



Jan 2012

THE PROJECT FOR THE SUPPORT  
FOR JOINT FOREST MANAGEMENT  
IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

# NEWSLETTER Vol.1



## FOREWORD

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has started "the Project for the Support for Joint Forest Management" in January 2009, in the Kyrgyz Republic. The preliminary survey by JICA started in 2007, and the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry (SAEPF) and JICA have agreed start of this project in January 2009 with witness the Ministry of Finance and of the Kyrgyz Republic and the National Agency for the affairs of Local Self Governance (NALSG). Cooperation period is for five years.

The purpose of the Project is to strengthen framework for expanding Joint Forest Management (JFM) in a sustainable manner by the SAEPF and NALSG. The government of the Kyrgyz Republic is promoting to introduce JFM as a means not only to conserve and expand forest but also to develop region by implementation of forest management with participation of local people, and development of its system is included in National Forest Program. Meanwhile, as the current rules in order to perform JFM, Decree No.377 was developed based on activities in the south part of Kyrgyzstan and as the rules of the lease contract in Forest Fund Plot Decree No.482 was developed in 2007.

However you can understand that matching of the expectations of local residents and aim of government bodies is not easy, thus they need more detail system for JFM as well as good example for JFM. And also there might be necessity of additional rules based on existing rules for expansion of JFM such as the case of JFM in AO or JFM in ways other than lease contract.

Under this situation, the Project supports the strengthening of JFM by setting Pilot sites as practice fields in Chui Oblast and Issyk-Kul Oblast as well as developing the guideline so as to allow smooth implementation of JFM in other areas.

The Project has already passed the period of three years from the start, in the each Pilot site, forest

management with local residents has come to be implemented Gradually. In addition, discussion to prepare the guideline has started with SAEPF and NALSG in October 2011. On the other hand, all Japanese staff for the Project has shifted last summer, including me, the activities by new members just barely started to take off.

However, I know that almost all staff of SAEPF and NALSG except people directly involved in the Project doesn't have information of the Project as well as information of Japanese staff and unique techniques of forestry sector in Japan. Under these circumstances, the Project publishes newly "JFM Project Newsletter" to provide vivid information of the Project activities widely to stakeholders in the sector of forestry and rural development in Kyrgyzstan and share idea of development of JFM.

In 1993, the Kyrgyz Republic was defined as List of Part I on the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. Before the Kyrgyz Republic was defined on the list, following year of the Soviets collapsed in 1991, the Government of Japan has started to cooperate international cooperation between the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic have started international cooperation in various sectors, and JFM Project is the first project in the forestry sector. Therefore, what will be expected in this Project is not only just to strengthen framework for JFM but also to deepen the good relationship in the forestry sector and friendship between Kyrgyzstan and Japan.

We hope that the Newsletter helps close communication and friendship between Kyrgyzstan and Japan.

*Tokugawa Koichi*  
*Chief Adviser of JFM Project*

## Overview of the activities of the JFM project

The agreement between SAEPF and JICA clearly define the JFM activities, and SAEPF, NALSG and JICA have made the decision of the JFM approach based on the agreement at Bishkek. Forest resources utility and poverty elimination are required for sustainable forest management as the JFM approach. And, the framework of JFM has considered of equal right partnership between leskhoz, AO, and local people. As we know, the SAEPF has closely linked with leskhoz, and the NALSG linked with AO.

The representatives of SAEPF, NALSG and JICA periodically have hold the framework meeting as making decision of the JFM approach as the Working Group Meeting which has been held 15 times since the JFM project started. In the meeting, the main topics are, report of current project activities, presentation of JFM pilot project, discussion and approval of proposed pilot project, review of the activity on past half year, schedule of next year activity, report on counterpart training in Japan, report on several trainings in Kyrgyz, report on progress of JFM Guidelines Taskforce and discussion about JFM Guidelines etc.



【Picture : The 10<sup>th</sup> Working Group Meeting】

Based on the agreement between SAEPF and JICA, the Project has focused on Chuy Oblast and Issyk-kul Oblast, and so far has tackling forestry activities with local residents and the other interest parties in six Pilot sites.

### 1. Pilot Sites

The activities plan of Pilot site is proposed for the Project mainly by Leskhoz and WGM is adopted each plan considering terms of content. The project advised as to make more feasible and more effective in the stage of developing activities plan.



### 2. Each pilot site

The Pilot sites to have set up are six, Jang-Pakhta, Iwanovka and Kegeti in Chuy Oblast, Kok-Moinok, Karasaev, and Oruktu in Issyk-Kul Oblast. Location map and outline of each Pilot site are shown table below. In each pilot plantation of fast growing trees or fruit trees by participation of local residents is planned.

The Project supports construction of facilities necessary for their activities such as nurseries and intake facilities, land preparation for plantation and transportation of seedlings.

The biggest matter is to select tenants at the Pilot sites and to build a common understanding with all stakeholders. In each Pilot site, in addition to lease contracts with individuals, the sharing rules for common facilities and the roles of each tenant are developed by tenants, Leskhoz and Aiyl Okmotu originally.

Besides, in order to get to know project initiatives widely, and to promote awareness of the region,

have established sign-boards. Some designs of the sign board has been adopted local children's signs, it However the current pilot sites are still in trial stage. So in some cases the agreement is not perfect. We have still many things to improve about futures implementation of JFM. So, Activities of each Pilot

has become part of public awareness activities.

site should be reported to Unit of Forest Ecosystem Development (UFED) in SAEPF in each quarter of the year, for use of monitoring, analysis and discussion of the future JFM activities.



{Map of JFM Project Pilot Sites}



Pilot site	Leskhoz and Ayil Okmotu	Purpose	Plantation Area (current progress)	Main facilities
Jang Pakhta	Frunze LH Jang Pakhta AO	Plantation of apricot and poplar in farmland (Fund for Redistribution of agricultural lands). Creation of school forest also serves as environmental education.	36ha (14ha)	Nursery
Iwanovka	Issyk-Ata LH Iwanovka AO	Plantation of willow and other fast growing trees in agricultural land no-adequate for cultivation because of salt in soil. The planted trees are expected as fuelwoods. Also tenants have plans to use for growing grass between the plantation rows.	14 ha (14 ha)	Water wheel, Water pump
Kegeti	Chuy LH Kegeti AO	Construction of dikes and plantation in river bank for river disaster prevention. Also measure against pinewilt that occurred in 2009 has done including installation of kiln for charcoal making.	3 ha (0.5 ha)	Dike, Kiln
Kok-Moinok	Balykchy LH Kok-Moinok AO	Plantation of Apricots and poplars (windbreaker) in arid area. Because they require regular watering, pulling the water pipeline was installed for 6km from the source.	271ha (134ha)	Intake Facility, Pipelines
Karasaev	Tup LH Karasaev AO	Willow plantations in wet and unused lands in river side. Expected mainly fuelwoods. Build a bridge for the crossing to plantation area.	338ha (107ha)	Sustaining bridge
Oрукту	Issyk-Kul LH Oрукту AO	Through Processing wind-fallen trees of natural forests, induce work for natural regeneration and other work, seeking to balance life of pastoral residents and management of natural forests. Village road repair has been carried out.	2ha (Work for natural regeneration)	Repairing of village road

In first issue of the Newsletter, we informed just overview of the Pilot site, and further, we will inform more detail about each Pilot site from the next issue.

### Profile of Expert

#### Chief Adviser



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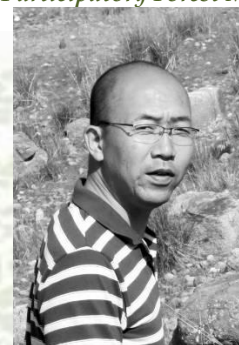
#### Professional career:

JICA Expert (erosion control in Chile),  
Charge of Grant aid in Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  
Section chief of recycle system in Japan Expo 2005,  
Section chief of thinning and forest volunteer in  
Forestry Agency,  
Head of Forest Planning Department in regional  
office of National Forest

#### Academic background:

1987: Graduated from the University of Hokkaido,  
Japan (major: erosion control)  
Hobby: Judo, claiming

#### Project Coordinator/ Expert on Participatory Forest Management



Name: **NISHIKAWA** Tatsuji

#### Professional career:

JICA Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer in  
Kenya,  
Technical adviser of wood product factory in  
Indonesia,  
JICA Expert (wood product in Thailand),  
JICA Project Formulation Advisor in Kazakhstan

#### Academic background:

2000: Graduated from the University of Montana,  
USA (major: forest resource management)  
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