materials need for *one* mapping exercise.

- Supporting maps of the area for reference (e.g. 1: 600,000 scale maps)
- A4 paper
- Roll of large format paper
- Notebook
- Roll of masking (paper) tape.
- Colored markers – at least two of each color: red, blue, green, black
- Sheets of colored sticker spots
- Writing pens and pencils
- Ruler
- Camera
- Plastic containers for all of the above

Managing the Community Mapping Focus Group

It is important to state objectives and set ground rules that are agreed by all participants beforehand. These may include: listening to others without interrupting, respecting other views and contributing to discussion. These ground rules should be written down and posted somewhere where everyone in the focus group can see them.

Ideally each group should comprise no more than 15 members as it may become difficult to manage. Two members of the group should be nominated to draw on the map. If one of the nominees is perceived to be dominating or taking over the discussion, then it may be wise to rotate the persons drawing on the map so that other members of the group have an opportunity to contribute confidently.

At least two members of the Project team should be present at the mapping exercise. One should act as a facilitator, talking the focus group through the activity and providing encouragement. The other team member should be taking notes in the notebook. A third team member would also be useful, not only to provide ideas and a second opinion, but also to assist in preparing mapping materials, taking photographs and dealing with interruptions.

Taking notes

Taking thorough notes of the phase 1 mapping process is essential to the later analysis of the map. Ideally one member of the team should be dedicated to this task, and should make structured notes detailing:

- The date, location, names of facilitators, number of participants, names of participants, sex of participants, any other important details (e.g. role in community)
- The order in which features are placed on the map

- Any discussion about specific features, particularly disagreements
- The reactions of participants (e.g. surprised, co-operative, hostile, etc)
- Details of specific incidents mentioned by the participants (conflicts, for example)
- Responses to the who, where, what, why, when, how questions posed by the facilitator

Preparing the map

Cut a large (approx A1) size sheet of paper from the roll, and tape it to the work surface using masking tape. In one corner of the sheet write down the date, names or initials of the facilitator and note taker, and location of the focus group.

Ask the participants to orientate the map by identifying one edge of the map sheet which indicates a direction which they are all familiar with. This might be a mountain range in the south, or perhaps where the sun rises in the east. Once this is marked on the edge of the sheet (using a simple symbol), discreetly mark the north direction on the sheet with a small arrow.

Mapping

Once the map sheet is prepared, ask a few questions about the local geography. To help orient the group, a good place to start drawing the map is by placing the village in the centre of the map, and working outwards from there.

Facilitators can prompt the participants by asking who, where, why, what, when and how questions about natural resources use. This will quickly lead to discussions of disputes, access, and other related issues.

The participants may use different colored ink or colored stickers to mark different features on the map. They may also make sketches of certain features such as bridges, plants etc. Encourage the participants to choose their own colors and symbols so that they understand them best.

The person taking notes should note down the symbols and colors used. Marking small numbers on the map next to key features, and record the meaning of each of these symbols.

It may be useful to use a color coded symbol to indicate the magnitude of an issue associated with a feature. For example, a red sticker may indicate a serious dispute, a yellow spot a mild dispute, and a green spot no dispute.

Go through the exercise slowly, repeating or rephrasing any questions that have not been fully answered. Ensure that quieter members of the group have the opportunity to participate.

The exercise should take approximately one to one and a half hours. Once the participants feel they have nothing further to discuss or mark on the map, the exercise should be drawn to a close.

Seasonal Calendars

An additional tool which may be used to support the mapping activity is the seasonal activities

calendar. Participants can record their livelihood activities in a table, relating this to features on the map using colored spots or numbers.

The seasonal calendar is a useful way of collecting and organizing the answers to some of the “who, where, when, why, what, how” questions. Preparing the seasonal calendar on a large sheet of paper prior to beginning the mapping exercise may save time.

Here is an example of a seasonal calendar:

			Time of Activity											
Activity	Household members involved	Proportion of Household Income	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Making butter	Adult females	5%					X	X						

For example, the ‘Activity’ might be harvesting apricots, picking berries etc. The members of the household might be husband and/or wife, or older children who might be involved in some activities. The proportions of household activities may also be represented as a ‘pie-chart’.

The ‘Time of Activity’ is indicated month by month. A simple tick may be sufficient to indicate an activity that occurs discretely in one month. Most activities will take place over a period of time, and can be marked with a colored bar on the chart.

These activities may be related back to features on the map using number codes or colored stickers or symbols, depending on the wishes of the participants.

Wrapping up

When the mapping activity is complete, ask the participants to study the map and key, checking for mistakes or aspects which are not clear. It is important that the participants feel that they have some responsibility and sense of ownership over the map that has been produced.

Analysis of results

Before analyzing the results of the mapping exercise, all notes taken should be written up clearly. During this process certain common issues may become clear.

Since the data collection is largely a qualitative process, an attempt should be made to rank common issues. For example, if the issue of water resources is the most widely discussed topic across most of the focus groups, then this may be prioritized as the No. 1 resource issue. Similarly, if most focus groups discuss a particular dispute, then this may be considered a high ranking dispute.

Once the issues are ranked, then the various aspects of those issues can be discussed and the linkages can be explored. A simple way to do this is by tabulating the information. For example:

Priority	Issue	Aspects	Disputes	Location	Population Affected	Links to other Issues
1	Water	Access to water, shortages, blocked irrigation channels	Neighbors breaking canals	Everywhere	Whole household, Kyrgyz and Tajik	Arable agriculture
2	Pasture	Access to pastures too expensive, disputes	Neighbors stealing water	Primarily S/E remote pastures	Adult male, household, Kyrgyz	Collection of herbs
3	Markets	Hard to access due to location in neighboring country	Border guards taking produce	Border villages	Adult female, household, Kyrgyz	Arable agriculture

Tables such as these will assist in organizing and presenting the analysis. They can be used to establish priorities and set objectives for the second phase of mapping.

Selecting Researchers for future GPS Training

In order to undertake field based research in phase 2 of the community mapping process it will be necessary to recruit local researchers from the study communities. One of the main tasks of these researchers will be to undertake GPS surveys of features identified during the phase 2 mapping.

The phase 1 mapping offers a good opportunity for the Project team to meet and interact with members of the community who may be suitable for work as community researchers. With this in mind it may be advantageous to hold preparatory meetings and training immediately following the first phase of the community mapping process.

GPS training materials are provided separately to this manual.

3.2 *Phase 2: Implementation of Community Mapping*

The implementation phase of community mapping involves preparing more spatially accurate maps with properly referenced features. The properties of these features will be recorded separately. The aim is to prepare maps in the field that can be digitized and integrated into existing base maps to create new, accurate and professional looking maps that incorporate the information provided by the community.

Before describing the methodological approach we will use for the implementation phase of community mapping, we should first explore and understand several important tools and concepts which we will apply during this phase.

Tools and Concepts for Phase 2 Mapping:

Attribute tables

An attribute table is a table that contains information about a feature on the map. It has rows

and columns. Each feature has a unique row, while the attributes of the features are described in the columns.

To explain attributes, consider a real life example:

Mr. Nurzhan Dzhumabaev:

The following list describes Nurzhan, the type of attributes are listed in brackets:

- He is male (SEX)
- He is a Citizen of the Kyrgyz Republic (NATIONALITY)
- He is 27 years old (AGE)
- He is tall (HEIGHT)
- He is employed as a researcher (PROFESSION)
- He considers himself to be an environmentalist (POLITICAL VIEWS)
- He is single (MARITAL STATUS)
- He lives in Bishkek (LOCATION)

We can also categorize these attributes according to social, political, geographic, physical, and economic themes.

For example, Nurzhan's height, age, and sex are physical attributes.

His nationality and location are geographic attributes

We can also make some assumptions about the economic and social attributes of Nurzhan. For example, he is employed as a researcher – this is a good job which implies that Nurzhan has a relatively good income and also a high level of education, which are economic and social attributes respectively.

When considered together with other attributes, we may also be able to find social meaning from the fact that Nurzhan is a young male, living in Bishkek.

Combinations of attributes can tell us a great deal about the feature (in this case Nurzhan) we are looking at.

Attributes are a central component of the mapping implementation phase of our community mapping exercise. The methodology will describe how attribute tables will be used to systematically and methodically collect and organize non-spatial information that relates to features drawn by communities.

During our participatory mapping exercise we will be able to combine the attributes of features that overlap geographically; this in turn will create new attributes which will allow a deeper understanding of the situation on the ground.

Mapping symbols

One of the most important features on any map is the key. The key unlocks the information

held in the map by decoding the symbology of the map. The symbology is the way that features are represented on a map, and is often specific to the attributes of the feature.

For example, the following linear symbols represent different linear features:

- River: 
- Footpath: 
- Roads:
 - Highway: 
 - Main Road: 
 - Minor Road: 

Each type of linear feature is represented by a different color, thickness, or style of line. Within the category of ‘roads’ the color and thickness of the line tells us something about the types of road – the attributes of the road.

The key helps us to understand the meaning of these symbols by providing a general guide to the features. There is no need for the key to describe each individual feature. For example, a map might show both the Naryn and the Kara Darya rivers using the same symbol. The difference between the rivers can be annotated on the map, as follows:



We can also identify features as points, for example:



By changing the size of the point, we can show different attributes of the feature. Population for example:



Here, the size of the point indicates the relative population.

Different colors may also be used:



Here, red could indicate a Kyrgyz village, yellow a Tajik village, and blue a village with a mixed population.

Polygon shapes may also be coded, for example:



By using different colors and styles it is possible to identify the overlapping area between these

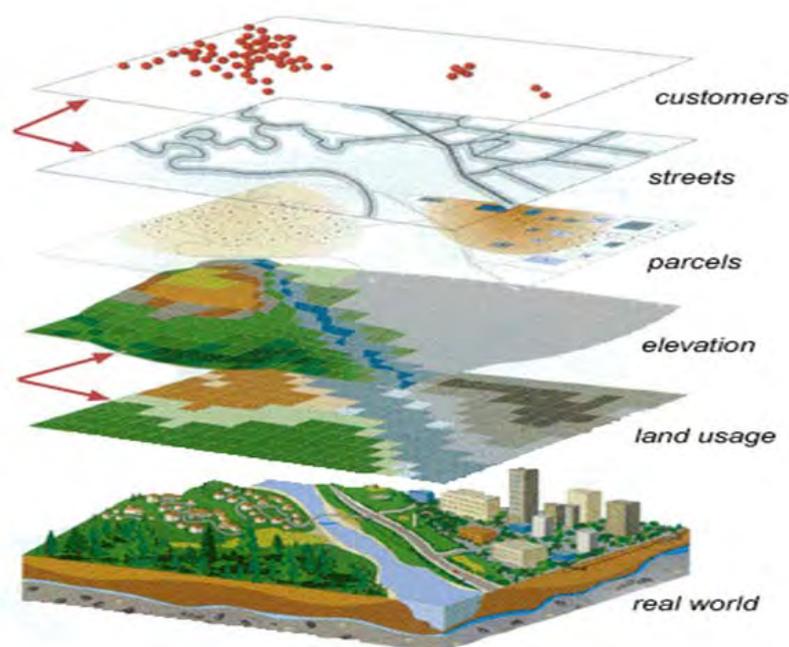
two features.

When preparing for the phase 2 mapping, it is important to consider the symbology of the features used beforehand. While the participants should be encouraged to use symbols which they understand and find accessible and easy to remember, the facilitator may suggest appropriate symbol ideas in order to make the map clearer and easy to understand.

The Layer approach:

The implementation phase of community mapping will use a layered approach to creating maps. This is an approach used in GIS, and allows us to isolate or combine multiple sets of spatial information.

Each layer of information represents a different theme, such as transport infrastructure, political boundaries, villages, or land use. By *overlaying* the layers on top of each other it is possible to visualize these themes simultaneously, even combining them to create new themes, while still being able to manipulate the features and attributes of each layer. The diagram below demonstrates how multiple layers can be *overlaid*:



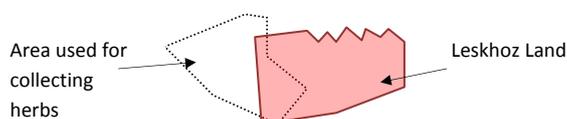
Source¹

By using the layering approach, communities can focus on mapping one theme at a time, building up layers of information as they go. The information in each layer may then be combined with the information in other layers, forming new sets of data. As illustrated in the above diagram, overlaying each of layers of information allows us to create a rich map which shows not just the baseline physical information, and not just each individual layer, but the combination of layers. This allows researchers and the community to begin to think through and understand the interaction between these different features, which have never before been

¹ Source: National Coastal Data Development Centre website <http://www.ncddc.noaa.gov/technology/gis>

mapped.

It is important that each layer deals with a different category of information. Information on political boundaries could perhaps be included as a separate thematic layer to information on land use. For example:



In this example, the layer showing land use overlaps with the layer showing *Leskhoz* land. On a basic level we could use these layers to find out how much *Leskhoz* land is used for collecting herb activities. We can also combine the two layers to give us a third layer covering the overlapping area. This third layer would combine the attributes from both layers, allowing us to conduct further analysis of how land is used.

Summary of Concepts

This section introduced three concepts:

- *Attributes* – the non-geographic information attached to a feature
- *Symbology* – using different symbols to show the location and attributes of different features
- *Layers* – building and analyzing maps through thematic layers of information

Understanding each of these concepts is critical to understanding the implementation phase of the community mapping exercise.

3.2.1 Phase 2 Methodology

The implementation phase is a 10 step process as follows:

1. Establish the objectives
2. Who, where, what, when, why, how?
3. Think about layers
4. Draw attribute tables
5. Mapping
6. GPS survey
7. Prepare Digital Maps
8. Community feedback
9. Prepare final maps
10. Handover to Community

This section details each of these 10 steps.

Step 1. Establish the objectives

The objectives of the community mapping exercise need to be derived from a thorough analysis of the findings of the phase 1 mapping exercise. The objectives are essentially a description of *'What should this mapping exercise achieve?'* It may be that the objectives are to achieve an increased

understanding of the interface between *Leskboz* land and grazing patterns, or perhaps a better understanding of the activities and movement patterns of shepherds and livestock.

The objectives should be in line with the main objectives of the Project, and should be clear to the facilitators of the mapping exercise. As part of the process of establishing objectives, it is also important to consider focus group size, number and composition. Understanding the objectives allows us to decide whether we need to talk to Kyrgyz citizens, Tajik citizens, men, women, shepherds, farmers, politicians, border guards or all of these people.

It may be useful to write down the objectives on a sheet of paper to which the facilitators can refer during the mapping exercise. This way the facilitators can check to see if the objectives are being met during the mapping exercise.

Step 2. Who, where, what, when, why, how?

Once the objectives have been set, they should be broken down into a set of questions which will guide the mapping process and ensure that the information collected is relevant and comprehensive. The questions will usually start with who, where, what, when, why, and how.

For example, if the objective is to gain a better understanding of the activities of shepherds and livestock, some useful questions might be:

- Who uses shepherds to manage their cattle?
- Where do the shepherds take the cattle to graze?
- What difficulties do the shepherds have when taking the cattle to pasture?
- When do the shepherds move to remote pastures?
- How do local authorities monitor pasture use?

Again, it may be useful to write down these questions on a sheet of paper which the facilitators can refer to during the mapping exercise. This way the facilitators can check to see if the exercise has answered all questions.

Step 3. Think about layers

Once the objectives and questions are clear, consider the different layers of map data that will be necessary to answer the questions identified in step 2. The different layers can be determined by refining the issues into thematic categories such as land use, institutions, or conflicts.

Considering potential layers beforehand also help identify a layer of information which would act as a useful starting point to the exercise.

In the example used in step 2 it might be useful to identify a layer showing where the pasture lands are (land use layer), where *Leskboz* and *Ajyl Okmotu* lands are (institutions layer), where cattle corridors are (land use again, or perhaps a separate layer), where border guards are (institutions, or perhaps conflicts layer). In this example, a good starting point would be the land use layer, since it is one of the most basic and fundamental layers, asking the focus group to identify the pastures they use.

Remember that this list of layers should not be fixed. Additional layers may be indentified in the

course of them mapping exercise and can be added to be sure of meeting objectives.

Step 4. Draw attribute tables

With objectives and layers already considered, it will be useful to prepare draft attribute tables. The attribute tables will help to focus on the questions identified in step 2, and allow for a systematic approach to the collection, and processing of information. It is useful to prepare these tables in advance so that they can be an aid to the mapping process, rather than a hindrance.

Generally speaking each layer of information should have an accompanying attribute table. However, it may be necessary for practical reasons to use more than one type of table per layer.

Each feature has a unique row in the attribute table, with the information associated with that layer listed in the columns. The feature should be marked with a number on the map, and that number should be recorded in the first column of the row associated with that feature.

Each column will categorize a different attribute relating to the feature. This may be a simple yes/no response, a quantifiable response (e.g. population) or a more detailed written response.

Tip: Prepare attribute tables using Excel software and print for use in the field. Hand drawn tables may also be used, as long as they are transferred to a spreadsheet prior to submission to the GIS Specialist.

An example of an attribute table for an 'Institutions' layer:

ID	Name of Institution	Type of Institution	Location of Headquarters	Conditions attached to land use	Blank	Blank	Blank	Notes
1	Leskhoz	Forest Enterprise	Batken	Restricted grazing rights XYZ				contact xxx for more details

In this example the feature is identified with 'ID' number 1 (which will also be marked in the map). Three columns have been deliberately left blank so that further categories of attribute may easily be added during the mapping exercise. For example, it may be important to differentiate between state and non-state institutions. An easy way to do this would be to add a column headed '*State institution*' and to fill in the rows below with either 'yes' or 'no'.

In addition to the blank columns, it is also useful to add a '*Notes*' column to the end of the attribute table. This can be used to record any miscellaneous or specific observations relevant to the feature.

Tip: Do not rush when preparing new attribute tables. Take time to think carefully and consult with colleagues and the community. Remember that the pre-prepared attribute tables might not be definitive and we should be prepared to amend them while in the field. It is likely that additional column will need to be added during the exercise and additional attribute tables may need to be prepared as you go along. It may be useful to take some pre-printed grids (prepared in Excel) into the field in order to save time.

Step 5. Mapping

Before embarking on the actual mapping exercise it is vital that steps 1 to 4 have been completed, and that all facilitators are clear about what the objectives are. It may be useful to hold a short meeting between the mapping team to ensure that all members are clear and working towards the same objectives.

Materials and Equipment

Before leaving for the field it is important to ensure that all of the materials needed are in plentiful supply and working properly. The following checklist details the materials need for *one* mapping exercise.

- Roll of transparent film
- Base map (2 copies, provided by GIS Specialist)
- Other supporting maps of the area for reference (e.g. 1: 600,000 scale maps)
- A4 paper (for drawing the key)
- Notebook
- 4 Clips
- Roll of masking (paper) tape.
- Colored markers – at least two of each color: red, blue, green, black
- Sheets of colored sticker spots
- Two clipboards
- Printed out attribute tables (including blank grids prepared in excel)
- List of objectives and questions
- GPS receivers (optional)
- Elastic bands (for securing map rolls)
- Roll of large format paper
- Writing pens and pencils
- Ruler
- Camera
- Plastic containers for all of the above
- This 10 Step checklist

Managing the Community Mapping Focus Group

The community focus group should be selected based on the objectives identified in step 1. Ideally each group should comprise no more than 15 members as it may become difficult to manage. Two members of the group should be nominated to draw on the map. If one of the nominees is perceived to be dominating or taking over the discussion, then it may be wise to rotate the persons drawing on the map so that other members of the group have an opportunity to contribute confidently.

It is important to set ground rules that are agreed by all participants beforehand. These may

include: listening to others without interrupting, respecting other views (not fighting!) and contributing to discussion. These ground rules should be written down and posted somewhere where everyone in the focus group can see them.

At least two members of the Project team should be present at the mapping exercise. One should act as a facilitator, talking the focus group through the activity and providing encouragement. The other team member should be taking notes in the notebook, and completing the attribute tables. A third team member would also be useful, not only to provide ideas and a second opinion, but also to assist in preparing mapping materials, taking photographs and dealing with interruptions.

Preparing the map

Using the prepared base-map as a guide for size, cut out a sheet of transparent film from the roll so that it fits over the top of the map. This will be your first 'layer' of information. Attach the layer of film to the map using clips and mark on the film the 'extent' of the map. This means mark the four corners of the map frame onto the film by drawing a cross at the corners using black ink and a ruler. Geo-reference the map by marking with a cross on the film (again using black ink and a ruler) corresponding points of longitude and latitude from the four sides of the map frame. Write the longitude/latitude next to the cross.

Add a discreet north arrow to a corner of the film for easy future reference and write along one side of the film the date, location of focus group, title or number of basemap, names of facilitators, and the name of the layer.

Use masking tape to attach the map to the table or workspace.

In summary:

- Cut a 'layer' of film
- Clip the film to the base map
- 'Geo-reference' the film against the base map (latitude and longitude)
- Add a discreet north arrow
- Add date, location, title, names or initials of facilitators, and name of layer
- Tape to the workspace

Map Key and Symbols

Introduce the idea of using map symbols to the focus group, showing them the different colored pens, stickers, and perhaps drawing some examples. Explain that we will keep track of the map symbols using a key. The key should be a sheet of A4 attached to a clipboard so it may be easily passed around the group.

Each layer should have a unique key. The A4 sheet for each key should be marked with the date, location of focus group, title of base map, names or initials of facilitators, and the name of layer, so that it matches up with the map layer.

Mapping

The first step is to ensure that the participants are fully oriented to the map. To do this, ask the participants to identify key geographic features in their area which they use to orientate themselves. These may include their village, rivers and roads (a useful indicator of direction), mountains or lakes. Ask them to find these features on the base-map and, where necessary, mark them on the map using the Kyrgyz (or Tajik) name as appropriate.

Once the participants are confident that they are oriented to the map discussion should turn to the objectives of the exercise and to the first layer of the map.

If, for example, the first layer of data is concerning land use, participants may want to carefully mark areas used for pasture on the map. They should decide on clear and appropriate symbology for this feature, aided by suggestions from the facilitator.

As the discussion continues, the team member taking notes and completing the attribute tables should prompt the facilitator if any questions remain unclear or unanswered. The Project team should continuously refer to the objectives and questions (identified in Step 2) in order to keep on track, and the facilitator may have to ask direct questions about each feature to ensure completeness.

After completing each layer, the facilitator should ask if there are any additional remarks or features that should be included. The facilitator and note taker should confer to ensure that all attribute tables are complete and that the symbols and number used in the attribute table, key, and map match up correctly.

This process is repeated for each subsequent map layer.

In summary:

- Orient the participants to the map, identifying familiar features
- Discuss and choose symbology and update key as you go along
- Present objectives
- Direct questions
- Fill out attribute tables
- Take notes
- Check that all questions are answered and objectives met
- Repeat with each layer

Wrapping up

When the mapping activity is complete, ask the participants to study the map and key, checking for mistakes or aspects which are not clear. It is important that the participants feel that they have some responsibility and sense of ownership over the map that has been produced.

Once this is complete, explain the next steps (GPS survey, preparing digital maps and so on) to the participants, and emphasize that the team will return to get their opinion and approval of the

final map outputs.

Step 6. GPS survey

Once community focus groups have prepared their map it may be apparent that more accurate geographic information on locations or boundaries is required. For example, an area of land used to collect medicinal herbs may need to be surveyed by community researchers in order to properly locate and define its boundaries. The same may be true should the community identify, for example, a water pump which is the site of particular conflicts. Similarly it might be important to use the GPS to mark a feature with no physical geographic feature, such as a route or corridor used for taking cattle to market.

It will be important at the end of each mapping exercise to consider which features require a GPS ground survey by community researchers. Once the features are identified, and researchers are selected, it is possible to make an estimate of how much time surveying these features is likely to take.

GPS receivers and accompanying notebooks will be distributed to the Community researchers by the team from the Project office in Batken.

The Community researchers will be given clear instructions by the mapping team as to which features need to be recorded.

Once the Community researchers have gathered the GPS data, the GPS receivers and notebooks should be returned to the Batken office where they will be checked, uploaded to the computer and emailed to RDF, the GIS Specialist, and the Mapping and Natural Resources Specialist.

Step 7. Prepare digital maps

Once the mapping exercises are complete and GPS data has been gathered, the GIS specialist, supported by the Mapping and Natural Resources Specialist, will prepare a number of digital maps showing different aspects of the data collected in the field. These maps may include some basic analysis of the relationships between layers of data.

To prepare these maps, the GIS specialist must have access to clear attribute tables and notes collected during the mapping exercises.

A number of hardcopy maps will be prepared for community feedback. The maps will vary both in the information displayed, and in the cartographic style used.

Step 8. Community feedback

Once complete, the hardcopy maps will be presented to the communities who participated in the community mapping exercises. The Project team should guide the participants through the different themes and symbols on the maps, explaining the difference between the maps. The maps should be left with the community in a location where they can be publicly viewed and discussed.

After a short period of time agreed with community, the Project team should return to discuss

the community's thoughts on the map. They may show a preference for a particular style of map, or have an interest in particular types of information shown on the map. It may be that the community wishes to combine styles or information from different maps, in order to create a map which they accurately reflects how they wish to communicate their needs and interests.

The Project team should make detailed notes about what is discussed at these meetings, and should annotate the maps where appropriate.

Step 9. Prepare final maps

After receiving feedback from the community, the GIS specialist, supported by the Mapping and Natural Resources Specialist, will prepare a final map which reflects the preferences shown by the community in step 8.

A number of copies should be produced, with at least three given to the community. The maps should be laminated for durability. Copies should be made of the materials prepared in the mapping exercise and kept at RDF. The originals should be given to the community, as proof of their efforts in preparing the map.

Step 10. Handover to community

Maps should be formally handed over to the community (in this case, it will be to the Neighborhood Building Network) and the efforts of all participants should be recognized. It will be important to emphasize to the community the importance of using the maps for future planning activities.

3.3 Phase 3: Planning

The final phase of the community mapping process is to work with communities to use the map products. Within the scope of the Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources Project the map may be used for any or all of the following activities:

- Land Use Planning and Natural Resource Management
- Activity Planning
- Managing Conflict over Natural Resources
- As a tool for advocacy and communication between community groups (Kyrgyz and Tajik) and between community groups and Government organizations

Community leaders forming a 'Neighborhood Building Network' will have been pre-selected prior to the handing over of the finished map product. This 'Neighborhood Building Network' will receive training and capacity building assistance in methods to manage land, natural resources and related conflicts based on an approach that integrates international best practices with traditional Kyrgyz and Tajik customs.

The community map will assist the 'Neighborhood Building Network' in envisioning and developing a Conflict Management Plan. Under the Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources Project, the 'Neighborhood Building Network' will have access to a small grants scheme which will help to implement natural resource and conflict management 'micro-

projects’.

4.0 CONCLUDING SUMMARY

Community mapping has a wide range of applications relevant to the Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources Project. The mapping process also offers a number of advantages over other participatory research tools.

The Community Mapping Process proposed for the Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources Project follows a three phase process.

Three phases:

1. Preparation and Situation Analysis
2. Implementation of mapping
3. Planning

An exercise that is well planned, with clear objectives and is systematic and thorough will ensure the best results. The output map and the knowledge gained in the process will contribute towards the conflict management and natural resource planning stage of the Project. During this stage, the community map will help leaders to envision their ideas and support their new capacities for natural resource management and conflict resolution.

The Community Map in Action

At the time of writing, the Neighborhood Building Network had already put the community map to good use in avoiding a potential dispute over pastures. In this case, an area of *Leskeboz* pasture land had been identified by authorities for leasing to neighboring Tajik livestock keepers. The local authorities were under the impression that this territory was underused by Kyrgyz shepherds and thus suitable for a leasing arrangement.

Community leaders quickly recognized that this land was in fact used by a number of shepherds, and that a leasing arrangement might put their livelihoods at risk, possibly even resulting in disputes or conflict. Using the Community map to indicate the territory in question, and the number of shepherd using the territory; community leaders appealed to local authorities. The land in question was allowed to remain under the use of Kyrgyz shepherds, thus mitigating a potential future cause of conflict.

Annex 1: An example exercise for Phase 2: Implementation of Mapping

Brief:

The Project seeks to address issues relating to the collection of fruits and medicinal herbs by both Tajik and Kyrgyz people living in villages near Ak-Say. The Project has a specific interest in access and disputes.

To complete this exercise, divide into two groups. One group should represent the Project team, while the other should act the role of mapping participants.

The Project team should follow steps 1 to 5 of the checklist given in this manual:

1. Establish the objectives
2. Who, where, what, when, why, how?
3. Think about layers
4. Draw attribute tables
5. Mapping

The participant group will take part in step 5. Once the Project team has established their objectives and identified the participants the participant group must adopt these roles and formulate a list of issues relating to the above brief (such as disputes, household division of labor, access to markets, anecdotes). The exercise will be more challenging if the participant group does not agree on all issue. The participant group should have access to the base map in order to plan their position.

Use the materials and equipment described in the equipment checklist of this manual.

Allow two hours for the exercise.

Annex 2: Other Participatory Mapping Resources and Examples

Here are some links to case studies and organizations involved in community mapping:

Links to resources on GIS, GPS and alternative map making techniques:

http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/IMToolbox/web/03_Map.html#

The PGIS initiative, run by the Centre for Agricultural and Rural Co-operation (video):

<http://pgis.cta.int/>

Sekala, an Indonesian NGO, offering many examples and case studies:

<http://www.sekala.net/>

Vulnerability mapping in Mozambique (some publications are available to download as pdfs from this site):

<http://projects.stefankienberger.at/vulmoz/>

Worldwide case studies from UNESCO:

<http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php->

[URL_ID=17103&URL_DO=DO_PRINTPAGE&URL_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php-URL_ID=17103&URL_DO=DO_PRINTPAGE&URL_SECTION=201.html)

Mayan Atlas – a fascinating community mapping project from Belize:

<http://geography.berkeley.edu/ProjectsResources/MayanAtlas/MayaAtlas/MayanAtlas2.htm>

The Aboriginal Mapping Network:

<http://www.nativemaps.org/>

Cambodia: Mapping the forest in three dimensions:

http://www.iapad.org/publications/ppgis/wwfcambodia_bulletin_april_june%2003.pdf

Kenya: Sengwer Eco-Mapping:

http://www.ermisafrica.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=56&Itemid=53



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ANNEX THREE

COMMUNITY-BASED CONFLICT MANAGEMENT PLAN

Ak-Say and Ak-Tatyr aiyl okrugs,
Batken, Kyrgyz Republic



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Conflict Management Plan is created under Activity Five of the Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources Project (APMNR). The purpose of the plan is to establish a framework for mitigating identified conflicts over natural resources in the Ak Say and Ak Taty *aiyl okrugs*. It was created by the Neighborhood Building Network (NBN) who is also tasked with overseeing its implementation. It is expected to be a resource for all agencies and institutions, formal and informal, who work on natural resource related activities in the target areas. Users of this plan include: community members, local self-governance bodies, local state agencies, NBN, pasture committees, water users associations, as well as donor organizations with projects active in Ak-Taty and Ak-Say *aiyl okrugs*.

This Conflict Management Plan was devised by the communities of Ak Say and Ak Taty. The Neighborhood Building Network – a group comprised representatives of two *aiyl okmotu*, deputies of *aiyl kenesh*, five village headmen, chairperson of pasture committees, village elders, women and young people – helped collect, validate, and analyze information on natural resource conflict in the target areas. They also participated in conflict resolution trainings and learned how to create a community map of natural resources.

There are five target villages in Ak-Taty and Ak-Say *aiyl okrugs*. These are: Ak-Say, Kok-Tash, Uch-Dobo, Ak-Taty and Orto-Boz. These villages border the Tajik enclaves of Vorukh and Chorkhu. While each village has its own features in terms of ethnic composition and settlement pattern, many people suffer from similar problems related to natural resources use and limited natural resources, lack of access to infrastructure, limited livelihoods opportunities, and an over-reliance on remittances as the main source of income. A brief description of the target villages is given in Table 1. A more in-depth assessment of the target villages and the natural resource related conflict in those villages is available in the Situational Analysis Report, completed as a deliverable for the APMNR Project.

Table 1: Characteristics of the villages

	Ak-Say <i>aiyl okrug</i>			Ak-Taty <i>aiyl okrug</i>	
	Ak-Say village	Kok-Tash village	Uch-Dobo village	Ak-Taty village	Orto-Boz village
Settlement scheme	Populated by Kyrgyz, the village borders with enclave. 17 Tajik residents with Kyrgyz citizenship	50% of Kyrgyz and 50% of Tajiks; each group lives separately in its own part of the village	Populated by Kyrgyz, the village borders with Tajik village Khodjaloo, someplace Kyrgyz avenues penetrate Tajik village and vice versa	Populated by Kyrgyz, the village borders with enclave	Small Kyrgyz settlements mostly surrounded by Tajik village

	<i>Ak-Say aiyl okrug</i>			<i>Ak-Tatyr aiyl okrug</i>	
	Ak-Say village	Kok-Tash village	Uch-Dobo village	Ak-Tatyr village	Orto-Boz village
Households (Kyrgyz)	400	450	430	650	210
Men /Women (year)	823/761 -2007	1180/1095 (2007)	1000/963 -2007	1546/1421 -2006	442/460 -2006
Schools	1 school	3 Kyrgyz schools, 2 Tajik schools	1 Kyrgyz school and 1 Tajik school	1 school	1 school
Access to water	85% of access to drinking water	River or irrigation water is used as drinking water	65% of population have access to drinking water	60% of population have access to drinking water	30% of population have access to drinking water
Health care	Medical post. The nearest pharmacy is located at 20 km	Medical post. The station provides initial care and obstetrical care. The nearest pharmacy is 21 km away	The nearest pharmacy is located at 5 km, the nearest pharmacy is located at 15 km.	FMS. The nearest pharmacy is located at 10 km. The nearest pharmacy is located at 10 km.	FMS. The nearest pharmacy is located at 13 km. The nearest pharmacy is located at 13 km.
Land tenure (year)	0.083 ha per person. 4 families do not have land plots -2004	0.03 ha per person. 53 families do not have land plots (2004)	0,02 ha per person, 30 households do not have land plots -2004	0.02 ha per person. 25 families do not have land plots (2006)	0.02 ha per person. 17 families do not have land plots (2006)
Community-based organizations in the order of influence	<i>Aiyl okmotu</i>	School	<i>Aiyl okmotu</i>	<i>Aiyl okmotu</i>	<i>Aiyl okmotu</i>
	Military unit	FMS	<i>Military unit</i>	<i>Military unit</i>	<i>Military unit</i>
	Council of elders	<i>Aiyl okmotu mosque</i>	Village Office of Militia	Council of elders	Council of elders
	Investment committee	<i>Leskboz</i>	Council of elders	Investment committee	Investment committee
	Rural health care committee		Rural investment committee	Rural health care committee	Rural health care committee
			Rural health care committee		

Source: profiles of Ak-Say, Kok-Tash, Uch-Dobo, Ak-Tatyr and Orto-Boz villages. ARIS 2004 -2007

The Conflict Management Plan systematizes analysis of local conflicts (both open and latent) that are specific to the target area. It identifies the main causes and consequences of conflict and evaluates their magnitude and perceived importance for local communities. The Conflict Management Plan identifies whether there are existing arrangements that manage conflict or aid in

the resolution of conflict, and describes the extent to which these arrangements are effective. The Plan then describes the desired vision of local communities, reflecting the commitment of community members to ensure stability in border areas. Finally, the Conflict Management Plan includes the action plan for local communities, the implementation of which should bring about the realization of the community vision.

2.0 CONFLICT MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Conflict Management Plan was created in a multi-phased process:

1. Target communities were invited to reflect upon and validate findings of the Situational Analysis. As part of that process, some findings were refined and certain nuances not identified in the assessment were added.
2. The NBN engaged in the process of assessing the magnitude, scale, priority, and significance of the conflict issues identified in the Situational Analysis.
3. With facilitation from RDF, the NBN generated a vision of their desired future with regard to natural resources; they reflected on the current realities and contrasted it to the desired future.
4. With their vision and current realities in mind, the NBN began devising steps that would help bring the current reality in line with their desired future. This step also included an analysis of the feasibility of each of those steps based on local conditions, and a frank discussion of those things within the control of the community and those that require outside action; for example, at the regional or national level.
5. For each agreed-upon step or tactic identified, the NBN also assessed the necessary and available resources, including identifying capacity needs. After the assessment, they put together a plan for how those resource and capacity needs may be addressed.
6. Finally, the NBN then validated their conclusions and the plan with other key community stakeholders.
7. The next section includes the plan which was created following the abovementioned process.

3.0 ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION

In an open-ended format, the NBN reflected on the conflict issues that had been identified in the Situational Analysis. They gave their perspective on the underlying causes, contributing factors, and the nature and extent of the conflicts identified. They also reflected on the impact that such conflicts had on their livelihood. It was also an opportunity for the NBN to begin thinking about viable solutions. A summary of this reflection and analysis is provided in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Summary of the reflection meeting with the NBN

#	Issue	Duration	Impact	Magnitude	Priority	Irritation factors
1	Collection of firewood and other natural resources by Tajik citizens on the lands of <i>leskeboz</i>	On-going	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Breach of laws and regulations; - Deteriorating resource stock; - Diminishing stock of natural resources for future generations 	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tajik do not permit access & use of their resources, whereas Kyrgyz do - Fast diminishing stock of natural resources
2	Power cuts to Kyrgyz border households by Tajik authorities	Recurring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Urges the Kyrgyz households to use more timber - Reduce time available for school children to make homework 	Medium	High	Chaotic power cut: when some Kyrgyz houses have no power, others do
3	Unregulated relations regarding grazing of Tajik animals on Kyrgyz pastures	On-going	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Degradation of pastureland - Perpetuating impoverishment of households 	Medium	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Private shepherds heading to <i>leskeboz</i>-managed pasture have to go through and graze AO-managed - Lack of good coordination between Tajik <i>jamoats</i> - Disputes between local institutions and community leaders and people in general
4	Lack of transparency in pasture management and use	On-going	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deteriorating quality of pasturelands 	High	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unbalanced distribution of pasturelands between Tajik and Kyrgyz pasture users: Tajik pasture users tend to receive more preference over Kyrgyz ones - The fact that Tajik livestock is grazed on Kyrgyz lands

#	Issue	Duration	Impact	Magnitude	Priority	Irritation factors
5	Lack of recourse in cases the herders fail to observe the agreed-upon arrangements	On-going	- Pasture use is not adequately managed	High	High	- Lack of recourse when herder 'lose' livestock of community members
6	Herders "lose" animals during passage through Tajik enclave Vorukh, lack compensation mechanisms for animal loss	On-going	- Breach of laws - Physiological health is under stress - Further impoverishment	Medium	Medium	- Lost livestock is never returned, not compensated
7	Tajik livestock owners pay more for the service of the herders than Kyrgyz	On-going	- Fuels the tensions and conflicts between Tajik and Kyrgyz	Medium	Medium	- Private herders are interested in taking in Tajik livestock first as they pay more as opposed to Kyrgyz livestock owners - When herder take Tajik livestock, they have less problems with crossing the borders within the Vorukh enclave
8	Herders keep the value of milk and dairy products during the period when Tajik animals are under their care	On-going	- Calves are subject to diseases - Number of cattle fails to increase	Medium	Medium	- Cows return from pastures lean and under-nourished, which often results in the death of the calves
9	Herders suffer from verbal and physical abuse from the Tajik population when they pass through Vorukh enclave	On-going (spring/fall)	- Breach of laws - Physiological stress	Medium	Medium	- Unpleasant Kyrgyz community dependence upon Tajik enclave for accessing pasturelands - Tajik taking full advantage of this dependence - Lack of the road by passing the enclave

#	Issue	Duration	Impact	Magnitude	Priority	Irritation factors
10	Herders have to pay bribes to enable safe passage through Vorukh enclave	On-going (spring/fall)	- Breach of laws - Loss of revenues - Stress and anxiety	Medium	High	- Violation of the rights of the Kyrgyz rights - Herder suffering physiological damage
11	Livestock owners do not know their rights and responsibilities	On-going (summer)	- Economic loss due to 'loss' of the livestock	Medium	Medium	- Livestock owners do not know their rights and responsibilities
12	Unequal power balance of herders and livestock owners	On-going	- The issue has not been worked through adequately - Loss of revenues due to lack of the commonly agreed-upon arrangements	High	High	- Increasing fee for shepherding service with no corresponding increase in degree of responsibility for the animals lost
13	Disputes between <i>ayyl okmotu</i> and <i>leskhoz</i> in relation to allocation of payment for pasture use	On-going (summer /fall)	- Has no direct impact on livestock owners	Medium	Medium	- The fact that pasture use fee is collected on 'first comes, first served' basis; lack of effective revenue sharing mechanisms between AO and <i>leskhoz</i> - Ignorance of most herders
14	Disputes between <i>ayyl okmotu</i> and <i>leskhoz</i> in relation to allocation of pasture days	On-going	Loss of revenues for <i>ayyl okmotu</i> and <i>leskhoz</i>	Medium	Medium	- Lack of the predictable 'rules of the game' for the herders: there is no grazing calendar, no defined borders between AO and <i>leskhoz</i>
15	Some households cultivate pasture lands without rights to do so	Recurring (spring)	- Leads to conflicts between farmers and herders	Medium	Medium	- Inability of the herder to come to terms with the households cultivating the pasturelands

#	Issue	Duration	Impact	Magnitude	Priority	Irritation factors
16	Lack of access or insufficient area of irrigated lands	On-going	- Leads to impoverishment - Compromise food security of the communities	High	High	- Failure to stick to the agreed-upon arrangement by Tajik livestock owners - Kyrgyz receive less water under the existing water-focused agreements with Tajik side - Taxes are projected to rise by factor of 3 for the Kyrgyz citizens
17	Lack of communication between Tajik and Kyrgyz communities	On-going	- Mental health is affected - Economic loss - Leads to resentment and antagonisms	High	High	- Lack of the state support to the border communities and border issues
18	“Creeping migration” or encroachment upon contested lands of Kyrgyz villages	On-going	- Leads to inter-ethnic tensions and disputes - State border is perceived to be moving together with the physical presence of the Tajik households	High	High	- Laws and regulations on land tenure are not effective
19	Blocking irrigation water supply of both Kyrgyz and Tajik	On-going (spring)	- Results in inter-ethnic disputes	High	High	Dwindling yield

4.0 CONFLICT ISSUES

Twenty conflicts issues were identified and analyzed by the NBN. They are:

1. Collection of firewood and other natural resources by Tajik citizens on the lands of leskhoz.
2. Power cuts to Kyrgyz border households by Tajik authorities.
3. Unregulated relations regarding grazing of Tajik animals on Kyrgyz pastures.
4. Lack of transparency in pasture management and use.
5. Lack of recourse in cases where the herders fail to observe the agreed-upon arrangements.

6. Herders “lose” animals during passage through Tajik enclave Vorukh; lack of mechanisms of compensation in the case of animal loss.
7. Tajik livestock owners pay more for the service of the herders than Kyrgyz.
8. Herders keep the value of milk and dairy products during the period when Tajik animals are under their care.
9. Herders suffer from verbal and physical abuse from the Tajik population when they pass through Vorukh enclave.
10. Herders have to pay bribes to enable safe passage through Vorukh enclave.
11. Livestock owners do not know their rights and responsibilities.
12. Unequal power balance of herders and livestock owners.
13. Disputes between aiyl okmotu and leskhoz in relation to allocation of payment for pasture use.
14. Disputes between aiyl okmotu and leskhoz in relation to allocation of pasture days.
15. Some households cultivate pasture lands without permission.
16. Lack of access or insufficient area of irrigated lands.
17. Lack of communication between Tajik and Kyrgyz communities.
18. “Creeping migration” or encroachment upon contested lands of Kyrgyz villages.
19. Blocking irrigation water supply of both Kyrgyz and Tajiks.
20. Lack of legal framework for pasture use arrangements which are currently working for the local populations.

5.0 ACTION PLAN

The following action plan draws from the NBN’s analysis of conflict issues. Its main elements are presented in a table format (in Kyrgyz). Some sections within the table were left blank as the communities found it difficult at the time of the discussion to draw agreed upon solutions to the issues. Based on local capacities and traditional expertise, the NBN grouped the conflict issues for which strategies were developed into three categories:

1. **Green:** Issues that NBN is able to address on its own.
2. **Yellow:** Issues that NBN can contribute to or assist.
3. **Red:** Issues that NBN cannot address and cannot have any influence over.

Figure 1: NBN Conflict Action Plan



5.1 Green: Issues NBN can address on its own

Table 3: Collection of firewood and other natural resources by Tajik citizens on the lands of leskhoz

<p>Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To prohibit cutting trees and firewood collection by Tajiks on Kyrgyz territory ▪ Tajik population should purchase firewood from Kyrgyz population ▪ Collection of firewood and felling trees, even when authorized, should be done under the control and supervision of <i>leskhoz</i> staff
<p>Measures to address the conflict situation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Delimitation and demarcation of the state borders between the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan ▪ It is necessary to strengthen border posts involving law enforcement bodies and <i>leskhoz</i> staff ▪ It is necessary to establish a group headed by <i>leskhoz</i> that would collect the forest produce in one place where it can sell the produce to Tajik citizens ▪ The forest tickets issued for Tajik or Kyrgyz users should indicate the sites where collection and tree felling is permitted, volumes to be extracted and period during which the forest ticket is valid ▪ Organizing the community-based forest patrol groups

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Aiyl okmotu</i> and <i>leskboz</i> should cooperate and allocate funding for attending to trees and plants
Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local population, <i>aiyl okmotu</i> and <i>aiyl kenesh</i> could prepare appeal to higher authority (Jogorku Kenesh) requesting assistance in addressing the conflict situation
Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is required to involve legal experts and land planning experts for the development of the necessary agreement ▪ Normative and legal acts are required at the level of the Government and the Jogorku Kenesh to regulate the issue of firewood collection on border areas ▪ Upon creation of community-based forestry patrol it is necessary to provide for their wages
Difficulties / challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Militia officers might not support the initiative on creation of additional groups to protect forest plantations during the season of firewood collection referring to shortage of personnel and lack of funds to pay for their work
Action that NBN can take towards addressing conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Arrangement of round table and adoption of appeal to <i>oblast</i> and republican authorities indicating importance of this issue for the region ▪ Planting the information boards on forest lands and on the sites where firewood is collected indicating the legal conditions of the Kyrgyz Republic to access and use forest produce by Tajik population. ▪ To arrange round table to develop the agreement on firewood collection by Tajik and provide for its enforcement and monitoring
Approximate timeline	TBD on next meeting of the NBN
Actors and their roles	Higher authorities, state bodies and law enforcement bodies, pasture committees, <i>leskboz</i> , environmental inspectorate, community leaders and committees under <i>aiyl kenesh</i>
Responsible persons	Deputy director of the Batken <i>leskboz</i> , head of the Ak Say and Ak Taty <i>aiyl okmotu</i> , and the chairperson of the NBN

Table 4: Power cuts to Kyrgyz border households by Tajik authorities

Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict	Regular updates (power consumption limits, scheduled cut-offs etc) are provided to the Kyrgyz households relying upon the Tajik infrastructure for power supply
Measures to address the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The staff of Tajik and Kyrgyz power supply companies should regularly provide the information to <i>aiyl okmotu</i> on scheduled power cuts and on limits of power consumption ▪ <i>Aiyl okmotu</i> in turn should communicate this information to the local populations
Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	<i>Raion</i> power supply units, <i>aiyl okmotu</i>
Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	Terms and conditions of agreement between the governments and power distribution companies of the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan on power supply of Kyrgyz villages are required

Difficulties/ challenges	
Action that NBN can take towards addressing conflict situation	To arrange round table with the participation of the representatives of <i>raion</i> power supply companies of both countries, <i>aiyl okmotu</i> , and regional state agencies to entrust that regular information is provided on scheduled of power cuts, power consumption limits and electricity use terms
Approximate timeline	TBD on next meeting of the NBN
Actors and their roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Raion</i> power supply companies of the Kyrgyz Republic to ascertain the power limits for the border villages and communicate this information to the pilot <i>aiyl okrug</i>s ▪ Ak Say and Ak Taty <i>aiyl okmotu</i> to spread the power limits and power supply terms across the local communities ▪ NBN can provide the community map to determine the villages that suffer from the occasional power cuts from Tajik side
Responsible persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Representative of the power supply company of the Kyrgyz Republic ▪ Head of Ak Say and Ak Taty <i>aiyl okmotu</i> ▪ Chairperson of the NBN

5.2 Yellow: Issues where the NBN can contribute and assist

Table 5: Lack of transparency in pasture allocation and use (pastures of *leskhoz* and *aiyl okmotu*)

Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Transparency over the allocation and use rules of the Kyrgyz pastures should be raised to eliminate the speculations that Tajik pasture users are being given preference over the Kyrgyz ones ▪ Pasture users of Ak-Tatyr and Ak-Say <i>aiyl okrug</i>s should know how much pastureland is available, on what conditions, who and for what period these pasturelands are allocated ▪ First of all, pastures of both <i>leskhoz</i> and from <i>aiyl okmotu</i> should be provided to pasture users of nearest <i>aiyl okrug</i>s and then only to pasture users of other <i>aiyl okrug</i>s and then to Tajik citizens
Measures to address the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Demarcation of pasture boundaries (between neighboring <i>aiyl okmotu</i>) ▪ Between <i>leskhoz</i> and <i>aiyl okmotu</i> (between private pastures users) ▪ To develop mechanisms to raise transparency over allocation of pasture resources and institutionalizing these mechanisms by the ruling of <i>aiyl kenesh</i> ▪ Informing the population about allocation and use of pastures through general assemblies carried out by pasture committees, through meetings and information posters ▪ Informing the population on allocation and use of pastures through the reporting meetings of Pasture committee to be held on regular basis at least once in three months ▪ Preparation of the agreement between the <i>leskhoz</i> and <i>aiyl okmotu</i> on periods and pastures allocated to the residents of two <i>aiyl okrug</i>s with the priority given to pastures users of nearest <i>aiyl okrug</i>

Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	The Law on Pastures adopted in 2009 established pasture use unions and local committees on demarcation pasture boundaries between <i>ayil okmotu</i>
Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	Memorandum of understanding between <i>ayil okmotu</i> and <i>leskeboz</i> to come to compromise and to ensure transparency over pastures allocation and use
Difficulties/ challenges	Lack of mechanism to ensure transparency during pasture allocation and use; lack of experience to develop transparency mechanisms during pasture allocation and use
Action that NBN can take towards addressing conflict situation	Transparency issues will be taken care of through implementation of the Agricultural Investments and Service Project (AISP)
Approximate timeline	TBD on next meeting of the NBN
Actors and their roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pasture committee and <i>leskeboz</i> to work out the mutually acceptable arrangements to share the pasture use revenues as well as raise the transparency of the revenue use in front of the local communities ▪ Ak Say and Ak Taty <i>ayil okmotu</i> to communicate the information on the agreed upon arrangements between the pasture committees and <i>leskeboz</i> across the local communities ▪ NBN can make available community map of the conflicts to support the development of these arrangements
Responsible persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chairpersons of the pasture committees from Ak Say and Ak Taty <i>ayil okmotu</i> ▪ Deputy director of the Batken <i>leskeboz</i> ▪ Chairperson of the NBN

Table 6: Herders suffer from verbal and physical abuse from the Tajik population when they pass through Vorukh enclave

Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict	Friendly relations are established between Vorukh population and herders that drive animals to pastures through the enclave. Kyrgyz herders can drive animals safely through Vorukh enclave to and from the remote pastures.
Measures to address the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ During planning of driving of animals through enclave it is necessary to negotiate with <i>ayil okmotu</i> and Tajik <i>jamoat</i> rules for the safe corridor through the enclave ▪ To arrange friendship festivals to build neighborly relations between the population of enclave and nearby Kyrgyz communities ▪ To arrange different joint sport events ▪ Making of the by-pass road around Vorukh enclave
Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To make by-pass road around enclave through the labor support of <i>ayil okrugs'</i> population and herders ▪ Experience to arrange festivals and sport events

Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	Making the by-pass road around enclave needs funding, machinery, and construction materials. To arrange joint festivals and sport events, program need to be developed.
Difficulties/ challenges	There is no state policy on this issue
Action that NBN can take towards addressing conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Legal advice on this issue ▪ To arrange friendship festivals and various sport events ▪ To help make the by-pass road around Vorukh enclave
Approximate timeline	TBD at the next meeting of the NBN
Actors and their roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Aiyl okmotu</i>, the Jogorku Kenesh (National Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic) or court of elderly could act as intermediaries and facilitate negotiations with the Vorukh <i>jamoat</i> over the safe passage through the enclave of the Kyrgyz herders ▪ <i>Aiyl okmotu</i> and the Jogorku Kenesh can initiate the process of making the road around the enclave and make available necessary resources for it
Responsible persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Head of ayil okmotu from Ak Say and Ak Tatyр ▪ Representative of the Jogorku Kenesh ▪ Members of the NBN

Table 7: Unregulated relations regarding grazing of Tajik animals on Kyrgyz pastures

Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict	Pasture management is adequately regulated and managed
Measures to address the conflict situation	There should be an inter-state agreement in place on the use of the Kyrgyz pasture by the Tajik. The mechanisms for Kyrgyz pasture use by Tajik livestock owners should be developed and tested. The Pasture Law should be fully implemented. It is necessary to create condition for pasture committees to start working.
Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	The laws and regulations are developed regulating pasture use within the country
Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The mechanisms to implement the law are required, exchange of experience, defined boundaries of pastures and maps ▪ To create working conditions, pasture committee needs office, furniture, and office equipment
Difficulties/ challenges	
Action that NBN can take towards addressing conflict situation	
Approximate timeline	TBD at the next meeting of the NBN

Actors and their roles	<i>Ajyl okmotu, ajyl kenesh</i> , pasture committee are to agree upon common vision on how to address this issue with livestock owners and herders locally and to give recommendations to make the decision at the level of the government, the Parliament and the President
Responsible persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Head of pilots <i>ajyl okmotu</i> ▪ Members of the <i>ajyl kenesh</i> ▪ Chairpersons of the pasture committees

Table 8: Herders “lose” animals during passage through Tajik enclave Vorukh, lack of mechanisms of compensation in the case of animal loss

Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict	Livestock owners should negotiate the rules with the private shepherds
Measures to address the conflict situation	Need to appeal to consciousness of the private herders
Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	
Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	Laws and rules developed considering existing informal arrangements
Difficulties/ challenges	One can use services of Tajik and Uzbek herders (contracted workers), but once they enter pastures they can settle there illegally
Action that NBN can take towards addressing conflict situation	
Approximate timeline	TBD at the next meeting of the NBN
Actors and their roles	Pasture committees are to should develop rules and discuss those rules with livestock owners and herders and approve them for implementation
Responsible persons	

Table 9: Lack of recourse in cases the herders fail to observe the agreed-upon arrangements

Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict	While driving animals through enclave herders do not lose animals, even if animals are lost (e.g. will enter someone’s yard.), it will be returned by Tajik citizens
Measures to address the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Constriction of existing the road around the enclave ▪ Pasture committee and <i>jamoat</i> are to develop and sign an agreement on providing safe livestock corridor via enclave (indicating dates, timeframe or obligations of each party) ▪ Concluding the agreements to ensure safety to the herders when they drive animals via enclave, if needed involving representatives of law enforcement bodies of both Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic

Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The following resources are available for construction of the road: labor, horses to be used for clearing and evening roads, tools ▪ To sign memorandum of cooperation between the communities, LARC, legal experts pasture committee, law enforcement bodies
Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Making of the road requires inputs such as cement, wire, fencing as well as tools (shovels, crow-bars, hoes) ▪ Legal experts to draft the agreements and memorandum
Difficulties/ challenges	
Action that NBN can take towards addressing conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To help develop the project on re-building of the road around enclave ▪ To arrange round table with community leaders, involving <i>raion</i> and <i>oblast</i> administrations, as well as law enforcement bodies
Approximate timeline	TBD at the next meeting of the NBN
Actors and their roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pasture committee should be responsible for arrangement of round table and for leading the efforts to re-build the road ▪ <i>Ajyl okmotu</i> should be responsible for mobilization of the local population for public works, clearing of the road and leveling ▪ Community leaders from both parties, <i>ajyl keneshs</i>, <i>raion</i> and <i>oblast</i> administrations, law enforcement bodies and border control posts should participate in the round table to develop such terms and conditions of agreement that would enable safe passage of animals to and from summer pastures
Responsible persons	

Table 10: Tajik livestock owners pay more for the service of the herders than Kyrgyz

Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict	Herders should take animals belonging to Kyrgyz as a matter of priority
Measures to address the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pasture committee should oblige herders to give preference to Kyrgyz animals ▪ It is essential to develop rules that oblige or provide incentive for herders to take Kyrgyz animals and coordinate those rules with the population and with the herders ▪ Allocation of pastures for Tajik animals should be arranged on centralized basis through annual request to be submitted to pasture committee before the grazing season starts ▪ The Government of Tajikistan should pursue policy to reduce the number of animals on the territory of Vorukh enclave and shift to other activities taking into consideration lack of opportunity to graze animals on the territory of enclave
Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	Pastures, pasture committee, the Pasture Law
Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	Agreement, internal regulations (pasture committee, <i>ajyl okmotu</i> , <i>jamoat</i>)

Difficulties/ challenges	
Action that NBN can take towards addressing conflict situation	
Approximate timeline	
Actors and their roles	
Responsible persons	

Table 11: Herders retain the value of the milk and dairy products; Herders milk cows without leaving any milk for calves that causes them to be sick and return from pastures lean

Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict	If cows are milked excessively, this displeases livestock owners. Herders should therefore milk moderately. This is evident because calves return from pastures lean and sick.
Measures to address the conflict situation	Prepare contractual agreements between herders and livestock owners
Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	
Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	Intellectual resources (Attorney)
Difficulties/ challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Herders are unwilling to change the status quo as they are seeing benefits from the current arrangements ▪ Lack of any formalized relations between herders and newly-established pasture committees
Action that NBN can take towards addressing conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Can assist in carrying out the additional research into the nature of the relations between herders and livestock owners ▪ Can provide information to the pasture committee to test the preliminary arrangements
Approximate timeline	TBD at the next meeting of the NBN
Actors and their roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pasture Department to develop the arrangements to formalize the relations between pasture committees and private shepherds ▪ Pasture committee to test the arrangements developed by the Pasture Department and provide recommendations for refining these arrangements ▪ <i>Leskhoz</i> is to participate in the development of the arrangements and provide its perspective on the contents of the arrangements between shepherds and livestock owners
Responsible persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Representative of the Pasture Department ▪ Chairpersons of the Ak Say and Ak Tatyр pasture committees ▪ Deputy director of the Batken leskhoz ▪ Representative of the NBN

Table 12: Herders have to pay bribes to enable safe passage through Vorukh enclave

Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There will be no moral damage to those having to cross the enclave ▪ Livestock will not be lost in the enclave ▪ Herder's money will remain in their pockets
Measures to address the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establish the joint control and supervision of the issue by <i>ayil okmotu</i>, <i>ayil kenesh</i>, public organizations and border guards ▪ Preparation of related documents, instructions for pasture users
Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	
Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	
Difficulties/ challenges	Disagreements
Action that NBN can take towards addressing conflict situation	Help develop the necessary agreements
Approximate timeline	
Actors and their roles	Ayil okmotu , pasture committee, public organizations, border guards
Responsible persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chairpersons of the Ak Say and Ak Tatyр pasture committees ▪ Representative of the NBN

Table 13: Livestock owners do not know their rights and responsibilities

Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict	Livestock owners know all their rights
Measures to address the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Raise awareness amongst the livestock owners about their rights and responsibilities with regard to pastures, veterinary requirements, <i>leskeboz</i> lands, environmental standards ▪ Conduct seminars organized by the pasture committees
Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Laws ▪ Community maps of conflicts
Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Information boards ▪ Assistance from Gizprozem and Gosregistr
Difficulties/ challenges	
Action that NBN can take towards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conducting trainings and seminars on the rights and obligations of the shepherds and livestock owners

addressing conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Post updated legal information on herders/livestock owners' rights upon the information boards planted across <i>leskhoz</i> lands as well as <i>ayil okmotu</i> territory ▪ Make available regular legal updates related to pasture use using the information system TOKTOM purchased under the micro-grants program
Approximate timeline	As of January 2011 onwards
Actors and their roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pasture committees are to mobilize the shepherds for the seminars and trainings ▪ <i>Leskhoz</i> is to help post legal information on 12 information boards planted across its lands
Responsible persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Representative of the Pasture Department ▪ Chairpersons of the Ak Say and Ak Tatyр pasture committees ▪ Deputy director of the Batken leskhoz ▪ Representative of the NBN

Table 14: Unequal power balance of herders and livestock owners

Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased number of herders will foster competition and reduce the cost of shepherding services ▪ Pasturelands are properly used ▪ Livestock owners will have an opportunity to choose amongst private herders
Measures to address the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Allocation of livestock in accordance with the size of the pasture land ▪ Conduct trainings for people willing to take private herding ▪ Development of the agreements
Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	
Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Learning programs ▪ Legal expertise/legal advisor ▪ Contractual arrangements between private herders and livestock owners
Difficulties/ challenges	Shepherds are reluctant to participate in any arrangements as they benefit from the status quo
Action that NBN can take towards addressing conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conducting special trainings for herders' ▪ Help the Pasture Department to collect information for the development of the arrangements to regulate the relations between herders and livestock owners
Approximate timeline	TBD at the next meeting of the NBN
Actors and their roles	Pasture Department to develop and test the contractual arrangements between private herders and livestock owners
Responsible persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Representative of the Pasture Department ▪ Chairpersons of the Ak Say and Ak Tatyр pasture committees ▪ Deputy director of the Batken leskhoz ▪ Representative of the NBN

Table 15: Disputes between *ayil okmotu* and *leskhoz* in relation to allocation of pasture use payment

Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict	Development of mechanisms for equitably distributing pasture use revenues between <i>ayil okmotu</i> and <i>leskhoz</i>
Measures to address the conflict situation	Contractual agreement between the pasture committee \ <i>ayil okmotu</i> and <i>leskhoz</i> over the distribution of the pasture use revenues
Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	Community map of the conflicts
Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	Expertise and maps from the Giprozem and Gosregistr
Difficulties/ challenges	Lingering misunderstanding between the pasture committee, <i>leskhoz</i> and herders
Action that NBN can take towards addressing conflict situation	Developing the pasture use calendar
Approximate timeline	TBD at the next meeting of the NBN
Actors and their roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pasture Department to initiate process of demarcating the pasture boundaries between <i>ayil okmotu</i> and <i>leskhoz</i> (on-going) ▪ <i>Leskhoz</i> to participate in the process and provide its maps and associated materials ▪ Pasture committee and <i>ayil okmotu</i> to follow up on the process initiated by the Pasture Department ▪ Giprozem and Gosregistr make available its maps and supporting materials as well as ensure legality of the demarcation process
Responsible persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Representative of the Pasture Department ▪ Heads of the Ak Say and Ak Tatyр <i>ayil okmotu</i> ▪ Chairpersons of the Ak Say and Ak Tatyр pasture committees ▪ Director of the Batken <i>leskhoz</i> ▪ Representative of the Giprozem and Gosregistr ▪ Representative of the NBN

Table 16: Disputes between *ayil okmotu* and *leskhoz* in relation to allocation of pasture days

Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Schedule/calendars for proper use of pastures will be developed ▪ More opportunities will be provided for prevention of pasture degradation ▪ More money will come for rebuilding the roads leading to pastures. ▪ More opportunities emerge for advancing tourism ▪ 25% of money coming from pastures should be allocated by pasture committee or from <i>leskhoz</i> to <i>ayil okmotu</i> for maintaining roads, bridges, as <i>leskhoz</i> uses those roads and bridges but do not invest in their maintenance
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Measures to address the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agreement developed and signed between the pasture committee/<i>ayil okmotu</i> and <i>leskeboz</i> ▪ Raising awareness among farmers/herders ▪ Contractual agreement between private herders and pasture committee
Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	Intermediaries (LARC), laws, topographical maps, community map of conflicts
Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Financial resources are needed ▪ Lawyers' advice/consultations ▪ Cement. Construction materials, etc.
Difficulties/ challenges	Reluctance of the <i>leskeboz</i> to give up its share of the revenues
Action that NBN can take towards addressing conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Drawing resources for developing an agreement between the pasture committee/<i>ayil okmotu</i> and <i>leskeboz</i> ▪ Conduct round table with participation of all parties ▪ Conduct the pilot in the Ak Say and Ak Tatyra area
Approximate timeline	TBD at the next meeting of the NBN
Actors and their roles	Pasture Department and the State Agency for Environment and Forestry to develop and test the agreement regulating the relations between pasture committee and <i>leskeboz</i>
Responsible persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Representative of the Pasture Department ▪ Representative of the State Agency for Environment and Forestry ▪ Chairpersons of the pasture committees of Ak Say and Ak Tatyra

Table 17: Lack of communication mechanisms between Tajik and Kyrgyz (talks, discussions)

Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict	Friendly relations between two communities will be strengthened
Measures to address the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Organizing meetings, seminars, sports activities and competitions ▪ Conducting round tables
Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Non-governmental organizations ▪ Schools ▪ Sports grounds
Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	Financial resources are needed
Difficulties/ challenges	Decline of the Russian language within Kyrgyz and Tajik communities as the common spoken language
Action that NBN can take towards addressing conflict situation	Develop and implement projects aiming to strengthen neighborly relations between ethnic communities
Approximate timeline	TBD at the next meeting of the NBN

Actors and their roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Ayil okmotu</i> to hold joint events ▪ Youth organizations to organize the joint events
Responsible persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Representative of the <i>ayil okmotu</i> ▪ Representatives of the local youth organizations and NGOs

Table 18: “Creeping migration” or encroachment upon contested lands of Kyrgyz villages

Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict	If Kyrgyz citizenship is granted to Tajik and people are registered, land will remain in ownership with the Kyrgyz Republic
Measures to address the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Grant Kyrgyz citizenship to the Tajik people living on purchased Kyrgyz lands/houses ▪ Resettle back (legally) Tajik households who purchase Kyrgyz lands/houses
Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	<i>Ayil okmotu</i> , Gozregistr, pasture committee, the Jogorku Kenesh, the President
Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	Laws. There is a need for state support for each household located in the border area (50 percent exemption when paying utilities bills)
Difficulties/ challenges	Deep-seated disputes
Action that NBN can take towards addressing conflict situation	Organize the community members and teach them how to prepare an official appeal/letter to the Government/President/the Jogorku Kenesh so as to draw the state’s attention to the border issues in Ak Say and Ak Taty
Approximate timeline	TBD at the next meeting of the NBN
Actors and their roles	The Government to investigate the situation around ‘creeping migration’ and pursue the policy to consistent address the issue
Responsible persons	

5.3 Red: Issues that NBN cannot resolve

Table 19: Some households cultivate pasture lands without permission

Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Proper use of pastures will be achieved ▪ Returning or reclaiming the pastures given to <i>leskeboz</i> through legal means ▪ Decrease pasturelands cultivated as arable land
Measures to address the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introduce taxes for farmers cultivating pasturelands, and increase these taxes to the point that will make them leave these pastures ▪ Make them leave through negotiations
Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	Laws, topographer and community map. Information of farmers cultivating pasturelands

Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Political decision of <i>ayil okmotu</i> and <i>ayil kenesh</i> on taxing illegal pastures ▪ Financial resources for information spreading
Difficulties/ challenges	There are threat of other families moving to pasture areas, because these are remote lands, and mostly, herders and their relatives cultivate the land
Action that NBN can take towards addressing conflict situation	Talk sense to the farmers cultivating the pasturelands and convince the out of such practice
Approximate timeline	TBD at the next meeting of the NBN
Actors and their roles	<i>Ayil okmotu</i> and pasture committees to talk to them and convince them to stop cropping on the pasturelands
Responsible persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Head of <i>ayil okmotu</i> ▪ Deputies of <i>ayil kenesh</i> ▪ Chairpersons of pasture committee

Table 20: Lack of access or insufficient area of irrigated lands

Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There will be land shares allocated for building houses ▪ Territory allocated for arable land will be expanded ▪ Living conditions for the rural people will be improved
Measures to address the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase amount of water in channels ▪ Install and use pumps to get water to areas where it is needed ▪ Effective use of the arable lands
Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	Channel, community contribution, transformer, pumps
Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	Cement, technology, stones, gasoline, melt, pipe, construction materials
Difficulties/ challenges	Misunderstanding and disagreements between Tajik communities in Vorukh and inhabitants of Samarkandek village
Action that NBN can take towards addressing conflict situation	
Approximate timeline	TBD at the next meeting of the NBN
Actors and their roles	Water user association to ensure effective use and distribution of the water resources
Responsible persons	Representative of the water user association

Table 21: Stoppage of irrigation water supply to each other

Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The issue of water scarcity will be addressed ▪ Socio-economic conditions of people will improve ▪ Psychological climate will improve between ethnic communities
Measures to address the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conduct inter-ethnic discussions to diffuse prejudices and misconceptions ▪ Provided that the state has resources, build channels independent from Tajik territories
Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	<i>Ayil okmotu</i> , NGOs, Government
Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	Financial resources to improve water infrastructure
Difficulties/ challenges	Disagreements
Action that NBN can take towards addressing conflict situation	
Approximate timeline	
Actors and their roles	<i>Ayil okmotu</i> and water user association to better negotiate the water use terms
Responsible persons	Representative of the water user association Heads of the <i>ayil okmotu</i>

Table 22: Lack of legal framework for pasture use arrangements which are currently working for the local populations

Vision of NBN regarding resolved conflict	The local communities and local institutions are legally empowered to manage border pasturelands and participate in conflict management over pasturelands
Measures to address the conflict situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create enabling legal and institutional conditions (e.g. interstate framework agreement and several procedural sub-agreements) for the local institutions and communities to be able to legitimately pursue efforts to prevent and mitigate local disputes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ With the help of the APMNR project, the draft interstate agreement between the Republic of Tajikistan (RT) and the Kyrgyz Republic (KR) and sub-agreement between <i>jamoat</i> (RT) <i>ayil okmotu</i> (KR) were developed, widely discussed with the local stakeholders (NBN, <i>ayil okmotu</i>, <i>leksboz</i>, pasture committees) and national partners (Pasture Department under MOA, SAEF) and then presented at the national workshop on 18 November 2010 in Bishkek. Specifically, the proposed interstate agreement is meant to support the locally evolved arrangements over pasture management, legally empower border communities to participate in the conflict management over use of border pasturelands and afford the local institutions the rights to potentially the policy decision at the national level. (For the proposed interstate agreement and sub-agreement developed under the APMNR

	<p>project see appendix – 1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To put in place the state policy to prevent conflicts over pasturelands and other natural resources in border areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The APMNR project supported the Pasture Department, MOA, in its effort to formulate the principles for the state policy to manage pasturelands in border areas not only with RT, but also with other neighboring states such as Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan. Specifically, the APMNR project helped to develop the concept for the pasture management as well as managing conflicts around pasturelands in border areas. The Situational Analysis and interstate agreements and sub-agreement that the APMNR project made available to the Pasture Department will be used as basis for the discussions and subsequent adoption of the state policy concerned at the Government and Parliamentary levels.
Available internal and external resources in support of the conflict resolution measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local expertise on managing conflicts over the use of border pasturelands; APMNR Project ▪ <i>Ayil okmotu</i>, pasture committees, NAMSU, Pasture Department, the Government, Jogorku Kenesh
Required resources to resolve the conflict situation	The political will of the Government/Jogorku Kenesh; resources to support the NAMSU and Pasture Department to develop and implement the policy regarding the conflict prevention over border pasturelands
Difficulties/ challenges	Requires long terms time commitment and significant resources
Action that NBN can take towards addressing conflict situation	<p>NBN can help identify the issues to be reflected in the state policy and principles to it that will be locally appropriate and viable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NBN helped APMNR Project collect and document the locally evolved arrangements and communicate these to the regional and national decision makers such as <i>Raion</i> and Oblast State Administrations, Pasture Department, SAEF etc.
Approximate timeline	
Actors and their roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pilot <i>ayil okmotu</i> and NBN can share their experience to inform the policy development process ▪ Pasture committees – act as a local institutions tasked to implement the policy on the ground ▪ Government and the Jogorku Kenesh – to provide political support and impetus ▪ NAMSU, Pasture Department – state agencies to lead the effort to develop and adopt the state policy on pasture management in border areas and conflict prevention around natural resources
Responsible persons	

6.0 CONCLUSION AND FURTHER STEPS

The process of devising the Conflict Management Plan proved useful to raising the capacity of the target communities to manage conflicts. It specifically encouraged local leaders and other members of the communities to reflect upon the disputes they face, analyze factors that fuel tensions or

contribute to the existing conflicts, try to come up with the locally acceptable solutions, and better organize to implement these solutions. The process not only helped the community be more assertive in managing conflict which affects them, but also connected them to the regional and national stakeholders who are also interested in managing conflict in border areas.

Ongoing implementation of the Conflict Management Plan is an open-ended process. It involves regular input from the community members and calls for the engagement with stakeholders at different levels. The Conflict Management Plan, is a 'living tool' and will be continuously updated and referred to (alongside the Community map, created under Activity Three of the APMNR project) to help guide the efforts of the NBN and other institutions in pursuit conflict free management of natural resources.

The process of putting together the Conflict Management Plan also helped the target communities self-organize and pursue effective collective action. Further efforts to address local conflict should build upon the progress made thus far and strengthen the capacity of the NBN to forge diverse partnerships, engage regional and national stakeholders, raise funds, and implement the activities in the action plan.

ANNEX – 1

DRAFT

RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

In order to ensure sound veterinary and sanitary conditions in the Kyrgyz Republic, settle the practice of grazing farm animals owned by citizens and legal entities of the Republic of Tajikistan (hereinafter referred to as Tajik side), and in the pastures of the Kyrgyz Republic, prevent environmental and economic damage to pastures and other property by driving and grazing livestock owned by neighboring states:

1. Approve the enclosed draft Agreement between the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Tajikistan on the practice and conditions of pasture use in the Kyrgyz Republic.
2. Supervision of the implementation of this order to entrust to the Ministry of Agriculture of the Kyrgyz Republic and to the State Agency on Environment Protection and Forestry under the government of Kyrgyz Republic in accordance with their competence.

Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic

DRAFT

AGREEMENT
between the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Tajikistan
on the practice and conditions of pasture use in the Kyrgyz Republic

According to provisions of the Treaty on Foundations of Interstate Relations between the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Tajikistan dated July 12, 1996, based on aspirations of the peoples of the two countries to preserve and consolidate the historical and traditional ties of friendship and good neighborly relations, the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Tajikistan, hereinafter collectively referred to as the Parties, have hereby agreed as follows:

Article 1.

Cooperation, as defined under this Agreement, will be implemented in accordance with the laws of the contracting Parties. Rental and use of grazing lands of the Kyrgyz Republic, with the purpose to graze the farm animals belonging to the Tajik side, is carried out in accordance with this Agreement and the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Transportation, driving or transit of farm animals of one Contracting Party on or through the territory of another Party shall be in accordance with this Agreement, other international agreements and national legislation of the Contracting Parties, on or through the territory of which carried out transportation, driving or transit of farm animals.

Article 2.

Agencies authorized by the Parties to coordinate implementation of this Agreement are:

- on behalf of the Kyrgyz Republic – the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry under the Kyrgyz Republic and the Ministry of Agriculture of the Kyrgyz Republic, in accordance with their respective jurisdictions;
- on behalf of the Republic of Tajikistan – the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Local authorities (self-governments) of the contracting Parties shall be allowed to exchange information and otherwise cooperate with each other in order to implement this Agreement at a local level.

In order to ensure resolution of disputes arising in the process of implementing this Agreement, the contracting Parties shall establish local joint committees with involvement of representatives from relevant government bodies, local self-governments, associations of pasture users and other non-governmental organizations and citizens of the contracting Parties. Representation of the contracting Parties in the said committee shall be on a parity basis. The work order of the commission is determined by the relevant local authorities of the Contracting Parties.

Article 3.

The lease for grazing of farm animals belonging to the Tajik side, are provided on the basis of the grazing land contract, located on lands of state forest areas _____ Batken region of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Rental of these grazing lands is seasonal and is granted annually for the period necessary for the grazing of livestock belonging to the Tajik side.

Number of farm animals owned by the Tajik parties, which can graze on leased pasture lands must conform zootechnical standards established in the Kyrgyz Republic, and is determined depending on the area leased grazing land and species of farm animals, which are expected to be grazed on these pastures.

The amount of payment for the lease of grazing pasture of the Kyrgyz Republic for the purpose of grazing livestock belonging to the Tajik side, installed in accordance with the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The procedures, terms and conditions of rental payment are determined in the lease.

Leasing rented grazing pastures carried out on the Delivery-Acceptance Act indicating the type of pasture, their territory (in hectares and limit the boundaries), the optimal load, productivity and herbage.

Article 4.

Associations of pasture users of the Kyrgyz Republic shall be allowed to provide interested person under the law of the Kyrgyz Republic, pastures managed and used by them for the grazing farm animals owned by Tajik users.

The rates of fees for grazing farm animals owned by Tajik users in pastures that are managed and used by associations of pasture users of the Kyrgyz Republic, as well as other terms and conditions of using such pastures, shall be determined under the law of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Tajik users shall graze their farm animals in the pastures managed and used by associations of pasture users of the Kyrgyz Republic on the basis of pasture tickets issued by an association of pasture users of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Article 5.

In order to prevent contagious diseases, including diseases common to humans and animals, from being brought to, and spread across, the territory of any of the contracting Parties, farm animals may only be passed by one contracting Party across the customs border of the other contracting Party after mandatory veterinary examination.

Transportation, driving or transit of farm animals of one contracting Party in or across the territory of the other Party shall be permitted along the routes agreed with the state veterinary supervision authority of a corresponding contracting Party.

If the agreed route of transportation, transit or driving of farm animals runs across communities, it is necessary to further align date and time of transportation, transit or driving of farm animals with the relevant local authorities of the contracting Party; if it runs across pastures in the state forest fund, it is necessary to further align date and time of transportation, transit or driving of farm animals with a corresponding unit of the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic; if it runs across pastures managed and used by associations of pasture users, it is necessary to further align date and time of transportation,

transit or driving of farm animals with a corresponding association of pasture users by acquisition of pasture ticket.

Agreed route, and the date and time of transportation, transit, or driving of the farm animals are carried with stated agencies and organizations in this paragraph, on the basis of statements of the concerned person not later than 3 days from statement receipt.

Transportation, driving or transit of farm animals of one contracting Party in or across the territory of the other contracting Party shall be subject to veterinary and sanitary requirements set forth in the recommendations of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the International Office of Epizootics (OIE), international treaties related to veterinary medicine, and the national law of a corresponding contracting Party, and in the presence of necessary accompanying veterinary documents.

Corresponding state veterinary services of the contracting Parties shall be entitled to contact each other directly with a view to exchange necessary information or arrange for meetings for consultation on problems encountered and joint development of preventive measures.

In the process of driving or transiting farm animals of one contracting Party in or across the territory of the other contracting Party, the Parties shall be required to take necessary measures to ensure prevention of damage to the property rights of the citizens of the Contracting Parties, security and protection of legitimate rights of persons involved in driving or transiting of farm animals, as well as ensure safety of the farm animals (to inform the public about the date and time of driving of the transit of the farm animals, to carry out explanatory work among the population, to accompany the representative of the corresponding side while driving or transiting farm animals through their territory, etc.).

Article 6.

The use of pastures of the Kyrgyz Republic shall be in strict accordance with this Agreement and the law of the Kyrgyz Republic, including clauses prohibiting pasture users: disturbance of soil fertility; use of plains for cultivation of crops; cutting down trees and bushes; any construction works, other than those specified in Article 9 of this Agreement; violation of the boundaries of the selected areas disturbance of the natural ecology of pastures; and shall comply with veterinary and sanitary requirements to prevent the emergence and spread of animal diseases, optimal load, and pasture rotation.

Article 7.

If diseases from Schedules A and B of the OIE's Terrestrial Animal Health Code are identified in the territory of one Party, the other Party shall be allowed to restrict or prohibit import or transit from the territory of the former animal products, biological products, fodder and other materials that could be a potential source of spread of pathogens.

The Party that limits or prohibits the import or transit from the territory of the Party, where an animal disease is identified, animal products, biological products, fodder and other materials that could be a potential source of spread of pathogens, shall immediately submit corresponding notification to the State Veterinary Service of the Party, in the territory of which the disease is identified.

The costs associated with treatment, slaughter or export of farm animals belonging to the Tajik side, grazing on leased pastures or used under this Agreement bears Tajik side.

Note: Schedule A of the OIE's Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Schedule A) includes transboundary animal diseases. Schedule A includes 15 items of various diseases, including the "Foot-and-mouth disease" and "Highly pathogenic avian influenza".

Schedule "B" of the OIE's Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Schedule B) includes diseases with a limited geographical spread. Schedule B includes such animal diseases as "Anthrax", "Rabies", "Echinococcosis", and others.

Article 8.

In order to ensure sound veterinary and sanitary conditions in the Kyrgyz Republic, settle the practice of grazing farm animals owned by citizens and legal entities of the Republic of Tajikistan, in the pastures of the Kyrgyz Republic,

In order to ensure sound sanitary and veterinary condition of the pastures leased by Tajik Side under this Agreement, Tajik Side shall be required to provide for the construction of at least one biothermic pit (Beccari pit) on leased pastures for disposing of biological waste within one year, commencing from the date of effectiveness of this Agreement. Such a biothermic pit shall be constructed under the law of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Article 9.

Competent public authorities of the Kyrgyz Republic shall be entitled to exercise in correspondence with legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic, control over observance by the Tajik Side, within the pastures leased or used under this Agreement, of sanitary and veterinary, environmental and other standards and rules established by regulations of the Kyrgyz Republic, and give corresponding instructions to eliminate the identified violations.

Article 10.

Issues arising in implementation of this Agreement shall be settled through consultations and negotiations between the Parties.

Article 11.

This Agreement may be terminated prematurely for gross violations of the conditions specified therein by any of the contracting Parties.

Owners of farm animals and other persons guilty of violations of the law of a contracting Party in the process of implementation of this Agreement shall be held liable under the law of a contracting Party, in the territory of which this offense has been committed.

Article 12.

This Agreement shall be valid for the term of one year from its effectiveness date, and may be extended for one-year periods, unless either of the Parties hereto notifies the other Party of terminating this Agreement in at least one month prior to the expiration of the one-year period. The date of termination of this Agreement shall be the date of receipt by one Party from the other Party of a corresponding notice of termination of this Agreement.

Article 13.

This Agreement shall be subject to ratification and become effective on the date of the last written notification about compliance of the Parties with domestic procedures required for its effectiveness.

Done in _____ on _____, 200__, in two original copies, each copy in Kyrgyz, Tajik and Russian languages, all texts bearing the same legal effect. In case of disagreement in the interpretation of provisions of this Agreement, the Parties shall use the text in Russian.

On behalf of the Kyrgyz Republic

On behalf of the Republic of Tajikistan

проект

РАСПОРЯЖЕНИЕ ПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВА КЫРГЫЗСКОЙ РЕСПУБЛИКИ

В целях обеспечения ветеринарно-санитарного благополучия территории Кыргызской Республики, урегулирования порядка выпаса сельскохозяйственных животных, принадлежащих физическим и юридическим лицам Республики Таджикистан (далее – таджикская Сторона), на пастбищах Кыргызской Республики, предотвращения причинения экологического и экономического ущерба, наносимого пастбищным угодьям и иному имуществу при перевозке, перегоне или транзите и выпасе сельскохозяйственных животных, принадлежащих сопредельным государствам:

1. Одобрить прилагаемый проект Соглашения между Правительством Кыргызской Республики и Правительством Республики Таджикистан о порядке и условиях аренды и пользования пастбищами на территории Кыргызской Республики.

2. Контроль за выполнением настоящего распоряжения возложить на Министерство сельского хозяйства Кыргызской Республики и Государственное агентство охраны окружающей среды и лесного хозяйства при Правительстве Кыргызской Республики в соответствии с их компетенцией.

Премьер-министр Кыргызской Республики

Проект

СОГЛАШЕНИЕ

между Кыргызской Республикой и Республикой
Таджикистан о порядке и условиях аренды и пользования пастбищами на территории
Кыргызской Республики

Кыргызская Республика и Республика Таджикистан, в дальнейшем именуемые Стороны, основываясь на положениях Договора об основах межгосударственных отношений

между Кыргызской Республикой и Республикой Таджикистан от 12 июля 1996 года, исходя из стремления народов двух стран к сохранению и упрочению исторических и традиционно-дружественных связей и отношений добрососедства, согласились о нижеследующем:

Статья 1.

Сотрудничество, определяемое настоящим Соглашением, будет осуществляться в соответствии с действующими законодательствами договаривающихся Сторон.

Аренда и пользование пастбищными угодьями Кыргызской Республики с целью выпаса сельскохозяйственных животных, принадлежащих таджикской Стороне, осуществляется в соответствии с настоящим Соглашением и законодательством Кыргызской Республики.

Перевозка, перегон или транзит сельскохозяйственных животных одной договаривающей Стороны на или через территорию другой договаривающей Стороны осуществляется в соответствии с настоящим Соглашением, иными международными договорами и национальным законодательством договаривающей Стороны, на или через территорию которой осуществляется перевозка, перегон или транзит сельскохозяйственных животных.

Статья 2.

Уполномоченными органами Сторон, осуществляющих координацию деятельности по реализации настоящего Соглашения, являются:

- от Кыргызской Республики - Государственное агентство охраны окружающей среды и лесного хозяйства при Правительстве Кыргызской Республики и Министерство сельского хозяйства Кыргызской Республики в соответствии с их компетенцией;

- от Республики Таджикистан - Министерство сельского хозяйства Республики Таджикистан.

Органы местного самоуправления договаривающихся Сторон вправе осуществлять обмен информацией и иное сотрудничество между собой с целью реализации настоящего Соглашения на местном уровне.

С целью обеспечения разрешения вопросов, возникающих при реализации настоящего Соглашения, соответствующие органы местного самоуправления договаривающихся Сторон на местах вправе создавать совместные комиссии с участием представителей соответствующих государственных органов, органов местного самоуправления, объединений пастбищпользователей, иных неправительственных организаций и граждан договаривающихся Сторон. Представительство договаривающихся Сторон в указанной комиссии осуществляется на паритетной основе. Порядок работы данной комиссии определяется соответствующие органами местного самоуправления договаривающихся Сторон.

Статья 3.

В аренду для выпаса сельскохозяйственных животных, принадлежащих таджикской Стороне, предоставляются на основе договора пастбищные угодья, расположенные на землях государственного лесного фонда _____ районов Баткенской области Кыргызской Республики.

Аренда указанных пастбищных угодий носит сезонный характер и предоставляется

ежегодно на срок, необходимый для выпаса сельскохозяйственных животных, принадлежащих таджикской Стороне.

Количество поголовья сельскохозяйственных животных, принадлежащих таджикской Стороне, которые могут выпасаться на арендуемых пастбищных угодьях, должно соответствовать зоотехническим нормам, установленным в Кыргызской Республике, и определяться в зависимости от площади арендуемых пастбищных угодий и вида сельскохозяйственных животных, которые предполагаются к выпасу на этих пастбищах.

Размер оплаты за аренду пастбищных угодий Кыргызской Республики с целью выпаса сельскохозяйственных животных, принадлежащих таджикской Стороне, устанавливается в порядке, предусмотренном законодательством Кыргызской Республики. Порядок, условия и сроки внесения арендной платы определяются в договоре аренды.

Передача в аренду арендуемых пастбищных угодий осуществляется по акту приема-передачи с указанием вида пастбищ, их территории (в гектарах и предельных границ), установленной оптимальной нагрузки, продуктивности и травостоя.

Статья 4.

Объединения пастбищепользователей Кыргызской Республики вправе предоставлять в соответствии с законодательством Кыргызской Республики заинтересованным лицам находящиеся в их управлении и пользовании пастбища для выпаса сельскохозяйственных животных, принадлежащих таджикской Стороне.

Размер платы за выпас сельскохозяйственных животных, принадлежащих таджикской Стороне, на пастбищах, находящиеся в управлении и пользовании объединений пастбищепользователей Кыргызской Республики, а также иные условия пользования указанными пастбищами, определяются в соответствии с законодательством Кыргызской Республики.

Выпас сельскохозяйственных животных, принадлежащих таджикской Стороне, на пастбищах, находящихся в управлении и пользовании объединений пастбищепользователей Кыргызской Республики, осуществляется на основании пастбищных билетов, выдаваемых объединением пастбищепользователей Кыргызской Республики.

Статья 5.

В целях недопущения завоза и распространения на территории договаривающей Стороны заразных болезней, в том числе общих для человека и животных, пропуск сельскохозяйственных животных одной договаривающей Стороны через таможенную границу другой договаривающей Стороны допускается только после прохождения обязательного ветеринарного контроля.

Перевозка, перегон или транзит сельскохозяйственных животных одной договаривающей Стороны на или через территорию другой договаривающей Стороны разрешается по маршрутам, согласованным с уполномоченным государственным органом ветеринарного надзора соответствующей договаривающей Стороны.

В случае, если согласованный маршрут перевозки, перегона или транзита сельскохозяйственных животных проходит через территорию населенных пунктов, то необходимо дополнительно согласовать время и дату перевозки, перегона или транзита сельскохозяйственных животных с соответствующими органами местного самоуправления договаривающей Стороны, территорию пастбищ, находящихся в государственном лесном фонде, - с соответствующим подразделением Государственного агентства охраны

окружающей среды и лесного хозяйства при Правительстве Кыргызской Республики, территорию пастбищ, находящихся в управлении и пользовании объединений пастбищепользователей, - с соответствующим объединением пастбищепользователей посредством приобретения пастбищного билета.

Согласование маршрута, а также времени и даты перевозки, перегона или транзита сельскохозяйственных животных осуществляется указанными в настоящей статье органами и организациями на основании заявления заинтересованного лица не позднее 3 дней с момента поступления заявления.

Перевозка, перегон или транзит сельскохозяйственных животных одной договаривающей Стороны на или через территорию другой договаривающей Стороны осуществляется с соблюдением ветеринарно-санитарных требований, установленных в рекомендациях санитарного Кодекса наземных животных Международного Эпизоотического Бюро (МЭБ), международных договорах в области ветеринарии и национальном законодательстве соответствующей договаривающей Стороны, и при наличии необходимых ветеринарных сопроводительных документов.

Соответствующие государственные ветеринарные службы договаривающих Сторон вправе осуществлять непосредственные контакты друг с другом для обмена необходимой информацией или организовать встречи для проведения консультации по возникшим проблемам и совместной выработке профилактических мероприятий.

При перегоне или транзите животных одной договаривающей Стороны на или через территорию другой договаривающей Стороны, Стороны обязуются принять необходимые меры, направленные на предупреждение причинения ущерба имущественным правам граждан договаривающих Сторон, обеспечение безопасности и защиту законных прав лиц, осуществляющих перегон или транзит сельскохозяйственных животных, а также сохранности сельскохозяйственных животных (информировать население о дате и времени перегона или транзита животных, проводить разъяснительную работу среди населения, обеспечить сопровождение представителем соответствующей стороны процесса перегона или транзита сельскохозяйственных животных через свою территорию и др.).

Статья 6.

Пользование пастбищами Кыргызской Республики осуществляется строго в соответствии с настоящим Соглашением и законодательством Кыргызской Республики, в том числе пастбищепользователи обязаны не нарушать плодородия почвы, не использовать равнины для посева сельскохозяйственных культур, не вырубать кустарники и деревья, не производить каких-либо строительных работ, кроме предусмотренных в статье 9 настоящего Соглашения, не нарушать границ выделенных территорий и природную экологию пастбищ, а также соблюдать ветеринарно-санитарные требования по предупреждению возникновения и распространения болезней животных, оптимальную нагрузку и пастбищеоборот.

Статья 7.

Если на территории одной Стороны обнаружены болезни, указанные в списках "А" и "Б" Кодекса наземных животных МЭБ, другая Сторона вправе ограничить или запретить ввоз или транзит с территории Стороны, где обнаружена болезнь животных, продуктов животного происхождения, биологических препаратов, фуража и других материалов, которые могут быть потенциальным источником распространения возбудителей болезней.

Сторона, ограничивающая или запрещающая ввоз или транзит с территории

Стороны, где обнаружена болезнь животных, продуктов животного происхождения, биологических препаратов, фуража и других материалов, которые могут быть потенциальным источником распространения возбудителей болезней, незамедлительно направляет соответствующее уведомление государственной ветеринарной службе Стороны, на территории которой обнаружена болезнь.

Расходы, связанные с лечением, забоем или вывозом сельскохозяйственных животных, принадлежащих таджикской Стороне и находящихся на пастбищах, арендуемых либо используемых в рамках настоящего Соглашения, несет таджикская Сторона.

Примечание: В списке "А" Кодекса наземных животных МЭБ (далее список "А") значатся заболевания животных, которые являются трансграничными. В список "А" входят 15 наименований различных заболеваний, в том числе "Ящур", "Высокопатогенный грипп птиц".

В списке "Б" Кодекса наземных животных МЭБ (далее - список "Б") значатся заболевания, которые имеют ограниченную территорию распространения. В список "Б" входят такие заболевания животных как "Сибирская язва", "Бешенство", "Эхинококкоз" и другие.

Статья 8.

В целях обеспечения ветеринарно-санитарного благополучия пастбищ, арендуемых таджикской Стороной в рамках настоящего Соглашения, таджикская Сторона обязуется в течение одного года, с даты вступления в силу настоящего Соглашения, обеспечить строительство не менее 1 биотермической ямы (Беккари яма) на арендуемых пастбищах для утилизации биологических отходов. Строительство названной биотермической ямы должно осуществляться в соответствии с законодательством Кыргызской Республики.

Статья 9.

Компетентные государственные органы Кыргызской Республики вправе осуществлять в соответствии с законодательством Кыргызской Республики надзор за соблюдением таджикской Стороной на арендуемых или используемых в рамках настоящего Соглашения пастбищах ветеринарно-санитарных, экологических и иных норм и правил, установленных нормативными правовыми актами Кыргызской Республики, и давать соответствующие предписания об устранении выявленных нарушений.

Статья 10.

Спорные вопросы, возникающие при толковании и применении настоящего Соглашения, разрешаются путем консультаций и переговоров между Сторонами.

Статья 11.

Настоящее Соглашение может быть досрочно расторгнуто в случае грубого нарушения оговоренных в нем условий договаривающей Стороной.

Владельцы сельскохозяйственных животных и иные лица, виновные в совершении нарушения законодательства договаривающей Стороны в процессе реализации данного Соглашения, несут ответственность в соответствии с законодательством договаривающей Стороны, на территории которой было совершено указанное правонарушение.

Статья 12.

Настоящее Соглашение будет действовать в течение одного года с даты его вступления в силу и продлеваться на годовые периоды, если одна из Сторон не уведомит другую Сторону о прекращении действия настоящего Соглашения, по крайней мере, за один месяц до истечения соответствующего годового периода. Датой прекращения действия настоящего Соглашения будет считаться дата получения Стороной уведомления от другой Стороны о прекращении действия настоящего Соглашения.

Статья 13.

Настоящее Соглашение подлежит ратификации и вступает в силу с даты получения последнего письменного уведомления о выполнении Сторонами внутригосударственных процедур, необходимых для его вступления в силу.

Совершено в городе _____ " ____ " _____ 200__ года в двух подлинных экземплярах, каждый на кыргызском, таджикском и русском языках, причем все тексты имеют одинаковую силу. В случае возникновения разногласий в толковании положений настоящего Соглашения, Стороны обращаются к тексту на русском языке.

За Кыргызскую Республику

За Таджикскую Республику

ANNEX – 2
DRAFT

AGREEMENT
between local authorities of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Tajikistan
on cooperation in use of pastures in the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic

With a view to implement the Agreement between the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Tajikistan on the practice and conditions of pasture use in the Kyrgyz Republic dated, _____ ayil-okmotu, _____ district of Batken region of the Kyrgyz Republic (hereinafter referred to as *Ayil-Okmotu*), acting through its head _____, and _____ Jamoat, _____ Soghd region of Tajikistan (hereinafter referred to as *Jamoat*), represented by its Chairman _____ (hereinafter collectively referred to as the Parties), have hereby agreed as follows:

1. The Republic of Tajikistan (hereinafter referred to as Tajik side), its citizens and legal entities shall use pastures in the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic in accordance with the practice and conditions determined under agreement between the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Tajikistan on the practice and conditions of pasture lease and use in the Kyrgyz Republic dated, and the law of the Kyrgyz Republic.
2. No later than December 1 each year, Jamoat shall collect information and inform Ayil-okmotu about the stock and type of farm animals owned by citizens and legal entities of the Republic of Tajikistan, which needs to be grazed in the pastures of the Kyrgyz Republic, managed and used by associations of pasture users.
3. Within fifteen (15) days from the date of approval of the annual pasture use plan, Ayil-okmotu shall respond to Jamoat with specification of the total area of pastures, the fees and the maximum number of farm animals owned by the Tajik users, which can graze in these pastures. Received information Jamoat undertakes to give to the appropriate pasture users, living on its territory.
4. Tajik users shall graze their farm animals in the pastures managed and used by associations of pasture users of the Kyrgyz Republic on the basis of pasture tickets issued by an association of pasture users of the Kyrgyz Republic.
5. The rates of fees for grazing farm animals owned by Tajik users in pastures that are managed and used by associations of pasture users of the Kyrgyz Republic, as well as other terms and conditions of using specified pastures, shall be determined under the law of the Kyrgyz Republic.
6. In order to prevent contagious diseases, including diseases common to humans and animals, from being brought to, and spread across, the territory of any of the contracting Parties, farm animals may only be passed by one contracting Party across the customs border of the other contracting Party after mandatory veterinary examination.
7. Farm animals of one contracting Party shall be transported, driven or transited in or across the territory of the other contracting Party in accordance with the Agreement between the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Tajikistan on the practice and conditions of pasture use in the Kyrgyz Republic dated, other international treaties and the national

law of the contracting Party, in or across the territory of which farm animals are transported, driven or transited.

Transportation, driving or transit of farm animals of one contracting Party in or across the territory of the other Party shall be permitted along the routes agreed with the state veterinary supervision authority of a corresponding state.

If the agreed route of transportation, transit or driving of farm animals runs across communities, it is necessary to further align date and time of transportation, transit or driving of farm animals with a contracting Party in or across the territory of which such a route of transportation, transit or driving of farm animals runs. If the route of transportation, driving or transit of farm animals runs across the territory of pastures managed and used by associations of pasture users, it is necessary to further align date and time of transportation, transit or driving of farm animals with a corresponding association of pasture users by acquisition of pasture ticket.

Matching the route, and the date and time of transportation, transit, or driving of the farm animals are carried with stated agencies and organizations in this paragraph, on the basis of statements of the concerned person not later than 3 days from statement receipt.

Transportation, driving or transit of farm animals of one contracting Party in or across the territory of the other contracting Party shall be subject to veterinary and sanitary requirements set forth in the recommendations of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the International Office of Epizootics (OIE), international treaties related to veterinary medicine, and the national law, and in the presence of necessary accompanying veterinary documents.

8. Farm animals of one contracting Party shall be transported, driven or transited in or across the territory of the other contracting Party with participation of a representative of the contracting Party, in or across the territory of which such a route of transportation, transit or driving of farm animals runs.

In the process of driving or transiting farm animals of one contracting Party in or across the territory of the other contracting Party, the Parties shall be required to inform local communities about the date and time of driving or transiting farm animals, conduct corresponding outreach activities in such local communities, take other necessary measures to ensure security and protect the legitimate rights of persons involved in driving or transiting of animals, as well as ensure safety of animals.

9. Issues arising in implementation and construe of this Agreement shall be settled through consultations and negotiations between the Parties.

In order to promptly resolve disputes arising in the process of grazing, transportation, driving or transit of animals of one contracting Party in or across the territory of the other Party, the contracting Parties shall establish a joint committee with representatives from relevant government bodies, local self-governments, associations of pasture users, other non-governmental organizations and citizens of the contracting Parties. Representation of the contracting Parties in the said committee shall be on a parity basis. Operating procedures of the committee shall be determined by the contracting Parties.

The Commission consists of 10 people (5 people from each of the contracting Parties). Personal structure of the committee representatives determined by each of the Contracting Parties. The Commission carries out its activities on a voluntary basis. The Commission meets as needed on the initiative of one of the Contracting Parties. Date, time and place of the meeting agreed upon by the Contracting Parties. The Commission is a quorum if at its meeting there will be represented more than half of the representation of each of the Contracting Parties. At the meeting of the committee chaired in turn by representatives of the Contracting Parties. The commission's meetings are recorded, the protocol signed by all committee members attended the meeting.

10. This Agreement is concluded for the term of one year and shall become effective upon signature. Its effectiveness shall be considered extended for another term, if one of the Parties notifies the other Party about termination of this Agreement in at least one month before expiration of the one-year term.

This Agreement may be terminated prematurely for gross violations of the conditions specified therein by any of the contracting Parties by written notification to the other Party.

The date of cancellation or termination of this Agreement shall be the date of receipt by one Party from the other Party of a corresponding notice of cancellation or termination of this Agreement.

11. This Agreement is signed in _____ on _____, 200__, in two original copies, each copy in Kyrgyz, Tajik and Russian languages, all texts bearing the same legal force. In case of disagreement in the interpretation of provisions of this Agreement, the Parties shall use the text in Russian.

Head of _____ Ayil-okmotu,
_____ district,
Kyrgyz Republic

Chairman of _____ Jamoat,
_____ district,
Republic of Tajikistan

Проект

СОГЛАШЕНИЕ

между органами местного самоуправления Кыргызской Республикой и Республики Таджикистан о сотрудничестве в вопросах пользования пастбищами на территории Кыргызской Республики

_____ Айыл окмоту _____ района Баткенской области Кыргызской Республики (далее – Айыл Окмоту) в лице его главы _____ и _____ Джамоат _____ района Согдийской области Республики Таджикистан (далее – Джамоат) в лице его председателя _____ (в дальнейшем именуемые Стороны) в целях реализации Соглашения между Кыргызской

Республикой и Республикой Таджикистан о порядке и условиях аренды и пользования пастбищами на территории Кыргызской Республики от ..., согласились о нижеследующем:

1. Пользование пастбищными угодьями на территории Кыргызской Республики, находящихся в управлении и пользовании объединений пастбищепользователей, с целью выпаса сельскохозяйственных животных, принадлежащих физическим и юридическим лицам Республики Таджикистан (далее – таджикская Сторона), осуществляется в порядке и на условиях, установленных Соглашением между Кыргызской Республикой и Республикой Таджикистан о порядке и условиях аренды и пользования пастбищами на территории Кыргызской Республики от ... и законодательством Кыргызской Республики.

2. Джамоат ежегодно не позднее 1 декабря осуществляет сбор информации и информирует Айыл Окмоту о количестве и виде сельскохозяйственных животных, принадлежащих физическим и юридическим лицам Республики Таджикистан, которые нуждаются в выпасе на пастбищах Кыргызской Республики, находящихся в управлении и пользовании объединений пастбищепользователей.

3. Айыл Окмоту в течение 15 (пятнадцати) дней со дня утверждения ежегодного плана использования пастбищ, направляет Джамоату ответ с указанием общей площади пастбищ, размера платы и предельного количества сельскохозяйственных животных, принадлежащих таджикской Стороне, которые могут выпастаться на указанных пастбищах. Полученную информацию Джамоат обязуется довести до соответствующих пастбищепользователей, проживающих на его территории.

4. Выпас сельскохозяйственных животных, принадлежащих таджикской Стороне, на пастбищах, находящихся в управлении и пользовании объединений пастбищепользователей Кыргызской Республики, осуществляется на основании пастбищных билетов, выдаваемых объединением пастбищепользователей Кыргызской Республики.

5. Размер платы за выпас сельскохозяйственных животных, принадлежащих таджикской Стороне, на пастбищах, находящихся в управлении и пользовании объединений пастбищепользователей Кыргызской Республики, а также иные условия пользования указанными пастбищами, определяются в соответствии с законодательством Кыргызской Республики.

6. В целях недопущения завоза и распространения на территории договаривающей Стороны заразных болезней, в том числе общих для человека и животных, пропуск сельскохозяйственных животных одной договаривающей Стороны через таможенную границу другой договаривающей Стороны допускается только после прохождения обязательного ветеринарного контроля.

7. Перевозка, перегон или транзит сельскохозяйственных животных одной договаривающей Стороны на или через территорию другой договаривающей Стороны осуществляется в соответствии с Соглашением между Кыргызской Республикой и Республикой Таджикистан о порядке и условиях аренды и пользования пастбищами на территории Кыргызской Республики от ..., иными международными договорами и национальным законодательством договаривающей Стороны, на или через территорию которой осуществляется перевозка, перегон или транзит сельскохозяйственных животных.

Перевозка, перегон или транзит сельскохозяйственных животных одной договаривающейся Стороны на или через территорию другой договаривающейся Стороны разрешается по маршрутам, согласованным с уполномоченным государственным органом ветеринарного надзора соответствующего государства.

В случае, если согласованный маршрут перевозки, перегона или транзита сельскохозяйственных животных проходит через территорию населенных пунктов, то необходимо дополнительно согласовать время и дату перевозки, перегона или транзита сельскохозяйственных животных с договаривающейся Стороной, через территорию которой проходит указанный маршрут перевозки, перегона или транзита сельскохозяйственных животных. Если маршрут перевозки, перегона или транзита сельскохозяйственных животных проходит через территорию пастбищ, находящихся в управлении и пользовании объединений пастбищепользователей, - с соответствующим объединением пастбищепользователей посредством приобретения пастбищного билета.

Согласование маршрута, а также времени и даты перевозки, перегона или транзита сельскохозяйственных животных осуществляется указанными в настоящем пункте органами и организациями на основании заявления заинтересованного лица не позднее 3 дней с момента поступления заявления.

Перевозка, перегон или транзит сельскохозяйственных животных одной договаривающейся Стороны на или через территорию другой договаривающейся Стороны осуществляется с соблюдением ветеринарно-санитарных требований, установленных в рекомендациях санитарного Кодекса наземных животных Международного Эпизоотического Бюро (МЭБ), международных договорах в области ветеринарии и национальном законодательстве, и при наличии необходимых ветеринарных сопроводительных документов.

8. Перевозка, перегон или транзит сельскохозяйственных животных одной договаривающейся Стороны на или через территорию другой договаривающейся Стороны осуществляется с участием представителя договаривающейся Стороны, на или через территорию которой проходит указанный маршрут перевозки, перегона или транзита сельскохозяйственных животных.

При перегоне или транзите животных одной договаривающейся Стороны на или через территорию другой договаривающейся Стороны, Стороны обязуются информировать население о дате и времени перегона или транзита животных, проводить среди них соответствующую разъяснительную работу, принять иные необходимые меры, направленные на обеспечение безопасности и защиту законных прав лиц, осуществляющих перегон или транзит животных, а также сохранности животных.

9. Спорные вопросы, возникающие при толковании и реализации настоящего Соглашения, разрешаются путем консультаций и переговоров между Сторонами.

С целью оперативного разрешения вопросов, возникающих при выпасе, перевозке, перегоне или транзите животных одной договаривающейся Стороны, на или через территорию другой Стороны, договаривающиеся Стороны вправе создать совместную комиссию с участием представителей соответствующих государственных органов, органов местного самоуправления, объединений пастбищепользователей, иных неправительственных

организаций и граждан договаривающихся Сторон. Представительство договаривающихся Сторон в указанной комиссии осуществляется на паритетной основе. Комиссия состоит из 10 человек (по 5 человек от каждой из договаривающейся Стороны). Персональный состав представительства в комиссии определяется каждой из договаривающихся Сторон. Комиссия осуществляет свою деятельность на общественных началах. Заседания комиссии проводятся по мере необходимости по инициативе одной из договаривающихся Сторон. Дата, время и место проведения заседания согласовываются договаривающимися Сторонами. Комиссия является правомочной, если на ее заседании присутствуют более половины от представительства каждой из договаривающихся Сторон. На заседании комиссии поочередно председательствуют представители договаривающихся Сторон. Заседания комиссии протоколируются, протокола заседаний комиссий подписываются всеми присутствовавшими на заседании членами комиссии.

10. Настоящее Соглашение заключено сроком на один год и вступает в силу со дня его подписания. Срок его действия считается продленным на новый срок, если одна из Сторон не позднее чем за один месяц до истечения соответствующего годового периода не уведомит другую Сторону о прекращении действия настоящего Соглашения.

Настоящее Соглашение может быть досрочно расторгнуто в случае грубого нарушения оговоренных в нем условий договаривающейся Стороной путем направления соответствующего письменного уведомления другой Стороне.

Датой расторжения или прекращения действия настоящего Соглашения будет считаться дата получения Стороной уведомления от другой Стороны о расторжении или прекращении действия настоящего Соглашения.

11. Настоящее Соглашение подписано в _____ "___" _____ 200__ года в двух подлинных экземплярах, каждый на кыргызском, таджикском и русском языках, причем все тексты имеют одинаковую силу. В случае возникновения разногласий в толковании положений настоящего Соглашения, Стороны обращаются к тексту на русском языке.

Глава _____ Айыл окмоту
_____ района
_____ области
Кыргызской Республики

Председатель _____ Джамота
_____ района
_____ области
Республики Таджикистан



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

ANNEX FOUR



Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources

Micro-Grants Program Report



The USAID Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources Project is one of the many assistance projects supported by the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Since 1992, the American people through USAID have provided about \$400 million in programs that support Kyrgyzstan's democratic institutions, health care, education, and economic growth.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Micro-Grants Program sought to support implementation of the Conflict Management Plan (CMP) developed under Activity 4 of the Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources (APMNR) project. The Micro-Grants Program awarded funds for community-designed and implemented micro-projects that aimed to address priority natural resource conflict related issues in the Project's target areas.

The program included the following specific tasks:

- To support community initiatives that will contribute to conflict-free natural resources use and management, as well as to the reduction of tension in relations between Tajik and Kyrgyz citizens;
- To address priority issues related to the use and management natural resources, and support income generating activities;
- To strengthen the authority and legitimacy of the Neighborhood Building Network (NBN) as a body capable of making decisions that prevent or mitigate conflicts; and
- To build up the knowledge and skills of the members of the NBN to administer micro-projects.

2.0 KEY ELEMENTS OF THE MICRO-GRANT STRATEGY

The micro-project strategy was guided by a framework which included (1) conflict priority issues; (2) eligibility criteria; (3) conditions for application and implementation; and (4) selection principles. Each element of the framework is presented below.

2.1 *Conflict Priority Issues*

Micro-projects demonstrating a community effort to address the following conflict issues (in line with CMP) were given priority consideration under the Micro-Grants Program:

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Issue # 1 | Conflict resolution around collecting firewood by Kyrgyz and Tajik citizens in pasturelands within the jurisdiction of <i>leskhoz</i> and <i>ajyl okmotu</i> . |
| Issue # 2 | Conflicts related to power cuts (where power is supplied by Tajik infrastructure) in border Kyrgyz villages. |
| Issue # 3 | Conflicts that arise due to water distribution agreements between Kyrgyz and Tajik communities. |
| Issue # 4 | Conflicts related to safe passage of shepherds and livestock to summer pastures and back via the Vorukh enclave. |
| Issue # 5 | Protecting the rights and interests of animal owners and herders by introducing formal arrangements regulating their relations; raising awareness of herders and animal owners on normative and legal documents related to their rights and responsibilities; and payments to be made to various institutions (<i>ajyl okrugs</i> , <i>leskhoz</i> , State Border Services, pasture committee and others) for pasture use. |

- Issue # 7 Raising awareness of the local population about the distribution of grazing days and payment for pasture use between *ayil okrug*s and *leskboz*, and about flows of funds for pasture use and use of *leskboz* pastures.
- Issue # 8 Conflicts that arise due to the use of pastures for crop cultivation (use of pastures for purposes other than grazing).
- Issue # 9 Creating mechanisms for better communication between Kyrgyz and Tajik communities.
- Issue # 10 Conflicts related to the migration of people in areas where borders are either contested or not demarcated.

NB: In line with USAID requirements, the Project explicitly noted that micro-projects that fall under one of the following categories are ineligible for financing:

- Infrastructure projects rehabilitation, repair, construction of any objects of social infrastructure);
- Projects involving purchase of vehicles or agricultural machinery;
- Projects which use, process or produce toxins, chemical substances, tobacco or tobacco goods, alcohol, or controlled substances; and
- Projects which negatively impact the health and welfare of the population, animals, or the environment.

2.2 Eligibility criteria

Eligibility for applying for a micro-grant was limited using the following criteria. Those eligible to apply included:

- Residents of Kok-Tash, Ak-Tatyr, Ak-Say, Orto-Boz, Uch-Dobo villages who permanently live in either Ak-Tatyr or Ak-Say *ayil okrug*s
- Group(s) of no less than 5 people, self-organized based on the Memorandum of Understanding for the purpose of the applying for the micro-grants; rural public organizations; joint Kyrgyz-Tajik groups; school staff; medical posts; and other local organizations (exception: *ayil okmotu* was not eligible to apply)
- Members of the NBN who are not members of a group who submitted a microgrant application.

2.3 Conditions for application and implementation

The Micro-Grants Program made available a total of 30,000 USD (1 350 000 KGS¹) to be distributed between the five target villages in Ak-Tatyr or Ak-Say *ayil okrug*s.

All applications for a micro-grant were required to abide by the following standard rules:

- The timeline for implementation should be no more than 3 months.

¹ Note: 1 USD equals 45 KGS as of launch of the micro-grant program

- The amount requested should be between 300 USD (13,500 KGS) and 3,000 USD (135,000 KGS) for each micro-project.
- Grants of up to 5,000 USD (225,000 KGS) to be awarded to joint micro-projects proposing collaboration between citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic and Republic of Tajikistan within the pilot area.
- Each project team is required to make a twenty percent labor and/or cash and/or in-kind contribution to the micro-project.

2.4 Selection and implementation

Community representatives of the two target *ayil okrug* were given substantial decision-making power to allocate micro-grant funds and oversee micro-grant activities. The micro-project activity took place in four stages:

1. Selection
 - a. Information campaign and awareness raising
 - b. Pre-selection of the micro-project concepts
 - c. Technical review of the full proposals
 - d. Open village mobile voting
2. Implementation of micro-projects
3. Monitoring and Evaluation
4. Community reflection

Each stage is described in more detail below.

3.0 MICRO-PROJECT ACTIVITIES

3.1 Selection

3.1.1 Information campaign

The information campaign was designed to spread information on the Micro-Grants Program to the wider community members and to encourage their participation in the program. The Program employed a variety of activities to this end, ranging from leaflet distribution to individual consultations.

Village meetings. Village meetings were organized in all 5 pilot villages to inform people of the micro-grants application process and its main conditions. On average, more than 40 people attended each meeting and the Project held a number of follow-up meetings. At the initial round of meetings over 200 people were informed about the Micro-Grants Program, but the Project team noted that the meeting participants were predominately men, and only a few women were present. To address this imbalance, the Project team arranged another round of meetings with community members, to ensure women had equal access to micro-grant information.

Colorful and informative posters. The Project team created and hung colorful and informative posters in public buildings inviting people and local institutions to apply for micro-grants. Posters were displayed in heavily visited public places such as village schools (5 schools), local state institution buildings (e.g. post office, village medical posts), information boards, where available, and facilities of the *ayil okmotu*. Over 50 color and 200 black and white posters were posted during the information campaign.

Information leaflets, Question & Answer brochures. Information leaflets on the Micro-Grants Program were distributed through school children and local leaders. The schools and school children proved to be an especially effective conduit for channeling information (based on PIA survey results) to the rest of the community. Over 400 information leaflets were printed and distributed to school children and teachers.

Consultation meetings. The Project team organized a series of individual and group consultations to provide the pilot communities with a thorough understanding of the micro-grants application process, to address micro-groups' inquiries, and to provide assistance in completing the micro-grants pre-application form. The Project team gave community members and the NBN advance notification of the date, time and venue for consultation meetings in their community. The Project regional coordinator and Micro-Grants Program coordinator periodically attended consultation meetings to address the questions regarding micro-grant conditions. At least 3 consultation meetings were organized in each village.

Role of the NBN. The core group of the Neighborhood Building Network (NBN), consisting of one member from each village, took the lead in disseminating information to villages. Each member of the core group was responsible for providing information on the Micro-Grants Program to their respective village, and acted as the point of contact within their village to gather questions and comments from potential applicants and passing them to the Project team. After reviewing the questions and comments submitted, the Project team made sure that all inquiries were addressed and responses delivered through the core group. This proved to be an efficient and cost-effective means of collecting inquiries and disseminating information on the Micro-Grants Program.

3.1.2 Pre-selection of micro-project concepts

Following the information campaign, the Project team undertook a pre-selection process for micro-grant applications. An 11 person Grant Committee was formed composed of the heads of two *ayil okmotu* (two people), deputies from two local *kenesh* (two people), chairpersons of pasture committees (two people), two representatives of public organizations (youth committees, women councils, elders' councils, etc), and three members of the NBN (those not associated with any micro-grant application). As a first order of business the Grant Committee was tasked with adding any additional criteria or priority issues which they felt were lacking and which reflected local needs. The Grant Committee was then tasked with reviewing initial applications to determine whether they met the threshold criteria, listed below.

- Proposed micro-project fits into an approved category and promotes implementation of the Conflict Management Plan;
- Proposed micro-project will be implemented and completed within the specified timeframe;
- Benefits of proposed micro-project will be sustainable;
- Proposed micro-project includes at least 20 % contribution of labor/expenses from the applicant group;
- Evidence that the applicants have the capacity to effectively implement proposed activities; and
- Cost realism and cost effectiveness.

With assistance from the Project team, each applicant created a project "flip chart" to aid in the presentation of their project to the Grant Committee. Applicants made five minute presentations on their project to the Grant Committee using the flip-chart, with additional time allotted for questions and clarifications before the Grant Committee scored each project. Scores

for each micro-project were validated by a Counting Committee made up of two people, independent of the Micro-grant Committee.

The scoring system included 4 distinct marks, the relative weights of which are described below:

- '0' – micro-project does meet the program criteria at all
- '1' – micro-project satisfactorily meets the program criteria
- '2' – micro-project meets the program criteria
- '3' – micro-project meets well the program criteria

Four out of twenty-four micro-project proposals were eliminated at this stage because they failed to demonstrate that the applicant group had the capacity to implement the proposed activities, and in one case because the lead applicant was known within the community to mismanage funds. A list of micro-project applicants is provided below in Table 1. Applications not eliminated at the pre-selection stage (20 of 24 proposals) moved on to the technical review stage.

Table 1. Summary of Micro-Project Proposals

	Name	Project Goal	Village	One-sided/ Joint	Issue # in CMP	Pre-selection	Tech-review	Mobile voting
1	Ensuring security to the herders passing through Vorukh enclave	Testing a mechanism for establishing a safe corridor through the enclave by forming a group of Tajik and Kyrgyz people who would broker an agreement between communities	Uch-Dobo Vil.	Joint	4			
2	Friendship Project	Improving communication between Tajik and Kyrgyz communities by organizing various sports events	Uch-Dobo Vil.	Joint	9			Failed to pass to next stage
3	Forming the 'Friendship' sewing group	Provide employment opportunities for Tajik and Kyrgyz women, and strengthen economic and inter-personal relations between communities	Uch-Dobo Vil, Hodjailoo Vil	Joint				

	Name	Project Goal	Village	One-sided/ Joint	Issue # in CMP	Pre-selection	Tech-review	Mobile voting
4	'Good work – good results' Sewing Group	Reduce out-migration of young women and provide employment opportunities; strengthen the inter-personal relations between women of Tajik and Kyrgyz communities	Ak-Say Vil and Vorukh encl.	Joint				
5	Purchase of lab and medical equipment for the Group of Family Physicians	Provide improved access to Kyrgyz people	Orto-Boz Vil.	Kyrgyz-led only			Failed to pass to next stage	
6	Establishing Flower Mill	Improve food security and contribute to the improvement of friendship between communities	Orto-Boz Vil.	Kyrgyz-led only		Failed to pass to next stage		
7	Round table on access to electricity in border areas	Raise transparency with regard to the schedule of electricity supply	Orto-Boz Vil.	Joint	2			Failed to pass to next stage
8	Establish sports gym	Building better relations between the youth of two communities	Orto-Boz Vil.	Joint	9			
9	Ener Uiu – Dostuktun Uiu	Providing quality midwifery services to the women of two villages	Ak-Say Vil and Tojikhon settlement	Joint	9			
10	Improving awareness by publishing articles and announcements in Kyzyl-Tuu newspaper	Raise transparency of use and management of revenues from pasture use and thereby reduce conflicts stemming from the distribution of revenues between <i>ayil okmotu</i> and <i>leskhoz</i>	Ak-Say Vil.	Kyrgyz-led only		Failed to pass to next stage		

	Name	Project Goal	Village	One-sided/ Joint	Issue # in CMP	Pre-selection	Tech-review	Mobile voting
11	Improving communication channels between key decision makers within communities	Improving communication within communities to prevent conflicts arising from electricity cuts, pasture use, use of fuel wood etc, through the purchase of CDMA – 50 telephones (wireless) for key decision makers of the communities	Ak-Say Vil.	Kyrgyz-led only	# 9			
12	Information Boards on conflict-related issues	Raising awareness amongst people by setting up Information Boards next to <i>ayil okmotu</i> buildings to post new legislation, announcements, and rules of natural resource use	Ak-Say Vil.	Kyrgyz-led only		Failed to pass to next stage		
13	'Friendship'	Promoting friendship between communities by creating the Dostuk Group to organize round tables and essay contests, and to circulate leaflets on conflicts arising from the use of natural resources	Ak-Say Vil. and Vorukh encl.	Joint	9	Failed to pass to next stage		
14	Addressing conflicts arising from irrigation water use in the Min-Bulak area	Facilitating an agreement between Tajik and Kyrgyz communities on the water use schedule	Ak-Say Vil. and Vorukh encl.	Joint	Issue # 3		Failed to pass to next stage	

	Name	Project Goal	Village	One-sided/ Joint	Issue # in CMP	Pre-selection	Tech-review	Mobile voting
15	'Our strength is in our friendship'	Improving inter-ethnic relations through cultural events and celebrations	Ak-Say Vil. and Vorukh encl.	Joint	Issue # 9			
16	'Friendship is the bridge to the Unity'	Improving inter-ethnic relations through celebrations and events	Ak-Say Vil and Vorukh encl.	Joint	Issue #			Failed to pass to next stage
17	Resource Centre of Neighborhood Building Network (NBN)	Setting up an NBN Resource Centre and providing information on NRM and conflict-related issues in border areas to local institutions and communities	Ak-Tatyr Vil.	Kyrgyz-led only	Issue #			
18	'Sports sustains the Friendship'	Improving inter-ethnic relations through organizing sports events	Kok-Tash Vil.	Joint	Issue # 9			
19	Building closer ties between children of two communities	Strengthening the relations between children aged 2-7 through the Joyful Sports Games (<i>Veseliye Starty</i>) between Edelveis kindergarten (Ak-Say) and kindergarten No 32 (Vorukh)	Ak-Say Vil. and Vorukh encl.	Joint	Issue # 9			
20	'Water is the source of life'	Raise people's awareness of water-related conflicts through round tables and information leaflets	Ak-Tatyr Vil..	Joint	Issue # 3			

	Name	Project Goal	Village	One-sided/ Joint	Issue # in CMP	Pre-selection	Tech-review	Mobile voting
21	'Preserving Environment'	Creating Information Boards on pastures and <i>leskeboz</i> lands and posting regular information on the rules of fuel wood collection, picking berries and herbs, and obtaining permits (e.g. forest ticket)	Ak-Tatyr Vil.	Kyrgyz-led only	Issue # 1			
22	Raise transparency on the use and management of pasture use revenues	Ensure transparency on the collection and management of pasture use revenues	Ak-Tatyr Vil.	Kyrgyz-led only	Issue # 7			
23	Building capacity of NBN	Purchase of a computer, printer and office supplies for NBN, gathering conflict-related information and making it available to the people, and supporting events aimed at addressing conflicts over use of natural resources	Ak-Tatyr Vil	Kyrgyz-led only	Issue #			Failed to pass to next stage
24	Friendship Festival amongst school children of Kyrgyz and Tajik communities	Promoting friendship between school children and communities of two ethnic groups	Orto-Boz Vil.	Joint	Issue # 9			

3.1.3 Technical Review

Independent technical experts were contracted to carry out a technical review of proposals that moved past the pre-selection stage. The purpose of the technical review was two-fold: (1) to assess whether the proposed micro-project was viable and could be implemented within a specific timeline, and (2) to assist micro-project groups in developing a full proposal, including a workplan and budget.

Upon completion of the technical review, the experts submitted the report that suggested excluding two micro-project proposals based on the following rationale:

Micro-project # 5: Purchase of lab and medical equipment for the Group of Family Physicians

- a) An on-site inspection of the Group of Family Physicians (GFP) Office revealed that GFP had no specialists (paid or volunteer) to operate the medical equipment proposed for purchase.
- b) The proposed micro-project did not fit well within the primary objectives of the Conflict Management Plan and had no direct impact on potential conflict mitigation in the pilot area (unlike micro-project # 9 proposed by a medical post in Ak-Say village, which has an ethnic Tajik doctor who works part-time offering services to Tajik women living nearby).

Micro-project # 14: Addressing conflicts arising from the use of irrigation water in Min-Bulak area

- a) Applicants for this project demonstrated little or no cooperation during the technical review (e.g. failed to show up for the meeting with technical experts, refused to provide additional information, etc).
- b) Micro-project applicants displayed an inadequate capacity for effectively executing the micro-project.

As with other projects that failed to pass to the next selection stage, these two micro-project groups were provided with official letters explaining the reasons for rejection.

3.1.4 Mobile voting

The final stage the micro-project selection process was mobile voting, wherein micro-project applicants presented their project idea to the whole community, and community members voted on which projects they thought were worth supporting. Each community member present could vote only once, and the micro-projects were ranked, with those ranked highest selected for funding.

Mobile Voting occurred in all five pilot villages over the course of two days. Several days prior to voting, the Project team conducted an intensive information campaign to ignite community interest, encourage voting, and foster local ownership of the results. Local ownership of the micro-projects was important given that the Micro-Grants Program was a key component of the Conflict Management Plan, which was designed to be managed and implemented by the communities themselves.

The Project team made it clear to applicants that selection of their micro-project for funding depended on the number of votes their project won during mobile voting, and it was therefore essential to explain the value of the proposed idea. This encouraged micro-project applicants to campaign in their community to garner support. It also helped to raise awareness amongst community members about micro-projects and the Project in general.

Voting protocol in all five villages adhered to the following 5-step process.

1. Communicating Project objectives and the rules of Mobile Voting.

Mobile Voting began with the Project team briefly explaining the Project purpose, objectives and activities, followed by an explanation of voting rules. Mobile Voting rules were (1) each person had only one vote to cast on the ballot, and micro-project group members could not vote for their own projects; (2) all micro-projects were given equal opportunity by using a vote-counting

formula that permitted a comparison of the votes each micro-project scored amongst villages (see below) and; (3) micro-projects with the highest number of votes would be selected to receive micro-grants, and the total amount available to be granted was USD 30,000.

2. Selecting members of the Voting Committee.

The Project team established a Voting Committee in each village, made up of representatives of public institutions and local communities, nominated on the spot. Voting Committee members were given the Rules for Administering the Vote Counting, prepared by RDF (written in Kyrgyz), and allowed time to familiarize themselves with the rules. The Project team explicitly communicated the rules for vote counting and selecting winning micro-projects to participating community members to ensure the transparency of the process and credibility of results.

3. Presentation of the micro-project ideas.

Members of micro-project applicant groups presented their micro-projects ideas to community members using their flip chart presentations. Each group was given five minutes for their presentation, which covered the micro-project's main goal, proposed activities, expected outcomes, and detailed budget. A short question and answer period followed as needed.

4. Casting votes.

Following the presentations, community members were given ballots and instructed to vote for the **one** micro-project they deemed most worthy of support. All completed ballots were deposited in the Ballot Box placed in the center of the meeting space. The Project team checked the number of ballots against the number of community members present to avoid possible cheating or double-voting.

5. Counting votes and announcing the results.

After everyone voted, the Voting Committee opened the Ballot Box in front of community members, counted the votes, and calculated the results. Conducting the vote-counting in public helped ensure the transparency of the process. The process and vote results were documented and announced for each village. When voting was complete in the final village, the Voting Committees from each village convened and calculated overall scores for each micro-project proposal. The final results were announced to community members on the same day.

Weighting the votes

A simple formula was used to convert number of votes into scores. Instead of directly tallying votes, the formula calculated the proportion of votes micro-projects received within each village to derive a score.

$$A \div B * C = \text{micro-project score}$$

Where **A** is the number of micro-projects proposed for a particular village; **B** is the number of people from that village who voted; and **C** is the number of votes the micro-project received in that same village.

The scores were calculated for each micro-project and then the micro-projects were ranked according to their scores.

Community turnout in 5 villages:

	Ak-Say	Uch-Dobo	Kak-Tash	Ak-Tatyr	Orto-Boz
Turnout (male/female)	127 (34 / 93)	59 (22 / 37)	26 (18 / 8)	84 (48 / 40)	42 (22 / 20)
Number of projects	6	3	1	5	3

3.2 Implementation of the micro-projects

For each selected micro-grant, agreements were executed between grantees and RDF. The micro-grant Agreement package included the following:

- 1) Contract between RDF and micro-project group
- 2) Micro-grant proposal, budget, tranche disbursement plan and workplan
- 3) Memorandum on the establishment of the informal micro-project group
- 4) Regulations on the procurement and maintenance of the equipment
- 5) Note on the financial reporting
- 6) Tranche Request Statement Form

Micro-grants were disbursed in tranche payments to reduce the risk of misuse of funds and to make financial reporting easier for grantees. Awardees were given 30% of the grant total in each tranche, and were required to submit a financial report and request for release of the next payment. RDF considered exceptions to these arrangements in cases where the cost of needed equipment exceeded 30% of the total grant amount.

RDF established accounts at a bank in Batken for each micro-project to receive wired payments. The leader of each micro-project group was designed the bank account holder, and could withdraw money from the bank. The leader was expected to manage micro-project expenses with members of the micro-project group while implementing the micro-project. This system held the leader financially accountable to both the Project team and to other members of the micro-project group.

The terms and conditions for use of micro-grants funds were specified in the micro-grant contract each micro-project group entered into with RDF. Among other things the contract covered (1) restriction of the use of micro-grant funds strictly to the activities specified in the micro-grant proposal and approved by the Project team; (2) equipment and machinery procured with micro-grant funds must be used only for the purposes indicated in the micro-grant proposal, may not be gifted, sold or leased to a third party without written permission from RDF, and should be maintained by the micro-project group for at least 3 years after the end of the project; and (3) RDF reserves the right to suspend or discontinue payments if conditions of the micro-grant agreement were breached, or any incidence of corruption or misappropriation of the micro-project funds were reported.

The table below details the disbursements to microgrants. As of 24 December 2010, 100 % of disbursements were made totaling 29,995 USD; this was divided up between the initial disbursements, show in Table 2, and the “reserve” disbursements, shown in Table 3.

Table 2. Disbursements on micro-projects

#	Micro-project	Sub total in USD
1	Ensuring security to the herders passing through Vorukh enclave	415
3	Forming the sewing group 'Friendship'	1 979
4	'Good work – good results' Sewing Group	2 427
8	Establish sports gym	2 121
9	Enler Uiu – Dostuktun Uiu	2 901
11	Improving communication channels between key decision makers	2 707
15	'Our strength is in our friendship'	1 601
17	Resource Centre of Neighborhood Building Network (NBN)	3 897
18	'Sports sustains the Friendship'	1 004
19	Building closer ties between children of two communities	1 031
20	'Water is the source of life'	1 644
21	'Preserving Environment'	1 415
22	Raise transparency on the use and management of pasture use revenues	2 545
24	Friendship Festival amongst school children of Kyrgyz and Tajik communities	2 184
	TOTAL:	27 872

Reserve funds were distributed by RDF and the NBN according to the following criteria:

a) Support can be extended to those micro-projects that showed good performance against the micro-project success indicators and need little assistance to complete the micro-project and;

b) Support can be extended to those micro-projects that by receiving extra support can increase sustainability of micro-project's results.

Seven micro-project groups requested an extension, and three were selected: MP # 4, MP # 17 and MP # 22 (see Table 3.)

Table 3. Disbursements of micro-grant reserve funds

#	Micro-project	Sub total in USD
4	'Good work – good results' Sewing Group	1 301
17	Resource Centre of Neighborhood Building Network (NBN)	131
22	Raise transparency on the use and management of pasture use revenues	691
	TOTAL:	2 123

3.3 Monitoring and evaluation

The Neighborhood Building Network (NBN) and RDF conducted monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of the micro-projects. Monitoring took place mid-way, and at the end of micro-grant program, and a final monitoring assessment will be done three months after the end of the grant period. Note that, because Project activities were slightly delayed in 2010 due to political unrest, the final monitoring exercise will take place after the Project end date.

M&E efforts paid particular attention to the following aspects of the micro-project:

- a) Progress made towards the attainment of micro-project objectives, based on the work plan and indicators developed by the members of the micro-project groups
- b) Quality of micro-project execution (e.g. quality of equipment purchased, planning of community events)
- c) Extent to which micro-project group kept and maintained accounting and supporting financial
- d) Extent to which all micro-project group members were involved and participated meaningfully in executing the micro-project
- e) Extent to which local communities are aware of the micro-project being implemented in their village

3.4 Reflection meeting

Three months after the micro-grant projects are completed, a reflection meeting will take place with members of the Project team, micro-grant recipients, community representatives, and the NBN. The reflection meeting will address the overall effectiveness of the program in meeting its objectives, challenges faced, key lessons learned, and how these can be reflected in amendments to the Conflict Management Plan (if needed). Based on the reflection meeting the CMP will be updated by the NBN.

4.0 RESULTS AND CHALLENGES

4.1 Results

After the rigorous selection process, fourteen micro-projects were implemented using a total of 30,000 USD in grant funds. Twenty four proposals were initially submitted.

- All 5 villages participated in the Micro-Grants Program. Of the fourteen funded micro-projects, 5 were implemented in Ak-Say, 3 – Uch-Dobo, 1 – Kok-Tash, 3 - Ak-Tatyr and 2 Orto-Boz.
- Four micro-grants were awarded to women-led projects focusing on income generating activities, strengthening communication between Tajik and Kyrgyz women, and building neighborly relations between Tajik and Kyrgyz children. Two micro-projects focused on children, and four focused on adolescent youth.
- Nine funded micro-projects were conducted jointly by Kyrgyz and Tajik people to address disputes identified as priority issues, indicating that incentives for cooperation built into the micro-grant application rules appeared to have some effect. These joint projects intended to support and reinforce emerging or existing joint efforts and arrangements between Tajik and Kyrgyz groups to address pressing conflict issues in the target area.

Execution of the fourteen micro-projects contributed to the implementation of the Conflict Management Plan.

- One micro-project aimed to address conflict arising from the perceived illegal use of fuel wood and other non-grazing pasture resources by Tajik on Kyrgyz lands (Issue # 1).
- One project sought to develop a mechanism to ensure safe passage of Kyrgyz livestock through the Tajik enclave Vorukh (Issue # 4).
- Six micro-projects aimed to improve communication between Tajik and Kyrgyz communities (between women, children, youth) (Issue # 9).
- Two micro-projects were designed to provide additional income generating opportunities for women (Issue # 9).
- One micro-project intended to contribute to the sustainability of the NBN.
- One micro-project aimed to address water distribution issues between Tajik and Kyrgyz communities.

Several income generating projects were implemented.

- Two micro-projects were explicitly aimed at creating income generating opportunities for women.
- In one micro-project, Tajik and Kyrgyz women jointly offered sewing services to both Kyrgyz and Tajik community members of the mixed settlement of Uch-Dobo village.

In addition, the selection and implementation processes of the micro-grants program built skills and capacity in the community, including the NBN.

4.2 Challenges

The Project team encountered a few challenges in the implementation of the micro-grant activity. Among the more significant were: (1) political instability and security issues in the country; (2) a lack of quality suppliers in Batken and Osh *oblasts* and; (3) the community's ability to meet the contribution requirement for micro-projects.

4.2.1 Political instability and security issues in the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan

Political instability and security threats in the Southern region of Kyrgyzstan in April and June 2010 postponed Micro-Grants Program implementation till the end of July 2010. Field-based Project activities were suspended for a month in April, and then again in June.

The poor security situation in Southern and Northern areas of Tajikistan in the aftermath of the June events also affected the Micro-Grants Program. Specifically, changes had to be made to micro-project # 24 (*Friendship Festival amongst school children of Kyrgyz and Tajik communities*) which sought to develop joint events between school children of the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan.

4.2.2 Lack of quality suppliers in Batken Oblast

Batken Oblast lacks quality suppliers for some of the goods needed to implement a few of the micro-projects. Consequently, goods had to be sourced from Osh or Bishkek, which created a delay. The belated procurement of medical equipment for the medical post in Ak-Say (micro-project # 9), and computers and cameras for the Neighborhood Building Network (micro-project # 17) caused delays in activities for both micro-projects.

4.2.3 Community contribution requirement too onerous

Most micro-grantee groups who pledged to contribute twenty percent of the value of the grant to the project in cash, labor or kind found the contribution requirement too onerous. In many cases groups submitted less than the required 20%, or did not contribute at all. While the purpose of the contribution was to ensure commitment from the community, it may have had the negative consequence of delaying delivery of micro-projects in some cases. In the future, it may be worthwhile to consider alternatives, including a reduction of the contribution requirement to ten percent of the total micro-project budget, or identifying other options for ensuring community commitment.



ANNEX FIVE

Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources:

Public Information and Awareness (PIA) Strategy



The USAID Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources project is one of the many assistance projects supported by the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Since 1992, the American people through USAID have provided about \$400 million in programs that support Kyrgyzstan's democratic institutions, health care, education, and economic growth.

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List of Acronyms

AO	<i>Ayyl Okmotu.</i> The lowest level of administration in the Kyrgyz Republic at the village level otherwise referred to as Local Self Government Bodies
APMNR	Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources
ARIS	Community Development and Investment Agency
CMM	Conflict Mitigation and Management
FAP	Medical posts
NBN	Neighborhood Building Network
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NRM	Natural Resource Management
NTRK	National TV and Radio Company
ORT	<i>Obshchestvennoye Rossiyskoye Televideniye</i> (Public Russian Television)
PCA	Participatory Community Assessment
PIA	Public Information and Awareness
RDF	Rural Development Fund
RDI	Rural Development Institute
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Public Information and Awareness (PIA) Strategy is designed and implemented within the framework of the USAID funded CMM project on Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources (APMNR). The Project began in February 2009 and will be completed in December 2010. The Rural Development Institute (RDI) and Rural Development Fund (RDF) are implementing the project in two communities of the Batken region in the Kyrgyz Republic.

The PIA Strategy and its implementation is one of the Project's six components. The PIA Strategy design is based on review of media materials and studies, content analysis of central and regional level newspapers, and unstructured interviews with members of pilot communities, public officials, and NGO representatives. The Strategy also combines findings from a survey of the pilot community population, conducted in the spring of 2009.

The PIA objectives are: (1) to disseminate information about the Project including its objectives, tasks, processes, and results; (2) to publicize information about natural resource use and conflict in the pilot communities on local, regional, and central levels; (3) to present a positive attitude towards natural resource conflict prevention and mitigation; (4) to communicate the approaches and lessons learned from the project for replication in other areas; and (5) to incorporate elements of the PIA Strategy into the decision-making process regarding prevention and mitigation of conflicts.

1.1 *Clustered Approach*

The PIA Strategy takes a cluster approach. Given the demographic profile of groups, geographic distribution of villages and households and available information delivery channels, the strategy clusters the target communities into sub-groups. The messages that need to be conveyed to the clusters and the channels by which they are communicated can be better targeted to reach the sub-groups identified.

The preparation done for the PIA showed that the Project must work with four clusters of target audiences: communities, local government and institutions, regional and central level stakeholders, and the general population.

1.2 *Characteristics of Different Groups*

The PIA Strategy takes into account the attitudes and habits of different groups of people in obtaining regular news that includes the type, format, and timing of information to be delivered.

On a community level, when targeting communities and local institutions, the Project will disseminate information through *aiyl okmotus* (AO), schools, FAPs, veterinary services, *leskhozoes*, and mosques. There will be a focus on special programs for members of the Neighborhood Building Network (NBN), school teachers, children, and pasture users such as shepherds.

- ✓ Project related information will be distributed regularly via printed materials, such as posters, brochures and leaflets.

- ✓ The Project will use popular venues for advertising information and project results, such as informational boards in AO, hand-outs at community level celebrations, events, and village meetings; and hanging signs in common places such as markets.
- ✓ There will be special events organized within communities to spread information about the Project's activities, lessons learned and results. The events envisioned include the Fair of Peaceful Ideas for the Micro-Grants Program, a children's creativity competition amongst school children, etc.
- ✓ Calendars, t-shirts, workshop bags, baseball hats, notebooks and other memorabilia will be produced to use as an effective means to draw attention to the Project activities and objectives.
- ✓ The Project will address members of the NBN with specific informational materials, as well as materials to support training activities.
- ✓ Shepherds and other pasture users will receive the grazing calendar developed by the Project to help prevent early grazing, which leads to natural resources degradation.

On a regional and central level, when targeting policy makers, civil society, and donors, the Project will disseminate information and contribute to changes in attitude and behavior towards conflict resolution through the following means:

- ✓ Publication of articles in mass media through a journalist competition.
- ✓ Information broadcast through TV and radio channels.
- ✓ Regular meetings with the representatives of state agencies, donor projects, local NGOs and other institutional stakeholders that are necessary for sharing the Project's updates, lessons learned and results.
- ✓ Workshops held with community members and policy makers to deliver Project recommendations to the central level policy makers.

The PIA Strategy begins with an introduction to the Project and PIA Strategy objectives, followed by the research and findings that led to the development of the Strategy, and finally a matrix showcasing the PIA plan and Strategy.

2.0 BACKGROUND

The APMNR Project intends to develop and test an approach to manage and mitigate inter-ethnic conflicts around natural resources in two AO, Ak-Say and Ak-Tatyr, Batken Oblast. If applicable, the approach could be replicated in border areas elsewhere in the Kyrgyz Republic. The Project involves communities in natural resource management (NRM) by using customary practices regarding NRM and conflict mitigation. The Project works with the local communities predominantly in Kyrgyz territories and, to a less extent in Tajik areas. Various stakeholders at different levels, including local authorities, are also engaged in the project. Since national borders between the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan, are not demarcated and not recognized in many locations, the Project works with citizens of both countries in 'no-border' areas.

The APMNR Project has six core components: 1) Situational analysis of the pilot areas; 2) Integration of international experience on natural resource conflict management; 3) Community mapping of conflicts around natural resources; 4) Devising a community plan for conflict management; 5) Creating a micro-grants program to implement the community plan for conflict management and; 6) Developing a PIA Strategy.

Each of the core activities are accompanied by awareness-raising activities. The PIA Strategy was developed to ensure those activities are comprehensive and targeted. The Strategy integrates the findings of multiple fact-finding missions, participatory rural appraisal and content analysis of two official newspapers. In addition, a quantitative survey was carried out in all five villages of Ak-Say and Ak-Tatyr AO to further inform the PIA Strategy.

During the initial stage of Project preparation, it became evident that a lack of information is one of the major problems facing communities in the border areas. Community members are often unaware of state and local policies and decisions which impact their daily lives. Though the population may be aware of violence or conflict, they are often unaware of the causes or results of conflicts, leaving them to speculate. This lack of full and trusted information, in turn, creates fertile ground for conflict and fuels people's dissatisfaction with the state initiatives implemented in their areas.

Although the Project works with both Kyrgyz and Tajik communities within Kyrgyz territories, several factors have necessitated focusing the PIA Strategy predominantly on the former and limiting the scope of PIA measures directed at Tajik communities to the essential Project information.

First, many of the Project's benefits (e.g., micro-grants) are available only to the Kyrgyz communities. The majority of activities envisioned in the second year of the Project will be related to micro-grants and development of the community plan for conflict management.

Second, the lack of a shared language prevents joint reception at most informational events (e.g., Fair of Peaceful Ideas for Micro-Grants Program and different cultural events such as concerts with specific messages) therefore most activities target primarily Kyrgyz groups and, to a lesser extent, the Tajik communities.

In addition, to implement a meaningful PIA Strategy in Tajik communities, the Project would need to conduct a situational analysis, survey, and discourse analysis in those communities. This is not feasible with the available Project resources, nor was it envisioned in the Project proposal.

Finally, in order to undertake PIA in Tajik territory, the Project would need to establish and maintain a dialogue with the Tajik central and regional governments, located in Dushanbe and Khudjand, which is not possible within the scope of this Project. It should be noted, however, that Tajik communities are covered by the PIA Strategy to the extent it is necessary to implement the Conflict Management Plan.

3.0 OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES OF THE PIA STRATEGY

To address the issue of a lack of quality information on policy decisions regarding resource management, especially in trans-border areas, the Project designed a PIA Strategy which has three specific objectives:

- 1) To ensure that the local communities affected by the Project have objective, equitable and timely information about the Project's goals, its main activities and expected outcomes.
- 2) To foster positive attitudes towards conflict management and resolution.
- 3) To disseminate information about the Project's approaches, results and outcomes for sharing lessons learned and influencing state policy on natural resource and conflict management in border areas.

These objectives are attained through a variety of information delivery channels, while paying particular attention to the existing means of news sharing and information exchange within Kyrgyz and, to the extent possible, Tajik communities.

The PIA Strategy seeks to increase the visibility of the Project within local and state institutions for the purpose of replicating and mainstreaming the Project results and to ensure proper positioning of the Project. The latter is essential as the Project is research-oriented, unlike other projects implemented in the region by other organizations and donor agencies.

Recognizing that incomplete, partial, skewed information, or the lack thereof, may increase social tension and even spark disputes or violent conflict, the Project aims to implement the PIA Strategy in a way that minimizes the risk of disputes. The PIA Strategy is guided by principles aimed at building an atmosphere of trust and confidence between the Project team, local communities and stakeholders. These principles include:

- 1) **Regularity** in providing Project information to the Project communities throughout the Project's lifecycle;
- 2) **Thoroughness** of Project information provided to the target communities;
- 3) **Objectivity** of the Project information;
- 4) **Equity** of information distribution to the target communities;
- 5) **Consistency** of information communicated to the target communities.

The following table outlines the specific details of the Project's Public Information and Awareness Plan

PUBLIC INFORMATION AND AWARENESS PLAN 2009-2010

AUDIENCE	TYPE OF INFORMATION TO BE COMMUNICATED	KEY OBJECTIVES	CHANNELS/ MACHANISMS	QUANT.	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE
(1) Local Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project goal and objectives - Project key activities by each component and time when these are expected to be carried out - Stakeholders involved - Expected results of the Project and its impact on the beneficiaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - disseminate information related to the Project - increase number of community members involved into the Project - make efforts to change attitude among community members towards reasons, subject of conflicts, as well as need for their peaceful resolution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project brochures, posters and calendars in Kyrgyz and Russian languages - Project-funded events (e.g. drawing contest) - Memorabilia (notebooks, T-Shirts, Bags, Caps, Folders) - Articles in papers, film-montage, radio programs - Community maps and maps validation meetings - Grazing calendar for shepherds - Posters on Micro-Grants Program - Children's creativity competition - "Best Article" competition among journalists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 events - 5 articles in 2 papers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing - Jan-Sept 2010 - Ongoing - Sept 2010 - Feb-Sept 2010 - Sept 2010 - Jan-June 2010 - March-April 2010 - March-May 2010 	RDF

AUDIENCE	TYPE OF INFORMATION TO BE COMMUNICATED	KEY OBJECTIVES	CHANNELS/ MACHANISMS	QUANT.	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE
<p>(2) <i>Aiyi okmotu</i>, mosques, schools, medical posts (FAP), <i>Raion</i> and <i>Oblast State Administrations, Leskhoz</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project goal and objectives - Project key activities by each component and time when these are expected to be carried out - Stakeholders involved - Expected results of the Project and its impact on the beneficiaries - Project milestones and key deliverables 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - disseminate information related to the Project - increase number of community members involved in the Project - make efforts to change attitude among local and regional institutions towards more comprehensive engagement of local communities into peaceful conflict resolution and decision-making 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project brochures and posters on information stands - Calendars/Grazing calendars - Articles in papers, short film, radio programs - “Best Article” competition among journalists - Community maps and maps validation meetings - Local and regional update meetings with local institutions - Short film 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Same as above - 2 meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing - Sept/Dec 2010 - Sept 2010 - March-April 2010 - Feb-Sept 2010 - Sept 2010 	<p style="text-align: center;">RDF</p>

AUDIENCE	TYPE OF INFORMATION TO BE COMMUNICATED	KEY OBJECTIVES	CHANNELS/ MACHANISMS	QUANT.	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE
<p>(3) Government, Parliament, donor agencies, NGOs etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project objectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - dissemination of information related to the Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regular update meetings at regional and national levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feb-Sept 2010 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RDF/RDI
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project key activities by each component and stakeholders involved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - informing them on background and existing practices and arrangements on natural resources use in border areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TV and radio programs, articles in newspapers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 stories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sept 2010 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RDF
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project progress, milestones and key deliverables 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - dissemination of Project's lessons learned and results for their introduction into policy making, and replication of approach in other areas for peaceful conflict resolution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Success story 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dec 2009/Sept 2010 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RDF/RDI
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lessons learned from the Project implementation 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report on Situational Analysis in English, Russian and Kyrgyz languages 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jan 2010 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RDI/RDF
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specific recommendations where and how the Project experience can be beneficially applied 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project final report 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sept 2010 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RDI/RDF

AUDIENCE	TYPE OF INFORMATION TO BE COMMUNICATED	KEY OBJECTIVES	CHANNELS/ MACHANISMS	QUANT.	TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE
(4) General population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project goal and objectives - Project key activities by each component and stakeholders involved - Lessons learned from the Project implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - dissemination of Project information - dissemination of fair and complete information on situation in border areas in regards to natural resources - dissemination of Project's lessons learned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project brochures, posters, calendars, newspapers, web-site - TV and radio programs, articles in newspapers - Success story 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Same as above - Same as above 		RDF

4.0 METHODOLOGY OF PIA DEVELOPMENT

The Project used three major methods to devise the PIA strategy:

- 1) Content analysis of national and regional newspapers;
- 2) Survey and in-depth unstructured interviews of the study area populations;
- 3) Desk review of documents.

4.1 *Content Analysis*

The content analysis was undertaken to identify dominant discourses regarding border relations between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan within local communities as well as a wider public across the country. The primary geographic focus is in and around the area of Ak-Say and Ak-Tash *ayil keneshes* (village council).

The methodology used for the content analysis was partially dictated by the survey findings. Newspapers were found to command substantial trust and reliability among people, preceded only by TV-based information. Thus newspapers present a potent source for framing and influencing central discourses within local communities.

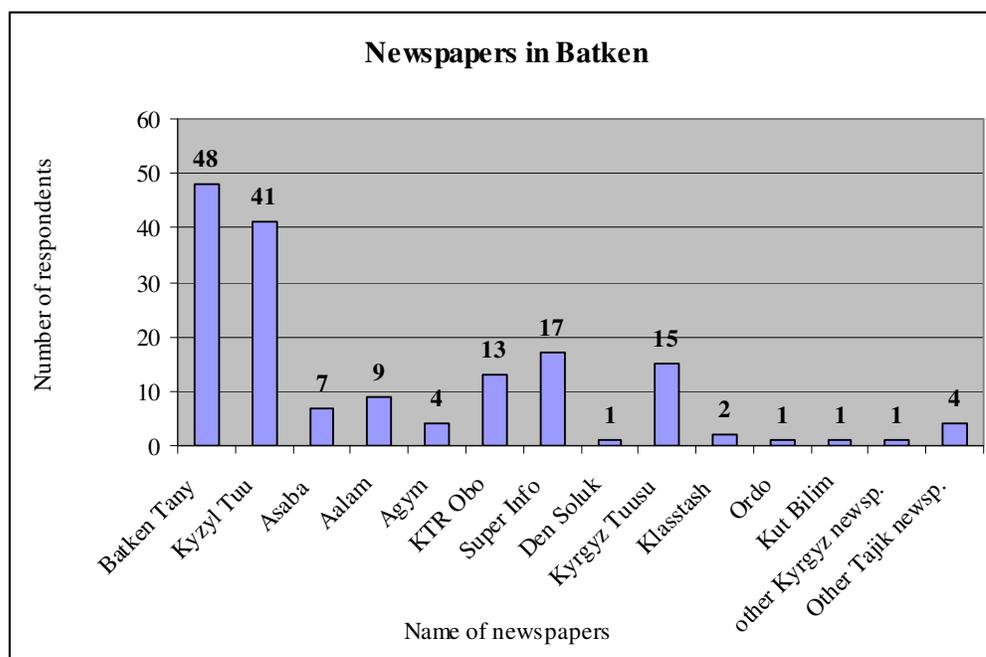
Considering time constraints, the analysis included only top local and national newspapers. Therefore, the two most popular newspapers among respondents were selected for the analysis, one local (*Batken Tany*) and the other national (*Kyrgyz Tuusu*). Among local newspapers, *Batken Tany* was identified as the most read newspaper, whereas *Kyrgyz Tuusu* was the most widely read national newspaper, after *Super Info* (see Figure 1).

The scope of analysis of both newspapers covered the period between January 2009 and September 2009.

To understand the framing, main sources, and nature of the dominant discourses, the newspaper analysis focused on the following items:

- 1) Article name
- 2) Details of article
- 3) Source of article
- 4) Frequency of eight to ten key words in the article
- 5) Description of Kyrgyz and Tajik subjects in the article
- 6) Action or attitude that the article solicits from the readers
- 7) Framing of the message and its coloring (negative vs. positive)

Figure 1: Popular newspapers in Ak-Say and Ak-Tatyr *aiyl okmotu*, Batken Province



Source: Survey of Ak-Tatyr and Ak-Say *aiyl okmotu*, 2009.

4.2 Survey

The survey was undertaken in the villages of Ak-Sai and Ak-Tatyr *aiyl okmotu* (six villages and six minor satellite settlements). The sample size of the survey was 121 respondents, of which 66 were men and 55 women. The age structure of the sample is as follows:

Age 16 to 25	Age 26 to 55	Age 56 +
26	77	18

The education level of the respondents averaged completion of the 10th grade level (high school):

Grade 7 level	Grade 10 level	Vocational education	Incomplete higher education	Some higher education	Current school students
5	79	14	7	12	3

Survey questions included three possible answers/choices and therefore some answers exceeded the sample size of 121 and equal as many as 363 responses. The survey used a stratified sampling method.

5.0 TARGET AUDIENCE

Preparation of the PIA Strategy identified four major clusters of target audiences that need to be addressed by the PIA:

1. Study communities;

2. Local and regional governments, local institutions;
3. Central level stakeholders including Government, Parliament, and donors;
4. General audiences, including NGOs, and various civil society groups.

5.1 Study communities

The PIA Strategy focuses on study communities with special focus on members of NBN, local institutions, school teachers, children, and pasture users, such as shepherds.

Major objectives of the PIA Strategy in study communities are: (1) to disseminate information related to the Project; (2) to increase the number of community members involved in the Project; and (3) to make efforts to change the attitude among community members towards causes and results of conflicts, as well as the need for their peaceful resolution.

The majority of the local village populations involved in the Project is characterized as poor (over 60%) with primary livelihood activities of rice cultivation, orchards (apricots and to a lesser extent, apples) and livestock husbandry. Remittances from Russia (averaging 10,000 Kyrgyz Soms, or \$225 USD a month per household) are also important sources of income to local households. All communities have experienced migration to Russia and Kazakhstan, the scale of which ranges from 20 to 30% of the village at any one time.

The gender composition of the study communities is relatively even in all four villages, as is the age structure. The population of children age 0 to 15 is relative to that of those over the age of 60 by 40% in Ak-Say *aiyl okmotu* and 26% in Ak-Tatyr *aiyl okmotu*, (see Table 1). This may have direct implications for the selection of communication channels and implementation of the PIA Strategy.

Table 1: Age and sex composition of local communities

<i>Ayil Kenesh</i>	Village	Men	Women	Children (0-15)	Aged (over 60)
Ak-Say <i>Aiyl okmotu</i>	Kok Tash vil.	1180	1095	940 (41%)	102
	Ak-Say vil.	823	761	627 (39%)	91
Ak-Tatyr <i>Aiyl okmotu</i>	Ak-Tatyr vil.	1546	1421	730 (25%)	281
	Orto-Boz vil.	442	460	247 (27%)	136

Source: *Village Profiles, ARIS 2004 – 2006.*

There are two study villages (Kok-Tash and Orto-Boz) which are situated in the immediate neighborhood of Tajik communities. Kok-Tash village is home to over 400 Tajik households that share the same access roads to get to schools, highways, and parts of the water infrastructure with Kyrgyz households. Despite the geographical proximity of the two ethnic groups, they remain separate and virtually never mix, as it is seen, for example, in their use of schools, medical centers, mosques, etc. Correspondingly, each ethnic group in Kok-Tash village relies on its own, quite distinct, sources of news.

The settlement pattern of Orto-Boz is one of scattered households connected to one another through narrow alleys and surrounded by Tajik communities of the Chorku area. The population of Orto-Boz is situated at a significant distance from the Ak-Tatyr village, and, in part due to the distance, does not feel a close connection to other villages, and particularly *aiyl okmotu*.

5.1.1 Approach based on these findings

Study communities will be targeted through Project-related print materials, mass media, and Project-sponsored events.

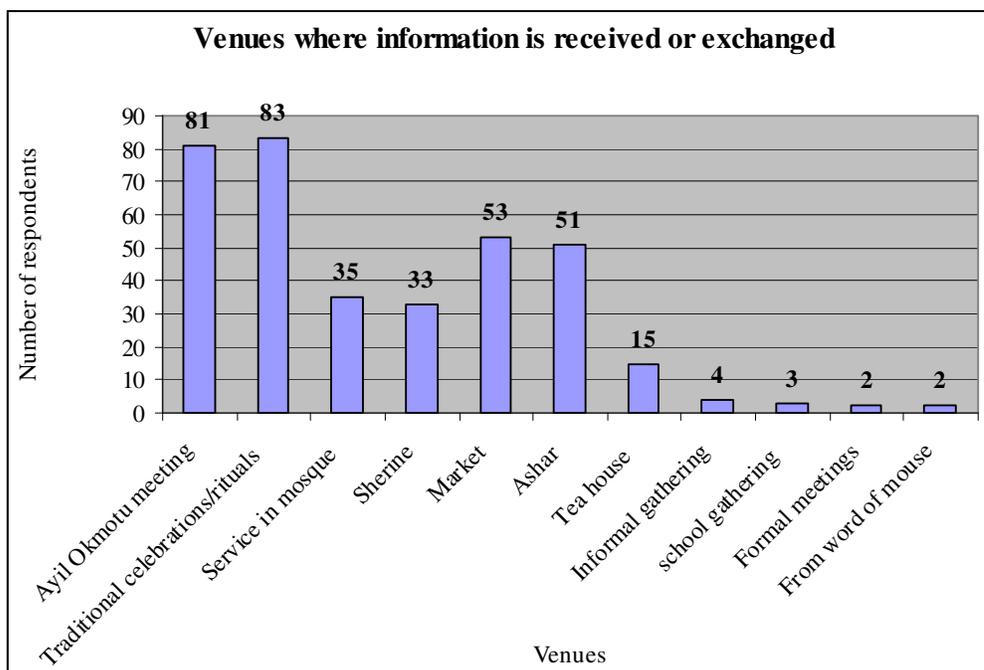
Traditional community level celebrations and events were mentioned as the most important venue for information exchange amongst community members irrespective of their nationality, sex and age. There are multiple traditional celebrations and rituals for which a majority of the community members gather in one place. The turnout in these events varies, depending on the nature of the occasion. Major celebrations and rituals include: *Nooruz* (Muslim New Year), *Kurban Ait* (*Eid-al-Adha*), *Orozo Ait* (*Eid-al-Fitr*), weddings, funerals, and childbirth. Such events provide an important forum, as shown by the survey results (see Figure 2), where people receive or exchange information on various issues.

In addition to traditional celebrations, neighbors, children and relatives were identified as informal sources of the latest news. The formal sources of information delivery were shown to be slow in communicating news to the communities.

The Project will use popular venues for information dissemination, such as community level celebrations and events, village meetings, markets.

The survey findings showed that the tribe leaders, community and village quarter heads and local law enforcement agencies do not play an important role as either the source of, or channel for information.

Figure 2: Places where information is received and exchanged

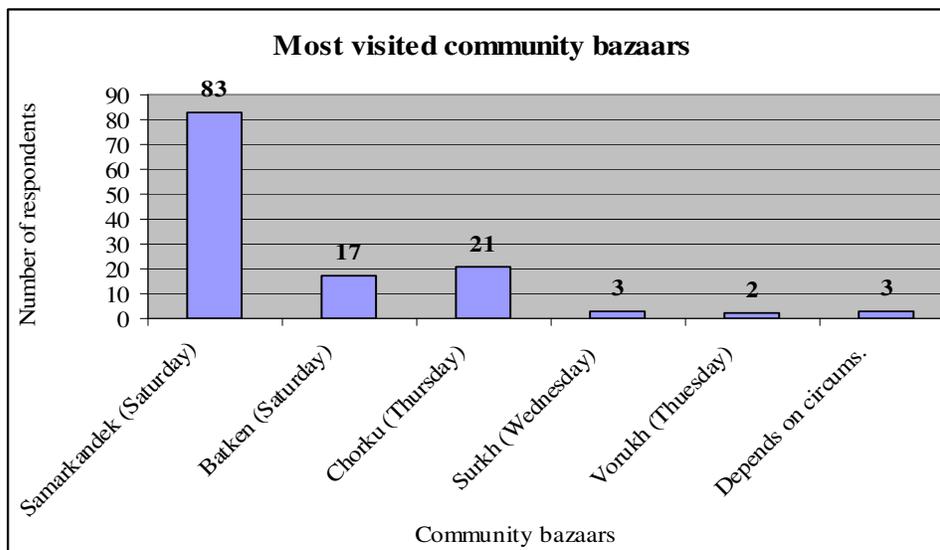


Source: Survey of AkTatyr and Ak-Say ayil okmotu, 2009.

Bazaars were rated as the second most important venue for information distribution by local people because it is where people hear news and announcements, exchange information and purchase newspapers (see Figure 8). There are two bazaars in Kyrgyz territory (Samarkandek and Batken) and three in Tajik territory (Chorku, Surkh, and Vorukh), which operate all year

around. Of these, Samarkandek is the largest and also most popular bazaar with the local communities, followed by Chorku and then Batken bazaars (see Figure 3).

Figure 3: Most visited community bazaars



Source: Survey of *Ak Tatyr* and *Ak-Say* aiyl okmotu, 2009.

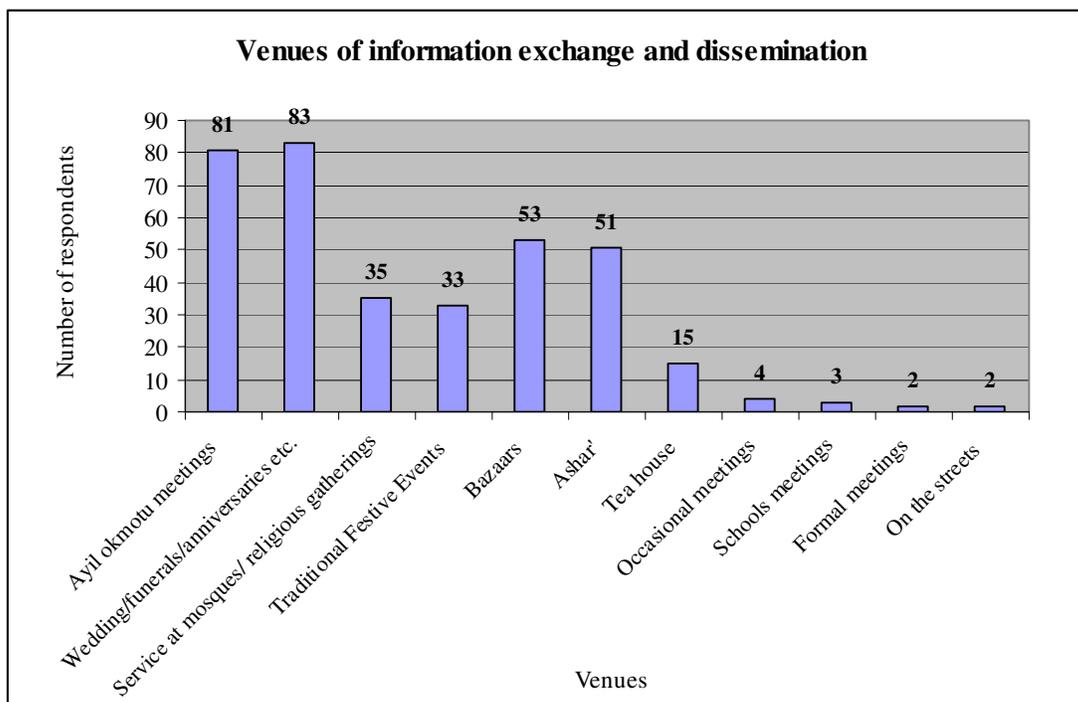
Joint community activities, such as goodwill *Ashar* activities, are also an important venue for information dissemination among community members.

Ashar activities are a traditional means of mobilizing labor resources from within the community to accomplish a piece of work (e.g., building a sauna or kindergarten, digging ditches or a canal) that is of communal benefit or importance. The labor contribution that community members make isn't usually paid because it is a community-driven endeavor and seeks to address the issues that the community recognizes as important. However, an *Ashar* activity is an occasional event, and local communities draw on it only when there is a pressing need. Nonetheless, given the considerable community participation, it provides a forum for news and information exchange and intensive discussion.



Ashar activities were ranked the fourth most popular venue for people to receive news via non-official channels, preceded by traditional celebrations and events such as weddings, funerals, childbirth, etc. (first), *aiyl okmotu* meetings (second) and bazaars (third) (see Figure 4).

Figure 4: Venues of information exchange and dissemination



Source: Survey of Ak Taty and Ak-Say ayil okmotu, 2009.

Community public displays could be used to inform people on important events.

To ensure that communities have access to **complete and regular** information on the Project, the information boards in Ak-Say and Ak-Taty should be utilized to post overall Project information and upcoming events. If viewed as necessary and cost-efficient, information boards can be established in the other two villages and satellite ‘parcels’ where they are currently missing. Having such information boards will ensure the **uninterrupted availability** of Project information to the communities and also the **timeliness** of future activity information. The information boards can also be used to post visually engaging posters, announcements, and newspaper clippings featuring Project activities within the communities.

Shuttle buses are not an important conduit for information dissemination, but can be used for information distribution.

There are shuttle busses that connect villages with the capital and major market places. These busses, according to the survey results are insignificant sources of information and are not used by other donor agencies to raise awareness. If necessary, printed materials (e.g., posters) can be posted in busses to spread Project information to community members in general.

PIA measures that target shepherds are necessary.

The shepherds from both *ayil okmotu*, who are away from the villages from early May until September (5 months), should be carefully targeted by PIA activities. Project brochures or newspapers featuring Project-related events can be delivered to their houses. Additionally, the flock migration calendars can be printed and distributed among shepherds, but also among institutions that regulate use of and access to pastures. Such calendars, however, must be of practical use to their intended users and be agreed upon among all stakeholders to avoid confusion and possible misunderstandings.

Targeted information delivery measures should also consider, to the extent possible, information channels which are dependable and trusted by community members. As shown by the survey, community members place a high level of trust in mass media, with TV-based information gaining the highest level of confidence, followed by newspapers and radio stations.

The head of an *aiyl okmotu* commands substantial respect as an information source (29%), followed by school teachers (17%), officers of ARIS (Community Development and Investment Agency) (12%) and informal leaders (10%).

By contrast, the Tajik population tends to trust information supplied by imams, with a level of confidence at 17%. Other information sources that possess a significant level of trust include, in descending order, heads of *jamoat* (municipalities), brigade leaders, religious leaders, school teachers and informal leaders (see Table 2.).

Table 2: Trusted sources of information by nationality

	Kyrgyz %	Tajik %
Head of <i>aiyl okmotu</i> / <i>Jamoat</i>	29.7	22.2
Brigade leader	2.4	16.7
Physicians from FAP, midwifery etc.	4.3	2.8
Border guards	6.1	2.8
Local Militia Office	4.0	0.0
School teachers	17.7	16.7
Officers of ARIS	13.1	0.0
Religious leaders / imams	2.4	16.7
Informal leaders	9.8	16.7

Source: Survey of *Ak Taty* and *Ak-Say* *aiyl okmotu*, 2009.

Different forms of memorabilia can be an effective means of drawing attention to the Project objectives and related activities.

The project could issue notebooks, and produce caps and t-shirts to ensure wider dissemination of the Project objectives and its main outcomes.



5.2 Local and regional governments, local institutions

Survey results show that *aiyl okmotu*, as well as other services and institutions, are primary sources of policy and legislative information for local communities. There are two *aiyl okmotu* (local governments) in the study area, the staff of which includes the heads of *aiyl okmotu*, land specialists, social protection specialists, financial specialists, and others. *Aiyl okmotus* play a crucial role in decision-making on a local level, but also serve as a consistent source of information. Other local institutions play a role in information dissemination; these include schools, FAPs (medical centers), mosques, border guards, militia, and others.

The major objectives of the PIA Strategy with regards to local institutions are similar to those for study communities, namely: (1) to publicize information related to the Project; 2) to increase the number of community members involved in the Project; and 3) to make efforts to change the attitude among local and regional institutions towards more comprehensive engagement of local communities into peaceful conflict resolution and decision-making.

The Project should rely on local institutions for information distribution through their regular meetings with their communities and while providing services.

***Aiyl okmotu* ranks seventh out of fourteen information sources identified through the survey, in terms of its popularity as an information source.**

The *Aiyl okmotu* communicates news and information to their communities primarily through community-wide gatherings and information boards. The *aiyl okmotu* organizes both scheduled (e.g., annual general assembly), and unplanned (organized as needs arise) community gatherings. In addition to these gatherings, the *aiyl okmotu* holds regular internal meetings (e.g. sessions of Deputies of *Ayil Kenesh*), the contents of which are circulated to households by the heads of villages, who are part of the *aiyl okmotu* apparatus and who serve as an important source of information for community members.

The nature of information that *aiyl okmotu* usually disseminates to communities includes important changes in legislation, major pieces of news from government ministries, state agencies and administrations, emergency information, etc. *Aiyl okmotu* directly communicates only critical news; other information on various themes that needs to reach the communities is circulated via the village heads.

In the Project villages, information boards where printed Project information can be posted were found in only two of them – Ak-Say and Ak-Tatyr. While the other villages reportedly do not have information boards, some respondents indicated they find them to be a useful source of information when they visit Ak-Say or Ak-Tatyr.

Mosques are important sources of information.

Following the main service (also called Friday service), mosque workers communicate news and make announcements. This information and announcements are predominantly of a religious nature, although some donor agencies have used the mosque setting to communicate their Project information. Community members also noted that information from a mosque is usually repetitive and boring. While information from mosques and mullahs was identified as insignificant in the ranking of information sources, there is an obvious difference in the importance of mosques for disseminating information between the Kyrgyz and Tajik communities. Kyrgyz community members were found to receive information predominantly from traditional events and meetings of *aiyl okmotu* (Table 3), whereas Tajik community members tend to receive updated information from mosque(s) or during religious gatherings. However,

just as in Tajik communities, bodies of self-governance (*jamoat* and *aiyl okmotu*) were identified as the primary source of the information in the Kyrgyz communities.

Table 3: Primary sources of information about events in the village

	Kyrgyz %	Tajik %	Total
Village events	23.5	22.2	23.4
<i>Aiyl okmotu/jamoat</i> gatherings	22.3	16.7	21.8
Bazaars	16.2	8.3	15.4
Religious gatherings	9.2	16.7	9.9

Source: Survey of *Ak Taty*r and *Ak-Say* aiyl okmotu, 2009.

Schools serve as an important forum where news and information are exchanged, primarily through teachers and students.

School teachers are usually the first ones, following AO, to receive news on a variety of issues. They act as agents for circulating information to households, which is reflected in the survey results where school teachers rank third as a source of information (27%) after neighbors (53%) and children (37%).

It should also be noted that in some villages (e.g. Kok-Tash), schools play a far more important role in getting new information to village residents than does the AO. This has to do with the physical remoteness of the AO to the village and the irregular visits of the *aiyl okmotu* head and other workers of AO to the villages.

Village schools serve as an important conduit for official information distribution supplied from the *raion* and *oblast* state administrations, followed by the official channels of the Mass media outlets and workers of *aiyl okmotu* (See Table 4 below).

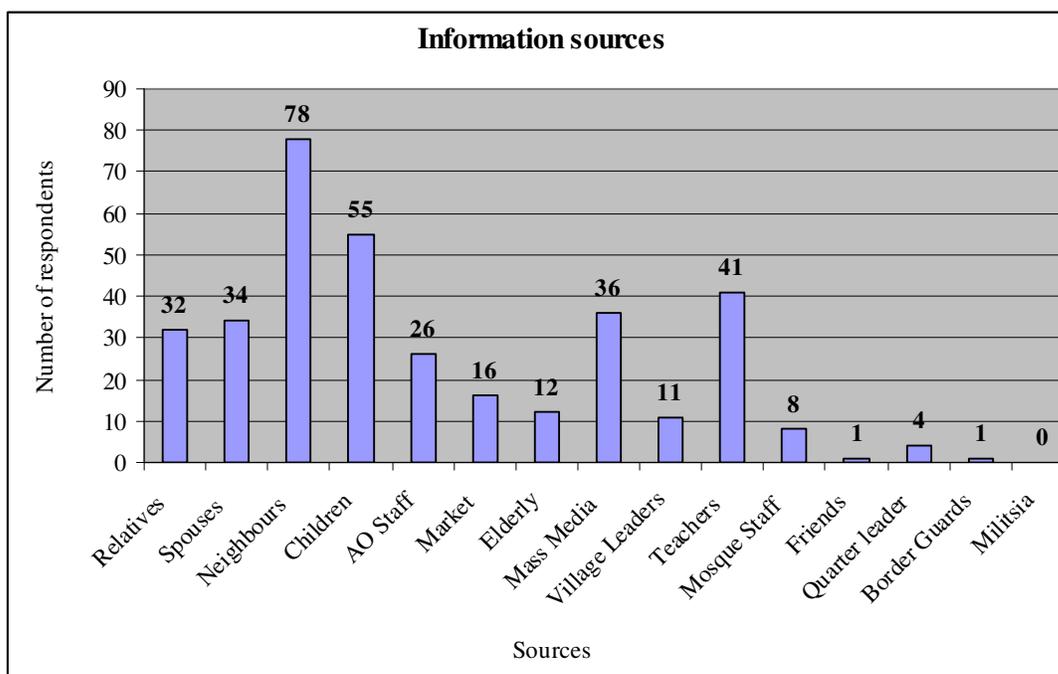
It should also be noted that children appear to be an important source of information for family members, as revealed by the survey results (Figure 5). However, this information was not as easily spread beyond the family (see Figure 5).

Table 4: Important sources of official information regarding the news or changed pieces of legislation of the *raion* and *oblast* state administrations.

	%
At schools from teachers	13.4
Mass media	12.0
From workers of <i>ayil kenesb</i>	10.9
From neighbors	7.0
From informal leaders	6.1

Source: Survey of *AkTaty*r and *Ak-Say* aiyl okmotu, 2009.

Figure 5: Sources of Information



Source: Survey of AkTatyr and Ak-Say aiyl okmotu, 2009.

5.2.1 Approach based on Findings

Schools and school children disseminate information promptly and accurately.

Considering the significant percentage of children (see Table 1) in the villages and the finding that many households receive news directly from their children (see Figure 5); schools can be used as an effective conduit for raising awareness among children themselves and, through them, reach other family members. It should be noted however, that schools represent an effective source of information distribution when that information has a long ‘useful life’. For information that needs to be disseminated promptly, schools may not be the best options.

As far as specific measures are concerned, the Project can organize a children’s competition of essays or drawings on issues of peace and conflict resolution. The selected drawings could be displayed to community members through small exhibitions and submitted to newspapers for publishing.

Medical posts are present in virtually every village covered by the Project, and medical post personnel enjoy a high level of trust amongst community members. The information that medical posts provide to the communities is of great relevance and value to community members, often because medical posts spread important medical information.

Medical posts in the villages may be an effective avenue for reaching women in Kyrgyz communities. The posts are often visited by the female population of the communities and were identified as an important and dependable source of information. However, given that medical centers primarily supply health-related information, the content of supplementary information, for example on Project activities, should be carefully considered to determine if the message is appropriate to the setting.

5.3 Central level stakeholders: Government, Parliament, Donors, NGOs

The need for peaceful resolution of conflicts in border communities has drawn national attention. There are a number of state institutions that develop laws, regulations and policies on various issues of natural resources management and conflict resolution. In addition, there are donor funded projects engaged in conflict resolution processes and issues.

The major objectives of the PIA Strategy in regards to central level stakeholders are related to: (1) dissemination of information related to the Project; (2) informing them about the background of, existing practices and arrangements related to natural resources use in border areas; and (3) dissemination of the Project's results and lessons learned for consideration in policy making, and replication of the approach in other areas for peaceful conflict resolution.

5.3.1 Approach based on Conclusions

Regular update meetings with representatives of state agencies, donor projects, local NGOs and other institutional stakeholders are necessary for sharing the Project's information, lessons learned and results.

There is a group of institutional stakeholders that do not have a permanent presence in the Project area, but nevertheless play an important role in decision-making with regard to Project outcomes. These actors include, but are not limited to, the State *Raion* Administration, the State *Oblast* Administration, *Giprozem* (Kyrgyz State Project Institute of Land Engineering), the State Regional Environmental Inspection, local NGOs, other projects, etc. To keep these actors abreast of the Project activities, the PIA Strategy envisions regular information meetings (e.g., round tables) where the Project's preliminary accomplishments and challenges will be presented to all relevant stakeholders.

Engaging central level policy makers, NGOs, and donors in regional meetings is an important tool for sharing information on processes and lessons learned, as well as for delivering community recommendations to policy makers.

It is important for the Project to organize various meetings at the local/regional level and invite representatives from the central level government to participate. These meetings will give central government representatives first-hand information on the Project activities and results, as well as the opportunity to discuss the potential for replicating the approach in other locations.



5.4 *General population*

It is important to disseminate information on natural resource conflicts in the border areas to the public and civil society outside of the target communities. This information should include the nature, reasons and outcomes of conflicts.

The major objectives of the PIA Strategy in regards to the public and civil society are related to: (1) dissemination of information related to the Project; (2) distribution of fair and complete information on the natural resource conflict situation in the border areas; and 3) dissemination of the Project's results and lessons learned.

It is evident from the results of the study informing this strategy that the general public is not aware of the situation in border areas. There is no reliable, consistent information flowing to the central level government regarding the nature of, reasons for, and outcomes of conflicts.

Consistent measures to change the dominant discourse, otherwise marked by hostility and apprehension between two ethnic communities, should complement the other proposed PIA activities. This can be done via publication of stories, as well as analytical articles on the conflict issues in the border areas.



6.0 MEANS OF INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

Printed project materials are an accessible and cost-efficient means of publishing information.

Various printed materials (e.g., brochures, posters, calendars) should be used as the most efficient means of communicating Project information to the target groups. To take advantage of circulated printed materials and ensure their targeted delivery, consideration should be given to the specific communication channels used and the extent to which they are matched with other factors that determine the ultimate effect of information delivery measures (e.g., timing, habits of information recipients, etc). Rationale for disseminating printed information through particular channels, identified as important and effective sources of information in the survey, follows.

Local newspapers can be used to disseminate more analytical information.

The majority of respondents prefer to receive information in print form (84%). Printed information is most accessible to respondents when distributed through schools (26%), handed out in the streets (14%), circulated in shops and bazaars (9%), distributed at medical posts (FAPs) (9%), or mosques (9%).

Publishing a quarterly or bi-annual article on newsworthy activities (e.g., PCA - Participatory Community Assessment) in the *Batken Tany*, the most popular local newspaper, can also contribute to greater frequency and completeness of information delivery to local communities and other stakeholders. These articles can also help raise the Project's visibility as the *Batken Tany* is the state newspaper and copies are circulated among most state agencies and their branches in Batken Province. Men prefer to receive print information on the streets, whereas women prefer to receive information from medical posts.

Unlike TV, news received from newspapers is somewhat delayed, because of the time it takes for the newspapers to reach community members in Ak-Say and Ak-Tatyr *aiyl okmotu*. The target population commonly purchases newspapers at the market, of which Samarkandek Market is the largest and most popular. Although less common, some people also subscribe to newspapers and receive regular delivery from the local post office. In addition, community members read newspapers that their relatives bring when they visit family in other villages.

A lack of access is the main reason some target populations do not read newspapers. Respondents pointed out that the lack of outlets selling newspapers in their neighborhoods is the main reason they do not purchase newspapers (40% of respondents), followed by a lack of extra money (see Table 5).

Table 5: Reasons for not reading the newspapers

	%
There are no places to buy newspapers	40
Have no extra money	11
Do not trust the newspapers	0
No need for information from newspapers	1
Have no time	5
Language used is too complex	0
No regular delivery	1

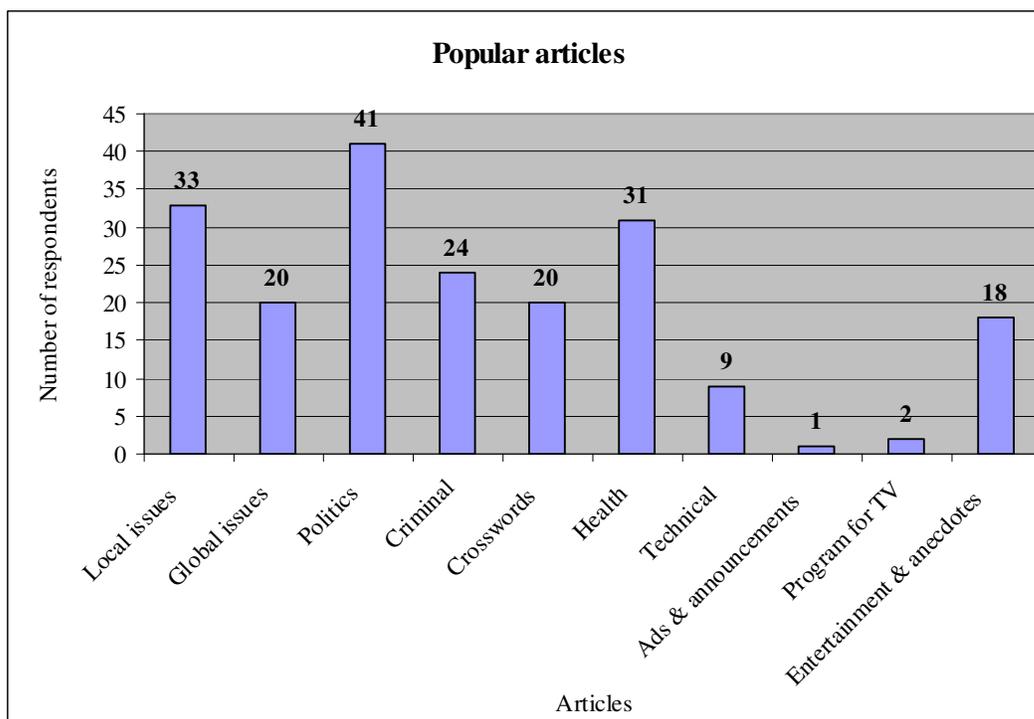
Source: Survey of Ak-Tatyr and Ak-Say *aiyl okmotu*, 2009.

The level of trust in information from the newspapers is very high, with 85% of respondents who read the newspapers indicating they trust the information in newspapers.

Kyrgyz was explicitly identified as the preferred language of newspapers among local communities. In addition, of all newspapers available in Batken, the following have been identified as the most popular with the respondents surveyed, in descending order: *Batken Tany*, *Kyzyl Tuu*, *Super Info* and *Kyrgyz Tuusu*.

In these newspapers, people primarily read articles on politics (34%), followed by pieces on local issues (27%), health (26%) and entertainment and anecdotes (15%), as illustrated in Figure 6 below.

Figure 6: Most read articles and items in newspapers



Source: Survey of *Ak Taty* and *Ak-Say* aiyl okmotu, 2009.

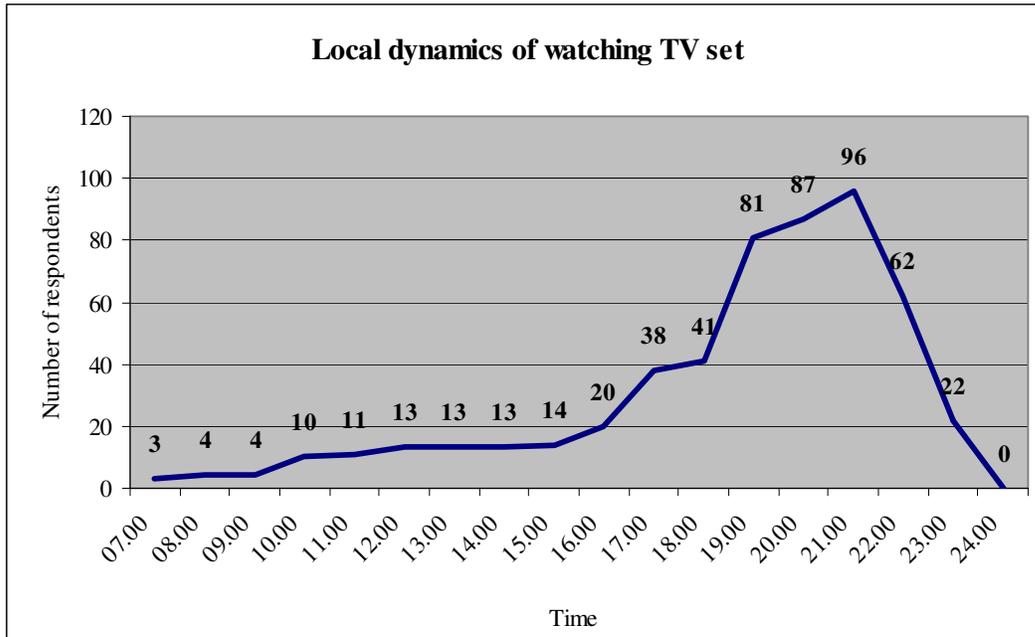
TV and radio can potentially be used to disseminate information on the Project’s results.

Although not the most cost-efficient means of communicating Project information, TV and radio could be a powerful medium for conveying the significance of Project results to the wider public. Towards the end of the project, TV and radio can be drawn upon to publicize Project results to all stakeholders and beyond.

TV is one of the most popular sources of information for all respondents to the survey.

As shown by the survey results, all family members tend to watch TV; and the most viewed timeslot is from eight to ten o’clock at night (see Figure 7). Of all the programs on TV, news was singled out by respondents as the most watched (86%), followed by entertainment programs (65%), movies and soap operas (59%), and finally talk shows (20%). Television news commands a high level of trust and confidence among survey respondents.

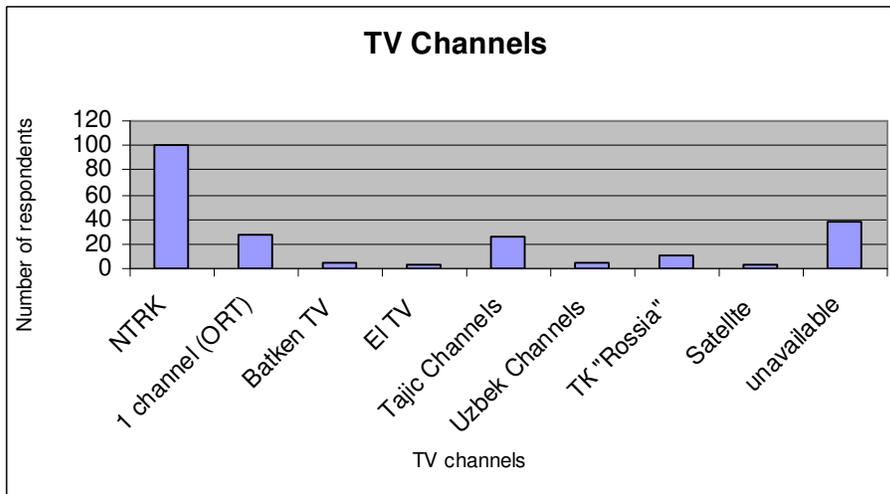
Figure 7: Most watched TV period among respondents



Source: Survey of AkTatyr and Ak-Say ayl okmotu, 2009.

Given that television reception is poor in many areas, most households rely on a satellite antenna for broadcasting channels. Although it is convenient, it limits the number of local TV channels that can be received and broadcast in the neighborhood. Out of seven available channels, the most popular channels identified by the survey (Figure 8), in descending order are: NTRK, ORT and Tajik Channel. The quality of the broadcasting of Kyrgyz channels is either poor or not available, therefore some Kyrgyz households prefer to watch the Tajik channel.

Figure 8: Most popular TV Channels



Source: Survey of AkTatyr and Ak-Say ayl okmotu, 2009.

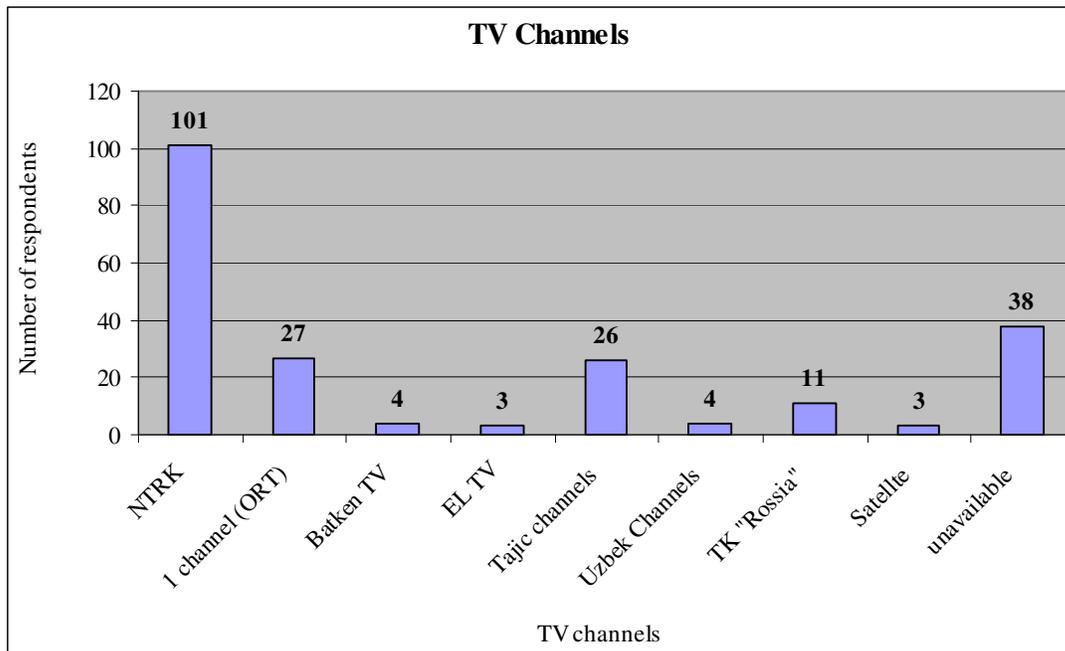
Radio is not a very popular source of news, because most households do not have a radio receiver or the signal that the receiver picks up is of poor quality.

Among those who do listen to the radio, Kyrgyz Radio is the most popular locally based radio station, followed by Radio Salam, and then Azattyk Radio. It should be noted that Tajik Radio and Uzbek Radio also broadcast in the area; however, few people surveyed seem to listen to those stations. Unlike TV news, people prefer to listen to radio news from seven to eleven o'clock in the morning. Radio and TV news were identified as the quickest sources of information (see Figure 9).

There is also a small segment of highly interested people within Tajik communities that regularly follows radio news, paying particular attention to the adoption of, or changes in, regulations that are likely to affect their livelihoods activities (e.g., news on border regime changes, new pasture use arrangements, etc).

Despite the small number of respondents listening to radio news (32% of all respondents) the level of trust in the information received is quite high (94% of respondents listening to the radio).

Figure 9: Quickest source of news within communities



Source: Survey of Ak-Tatyr and Ak-Say aiyl okmotu, 2009.

LITERATURE USED

- 1) Findings of the *Participatory Community Assessment of Ak-Say and Ak-Tatyr ayil kenesh* conducted by Rural Development Fund in April 2009.
- 2) Findings of the *Participatory Rural Appraisal* conducted jointly by the Rural Development Institute and the Rural Development Fund in May 2009.
- 3) *Rapid Survey on the Formal and Informal Communication Channels in Ak-Say and Ak-Tatyr ayil okrugs* commissioned by and prepared for the Rural Development Fund in June 2009.
- 4) Kyrgyz local state newspaper of Batken Province “*Batken Tany*”, issues from January through September 2009.
- 5) Kyrgyz national state newspaper “*Kyrgyz Tuusu*”, issues from March through September 2009.

ANNEX SIX

Approach to Participatory Management of Natural Resources

Instructions for downloading Project photofilm via File Transfer Protocol (FTP)

Navigate to the following website:

<http://download.files.namba.kg/files/1719429>

When prompted, enter the following username:

Photofilm

This photofilm was presented to attendees of the final Project Workshop in November 2010, and features a photo montage of Project activities accompanied by traditional Kyrgyz music.