

The Kyrgyz Republic

FY2016 Ex-Post Evaluation of Technical Cooperation Project

“The Project for the Support for Joint Forest Management in the Kyrgyz Republic”

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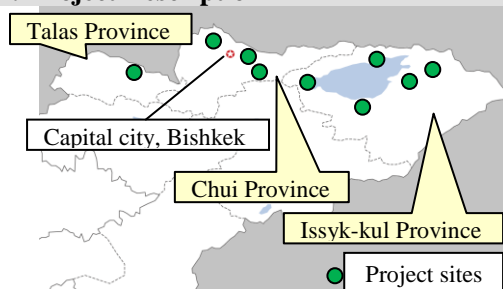
## 0. Summary

The objective of this project was to strengthen the framework for expanding Joint Forestry Management (hereinafter referred to as JFM) in a sustainable manner in Kyrgyz by establishing JFM mechanisms at the project sites, executing forest management activities, monitoring forest management activities, and preparing and disseminating a JFM implementation guideline, thereby contributing to the increase in the number of JFM implementation areas.

This project was consistent with the development plan and the development needs of Kyrgyz, as well as the priority areas of Japan’s ODA policy; thus, its relevance is high. The project purpose was mostly achieved as the framework for expanding JFM in a sustainable manner was constructed through the execution of pilot projects, and the number of JFM implementation areas was increased because the successful experiences of pilot projects were shared with other regions. However, since the increase was not made due to efforts by the Kyrgyz side to expand JFM on its own, the impact was partially unachieved. Therefore, the effectiveness and impact are fair. In regard to the implementation of the project, as both the project cost and period were within the plan, the efficiency of the project is high. As for the related policy for and institutional aspects of the sustainability of project effects, although policies on and the legal system of JFM were made clear, there were some problems. Organizational and technical aspects do not have any specific issues. As for the financial aspects, the fact that agencies at central and field level did not have budgets for the development of small-sized infrastructure, which were necessary for the expansion of JFM, was a problem. As mentioned above, because there were minor problems in the related policy and institutional aspects as well as in the financial aspects, the sustainability of project effects is fair.

In light of the above, this project is evaluated satisfactory.

## 1. Project Description



Project Locations



Apricot trees planted by forest users

## 1.1 Background

The total forest area in Kyrgyz, which was 1,190 thousand hectares in 1930 (6% of the nation's land), decreased to 620 thousand hectares (3%) in 1966 due to inefficient forest management. Through the forestation policies implemented and conducted since then, the total forest area increased to 870 thousand hectares (4.3%) in 2003, although a lack of thinning had resulted in forest degradation.

Aiming to achieve efficient forest management, Kyrgyz undertook reform efforts, including shifting production activities of forest products in State Forest Fund (SFF) areas from the government sector to the private sector. In addition, as one of the pillars to promote reform, the decision was made to introduce the JFM scheme: a mechanism in which forest users are responsible for forest management based on an agreement among three parties both at SFF areas and on publicly owned land<sup>1</sup>. The three parties include (1) local forest stations (Leskhozes), the lower bodies of the State Agency of Environment Protection and Forestry (SAEPF), (2) village associations (Ail-Okumotues, also known as AO), the lowest level of local administrative bodies and (3) forest users (that is, residents and local communities).

However, although the JFM scheme was established as a system, its specific actions were not determined and its implementing mechanism in Kyrgyz was not necessarily sufficient. Therefore, improvement in the capacities of the related parties and both the enhancement of the mechanism for the implementation and the promotion of JFM were strongly needed.

Based on this background, the Government of Kyrgyz requested technical cooperation from Japan in 2007 for forest restoration and conservation through JFM. The objective of this project was to strengthen the framework for expanding JFM by SAEPF and the State Agency for Local Self-Governance and Interethnic Relations (hereinafter referred to as SALGIR)<sup>2</sup> in a sustainable manner in Kyrgyz by (1) the construction of implementation mechanisms at JFM project sites selected in Issyk-kul Province and Chui Province, (2) the implementation of forest management activities by forest users in JFM project sites, (3) the monitoring of forest management activities and support activities at JFM project sites, and (4) the preparation and dissemination of a JFM implementation guideline.

Originally, the pilot projects were planned to be implemented only in Issyk-kul Province and Chui Province. However, a pilot project was implemented in Talas Province, in addition to the two provinces mentioned above in order to cover as many provinces as possible, in consideration of the nationwide dissemination of JFM in the future.

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<sup>1</sup> A collective term of the lands under the jurisdiction of local authorities, which do not include SFF areas under the jurisdiction of SAEPF.

<sup>2</sup> The National Agency for the Affairs of Local Self-Governance (NALSG), which was one of the implementing agencies, was reformulated into the SARGIR during the execution of this project.

## 1.2 Project Outline

Overall Goal		The number of JFM implemented areas is increased.
Project Purpose		Framework for expanding JFM in a sustainable manner by the State Agency for Environment Protection and Forestry (SAEPF) and National Agency for the Affairs of Local Self-Governance (NALSG)* is strengthened.
Outputs	Output 1	JFM administration bodies among Leskhozoes, Ail-Okumotues and forest users are organized in the project sites for JFM in Issyk-kul Province and Chui Province.
	Output 2	The forest management activities are implemented by forest users at the project sites for JFM.
	Output 3	The forest management activities by forest users and support activities by Leskhozoes and Ail-Okumotu at project sites for JFM are monitored.
	Output 4	The JFM implementation guideline is comprehended by relevant organizations.
Total cost (Japanese Side)		279 million yen
Period of Cooperation		January 2009 – January 2014
Implementing Agency		The State Agency for Environment Protection and Forestry (SAEPF), the National Agency for Affairs of Local Self-Governance (NALSG)*
Other Relevant Agencies / Organizations		Leskhozoes in Issyk-kul Province and Chui Province and Ail-Okumotues in Issyk-kul Province and Chui Province
Supporting Agency/Organization in Japan		The Forestry Agency
Related Projects		<p>Technical cooperation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Project for Development of the Rural Business with Forest Products (2015 - 2019)</li> </ul> <p>Other international organizations and aid organizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Switzerland, Kyrgyz-Swiss Forestry Support Program (1995 - 2010)</li> <li>- The United Nations Development Programme, the Environment</li> </ul>

\* NALSG was reformulated into the State Agency for Local Self-Governance and Interethnic Relations (SALGIR).

### **1.3 Outline of the Terminal Evaluation Study**

#### **1.3.1 Achievement Status of Project Purpose at Terminal Evaluation**

At the time of terminal evaluation, it was concluded that the project purpose, “Framework for expanding JFM in a sustainable manner by SAEPF and NALSG (SALGIR) is strengthened”, was expected to be achieved because (1) the experiences and knowledge of SAEPF and SALGIR on the implementation of JFM were accumulated, (2) JFM activities were implemented at seven additional sites solely upon the efforts of the Kyrgyz side<sup>3</sup>, (3) this project proposed revisions be made to the existing legal system as well as the establishment of a new legal system, and (4) the finalization works on the JFM guideline were under progress.

#### **1.3.2 Achievement Status of Overall Goal at Terminal Evaluation (Including Other Impacts)**

It was concluded that the overall goal, “JFM implemented areas are increased”, was expected to be achieved<sup>4</sup> because JFM was implemented at seven sites which had not been included as pilot project sites and seminars had been organized in all provinces using a draft of the JFM guideline.

#### **1.3.3 Recommendations from the Terminal Evaluation**

At the time of terminal evaluation, the following recommendations were extracted for the stakeholders of the project.

- (1) The JFM scheme should be adaptive to a wide range of activity purposes, such as the production of forest products or environmental protection, and the JFM guideline should be revised regularly based on the results from execution of JFM activities.
- (2) SAEPF should consider the establishment of a legal system for JFM practices. In addition, a funding mechanism for JFM should be standardized, for example, by establishing a dedicated fund for it, in order to assure forest management in the long run.
- (3) The cooperation between SAEPF and SALGIR should be further strengthened in order to expand JFM in areas other than SFF areas.
- (4) The capacities of staff members from SAEPF and SALGIR responsible for JFM should be further enhanced.

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<sup>3</sup> One of the performance indicators set for the project purpose was “ JFM is implemented only by the Kyrgyz side at more than two sites other than the project pilot sites by the end of the project”.

<sup>4</sup> The performance indicators set for the overall goal were (1) JFM is implemented at not less than 10 sites other than the project sites and such sites should be selected not only from SFF areas but also from AO areas, and (2) "JFM implementation guideline" is utilized in other provinces.

- (5) Networking with relevant groups, such as the agricultural sector, universities and research institutes, donor organizations, and NGOs should be enhanced for the expansion of JFM. Good practices and knowledge of JFM should be shared with related organizations for mutual learning at the JFM project sites.

## **2. Outline of the Evaluation Study**

### **2.1 External Evaluator**

Hirofumi Azeta, Japan Economic Research Institute Inc.

### **2.2 Duration of Evaluation Study**

This ex-post evaluation study was conducted with the following schedule.

Duration of the Study: November 2016 – April 2018

Duration of the Field Study: March 27, 2017 – April 8, 2017, August 7, 2017 – August 12, 2017

### **2.3 Constraints during the Evaluation Study**

This project targeted strengthening the framework for expanding JFM in a sustainable manner in Kyrgyz through the implementation of JFM activities at JFM project sites (pilot sites).

However, the definition of JFM was not necessarily clear. In the appraisal of this project, JFM was defined as “a scheme in which forest users are responsible for forest management at SFF areas and publicly owned land based on an agreement among three parties: Leskhozoes, AOs and forest users”. This was based on the definition, which was suggested in the draft JFM concept prepared for the Kyrgyz-Swiss Forestry Support Program (KIRFOR), executed by Switzerland from 1995 to 2010. According to the definition, JFM is “an approach of cooperation of the stakeholders in the forest management process, where there exists a clearly defined responsibility, rights and benefits adequate to contribution in forest ecosystem development determined by contractual relationship”,

On the other hand, the definition of JFM given by the government of Kyrgyz seems to be “the participation of the residents in forest management”, although it was not clearly mentioned in documents, such as the Concept of Forestry Development (-2025) or the National Forestry Programme<sup>5</sup>. Therefore, a three-party agreement among Leskhozoes, AOs and forest users is a prerequisite for JFM according to the definitions set forth by the appraisal of this project and KIRFOR, but not according to the definition of the government.

Regarding the three-party agreement mentioned above, the forms of agreements were not uniform. In this project, pilot projects were executed at ten sites in total and written agreements

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<sup>5</sup> Several staff members mentioned that they understood the JFM involved the concluding of CFM agreements and lease contracts (both to be explained later) with residents.

among three parties, or JFM project agreements, were concluded for six sites. For the remaining four sites, agreements were only made orally.

The roles of the three parties at the ten pilot sites of this project were different among the sites. As it was relatively common that JFM projects were executed in SFF areas which were under the jurisdiction of Leskhozoes, there were several examples in which the roles of stakeholders were determined as: (1) Leskhozoes provided lands and seedlings together with technical support, (2) AOs allowed for the use of roads and water in AO areas, and (3) forest users undertook land preparation works and planted trees, and maintained them. On the other hand, in cases which JFM projects were executed in the areas under the jurisdiction of AOs, there were examples in which the roles of stakeholders were determined as: (1) Leskhozoes provided technical support and seedlings, (2) AOs provided land, and (3) forest users planted trees and maintained them.

Regardless of JFM project agreements being concluded, forest users had to make contracts on land use with the Leskhozoes or AOs which had jurisdiction over the corresponding lands. The contracts concluded in such cases are called Collaborative Forestry Management (hereinafter referred to as CFM) contracts or lease contracts. CFM contracts and lease contracts are summarized as follows:

**Table 1. Summary of a CFM Contract and Lease Contract**

Form of contract	Parties to a contract	Examples of contracts
CFM (based on Decree 377)	Forest users (residents) and Leskhozoes conclude contracts.	Forest users carry out maintenance activities of the forests under the jurisdiction of Leskhozoes and obtain outputs of forests, such as fruits, in return. Fruits or the proceeds from sales of fruits are divided between Leskhozoes and forest users.
Lease (based on Decree 482)	Forest users conclude contracts with Leskhozoes in cases involving SFF areas and with AOs in cases involving AO areas.	Forest users use land, pay lease fees, plant fruit and timber trees in the land, and generate income from fruit and timber sales. In some cases, forest users share income from fruit and timber sales with Leskhozoes or AOs instead of paying lease fees.

As mentioned above, there were several definitions of JFM and the forms of three-party agreements were not uniform. Therefore, in this ex-post evaluation, this project was evaluated based on the assumption that the definition of JFM was “a scheme in which forest users are responsible for forest management at SFF areas and publicly owned land based on an agreement among three parties: Leskhozoes, AOs and forest users” as described in the appraisal. Similarly, this project was evaluated based on the assumption that three-party agreements were concluded when three parties were involved in decision-making on JFM in any form. The evaluation did not consider whether written agreements were concluded.

### 3. Results of the Evaluation (Overall Rating: B<sup>6</sup>)

#### 3.1 Relevance (Rating: ③<sup>7</sup>)

##### 3.1.1 Consistency with the Development Plan of Kyrgyz

At the time of planning, Kyrgyz was targeting the achievement of sustainable forest management by involving residents and local communities and also by clarifying the roles of the government in the forestry sector in the *Second National Poverty Reduction Strategy (2006-2010)* formulated in February 2006, the *Country Development Strategy (2007-2010)*, the *Concept of Forestry Development (-2025)*, the *National Forestry Programme (2005-2015)* and the *National Action Plan for Development of Forestry (2006 – 2010)*.

At the time of project completion, the *Sustainable Development Program (2013-2017)* targeted expanding the forest area, referring to the preservation of biodiversity and revival of the natural ecosystem as one of the environmental actions needed for sustainable growth.

At the time of project completion, the *Concept of Forestry Development (-2025)* and *National Forestry Programme (2005-2015)* were effective, and thus a target of achieving sustainable forest management through involving residents and local communities and through clarifying the role of government in the forestry sector was retained. Therefore, it is possible to say that expanding a type of JFM in which forest users take responsibilities for forest management based on three-party agreements among Leskhozoes, AOs, and forest users was expected to contribute to the achievement of the targets specified in both the *Concept of Forestry Development* and *National Forestry Programme*.

It is therefore concluded that this project has been highly consistent with the national development policy.

##### 3.1.2 Consistency with the Development Needs of Kyrgyz

The proportion of forest area to the nation's land in Kyrgyz was 6% in 1930 and it decreased to 3% in 1956 as a result of inefficient forest management executed during the former Soviet Union Era. Although it increased to 4.3% in 2003 under the forestation policies promoted since then, a lack of thinning after planting, due to financial difficulties and a lack of human resources, resulted in forest degradation.

At the time of planning, the government of Kyrgyz recognized through the *National Forestry Programme (2005-2015)* that the involvement of residents and local communities was necessary in order to achieve sustainable forest management under financial hardship and the lack of human resources as mentioned above. At the same time, the *National Forestry Programme* mentioned the necessity of distributing the roles of supervision and regulation functions to the

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<sup>6</sup> A: Highly satisfactory, B: Satisfactory, C: Partially satisfactory, D: Unsatisfactory

<sup>7</sup> ③: High, ②: Fair, ①: Low

government sector and those of economic activities to the private sector (residents and local communities) in order to improve efficiency of forest management because Leskhozoes had been responsible for all aspects of forest management, such as supervision, regulation and economic activities when *National Forestry Programme* was formulated<sup>8</sup>. JFM was introduced as one of the measures to address such issues and the *National Forestry Programme* pointed out the necessity for the establishment and improvement of a JFM implementation system.

According to a survey conducted in 2011, the proportion of the total forest area in Kyrgyz, which was 5.61% of the nation's land, was higher than 4.3% in 2003. However, according to Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the increase occurred because forests which were not included in the previous statistics were subsequently counted and not because the number of forests had increased. SAEPF also mentioned that the quality of the forests had not shown any changes before the end of the project.

The development policy of Kyrgyz at the time of project completion was the *Sustainable Development Program (2013-2017)*, in which the impacts of climate change on food supplies and hydroelectric power generation were matters of concern and the necessity for the restoration of the ecosystem was recognized. It also targeted increasing the total forest area, a number which was 5.61% in 2011, to 5.62% by 2017. One of the measures which was pointed out to achieve this target was the supports for the cultivation of fast growing trees by local communities.

It is thus possible to say that the needs for increasing the total forest area and for the improvement in forest quality existed at the time of project completion, because the total forest area did not show any increase, the quality of forest did not show a major improvement and the *Sustainable Development Program* recognized the necessity to increase the total forest area to react to the climate change.

It is therefore concluded that this project has been highly consistent with the development needs of Kyrgyz.

### 3.1.3 Consistency with Japan's ODA Policy

In a diplomatic policy called the "Central Asia plus Japan" dialogue, which was launched during the round-trip visit to Central Asia by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Yoriko Kawaguchi, in August 2004, Japan identified the importance of the democratization of the societies and the promotion of the market economy. Based on this, the Country Assistance Program for Kyrgyz established in April 2009, which was under the preparation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan at the time of project planning, proposed "Promoting poverty

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<sup>8</sup> It was not expected that the participation of private operators in forest management activities had led to the decrease in the forest quality, because Leskhozoes monitored the activities and they could cancel contracts in case activities described in contracts were not carried out. According to the implementing agency, the decreases in forest quality was not observed due to the participation of private operators at the time of project completion.



reduction through economic growth based on a free market economic principle” as the overall goal and “Development of Infrastructure for Economic Growth” as one of the priority areas for assistance. In addition, “local development” and “agricultural development” were included as specific measures to achieve “Development of Infrastructure for Economic Growth”. It can be said that this project was expected to contribute to the achievement of “Development of Infrastructure for Economic Growth”, as it plans to support income maintenance measures of forest users in industries such as beekeeping, jam and dry fruits production, and other activities. Therefore, this project was in line with Japan’s ODA policy.

This project was highly consistent with the development policy of Kyrgyz, and development needs, as well as Japan’s ODA policy. Therefore, its relevance is high.

### 3.2 Effectiveness and Impact<sup>9</sup> (Rating: ②)

#### 3.2.1 Effectiveness

##### 3.2.1.1 Achievement of Project Purpose

Output 1: JFM administration bodies among Leskhozoes, AOs, and forest users, are organized at the JFM project sites in Issyk-kul Province and Chui Province.

**Figure 1. JFM project sites**



In this project, ten JFM project sites were selected from Issyk-kul Province, Chui Province and Talas Province. Initially, pilot projects were planned for execution only in Issyk-kul Province and Chui Province, but a pilot project was also executed in Talas Province in addition to the two provinces mentioned above in order to cover as many provinces as possible, in consideration of the nationwide dissemination of JFM in the future.

As mentioned above, JFM was defined as “a scheme in which forest users are responsible for forest management at SFF areas and publicly owned land based on an agreement among three

<sup>9</sup> Sub-rating for effectiveness is to be put with consideration of impact.

parties: Leskhozoes, AOs and forest users” in this project. At these project sites, the three parties were involved in the execution of JFM activities.

In six out of the ten project sites, JFM project agreements, which specified respective roles, were concluded by three parties including Leskhozoes, AOs and forest users. At the four remaining sites, pilot projects were executed without concluding written agreements. Regardless of the conclusion of written agreements, Leskhozoes and AOs were involved in decision-making, such as decisions on the selections of forest users, and the monitoring of JFM activities were executed through collaboration efforts of Leskhozoes and AOs at all project sites. Therefore, it is possible to say that three-party agreements were made at all pilot project sites by the conclusion of written agreements or oral agreements.

In order for forest users to use forest land, lease contracts or CFM contracts were concluded between forest users and Leskhozoes or AOs regardless of the written agreements mentioned above being concluded. Selections of forest users were made through public notices and biddings based on the respective decrees applicable for CFM and leasing.

Therefore, it was concluded that Output 1 had been accomplished.



Photo 1. Plantation of poplars at Ak-Beshim



Photo 2. Plantation of apricots at Kok-Moinok

Output 2: The forest management activities are implemented by Forest Users at the JFM Project Sites.

As mentioned above, ten JFM project sites were selected from Issyk-kul Province, Chui Province, and Talas Province and forest management activities were carried out with the participation of Leskhozoes, AOs, and forest users at all project sites. Therefore, it is possible to say that Output 2 was accomplished. As specified in the indicators of this output, it was also confirmed that forest users appreciated JFM schemes, their awareness for forest conservation was enhanced, and administrative procedures related to JFM, such as those on land use, were clarified.

Therefore, it was concluded that Output 2 had been accomplished.

Output 3: The forest management activities by forest users and supporting activities by Leskhozoes and AOs at the JFM project sites are monitored.

In this project, SAEPF determined a monitoring format on which the forested area, numbers of forest users, activities, and other information were recorded. Although not many Leskhozoes submitted monitoring reports at first, all Leskhozoes started submitting the information on forest management activities and support activities as a result of the fact that the monitoring format had been simplified in 2012 and the reporting frequency had been changed from quarterly to biannually. However, although it was expected that three parties including Leskhozoes, AOs, and forest users shared and understood the monitoring procedures through the indicators of this output, forest users were not involved in monitoring and they did not understand the monitoring processes either.

Therefore, it was concluded Output 3 had been mostly accomplished.

Output 4: The JFM implementation guideline is comprehended among relevant organizations.

In this project, the JFM guideline was prepared based on the experiences gained through pilot projects. The final draft of the guideline, which was prepared in November 2013, was approved by Decree 318 of SAEPF. In order to promote understanding of the JFM guideline, seminars were organized, with the expectation that the staff members of all AOs in all districts of Issyk-kul Province, Chui Province, and Talas Province would participate. However, seminars were organized in some districts, inviting all AOs, because the JFM guideline had been approved in November 2013, shortly before the completion of the project, although seminars were initially planned to be organized in each district of the target provinces. This probably occurred because the distance from each AO to the seminar venues was far and the participation of the staff members of AOs was limited.

Therefore, it was concluded that Output 4 had been partly accomplished.

### 3.2.1.2 Achievement of Project Purpose

The level of the achievement of the project purpose at the time of project completion is indicated as follows:

Table 2. Achievement of Project Purpose

Project Purpose	Indicator	Actual
Framework for expanding JFM in a sustainable manner by the State Agency for Environment Protection and Forestry (SAEPF)	① Comprehension on the JFM implementation knowledge and experience is shared among relevant staff of SAEPF and NALSG*.	As news on project activities was compiled in newsletters and distributed, the knowledge and experiences of staff members of SAEPF and SALGIR on the implementation of JFM were enhanced. However, because SALGIR had not been in a position to give instructions to AOs following a law issued in 2012, it was not involved in

and National Agency for the Affairs of Local Self-Governance (NALSG)* is strengthened.		expanding JFM at the time of project completion.
	② JFM is implemented by only Kyrgyz side in more than two (2) sites different from the project pilot sites by the end of the project.	It was confirmed that new JFM activities were started without the supports offered through the project in the areas under the jurisdiction of four Leskhozoes and three AOs before the completion of the project <sup>10</sup> .
	③ Legalization process of rules and regulations for JFM implementation should be initiated.	A proposal on the revision of the existing legal system and the establishment of new legal system in order to optimize JFM related decrees was submitted to SAEPF and SALGIR in the 16 <sup>th</sup> working-group meeting organized in June 2012. In addition to this, a proposal on the commencement of the revision of the existing legal system and the establishment of a new legal system immediately after the completion of the JFM guideline was made to SAEPF at the time when the second draft of the JFM guideline was submitted in June 2013.
	④ “JFM implementation guideline” is utilized by relevant organizations.	The final draft of the JFM guideline was prepared in November 2013 and approved by Decree 318 of SAEPF.

\* NALSG was reformulated into the State Agency for Local Self-Governance and Interethnic Relations (SALGIR).

The final draft of the JFM guideline was completed in November 2013 and it was approved by SAEPF. However, the approval of the guideline was made only two months before the completion of the project, it is not possible to say that the JFM guideline was utilized by relevant organizations at the time of project completion. Therefore Output 4 was achieved at a limited level.

However, it can be said that the project achieved Outputs 1, 2, and 3 because (1) the knowledge and experiences of the implementation of JFM were shared and understood by SAEPF and SALGIR, (2) JFM activities were started at seven sites through the efforts of the Kyrgyz side before the completion of the project, and (3) the actions toward institutionalizing necessary rules for the implementation of JFM were started.

Therefore, it was concluded that the project mostly had achieved its project purpose, “Framework for expanding JFM in a sustainable manner by SAEPF and NALSG (NALSG was reformulated into SALGIR) is strengthened”. However, as mentioned above, SALGIR had not been in a position to give instructions to AOs since 2012; thus, it was not included in the framework for expanding JFM at the time of project completion.

<sup>10</sup> The three AOs were Milyanfan, Ibraimov, and Shamsly AOs in Chui district. The information from four Leskhozoes could not be obtained.

### 3.2.2 Impact

#### 3.2.2.1 Achievement of the Overall Goal

The level of achievement of the overall goal at the time of project completion was observed as follows:

Table 3 Achievement of Overall Goal

Overall Goal	Indicator	Actual
JFM implementation areas are increased.	① JFM is implemented in not less than 10 sites different from the project sites and such sites should be selected not only from SFF areas but also from AO areas.	At the time of project completion, it was confirmed that new JFM activities were started without the supports of the project in the SFF areas under the jurisdiction of four Leskhozoes and in the areas under the jurisdiction of three AOs. In the ex-post evaluation, it was confirmed that JFM was started by 18 AOs near project sites and in ten AOs in other regions <sup>11</sup> .
	② “JFM implementation guideline” is utilized in other provinces.	At the time of project completion, SAEPF was not using the JFM guideline. Furthermore, in the sites where JFM activities were executed, the utilization of the JFM guideline was not observed. The information to show the utilization of the JFM guideline in other provinces was not available.

At the time of ex-post evaluation, it was confirmed that JFM was started with the involvement of 18 AOs near project sites and 10 AOs in Batken Province. In 14 among 28 sites mentioned above, JFM was started in AO areas<sup>12</sup>.

It was also confirmed that JFM activities were started in Batken Province, imitating the successes of one of the JFM project sites, namely, the Kok Moinok project site. In this project, guidance on the methods of plantation, maintenance, pesticide inputs, and other methods for the cultivation of apricots was provided at the Kok Moinok project site. The fact that the Kok Moinok project site shared such skills upon accepting site visits led to the expansion and successes of JFM in Batkek Province.

However, the utilization of the JFM guideline was not identified at the JFM project sites in the project and in other provinces. Besides, SAEPF did not take any actions to expand JFM. Therefore, it is not possible to say that the achievement of the project purpose led to the achievement of the overall goal.

Therefore, the project has achieved its overall goal at a limited level.

The levels of continuity of the project purpose and outputs after the completion of the project are stated as follows:

<sup>11</sup> In these regions, three parties fulfilled their roles, for example, AOs provided lands; Leskhozoes provided seedlings and technical support; and forest users carried out land development, tree plantation, and maintenance. According to the interviewees, AOs and Leskhozoes were involved in the selections of forest users. Therefore, it can be said that JFM activities based on the three-party agreements were implemented.

<sup>12</sup> At the remaining 14 project sites, Leskhozoes provided land and AOs were involved in decision-making processes, such as the selections of forest users.

Output 1: JFM mechanism on involving stakeholders into decision-making are functioned in the Project Sites of JFM in Issyk-Kul Province and Chui Province.

JFM activities were terminated at two out of ten project sites, but continued at the remaining eight sites.

It was confirmed that the JFM mechanism on involving Leskhozoes and AOs into decision-making processes was functioning at three out of eight of the project sites where JFM activities were executed in AO areas. In contrast, AOs were not involved in decision-making at the remaining five project sites executed in SFF areas.

Therefore, the continuity of the mechanism on involving stakeholders into decision-making was limited.

Output 2: The forest management activities are implemented by forest users in the Project Sites of JFM.

It was confirmed that forest management activities by forest users were continued at many JFM project sites. There were some contracts discontinued because the trees planted died or forest users moved out of project sites or got sick, but many contracts were continued. After reviewing the beneficiary survey<sup>13</sup> conducted in the ex-post evaluation, it was confirmed that forest users appreciated the concept of JFM, as 96% of the interviewees answered that JFM was “significantly appropriate” or “slightly appropriate” as a source of generating income.

In addition, 80% of interviewees answered that their “awareness for environment improved”, and thus it was confirmed that their awareness toward forest conservation was enhanced through JFM activities.

Output 3: The forest management activities by forest users and the supporting activities by Leskhozoes and AOs at the JFM project sites are monitored properly.

Although monitoring of forest management activities was continued by Leskhozoes, execution of support activities were not documented. Furthermore, AOs and forest users were not involved in the monitoring. Therefore, the continuity of the output was limited.

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<sup>13</sup> The beneficiary survey was conducted on the forest users at the ten JFM pilot project sites (all pilot project sites) in Issyk-kul province, Chui province and Talas province in order to measure the effects and impacts which could not be measured by the predetermined indicators only and also to confirm the changes at the JFM project sites had been brought about by the projects. The beneficiary survey included interviews with 100 households of forest users at nine pilot project sites, excluding Orkutu project site, and also six households of forest users who participated in JFM activities at Orkutu project site. Although the beneficiary survey was planned to include interviews with forest users whose contracts were cancelled, it was not possible to contact them in many cases, especially if they were not involved in forest management activities at the time of ex-post evaluation. Therefore, the proportion of the forest users whose contracts were continued became bigger and the result might be biased upward. At Orkutu project site, as there were no lists of forest users, the answerers were given only by the residents cooperative to the survey. Therefore, the result of the survey might be biased upward.

Output 4: The JFM implementation guideline is comprehended among relevant organizations.

Utilization of the JFM guideline was not identified at the project sites of this project. The main reason for this seems to be the fact that SAEPF did not organize seminars on JFM which targeted Leskhozoes and AOs after the completion of the project, and the efforts to promote an understanding of the JFM guideline were limited.

In addition, lease fees were set at a very low level and they could not be changed according to the changes in price levels set in most of the lease contracts concluded at Leskhozoes. No examples of lease fees being determined based on the methods described in the JFM guidelines were identified. One of the reasons for this is that the method to determine lease fees as described in the JFM guideline was not authorized by any laws or decrees.

Project Purpose: Framework for expanding JFM in a sustainable manner by the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry (SAEPF) and National Agency for the Affairs of Local Self-Governance (NALSG) is strengthened.

According to SAEPF, although it had encouraged Leskhozoes to expand JFM through its annual meetings and it had also supported Leskhozoes to carry out contract processes for JFM activities, it did not organize any seminars or training utilizing the JFM guideline.

SALGIR had not been in a position to give instructions to AOs since 2012, that is, before the completion of the project, and thus it was not involved in the expansion of JFM.

Therefore, it cannot be said that the framework for expanding JFM in a sustainable manner by SAEPF and SALGIR was maintained.

Although a portion of the outputs of the project was continued, the activities to promote an understanding of the JFM guideline were not continued. It can be said that the achievement of the overall goal was limited as a result.

3.2.2.2 Other Impacts

In the field survey of the ex-post evaluation, it was confirmed that no negative impacts on the natural environment occurred and that no resettlements and land acquisitions were made.

Although it was not possible to obtain specific information on the increase in the total forest area and the improvement in the quality of the forests brought about by this project, it was confirmed that the trees were planted through the execution of JFM activities and the maintenance of the trees planted were continued at most of the project sites.

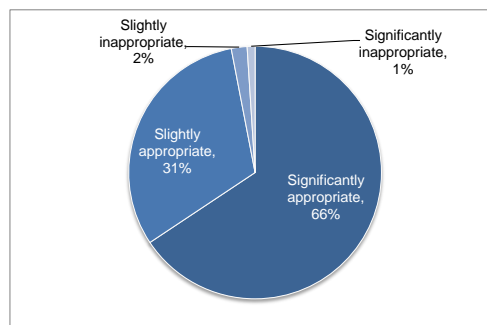


Figure 2. Answers by forest users on the appropriateness of JFM activities as sources of generating income

Therefore, it was surmised that the execution of the JFM activities led to the increase in total forest area and also the improvement in the quality of forests.

It was also confirmed through the interviews with the implementing agency and residents that no resettlements or land acquisitions were made for either implementation of JFM activities or installations of project equipment.

In addition, in the beneficiary survey, 89% of forest users answered that the JFM activities contributed to an improvement in their livelihoods and 97% of the interviewees answered that the JFM activities were appropriate as sources of generating income<sup>14</sup>. Therefore, it was confirmed that JFM activities were appropriate measures for the improvement in livelihoods.

Moreover, 57% of the interviewees answered that “the women in the households have some money for their own uses”, and 60% of them answered that “the amount that women can use increased”. From these findings, it can be assumed that the money that women could use increased in some households involved in JFM activities. Therefore, it was confirmed that this project had partly contributed to an increase in the incomes of women.

Since this project partly achieved the project purpose and overall goal, effectiveness and impact of the project are judged to be fair. The project purpose was mostly achieved, as Leskhozoes, AOs and SAEPF had accumulated knowledge and experiences on JFM through the execution of pilot projects and they had built the framework for expanding JFM in a sustainable manner.

JFM was implemented at more than ten sites which were not included as project sites, as expected in the overall goal. However, this is because provinces which were not included in the project sites of this project learned from the successful examples of this project and its skills through site visits, and not because the Kyrgyz side expanded JFM in a sustainable manner, such as through organizing seminars for Leskhozoes and AOs and utilizing the JFM guideline. Therefore, it was not possible to say that the achievement of the project purpose had led to the achievement of the overall goal, and thus a part of the overall goal had not been achieved.

### 3.3 Efficiency (Rating: ③)

#### 3.3.1 Inputs

The inputs of this project are noted as follows:

Inputs	Plan	Actual
(1) Experts	- 2 Long-Term (120MM*) - Short-Term: forest management, etc. dispatched upon necessity	- 4 long-Term (122.6MM) - 5 Short-Term (5.0MM, simple method of land survey with handy

<sup>14</sup> Interviewees do not include the forest users at Orkutu project site. At Orkutu project site, activities which led to generating income were not conducted. Forest users in Orkutu project site carried out activities such as the removal of fallen trees and branching, then they used such trees and branches for firewood; thus, all of them answered that the expenses for fuel purchases decreased by conducting such activities.



		GPS, nursery management, forest disease and pests control, Fruit cultivation technique, and natural forest management of those such as spruce forest)
(2) Trainees received	15- 25 persons	33 persons
(3) Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- One vehicle (four-wheel drive)</li> <li>- Office equipment (computers, printers and miscellaneous)</li> <li>- Other equipment necessary for the execution of the project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Two vehicles (four-wheel drive)</li> <li>- 10 computers</li> <li>- Two printers</li> <li>- 113 sets of GPS receivers</li> <li>- Other equipment necessary for the execution of the project</li> </ul>
(4) Overseas activities cost	-	8.9 million Kyrgyz Som (KGS)
Japanese Side Total Project Cost	300 million yen	279 million yen
Kyrgyz Side Operational Expenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assignments of counterparts</li> <li>- Project office space (capital city, Bishkek), project office at the field level (Issyk-kul Province) and other necessary goods and facilities necessary for the project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assignments of counterparts: SAEPF 57 persons and SALGIR 24 persons</li> <li>- Provision of local cost: 1.6 million KGS in total (expenses necessary for the execution of the pilot projects, such as vehicle fuel and a part of the expenses for local employees)</li> <li>- Provision of the project office space (in the building of SAEPF head office)</li> </ul>

\* MM stands for man month.

### 3.3.1.1 Elements of Inputs

The inputs of this project by both the Japanese side and Kyrgyz side were almost as planned.

The actual engagement of long-term experts was 122.6 MM, while the planned engagement was 120.0 MM. This was because the long-term experts made their engagements slightly longer than planned in order to handover their duties.

In addition, the dispatches of short-term experts, which were made based on both the contents of technical transfers and research necessary for the execution of pilot projects, were appropriate.

The actual number of vehicles was two, although it was planned to be one. The main reason for this was that not only the experts engaged in the project but also staff members from SAEPF used the vehicle for the execution of pilot projects. Another reason was that the planned number of pilot project sites, which was five, increased to ten.

In the light of above, it was concluded that the inputs of this project were appropriate.

### 3.3.1.2 Project Cost

As mentioned above, the Japanese side's total project cost was 279 million yen and it was within the plan. During the execution of this project, the Kyrgyz side covered some expenses necessary for the execution of pilot projects, such as a portion of vehicle fuel expenses and local employee costs. However, the background for this could not be identified.

In light of the above, it was concluded that the project cost was within the plan.

### 3.3.1.3 Project Period

The project period, which was initially planned to be five years, starting from November 2008, was actually from January 2009 to January 2014<sup>15</sup>. The commencement of the project was delayed by two months, but no problems due to this delay were identified. Therefore, it can be said that the project period was as planned.

Both the project cost and project period were as planned, so the efficiency of the project is high.

## 3.4 Sustainability (Rating: ②)

### 3.4.1 Related Policy and Institutional Aspects for the Sustainability of Project Effects

At the time of ex-post evaluation, *Concept of Forestry Development (-2025)* was still effective and it targeted the promotion of forest production activities by forest users and multipurpose uses and conservation of forests through the execution of such activities.

The contractual procedures for JFM were defined by existing decrees, for example, those of CFM contracts and lease contracts were determined in Decree 377 and Decree 482 respectively. Contract procedures for JFM were carried out based on these decrees at the time of ex-post evaluation as well.

The JFM guideline, whose final draft was prepared in November 2013, was approved by Decree 318 of SAEPP and the decree was effective at the time of ex-post evaluation.

However, it was found in some cases contracts were cancelled unilaterally by Leskhozos although only a few actual cases of cancellation were seen in the ex-post evaluation. Because afforestation takes a long time, 49-year lease contracts are concluded in many cases. However, the contract terms of initial contracts are normally set for five years in order to exclude pernicious private operators who only occupy lands by concluding contracts but do not plant any trees. If forest users cannot meet contract conditions, for example, they cannot complete the target of afforestation within five years, in some cases their contracts are not renewed, and in

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<sup>15</sup> On the record of discussions (hereinafter referred to as R/D) on the implementation of this projects, it was mentioned that the term of cooperation was five years, starting from the dispatch of JICA experts.

other cases the contracted area is decreased upon entering into a long-term renewal of the contract. According to SAEPF and some forest users, there were some Leskhozoes which distorted the definitions of such conditions and canceled the contracts unilaterally, even though the conditions mentioned in the original contracts were met.

In the ex-post evaluation study, it was not possible to identify examples in which lease fees were determined based on the methods for setting lease fees, as described in the JFM guideline. In many contracts, lease fees were set at very low levels and they were not revised reflecting price levels.

Therefore, as there are some contracts which do not follow designated procedures, it can be said that there are some problems in related policy and institutional aspects for the sustainability of project effects.

### 3.4.2 Organizational Aspects for the Sustainability of Project Effects

At the time of ex-post evaluation, the Unit for Forestation Monitoring, Forestry User Organizations, and the information system of the Department of Forest Eco System were responsible for JFM at SAEPF. Two staff members out of the six assigned in the unit were in charge of JFM.



Figure 3. Organization chart of SAEPF

Source: Documents provided by SAEPF.

At SALGIR, the Section for Monitoring Function and Duties of Local Authorities was the section responsible for environmental conservation including the forestry sector. However, it

was not involved in the actual operations of JFM as it was not in a position to give instructions to AOs from 2012.

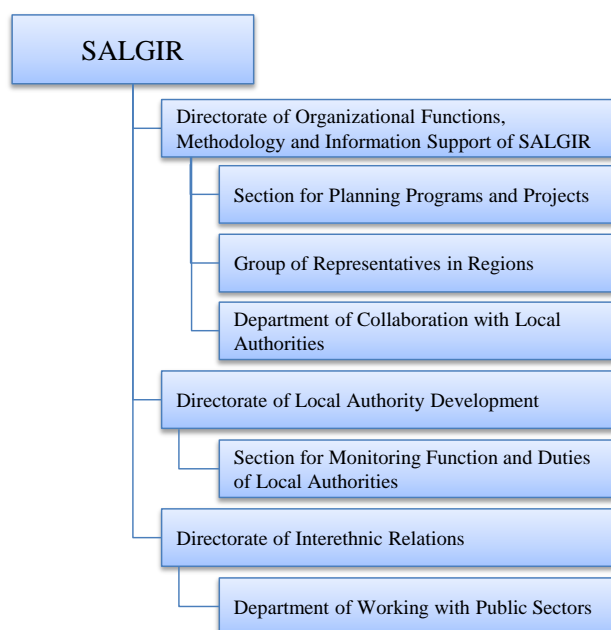


Figure 4. Organization chart of SALGIR

Source: Documents provided by SALGIR.

At a typical Leskhoz, there were about 30 – 40 staff members, and several members including a director and officers were involved in the implementation of JFM.

At a typical AO, there were about 25-30 staff members, and one or two staff members were in charge of the forestry sector. AOs were in charge of arrangements and contractual procedures when JFM was implemented in areas under its jurisdiction.

SAEPF had an organizational setting in place which supported Leskhoz in carrying out contractual procedures for JFM. Many Leskhoz and AOs had constructed and maintained an implementing mechanism for JFM, leaving several staff members responsible for JFM. Therefore, it is considered that there are no problems in the organizational aspects for the sustainability of project effects.

### 3.4.3 Technical Aspects for the Sustainability of Project Effects

At SAEPF, the Unit for Forestation Monitoring, Forestry User Organizations, and the information system of the Department of Forest Eco System were responsible for JFM and supported Leskhoz in carrying out the procedures for concluding lease contracts and CFM contracts. There were two officers in the unit and both of them had deep knowledge about the contractual procedures for JFM, and thus no issues were identified in the technical aspects. According to the unit, it had been improving its knowledge level through providing guidance in

the unit, no matter whether officers had experiences in JFM.

The technical skills required at Leskhozoes included: knowledge for carrying out the JFM contract procedures, GPS handling skills to specify project areas, and selection of species suitable for plantation. During interviews, most of the Leskhozoes answered that they had these skills. According to Leskhozoes, although SAEPF did not provide training or technical guidance, staff members with vast knowledge and experience provided guidance to others in Leskhozoes. Therefore, it can be said that the technical levels at Leskhozoes were continuously maintained and improved.

AOs carried out the procedures of the contract with forest users when JFM activities were executed in AO areas. At the same time, they were also required to reflect the opinions and viewpoints of residents into JFM activities. AOs answered that they could carry out the contract procedures of JFM and reflect the opinions of residents into JFM activities without any problems. However, as training for AOs had not been conducted, it can be said that the efforts to maintain and improve the necessary technical skills were limited. AOs received a support by surrounding Leskhozoes upon the execution of JFM activities when needed.

Although there were some problems in the technical aspects of AOs, it can be said that there were no major issues in the technical aspects for the sustainability of project effects because it was confirmed that SAEPF provided Leskhozoes with guidance on contractual procedures and Leskhozoes also had the technical skills needed for the implementation of JFM.

#### 3.4.4 Financial Aspects for the Sustainability of Project Effects

A large part of the budget of each Leskhoz, which were the main implementers of JFM, was allocated by SAEPF<sup>16</sup>. Although it was possible for Leskhozoes to use the income from lease fees paid by forest users for the expenses of their own activities until 2016, the government later determined that lease fee incomes should be deposited to the account of the Ministry of Finance<sup>17</sup>. Therefore, at the time of ex-post evaluation, Leskhozoes did not have any funds other than the budget allocated by SAEPF.

The total budget amount allocated by SAEPF to Leskhozoes from the completion of the project to the time of ex-post evaluation is shown as follows:

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<sup>16</sup> According to Leskhozoes, the sales of seedlings were the revenues of Leskhozoes but the monetary amounts were very small.

<sup>17</sup> At the time of ex-post evaluation, the stakeholders in the government were discussing the creation of a system to manage the lease fee incomes of Leskhozoes collectively in the bank account of SAEPF and to reallocate the funds based on the budget requests by Leskhozoes.

Table 4. Total Budget Allocation from SAEPF to Leskhozoes

Unit: million KGS

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total budget allocation to Leskhozoes	114.7	114.0	129.6	169.9	198.8

Source: Documents provided by SAEPF.

According to Leskhozoes, they could cover only personnel and general expenses using the budgets allocated by SAEPF.

Although infrastructure facilities, such as irrigation facilities, were necessary in some cases when JFM activities were being executed, the budget that Leskhozoes received from SAEPF was not sufficient to develop the infrastructure mentioned above.

AOs had their own revenue sources, such as tax revenues, in addition to the budget allocated by the government, but they could cover only personnel and general expenses using such funds and they did not have budgets to develop infrastructure for JFM either.

Table 5. Total Budes of AOs

Unit: million KGS

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total budget allocation from the government to all AOs in the country	1,005.3	797.1	1,403.9	1,471.3	1,727.7
Total self-generated budget of AOs	1,811.2	40,686.8	4,008.7	4,284.9	4,274.1

Source: Documents provided by SALGIR.

In the light of above, it can be said that the financial aspects for the sustainability of project effects had some problems.

### 3.4.5 Current Status of Operation and Maintenance

In this project, facilities necessary for the execution of the pilot projects were installed at each pilot project site. The biggest one among such facilities was the irrigation system developed at the Kok-Moinok project site. It was confirmed that the maintenance of the irrigation system were carried out by “Oasis Sakura”, a group formulated by forest users, and that the irrigation system was usable without any problems.

Small facilities were installed at each pilot project site in addition to this, and no facilities were identified which could not be used due to the lack of maintenance.

In light of the above, some minor problems are observed in terms of the policy background and financial aspects. Therefore, sustainability of the project effects is fair.

## **4. Conclusion, Lessons Learned and Recommendations**

### **4.1 Conclusion**

The objective of this project was to strengthen the framework for expanding JFM in a sustainable manner in Kyrgyz by establishing JFM mechanisms at the project sites, executing forest management activities, monitoring forest management activities, and preparing and disseminating a JFM implementation guideline, thereby contributing to the increase in the number of JFM implementation areas.

This project was consistent with the development plan and the development needs of Kyrgyz, as well as the priority areas of Japan's ODA policy; thus, its relevance is high. The project purpose was mostly achieved as the framework for expanding JFM in a sustainable manner was constructed through the execution of pilot projects, and the number of JFM implementation areas was increased because the successful experiences of pilot projects were shared with other regions. However, since the increase was not made due to efforts by the Kyrgyz side to expand JFM on its own, the impact was partially unachieved. Therefore, the effectiveness and impact are fair. In regard to the implementation of the project, as both the project cost and period were within the plan, the efficiency of the project is high. As for the related policy for and institutional aspects of the sustainability of project effects, although policies on and the legal system of JFM were made clear, there were some problems. Organizational and technical aspects do not have any specific issues. As for the financial aspects, the fact that agencies at central and field level did not have budgets for the development of small-sized infrastructure, which were necessary for the expansion of JFM, was a problem. As mentioned above, because there were minor problems in the related policy and institutional aspects as well as in the financial aspects, the sustainability of project effects is fair.

In light of the above, this project is evaluated satisfactory.

### **4.2 Recommendations**

#### 4.2.1 Recommendations to the Implementing Agency

##### Creation of a consultation window for the support of forest users

In this ex-post evaluation, some examples in which Leskhozoes canceled lease contracts with forest users unilaterally were identified. If there is any possibility that contracts are canceled unilaterally, as mentioned above, forest users could be more reluctant to join forest management activities.

Therefore, it would be necessary to construct a mechanism in which forest users can join JFM without undue worries, for example, by setting up a consultation window at SAEPF where forest users can make complaints.

#### Securing infrastructure development funds for JFM implementation

Although it was pointed out that minimum infrastructure facilities such as irrigation facilities were needed in order for the successful implementation of JFM, SAEPF did not have the budget available for carrying out such infrastructure investments.

One of the possible measures is to make it possible to keep a part of the income from lease fees at Leskhozoes so that they can redirect them to infrastructure investment for further expansion of JFM activities. It is therefore desirable to consider a fund flow for such re-investments.

#### Promotion of the utilization of the JFM guideline

Although the JFM guideline was approved by SAEPF, the utilization by Leskhozoes could not be observed. One of the main reasons for this could be the fact that SAEPF did not continue organizing seminars on the JFM guideline for Leskhozoes and AOs. Therefore, it is desirable that SAEPF organize seminars for Leskhozoes and AOs that utilize the JFM guideline in order to further increase the number of JFM implementation areas.

In addition, the lease fees were set at very low levels in many lease contracts concluded by Leskhozoes, and no examples in which lease fees were determined based on the methods described in the JFM guideline were identified.

At the time of ex-post evaluation, SAEPF was revising Decree 482, the decree on leasing, and thus it is recommended to include in the degree the methods to determine lease fees which are described in the JFM guideline.

#### 4.2.2 Recommendations to JICA

None.

### **4.3 Lessons Learned**

#### Securing the sustainability of the project effect through sharing successful examples

In this project, it was observed that the successful practices of pilot projects and technical skills provided by this project, which were the background of such successes, were shared with Batken Province through site visits. This sharing of successful practices led to the expansion and successes of JFM in Batken Province.

Therefore, in cases which projects target disseminating the achievements of pilot projects nationwide as this project did, it is desirable to include into a project design the outputs or activities to share such successful practices, in addition to sharing the preparation and dissemination of guidelines. Such outputs or activities would include a support on mutual visits among project sites and information sharing through the use of websites.

End



Annex: Summary of JFM project sites

JFM project sites			Activities	Type of land	Conclusion of three-party agreement		Contracts on the use of lands
					Written agreements	Main roles described in agreements	
1	Jangy-Pakhta	Chui Province	Production of apricots and timber	AO area	Concluded	Leskhoz: Provision of lands AO: Provision of sufficient water Residents: Land development and maintenance	Lease contract: AO - Leskhoz Land use contract: Leskhoz - Individuals
2	Kok-Moinok	Issyk-kul Province	Production of apricots	AO area	Concluded	Leskhoz: Provision of facilities for planting trees AO: Provision of lands and irrigation facilities Residents: Planting of trees	Lease contract: Leskhoz – Individuals
3	Ivanovka	Chui Province	Production of timber and fruits	SFF area	Not concluded		Lease contract: Leskhoz – Individual
			Production of timber	AO area			Lease contract: AO – Individuals
4	Kegeti	Chui Province	Production of fruits and charcoal	SFF area	Not concluded		CFM contract: Leskhoz – Individuals
5	Karasaev	Issyk-kul Province	Production of timber and apricots	SFF area	Concluded	Leskhoz: Provision of lands, seedlings and technical supports AO: Provision of water and roads, reduction in tax Residents: Land development, planting trees and maintenance	Lease contract: Leskhoz, AO and forest user groups / individuals
6	Oruktu	Issyk-kul Province	Removal of wind-fallen trees and natural conservation activities	SFF area	Concluded	Leskhoz: formulation of activities designs, provision of seedlings and technical supports AO: Mobilization of residents, awareness building of residents Residents: Participation in forest maintenance activities	None (Only an agreement on activities was concluded)
7	Ton	Issyk-kul Province	Production of apricots and management of tourists	SFF area	Concluded	Leskhoz: Installation of water pumps and electric transformers and technical supports AO: Provision of lands Residents: Planting of trees	Lease contract: Leskhoz – Individuals

8	Jeti-Oguz	Chui Province	Plantation of spruce trees and management of tourists	SFF area	Concluded	Leskhoze: Authorization of the use of fallen trees and provision of seedlings AO: facilitation of the communication among stakeholders and provision of fuel Residents: Installation of fence and removal of garbage	Lease contract: Leskhoze – Individuals
		Chui Province	Production of timber, apples and others	AO area			Lease contract: AO – forest user groups
9	Ak-Beshim	Chui Province	Production of apricots	SFF area	Not concluded		CFM contract: Leskhoze - Individuals
10	Talas	Talas Province	Production of apples	SFF area	Not concluded		Lease contract: Leskhoze - Individuals