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the People of Japan



years in Uzbekistan

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NEWSLETTER

"Climate resilient livelihoods of horticultural producers in Fergana Valley in Uzbekistan" project updates



HOW TO HELP FARMERS ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN UZBEKISTAN?

UNDP has organized a workshop to exchange experience with representatives from the SATREPS project on climate change issues in Uzbekistan. Experts from UNDP, Uzhydromet, NIGMI, and Japanese experts representing the SATREPS project in Uzbekistan took part in the event.

Adaptation is a high priority for the country as the warming trends observed are twice as fast as the global average and result in water stress, increasing climate aridity, and more frequent extreme weather events. This poses serious challenges to human security, including economic, food and environmental risks. Agriculture, which is an important sector for rural employment, is climate-sensitive and vulnerable.

Professor Kenji Tanaka of Kyoto University shared his experience implementing the BLUE project in Uzbekistan to reduce soil salinity. This project also includes a satellite meteorology component, which aids in the prediction of sandstorms and the timing of high solar radiation, as well as the measurement of temperature and soil moisture.



Newsletter Highlights

How to help farmers adapt to climate change in Uzbekistan?

Now farmers in the Fergana Valley have access to more precise agrometeorological data

Voices of our future beneficiaries

Horticultural producers are to improve business processes with kaizen approach

Building climate-informed planning skills of horticultural producers



One of the project's goals is to find solutions that will give farmers access to agrometeorological information and recommendations for agrotechnical work based on data from agro-meteo stations.

During the event, the UNDP project "Climate Change and Resilience in Central Asia," which is funded by the European Union, also gave a presentation. The event participants were informed about the project's efforts to ensure the Fergana Valley's stability and resilience to climate change in the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan.

During the discussion, Uzhydromet representatives discussed their work providing farmers with agrometeorological information, as well as the challenges they face.

The meeting served as a useful platform for bringing together representatives from academia, the public sector, and international organisations involved in climate change adaptation in Uzbekistan. Participants were able to share their experiences and receive advice on how to resolve difficult situations, as well as identify opportunities for future collaborations.

The event was organized by the UNDP and Uzhydromet project "Climate resilient livelihoods of horticultural producers in Fergana Valley in Uzbekistan," which is funded by the Government of Japan.

In his presentation, Sardor Kodirov, Project Manager of the UNDP and Uzhydromet project "Climate resilient livelihoods of horticultural producers in Fergana Valley in Uzbekistan," funded by the Government of Japan, discussed the planned work to install agro-meteo stations in the Fergana Valley.

Farmers with varying levels of potential, he claims, do not always have access to agrometeorological information. Most people see this information as numbers. The ability to analyse agrometeorological data, on the other hand, allows for precise agrotechnical work.





NOW FARMERS IN THE FERGANA VALLEY HAVE ACCESS TO MORE PRECISE AGROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA

UNDP with the financial support from the Government of Japan has installed 20 small agrometeorological stations in the Fergana Valley. The access to agrometeorological data will enable farmers to implement climate-informed planning, reduce farming costs, and improve product quality.

Agricultural development is a powerful tool for improving food security both nationally and globally and feed a projected 9.7 billion people by 2050. Climate change has a significant impact on agriculture, for example, farmers are unprepared for temperature fluctuations, and this leads to major crop losses. The installation of agrometeorological stations provides an opportunity to reduce the negative impact of climate change on agriculture, farmers' financial well-being, and the country's economy in general.

“Our experts carefully selected locations for agrometeorological stations so that the service radius of multiple weather stations does not overlap, allowing us to cover the largest possible area of the Fergana Valley. Today, agrometeorological stations serve as a tool for obtaining agrometeorological data horticultural producers.” said Sardor Kodirov, manager

of the project “Climate resilient livelihoods of horticultural producers in Fergana Valley in Uzbekistan”.

Farmers in the Fergana Valley who want to receive agrometeorological data on a regular basis can contact the Office of the Hydrometeorological Observation Network's Department of Agrometeorological Observation and Forecasting at +99878 150 85 40.

UNDP will continue to work on agriculture adaptation to ongoing climate change by installing appropriate equipment for Uzbekistan's meteorological services and improving farmers' skills to carry out both seasonal agrotechnical work and the actions required to protect crops in case of sudden weather changes.





WATCH THE VIDEO

VOICES OF OUR FUTURE BENEFICIARIES

Climate change is causing water scarcity, increased aridity, and more frequent extreme weather events. This tendency has a major impact on agriculture.

To demonstrate how weather factors impact farmers in Fergana Valley and how our project is helping them address these issues, UNDP in partnership with Uzhydromet, with the funding support from the Government of Japan, has created a video.

The video highlights stories of horticultural producers who explain how climate change affects yields and product quality, as well as the importance of having access to agrometeorological data in order to avoid the negative effects of climate change.



HORTICULTURAL PRODUCERS ARE TO IMPROVE BUSINESS PROCESSES WITH KAIZEN APPROACH

The project has partnered with the Uzbek-Japanese Centre to help farmers and specialists from Uzhydromet, Agency for Plant Quarantine and Protection introduce kaizen methods to their work.

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Kaizen, which means "continuous improvement", can ensure proper management and effective performance in government agencies, as well as enable farmers to engage their entire workforce in improving the quality of their products.

During February 20-24, experts from Japan trained farmers and horticultural producers, as well as specialists and managers from Uzhydromet, the Agency for Plant Quarantine and Protection. The training sessions took place in Andijan, Fergana and Namangan.

The training sessions were designed to introduce participants to main principles of this philosophy and shared best practices of kaizen implementation in agriculture.

According to the participants, the seminar allowed them to take a fresh look at operational processes in their respective businesses and find out new opportunities for growth. This will help farmers to increase productivity, improve quality of their products and reduce production costs.





BUILDING CLIMATE-INFORMED PLANNING SKILLS OF HORTICULTURAL PRODUCERS

UNDP and Uzhydromet, with funding support from the Government of Japan, have conducted a workshop on the development of fruit and vegetables protection and nutrition programmes. The workshop brought together horticultural producers and representatives from Uzhydromet, Agency for Plant Quarantine and Protection, which provides services to farmers in Fergana Valley.

During the seminar, participants learned about modern methods of working with horticultural and vegetable crops, the necessary agrotechnical methods and the schedule for their implementation based on weather conditions, ensuring plant nutrition, and pest control. During the workshop's practical part, participants were able to improve their skills in developing nutrition schemes for horticultural and vegetable crops, as well as pest control.

"This workshop helped us to learn about the most effective methods of pest control, about

dangerous plant diseases and the possibilities for their prevention, and also helped to acquire new skills on how to schedule monthly pest control activities for a full year duration. For us - fruit and vegetable producers - this is, so to speak, an important school, because the current market requirements are very high. I think seminars, just like today's, are necessary so that we can produce even better-quality products," said Karimberdi Giyosov, one of the seminar participants and farm manager.

"The experts provided us with a lot of useful information. Now, our task is to disseminate this information among the local population, specifically farmers. For this purpose, we have a Telegram channel where we are ready to answer users' questions," said Rasuljon Kholmiraev, the seminar participant and specialist at the National Center for Agro-Services in the Namangan region.

This seminar is part of UNDP's substantial effort to adapt farmers to climate change.





HORTICULTURAL PRODUCERS LEARN HOW TO PROCESS AGRO-METEOROLOGICAL DATA

Agro-meteorological stations provide farmers with vital information on climatic and soil conditions, enabling them to grow and irrigate their crops more effectively. To raise farmers' awareness on how to use data provided by agro-meteorological stations, UNDP and Uzhydromet with the funding support from the Government of Japan held training sessions for more than 50 specialists from Uzhydromet, Agency for Plant Quarantine and Protection, and horticultural producers.

During the training sessions, participants learned about the benefits of using agrometeorological stations that will soon be installed by our project; They also learned about the ways to process agrometeorological data and take necessary measures to adapt to weather changes. Furthermore, experts provided information about agricultural techniques

that are important to undertake during the winter time.

Training sessions have been held in Namangan, Andijan and Fergana. These sessions are part of the extensive work being done to support farmers in adapting to climate change.



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