



## PRESS-RELEASE

### **Regional Cooperation for the Promotion of Fruit and Vegetable Production Export of Central Asian countries**

From 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> of April, 2017 at the "Burana" hotel, Aral village of Kyrgyz Republic, a Working Meeting on regional cooperation in the Fergana Valley with regard to the promotion of regional products in domestic and foreign markets will be held.

The meeting is organized by a group of Central Asian organizations in cooperation with the Austrian international organization Hilfswerk Austria International in the framework of the project "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". The Regional Program of GIZ «Trade Facilitation in Central Asia" supports the organization of the event.

The meeting participants will discuss the challenges and opportunities for the export of fresh and processed fruit and vegetable products with regard to transport, logistics, volume and quality of fresh and processed products, dried fruits and nuts from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan to EAEC countries, the EU and others. In addition, the participants will have the opportunity to demonstrate their products, to establish business contacts with international buyers (retailers and distributors), to sign memoranda on cooperation and letters of intent, as well as to discuss the quality and delivery terms.

The meeting will be attended by managers, vendors, exporters, directors (decision-makers) of processing and trading companies from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and other countries; leaders of organizations working with farmers in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan; representatives of development projects.

**For more information/ registration for participation**, please contact Aizhan Adylbekova, Association of Fruit and Vegetable Enterprises of Kyrgyzstan, by e-mail: [appkkg@mail.ru](mailto:appkkg@mail.ru) or by phone: (+996 312) 46-27-44; mob. (+996 0555) 002 047

The project is implemented by



Address: Loik Sherali 3,  
Dushanbe, Tajikistan  
Tel: (+992) 372 24 49 08

[aslanov@hilfswerk.tj](mailto:aslanov@hilfswerk.tj)  
[www.hilfswerk.tj](http://www.hilfswerk.tj)



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by the European Union

Delegation of the European Union  
To the Republic of Tajikistan  
74 Adhamov Street  
734013 Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan  
Tel: (+992 37) 221 74 07, 227 10 24  
Fax: (+992 37) 221 43 21  
[Delegation-Tajikistan-Pic@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:Delegation-Tajikistan-Pic@eeas.europa.eu)  
<http://www.deltjk.ec.europa.eu>

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

The international non-governmental organization **Hilfswerk Austria International** implements in equal partnership with regional organizations in 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.

**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.

**«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](http://www.agrolead.org)

**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.

**WIFI, the Institute for Economic Promotion of the Austrian Economic Chambers** and the educational institute of the Austrian business community, is the undisputed No.1 with a market share of 20%. More than 60 years of experience have made WIFI 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.

