



PRESS-RELEASE

Training course “Requirements and principles of agricultural production safety on the basis of the international Global GAP standard”

The first stage of the training course devoted to Requirements and Principles of Agricultural Production Safety on the basis of the international Global GAP standard (Appropriate Agricultural Practice) will take place at TES-Group training center, Osh, Republics of Kyrgyzstan from 3-8 April, 2017.

It is planned to carry out at least three cycles of 18 days training in 2017. After completion, the course participants will have to pass examination to obtain the status of internal auditor according to requirements of the Global GAP standard.

Main objective of this initiative is to train food safety managers (internal auditor status) in the fruit and vegetable production sector in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.

In the short term, this course will enable the trained representatives of trade and business intermediary organizations to promote food safety improvement of regional deliveries of fresh fruit and vegetable products both on internal, and on foreign markets.

This training course is organized by the international organization **Hilfswerk Austria International** within the “Advanced Support Programme to Central Asian BIOs – Specialized and Integrated Services for Export-Oriented Food Processing SMEs - CANDY - IV”, funded by the program of the **European Union** "Central Asia - Invest IV" project financed by the program of the European Union "Central Asia – Investment IV", together with the **UNDP** Regional Project “**Wider Europe: Aid for Trade for Central Asia**” , financed by the Government of Finland.

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The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders. To this end the EU is active in Tajikistan since 1992 and provides approximately EUR 25 million annually in development assistance



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UNDP Regional Project “**Wider Europe: Aid for Trade for Central Asia**” supports inclusive growth and assist the national efforts to reduce poverty and improve people’s lives by promoting trade and competitiveness of the country. The main objective of the project is to contribute to human development through advancing trade, with special attention on the crosscutting themes of gender equality, rights of the most vulnerable groups in society, and environmental sustainability, among others. (The project implemented in Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan).

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International non-governmental organization **Hilfswerk Austria International** implements in equal partnership with regional organizations in the Central Asia its fourth project as part of the “Central Asia – Invest” program of the European Union.

This series of projects, which have been implemented for the last eight years by a joint team of nine regional and international organizations, aims at Central Asia’s integration into the global economy by developing the fruit and vegetable processing sector as well as increasing the competitiveness and export capacity of SMEs.

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS:

ASTI (*Association of Scientific and Technical Intelligentsia*) is a non-profit, non-governmental public organization, established in 1995, promoting the development of democratic reforms and the provision of decent living conditions of the population in Tajikistan through the efficient use of the scientific and technical intelligentsia and through strengthening the role of the non-profit sector by implementing social, information, coordination, educational, consultancy and development programs. <http://www.asti.tj>.

NASMB (*National Association of Small and Medium Businesses of the Republic of Tajikistan*), registered in September 1993, is a non-profit membership organization uniting entrepreneurial structures on a free-will basis and representing the interests of a wide range of Tajikistan’s entrepreneurs. Its main goals include protecting and promoting the interests of entrepreneurs, providing, methodological and educational services as well as consultancy to businesses. <http://www.namsb.tj>.

TES center is a non-governmental organization from Kyrgyzstan, whose goal is to increase revenue of the people engaged in agriculture by means of high quality education and consultations. *TES center* is a non-profit education and consultancy organization acknowledged by the government of Kyrgyzstan, established by GTZ in 1999, together with Osh State University.

AFVE (*Association of fruit and vegetable enterprises in Kyrgyzstan*) was established in June 2003 and currently unites most fruit and vegetable enterprises in the country, developing the fruit and vegetable processing sector and enterprises by creating a favorable business environment and developing the market for processed products. The “***Association of fruit and vegetable enterprises***” is a non-governmental, non-profit organization uniting legal entities engaged in the production and processing of agricultural produce, on the basis of free will and common interests.

PO “NEKSIGOL MUSHOVIR” is a non-profit public organization. Its goal is to promote development of agricultural sector of Tajikistan and thus to contribute in reducing poverty among the rural population of Tajikistan by increasing farmers' stable incomes. Since 2009, the organization is exerting efforts for dissemination of scientific-technical and market information, encouraging agricultural producers for making decisions on effective use of the natural resources, assisting them in exploration of innovations and best production practices. www.agroinform.tj

«AgroLead» Public Association is a leading consulting company in the field of agriculture, promotes the economic advancement of agribusiness participants through the construction and development the value chains (VC) according to the principles of the green economy and adaptation to climate change.

The Mission of «AgroLead» Public Association is to contribute to agricultural development by capacity building of agribusiness actors in Central Asia through providing consulting, training and marketing services. www.agrolead.org

PO “Markazi Idorakunii Sifat” – Public Consulting Organization is professional union of specialists, working in the field of introduction of advanced quality control systems, and implementing the activity, aimed at the enhancement of management methods, and as a result, the quality of the services provided. Since 2012 work for contribution in the sustainable economic development of Tajikistan through strengthening organization and institutional potential of the domestic producers via implementation of training programs and provision consulting services. www.qmc.tj

WIFI, the Institute for Economic Promotion of the Austrian Economic Chambers and the educational institute of the Austrian business community is a reliable educational partner in Austria and abroad. WIFI International is represented in 11 Central and South Eastern European countries. Austrian companies and local firms profit from skills-based professional education and training programmes of the highest standard that are tailored to individual requirements. An international pool of trainers, transnational seminars and courses that take cultural differences into account and international educational qualifications are additional assets of the WIFI institutes.

