



Community-Based Adaptation FAST FACTS

KAZAKHSTAN

Climate-Resilient Horse Production in Kargaly Village

Grantee: YLT TAGDYRY-ASTANA

Type of Organization: NGO

Number of Participants: 202 people

Location: Kargaly Village in
Korgalzhinsky Rayon District, Akmola

CBA Contribution: \$44,000

Project Partners: Community of Kargaly Village; PA «Ult Tagdary – Astana»; MTS-Korgaljin LLP (Business Support); Akimat of Korgaljin rural district (Government support)

Co-Financing: Community of Kargaly,
\$9,000 in cash and \$33,000 in kind

Project Dates:

March 2009 – September 2011

BACKGROUND

The Community-Based Adaptation Programme (CBA) is a five-year United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) global initiative funded by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) within the Small Grants Programme (SGP) delivery mechanism. The UN Volunteers partners with UNDP and GEF/SGP to enhance community mobilization, recognize volunteers' contribution and ensure inclusive participation around the project, as well as to facilitate capacity building of partner NGOs and CBOs. In addition, funding is provided by the Government of Japan, the Government of Switzerland, and AusAid. The CBA's goal is to strengthen the resiliency of communities to address climate change impacts.

The CBA project, Climate-Resilient Horse Production in Kargaly Village, aims to develop a model of climate-adapted land use in the Kargaly rural community in the Korgaljin district of Akmoland to demonstrate its environmental, economic and social validity under climate change conditions.

Kazakhstan is the world's ninth largest country located in Central Asia. Although Kazakhstan's economy relies mainly on oil, mineral resources and metals exports, agriculture remains an important economic activity. The project site, Kargaly Village, located approximately 100 km southwest of the country's capital, Astana, is a transition zone between the dry and the moderately dry steppes. The main economic activity is livestock rearing. To a great extent, horse production is used for milk and meat. The project area's climate is extremely continental and dry, with cold winters and short summers. Winter snowfall is the most important precipitation in the region, as melt-water provides the moisture required for rangeland fodder production. Declining precipitation and increasing ratio of rainfall to snowfall threaten to reduce the sustainable stocking capacity of the pasture ecosystem, to increase the predominance of inedible xerophytic plants in place of edible grass species, and to heighten erosion around water-points.



A weir in rehabilitated existing pasturelands and reconstructed water channels for irrigating pasturelands

CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS

Long-term climate change projections for Kazakhstan and Central Asia forecast increasing temperatures, especially in the winter, as well as increasing level of evapotranspiration in the summer. Temperatures are expected to increase to 1.4°C by 2030 and 2.7°C by 2050. In the project area, rising temperatures and decreasing precipitation will lower the availability of water in the soil, and will reduce the resilience of pasturelands to dust storms and wind erosion. As dust storms and dry winds become more frequent, the aridity and the soil erosion will increase, stressing the natural ecosystem, and reducing the productivity of pasturelands. These climate change risks will trigger a cycle of poverty and food insecurity in the region.

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND ADAPTATION MEASURES

The CBA project's objective is to pilot ecologically, economically, and socially sustainable techniques to prevent negative climate change consequences on pasture ecosystems used for horse breeding in Kargaly Village. The project was prepared through a participatory process carried out by YLT Tagdyry, a local NGO, which involved all the local stakeholders. The project focuses on increasing the adaptive capacity of the local community members through trainings on sustainable livestock production in the face of climate change. Project activities include:



Temporary livestock watering troughs conveniently located in pasture lands to spread livestock and to avoid degradation of pastures

- Rehabilitation of existing pasturelands and reconstruction of existing water places using traditional Kazakh collective work method called "ASAP"
- Improved management of local resources, including popularization of sustainable pasture management at the community level;
- Development of local plans and signed agreements between community members about the use of lands (pastures) and water (wells) resources, as well as cooperative access to forage and water resources at remote pastures;
- Integration of climactic and ecological change to livestock production and management practices;
- Improved pasture management planning and livestock breeding strategies through the determination of optimal load for pasturelands under current and likely future climate change conditions;
- Construction of new watering points to spread stock loads more evenly around decreasingly resilient pastures;
- Dissemination of information about new pasture management strategies among livestock producers in Northern Kazakhstan, including government and community stakeholders.

FOCUS ON...

Global environmental benefit

In response to the shift towards a warmer and drier climate, the project is helping to restore degraded pasturelands and introduce the community to sustainable land management techniques.

Community ownership and sustainability

The local community has played a key role in the formulation of the project and continues to provide in-kind support for its implementation. Additional sustainable pasture resources management approaches implemented within the framework of the project are reducing climate change risks and significantly improving the socio-economic welfare of the local community. These approaches will become the basis for project sustainability and further development.

Policy influence

The project will disseminate information about new pasture management strategies among livestock producers in Northern Kazakhstan, including government and community stakeholders, in order to mainstream lessons learned into policies.

For more information about CBA or CBA projects visit: www.undp-adaptation.org/project/cba

Further information, lessons learned, and experiences gathered from climate change adaptation activities globally can be found at the Adaptation Learning Mechanism: www.adaptationlearning.net

