

6th GFRAS Annual Meeting
Global Good Practices in Rural Advisory Services
14 - 17 September 2015, Issyk Kul, Kyrgyzstan

FIELD DAY PROGRAM
Dairy value chain (full day)

We will visit the cheese factory Siut Bulak (Dairy Spring) established nearly 20 years ago with Swiss government support, and get to know their system of milk collection, the milk suppliers, the various approaches to train and consult the milk suppliers, and the struggles of the cheese factory to get the required quality and quantity of milk. On the way, we will visit a farmer who keeps Simmental cattle, a specific cattle species from Switzerland that was introduced to the region. The participants will be able to discuss the challenges of devising an effective and financially viable advisory model for the link between supplier farmers and a medium-scale private sector processing enterprise, and the difficulty in changing small farmers livestock keeping and milking practices.

The cheese factory is situated in the village Jyluu Bulak of Tiup rayon, around 115 km from the meeting venue beyond the Eastern end of lake Issyk Kul. The milk collection points are in various villages around the cheese factory. Travelling time on this field trip will be around 1.5 hrs for each way.

Facilitator: Maksat Mamytbekov, Livestock and Advisory Service Specialist, USAID Agro Horizon Project

Other key persons: Kuljan Tezekbaeva (RAS Issyk Kul), representative of Siut Bulak cheese factory, farmers

Program:

Time	Activity, discussion topics	Responsible
8.00 - 10.00	Departure from hotels to village Shaty (Tiup rayon)	Facilitator
10.00 - 11.30	Milk collection point of cheese factory Siut Bulak Introduction to activities of Siut Bulak. Production. Market. Raw material supply. Organisation of milk collection. Cooperation with advisory services etc.	Facilitator Representative of Siut Bulak
11.30 - 12.00	Drive to bee keeping farmer	Facilitator
12.00 - 13.30	Lunch (at farm) Introduction to bee keeping activities, possibility to buy honey	
13.30 - 15.00	Meeting with farmers. Use of different cattle breeds. Process and conditions of milk delivery. Provision of	Facilitator, farmers, participants

	advisory services. Benefits of delivery to cheese factory. Difficulties and challenges, etc.	
15.00 - 15.30	Discussions, ideas and recommendations by participants	Facilitator, participants
15.30 - 18.00	Departure to Hotel (if time allows with visit to the shore of Issyk Kul lake)	Facilitator