



**JOINT PROGRAMME ON RURAL WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT  
BI-ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT  
REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 30 JUNE 2020**

<p><b>Programme Title &amp; Project Number</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme Title: Accelerating Progress Toward Economic Empowerment of Rural Women in Kyrgyzstan</li> <li>• MPTF Office Project Reference Number:<sup>1</sup></li> </ul>	<p><b>Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results</b></p> <p><i>Kyrgyzstan (52 villages, in 18 districts of Naryn, Osh, Batken, Chui and Jalal-Abad provinces)</i></p>
<p><b>Participating Organization(s)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FAO, IFAD, UNWOMEN, WFP</li> </ul>	<p>The strategic result is to secure rural women's livelihoods and rights in the context of sustainable development and the SDGs.</p> <p>New beneficiaries in 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Direct:</i> 300 (294 women and 6 men)</li> <li>• <i>Indirect:</i> approximately 1,500</li> </ul>
<p><b>Programme/Project Cost (US\$)</b></p> <p>Total approved budget as per project document:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UN Women- US\$ 292 500</li> <li>• WFP- US\$ 202 500</li> <li>• FAO- US\$ 202 500</li> <li>• IFAD- US\$ 202 500</li> </ul> <p>Agency Contribution <i>by Agency (if applicable): not applicable</i></p> <p>Government Contribution <i>(if applicable): not applicable</i></p> <p>Other Contributions (donors) <i>(if applicable): not applicable</i></p> <p><b>TOTAL: US\$ 900 000</b></p>	<p><b>Implementing Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Chui-Talas Rural Advisory Service” Public Foundation (FAO)</li> <li>• Public Union “Community Development Alliance” (IFAD)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.</b></p> <p>Assessment/Review - if applicable <i>please attach</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Date: <i>dd.mm.yyyy</i></p> <p>Mid-Term Evaluation Report – if applicable <i>please attach</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Date: <i>dd.mm.yyyy</i></p>	<p><b>Programme Duration</b></p> <p>Overall Duration 8 YEARS</p> <p>Start Date <i>(15 10 2012)</i></p> <p>End Date <i>(31 12 2021)</i></p>
	<p><b>Report Submitted By</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Name: Sagipa Djusaeva</li> <li>○ Title: Head of Programmes</li> <li>○ Participating Organization (Lead): UN Women</li> <li>○ Email address: Sagipa Djusaeva <a href="mailto:sagipa.djusaeva@unwomen.org">sagipa.djusaeva@unwomen.org</a></li> </ul>



<sup>1</sup> The MPTF Office Project Reference Number are as follows: ETHIOPIA: 00092000; GUATEMALA: 00092001; KYRGYZSTAN: 00092002; LIBERIA: 00092003; NEPAL: 00092004; NIGER: 00092005; RWANDA: 00092006

## NARRATIVE REPORT

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In context of the COVID-19 the four participating UN agencies jointly reviewed planned programme activities during the National Steering Committee (NSC) with the participation of government stakeholders and relevant stakeholders. This revision was made based on the request by Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for granting a no-cost extension till the end of June 31, 2021. As a result, NSC members approved the revised AWP for 2020.

At the request of the Ministry of Agriculture, additional tools were provided including eight mobile applications, 93 training modules in Russian, Kyrgyz and English and 33 video tutorials on agricultural technologies, developed by FAO and WFP within JP RWEE and other projects.

In the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, six villages out of total 52 target villages (located in three affected rayions out of 18 target rayions) and five out of total 18 target rayions were directly affected by COVID-19 and were under the State of Emergency control. The villages, which were not directly affected by Covid, were under the emergency situation.

As part of reprogrammed activities, the JP RWEE supported women leaders with fabrics and other accessories for the production of sewing masks and therefore 16 villages of the target regions were provided with aid in the form of protective equipment (masks, sanitizers, gloves), soap and hygiene products, baby and adult diapers, thermometers and baby food.. In March and April, more than 2,200 families and 366 employees of the feldsher-midwife stations, local governments, checkpoints and hospitals in 16 villages received aid. The aid distribution was led by JP RWEE's women's activists from the provinces of Osh, Jalal-Abad and Naryn, where the first COVID-19 cases were identified.

The JP RWEE worked in the piloted geographical locations: in Naryn, Batken, Osh and Jalal-Abad provinces and mobilized 300 new beneficiaries (294 women 6 men) in Naryn's four districts, including 12 target villages. With the JP RWEE facilitating new beneficiaries, united into 54 self-help groups (SHGs). Through programme's facilitation, 38 SHGs joined 9 existing Associations of SHGs (ASHGs), established during the first cohort, and 3 new ASHGs were formed in three villages, which represent 16 SHGs. All 54 newly established SHGs joined to Naryn Women producers organization Public union "Bar El".

UN Women led consultations with participating UN agencies and regional partners (Women Producers' Organizations, activists) to identify target areas for JP RWEE's business mentorship program, women's leadership, capacity assessment of producers' organizations and other activities. As a result of consultations 5 provinces, 18 districts and 52 target villages from 1st, 2nd and 3rd cohorts were selected.

Under the general coordination of UN Women and support of local authorities, field promoters, over 300 beneficiaries (294 women and 6 men) received technical agricultural assistance from FAO (I.e. vegetable seeds, small plastic tunnel greenhouses). Seven types of vegetable seeds were provided: tomato, cucumber, pepper, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli and carrot. In addition, these 300 beneficiaries received small plastic tunnel greenhouses for growing seedlings of the provided vegetables. This was accomplished with the strong support from local authorities. In addition, 30 kg of sweet corn seeds was allocated as humanitarian aid to JPRWEE's six COVID-19 affected villages, targeting SHGs of the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> cohorts (Blagovechennka, Atabekov, Kozho-Aryk, Apshyr Ata, Kenzhe-Kul and Samarkandek).

Gender Action Learning System (GALS) rolling out has continued in the 10 pilot villages (encompassing beneficiaries from cohorts 2 and 3 of the JP RWEE) in Osh and Jalalabad oblasts. During the reporting period, efforts have been directed towards strengthening the capacities of rural communities deepening their skills and use of GALS methodology for better gender equality and livelihoods development. In total, 1,021 beneficiaries (843 women, 178 men) benefited from the intervention, and they were introduced to the fifth and final GALS basic tool (Gender Justice Diamond –GJD)<sup>2</sup>. Indirect beneficiaries were 2,050 people, namely household members of the GALS participants.

To further strengthen women's ability to develop new profitable businesses, IFAD continued to support the use of Business Action Learning for Innovation (BALI) with four Women organizations, and additional 30 SHGs in Osh, Jalalabad, Naryn and Chui (from cohort 1 of the JP RWEE), reaching a total of 160 beneficiaries (155 women, 5 men). This increased the total amount of people using BALI for innovative business development to 281 people, 266 women and 15 men (47 WO members and 234 members of the 42 SHGs). 250 of them (239 women, 11 men) have already kick started 54 innovative business projects in their

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<sup>2</sup> The Gender Justice Diamond, one of GALS tools, aims to deepen the vision on changes, which women and men want to make. The tool can be used in groups and/or in the household to reach greater consensus between women and men. Each session may focus on only one right, comparing responses of different groups of women and men. Or different groups can take different rights and then people can vote in a plenary.

communities. 2,064 indirect beneficiaries are the family members of the direct participants (1124 people) and customers of the WOs (940 people).

An end line study of BALI was conducted to assess the impact and results of piloting with the POs and SHGs. Success stories of GALS and BALI demonstrated the positive impact on women's organizations and SHGs and their skills strengthened were in financial management and business skills, organizational development as well as gender-sensitive business planning. BALI tools helped participants to increase motivation to start/improve business. 215 trainees (213 women, 2 men) have started business innovation projects – 92% of the overall trainees are able to start and successfully implement innovative economic projects.

## **I. Results**

### **Outcome 1. Rural women have improved food and nutrition security**

During the Covid-19 pandemic, it was vital to support rural poor due to vulnerability to economic instability. One of the crisis response measures undertaken by the programme was to provide services to increase the knowledge of farmers and rural residents in the field of vegetable growing and improve their skills in effective farming.

To support rural households, FAO together with its implementing partner “Chui-Talas Rural Advisory Service” Public Foundation (Chui Talas RAS), provided advisory services and development of capacity of 300 vulnerable households in Naryn oblast in 12 pilot villages (Zhumgalsky, Narynsky, Ak-Talinsky and At-Bashinsky districts) of Kyrgyz Republic. The aim was to improve their knowledge and skills on the implementation of effective economic activities and participation in market relations. Knowledge of agricultural technologies helped SHG members to organize the processes of vegetable cultivation that contributed to an increase in the yield of vegetable crops.

Capacity building- FAO Implementing Partner “Chui-Talas Rural Advisory Service” Public Foundation (Chui Talas RAS), conducted on-line training for 300 beneficiaries, and carried out the following activities:

- Modules and a training programme have been developed on the following topics: vegetables growing technology, water-saving irrigation methods and integrated plant protection with the basics of organic farming, and fruit and vegetable processing at home.
- 300 beneficiaries received seeds (tomatoes, cucumbers, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, broccoli, and pepper) and mini-plastic tunnel greenhouse.
- Online trainings were conducted on greenhouses, planting seeds and using the WhatsApp mobile phone application.

### **Outcome 2. Rural women increased income to secure their livelihoods**

Activities related to this outcome, mainly led by WFP, were transferred to the second half of 2020. Meanwhile, during the reporting period, focus was on the preparatory work, including selection and contracting of cooperating partners, and procurement of food aimed for distribution in the second part of 2020.

The JP RWEE facilitated the formation of 54 SHGs that comprise 294 women and six men, in average ranging from minimum five and maximum eight members per SHG. They represent 12 communities in four districts of the Naryn province. Business mentorship to SHGs members, which was planned to start in June, was postponed due to the deterioration of the situation with COVID restrictions. As part of preparation to the start of the mentorship programme WFP and UN Women teams closely coordinated to jointly define scope and guiding principles. It was agreed to provide equipment to selected 15 SHGs, uniting up to 350 rural women and inform all 800 beneficiaries on the mentorship process. In addition, the mentorship programme will outreach the SHGs in the following geographic locations: Naryn province - Ak-Talaa, At-Bashy, Naryn, and Zhumgal; Jalalabad – Suzak, Bazar Korgon, Nookan; Osh – Kara-Suu, Uzgen, Aravan, Nookat, Kara-Kulzha. In these villages, the work on defining priority needs on business mentorship among SHGs was conducted through online communication/WhatsApp groups.

### **Outcome 3. Rural women have enhanced leadership and participation in their communities and in rural institutions, and in shaping laws, policies and programmes**

Taking into consideration the upcoming local elections, capacity-building activities (i.e. trainings, consultations, mentorship) for women leaders on political leadership were accelerated. The program supported 18 women candidates from JP RWEE's four municipalities of Naryn and Osh provinces to run for local elections planned for 2020 through capacity-building activities, including various trainings (on political theme, ICT skills) and a mentorship programme. In total, from JP RWEE target municipalities 36 women's leaders registered their candidatures to run for local elections from target municipalities. UN Women conducted a needs assessment of women candidates to be able to identify the mentorship and training themes. There was a clear evident need for improved digital skills to interact with their respective constituencies.

The JP RWEE developed a database on women's activists from target communities, who will be potentially running for local council elections in 2020-2021, including information about achievements/initiatives on women leaders' participation in local self-governance and decision making.

Furthermore, the program helped create and moderate the Telegram group of women's activists based on consultations provided by "Unique Technologies" company, UN Women's IT partner during the COVID-19 crisis.

Women leaders from Naryn, Jalal-Abad and Osh provinces launched 14 initiatives in response to the COVID-19 outbreak in their communities such as sewing masks and providing first care response. 16 villages of the pilot regions were provided aid in the form of protective equipment (masks, sanitizers, gloves), soap and hygiene products, baby and adult diapers, thermometers, and baby food. Altogether in March and April, more than 2,200 families and 366 employees of the feldsher-midwife stations, ayil okmotu (local government), checkpoints and hospitals have been the recipients of aid. The aid distribution was led by the programme's women activists from the provinces of Osh, Jalal-Abad and Naryn, where the first COVID-19 cases in the country were identified.

UN Women supported the Central Election Committee's (CEC) initiative to produce a video on women's quota with 30% participation in the legislature to raise women candidates' awareness on the importance of women engagement in political decision making. The video is available in Kyrgyz and Russian languages, and targets women leaders, running in 2020 and 2021 local elections. However, due to the COVID-19 the date for local council elections has been postponed.

With Program's support new beneficiaries, including 294 women and 6 men, united into 54 self-help groups (SHGs). There are 11 SHGs mobilized in the Ak-Talaa district, 26 SHGs in the At-Bashy district, 13 SHGs in the Jumgal district and 4 SHGs in the Naryn district. 38 SHGs out of 54 are receiving support to join nine existing Associations of SHGs (ASHGs), established during the first cohort. During the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak, three new SHGs were formed in three villages, which represent 16 SHGs. More than 300 beneficiaries from the Program's SHGs of the 1-st, 2-d and 3-rd cohorts – who were trained on agricultural technologies and received corn seeds of 30 kg. The focus for such assistance are suggested to be made in Suzak, Nookat, Kara-Suu and Batken districts where the situation with COVID infection was the most difficult.

The JP RWEE managed to introduce an alternative mode of operations, through online communication using WhatsApp/telegram. Taking into account the low level of digitalized knowledge and skills, UN Women initiated and organized a one-month online training on ICT for program beneficiaries, women-candidates and activists. In total, 80 participants have joined the training. UN Women conducted weekly online consultations on effective social mobilization for village activists, that mobilized over 300 beneficiaries. UN Women also held regular online meetings with activists to discuss the situation with activities on the ground, to address and collaboratively resolve difficulties.

Several meetings with heads of women producers' organizations were held to encourage 18 SHGs members of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> cohorts to join their organizations from Jalal-Abad and Osh provinces. POs in three provinces of Jalal-Abad, Osh and Naryn were established within the program's earlier phases in 2016 and 2017. Nine SHGs from seven village districts for the Jalal-Abad province, nine SHGs from three village districts for the Osh province expressed an interest to join POs. Newly mobilized 54 SHGs in Naryn province joined to PO "Bar El". Membership in POs help women to join their efforts to collectively address the issues of small land plots, low productivity of agricultural activities and collectively define strategies for increasing economic sustainability of their organizations.

The JP RWEE launched the assessment of organisational capacities of two cooperatives and two producer associations and developed recommendations alongside a phase-out action plan based on the assessment results in order to guide the participating UN agencies in making appropriate interventions for improvement of POs' performance. The assessment aims to fill the information gap about the level of PO's organizational capacities (human resources, capital/financial resources, infrastructure, quality of participation), organizational motivation (vision & mission, culture), governance mechanisms (accountability, transparency) and interaction with the external environment (political, economic, social-cultural and technological), and business performance focusing on their growth trends and sustainability. Based on organizational analysis of four PO's the program will support creation of women producers' organization in Batken province.

To explore and plan possible ways of cooperation in the area of women's empowerment and eliminating violence, with the focus on social transformation, UN Women conducted a number of meetings/consultations with partners. Public Union "Community Development Alliance", IFAD's IP on promoting GALS/BALI presented their experience on WEE best practices, success stories and lessons learnt. The meeting was attended by CDA's regional coordinators and producers' organizations ("Kadam", "Iskra" and "Bar El"), representing Osh, Jalal-Abad and Naryn provinces.

Support in use of innovative GALS and BALI methodologies (gender Action Learning System – Business Action Learning for Innovation) was continued in two cooperatives, "Kadam" and "Iskra" cooperatives and two associations "Taaji" and "Bar El" aiming to improve organizational management by engaging its members to the joint work and make the members feel more

responsible and take ownership for common goals. The focus of work document actual GALS BALI results on “Kadam” and “Iskra”, “Taaji” and “Bar El” vis-à-vis the other POs – along all dimensions of assessment (capacities, motivation, ability to link up with the external environment and business performance). Cooperatives and associations praised BALI for its innovative and easy-to-use approach for gender-equitable business development. With the view of further scaling up businesses, they called for additional support on technical business development aspects, which will be catered for in the second part of the year, based on better partnerships with financial institutions and business associations.

The GALS process was continued in the same 10 pilot villages (second and third cohorts) in Osh and Jalalabad by promoting the last of the five basic GALS tools Gender Justice Diamond (GJD) grounded on the findings of reflection exercise conducted in the end of last year to discuss achievements and lessons learnt with the previous 4 tools and train champions to facilitate the 5<sup>th</sup> tool. Two champions from the first cohort acted as co-facilitators to train the champions. Besides learning a new tool, champions have refreshed their knowledge on GALS facilitation skills and the other four-GALS tools: Visioning, Vision Journey, Happy Family Tree, Income Increase Tree. The same participants of the GALS process engaged so far - 1021 people (843 women, 178 men) have experienced the 5<sup>th</sup> tool as well. The roll out continued in the same cascade format on 3 levels.

Application of GJD has created an enabling environment for families to uncover hidden conflicts or analyze the root causes of the existing conflicts and focus on improving family relations:

- One of the beneficiaries *Kamyt Kyzy Gulnaz in Naiman village in Osh* said: “If this tool is spread all over the country, then we can observe rapid decrease of the divorces – at least by two. The tool helps couples to learn to build a positive attitude to each other in the family. I wish all just married couples knew this tool”.
- Another participant *from Kashkalak village in Djalalabad Akisheva Umrinisa* has reconciled with her son after a long-term conflict.
- *Akmatova Aliman from Kashkalak village in Djalalabad* has reconciled with her daughter-in-law. She started helping her daughter-in-law to do household work.
- *Abdasova Kalcha in Tyuk-Zhar village in Djalalabad* has reconciled with her mother-in-law. They have started joint business (café) and running it together now.
- *Toktogulova Nasikat in Tyuk-Zhar village in Djalalabad* was about to divorce her husband because of the regular conflict with her mother-in-law. Now the Mother-in-law is more understanding and supportive (she helps with the household work and looks after kids).
- *The whole family of Bazylbekova Gulzhan in Olon-Bulak village of Djalalabad province was under collapse:* because of her husband her daughter-in-law has left home and Gulzhan herself was even about to divorce him. A GALS Champion has conducted GJD with the family members and they are resolving any conflict as one big family.
- *Anarbaeva Nilafar from Chong-Bagysh village in Djalalabad* was about to divorce her husband. After GJD the family has reunited again.

Family members started to recognize negative causes and developed plans to increase a happier and more positive atmosphere at the household level. For some participants, this tool helped to start decreasing unnecessary costs of the family and increase income as they realized that main conflicts have started because of the lack of money. This enabled participants to start a family business, thus improving cooperation and dialogue between the members.

Such changes were possible thanks to the conducive environment and skills developed with the help of this tool. Achieving positive results in a short time was due to participants willingness to change and improve their lives, openness to learn new skills and understand the value of the GALS tool, including skills to openly share and analyze relations between the family members, as an important factor for conflict prevention and resolution.

Four POs continued the BALI process to implement innovative business projects that can help them increase income. Series of consultations by the CDA team were conducted offline and online to help PO members use BALI tools and benefit from them.

There are some effects of BALI that are mainly relevant for the POs and their members like:

- Improved skills to analyze and evaluate business plans/projects. PO members confirm that after BALI they understand that business plans/proposals can be successful if they have careful pre-evaluation, calculation of income and expenditure, proper financial planning and consideration of the gender relation issues at the group/family.
- Increase of self-confidence of the PO members. PO members learned and become aware to realize all the resources, means and opportunities they have.

The work on BALI was grounded on the findings of a reflection/review workshop in the end of last year. Along with discussion on interim results, sessions were useful for further strengthening skills of BALI champions, enabling them to upscale BALI to other SHGs this year.

In January-February, an internal end-line study was conducted, which demonstrated that BALI has positively impacted capacities of women’s organizations and SHGs to work on increase of income, business capacity, financial management skills,

organizational development and gender-sensitive business planning. BALI tools helped participants to increase motivation to start/improve business. 215 trainees (213 women, 2 men) have started business innovation projects – 92% of the overall trainees who reported on their enhanced interest, proactiveness and confidence they confirmed they can start and successfully implement innovative economic projects.

65% of the overall business innovation projects (54 projects in total) have started bringing profit. The level of profit increase is 100% at the minimum and 625% at the maximum. For example, the profit of ASHG Blagoveshenka village in Djalalabad before BALI was US\$ 2,308 per year, after BALI their profit is US\$ 2,722 per year, which has increased 18%. SHG Birimdik in Mamazhan village in Osh before BALI had profit in amount of US\$ 457 season, after BALI their income has become US\$ 994 season, SHG Kaldyk in Kaldyk village of Chui before BALI had profit in amount of US\$ 100 per month, after BALI their income has become US\$ 343 per month, with a 243%. The highest increase is noted at SHG Azem Onor in Kyzyl-Tuu village in Naryn, where profit before BALI US\$ 571 per year, after BALI US\$ 3,571 per year – increased for 526%. The women who started this type of business as the result of BALI were able to increase profit of their groups/families for up to 243% in average (US\$ 70 /mth/woman in Naryn and Chui).

BALI helped groups to identify new sorts of agriculture products they can plant and use to increase profit. For example, SHG Aishakan in Khadzhirabat and SHG Yntymak in Dukur have planted a new elite sort of rice brought from Uzbekistan. They have increased profit for 60-80% using innovation ideas such as: canning garlic springs in a marinade, conservation of yoghurt (“suzmo” – national dish) with herbs, producing bio humus, sewing cotton handkerchiefs that turned into new business start-ups.

BALI enabled women to explore and use innovative technologies, such as ASHG Beshik-Zhon in Beshik-Zhon village in Djalalabad, which had a greenhouse since 2015 (with the help of UN Women). ASHG members used to plant tomato, cucumber and sold them in winter and spring time when there is a deficit of fresh vegetables. Their usual income was US\$ 639 year a season for the whole group. When they started BALI, they used the territory of their greenhouse in a more rational and productive way: planting strawberries and added planting herbs, tulips. As the result, they have increased their profit up to US\$ 1301 per year (increase by 103%). Besides, they supply local community with fresh and organic strawberry, herbs, and flowers in a cold season.

SHG Kaldyk in Kaldyk village in Chui have improved their skills and enlarged market channels to sell handmade dumplings. They have increased the volume and assortment of the products. With the help of BALI they have started producing colored dumplings – very much liked by children and frozen Lagman noodles (national pasta) that are ready to be consumed. The idea of colored dumplings and frozen Lagman came as the result of creative thinking and brainstorming during BALI process. This group has also started making croquettes and selling together with the rest of the semi-prepared foods. Since they use BALI, the profit has increased by 243% (before BALI - US\$ a 100 month, after BALI – US\$ 343).

Currently BALI Champions provide support to POs in defining and prioritizing business ideas, which will be supported from another component of the program on providing access of SHG members to equipment for undertaking small-scale economic activities.

#### **Outcome 4. A more gender responsive policy environment is secured for the economic empowerment of rural women**

Women have proven their leadership qualities during the COVID-19 crisis by helping vulnerable families on the ground. Their role was very important in solving the problems which communities faced during the quarantine period. The project continued its support to strengthening leadership skills of women activists to directly influence decision-making, including on responding to crisis in a timely and effective manner.

This year the government leads an important national process on the development of a new Gender Equality Strategy (GES) 2030. It is a key state policy document, which frames State commitments towards gender equality in all spheres of life, including on women’s economic empowerment. The process which was planned to start in May was postponed due to a severe outbreak of increased COVID-19 cases. With the support from the programme, local women leader activists will participate in the GES development process and contribute by bringing evidence-based priorities and concerns regarding women’s economic empowerment opportunities for the consideration and integration in the GES 2030.

Women activists will also be learning and applying an innovative tool on ‘Positive Deviance’ (PD), which is based on the concept that in every community there are certain individuals or groups whose uncommon behaviors and strategies enable them to find better solutions to problems than their peers, while having access to the same resources and facing similar or worse challenges. The Positive Deviance approach is an asset-based, problem-solving, and community-driven approach that enables the community to discover these successful behaviors and strategies and develop a plan of action to promote their adoption by all concerned. The work on positive deviance which was planned to start in June was postponed due to restrictions on in-person meetings, which is a prerequisite for implementation PD related activities.

## **II. Describe any delays in implementation, challenges, lessons learned & best practices**

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic had devastating consequences for development processes in the country, and for implementation of planned project activities. Quarantine measures were set up all over the country until the end of May, including restrictions on meetings, gatherings and assigning Heads of Local self-governance bodies to be responsible for implementation of instructions coming from the central level State Emergency Committee on mitigation of the COVID-19 crisis.

In this difficult context, JP RWEE technical team conducted a series of brainstorming discussions to review planned activities. The team jointly defined new working modalities enabling continuity of project implementation within the limitations of epidemiological requirements, such as keeping social distancing, wearing masks, and using hygiene kits. Work on mobilization of new groups was carried out through an online mode through established regular weekly online meetings with village activists.

Along with new working modalities, the team reviewed the Annual Work Plan (AWP) and made revisions, which were mainly related to changing planned timelines, specifically in those activities, which require in-person meetings, such as GALS/BALI sessions, community advocacy actions of women leaders, specific training sessions etc. The revised AWP also included new activities: training on IT technologies for activists, producers' organizations, women-leaders and national project partners as a practical response to the limitations set by the COVID-19 crisis and enabling to conduct activities online, including dialogue of activists and leaders with local authorities. The revised AWP was presented to national partners at the meeting of the National steering committee meeting and it was approved without any reservations.

The communication with partners is being continued through on-line means – skype, zoom, WhatsApp calls, emails. At community level the communication was made through the WhatsApp groups of community activists. It allowed to have a real-time communication lines and organizing responses within the scope of the project and keep regular monitoring of the situation.

## **III. Qualitative assessment**

During the COVID crisis outbreak partner agencies succeeded in the smooth running of monthly inter-agency coordination sessions.

Coordination with national partners was done through the National Steering Committee. Local authorities in target localities played an important role in ensuring implementation of planned activities, and, during quarantine restrictions, village and district administrations helped to deliver FAO's agricultural inputs in target villages. Nonetheless, there were certain challenges related to the increased workload of national partners and changes in their priorities, reoriented for COVID-19 response.

According to the Ministry of Economy, families that were mostly affected by the COVID-19 outbreak include poor households dependent on retail business, as well as families with returned migrants with no employment opportunities. Regular consultations with villages activities confirmed the deterioration of the livelihood situation in target rural areas affected by poverty, with increased risks of loss/collapse of small-scale business enterprises, which were earlier supported by the programme. Restriction of movement and lockdown led to an increase of cases of domestic violence, inter-family and social tensions. In addition to COVID-19 crisis challenges, there was spring frost, which negatively affected most of plantlets crop/vegetables and fruit trees, affecting autumn harvest. Southern parts of the country experienced floods caused by rains, which damaged many houses and flooded the fields. Due to the repeated frosts in June, SHG lost 10 to 80% of the planted vegetables.

COVID-19 crisis also revealed the sustainability of program results and the potential resilience of village activists and partners to confront newly emerging challenges. The following examples clearly demonstrate that the project established sustainable mechanisms at local level that can be operational even in the times of crisis:

- The period of self-isolation is particularly difficult for economically inactive women or families with low incomes. The crisis led to an increase in the need for personal hygiene and disinfection products, as well as remedies that are difficult for families with limited incomes. With the initiative and request of women-activists, 16 villages of the pilot regions were provided aid in the form of protective equipment (masks, sanitizers, gloves), soap and hygiene products, baby and adult diapers, thermometers and baby food for a total of around US\$ 7,000. Altogether in March and April, more than 2,200 families and 366 employees of the feldsher-midwife stations, ayil okmotu (local government), checkpoints and hospitals received aid.
- Immediate COVID-19 response measures –in addition to the planned activities FAO distributed 30 kgs of sweet corn seeds to the SHGs of the of the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> cohorts – who were already trained on agricultural technologies in previous phases of the project. The focus for such assistance were suggested to be made in Batken (Batken oblast), Suzak (Jalal-Abad oblast) and Nookat and Kara-Suu (Osh oblast) districts where the situation with COVID-19 were the most difficult. These districts were evaluated as the most in need and affected during the first wave of COVID-19 pandemic in the Kyrgyz Republic (April 2020). Three hundred beneficiaries received this assistance (100 gr/person).

- Almost 300 families in Naryn region will have diversified and healthy diets. In four districts of Naryn oblast, 300 socially vulnerable families grow different types of vegetables on their farm plots despite the difficult epidemiological situation. Thanks to modern applications such as WhatsApp, Zoom agro-Trainers were able to provide remote consultations to all beneficiaries, out of whom 294 are rural women. On their 0.07 ha of land, each family was able to plant cucumbers, broccoli, white cabbage, tomatoes, carrots, peppers and cauliflower. Families will be able to have diverse and healthy diets - one of the main objectives of JP RWEE.
- Benefits of the COVID-19 pandemic: need for training in new skills: It became more difficult for activists and members of SHGs to meet and organize joint meetings, however they started using digital skills education programmes, remote conference call programmes, etc. Rural activists have also started to introduce online surveys (such as Google form) to beneficiaries through this short course on digital skills. For example, members of two self-help groups in Jerge Tal and Cholok-Kaiyn villages collected data on the time rural women spend baking bread every day. The survey results showed that 36.1% spend more than one hour, while 36.1% and 25% spend two and three hours, respectively. Using these data, the SHG members want to provide bread baking services for villages to decrease women's household workload. A total of 80 participants (rural activists, SHG leaders, coordinators of partner organizations, women -candidates, national partners etc.) took part in the IT training.
- Rural activists were also introduced to online surveys (such as Google form) to beneficiaries through the short course on digital skills. For example, members of two Associations of self-help groups in Jerge Tal and Cholok-Kaiyn villages collected data on the time rural women spend baking bread every day. The survey results showed that 36.1% spend more than one hour, while 36.1% and 25% spend two and three hours, respectively. Using these data, the SHG members want to provide bread baking services for villages to decrease women's household workload.

### **Women-activists were first to sew face masks for those in the frontline of COVID-19 response**

#### **Story A.**

A small village in the South of Kyrgyzstan Blagoveshenka was one of the first to have confirmed coronavirus cases in the country. No one was ready. Local pharmacies of Suzak region didn't have masks not only for the villagers, but also for medical workers or police officers. The village was blocked, everyone was quarantined.

Mahabat Botasheva, a local leader of the Association of self-help groups, mobilized active women and they decided to sew mask themselves and help their community. They had sewing machines, but lacked appropriate fabric and accessories, required for sewing masks. With the support of the JP RWEE, as an initiative oriented to women leaders, they received all the needed fabric for the masks.

Within two weeks, 6,500 fabric masks were distributed to vulnerable population, doctors and nurses at feldsher-midwife stations, local government employees at the frontline, as well as policemen at checkpoints.

*"It was very important to distribute masks at the critical time when the quarantine just started: we weren't ready for the pandemic, we just had one pharmacy that obviously didn't have stock of face masks, but the people desperately needed them. No one could leave the village to restore the stocks. Thanks to UN Women we filled the mask shortage exactly for the time need", - says Mahabat.*

Now, Mahabat and other activists women created an informational network inside the village where they not only share reliable information with their villagers, but also support each other during self-isolation, help inform the population about the distribution of humanitarian aid and other issues.



Shortage of face masks was one of the problems to hit Kulatovskii ayil okmotu which is formed from 10 villages in Nookat rayon of Osh region – south of Kyrgyzstan. Quarantine started for the county with high rate of coronavirus confirmed cases. Masks, sanitizers and individual protection gear were unavailable in the pharmacies. All the help coming from the capital was centralized in the Nookat region center and central hospitals, which left Kulatovski residents alone with their problems.

Women-activists decided to take the matters into their own hands. They implemented an initiative to help the most vulnerable members of the population, by covering the shortage of masks, sanitizers and other individual protection.

With the support of the JP RWEE as part of a support initiative for women leaders, they received hand sanitizers, gloves, fabrics and other accessories for sewing masks. Ten rural women started sewing face masks in their homes, and women-activists distributed more than 5,000 face masks.

Within ten, additional masks days masks were given to medical workers, nurses, single mothers, elderly, pregnant women and women on maternity leaves.

*«It was very important for us, as women, to come up with such initiatives. We showed that our initiatives and contributed to the fight against COVID-19”, - said Sanabar Karateva, leader of Association of self-help groups in Apshyr-Ata village*



Sanabar mask – Women sewing masks

## Story B

Women leaders from the At-Bashy district, Naryn province also quickly reacted to the outbreak of COVID-19 in the region. At-Bashy district is one of the four places where the Emergency Situation was extended by the government due to the more dangerous epidemiological situation. Temirbek k. Nuria, as deputy of local council and women’s leader-initiated fundraising from local budget of LSG Ak-Zhar and organized with other members of SHG (local village administration) sewing of 2,000 protection masks. Nuria became a deputy of local council as a result of the participation in Program’s the Leadership School, which was held in the previous phase of JP RWEE. Nuria is going to run for the next elections after ending the current mandate. .

In addition, six village municipalities in the At-Bashy district received personal hygiene and antiseptic items from women’s leadership component of JP RWEE. The women activists from six municipalities conducted the assessment of the needs and

participated in the distribution of the aid. The administration of six municipalities and women's leaders of the programme distributed the assistance among the most vulnerable families. In total, almost 400 families received assistance. Apart from supporting families, antiseptic items (i.e. medical gloves, hand sanitizers, thermometers and chlorine disinfectants) were given to the local FAPs (medical community-based centers), one kindergarden, check points and COVID-19 medical/protection centers.

## Story C

### “Win-win business”

*Kalmatova Zhumakan,  
47 years old, lives with 3 teenager daughters  
Kyzyl-Ai village, Bazar-Korgon district in Djalalabad, Kyrgyz Republic  
Member of the SHG “Adilet”*

Zhumakan was left in a severe trial of the destiny - to bring up her son and three young daughters alone, when her husband Turushov Pusurmankul in June 2014 has died from heart attack unexpectedly. She became the only bread winner with the only income resource – 0,3 ha of land. She planted corn and cotton there with some help of her children – mainly her son would assist her as he was the eldest. From selling corn and cotton in a 0,3 ha land she earned US\$ 500 a season. It was difficult to manage living and bringing up children with this sum the whole year. As there was unemployment everywhere, she could not get a job. It was a very hard time for her.

In 2015, she was invited to participate in the UN Women, FAO, IFAD, WFP Joint Program “Rural Women’s Economic Empowerment in Kyrgyz Republic” along with other vulnerable women in her village. She found soulmates and together they established women’s Self-Help Group “Adilet”. Joint Program provided series of trainings on group formation, running internal crediting and developing internal group savings, agricultural skills, different types of income-generation activities like canning vegetables and so on. She got quality seeds from the Joint Program that enabled her to increase the crop. Besides, she started processing vegetables by canning them and selling in winter times. Her income has raised by 40% which made US\$ 700 a season. Her son was the main assistant to do land farming. She and her family were getting adapted to the life conditions and started gaining more confidence.

Suddenly, in March 2016, the trial of the destiny became even more severe – her son died in an accident. Zhumakan’s life became even darker and harder. But she had to keep up herself as she had 3 daughters to bring up and had no option to lose herself. She needed to earn more as she could rely only on herself. Her daughters were too young to work and earn. Zhumakan could not choose a job, she was trying any chance she met to earn a living.

In 2016, she has started attending GALS workshops that has enlarged paths for her development – she got new inspiration and ideas to keep on and improve her condition. Thus, she started her own business by baking tandyr<sup>3</sup> bread and selling them in the market of the nearest town. She has used GALS tools to develop a plan for this new business. She started this business by getting US\$ 43 from her SHG as the loan from a group savings.

Zhumakan still remembers her first day in the market- full of concerns and in-confidence as she had never sold in the market before. She did not sleep the whole night before that day by baking bread and being worried. But that day she had sold her bread quickly. She was so happy and motivated to be back to the market again.

Since this day, she used to come to the market and sell bread. Her bread was in a big demand by the local inhabitants. It was always fresh and delicious. Her confidence grew day by day. In the beginning, her 3 daughters would help her to bake bread. As her business started to improve and grow, she invited other members of SHG to engage in the business. Thus, it became a group business and brought regular income for the members. Income per women from baking bread was US\$600 a year. Thus, Zhumakan started earning additional US\$ 600 per year in addition to US\$700 from her land farming. In total, her yearly income became US\$ 1,300.

In 2019, she learnt BALI tools and used it to improve her business by supplying local inhabitants with innovative products. The innovation is that she started supplying local market with new sorts of bread: naturally fermented bread, organic brandy bread and



<sup>3</sup> It is a national style outdoor oven made from clay. Wood is burnt inside to heat it and afterwards bread is put inside and baked. It has special delicious taste and flavour.

rye bread. Naturally, fermented bread is free of yeast which is not good for the health. Rye bread and brandy bread are healthier than the average yeasted bread. Both types are good for people with insular diabetics, heart diseases and also rich in vitamins and minerals, cellulose. Zhumakan learnt about good nutrition practices from social media, TV and radio; there are many articles and posts about diseases and recommended nutrition required in a certain health conditions. This can be explained by the fact that, unfortunately, in the country the number of people with the above-mentioned diseases is growing each day. Those are not allowed to eat normal bread, including yeast bread. In such cases, naturally fermented bread, rye bread or brandy bread are the best choice for them. At the same time, other people try to eat healthier food to prevent diseases. There is not much supply of healthier bread, especially in the rural areas. This is why there is a growing demand on Zhumakan's bread. Her business has rapidly grown and profit has increased almost by 2 times – from US\$ 600 a year US\$ 1,100 a year. Thus, her family income is US\$ 1,800 a year from land farming and bread business which has increased by 3,6 times more since 2014. This is a real win-win business, where producers and customers benefit equally: producers increase income while customers consume more healthy products.

Zhumakan says: "I don't think I would get this development if we did not get the trainings provided by the Joint Programme, especially GALS and BALI workshops. GALS and BALI has added value of the Joint Programme by helping her to attain inspiration, moral support by peers in the group, self-confidence, independence and ability to improve social-economic situation of the family, These all were possible to such contribution of GALS as visioning, creative and critical thinking skills, strategic planning skills, taking action without delaying, business planning, financial literacy and skills of cooperating with others.

The whole village is aware of the success of this SHG and they admire this group, especially they are proud of Zhumakan. Her in-laws are proud and confident in Zhumakan as well.

**ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment:**

	<u>Achieved</u> Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)	Source of Verification
<b>Outcome 1</b> Improved food and nutrition security			
<b>Indicator 1.1:</b> Quant: Increase of agricultural production of women farmers Average dietary diversity score Qual: Evidence of improvement of rural women dietary diversity and consumption patterns <b>Baseline:</b> 6.22 <b>Planned Target:</b> > 6.1	To be reported in the final report		
Output 1.1 Rural women have increased access to and control over resources, assets and services critical for their food and nutrition security			
Indicator 1.1.1. Number of rural women increased access to diversified Crop production through planting of 10 community gardens  Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 450 women/50 men	Planned for the next reporting period	Due to the COVID-19 situation in Kyrgyzstan, the AWP was revised and no-cost extension was approved by TAC. As per the revised AWP, this activity will be implemented in Autumn 2020 and Spring 2021	Agenda of the ARWEE Technical coordination meeting. April 2020)
Indicator 1.1.2. Number of rural women utilizing drip irrigation systems in 10 fruit gardens Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 270 women/30men	Planned for the next reporting period	Due to the COVID-19 situation in Kyrgyzstan, the AWP was revised and no-cost extension was approved by TAC. As per the revised AWP, this activity will be implemented in Autumn 2020 and Spring 2021	Agenda of the ARWEE Technical coordination meeting. April 2020)
Indicator 1.1.3. Number of rural women utilizing improved production techniques when planting apple, apricot, cherry and plum seedlings and etc. Baseline: 0 Planned target: 450 women/50 men	Planned for the next reporting period	Due to the COVID-19 situation in Kyrgyzstan, the AWP was revised and no-cost extension was approved by TAC. As per the revised AWP, this activity will be implemented in Autumn 2020 and Spring 2021	Agenda of the ARWEE Technical coordination meeting. April 2020)
Indicator 1.1.4. Number of rural women utilizing improved production techniques, when planting vegetable seeds: tomato, cucumber, pepper, sweet	During 2020 300 beneficiaries received set of vegetable seeds (cucumber, tomato, pepper, cauliflower, broccoli,	No variance	Transmission acceptance certificates and POs

corn, carrot etc. Baseline: 0 Planned target: 270 women and 30 men	carrot and cabbage) in Naryn oblast; 300 beneficiaries received 30 kgs of Sweet corn seeds in South region (Suzak, Nookat, Kara-Suu and Leilek rayons) In total 600 beneficiaries provided with the vegetable seeds.		
Indicator 1.1.5. Number of rural women utilizing mini-plastic greenhouses Baseline: 0 Planned target: 270 women and 30 men	300 beneficiaries received Mini-plastic tunnel greenhouses in 12 pilot villages of Naryn oblast;	No variance	Transmission acceptance certificates and POs
Indicator 1.1.6. Number of rural women participated in trainings on basics of Organic Agriculture and Integrated Pest management Baseline: 0 Planned target: 270 women and 30 men	Planned for the next reporting period	Due to the COVID-19 situation in Kyrgyzstan, the AWP was revised and no-cost extension was approved by TAC. As per the revised AWP, this activity will be implemented in Autumn 2020 and Spring 2021	
Indicator 1.1.7. Number of rural women participated in trainings on Soil management with basics of Conservation Agriculture (1 session) (for new SHG) Baseline: Planned target: 270 women and 30 men	Planned for the next reporting period	Will be conducted in July 2020 by IP PF Chui-Talas RAS	(Ongoing LOA with FAO and RAS)
Indicator 1.1.8. Number of rural women received the consultancy services and technical (agronomical) support during the growing season (field trips of trainers – agronomists, after each training and consultation) Baseline: 0 Planned target: 540 women and 60 men	600 beneficiaries including members of 1 <sup>st</sup> cohort received consulting services by agronomists. Technical support was provided and will be continued throughout the season	No variance	Interim Narrative and Financial reports of Chui-Talas RAS (June 2020)
Output 1.2 Rural women have greater capacity to enhance and control local food security reserves and their production			

Indicator 1.2.1. Number of rural women participated in trainings of farmers on fruit production technologies Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 270 women and 30 men	Planned for the next reporting period	Due to the COVID-19 situation in Kyrgyzstan, the AWP was revised and no-cost extension was approved by TAC. As per the revised AWP, this activity will be implemented in Autumn 2020 and Spring 2021	Agenda of the ARWEE Technical coordination meeting. April 2020)
Indicator 1.2.2. Number of rural women participated in trainings of farmers on berry production technologies Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 270 women and 30 men	Planned for the next reporting period	Due to the COVID-19 situation in Kyrgyzstan, the AWP was revised and no-cost extension was approved by TAC. As per the revised AWP, this activity will be implemented in Autumn 2020 and Spring 2021	Agenda of the ARWEE Technical coordination meeting. April 2020)
Indicator 1.2.3. Number of rural women participated in trainings on vegetable production and processing technologies (for new SHGs) Baseline: 0 Planned target: 270 women and 30 men	15 trainings were conducted in May-June 2020 with participation of 300 beneficiaries	No variance	Interim Narrative and Financial reports of Chui-Talas RAS (June 2020)
Indicator 1.2.7. Number of rural women participated in trainings on fruit processing technologies (for new SHGs) Baseline: 0 Planned target: 270 women and 30 men	Trainings will be conducted in August 2020	No variance	Service Provider's report
<b>Outcome 2 Rural women have increased income to secure their livelihoods.</b>			

<p><b>Indicator:2.1</b>  Quant.: Income generated by rural women’s cooperatives from their sales to WFP and other markets  Qual: Income generated by rural women’s self-help groups from their sales</p> <p><b>Baseline: TBD</b>  <b>Planned Target: TBD</b></p>		<p>Women’s cooperatives will be undergoing organization and financial assessment in the upcoming months. The indicator is still under examination.</p> <p>In post-Programme monitoring, in 2019, 73% of households have reported that Programme activities have enabled their households to increase agriculture production, productivity and diversity and 65% of households have reported that Programme activities have enabled them to increase incomes from agriculture.</p>	
<p>Output 2.1 Rural women have enhanced entrepreneurship skills and value chains to access markets for their products</p>			
<p>Indicator 2.1.1 a. Number of rural women who underwent the business mentorship programme</p> <p>Baseline: 700 beneficiaries (670 females and 30 males)  Planned Target: 350 rural women</p> <p>Indicator 2.1.1b. Number of individual/group businesses created</p> <p>Baseline: 15  Planned Target: At least 15 individual/group businesses created</p>	<p>Planned for the next reporting period WFP and UN Women, responsible for the business mentorship component, are in the process of signing a contract award with service-providers (WFP has signed).</p>		<p>WFP’s MDCA database in List of participants.  Final report of the service providers (WFP and UN Women)</p>
<p>Indicator 2.1.2. Number of recipients of food/cash</p> <p>Baseline: 700 beneficiaries (670 women, 30 men)  Planned Target: 800 rural women</p>	<p>WFP completed procurement of food (fortified flour and oil) and dispatched to the Ministry of Labour and Social Development</p>		<p>Report of the service provider</p>
<p><b>Outcome 3: Rural women have enhanced leadership and participation in their communities and in rural institutions, and in shaping laws, policies and programmes.</b></p>			

<p><b>Indicator:</b> Quant: Number of rural women running for representatives in rural councils  Qual: Evidence of rural women’s empowerment in intrahousehold decision making  <b>Baseline:</b> TBD based on new elections (due to the COVID-19 was postponed, before planned in April 2020 )  <b>Planned Target:</b> 10</p>	<p>Planned for the next reporting period</p>	<p>Due to the COVID-19 Central Election Committee cancelled local elections in April and hasn’t announced the new dates yet.</p>	<p>Women’s Leadership Consultant’s report  Central Election Committee’s election results report</p>
<p>Output 3.1 Rural women, including young women have enhanced confidence and leadership skills to participate in local governance</p>			
<p>Indicator 3.1.1. Number of women candidates for elections in local councils  Baseline: 0  Planned Target: 10 rural women</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.2. Number of women participating in decision-making process at the local-self-government level  Baseline: 80  Planned Target: 30 rural women</p>	<p>Planned for the next reporting period</p>	<p>Due to the COVID-19 Central Election Committee cancelled local elections in April and hasn’t announced the new dates yet.</p>	<p>Women’s Leadership Consultant’s report  Central Election Committee’s election results report</p>
<p>Indicator 3.1.3. Number of community initiatives supporting women candidates for local council  Baseline: 9  Planned Target: 10 community initiatives</p>	<p>14 initiatives for COVID responses were organized and implemented.  Will have initiatives during next reporting period too.</p>	<p>Due to the COVID situation women-leaders who going to participate in election next year initiated with communities COVID response activities and provide villagers with hygienic kits, sewed masks.</p>	<p>Women’s Leadership Consultant’s report</p>
<p>Output 3.2: Rural women have greater organizational capacities to form, sustain and participate into POs, cooperatives and unions</p>			

<p>Indicator 3.2.1. Number of rural women mobilized in self-help groups for joint economic activities.</p> <p>Baseline: 700 (670 women, 30 men) Planned Target: 270 women (and 30 men)</p>	<p>294 women and 6 men mobilized into 54 self-help groups</p>	<p>Number of women more than planned and difference is 24. Mobilization was conducted during emergency time (COVID-19) and more women than men were interested to participate in the program. Also beneficiaries were identified through social department of LSG. And as vulnerable persons and receivers of benefits were registered mostly women.</p>	<p>Social Mobilization Consultant's and village activists' reports</p>
<p>Indicator 3.2.2. Number of POs formally registered and strengthened as cooperatives</p> <p>Baseline:0 Planned targets: 2 Producer Organizations</p>	<p>Reported in the next reporting period; in progress</p>	<p>No variance</p>	<p>Service provider's report</p>
<p>Indicator 3.2.3. Number of POs that adopt an internal gender-sensitive policy/strategy</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Planned targets: 4 Producer Organizations</p>	<p>Reported in the next reporting period; in progress</p>	<p>No variance</p>	<p>Service provider's report</p>
<p>Indicator 3.2.2c. Number of SHGs that joined formally registered POs (cooperatives, associations)</p> <p>Baseline:0 Planned targets: 65 SHGs</p>	<p>54 SHG in Naryn province joined to PU "Bar El"</p> <p>In Batken SHGs planning to establish one new cooperative by the end of October 2020</p> <p>SHGs from Dzhalal-Abad and Osh going to join to cooperatives and number of SHGs will be defined by the end of October 2020</p>	<p>No variance</p>	<p>Service provider's report</p>
<p>Output 3.3: Rural women, including young women, have increased capacity to engage in and influence relevant policy forums at national and regional levels</p>			

Indicator 3.3.1. Number of rural women participating in policy lobbying activities at local and national levels  Baseline: 80 rural women Planned Target: 80 rural women	Planned for the next reporting period	No variance	Service provider's report
Indicator 3.3.2. Number of rural women participating in policy lobbying activities at local and national levels  Baseline: 80 rural women Planned Target: 50 rural women	The learning and advocacy events will start in as part of National process on GES development - September 2020.	No variance	Service provider's report
Output 3.4: Rural women, including young women have enhanced awareness on their rights in a more supportive community/local environment.			
Indicator 3.4.1. 1014 old GALS +900 new GALS+ 1090 BALI beneficiaries learn how to use GALS methodology for better livelihood planning and business development  Baseline: 1,013 GALS beneficiaries together with 1,673 BALI GALS beneficiaries, plus 3,346 indirect beneficiaries = total 6,032 Planned Target: 1914 GALS (women/men) + 1090 BALI (women/men) beneficiaries	The Terms of References for scope of work was developed. Activities will be conducted within the second half of the year 2020	No variance	Service provider's report
<b>Outcome 4: A more gender responsive policy environment is secured for the economic empowerment of rural women</b>			
<b>Indicator:</b> Qual.: Evidence that policies and strategies include gender equality objectives and address the barriers to women's economic advancement <b>Baseline: TBD</b> <b>Planned Target: TBD</b>	Planned for the next reporting period	No variance	Service provider's report

Output 4.1: Policy makers and parliamentarians have enhanced capacities to effectively mainstream gender into land, food, agriculture, nutrition and rural employment policies, laws and budgets.			
Indicator 4.1.1. Number of learning and advocacy events conducted Baseline: Planned Target: 10 learning and advocacy events	The learning and advocacy events will start in as part of National process on GES development - September 2020.	No variance	Service provider's report
Indicator 4.1.2. Number of policy makers who participated in the learning and advocacy events Baseline: 30 Planned Target: 80 women/30 men government officials	The learning and advocacy events will start in as part of National process on GES development - September 2020.	No variance	Service provider's report
Output 4.2: Greater availability of tools and data to track progress in the economic empowerment of rural women			
Indicator 4.2.1. An in-depth assessment of GALS and BALI results, providing a qualitative understanding of the changes occurred in the beneficiaries that would complement WEAI findings  Baseline: not available Planned Target: One study carried out	The assessment has been launched.	No variance	Service-provider's report
Output 4.3: An enabling environment is promoted to reflect rural women's priorities in regional policy processes.			
Indicator 4.3.1. Number of studies/strategies analysed where gender concerns are integrated  Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 10 studies/strategies analysed	The call for proposals by qualified organizations having gender analysis /advocacy expertise, will be announced at the end of August. The deliverables will be received by the beginning of the next year.	No variance	Service provider's report

<p>Indicator 4.3.2. Number of learning and advocacy events conducted as part of the review and development of GES (Gender Equality Strategy)</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 5 learning and advocacy events</p>	<p>The learning and advocacy sessions will start in as part of the national process on GES development - September 2020.</p>	<p>No variance</p>	<p>Service provider's report</p>
<p>Indicator 4.3.3. Number of policy makers who participated in the learning and advocacy events as part of the review and development of GES (Gender Equality Strategy)</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 40 women/20 men government officials</p>	<p>Planned for the next reporting period</p>	<p>Due to the COVID-19 the process of GES development was postponed to September 2020-February 2021.</p>	<p>Service provider's report</p>
<p>Indicator 4.3.4. Number of learning and advocacy events conducted based on the Adaptive Leadership approach</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 4 events</p>	<p>Planned for the next reporting period</p>	<p>Due to the crisis, the training on Adaptive leadership approach was postponed to September – October 2020.</p>	<p>Service provider's report</p>
<p>Indicator 4.3.5. Number of policy makers who participated in the learning and advocacy events on Adaptive Leadership approach</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 20 policy makers</p>	<p>Planned for the next reporting period</p>	<p>Due to the crisis, the training on Adaptive leadership approach was postponed to September – October 2020.</p>	<p>Service provider's report</p>
<p>Indicator 4.3.6. Number of National Consultations among JPRWEE National Stakeholders to identify achievements and lessons learnt</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 1 National Consultation, at least</p>	<p>Planned for the next reporting period</p>	<p>Postponed to 2021</p>	<p>Service provider's report</p>

15 government partners, 20 women/5 men beneficiaries			
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