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Third Consolidated Annual Progress Report on Activities Implemented under the Kyrgyzstan One Fund

**Report of the Administrative Agent of the Kyrgyzstan One Fund
for the Period 1 January to 31 December 2012**

Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office
Bureau of Management
United Nations Development Programme
<http://mptf.undp.org>

31 May 2013

Kyrgyzstan One Fund

PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS



Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)



International Labour Organisation (ILO)



Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)



United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)



United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)



United Nations Educational Scientific And Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)



United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)



United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO)

PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS



United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC)



United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)



United Nations Volunteer Programme (UNV)



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UNWOMEN)



World Food Programme (WFP)



World Health Organisation (WHO)

CONTRIBUTORS



Expanded Delivering as One Funding Window for Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (*The Netherlands, Norway, Spain and the United Kingdom/DFID*)

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AA	Administrative Agent
CFM	Collaborative Forest Management
DaO	“Delivering as One”
DRCU	Disaster Response Coordination Unit
DRM	Disaster Risk Management UNDP/UNV
Expanded DaO Funding Window	Expanded Delivering as One Funding Window for Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals
EFSA	WFP’s Emergency Food Security Assessment
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FFS	Farmer Field Schools
FFA	Food for Assets
ha	Hectares
IACP	Inter-Agency Contingency Plan
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IPSAS	International Public Sector Accounting Standards
km	kilometres
LSGs	Local Self-Governments
MPTF Office	Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office
MoES	Ministry of Emergency Situations
MoH	Ministry of Health
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
mt	Metric tons
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
One Programme	One UN Programme
Participating Organisations	United Nations (UN) Organisations
PNRM	Plan on Natural Resource Management
SAA	Standard Administrative Arrangement
Steering Committee	Kyrgyzstan One Fund Joint Country Steering Committee
SHP	Sustainable small hydropower electricity generation
SRS	State Registration Service
UN	United Nations
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework (2012-2016)
UNDG	UN Development Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational Scientific And Cultural Organisation
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organisation
UNV	United Nations Volunteer Programme
UNWOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

WFP
WHO
WPC
WUA

World Food Programme
World Health Organisation
Women Peace Committees
Water Users' Associations

Definitions

Allocation

Amount approved by the Kyrgyzstan One Fund Steering Committee for a project or programme.

Approved Project or Joint Programme

A project document, including budget, etc., that is approved by the Kyrgyzstan One Fund Steering Committee for fund allocation purposes.

Contributor Deposit

A deposit of cash for the Fund received and applied by the UNDP MPTF Office.

Delivery rate

A financial indicator of the percentage of funds that have been utilized by comparing the expenditures reported by a Participating Organisation against the 'net funded amount'.

Indirect Cost

A general cost that cannot be directly related to any particular project or activity of the Participating Organisations. As per UNDG policy, all UN entities may charge a maximum of 7 percent as indirect costs.

Net funded amount

Amount transferred by the MPTF Office to a Participating Organisation less any refunds of unspent balances transferred back by the a Participating Organisation.

Oblast/province

Oblasts/provinces are a type of administrative division of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Participating Organisations

The Organisations that have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the UNDP MPTF Office.

Project Expenditure

The sum of expenses reported by all Participating Organisations irrespective of which basis of accounting each entity follows.

Project Financial Closure

A project is considered financially closed when all financial obligations of an operationally completed project have been settled, and no further financial charges may be incurred.

Project Operational Closure

A project is considered operationally closed when all activities for which a Participating Organisation is responsible under the approved programmatic document have been completed.

Renewable Energy

Renewable energy is energy generated from natural sources—such as sunlight, wind, rain, tides, and geothermal heat—which are renewable. Renewable energy is derived from natural processes that are replenished constantly. In its various forms, it derives directly from the sun, or from heat generated deep within the earth.

Included in the definition are electricity and heat generated from solar, wind, ocean, hydropower, biomass, geothermal resources, as well as biofuels and hydrogen derived from renewable sources.

Riparian Forest

A riparian forest is an area of trees and shrubs located adjacent to streams, lakes, ponds, and wetlands. Riparian forests of sufficient width intercept sediment, nutrients, pesticides, and other materials in agricultural surface runoff and reduce nutrients and other pollutants in shallow subsurface water flow. Woody vegetation in riparian forests provide food and cover for wildlife, helps lower water temperatures by shading water body, and slows out-of-bank flood flows. Some species established or managed in riparian forests can be managed to provide timber, wood fibre, and horticultural products.

Sustainable Energy

Sustainable energy sources include all renewable sources, such as biofuels, solar power, wind power, wave power, geothermal power and tidal power. It usually also includes technologies that improve energy efficiency.

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	8
1 Introduction	11
1.1 Strategic Framework	12
1.2 Governance Arrangements	12
1.2.1 Kyrgyzstan One Fund Steering Committee	12
1.2.2 The Administrative Agent	13
2 One Fund Achievements by Thematic Area.....	15
2.1 THEMATIC AREA: SOCIAL SERVICES.....	15
2.1.1 Joint Programme “Ensuring Access to Affordable Health Services in the Affected Areas of the Country for Women of Reproductive Age and Newborns” - UNFPA, UNICEF	16
2.1.2 Project “Prevention and Reduction of Statelessness” – UNHCR	18
2.1.3 Project “Combating Child Labour through Education in Kyrgyzstan: Capacity Building and Educational Opportunities for School Drop-outs” - ILO.....	20
2.2 THEMATIC AREA: FOOD SECURITY	21
2.2.1 Project “Food for Asset (FFA)” – WFP	22
2.3 THEMATIC AREA: AGRICULTURE	24
2.3.1 Joint Programme “Agricultural Assistance to Vulnerable, Food Insecure Female-Headed Households” - FAO and UNWOMEN.....	25
2.3.2 Project “Improvement of Agricultural Production through Strengthening of Agricultural Extension Services and Increased Technical Inputs” – UNDP	27
2.4 THEMATIC AREA: ENERGY	28
2.4.1 Joint Programme “Supply of Reliable Energy to Rural First Aid Stations” – UNDP, UNIDO, UNV and WHO	29
2.5 THEMATIC AREA: ENVIRONMENT	30
2.5.1 Joint Programme “Rehabilitation of Riparian Forests in Kyrgyzstan” – UNDP and UNV	31
2.6 THEMATIC AREA: RISK MANAGEMENT	32
2.6.1 Joint Programme “Vulnerability Reduction of Local Communities through Strengthening Volunteerism and Civic Engagement in Disaster Risk Management” – UNDP, UNV and WFP	33

2.6.2	Joint Programme “Cross-border Natural Resources and Conflict” – UNDP and UNV	34
2.7	Project Challenges	36
3	Financial Summary	37
3.1	Sources, Uses, and Balance of Funds	37
3.2	Partner Contributions	38
3.3	Transfer of Funds	38
3.3.1	Transfers to Participating Organisations	38
3.3.2	Transfers by Thematic Area	40
3.4	Expenditure and Financial Delivery Rates	41
3.4.1	Expenditure by Thematic Area	41
3.4.2	Expenditure Reported by Participating Organisation	41
3.4.3	Total Expenditure Reported by Category	42
4	Transparency and Accountability	44
5	Conclusion	45

List of Tables

Table 1.1 Projects and Joint Programmes (1 January 2010 – 31 December 2012).....	14
Table 2: Training events conducted in 2012	20
Table 3: Vegetable Production by Crop Seed in 2012	26
Table 4: Vegetable Production by Region in 2012	26
Table 5: Water User Association Events.....	35
Table 3.1 Financial Overview for the period ending 31 December 2012 (in US Dollars).....	37
Table 3.2 Contributions (in US Dollars)	38
Table 3.3.1 Net Funded Amount by Participating Organisation (in US Dollars).....	39
Table 3.3.2 Net Funded Amount by Thematic Area (in US Dollars)	40
Table 3.4.1 Financial Overview with breakdown by Thematic Area (in US Dollars)	41
Table 3.4.2 Financial Delivery Rate by Participating Organisation (in US Dollars).....	41
Table 3.4.3 Total Expenditure by Category (in US Dollars).....	43

List of Figures

Figure 1: Progress across the 75 high-burden countries in the countdown to 2015.....	15
Figure 2: Maternity ward care.....	16
Figure 3: Birth Preparedness school.....	17
Figure 4: UNHCR and SRS representatives present a passport to a stateless man who used to be a holder of the Soviet passport	19
Figure 5: Beneficiaries of the WFP Food for Asset project sell their produce	23
Figure 6: Enjoying the harvest from FAO/UNWOMEN activities	25
Figure 7: UNIDO and UNV installed photoelectrical stations with capacity 1.5 kW and solar PV panels in 14 pilot First Aid Stations.....	29
Figure 3.3.1: Net Funded Amount by Participating Organisation for the period of 1 January to 31 December 2012 (percentage)	39
Figure 3.3.2: Net Funded Amount by Thematic Area, 1 January–31 December 2012 (percentage)	40
Figure 3.4.3: Expenditure by Category in 2012 (percentage).....	44

Executive Summary

Peaceful presidential elections in late 2011 helped the Kyrgyz Republic achieve a certain degree of stability in 2012. The government finalized the Country Development Strategy (CDS) for 2012-14 taking into account new negative trends, risks and challenges. For example, an increase in poverty (from 31.7 percent in 2009 to 36.8 percent in 2011), a sharp increase in rural poverty (from 37.1 percent to 40.4 percent), a lack of social support, continuing social tension, and growth of unemployment, to name a few. The new CDS 2012-14 stated that key mid-term development priorities were to maintain macroeconomic stability, improve the business climate, develop infrastructure, and strengthen governance and transparency in the public sector. These challenges were mitigated by the actions and achievements of the Participating Organisations through the **One UN Programme** (2010 – 2013).

In a continuous effort to improve aid effectiveness and provide timely support to the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, the UN system continued to implement the **One UN Programme** (2010 – 2013), which represents planning and response framework to address energy and food insecurity and the global economic crisis. To this end, the interventions within the Kyrgyzstan One Programme fall under six thematic areas: (1) Social Services, (2) Food Security, (3) Agriculture, (4) Energy, (5) Environment, and (6) Risk Management and will continue to be funded during 2013. The Kyrgyzstan One Fund has concluded its third year of operations. Eleven Participating Organisations' projects and joint programmes were funded by Kyrgyzstan One Fund in 2012. They were designed to be sustainable and to have an impact within this period.

In 2012 the Kyrgyzstan One Fund achieved many milestones. UNFPA and UNICEF "Ensuring Access to Affordable Health Services in the Affected Areas of the Country for Women of Reproductive Age and Newborns" joint programme supported another 14 maternity hospitals and 12 family medicine centres, in addition to the six selected sites in Bishkek, Osh and Batken provinces, which meant that all deliveries happening in rural maternities of Osh and Batken provinces were provided with effective perinatal care services, which comprises 35 percent of all total deliveries in the country.

UNHCR's "Prevention and Reduction of Statelessness" project supported the State Registration Service (SRS) in processing 16,773 applications for Kyrgyz Republic passports (of former USSR citizens) in 2012. As a result of UNHCR advocacy, amendments to by-laws on citizenship issues were developed and provided to the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic to prevent statelessness and facilitate access to citizenship. In 2012, ILO's "Combating Child Labour through Education in Kyrgyzstan: Capacity Building and Educational Opportunities for School Drop-outs" project supported the Ministry of Education and Science (MoE), Kyrgyz Academy of Education and NGOs in setting up evening school classes for children with breaks in schooling or who dropped out from secondary education. WFP "Food for Asset" (FFA) project reached 20,696 participants in 2012, out of which 5,522 were covered by the Kyrgyzstan One Fund. FFA projects improved the food security and incomes of beneficiary households through distributions of fortified food rations to project participants. FAO and UNWOMEN's "Agricultural Assistance to Vulnerable, Food Insecure Female-Headed Households" joint programme facilitate the planting of 40 hectares (ha) of tomatoes, cucumbers, carrots and cauliflower. UNWOMEN conducted capacity building activities which resulted in the formation of 60 Self-help Groups (SHGs) covering the 400 most vulnerable rural households from 10 villages.

UNDP's "Improvement of Agricultural Production through Strengthening of Agricultural Extension Services and Increased Technical Inputs" project conducted 58 workshops, in which 1,633 people were trained in agricultural production technologies and entrepreneurial skills, and 371 beneficiaries received US\$ 236,214 of micro-loans

from local financial institutions. In addition, 64 small businesses for small rural entrepreneurs and farmers were created. UNDP, UNIDO, UNV and WHO “Supply of Reliable Energy to Rural First Aid Stations” joint programme installed photoelectrical stations with capacity 1.5 kW in 14 pilot First Aid Stations (FASs) in 2012. After installing the photoelectrical stations to rural FASs, more than 2640 people including pregnant women and children have sustainable access to health services. UNDP and UNV “Rehabilitation of Riparian Forests in Kyrgyzstan” joint programme reforested 8.4 hectares in 2012 in addition to 41.6 ha of reforested land in previous years, totalling 50 ha to date. More than 80 dwellers of Kok-Moinok participated in the tree planting, thus receiving temporary employment and benefiting with supplies of wheat flour and vegetable oil.

UNDP, UNV and WFP “Vulnerability Reduction of Local Communities through Strengthening Volunteerism and Civic Engagement in Disaster Risk Management” joint programme expanded the scope of the programme in 2012 to include 20 pilot local self-governments (LSGs) and 700 copies of a disaster risk management training tool were distributed to 32 disaster prone communities. In addition, locally trained UNVs established 32 Civil Protection Commissions and trained 32 emergency rescue facilities; and as a result, 20,000 people had their awareness raised about the necessity of disaster management planning. UNDP and UNV “Cross-border Natural Resources and Conflict” joint programme supported peace building activities to cross-border working groups in the Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan-Tajikistan corridors. UNDP facilitated the signing of a 5-year cooperation agreement between provincial authorities.

During the 2012 reporting period, the Kyrgyzstan One Fund received a total of US\$ 2,608,000 in contributions from the Expanded Delivering as One Funding Window for Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (Expanded DaO Funding Window). In 2012, the MPTF Office, as Administrative Agent, transferred a total of US\$ 3,925,180 to ten Participating Organisations, based on the approval of the Kyrgyzstan One Fund Joint Country Steering Committee (Steering Committee). This funding enabled Participating UN Organisations to achieve and continue planned results. This included additional funding that arrived early 2012 and the final third tranche of funding in the amount of US\$ 2,608,000.

Project implementation continued during 2012 and Participating UN Organisations incurred US\$ 3.3 million in expenditure. The overall cumulative delivery rate of the Kyrgyzstan One Fund as of 31 December 2012 was 70.8 percent. When interpreting this delivery rate, it is important to note that the 3rd tranche of the EFW funding, amounting to US\$ 2.608¹ million, was transferred to the Participating Organisations only in November 2012. In 2012, the achievements of the projects funded through the Kyrgyzstan One Fund significantly reduced the severity of emerging challenges on the most vulnerable. The Kyrgyzstan One Fund enabled Participating Organisations to deliver a wide range of theme-based programme activities.

In 2012, the government and UN representatives pledged that social development and attainment of the MDGs were key priorities, efforts to mobilize resources for the 2013 portfolio of the Kyrgyzstan One Fund projects would be explored, and the Delivering as One approach would be supported.

Together with national partners, the United Nations intends to build on project achievements supported through the Kyrgyzstan One Fund, with a total cumulative value of approximately US\$ 10 million since 2010. These joint programmes and projects form a solid, coherent and realistic set of interventions covering the poorest provinces of the country and, most importantly, the most vulnerable population. Further replenishment of resources is vital in advancing the objectives of the Kyrgyzstan One Fund. The MPTF Office envisages that the

¹ This amount of the 3rd tranche of EFW funding includes the Administrative Agent fee of one percent.

Annual Progress Report will give the Joint Steering Committee the basis to better assess resource requirements and to advocate and mobilise for additional funding.

1 Introduction

The Kyrgyz Republic ranked 126 out of 187 countries in the Human Development Index and remained below average for countries in the medium human development group. It continued to be a low-income country and the maternal mortality rate remained high (47.5 per 100 000 live birth), as well as the child mortality rate (37 per 1,000 live births) in 2011. Although access to compulsory education is generally high, quality remains very poor. The level of unemployment in the Kyrgyz Republic for the first 6 months in 2012 reached 8.6 percent with a majority of unemployed concentrated in Jalal-Abad and Osh provinces. Deterioration of household food security was reported with an estimated 25 percent of the population (about 1.3 million people) considered food insecure in September 2012, compared to 18 percent in March 2012. One of the positive trends in 2012 was growth of wages in the field of mining (50.9 percent), and health (43.5 percent) in January-September 2012 in comparison with the same period in 2011. Despite a continued decline in the number of outgoing migrants from the Kyrgyz Republic, the volume of incoming remittances in 2012 kept growing (more than 20 percent) reaching almost US\$ 1.7 billion. Undoubtedly this contributed to higher consumption and investment spending by migrants' households.

The end of the political transition through peaceful presidential elections in late 2011 helped the country achieve a certain degree of stabilisation in 2012. Although the new political system curbs presidential powers in favour of the parliament and the government, in the eyes of the populace, the president remained the highest-level politician and the leader of the nation. In 2012 President Almazbek Atambaev, without jeopardising the Constitution and the role of parliament, took gradual steps to consolidate his power by strengthening his overall political influence and reputation. The consolidation of his power helped manage the governmental crisis in August, caused by the collapse of the majority coalition and resignation of the former prime minister, and brought together a more consolidated and loyal cabinet.

Although the overall situation in the South seemed calm, tensions remained high, requiring an immediate policy response from the authorities who failed to approve the long-anticipated "*Concept for Ethnic Development*", a drafted framework outlining the state's strategy on inter-ethnic and minority integration. In 2012, the



government finalised the Country Development Strategy (CDS) for 2012-14 taking into account the aforementioned challenges. The new CDS (2012-14) stated that key mid-term development priorities were to maintain macroeconomic stability, improve the business climate, develop infrastructure, and strengthen governance and transparency in the public sector. However, the document failed to demonstrate realistic costing and financing of national priorities. These challenges were mitigated by the actions and achievements of the Participating Organisations through the Kyrgyzstan One Fund In 2012.

1.1 Strategic Framework

In a continuous effort to improve aid effectiveness and timely support to the host government, the UN system continued to implement the One UN Programme (2010 – 2011)², which represents planning and response framework to address energy and food insecurity and the global economic crisis affecting the most vulnerable in the country. One UN Programme has given the UN system the unique opportunity to increase its effectiveness within the country by adopting the Delivering as One guiding principles. In addition the Kyrgyz Republic was officially recognized as a Delivering as One volunteer. The Delivering as One was used as a strategy for the United Nations system in the Kyrgyz Republic whereby the UN family has strengthened the collaboration among its UN organisations to increase coherence, effectiveness and impact of its developmental assistance. The success is measured not only by the delivery of funds, but by achievement of tangible and sustainable results in each thematic area that are presented in this report. In addition in 2012, the One UN Programme leveraged resources from other contributors and lowered the transaction costs through joint delivery of the projects, which constitute major achievements.

The interventions within the One UN Programme that fall under six thematic areas:;(1) Social Services, (2) Food Security, (3) Agriculture, (4) Energy, (5) Environment, and (6) Risk Management, will continue to be funded by the Kyrgyzstan One Fund during 2013. The programmes contribute to three priority areas identified in the current UNDAF for 2012-2016: (a) Peace and Cohesion, Effective Democratic Governance, and Human Rights; (b) Social Inclusion and Equity; and (c) Inclusive and Sustainable Job-Rich Growth for Poverty Reduction. The UNDAF is projected to attract US\$ 187 million in grant aid for the country's most pressing development needs. The new UNDAF is programmatically designed to provide support for resource mobilization and facilitate partnerships. These efforts at common programming are ultimately designed to provide a comprehensive approach to the support given to national authorities while ensuring greater visibility and resonance of UN activities. The One UN Programme projects are due to be concluded by 31 December 2013.

1.2 Governance Arrangements

1.2.1 Kyrgyzstan One Fund Steering Committee

The overall management of the Kyrgyzstan One Fund is led and coordinated by the Steering Committee composed of representatives from each Participating Organisation that signed an MOU with the Administrative Agent. The Steering Committee is co-chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator and a nominated representative of the President's Office of the Kyrgyz Republic. The Steering Committee may invite contributors to be members of the Steering Committee as well as the line ministries. The Administrative Agent is an ex-officio member of the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee oversees and coordinates the operations of the Kyrgyzstan One Fund, providing strategic direction, approving projects and deciding on fund allocation.

² The Joint Steering Committee agreed to extend the duration of the programmes supported under the existing One Fund in the Kyrgyz Republic until 31 December 2013. The MOU for the One Fund was subsequently amended.

In 2012, the Joint Steering Committee and the line ministries met once in October with the purpose to: (1) review the results of 2011-2012 implementation of the One UN Programme by thematic area; and (2) review the portfolio of projects prepared for 2013 and endorse the substantive direction of the One UN Programme in 2013, including eleven priority projects to be supported through the Kyrgyzstan One Fund from the 3rd tranche (US\$ 2.608 million) of the Expanded DaO Funding Window.

1.2.2 The Administrative Agent

The Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office) of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) serves as the Administrative Agent of the Kyrgyzstan One Fund. The Administrative Agent concluded a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with a total of 14 United Nations (UN) Organisations (hereafter referred to as “Participating Organisations”) involved in the Kyrgyzstan One Fund, namely: Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), International Labour Organisation (ILO), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Educational Scientific And Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Volunteer Programme (UNV), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UNWOMEN), World Food Programme (WFP), and World Health Organisation (WHO).

The MPTF Office is responsible for a range of fund management services, including: (a) receipt, administration and management of contributions; (b) transfer of funds approved by the Kyrgyzstan One Fund Steering Committee to Participating Organisations; (c) reporting on the source and use of contributions received; (d) synthesis and consolidation of the individual annual narrative and financial progress reports submitted by each Participating Organisation for submission to contributors through the Steering Committee; and (e) ensuring transparency and accountability of Kyrgyzstan One Fund operations by making available a wide range of Kyrgyzstan One Fund operational information on the Kyrgyzstan One Fund web site of the MPTF Office GATEWAY found at <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/KG100>.

Table 1.1: Projects and Joint Programmes (1 January 2010 – 31 December 2012)

<u>Theme</u>						
Project Title	Participating Organisation	Project Number	Funds Approved (\$)	Funds Transferred (\$)	Start Date	Completion date
<u>Social Services</u>						
Prevention and reduction of statelessness	UNHCR	74588	506,446	506,446	23-Mar-10	31-Dec-13
Ensuring access to affordable health services	UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO	74587	1,719,486	1,719,486	23-Mar-10	31-Dec-12
Combating Child Labour through Education in Kyrgyzstan: Capacity building and educational opportunities for school drop-outs	ILO	79229	191,904	191,904	1-Jan-12	31-Dec-12
Sub-total:			2,417,836			
<u>Food Security</u>						
Food for Asset	WFP	74589	2,582,431	2,582,431	1-Jul-11	30-Jan-13
Sub-total:			2,582,431			
<u>Agriculture</u>						
Provision of access to irrigation water to the population of the cross-border community Akkorgon	UNDP	74592	119,097	119,097	23-Mar-10	30-Jun-13
Agricultural assistance to female headed households	FAO, UNWOMEN	74603	783,508	783,508	28-Apr-10	31-Dec-13
Improvement of agricultural production through strengthening of agricultural extension services and increased technical inputs	UNDP	74602	664,886	664,886	23-Mar-10	31-Dec-12
Sub-total:			1,448,394			
<u>Energy</u>						
Supply of reliable energy to rural first aid stations	UNDP/UNV, WHO, UNIDO	74590	987,569	987,569	23-Mar-10	31-Dec-13
Sub-total:			987,569			
<u>Environment</u>						
Rehabilitation of riparian forests in Kyrgyzstan	UNDP, UNV	74591	796,856	796,856	23-Mar-10	30-Apr-13
Sub-total:			796,856			
<u>Risk Management</u>						
Cross-border natural resources and conflict	UNDP, UNV, WFP	74593	586,292	586,292	23-Mar-10	31-Dec-13
Vulnerability reduction of local communities through strengthening volunteerism and civic engagement in disaster risk management	UNDP, UNV, WFP	79230	411,733	411,733	1-Jan-12	31-Dec-13
Sub-total:			998,025			
Grand Total:			9,231,111			

2 One Fund Achievements by Thematic Area

The following section presents a summary of key activities of all eleven projects by fourteen Participating Organisations. This section contains the compilation of project achievements from the individual annual progress reports submitted to the MPTF Office, as the Administrative Agent. The results are organised by thematic areas. The six thematic areas are: Social Services, Food Security, Agriculture, Energy, Environment, and Risk Management. These thematic areas were chosen because they reflect the United Nations system core capacities, which have the greatest effect in improving the lives of vulnerable people.

2.1 THEMATIC AREA: SOCIAL SERVICES

The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic has prioritized maternal and newborn health at the very highest level as reflected in the government’s commitment on implementation of the Global Strategy on Health of Women and Children in 2011. According to Ministry of Health (MoH) data for 2012, there was a decrease in the infant mortality rate (IMR) by 5.7 percent, resulting in an overall decrease particularly in the in Batken (17.8 percent) and in Osh (6 percent) provinces. In Osh, the reduction of the IMR was conditioned by its decrease in Nookat district (34.6 percent), Kara-Kuldja (33 percent), Uzgen (21.7 percent), and in Alay district (1.2 percent), the areas where the UNFPA and UNICEF maternity project started in 2010. An increase in the IMR was observed in Aravan district (34.3 percent), Chon-Alay (3.9 percent), and Kara Suu district (2.6 percent), due to an improvement in data collection and birth registration.

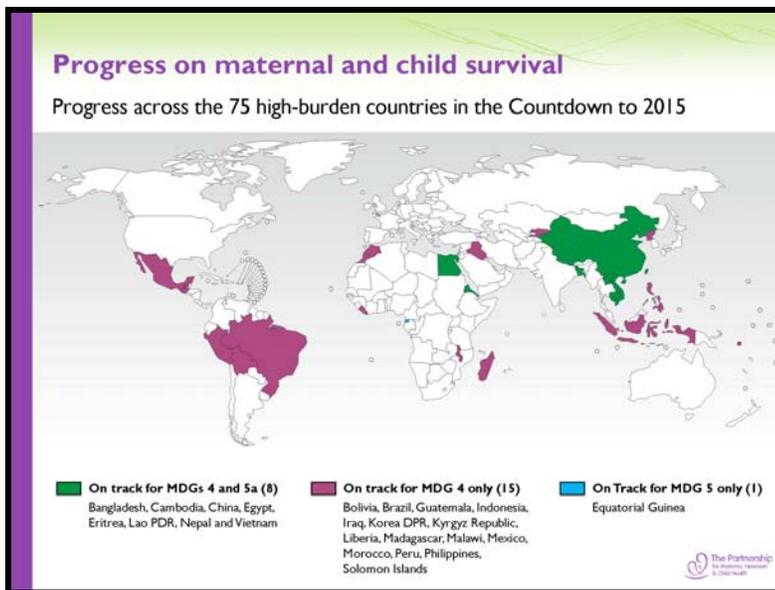


Figure 1: Progress across the 75 high-burden countries in the countdown to 2015 (2012 ©UNICEF/UNFPA)

In 2012, it was reported the first time that the Kyrgyz Republic is on track to achieve MDG 4. The leading cause of infant mortality in the Kyrgyz Republic is perinatal causes, though the percentage decreased in 2012 to 63.5 percent of cases. Other causes include respiratory diseases (13.7 percent) and congenital anomalies (13.6 percent). In 2012, maternal deaths remained stable, with approximately 47.5 deaths per 100,000 livebirths. Osh remains the highest with 61 deaths per 100,000 livebirths. Batken experienced a 24.2 percent decrease in the maternal death rate in 2012. Among leading causes of maternal deaths was bleeding 31 percent (23 cases), extragenital diseases - 23.0 percent (17 cases), preeclampsia - 17.6 percent (13 cases), sepsis - 13.5 percent (10 cases) and other causes - 14.9 percent in 2012.

and congenital anomalies (13.6 percent). In 2012, maternal deaths remained stable, with approximately 47.5 deaths per 100,000 livebirths. Osh remains the highest with 61 deaths per 100,000 livebirths. Batken experienced a 24.2 percent decrease in the maternal death rate in 2012. Among leading causes of maternal deaths was bleeding 31 percent (23 cases), extragenital diseases - 23.0 percent (17 cases), preeclampsia - 17.6 percent (13 cases), sepsis - 13.5 percent (10 cases) and other causes - 14.9 percent in 2012.

Strategic activities within this thematic area target vulnerable population groups living in rural areas that have acute needs in times of social crisis. Women of reproductive age are ensured access to affordable health services and support. Supplying stateless vulnerable populations with citizenship improves their access to social services, health status, and a good quality of life.

The objective of the Social Services thematic area is for vulnerable groups in rural areas to gain better access to essential services by: (a) strengthening critical institutions, and (b) supporting effective and timely service provision.

2.1.1 Joint Programme “Ensuring Access to Affordable Health Services in the Affected Areas of the Country for Women of Reproductive Age and Newborns” - UNFPA, UNICEF

The UNFPA and UNICEF “Ensuring Access to Affordable Health Services in the Affected Areas of the Country for Women of Reproductive Age and Newborns” joint programme aims to improve the quality of maternal and newborn care through improvement of health care services (maternal, perinatal, child) and technical skills in 20 selected maternity hospitals. Maternity hospitals with the weakest capacity of medical workers, infrastructure, and compliance to standards and with the highest rate of delivery were targeted.

Achievements

In addition to six selected sites in Bishkek, Osh and Batken provinces, in 2012 another 14 maternity hospitals and 12 family medicine centres were supported, which meant that all deliveries happening in rural maternities of Osh and Batken provinces were provided with effective perinatal care services, which comprises 35 percent of total deliveries in the country. This UNFPA and UNICEF joint programme was integrated with the UNICEF Equity Programme in Southern Kyrgyz Republic, which covers these provinces as well.

In 2012, positive results were observed in the southern part of the country and the joint programme contributed significantly to the progress on maternal and child survival. More than 60 percent of women knew at least one key danger sign during pregnancy, delivery and postpartum. Overall 45 percent of the women were birth prepared. In 2012, women’s knowledge of obstetric complications and symptoms increased by 35 percent, enabling them to seek emergency care in time. Specifically,

- over 35 percent of deliveries were provided with effective perinatal care services;
- due to effective implementation of complex services, including timely referral, newborns needed 3 times less intensive care than last year;
- perinatal, early neonatal, and under 5 mortality decreased by almost 2 times compared to national figures in the pilot



Figure 2: Maternity ward care (2012 ©UNFPA)

areas;

- overall 37 percent of pregnant women were prepared for child birth and involved their husbands in birth preparedness classes;
- postpartum haemorrhage decreased by 10 percent; and
- women's knowledge of obstetric complications, risk and dangerous symptoms increased by 35 percent enabling them to seek emergency care in time.

In 2012, six training on antenatal care for 150 health providers were organised in Osh and Batken. However, health providers, especially specialists in other disciplines, repeatedly reported technical limits in maternal and child health issues. For this reason mentoring visits and three on-the-job trainings were organised in Osh, Batken provinces and Bishkek city. During the trainings national consultants with practical skills on antenatal care provided advice and technical expertise to health providers.

Based on the request of the Ministry of Health, four birth preparedness schools were established in 2012 and training equipment, furniture and supplies were supplied for Osh and Batken provinces. Training and mentoring visits were organised to strengthen counselling and management skills. A birth-preparedness intervention in the south region substantially increased the user rate of emergency obstetric services (see story below). Referral to second or third level centres for emergency obstetric care was mandatory. Education induced women to seek medical care when they start bleeding in late pregnancy. This education was also given to husbands or other family members in the birth preparedness schools. Advice and counselling were therefore key elements which helped women secure rapid hospital treatment. Because anemia aggravates the effects of bleeding, iron prophylaxis was prescribed.



Figure 3: Birth Preparedness school (2012 ©UNFPA)

A practical training session was organised in effective perinatal care for 124 medical specialists from maternity departments of Osh Provincial Joint Hospital, the Perinatal Centre of Osh City and Kara Suu Territorial Hospital, with the involvement of an international trainer, 3 national trainers and 5 new national trainers. Further, neonatal resuscitation training was organised. The involvement of Village Health Committees also increased. For instance in Kara Suu, Health Promotion Cabinet raised awareness in the community about the danger signs in pregnancy and during delivery. Supportive supervision to reinforce antenatal skills was undertaken following antenatal care training in the South comprising 50 percent of the health facilities. The focus of the supportive supervision was to identify any gaps and to reinforce knowledge on focused antenatal care and danger signs of pregnancy. In addition, the provision of basic life-saving equipment for intensive care units, regular monitoring and practical mentoring and continuous supervisory visits to the sites continued. Further work to improve the quality of maternal and newborn care through the continuous improvement of health care services will continue in 2013.

**“Knock-knock. Geniuses are being born here”-
Effective Perinatal Care in Batken**

The town of Kyzyl Kiya town hospital on the road from Osh to Batken, is not large. The maternity department is also small, but more than 3000 babies are born here every year. “Ten years ago we had 1600 births,” says Lyudmila Suglina, head of the maternity department, “but now the number has grown and it’s still growing, because women don’t just come here from the town to give birth, but from all the nearby districts as well. Kyzyl Kiya maternity department is one of six maternity facilities in Kyrgyzstan covered by a joint UNICEF and UNFPA programme to improve the quality of perinatal care and to reduce maternal and child mortality.

The joint programme aims to ensure the best possible conditions in maternity facilities for both women and newborns. However, medicine as a whole is the most conservative of social services, and the majority of health care workers received Soviet education and are committed to old Soviet methods. In the framework of the joint UN programme, doctors and healthcare personnel are being trained on effective assistance to pregnant women and babies, while maternity facilities are being provided with simple and effective instruments, including Ambu bags, “nests” for newborns, and techniques for neonatal assistance. “This will be my fourth child in this maternity house,” says Chinara. “I’ve always liked it here, but it’s better now, because it has become even more warm and comfortable. Like home.” It is astonishing that conservative medics actually make jokes about the transition to the new approach. Kyzyl Kiya maternity department has a posted sign that says: “Knock-knock. Geniuses are being born here.” This sign is powerful motivation to follow physician instruction before, during and after birth, and to take responsibility for a child’s development.

2.1.2 Project “Prevention and Reduction of Statelessness” – UNHCR

The UNHCR “**Prevention and Reduction of Statelessness**” project implemented by UNHCR aims to identify stateless persons, increase their awareness of their rights, and enable access to citizenship documentation of the Kyrgyz Republic. Objectives of the UNHCR project include drafting and adopting by-laws, identifying citizenship problems, consulting with the government on citizenship policy (including a National Action Plan to Prevent and Reduce Statelessness) and developing an effective system for processing citizenship applications.

Achievements

UNHCR supported an Inter-Agency Working Group (WG) represented by the State Registration Service (SRS), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Citizenship Commission under the President of the Kyrgyz Republic, and NGOs. The WG proposed amendments to by-laws on citizenship issues aimed at improving and facilitating the citizenship procedures for stateless and undocumented persons in the Kyrgyz Republic and submitted them for the approval of state authorities. Throughout the year UNHCR continued lobbying for the accession of the Kyrgyz Republic to the statelessness conventions. By the end of the year, as a result of intensive lobbying for the accession, the authorities indicated that they would study the subject closely. In December 2012, UNHCR and the SRS held the Third High Level Steering Meeting that resulted in an updated National Action Plan on the Prevention and Reduction of Statelessness.

In March 2012, the law “On citizenship of the Kyrgyz Republic” was amended to eliminate fees during acquisition of Kyrgyz citizenship to: (a) persons of Kyrgyz ethnicity having foreign citizenship or stateless; (b) former citizens of Kyrgyzstan returning to the country; and (c) female foreign and stateless persons married to Kyrgyz citizens. In addition, according to

amended Article 14(2) of the law, access to citizenship is not conditioned by period of residence in the Kyrgyz Republic and preliminary withdrawal from foreign citizenship for aforementioned categories.



Figure 4: UNHCR and SRS representatives present a passport to a stateless man who used to be a holder of the Soviet passport (2012 ©UNHCR)

Further, the Committee of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic on Human Rights, Constitutional Legislation and State Structure recently provided its interpretation of Article 14(2) of the law “On citizenship” and stated that access to Kyrgyz citizenship is not conditioned by de-registration in the country of previous residence. As a result, the SRS issued this directive to the local passport units and will not require the foreign spouses to de-

register in the country of origin to acquire Kyrgyz citizenship.

As of the beginning of 2012, the total estimated number of stateless persons and persons at risk of statelessness was 32,300 persons. As the Kyrgyz Republic currently lacks mechanisms to identify and count stateless persons, UNHCR funded an independent mapping survey to count stateless persons in Kyrgyzstan. The preliminary results, shared with the government, indicated that the number of stateless persons may be bigger than anticipated and majority of them live in Chui, Osh and Djalal-Abad provinces.

Although the authorities were actively cooperating with UNHCR on reduction of statelessness, the Citizenship Commission, the SRS and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) partners have little capacity to implement statelessness activities in full volume. Therefore, in 2012, UNHCR provided technical and financial support to them to process citizenship applications. As result, 2914 stateless persons received free legal counselling through UNHCR supported NGOs and 1,668 of these were assisted with citizenship applications. Moreover in 2012, 943 undocumented children were documented with birth certificates, through UNHCR support. In total, 16,773 applications for Kyrgyz Republic passports (of former USSR citizens) were processed by the SRS. Moreover, 54 stateless people received Kyrgyz citizenship by the decree of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic.

In term of capacity building, UNHCR’s partners conducted six round-tables and seminars for 77 representatives of the SRS, the Civil Status Registration district units and NGOs. Also a number of round-tables and seminars on statelessness issues were held by UNHCR’s partners for 19 district level Civil Registry officers, 18 judges and 33 Centre for Service of Population officers recently established under the SRS. Participants were familiarized with UNHCR’s mandate, international statelessness conventions, national citizenship legislation and current challenges and the role of the civil registration units and courts in documentation of children were discussed.

In spring 2013, the final survey results of the independent mapping survey on defining and counting stateless persons in Kyrgyzstan will be available. The draft amendments elaborated in 2012 including UNHCR proposals to prevent statelessness are going to be reviewed for approval by the Apparatus of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic in spring of 2013.

2.1.3 Project “Combating Child Labour through Education in Kyrgyzstan: Capacity Building and Educational Opportunities for School Drop-outs” - ILO

The ILO “Combating Child Labour through Education in Kyrgyzstan: Capacity Building and Educational Opportunities for School Drop-outs” project aims to prevent and eliminate the worst forms of child labour by: (a) supporting curriculum development for non-formal education (catch-up classes) for children with breaks in schooling or who dropped out of secondary education; (b) building the capacity of the education specialists to deliver the non-formal/transitional education programme, and to mainstream child labour issues into education sector plans; (c) raising awareness of the general public on child labour and the importance of education; and (d) knowledge sharing, collection and dissemination of the lessons learned and good practices.

Achievements

In 2012, the ILO, Ministry of Education and Science (MoE), Kyrgyz Academy of Education and NGOs agreed to develop a curriculum for evening school classes for children with breaks in schooling or who dropped out from secondary education. The Kyrgyz Academy of Education in coordination with the MoE then selected a group of 5 specialists to develop the curriculum for the following subjects taught in secondary school (5-9 grades): Kyrgyz language, Kyrgyz culture, English language, and public sciences for Kyrgyz/Russian schools. After extensive technical consultations, the curriculums were approved by the MoE and Kyrgyz Academy of Education and translated into Kyrgyz language. In total, 100 copies of the final curriculums and the ILO-IPEC Training Manual for Teachers on Non-Formal Education (NFE) attached to the curriculum were printed and distributed among evening schools for introduction where necessary.

Table 2: Training events conducted in 2012

Name of Training	Duration	Target audience	Number of participants	Subject
Child Labour and Education	3 days	Ministry of Education (7), Ministry of Labour (5), Teachers Unions (7), Employers Organisations (4), and NGOs (4)	27 participants from: Kazakhstan (4 participants), Kyrgyzstan (15), Tajikistan (4), and Azerbaijan (4).	Strengthen the child labour and education skills of resource persons to deliver capacity building activities. Training based on the ILO-IPEC Handbook on Mainstreaming Child Labour in Education Sector Plans.
Training of Trainers	5 days	teachers, school principals and education specialists/authorities	30 participants from the seven regions of Kyrgyzstan.	Child labour, SCREAM and the curriculums for evening classes/schools
Training based on TOT	3 days	teachers from evening and secondary schools/classes	25 participants each from: (a) Osh city and Kara Suu; (b) Aksuiskiy and Karakol city/ Issykkul; (c) Chuy and Bishkek; (d) Sokulukskiy and Moskovskiy; and (e) Ysykatinskiy.	child labour, SCREAM and the curriculums for evening classes/schools

A total of 130 teachers, school principals and education specialists were trained on child labour, SCREAM and the approved curriculum for evening classes for children with breaks in schooling or who dropped out from secondary education. In addition, 33 representatives of the key stakeholders and ILO-IPEC staff from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan were trained on mainstreaming child labour issues into education sector plans (Table 2).

ILO also worked toward raising the awareness of the general public on the importance of education. Over the reporting period, two 30-minutes TV programmes were produced, which had the programme titles:

- “Child Labour Monitoring System in Kyrgyzstan: objectives and expected outputs” translated in September 2012.
- “Child Labour and Education” translated in December 2012.

Broadcasting was made free of charge by national OTRK TV channel. These two TV programmes generated the interest of the local mass media. As a result, local newspapers and TV channels have initiated and aired a number of articles on child labour.

In 2013, the ILO project will establish and pilot evening classes under two pilot secondary schools in Osh and Bishkek Municipalities. The evening classes will enable children at risk / involved in the Worst Forms of Child Labour to “catch up” with their peers who are of the usual age for the grade.

2.2 THEMATIC AREA: FOOD SECURITY

The Kyrgyz Republic suffers from food insecurity caused not only by a series of climatic and economic shocks, civil strife and inter-ethnic conflict, but also by underlying structural problems that stifle agricultural production. Among these are high exposure and vulnerability to natural disasters, particularly in rural areas, and the on-going environmental degradation of agricultural lands.

WFP’s September 2012 Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) found that 25 percent of households were food-insecure in the Kyrgyz Republic. This is a significant deterioration compared to March 2012 (1 million people) and August 2011 (950,000 people). The estimated proportion of food-insecure households increased from the peak of the lean season in March 2012 with the proportion of severely food-insecure families increasing to 9 percent, up from 2 percent in August 2011 and 3 percent in March 2012. An additional 547,000 people relied on negative food-related coping strategies, suggesting they are ‘at-risk’ of becoming food-insecure in the event of further shocks. Monthly food price monitoring has also shown a sharp increase in the cost of basic commodities with an average rise of over 50 percent recorded across the country since June 2012.

Food insecurity was more prevalent in rural areas, where it averaged 35 percent in September 2012. Rural households were more likely to rely on irregular income sources such as sale of crops, and they were less able to cope with increased market prices of food. Most food-insecure households are largely dependent on food purchases and therefore vulnerable to increased market prices for food commodities. Food-insecure families spend 61 percent of their household budget on food. Their irregular cash income and low productive asset base do not enable them to maintain adequate frequency and diversity of food intake. Increasing food prices, particularly for wheat flour, a staple for many Kyrgyz families, is exacerbating the situation. Their nutrient-poor, micronutrient deficient diet risks the nutritional status and health of vulnerable household members.

Protein-rich food, such as dairy and meat, is often absent. This increases the likelihood of malnutrition and disease if continued in the medium or longer term.

The objective of the Food Security thematic area is to assist the Kyrgyz Government in its efforts to support the re-establishment of livelihoods, food and nutrition security, and protect the lives and livelihoods of food insecure communities affected by shocks.

2.2.1 Project “Food for Asset (FFA)” – WFP

The WFP “**Food for Asset**” (FFA) project aims to support the re-establishment of livelihoods and improve the food security of food insecure communities. The project will improve the capacity for food production among vulnerable farmers and increase their resiliency to shocks through strengthening social safety nets and infrastructure and asset creation. The project supports the government of the Kyrgyz Republic through coordinated interventions that are either initiated by local communities or were identified by government bodies or other stakeholders. These interventions fall under four priority areas: (1) disaster risk reduction and mitigation; (2) improvement of rural infrastructure; (3) agricultural development; and (4) environmental protection.

Achievements

In 2012, the WFP Food for Asset programme reached 20,696 participants (representing 115,304 beneficiaries), out of which 5,522 (29,365 beneficiaries) were covered by One Programme. Food for Asset projects were successfully completed thanks to WFP’s key partnerships with other UN agencies, contributors, government and local authorities. WFP assisted the Kyrgyz Government in re-establishing livelihoods and food and nutrition security of food insecure communities. In accordance with WFP’s beneficiary selection criteria, project participants were identified based on vulnerable population lists drawn up by local governments with WFP community targeting methodology. Additional checks of the draft beneficiary lists were done by WFP and partners to ensure at least 5 percent verification and changes to the lists where required.

WFP Food for Asset/Training (FFA/T) projects improved the food security and incomes of beneficiary households through distributions of fortified food rations in remuneration for participants’ labour. In 2012, 60 percent of households improved their Food Consumption Score. Projects also aimed at the creation of assets for the community, such as restoring irrigation systems. Creating assets enhanced agricultural production over the longer term by boosting small-scale agricultural production, improving livelihood skills, and building self-reliance of rural communities, especially those affected by shocks. Improved community infrastructure was reflected in the increase in the Community Asset Score (CAS)³. In 2012, communities increased their CAS by 87 percent, surpassing the 80 percent target.

Starting in 2012, WFP has sought to gradually move away from emergency food aid to long term food assistance and government capacity development activities, such as improving food security monitoring through a

³ CAS measures the increase in functioning assets, or ‘facilities and infrastructure’ that enable a community, and the households living within it, to begin restoring and rebuilding livelihoods, during recovery phases from conflicts, disasters, and shocks.

coordinated government setup of a Food Security Monitoring System to provide periodic and timely updates on food security. It has also launched a programme to optimise school meals through government capacity development, creation of a policy and strategy environment, and rehabilitation/construction of school canteens and water and sanitation facilities at piloted schools.

Food security was accomplished by offering food-insecure households fortified food rations in exchange for their temporary employment on sustainable community projects, including rehabilitation of rural infrastructure, agricultural development, disaster mitigation and environmental protection, and life skills training. The beneficiaries received 854 mt (480.5 mt more than originally planned) of fortified wheat flour (784.5 mt) and vegetable oil (69.9 mt) in remuneration. Out of the total amount distributed, 91 mt of vegetable oil were procured, while wheat flour was distributed under DAO using other resources. Altogether, the FFA/T component constituted about 26 percent of the total actual tonnage distributed in 2012.

The vegetable production projects involved 3,212 participants (50 more than originally planned), 300 of which participated under the FAO/UN WOMEN projects. Women-headed households were targeted, which enabled them to supplement their families' diets with vegetables they had grown. The women were provided with improved seed varieties and trained on improved farming methods. In 2012, the project contributed 1,078 ha of planted land and harvest collection of 2,629 mt. The yields from the new seed varieties increased



Figure 5: Beneficiaries of the WFP Food for Asset project sell their produce
(2012 ©WFP)

significantly, leading to increased household income (and food stocks) and allowing women to escape the vicious poverty trap of poor labour and poor income and achieve greater food security. The project also led to an exponential growth in the women's self-help groups (about 700 groups at national levels with over 3,000 members), and the formation of a women's own NGO, which allowed them to bank their savings. The vegetable production scheme involved a truly collaborative partnership between WFP, UNWOMEN (social mobilisation), FAO (training, seeds), the World Bank and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) (seeds). In the disaster mitigation and peace and development projects, WFP had an extremely productive partnership with UNDP.

Since the launch of the disaster mitigation and infrastructure improvement projects in July 2012, 87 percent of targeted communities increased their disaster mitigation assets. Notable accomplishments include the rehabilitation and cleaning of 86.8 km of irrigation channels, which now supply water to 16,233 ha of crop land, the installation of 450 gabion nets to reinforce riverbanks and the protection of 422 houses from possible emergencies. In addition:

- 3000 metres of drainage system were rehabilitated;

- 60 km of mud flow canals were rehabilitated;
- 4 bridges were reconstructed;
- 608,591 trees were planted; and
- 4 administrative buildings were protected from possible emergencies.

Partnerships with government and local authorities, national and international NGOs, and other UN agencies were, in particular, a notable success. Government ministries, including the Ministry of Emergency Operations, contributed tools, materials and technical expertise to FFA/T projects. Local authorities and partners, with their understanding of rural conditions and customs, were particularly essential in reaching and effectively targeting vulnerable populations and helped ensure that communities took responsibility for maintaining the improved infrastructure. Every partnership allowed WFP to leverage partners' expertise (e.g. engineering skills) and resources (e.g. high yield vegetable seeds, heavy machinery), resulting in higher-impact, multi-sector assistance that reached more beneficiaries.

Using UNV for implementation and monitoring was identified as a best practice in 2012. UNV performed some of the monitoring of projects, as they were already on the ground. For these reasons, implementation and monitoring by UNV will be further developed in 2013 and will be equally co-chaired by WFP and UNDP for disaster mitigation and environmental protection projects. WFP started a Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) in 2011 that will continue to be implemented in 2013.

2.3 THEMATIC AREA: AGRICULTURE

The Kyrgyz Republic is a food-deficient, land-locked country, highly dependent on food imports. The recent global food price increases of up to 70 percent (between June 2010 and March 2011) left the Republic among the worst affected worldwide. In addition, price volatility of essential agricultural inputs (fuel, and fertilizers) and a dilapidated agricultural infra-structure, has had negative effects on food security, rural livelihood prospects and agricultural output well into 2012 and beyond. Of the total land area, only 7 percent is utilized for cultivated crops, while no measurable amount of the land supports permanent crops such as fruit- and nut-bearing trees. Knowledge of modern technologies of cultivation is a very serious constraint which includes lack of experience, trained personnel and a shortage of modern equipment.

However, agriculture in the Kyrgyz Republic remains a significant sector of the economy. More than 60 percent of the population of Kyrgyzstan lives in rural areas and mostly depends on agriculture for a livelihood. Over 90 percent of agricultural outputs are produced by the private sector. In many cases, women represent over 60 percent of the labour force for food crop production; in fact women are involved on soil preparation and weeding using rudimentary tools. Gender inequalities in the Kyrgyz Republic have increased significantly since independence. Economic empowerment of women is central to the development of rural areas and to national economies. Women account for a significant proportion of the agriculture labour force, play a key role in food production, especially in subsistence farming, and perform most of unpaid work in rural areas. However, rural women and girls have restricted access to productive resources, such as land, agricultural inputs, finance and credit, extension services, and technology, which in turn limits the efficiency of the agricultural sector. They face more difficulty than men in gaining access to public services, social protection, decent employment opportunities, and local and national markets and institutions, due to cultural norms and security issues. Unpaid care work further hampers rural women's ability to take advantage of on- and off-farm employment and market opportunities in the agricultural sector. Therefore, sector response has been predominantly, but not exclusively, assisting conflict-affected and vulnerable populations with agriculture development interventions.

The objective of the Agricultural thematic area is to ensure that vulnerable farming households have the opportunity to maintain assets and secure their livelihood. This objective will be achieved by: (a) providing relief and rehabilitation in the agricultural sector to ensure food security; (b) enhancing planning and coordination of agricultural responses to assist the most vulnerable populations; (c) building the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture in collaboration with civil society organisations involved in agricultural relief, rehabilitation and development activities; and (d) increasing fodder, crop and vegetable production.

2.3.1 Joint Programme “Agricultural Assistance to Vulnerable, Food Insecure Female-Headed Households” - FAO and UN WOMEN

The FAO and UNWOMEN’s “Agricultural Assistance to Vulnerable, Food Insecure Female-Headed Households” joint programme⁴ aims to improve food security of vulnerable groups by: (a) organizing Self-help Groups (SHGs) to improve economic self-reliance and livelihoods (UN WOMEN); (b) provide an assortment of vegetable hybrid seeds, mineral fertilizers, mini-plastic tunnel greenhouses, and knapsack sprayers to increase vegetable production (FAO); and (c) establish Community Funds at the village level (UN WOMEN).

Achievements

In 2012, UN WOMEN focused on enhancing the capacity of vulnerable families through self-help and self-reliance approaches. Several capacity building activities were conducted and as a result, 60 Self-help Groups (SHGs) were formed covering the 400 most vulnerable rural households from 10 villages in 6 districts (rayons) of Osh, Djalal-Abad, Batken provinces. During the trainings, the purpose and benefits of SHGs was explained and 10 village animators and 3 province coordinators on social mobilization were selected. Members of SHGs were trained by village animators on group activities and development, SHG internal rules, and record keeping. A database of SHGs was established, and record books and households profiles were developed. Training was conducted for female-headed households (FHH) on vegetable production techniques and soil fertility management (see story below).



Figure 6: Enjoying the harvest from FAO/UNWOMEN activities (2012 ©FAO)

During 2012, FAO delivered 400 assorted vegetable kits (cucumber, carrot, tomato, cauliflower) among beneficiaries who had access to land suitable for vegetable cultivation to cover household consumption needs

⁴ The project has been supported by WFP’s FFA programme, which provides food rations to project participants as remuneration for their work.

(Table 3). In addition, 20 metric tons (mt) of ammonium nitrate and 10 mt of ammophos were procured and distributed to enhance plant nutrition and to increase the productivity of irrigated land. Sixty knapsack sprayers were procured and distributed to prevent plant diseases, as well as pest and weed management.

Table 3: Vegetable Production by Crop Seed in 2012

Crop seeds	Area planted (ha)	Number of HH*	Total area planted (ha)	Seeds rate (kg/ha)	Total quantity of seeds planted (kg)
Carrot	0.05	400	20	3.0	60
Cucumber	0.02	400	8	1.0	8.0
Tomato	0.02	400	8	0.3	2.4
Cauliflower	0.01	400	4	0.4	1.6
TOTAL	0.10	400	400		72

*HH: House-holds

In total, 40 hectares (ha) were planted in 2012 by the project beneficiaries, including 12 ha of tomatoes, 8 ha of cucumbers, 12 ha of carrots and 8 ha of cauliflower (Table 4). Project monitoring demonstrated that beneficiaries collected a high yield of vegetables. Yield of cucumbers was almost 40 tons per ha, and 25 tons per ha for tomatoes. By comparison, the average yield for vegetables in recent years in the country was 18 to 20 tons per ha, which demonstrates the high impact of the project's intervention. The total vegetable yield was 729 tons worth 12,215,647 Kyrgyz soms, or about US\$ 262 thousand.

Table 4: Vegetable Production by Region in 2012

Region	Number of HH total	Area, ha	Yield, t/ha	Total vegetable production, kg	Price, USD/kg	Total Income, USD
Batken	80	8	13.8	110,540	0.40	44,114
Jalal-Abad	160	16	16.9	270,497	0.28	76,971
Osh	160	16	21.7	347,681	0.40	140,501
TOTAL	400	40		728,718		261,586

The Community Funds collected came to 884,360 Kyrgyz soms (KGS), which is US\$ 18,937. Households contribute an equivalent of 40 percent of the cost of inputs received from the project in the form of seeds, fertilizers, and mini tunnel plastic greenhouses.

In 2012, FAO provided 400 Mini Plastic Tunnel Greenhouse (MPTG), and 12,000 units of cucumber hybrid seeds to 400 beneficiaries having access to land suitable for setting up the greenhouses for early vegetable production. FAO also conducted training in basic agronomical skills to 400 households in the target villages. In particular, 18 "Early cucumber production in greenhouse condition" trainings in 10 target villages were conducted for a group of 25 people each, and for 400 people in total. Another training for FHH was done on "Storage and vegetable home processing technology". In 2013, further work will continue to improve economic self-reliance and livelihoods and provide an assortment of vegetable hybrid seeds, mineral fertilizers, mini-plastic tunnel greenhouses, and knapsack sprayers to increase vegetable production through Community Funds.

UN Women brought us together, FAO taught us how to care for the land

In Arimjan village, a remote village of Jalal-Abad province, the sun made the young shoots of cucumber, carrot and cabbage gleam unusually bright. A total of 336 families live here. Forty of the village women, who by twist of fate have become the heads of their households, meet more often than the other villages. Today they waited in their fields with smiles on their faces. *“We are so glad that the UN found us,”* happily shared by the women. *“Our village is considered remote, and guests seldom come here. UN WOMEN brought us together and the FAO specialists taught us how to care for the land and gain good harvests.”*

After the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the number of families headed by women in Kyrgyzstan increased rapidly. In many families, men migrated to Russia, Kazakhstan and other countries in search of work. Of the 40 women beneficiaries of the FAO/UN WOMEN project in Arimjan village, 16 are widows. By the time the UN came to them in spring 2012, already the women could hardly believe that they could change their lives. *“We were not doing well,”* remembers Kumushay Salimjanova, the leader of the group in Arimjan village, and an English teacher in the local school. *“We sowed cotton every year, and the yield kept falling. The middlemen gave us poor prices for the cotton we collected and we could hardly make ends meet.”* At integrated training events, specialists from FAO and UN WOMEN taught them how to work together, how and when to correctly plant various crops, protect them from pests, and how to sell surplus. They work together collectively – someone harvests the crop, someone takes the surplus to the bazaar, someone makes the necessary purchases. *“We trust each other. We’re already like one family!”* In the two years of project implementation, 2,200 vulnerable households in Osh, Jalal-Abad, Batken and Issyk Kul provinces of the Kyrgyz Republic have received knowledge and resources to increase their incomes and reduce the poverty rate.

2.3.2 Project “Improvement of Agricultural Production through Strengthening of Agricultural Extension Services and Increased Technical Inputs” – UNDP

The UNDP “**Improvement of Agricultural Production through Strengthening of Agricultural Extension Services and Increased Technical Inputs**” project aims to strengthen the capacity of communities and local authorities to increase food security and alleviate poverty through better agricultural production, through improvement of seed-growing capacity and animal husbandry practices.

Achievements

As a start to the project, UNDP used a Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tool to conduct a needs assessment in crop and livestock production. The assessment showed that low efficiency of agricultural production is the major problem of rural residents. UNDP selected 25 villages in the Issyk-Kul, Talas, and Naryn provinces as project pilots to strengthen agricultural extension services and increased technical inputs. The UNDP project supported community-based Consultation and Marketing Centres (CMC) to address as a community-based channel for dissemination of skills on better livestock and crop-production techniques. CMC consultants were then selected as capacity building agents on better techniques of livestock development and crop production to provide mentoring in their communities. Overall, 58 training activities were held, in which 1,633 people were trained in new technologies in agricultural production and entrepreneurial skills. With the assistance of CMC consultants and regional specialists, 371 beneficiaries received US\$ 236,214 of micro-loans from local financial institutions. Further, 64 small businesses for small rural entrepreneurs and farmers were created to provide 162 new jobs (including 132 for women) with the goal of increased economic activity.

Round tables discussions were held in all provinces on institutional sustainability of CMCs in the villages. As a result of discussions the establishment and legal registration of the regional CMC in Talas was initiated. Two public associations (PA) “Activist Issyk-Kul” and “Tendesh-Zaman” oversee functions of the regional CMC in Issyk-Kul and Naryn provinces. The 25 CMCs created during this phase of the project implementation were integrated into a network of 54 CMCs created in the previous phase of the DAO project.

Small community project proposals were reviewed which aimed at creating conditions for improving agricultural production through creation of seed funds, veterinary pharmacies and artificial insemination centres. Grant support was provided to 12 projects and a total of 4,933 KGS was granted. Moreover, the UNDP project created 10 seed funds of wheat and potato, 8 artificial insemination centres, 19 veterinary centres and veterinary pharmacies in 25 communities of three regions of the country. This increased the efficiency of agricultural production for the poorest villagers.

Finally, exhibition-fairs of products of beneficiaries were organised in three regional centres (Karakol, Talas, and Naryn) to inform residents of the provinces and to disseminate successful stories of the project. The UNDP fulfilled all of the activities planned for the assigned period.

2.4 THEMATIC AREA: ENERGY

The Kyrgyz Republic is challenged by an inadequate supply of electricity. The country’s dilapidated energy network experiences regular breakdowns. Disruption to power supplies is a regular occurrence, particularly in winter, for around 60 percent of the country’s population who live in rural mountainous regions. The majority of the population lives below the poverty line, which forces rural communities to rely on firewood and other local fuel sources for heating and cooking. Reliance on wood fuels exacerbates problems of deforestation and land degradation, causes indoor air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, power disruptions seriously affect medical service provision in hospitals and first aid stations, and quality control in laboratories, vaccination and medicine refrigerators, and for sterilized equipment.

The mountains cover more than 93 percent of the country’s territory, presenting good potential for the use of decentralized renewable energy technologies. For example, steep, narrow river channels are ideal for installing mini-hydro units. In addition, the country has strong solar power potential (with over 300 solar days a year) and sufficiently sustainable winds to support small-scale wind turbine and biogas technologies. The National Strategy for the Fuel and Energy Complex Development (through 2025) calls for a rapid expansion of renewable technology. Greater use of renewable energy will also improve living standards in the Kyrgyz Republic’s poorest communities.

The key strategy of the Energy thematic area is to help critical institutions (such as first aid stations) become more energy efficient and heat resilient in the face of electricity shortages in winter. This strategy is achieved by introducing renewable energy technologies, such as micro-hydro power, bio gas and solar energy, and by promoting better insulation and fuel efficiency.

The objective of the Energy theme is to improve access to reliable and sustainable sources of energy. The target groups are critical institutions and vulnerable rural communities. This objective will be accomplished by: (a) ensuring reliable energy access for rural healthcare facilities; and (b) spreading public awareness and understanding of alternative and renewable energy sources.

2.4.1 Joint Programme “Supply of Reliable Energy to Rural First Aid Stations” – UNDP, UNIDO, UNV and WHO

The UNDP, UNIDO, UNV and WHO “Supply of Reliable Energy to Rural First Aid Stations” joint programme aims to increase the supply of reliable energy to rural first aid stations in each province (a total of seven) by fitting them with mini-hydro units and solar energy panels to ensure greater access to electricity, necessary for vital treatment for many people, most importantly pregnant women.

Achievements

In 2012, UNDP, UNIDO and UNV installed photoelectrical stations with capacity 1.5 kW in 14 pilot First Aid Stations (FASs). UNIDO purchased a photoelectrical station with a capacity of 3 kWt and delivered it to Bishkek, made preparatory work, and installed concrete platforms for the solar PV panels. UNDP and WHO delivered pipes and equipment for 7 micro hydro plants to 7 pilot FASs, and construction works began in March 2013. UNDP and UNV also purchased and delivered photoelectrical stations with a capacity of 1.5 kW to Tulek village, Kochkor rayon, Naryn province and to Alchaluu village, Chui rayon, Chui province.

After installing the photoelectrical stations to rural FASs, more than 2640 people including pregnant women and children have sustainable access to health services. For example, a rural FAS in Tulek village, Kochkor rayon of Naryn province is the only medical facility in the radius of 100 km, and often it is a place where local women give birth. Another rural FAS provides medical service to the 35 residents of Karakolka and 35 residents of neighbouring Ak-Shyirak uninterrupted. Karakolka is located in a very remote mountainous area at the altitude of more 3000 meters above sea level, very close to Kyrgyz-Chinese border. The



Figure 7: UNIDO and UNV installed photoelectrical stations with capacity 1.5 kW and solar PV panels in 14 pilot First Aid Stations (2012 ©UNIDO)

village is very difficult to access especially in winter time. Local authorities in the Alchaluu village, Chui rayon of Chui province were pleasantly surprised by the benefits from the use of photoelectrical station in First Aid Station. Less than a month after the installation, they approached the joint programme with a request to install similar equipment in other five nearby villages.

A TV program called “Teleclinic” broadcast a show about the progress of the project “Reliable energy supply for FASs” on the First National TV Channel, with WHO support. A group from the Department of Non-Traditional

and Renewable Energy Sources from the Kyrgyz-Russian Slavic University conducted a baseline assessment, including energy efficiency in the pilot FASs, with WHO and UNDP support. Several visits to pilot regions were conducted by WHO and UNDP in order to monitor implementation of the project. Meetings with local authorities, heads of medical facilities and residents of the villages took place during the visits.

Local specialists of pilot FASs were trained on Renewable Energy Sources (RES) by UNDP, UNV, UNIDO and WHO on usage and maintenance of RES equipment. UNDP and WHO published training manuals and distributed them to targeted specialists. An informational campaign was undertaken on coverage of the above-listed activities in local mass media and Internet. Its aim was to attract potential contributors, and promote renewable energy in Kyrgyzstan. In addition, promotional jackets, t-shirts with the logos of the Participating Organisations were distributed to specialists of pilot FASs, and their counterparts. In 2013, construction works of 7 micro hydro plants in pilot FASs will continue.

2.5 THEMATIC AREA: ENVIRONMENT

A multi-sectoral forest management approach is already operational in the Kyrgyz republic within a Community Forestry strategy endorsed in 2001 by governmental decree. It is mainly used on state forest lands leased to local communes for non-timber forest product use (communal reforested lands) and has proved to be quite effective. This approach is replicable in other countries of Central Asia, with corresponding adjustment of the enabling framework for communal forestry provision.

A sustainable multi-sectoral forest management approach leads to better conservation of riparian forests ecosystems, increase in carbon sequestration, decrease or halt of land degradation and increase in incomes. The agricultural thematic strategy directly targets some of the most vulnerable and food insecure households in the neediest areas by linking input provision of staple food crops and medium term rehabilitation efforts. High quality wheat, potato, and vegetable seeds will be supplied, and support given to improve pasture and animal health. In addition, the strategy aims to build the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture and civil society organisations involved in agricultural relief, rehabilitation and development activities. The strategy involves direct community participation, which will strengthen decision-making and ensure sustainable rural development.

Strategic activities under this thematic area seek to develop sufficient local capacities for sustainable natural resource management (SNRM) and to support growing involvement of the rural communities into participatory forest management aimed at biodiversity and natural resource conservation and sustainable use, as well as at improved livelihoods through nature friendly micro granting and also deployment of the modern pasture management tool in the climate change context.

The objective of the Environment thematic area is to strengthen and improve the management, conservation, and sustainable use of environmental and water resources to address the impact of climate change on the country. This objective will be accomplished by: (a) enhancing the efficiency of agricultural and household production, processing and marketing to increase income and employment; (b) promoting the sustainable stewardship of water resources and clean drinking water; and (c) promoting social and economic growth.

2.5.1 Joint Programme “Rehabilitation of Riparian Forests in Kyrgyzstan” – UNDP and UNV

The UNDP and UNV “**Rehabilitation of Riparian Forests in Kyrgyzstan**” joint programme aims at a sustainable multi-sectoral forest management strategy applicable for Central Asian countries; and specifically aims at (a) strengthening institutional capacity for land-friendly riparian forest management in the Chui riverbed, in Issyk-Kul province (UNDP); (b) demonstrating sustainable forestry to decrease land degradation and to improve livelihoods (UNDP); and (c) increasing the awareness of local villagers and school students of the ecological sustainability of their forests (UNV).

Achievements

In 2012, the joint UNDP and UNV programme planted 34,900 saplings of poplar and apricot (additional to willow, elm and sea buckthorn planted in the previous years) on the Chui riverside. About 8.4 hectares was reforested in 2012 in addition to 41.6 ha of reforested land in previous years, totalling 50 ha to date. More than 80 dwellers of Kok-Moinok participated in the tree planting, thus receiving temporary employment and benefiting with wheat flour and vegetable oil. Tree planting was coordinated in partnership with WFP, who provided “food for asset” assistance which totalled about 23.5 tons of flour and 2.2 tons of oil.

Fencing of 50 ha of the Chu riverside provided habitat to local plants and animals and supported a local botany sanctuary Baidamtal to protect shrub species. That area is a natural habitat for other threatened endemic species: birds (pallas sand grouse); mammals (ground squirrel); free-tailed bat; and amphibian. Tree planting activities helped mitigate climate change by increasing carbon dioxide sink in the area, as 50 ha of established plantation (with the poplar as a main species) will sequester about 5,500 t of CO₂ in the next 10 years. At the same time, tree planting contributed to the reduction of land degradation of the Chui River banks. Reforested with fast growing and fruit species, land plots will provide local beneficiaries with reliable income, which will progressively grow for the next decade.

The 2012 programmed activities started with a special planning session, which was conducted in January in the Kok-Moinok with participation of all the local partners to facilitate project ownership. Based on the 2011 Natural Resource Management Plan, the Strategy of Socio-Economic Development of the Kok-Moinok Rural District for 2012-2014 was revised including the sections on economic development, social infrastructure maintenance and development, environment protection and sustainable management and local self-governance development. Later it was endorsed by the local parliament. Thus, the local development strategy can be considered an important programme output for the UN Post Rio+20 agenda.

To assure sustainability of the established plantations, a form of participatory forestry - the Joint Forest Management (JFM) group - was introduced through a capacity building campaign conducted by the Association of Forest and Land Users of Kyrgyzstan. The JFM group leased reforested lands to 36 tenants through a transparent competition process. In addition, five micro projects were openly selected by the local micro grant committee and funded. As a result, an additional three and a half hectares of apricot, one hectare of apple orchard, and half a hectare of polar nurseries were planted, establishing improved livelihoods to another 54 households. All five solar panel driven water pumps were used for watering in 2012 based on a transparent schedule agreed upon by the community.

In addition, the UNDP programme team, in partnership with the Research Institute for Land Management, organised a Kok-Moinok pasture lands inventory and mapping activity with GIS application to develop a pasture management tool called “Electronic Pasture Committee.” To demonstrate renewable energy sources and to

reduce the pressure on riparian forest for fuel wood, a series of trainings and a study tour on biogas equipment was conducted in partnership with an NGO called Fluid. One biogas unit was ordered and will be installed in Kok-Moinok next year.

Community-based events led by volunteers were organised that responded to awareness-raising in ecological sustainability and disaster reduction and mitigation. Three eco-clubs were supported by the project in their activities that involved excursions to the natural mountainous forest ecosystem to ensure volunteer actions are manifested at the community level.

Additionally, two National UN Volunteers worked with the local community. The National UN Volunteers organised several community-based activities that raised awareness on environment and forest protection. One of these activities was the trip organised for the awareness-raising on natural forest ecosystems where forest rangers delivered small lectures after which the participants engaged in a riverbed clean-up activity in the gorge. In partnership with BIOM NGO, the three eco-clubs compiled a list of local biodiversity and red list species contributing to poster publication and e-library development. The third season of school forest KVN contests was organised and conducted in partnership with Eco-Partner NGO. KVN, competitive theatre sports, has historically been a popular way for youth to look at social and political events through satire and humor. Libraries were also supported by provision of literature sets.

A local rescue team was established and equipped to increase the disaster risks management (DRM) capacity of the Kok-Moinok Local Self Governance Body in close partnership with local branch of the Ministry of Emergency Situation. However, further capacity building is needed and will be continued next year. In 2013, the Kok-Moinok Pasture Committee will finalize the installation of the E-Pasture Committee tool and its software adaptation. In addition, one biogas unit was procured for 2013 installation in the local community of Ak Olon. Next year the joint programme will train more trainers in DRM, conflict prevention, and biofuel, and who will in turn present these workshops to programme beneficiaries, local self-governments and rescue teams.

2.6 THEMATIC AREA: RISK MANAGEMENT

Two kinds of risk affect the Kyrgyz Republic. First, the country is prone to rapid and slow onset disasters caused by floods, landslides, mudflows, droughts and earthquakes. Disasters are only marginally developed and preparedness and mitigation is required. Second, violent conflict is a very present risk in border regions, which is often connected to land and water access issues. There have been increasing problems along the Kyrgyz-Tajik and Kyrgyz-Uzbek borders, which is a cause for concern.

Violent conflict over resources in the Fergana Valley, porous borders, weak rule of law and insecurity in Afghanistan, religious extremism and organised crime are problems that need to be addressed. At the moment there is a lack of coordination among State institutions to address these challenges more comprehensively. Reaching inter-state agreements has proven difficult. Successful efforts to improve cross-border cooperation are therefore often driven by local-level initiatives. The fact that Batken and Sogd provinces have approved a 5-year joint action plan has demonstrated this. Civil society and international organisations have intensified their efforts to support locally driven processes (working groups, community safety, multi-ethnic youth initiatives etc.).

Strategic activities within this thematic area seek to lessen the impact of disasters in the future, and the consequent need for humanitarian relief. Critical infrastructure damaged in natural disasters will be restored.

Children's awareness will be raised for disaster prevention, preparedness and response. Community volunteering for disaster response will also be strengthened.

The objective of the Risk Management thematic area is to reduce vulnerability to natural and man-made hazards by: (a) increasing people's awareness about natural hazards and developing local capacity to respond more efficiently; (b) strengthening institutional capacities; (c) limiting human, economic, and financial losses due to these disasters; (d) reducing the likelihood of violence in border regions; and (e) strengthening volunteerism and civic engagement in disaster risk reduction.

2.6.1 Joint Programme "Vulnerability Reduction of Local Communities through Strengthening Volunteerism and Civic Engagement in Disaster Risk Management" – UNDP, UNV and WFP

The UNDP, UNV and WFP "Vulnerability Reduction of Local Communities through Strengthening Volunteerism and Civic Engagement in Disaster Risk Management" joint programme aims to sustainably maintain the capacity of volunteerism and civic engagement in disaster risk reduction to further activities in disaster prone areas.

Achievements

UNDP, UNV and WFP joint programme activities in 2012 aimed at increasing civic and volunteer engagement and strengthening local risk management skills in the most high-altitude and remote regions of the Kyrgyz Republic. In total, 20 pilot local self-governments (LSGs) were selected on top of 12 LSGs. A "Methodical guideline on arrangement and management of Civil Protection by local self-governments" was developed and subsequently endorsed by the Ministry of Emergency Situations to standardize the functioning of LSGs in disaster risk management (DRM). A DRM training tool was developed and more than 7000 copies of awareness raising materials were distributed to 32 of the most disaster prone communities.

Based on the DRM Training Module, 653 people (183 women) comprised of municipal and civil servants, youth, volunteer and civil society organisations (CSOs) were trained in DRM. In addition, locally trained UNVs (a) established 32 Civil Protection Commissions in 32 target LSGs; (b) trained and equipped 32 emergency rescue facilities; and (c) developed risk management tools such as DRM plans and risk maps. As a result, 20,000 people had their awareness raised about the necessity of disaster management planning. Coordination frameworks among members of CSOs, youth, volunteer organisations, local authorities, Ministry of Emergency Situations, Ministry of Youth Affairs Environmental and the State Agency of Environment were sensitized both at the national and sub-national levels in conjunction with UNV. As a result, a coalition of volunteers and youth CSOs was established in Jalal-Abad province.

Through non-structural mitigation activities (e.g. trainings, awareness raising), a total of 54 structural "green", early recovery and disaster mitigation projects were implemented jointly with WFP's "Food for Asset" programme. As a result,

- 37,761 community members (of which about 50 percent women) benefited;

- 2320 hectares of agricultural land, 856 households, and 27 social infrastructure (schools, kindergartens, hospitals) were protected;
- 1,290 metres of river banks was protected;
- 9,648 metres of canals were cleaned;
- 13 crossings and bridges were rehabilitated;
- 671 households had increased access to pure drinking water due to rehabilitation of 3 water pipelines;
- 968 hectares of land had improved watering techniques; and
- 3,261 community members engaged into low-skilled, labour-intensive works for which they were remunerated with food by WFP, and 16,435 family members increased their food security status;
- 450 pieces of gabion nets were installed;
- 3,000 meters of drainage system were rehabilitated;
- 60 km of mud flow canals and 86.8 km of irrigation canals were rehabilitated;
- 4 bridges were reconstructed;
- 608, 591 trees were planted;
- 1,277 ha of lands were planted;
- 2,629 tons of harvest was collected; and
- 422 houses and 4 administrative buildings were protected from possible emergencies;

Communities in high-altitude and remote areas, in which both public and donor communities' interventions continue to be weakly represented, significantly increased their knowledge, disaster risk management and response capacities as a result of joint programme activities. Knowledge and understanding of disaster risks increased, and in 2013 the programme will move forward appropriate capacity development actions. Activities were completed in December 2012.

2.6.2 Joint Programme “Cross-border Natural Resources and Conflict” – UNDP and UNV

The UNDP and UNV “**Cross-border Natural Resources and Conflict**” joint programme aims to strengthen district level working groups in cross-border communities to assist local authorities and civil society to address the root causes of local tensions in the targeted Kyrgyz-Uzbekistan and Kyrgyz-Tajikistan border areas.

Achievements

UNDP's support to cross-border working groups was crucial to promote dialogue and cooperation between Sogd and Batken provinces in Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic. UNDP facilitated the signing of a 5-year cooperation agreement between provincial authorities. Batken provincial administration reported a decrease in crime in cross-border areas. This was also attributed to UNDP-supported cross-border working groups. Moreover Ala-Buka district cross-border working group was inspired to start advancing cross-border cooperation with bordering Uzbekistan after exploring best practices of Kyrgyz-Tajik cooperation.

Cooperation with the Border Management Programme in Central Asia (BOMCA) has significantly improved the quality of the activities in terms of capacity building and new partners play a more active role in advancing cross-border cooperation. Moreover BOMCA colleagues and partners understand the added value of collaboration between local community leaders and border services.

In partnership with the Rural Development Fund (RDF) the cross-border working group of Batken province actively engaged in advocacy and lobbying at the national level on pasture administration issues. In 2010, the inter-governmental agreement between the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan on joint usage of pastures expired

and ever since a dispute erupted over cattle pricing. In 2012, RDF conducted local public hearings into this problem and came up with concrete recommendations for amendments to the Land Code and delegation of pasture administration issues to local authorities. At present all documents have been handed over to parliament deputies and relevant ministries and agencies for further follow-up and adoption.

Trainings, seminars, and a study tour engaging Water Users Association (WUAs) members of Jalal-Abad province were conducted, thus building the capacity of 119 people (including 20 women) to deal with resource-based conflicts (**Table 5**). One working meeting and one training were organised for members of the cross-border working group, province administrations, cross-border municipalities, border and custom services, water, land, and forest departments and mass media in Batken province. The working meeting resulted in an action plan and joint statement. Some training sessions generated interesting debates around discrimination of ethnic minorities, human and minority rights.

Table 5: Water User Association Events

Event	Target audience	Subject
Information sharing	employees of WUAs	community mobilization, awareness raising about border crossing procedures, trade, peace and conflict issues
Training “From conflict to managing inter-ethnic relations”	LSG, WUA, NGO, and local council deputies	conflict prevention and conflict sensitive development planning
Training	employees of WUAs	collaborative problem analysis and project proposal writing
Training	employees of WUAs	establishing effective and transparent WUA structure, developing and approving WUA budget, exploiting and managing irrigation systems within WUA
Study tour	representatives of WUAs and municipalities in Ak-Tam and Ak-Korgon, and WUAs in Kara Suu district, Osh Province	exchange experiences and skill building in water-gauge equipment, water measuring methods, recording water, watering technologies and developing plan of water usage
Meeting	30 participants from both sides - representatives of Isfara rayon of Tajikistan and Batken rayon of Kyrgyzstan	cross border issues
Kyrgyz-Tajik Working group meeting	members of Sogd province of Tajikistan and Batken provinces of Kyrgyzstan.	cross-border issues
2 friendship festivals, contest and joint celebration of International Women’s Day	500 people of different nationalities from the whole Batken province and adjacent cross-border communities	discussions to jointly monitor cross-border communities with high risk of conflicts in disputable territories. Moreover joint decisions have been made to send Kyrgyz delegation to participate at similar festivals in Isfara, Tajikistan and Sokh rayon, Uzbekistan.
One sport event	70 school children from the schools with Kyrgyz, Uzbek, Russian and Tajik language of education participated	main idea of this event was to strengthen the friendship among the youth of different nationalities of Batken oblast.

Two National UN Volunteers in collaboration with program specialists carried out effective work in the pilot border communities of Ala-Buka district, Jalal-Abad province and Leylek, Batken districts of Batken province.

These districts are described as areas bordering with Uzbekistan and Tajikistan and have frequent conflicts among citizens caused by deficit of resources, high poverty, high unemployment rates, an underdeveloped system of social infrastructure, severe climate conditions, and remoteness of the district from the provincial centre.

Several coordination and information sharing meetings were held with involvement of province and district authorities, province advisory committees and informal structures (e.g. youth councils) to develop action plans with a particular focus on peace-building, tolerance and conflict prevention. These meetings helped to coordinate effectively different efforts and promote cooperation with cross-border working groups. Activity will continue in 2013 to alleviate conflicts and build peace between members of the bordering states.

2.7 Project Challenges

The resignation of the government, creation of a new coalition in parliament, government and parliamentary committees restructuring in 2012 delayed a final decision from being made by the authorities on the accession to the Statelessness Conventions. Natural disasters affected the region in 2012 but only one joint programme – “Strengthening Volunteerism and Civic Engagement in Disaster Risk Management” by UNDP/UNV/WFP experienced delayed programme implementation of infrastructure mitigation projects. Some projects will be completed in early 2013.

One challenge encountered has been the shortage of funding, which has meant that the resulting Kyrgyzstan One Fund programme coverage has not always corresponded fully with the needs. If provided with more resources, Participating Organisations could have made a much greater impact by covering more geographical areas and caseloads.

3 Financial Summary

By the end of 2012, cumulatively the Kyrgyzstan One Fund received US\$ 9.96 million in contributions from the Expanded DaO Funding Window, and transferred US\$ 9.76 million to eleven Participating Organisations. Participating Organisations' expenditures were US\$ 6.9 million. The balance of funds with the Administrative Agent as of 31 December 2012 was about US\$ 50,924, whereas the balance of funds with Participating Organisations was US\$ 2.85 million. This consolidated financial report covers the period 1 January to 31 December 2012 and provides financial data on progress made in the implementation of projects funded by the Kyrgyzstan One Fund. Financial data is also posted on the MPTF Office GATEWAY at <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/KG100>.

3.1 Sources, Uses, and Balance of Funds

Table 3.1 provides an overview of the overall sources, uses, and balance of the Kyrgyzstan One Fund as of 31 December 2012. Out of US\$ 9.96 million received from the Expanded DaO Funding Window⁵, US\$ 9.76 million was transferred to eleven Participating Organisations.

Table 3.1 Financial Overview for the period ending 31 December 2012 (in US Dollars)

	Annual 2011	Annual 2012	Cumulative
Sources of Funds			
Gross Contributions	3,726,000	2,608,000	9,960,000
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	6,840	4,295	11,154
Interest Income received from Participating Organisations	14,434	24,426	38,860
Refunds by Administrative Agent to Contributors	-	-	-
Fund balance transferred to another MPTF	-	-	-
Other Revenues	-	-	-
Total: Sources of Funds	3,747,274	2,636,721	10,010,014
Use of Funds			
Transfer to Participating Organisations	2,246,295	3,925,180	9,761,215
Refunds received from Participating Organisations	-	-	-
Net Funded Amount to Participating Organisations	2,246,295	3,925,180	9,761,215
Administrative Agent Fees	37,260	26,080	99,600
Direct Costs: (Steering Committee, Secretariat...etc.)	78,210	19,968	98,178
Bank Charges	47	50	96
Other Expenditures	-	-	-
Total: Uses of Funds	2,361,812	3,971,278	9,959,090

⁵ The Expanded Delivering as One Funding Window for Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (EFW) is a global funding facility established to support Delivering as One countries. Contributors to the EFW are the Netherlands, Norway, Spain and the United Kingdom/DFID.

Change in Fund cash balance with Administrative Agent	1,385,462	-1,334,558	50,924
Opening Fund balance (1 January)	20	1,385,482	-
Closing Fund balance (31 December)	1,385,482	50,924	50,924
Net Funded Amount to Participating Organisations	2,246,295	3,925,180	9,761,215
Participating Organisations` Expenditure	406,760	3,331,147	6,912,686
Balance of Funds with Participating Organisations			2,848,529

Apart from contributions, the Kyrgyzstan One Fund also receives funds from interest income earned on the balance of funds. "Fund earned interest" comprises two sources of interest income: (1) interest earned on the balance of funds held by the Administrative Agent (AA); and (2) interest earned on the balance of funds held by Participating Organisations where the Financial Regulations and Rules of the Participating Organisation permit remittance of interest. By the end of 2012, the total earned interest amounted to US\$ 50,014. All interest credited to the Fund is used for additional projects as determined by the Fund's Steering Committee.

The Administrative Agent fee is charged at the standard rate of 1 percent of contributions received. As of 31 December 2012, the cumulative AA fee charged to the Kyrgyzstan One Fund is US\$ 99,600.

3.2 Partner Contributions

Table 3.2 displays the breakdown of the received contributions. The Kyrgyzstan One Fund is being financed by the Expanded DaO Funding Window. In 2012, the Kyrgyzstan One Fund received US\$ 2.61 million in contributions, bringing the total fund contributions to US\$ 9.96 million.

Table 3.2 Contributions (in US Dollars)

Contributors	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2011	Current Year Jan-Dec 2012	Total
Expanded DaO Funding Window	7,352,000	2,608,000	9,960,000
Grand Total	7,352,000	2,608,000	9,960,000

3.3 Transfer of Funds

Tables 3.3.1 and 3.3.2 show the transfer of funds by Participating Organisation and thematic area of the Kyrgyzstan One Fund. The term "Net Funded Amount" refers to amounts transferred to a Participating Organisation minus refunds of unspent balances from the Participating Organisation.

3.3.1 Transfers to Participating Organisations

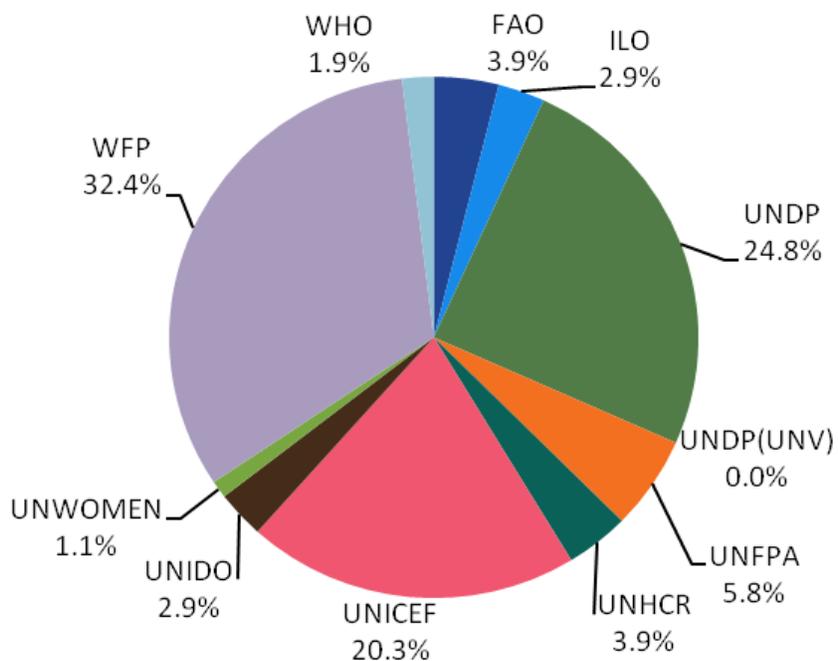
With the overall aim of facilitating the realization of the Kyrgyzstan One Fund programme outcomes, transfers were made to the Participating Organisations. In 2012, the Kyrgyzstan One Fund transferred funds to eleven Participating Organisations for approved programmes for a total of US\$ 3.93 million, as shown in Table 3.3.1.

Table 3.3.1 Net Funded Amount by Participating Organisation (in US Dollars)

Participating Organisations	Prior Years as of 31 Dec 2011	Current Year Jan – Dec 2012	TOTAL
FAO	905,277	154,970	1,060,247
ILO	128,700	112,704	241,404
UNDP	1,850,780	973,423	2,824,203
UNDP(UNV)	52,965	-	52,965
UNFPA	77,915	227,988	305,903
UNHCR	354,133	152,313	506,446
UNICEF	510,454	797,200	1,307,653
UNIDO	418,262	115,464	533,725
UNWOMEN	92,029	42,240	134,269
WFP	1,309,355	1,273,076	2,582,431
WHO	136,166	75,804	211,969
Total Transfers	5,836,035	3,925,180	9,761,215

As shown in Table 3.3.1 and Figure 3.3.1, WFP received the largest share of funding (32.4 percent), followed by UNDP (24.8 percent), UNICEF (20.3 percent), and all other Participating Organisations received less than 10 percent of funding.

Figure 3.3.1: Net Funded Amount by Participating Organisation for the period of 1 January to 31 December 2012 (percentage)



3.3.2 Transfers by Thematic Area

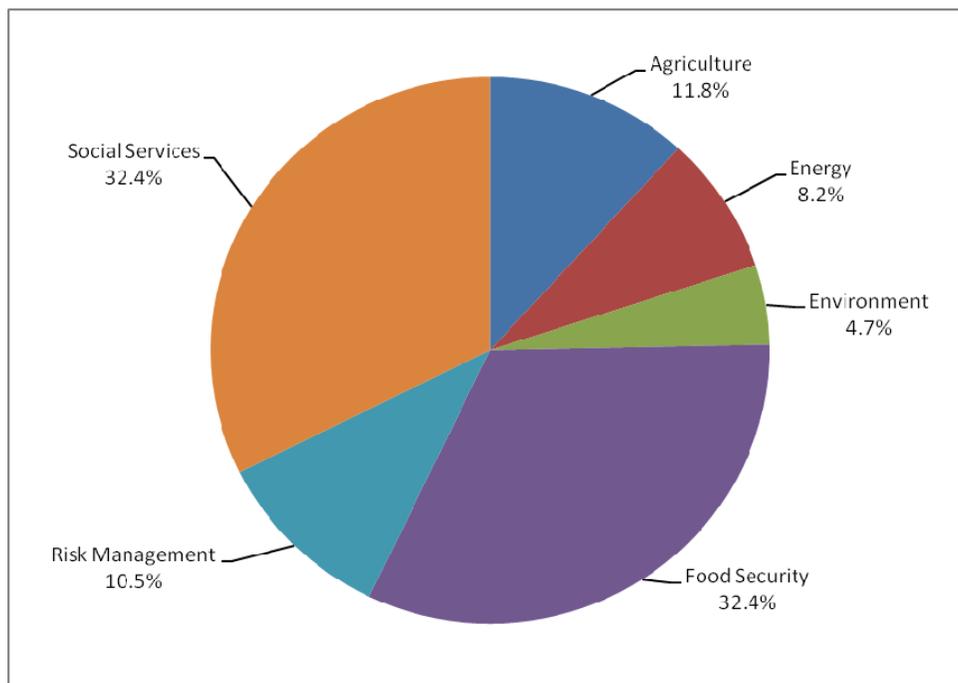
Transfers were made to the six thematic areas of the Kyrgyzstan One Fund: (1) Social Services; (2) Food Security; (3) Agriculture; (4) Energy; (5) Environment; and (6) Risk Management, with the overall aim of supporting new or expanded initiatives formulated in response to emerging national needs and addressing energy and food insecurity and the global economic crisis. Table 3.3.2 depicts the net funded amount by thematic area.

Table 3.3.2 Net Funded Amount by Thematic Area (in US Dollars)

Thematic Area	Prior Years as of 31 Dec 2011	Current Year Jan – Dec 2012	TOTAL
Agriculture	1,397,674	461,728	1,859,402
Energy	665,750	321,819	987,569
Environment	611,982	184,874	796,856
Food Security	1,309,355	1,273,076	2,582,431
Risk Management	703,842	413,280	1,117,122
Social Services	1,147,431	1,270,405	2,417,836
Total Transfers	5,836,035	3,925,180	9,761,215

The thematic areas that received the largest share of funding in 2012 were Social Services and Food Security (32.4 percent each), followed by Agriculture (11.8 percent), Risk Management (10.5 percent), Energy (8.2 percent), and Environment (4.7 percent), as shown in Figure 3.3.2.

Figure 3.3.2: Net Funded Amount by Thematic Area, 1 January–31 December 2012 (percentage)



3.4 Expenditure and Financial Delivery Rates

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organisation and are reported as per the agreed upon categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. The reported expenditures were submitted by Participating Organisations to the MPTF Office via UNEX – the MPTF Office’s expenditure reporting tool. The 2012 expenditure data has been posted on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#) and can be found in this report in Tables 3.4.1, 3.4.2, and 3.4.3 by Participating Organisation, thematic area, and category.

3.4.1 Expenditure by Thematic Area

Table 3.4.1 below shows the net funded amount transferred, expenditures incurred and the financial delivery rates by thematic area. In 2012, US\$ 3.9 million was transferred to Participating Organisations, who reported US\$ 3.3 million in expenditure. As of 31 December 2012, the financial delivery rate of the Kyrgyzstan One Fund was 70.8 percent. When interpreting this delivery rate, it is important to note that the 3rd tranche of the EFW funding, amounting to US\$ 2.58 million, was transferred to the Participating Organisations only in November 2012.

Table 3.4.1 Financial Overview with breakdown by Thematic Area (in US Dollars)

Thematic Areas	Prior Years as of 31 Dec 2011		Current Year Jan-Dec 2012		TOTAL		Delivery Rate (%)
	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	
Agriculture	1,397,674	1,009,024	461,728	429,432	1,859,402	1,438,456	77.4
Energy	665,750	302,397	321,819	410,157	987,569	712,554	72.2
Environment	611,982	317,575	184,874	254,784	796,856	572,359	71.8
Food Security	1,309,355	966,391	1,273,076	863,076	2,582,431	1,829,467	70.8
Risk Management	703,842	307,826	413,280	420,098	1,117,122	727,924	65.2
Social Services	1,147,431	678,325	1,270,405	953,600	2,417,836	1,631,926	67.5
Total	5,836,035	3,581,539	3,925,180	3,331,147	9,761,215	6,912,686	

The thematic areas that reported the highest expenditure in 2012 were Social Services (US\$ 953,600) and Food Security (US\$ 863,076).

3.4.2 Expenditure Reported by Participating Organisation

Table 3.4.2 shows the net funded amount transferred, and the financial delivery rates by Participating Organisation. The delivery rates of Participating Organisations vary from 58 percent to 100 percent.

Table 3.4.2 Financial Delivery Rate by Participating Organisation (in US Dollars)

Participating Organisation	Approved Amount	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	Delivery Rate Percentage (%)
FAO	1,060,247	1,060,247	821,573	77.49
ILO	241,404	241,404	161,129	66.75
UNDP	2,824,203	2,824,203	1,990,827	70.49
UNDP(UNV)	52,965	52,965	52,790	99.67
UNFPA	305,903	305,903	176,824	57.80
UNHCR	506,446	506,446	387,646	76.54
UNICEF	1,307,653	1,307,653	848,815	64.91
UNIDO	533,725	533,725	395,331	74.07
UNWOMEN	134,269	134,269	105,061	78.25
WFP	2,582,431	2,582,431	1,829,467	70.84
WHO	211,969	211,969	143,223	67.57
Grand Total	9,761,215	9,761,215	6,912,686	

3.4.3 Total Expenditure Reported by Category

In 2006, the UN Development Group (UNDG) set six categories against which UN entities must report project expenditures. Effective 1 January 2012, the UN Chief Executive Board modified these categories as a result of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) adoption to comprise eight categories. All expenditures reported up to 31 December 2011 are presented in the previous six categories, and all expenditures reported from 1 January 2012 are presented in the new eight categories. The old and new categories are noted below:

2012 CEB Expense Categories:

1. Staff and personnel costs
2. Supplies, commodities and materials
3. Equipment, vehicles, furniture and depreciation
4. Contractual services
5. Travel
6. Transfers and grants
7. General Operating Expenses
8. Indirect costs

2006 UNDG Expense Categories:

1. Supplies
2. Personnel
3. Training
4. Contracts
5. Other direct costs
6. Indirect costs

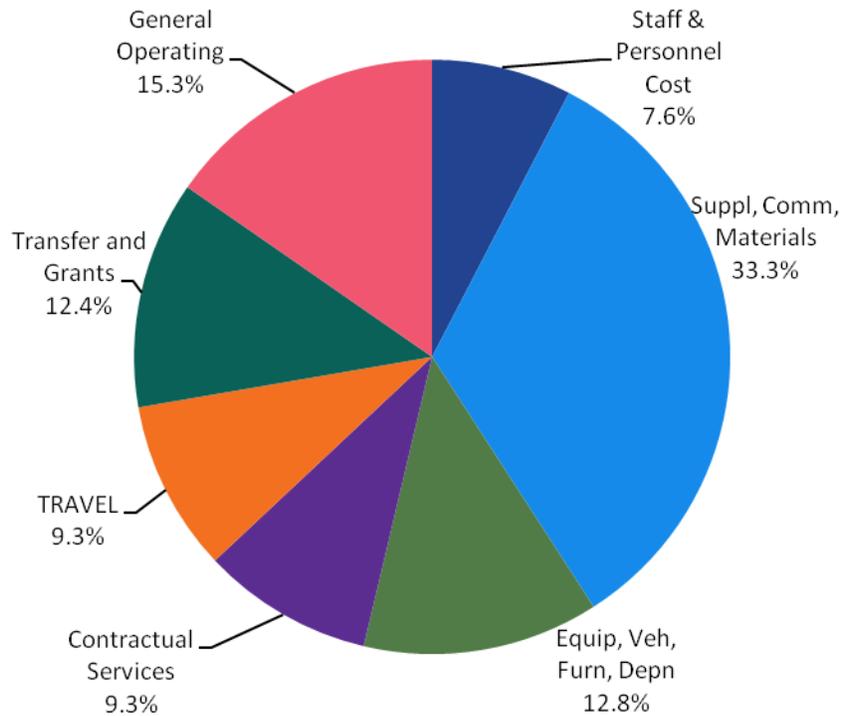
Table 3.4.3 Total Expenditure by Category (in US Dollars)

Category	Expenditure			Percentage of Total Programme Cost (%)
	Prior Year as of 31-Dec-2011	Current Year Jan-Dec 2012	Total	
Supplies, Commodities, Equipment and Transport (Old)	1,537,058	-	1,537,058	23.9
Personnel (Old)	643,580	-	643,580	10.0
Training of Counterparts (Old)	114,034	-	114,034	1.8
Contracts (Old)	554,053	-	554,053	8.6
Other direct costs (Old)	512,785	-	512,785	8.0
Staff & Personnel Cost (New)	-	233,466	233,466	3.6
Suppl, Comm, Materials (New)	-	1,020,217	1,020,217	15.9
Equip, Veh, Furn, Depn (New)	-	393,211	393,211	6.1
Contractual Services (New)	-	285,746	285,746	4.4
Travel (New)	-	284,676	284,676	4.4
Transfer and Grants (New)	-	379,541	379,541	5.9
General Operating Expenses (New)	-	470,705	470,705	7.3
Programme Costs Total	3,361,510	3,067,562	6,429,071	100.0
Indirect Support Costs Total	220,030	263,585	483,615	7.5
Grand Total	3,581,539	3,331,147	6,912,686	

Figure 3.4.3 below reflects amounts expended in 2012 in seven programmatic categories. Please note that the figure percentages correspond only to programme cost and not the indirect support costs. The highest 2012 expenditure was in Supplies, Commodities and Materials (33.3 percent), followed by General Operating Expenses (15.3 percent), Equipment, Vehicles, Furniture and Depreciation (12.8 percent) and Transfer and Grants (12.4 percent); all other categories were below 10 percent.

The reporting of indirect support costs depends on each Participating Organisation's rules and regulations. The indirect support costs can be deducted upfront on receipt or at a later stage by a Participating Organisation. Therefore, the indirect support costs percentage may appear to exceed the allowed 7 percent for ongoing projects. When all projects are financially closed, this number should not exceed 7 percent.

Figure 3.4.3: Expenditure by Category in 2012 (percentage)



4 Transparency and Accountability

The MPTF Office continues to provide information on its GATEWAY (<http://mptf.undp.org>) — a knowledge platform providing real-time data, with a maximum two-hour delay, on financial information from the MPTF Office accounting system on contributions, programme budgets and transfers to Participating Organisations. All narrative reports are published on the MPTF Office GATEWAY which provides easy access to over 9,600 reports and documents, with tools and tables displaying financial and programme data. By providing easy access to the growing number of progress reports and related documents uploaded by users in the field, it facilitates knowledge sharing and management among UN organisations. It is designed to provide transparent, accountable fund-management services to the UN system to enhance its coherence, transparency, effectiveness and efficiency. The MPTF Office GATEWAY is considered a model database by peers and partners. Details of the Kyrgyzstan One Fund projects and joint programmes, the Steering Committee decisions, and periodic project reports are posted on the Kyrgyzstan One Fund website on the MPTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/KG100>).

5 Conclusion

This is the third consolidated annual progress report on activities Implemented under the Kyrgyzstan One Fund. It covers the implementation progress of the projects funded during 2012. The Kyrgyzstan One Fund has enabled Participating Organisations to formulate and deliver a wide range of theme-based activities. The Kyrgyzstan One Fund has enabled Participating Organisations to deliver a wide range of theme-based programme activities. The government and UN representatives concluded that social development and attainment of the MDGs remain key priorities, further efforts to mobilize resources for the 2013 portfolio of the One UN Programme projects will be explored, and the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic expressed its support to the Delivering as One approach.

In 2012, the Kyrgyzstan One Fund received a total of US\$ 2,608,000 from the Expanded DaO Funding Window. Project implementation continued during 2012 with US\$ 3.3 million in expenditure. The overall financial delivery rate of the Kyrgyzstan One Fund as of 31 December 2012 was approximately 71 percent.

With the projects that continued to be implemented under the Kyrgyzstan One Fund, the UN system was able to help reduce the severity of emerging challenges on the most vulnerable in 2012. In 2012, UNFPA and UNICEF “Ensuring Access to Affordable Health Services in the Affected Areas of the Country for Women of Reproductive Age and Newborns” joint programme supported another 14 maternity hospitals and 12 family medicine centres, in addition to the six selected sites in Bishkek, Osh and Batken provinces, which meant that 35 percent of deliveries located in rural maternities of Osh and Batken provinces were provided with effective perinatal care services. Women’s knowledge of obstetric complications and symptoms increased by 35 percent, enabling them to seek emergency care in time, and overall 45 percent of the women were birth prepared. Supportive supervision to reinforce antenatal skills was undertaken following antenatal care training in the South comprising 50 percent of the health facilities.

UNHCR’s “Prevention and Reduction of Statelessness” project provided technical and financial support to the Citizenship Commission, the State Registration Service and NGOs to process citizenship applications. As result, 2914 stateless persons received free legal counselling and 1,668 of these were assisted with citizenship applications. In total, 16,773 applications for Kyrgyz Republic passports (of former USSR citizens) were processed by the SRS. Article 14(2) of the law “On citizenship of the Kyrgyz Republic” was amended to facilitate access to Kyrgyz citizenship to: (a) persons of Kyrgyz ethnicity having foreign citizenship or stateless; (b) former citizens of Kyrgyzstan returning to the country; and (c) female foreign and stateless persons married to Kyrgyz citizens. The Committee of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic on Human Rights, Constitutional Legislation and State Structure stated in its interpretation of Article 14(2) of the law that access to citizenship of the Kyrgyz Republic is not conditioned by de-registration in the country of previous residence for aforementioned categories. As a result, the SRS issued a directive to the local passport units to follow the Committee’s recommendations. Following UNHCR advocacy, new safeguards to prevent statelessness were developed to the draft by-law on procedures for examination of citizenship issues of the Kyrgyz Republic and submitted for the approval of state authorities.

In 2012, ILO’s “Combating Child Labour through Education in Kyrgyzstan: Capacity Building and Educational Opportunities for School Drop-outs” project supported the Ministry of Education and Science (MoE), Kyrgyz Academy of Education and NGOs in setting up evening school classes for children with breaks in schooling or

who dropped out from secondary education. A total of 130 teachers, school principals and education specialists were trained on child labour, SCREAM and the approved curriculum for the evening classes.

WFP “Food for Asset” (FFA) project reached 20,696 participants (representing 115,304 beneficiaries) in 2012, out of which 5,522 (29,365 beneficiaries) were covered by One Programme. FFA projects improved the food security and incomes of beneficiary households through distributions of fortified food rations to support participants. In 2012, the project contributed to 1,078 ha of planted land and harvest collection of 2,629 mt. The yields from the new seed varieties increased significantly leading to increased household income (and food stocks) allowing women to escape the vicious poverty trap of poor labour and poor income, and achieve greater food security. Sixty percent of households improved their Food Consumption Scores. The project also led to an exponential growth in the women’s self-help groups (about 700 groups at national levels with over 3,000 members), and the formation of a women’s own NGO, which allowed them to bank their savings.

FAO and UNWOMEN’s “Agricultural Assistance to Vulnerable, Food Insecure Female-Headed Households” joint programme delivered 400 assorted vegetable kits (cucumber, carrot, tomato, cauliflower) to beneficiaries who had access to land suitable for vegetable cultivation to cover household consumption needs through FAO activities. In total, 40 hectares (ha) were planted in 2012 by the project beneficiaries, including 12 ha of tomatoes, 8 ha of cucumbers, 12 ha of carrots and 8 ha of cauliflower. Project monitoring demonstrated that beneficiaries collected a high yield of vegetables. UN WOMEN conducted capacity building activities which resulted in the formation of 60 Self-help Groups (SHGs) covering the 400 most vulnerable rural households from 10 villages in 6 districts of Osh, Djalal-Abad, Batken provinces.

UNDP’s “Improvement of Agricultural Production through Strengthening of Agricultural Extension Services and Increased Technical Inputs” project made good progress in 2012. The project conducted 58 workshops, in which 1,633 people were trained in new technologies in agricultural production and entrepreneurial skills. With the assistance of Consultation and Marketing Centres consultants and regional specialists, 371 beneficiaries received US\$ 236,214 in micro-loans from local financial institutions. In addition, 64 small businesses for small rural entrepreneurs and farmers were created to provide 162 new jobs (including 132 for women) with the goal of increased economic activity.

UNDP, UNIDO, UNV and WHO “Supply of Reliable Energy to Rural First Aid Stations” joint programme achieved several objectives in 2012. UNDP and UNV installed photoelectrical stations with capacity 1.5 kW in 14 pilot First Aid Stations (FASs) in 2012. UNIDO purchased a photoelectrical station with a capacity of 3 kWt and delivered it to Bishkek, made preparatory work, and installed concrete platforms for the solar PV panels. UNDP and WHO delivered pipes and equipment for seven micro hydro plants to seven pilot FASs. After installing the photoelectrical stations to rural FASs, more than 2,640 people including pregnant women and children have sustainable access to health services.

UNDP and UNV “Rehabilitation of Riparian Forests in Kyrgyzstan” joint programme planted 34,900 saplings of poplar and apricot (additional to willow, elm and sea buckthorn planted in the previous years) on the Chui riverside. About 8.4 hectares was reforested in 2012 in addition to 41.6 ha of reforested land in previous years, totalling 50 ha to date. More than 80 dwellers of Kok-Moinok participated in the tree planting, thus receiving temporary employment and benefiting with wheat flour and vegetable oil. Tree planting was coordinated in partnership with WFP, who provided “food for asset” assistance which totalled about 23.5 tons of flour and 2.2 tons of oil. Further, two UN Volunteers organised community-based activities, such as an awareness-raising trip

on natural forest ecosystems delivered by forest rangers after which the participants engaged in a riverbed clean-up activity in the gorge.

UNDP, UNV and WFP “Vulnerability Reduction of Local Communities through Strengthening Volunteerism and Civic Engagement in Disaster Risk Management” joint programme expanded the scope of the programme in 2012 to include 20 pilot local self-governments (LSGs) on top of the 12 already established LSGs. A disaster risk management training tool was developed and more than 7000 copies of awareness raising materials were distributed to 32 of the most disaster prone communities living in high-altitude and remote areas of the Kyrgyz Republic. In addition, locally trained UNVs: (a) established 32 Civil Protection Commissions in 32 target LSGs; (b) trained and equipped 32 emergency rescue facilities; and (c) developed risk management tools such as DRM plans and risk maps. As a result, 20,000 people had their awareness raised about the necessity of disaster management planning.

UNDP and UNV “Cross-border Natural Resources and Conflict” joint programme supported mechanisms for peace and reconciliation in the Kyrgyz-Uzbekistan and Kyrgyz-Tajikistan targeted border areas. UNDP’s support to cross-border working groups was crucial to promote dialogue and cooperation between Sogd and Batken provinces in Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic. UNDP facilitated the signing of a 5-year cooperation agreement between provincial authorities. The Batken provincial administration reported a decrease in crime in cross-border areas. This was also attributed to UNDP supported cross border working groups. Moreover, the Ala-Buka district cross border working group, under facilitation of the Head of Apparatus, Jalal-Abad Province Administration, and the Head of the Province Advisory Committee, was inspired to start advancing cross border cooperation with bordering Uzbekistan after exploring best practices of Kyrgyz-Tajik cooperation.

The United Nations intends to build on these achievements in 2013, together with the national partners and to continue implementing the ongoing joint projects with a total value of approximately US\$ 10 million. These joint projects form a solid, coherent and realistic set of interventions covering the poorest provinces of the country and, most importantly, the most vulnerable populations. In order to implement them, the United Nations has embarked on focused resource mobilization strategies. Further replenishment of Kyrgyzstan One Fund resources is vital in advancing the One Fund’s objectives. The MPTF Office envisages that the Third Annual Progress Report will give the Kyrgyzstan One Fund Steering Committee the basis to better assess resource requirements and to advocate and mobilise for additional funding.