Asian Development Bank

Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction

JFPR 9052 Regional Project
Sustainable Food Fortification in Central Asia and Mongolia

http://www.adb.org/Projects/sustainable-food-fortification/default.asp
http://www.caffproject.net

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

April - June 2007

RCAO, Almaty
August 2007

ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	–	Asian Development Bank
CIP	–	Country Investment Plan
CPO	–	Country Project Office
EA	–	Executing Agency
IDA	–	Iron Deficiency Anaemia
IDD	–	Iodine Deficiency Disorders
IMR	–	Infant Mortality Rate
JFPR	–	Japan Fund For Poverty Reduction
KAN	–	Kazakh Academy of Nutrition
MDG	–	Millennium Development Goal
MMR	–	Maternal Mortality Ratio
MOH	–	Ministry of Health
NGO	–	Nongovernmental Organization
PHC	–	Primary Health Care
RCAO	–	Regional Coordination And Administration Office
SC	–	Steering Committee
SES	–	Sanitary Epidemiological Services
UNICEF	–	United Nations Children's Fund
USI	–	Universal Salt Iodization

NOTE

In this report, "$" refers to US dollars.

CONTENTS

APPENDIXES

A. Background

1. The aims of the governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan are to eliminate iodine deficiency disorders (IDD) and reduce iron deficiency anemia (IDA) and folic acid deficiency. Iodine deficiency has a negative impact on fetal brain development, while iron deficiency constrains the cognitive development of the younger child, and hampers mental and work performance of the older child and adult. The negative effects of iodine and iron deficiency at a young age are irreversible and affect school performance and later on, productivity. Iron deficiency is also a major factor that causes maternal mortality. Folate deficiency, also prevalent in these countries, causes neurotube defects in infants. These deficiencies are more common in Central Asia than in other places, and have a major impact on the educability and productivity of large segments of the countries' populations, straining education and health systems, lowering productivity, and raising levels of sustained poverty. The selected health and nutrition indicators can be found at Table 1 and also at the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Web-site (www.adb.org).

Table 1. Health and Nutrition Indicators
Asian Development Bank (ADB) - Key Indicators 2007 (www.adb.org/statistics)

Developing Member Country (DMC)	Daily Per Capita [a] Dietary Protein Consumption (Grams)		Daily Per Capita [a] Dietary Energy Consumption (Kilocalories)		Prevalence of Underweight Children (% of Children Under Age 5) [b]		
	1990	2003	1990	2003	1990	Latest	(Year)
Kazakhstan	100 [g]	97	3280 [g]	2820	8 [o]	4	(1999)
Kyrgyz Republic	79 [g]	108	2400 [g]	3110	…	11 [n]	(1997)
Mongolia	75	86	2210	2250	12 [d]	13	(2000)
Tajikistan	…	…	…	…	…	36 [k]	(2003)
Uzbekistan	78 [g]	80	2660 [g]	2290	19 [q]	8 [n]	(2002)

a Data are three year moving averages.
b Age group is 0-59 months.
g Refers to 1994.
d Refers to 1992.
q Refers to 1996.
k Age group is 6-59 months.
n Age group is 0-35 months.
o Refers to 1995.

Sources: FAO. FAOSTAT Database Online.
UNICEF. Global Database on Child Malnutrition.
UNSD. Millennium Indicators Database Online.
WB. Millennium Development Goals Database.

2. The Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR) 9005 Regional Project[1] (2001-2004) has focused its support in six Central Asian countries in economic transition: Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. JFPR 9005 aimed at mitigating IDD and IDA through salt and wheat flour fortification. Most of the activities were focused on a few pilot provinces in each country. Due to the direct and catalytic effects of JFPR 9005, these countries have moved toward universal salt iodization (USI) and begun fortifying wheat flour. After a decade of limited success in attempts to iodize salt, and reduce iron and folate deficiencies, JFPR 9005 created an environment of national commitment and focused its activities on these key nutritional issues. As a result, substantial increases in iodized salt production and the passage of supporting legislation were achieved. While only the Kyrgyz Republic and Azerbaijan had USI legislation at the beginning of JFPR 9005, Tajikistan enacted USI legislation in 2002, followed by Kazakhstan and Mongolia in 2003. Similar legislation has been adopted in Uzbekistan by the Parliament and is now being considered by the President's Office. Today, the iodization level has been adjusted to the world standard, and most of the salt industries have made significant progress in making

[1] ADB, 2001. *Improving Nutrition for Poor mothers and Children in Asian Countries in Transition*.

arrangements for self-procurement of potassium iodate. Each country was able to obtain the necessary regulations that allowed fortification equipment and fortificants to be brought in and for fortified flour to be produced and sold. While these considerable achievements have convinced the governments and private owners of salt industries and flour mills that USI and substantial wheat flour fortification are possible, the governments and private sector also realize that such achievements may be lost if they are not made firm and sustainable. Each country established a Country Team composed of representatives of the Ministry of Health (Executing Agency), Ministries of Food and/or Agriculture, Control Agencies, Heads of food industries and civil society leaders. The objective of the Country Team was to identify the steps required for sustainable food fortification, and clarify further developments/actions.

3. In July 2004 the ADB approved a US$2 million grant assistance under JFPR's regional project[2] for five Asian Countries in Transition (ACT)[3]. The goal of the Project is to reinforce and sustain the reduction of IDD, IDA and folic acid deficiency among poor children and women in Central Asia through paying special attention to supply (production and distribution); demand (public awareness and demand creation); and regulation (quality control, implementation of regulations and legislation, and trade facilitation). The specific objectives are to (i) obtain and sustain the use of iodized salt by 90% of households; (ii) sustain fortification of at least one third of the wheat flour consumed domestically; (iii) enable the private and public sectors to produce quality fortified food; (iv) develop regulatory institutions or incentive schemes to facilitate fortification, and ensure the trade of quality fortified food among Central Asian countries; and (v) build consumers' awareness of IDD and IDA prevention, and the benefits of micronutrient-enriched food.

4. The JFPR Project has four major components:

(i) Strengthening the salt industry and flour mill capacities;
(ii) Strengthening the Government capacities;
(iii) Social mobilization and poverty targeting;
(iv) Project management, monitoring, and evaluation.

5. In contrast to the pilot nature of JFPR 9005, the Project will primarily enable the public and private sectors to sustain food fortification. The Project will (i) focus on sustaining salt and flour fortification, which JFPR 9005 has proven technically feasible; (ii) work with the private sector and government agencies nationwide rather than in a few pilot districts; (iii) help the private salt enterprises and flour mills access information, and tender and procure fortificants and equipment on their own; (iv) deal with the difficult issue of premix procurement by establishing links between the global producers of premix and by encouraging premix production within the region; and (v) strengthen and upgrade the quality assurance system of the public and private sectors to ensure that consumers receive fortified food that meets quality standards.

6. An enhanced and expanded social-marketing campaign, joining millers with civil-society groups and the media, will greatly increase the demand for the new fortified wheat flour and its products, especially among poor families, who are the ones at the greatest risk of IDA. The Project will also help consumers monitor the quality of iodized salt. Universal salt iodization will ensure that the poor have access to quality-iodized salt. Fortified flour has been sold at the same prices as unfortified flour. To increase the access of poor and rural households to fortified flour, the Project will review the flour distribution methods, and support the testing of various cost-effective fortification means, including flour fortification in smaller mills and the use of fortification packets at home.

7. All participating countries have committed to strengthening the legislation on production and quality assurance of the fortified food products. Kazakhstan has practically achieved universal salt iodization but serious efforts still need to be made in order to achieve the flour fortification target – at least 60% of the flour domestically consumed is to be

[2] JFPR 9052 – *Sustainable Food Fortification in Central Asia and Mongolia*, approved on 22 July 2004.
[3] Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan.

fortified. In Mongolia food fortification needs to be improved both in terms of availability and quality (safe and adequate fortification). The problem of non-iodized salt is now limited to a few remote *aymags* with open salt deposits, but improving the quality control of the imported iodized salt is a priority. The adoption of mandatory wheat flour fortification will enforce the fortification of the domestically produced flour in the Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia and Tajikistan. Tajikistan needs to improve the quality of the iodized salt and to ban the sale of non-iodized salt in Khatlon province. Uzbekistan needs to sustain salt iodization and to strengthen the legislation in order to achieve universal salt iodization in the country.

B. Project Implementation Progress

B.1 Regional Meetings, Conferences and Workshops

8. ADB, UNICEF, the International Association of the Operative Millers (IAOM) and Flour Fortification Initiative (FFI) agreed to conduct joint meetings in Almaty in November 2007 to review the achievements of the food fortification programs and design the framework for follow-up national activities plans.

B.2. Strengthening the Capacities of Salt Industries and Flour Mills

a) Fortified Wheat Flour Production

9. Wheat flour is the main food staple for all countries in Central Asia, but only Kazakhstan has the capacity to produce wheat grain and wheat flour for domestic consumption and export (see **tables 2** and **3**.)

Table 2. **Wheat Grain Production, Export and Import in Central Asia and Mongolia in 2001-2007** (*thousand metric tons; calendar year)*

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 (Jan-June)
Kazakhstan							
production [a]	12 707	12 700	11 537	9 937	11 198	13 460	
export [b]	…	…	…	2 588	1 899	4 195	3 052
import [b]	…	…	…	…	…	…	113
Kyrgyz Republic							
production [a]	1 190	1 163	1 014	998	950	840	
export	-	-	-	-	-	-	
import [c]	…	…	…	157.8	90.0	140	
Mongolia							
production [a]	139	123	160	135.6	75.5	127.8	
export	-	-	-	-	-	-	
import [d]	…	…	…	114.8	75.0	76.7	
Tajikistan							
production [a]	489	701	660	631	618	640	
export [e]	-	-	-	-	-	-	
import [f]				94	289	310	
Uzbekistan	…						
production [a]	3 690	4 967	5 437	5 378	6 057	6 095	
export [g]	…	…	…	239	114	170	
import [g]	…	…	…	16.0	50.0	115	

Sources: [a] Asian Development Bank (ADB) - Key Indicators 2007; [b] League of Grain Processors and Bakers of Kazakhstan; [c] Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Processing Industry of Kyrgyz Republic; [d] Ministry of Food and Agriculture of Mongolia; [e] Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Tajikistan; [f] Ministry of State Revenues and Taxes of Tajikistan; [g] National Statistical Agency of Uzbekistan

10. KAN, with the help of nutritionists from the participating countries and JFPR consultants, formulated a unique premix (KAP Komplex-1).[4] Electrolytic elemental iron was specified as a source of iron. This is the form of iron that is currently understood to have the best stability in flour with the highest bioavailability; that is, the ability to be absorbed and utilized by the body. This is the form of elemental iron recommended by the WHO, PAHO and a panel of nutrition experts convened by SUSTAIN, providing that the level added be twice as much if ferrous sulfate is used.

Table 3. Wheat Flour Production, Export and Import in Central Asia and Mongolia in 2001-2007 (*thousand metric tons; calendar year)*

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 (Jan-June)
Kazakhstan							
production [a]	2 889[a]	3 720[a]	4 023[a]	3 669[a]	2 756[b]	2 274[b]	
export [b]	170	298	484	532	932	1 122	682
import	…	…	…	…	…	…	
Kyrgyz Republic							
production	…	…	…	221.7	235	…	
export	-	-	-	-	-	-	
import [c]	…	…	…	50.0	47.5	50.0	
Mongolia							
production [d]	…	…	…	57.8	40.5	…	
export	-	-	-	-	-	-	
import [d]	…	…	…	79.3	103.0	74.1	
Tajikistan							
production [e]	…	…	…	375.9	389.2	375.2	
export	…	…	…				
import [f]	…	…	…	224	428	456.8	
Uzbekistan[g]							
production	…	…	…	1 737	1 576	1 349	
export	…	…	…	144	179	158	
import	…	…	…	161	401	429	

Sources: [a] Statistical Yearbook of Kazakhstan, 2005; [b] League of Grain Processors and Bakers of Kazakhstan; [c] Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Processing Industry of Kyrgyz Republic; [d] Association of Flour Producers of Mongolia; [e] Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Tajikistan; [f] Ministry of State Revenues and Taxes of Tajikistan; [g] National Statistical Agency of Uzbekistan

11. The JFPR Project provided to all countries, on a co-shared basis, an adequate amount of KAP Premix to be processed within 2002-2004. The Association of Food Producers in Mongolia and the League of Grain Processors and Bakers of Kazakhstan (LGBK) signed the contracts on supply of KAP Premix with the international vendors from US Germany. In Mongolia this involved co-shared funds[5].

[4] The composition of KAP-1 Premix:

Micronutrient	Source	% nutrient in premix	ppm added at 150 g/MT
Thiamin	Mono nitrate	1.33	2
Riboflavin	Riboflavin	2	3
Folic Acid	Folic Acid	1	1.5
Niacin	Niacin amide	6.66	10
Iron	Electrolytic iron	33.3	50
Zinc	Zinc Oxide	14.7	22

[5] In accordance with the JFPR 9005 Project's procedures, the industries allocated funds in the amount of one-third of the premix costs at the project account to support the food fodrtification activitries beyond the JFPR budget

12. The data in **table 4** shows the dynamic progress in fortified flour supplies across countries. Improvements are more apparent in the fortified flour supply in 2006 and 2007 than in 2005. The consolidated production data from country progress reports indicate that, by the end of 2006, the fortified flour supply in the aggregate for participating countries (the data for Uzbekistan were not available) had reached the amount of 362,945 tons (11.2% of domestic consumption). Although the production of fortified wheat flour has not reached the desired target of 30% of domestic consumption yet (60% for Kazakhstan), the efforts made by the Country Teams are still very encouraging. For the first six months of the year 2007 the actual production of fortified wheat flour was 183,902 tons (34.6% of desired target).

Table 4. **Fortified Flour Production in Central Asia and Mongolia in 2003-2007**
(*metric tons and number of operative flour mills; share in domestic consumption; calendar year)*

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 (Jan-June)
Kazakhstan[a]					
production	72 445	120 877	86 570	214 747	128 932
operative flourmills	7	13	13	13	12
share in consumption,%	4.5	7.6	5.4	13.6	16.1
Kyrgyz Republic[b]					
production	20 257	30 609	13 513	13 470	13 162
operative flourmills	8	8	11	17	17
share in consumption,%	4.8	7.3	3.2	3.2	1.4
Mongolia[c]					
production	7 382	11 904	33 118	50 483	30 330
operative flourmills	4	5	6	25	13
share in consumption,%	3.1	4.9	13.8	21.1	7.1
Tajikistan[d]					
production	24 873	58 063	72 773	84 245	11 478
operative flourmills	4	6	15	18	14
share in consumption,%	2.6	6.1	7.7	8.9	1.2
Uzbekistan[e]					
production	220 783	353 608	36 859	…	…
operative flourmills	12	14	14	…	…
share in consumption,%	…	…	…	…	…

Sources: [a] League of Grain Processors and Bakers of Kazakhstan;
[b] Association of Producers of Fortified Flour and Bakery of Kyrgyzstan;
[c] Association of Flour Producers of Mongolia;
[d] Association of Fortified Salt and Flour Producers of Tajikistan;
[e] 2003-2004: JSC Uzdonmakhsulot Company;
2005-2007: GAIN Country Project Office in Uzbekistan

13. The JFPR Project ensured an adequate training on the flour fortification technology for flour industries technologists and laboratory technicians. While the regional trainings facilitated the access of participants to the global experience and best practice of the participating countries, the national and local trainings provided practical guidance on the national legislation and regulations. **Table 5** provides an overview of the training events and capacity-building for the flour milling industries in the participating countries in 2002-2007.

Table 5. Capacity Building of Flour Millers in Central Asia and Mongolia in 2002-2007 (*calendar year; events; number of participants)*

Regional and Country Activities	2002-2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Events	Participants	Events	Participants	Events	Participants	Events	Participants
Regional events								
flour fortification technology				…	1	42		
quality assurance and control				…	1	14		
information meetings				…	1	2		
Kazakhstan								
flour fortification technology	2	82	2	134	2	75	2	59
quality assurance and control	1	24	2	40	1	19		…
information meetings		…		…		…		…
Kyrgyz Republic								
flour fortification technology	1	40		…	3	75		…
quality assurance and control	2	46		…		…		…
information meetings	1	45		…		…	1	25
Mongolia								
flour fortification technology	3	24	2	52		…		
quality assurance and control	5	21		…	1	20		
information meetings	21	515		…	4	32		
Tajikistan								
flour fortification technology	1	8	1	11				
quality assurance and control	1	11		…			1	32
information meetings	2	10		…				
Uzbekistan								
flour fortification technology								
quality assurance and control								
information meetings								

Sources: Country Reports, 2002-2007

Kazakhstan

14. In the reporting period in Kazakhstan, 11 flour mills resumed the production of fortified wheat flour (from 16 participating ones) and produced 93,020 tons. The League of Grain Processors and Bakers of Kazakhstan (LGBK) informed that by 1 July 2007 about 40 flour milling industries would be prepared (technically equipped and trained) to start the wheat flour fortification. The contradictory policy of the Ministry of Agriculture on adoption of the mandatory wheat flour fortification resulted in the visible restraint of the flour millers. Then the President's veto on the adoption of the revised Food Security Law almost ceased the flour fortification process. The LGBK and Ministry of Health, with the help of parliamentarians, continued the advocacy campaign on the advantages of the fortified food products. **Table 6** provides details on the dynamics of fortified wheat flour production in

Kazakhstan. Most flour mills ran out of premix, and the League of Grain Processors and Bakers of Kazakhstan (LGBK) signed a contract with Mulenchemie (Germany) on supply of 100 tons of premix in 2007.

Table 6. Fortified Wheat Flour Production in Kazakhstan in 2003-2007

Criteria	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 (Jan-June)
Number of flourmills which were granted with equipment and/or premix	16	16	16	16	16
Active flourmills	7	13	13	13	12
Consolidated production, *tons*	72 445	120 877	86 570	217 747	128 932
Share in domestic consumption, *%*	4.5	7.6	5.4	13.6	16.1
Export of fortified wheat flour, *tons*	-	-	3 200	3 936	-

[a] The calculation is based on the amount of 1,600,000 tons indicated for annual consumption of wheat flour.

Source: League of Grain Processors and Bakers of Kazakhstan, 2007

15. On 26 April 2007 the LGBK in cooperation with the Country Project Office conducted the advocacy workshop in Western Kazakhstan (Uralsk) and presented the advantages of the fortified food products. Representatives of the local authorities, flour milling industries and NGOs discussed the issues of local production and distribution of the fortified wheat flour.

Kyrgyz Republic

16. In the Kyrgyz Republic the annual demand of wheat flour is 420,000 tons. The whole flour milling industry is comprised of 35 large and medium-size flour mills and 3,143 small-size flour mills. The JFPR's technical assistance was provided to 5 large-size flour mills and 17 medium/small-size flour mills. The estimated annual capacity of the involved flour mills is 68,000 tons of fortified wheat flour. However, the actual production of fortified wheat flour in 2006 was 13,470 tons (18.9%). During the reporting period only 12 flour mills continued production of fortified wheat flour and produced 13,162 tons of fortified wheat flour **(table 7** provides details).

Table 7. Fortified Wheat Flour Production in the Kyrgyz Republic in 2003-2007

Criteria	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 (Jan-June)
Total number of flourmills which were granted with equipment and/or premix	10	10	22	22	22
Medium-size flourmills	-	-	*17*	*17*	*12*
Active flourmills, *total number*	8	8	11	17	17
Active medium-size flourmills	-	-	*7*	*14*	*11*
Consolidated production, *tons*	20 257	30 609	13 513	13 470	13 162
Share in domestic consumption, *%*	4.8	7.3	3.2	3.2	3.1
Medium-size flourmills, tons	-	-	*3 892*	*6 270*	*11 100*
, Share in total production, %	-	-	*28.8*	*46.5*	*84.3*
Import of fortified wheat flour, *tons*	-	-	-	-	

[a] The calculation is based on the amount of 420,000 tons indicated for annual consumption of wheat flour.

Source: Association of Fortified Flour Producers of Kyrgyz Republic, 2007

17. The CPO in cooperation with the Association of Fortified Flour Producers conducted

a workshop for bakers on 16 May 2007, which discussed the issues of increasing the bakery products from fortified wheat flour in Bishkek city and Tchui Province. The workshop participants adopted the appeal to the bakers and flour millers on further cooperation in the production of fortified flour and bakery.

18. The CPO in cooperation with the Association of Fortified Flour Producers continued the re-distribution of feeders and premix from the non-working industries. The flourmill 'Yashar' started the production of fortified flour, and 'Akkun' completed its reimbursement of premix cost. The CPO removed fortification equipment from 'Ert' flour mill.

Mongolia

19. In Mongolia the annual demand of wheat flour is about 240,000 tons, and the Mongolian Flour Mills Association (MFMA) estimates the annual domestic production to be 79,000 tons. However, statistical data for the last 3 years showed lower figures due to the increase of rice and noodles' consumption. Wheat flour production is heavily import dependant, as domestic wheat grain production covers only one-third of the demand. The shortage of wheat grain and the negative impact of transition to the market economy affected the production of wheat flour at most of the flour mills. The Mongolian Flour Mills Association (MFMA) estimates the import of wheat flour as 60-70% of annual demand. The lack of turnover funds at small-scale flour mills contributes to lower wheat flour production. Only 8 flour mills from 28 participating industries have fortified wheat flour in the reporting period. **Table 8** provides details on the dynamics of fortified wheat flour production in Mongolia.

Table 8. Fortified Wheat Flour Production in Mongolia in 2003-2007

Criteria	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 (Jan-June)
Total number of flourmills which were granted with equipment and/or premix	6	28	28	28	28
Medium-size flour mills	*-*	*25*	*25*	*25*	25
Active flourmills, *total number*	4	5	6	25	11
Active medium-size flourmills	*-*	*-*	*4*	*23*	*9*
Consolidated production, *tons*	7 382	11 904	33 118	50 483	30 330
Share in domestic consumption, *%*	3.1	4.9	13.8	21.1	25.3
Medium-size flourmills, tons	*-*	*-*	*2 900*	*10 168*	*3 707*
Share in total production, %	*-*	*-*	*8.8*	*20.3*	*12.2*
Import of fortified wheat flour, *tons*	-	-	-	-	

[a] The calculation is based on the amount of 240,000 tons indicated for annual consumption of wheat flour.

Source: Mongolian Flour Mills Association, 2007

20. MFMA signed a contract with the American Ingredients Company on the next supply of 8.5 tons of premix to ensure sustainable wheat flour fortification in 2007-2008. The contract was funded by the flour millers and revolving funds. The revolving fund was established from the contributions of the flourmills by the end of the JFPR 9005 Project; it is supervised by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, which ensures the signing of contract and monitoring of delivery and distribution.

Tajikistan

21. In Tajikistan the annual demand of wheat flour is about 950,000 tons. JFPR's technical assistance was provided to 6 large-size flour mills and 12 medium/small-size flour mills. The estimated annual capacity of the involved flour mills is 145,000 tons of fortified wheat flour. However, the actual production of fortified wheat flour in the reporting period

failed due to the lack of the premix. The flour mills informed that the lack of turnover funds did not allow them to advance funds for negotiated contract. The Association of Flour Millers and Salt Producers has approached the donors' community to ensure the purchase of the initial amount of premix.

Table 9. Fortified Wheat Flour Production in Tajikistan in 2003-2007

Criteria	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 (Jan-June)
Total number of flourmills which were granted with equipment and/or premix	6	6	18	18	18
Medium-size flourmills	-	-	*12*	*12*	*12*
Active flour mills, *total number*	4	6	15	18	14
Active medium-size flourmills	-	-	*10*	*12*	*8*
Consolidated production, *tons*	24 873	58 063	72 773	84 245	11 478
Share in domestic consumption, *%*	2.6	6.1	7.7	8.9	2.4
Medium-size flourmills, tons	-	-	*18 447*	*10 592*	*1 520*
Share in total production, %	-	-	*25.3*	*12.6*	*13.2*
Import of fortified wheat flour, *tons*	-	-	-	-	

[a] The calculation is based on the amount of 950,000 tons indicated for annual consumption of wheat flour.

Source: Association of Fortified Food Producers of Tajikistan, 2007

*** *** ***

22. The Project agreements ensured the design and adoption of the quality assurance and control procedures. The internal control procedures include measuring the iron content in wheat flour samples by: spot tests; spectrophotometer's method and use of HPLC tests. While the adopted methods vary from country to country, the use of spot test for qualitative analysis was proved by the flour millers. Conducting HPLC tests on micronutrient complete content in premix and wheat flour samples at least once every three months was recommended for each participating flour mill. **Table 10** provides an overview of the internal quality monitoring at industrial sites and **table 11** shows the status of external monitoring on the fortified wheat flour. The data confirm the established quality control at industrial sites, however, the flour mills use the rapid spot tests mainly to avoid costly tests by spectrophotometer and/or HPLC. The double checks in Kazakhstan and Mongolia still confirmed the spot tests' results. The external quality control still needs serious efforts by the governmental agencies.

23. In *Kazakhstan* the quality control procedure use the spectrophotometer measurement of the iron content (for certification purpose) and for the control agencies. The flour mills use the gravimetric methods to monitor the adequacy of the wheat flour fortification. The spot tests can be used just for double-checking and routine monitoring. In the reporting period there were no cases of the inadequate micronutrient content in the samples of fortified wheat flour.

Table 10. Internal Quality Control on Fortified Wheat Flour at Industrial Sites in 2004-2007

Country (years)	HPLC tests			Spectrophotometers' Tests			Spot tests**		
	Number of samples		Percentage of adequate samples (%)	Number of samples		Percentage of adequate samples(%)	Number of samples		Percentage of adequate samples(%)
	Total	Iron content 50 ppm		Total	Iron content 50 ppm		Total	Iron content 50 ppm	
Kazakhstan									
2004	30	30	100.0	-	-		8,850	8,850	100.0
2005	-	-		-	-		10,418	10,418	100.0
2006	6	6	100.0	8	8	100.0	6,518	6,518	100.0
2007 (prelim)	4	4	100.0	3	3	100.0	15,464	15,464	100.0
Apr-June 2007	3	3	100.0	2	2	100.0	15,163	15,163	100.0
Kyrgyz Republic									
2004	24	24	100.0	92	92	100	2,400	2,400	100.0
2005	-	-		23	23	100	262	262	100.0
2006				43	38	88.4	264	264	100.0
2007 (prelim)				47	47	100.0	403	403	100.0
Apr-June 2007				34	34	100	249	249	100.0
Mongolia									
2004	11	11	100.0				425	425	100.0
2005	4	4	100.0				1,341	1,341	100.0
2006	25	25	100.0				4,459	4,459	100.0
2007 (prelim)	8	8	100.0				2,917	2,917	100.0
Apr-June 2007	3	3	100.0				1,156	1,156	100.0
Tajikistan									
2004	32	32	100.0				789	647	82.0
2005							336	256	76.2
2006				278	217	78.1	649	498	76.7
2007 (prelim)				74	64	76.5	98	95	96.9
Apr-June 2007									
Uzbekistan									
2004	36	36	100				3,025	3,025	100
2005	n/a	-	-	n/a	-	-	n/a	-	-
2006	n/a	-	-	n/a	-	-	n/a	-	-
2007 (prelim)									
Apr-June 2007									

* Measurement of iron content only

** qualitative test of iron content

Source: League of Grain Processors and Bakers of Kazakhstan; Association of Fortified Wheat Flour and Bakery Producers of the Kyrgyz Republic; Association of Food Producers of Mongolia; Association of Salt Producers and Flour Millers of Tajikistan; Uzbekistan National Flour Fortification Program

Table 11. External Quality Control on Fortified Wheat Flour at Wholesale and Retail Markets in 2005-2007

Country (years)	HPLC tests			Spectrophotometers' Tests			Spot tests**		
	Number of samples		Percentage of adequate samples (%)	Number of samples		Percentage of adequate samples(%)	Number of samples		Percentage of adequate samples(%)
	Total	Iron content 50 ppm		Total	Iron content 50 ppm		Total	Iron content 50 ppm	
Kazakhstan									
2005	1	1	100.0	-	-		-	-	
2006				10	10	100.0	44	44	100.0
2007 (prelim)				15	15	100.0			
Apr-June 2007				15	15	100.0			
Kyrgyz Republic									
2005									
2006									
2007 (prelim)									
Apr-June 2007				10	5	50.0			
Mongolia									
2005									
2006							40	40	100.0
2007 (prelim)				12	11	91.7	85	85	100.0
Apr-June 2007	5	5	100	12	11	91.7	45	45	100.0
Tajikistan									
2005	-	-							
2006									
2007 (prelim)									
Apr-June 2007									
Uzbekistan									
2005	n/a	-	-	8	8	100	8	8	100
2006	n/a	-	-	54	11	20.4	54	11	20.4
2007 (prelim)									
Apr-June 2007									

* Measurement of iron content only

** qualitative test of iron content

Source: League of Grain Processors and Bakers of Kazakhstan; Association of Fortified Wheat Flour and Bakery Producers of the Kyrgyz Republic; Association of Food Producers of Mongolia; Association of Salt Producers and Flour Millers of Tajikistan; Uzbekistan National Flour Fortification Program

b) Salt Iodization

24. In January-March 2007, quality salt iodization continued in all the participating countries. The amount of iodized salt produced by each country also increased. Consolidated data on the activities of salt industries and the production of quality-iodized salt can be found in **table 12** below.

Table 12. Iodized Salt Production, Export and Import in Central Asia and Mongolia in 2003-2007 (*metric tons and number of industries; calendar year)*

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 (Jan-June)
Kazakhstan					
desired production [a]	54 571	55 023	55 257	55 480	27 740
active industries [b]	2	2	2	2	2
actual production [b]	64 356	65 658	66 494	65 171	29 485
import [b]	…	16 000	15 660	8 765	
export [b]	…	3 000	1 344	2 688	512
Kyrgyz Republic					
desired production [a]	18 290	18 487	18 673	18 871	9 436
active industries [c]	6	10	10	12	6
actual production [c]	10 637	13 705	12 051	12 050	4 335
import [c]	5 630	1 200	1 200	2 400	
export	…	…	…	…	
Mongolia					
desired production [a]	9 125	9 235	9 490	9 454	4 727
active industries [d]	17	19	19	18	17
actual production [d]	3 891	5 430	5 694	6 234	1,981
import [e]	…	…	16 000	8 380	
export [e]	…	…	3 000	…	
Tajikistan					
desired production [a]	23 991	24 492	25 003	25 514	12 758
active industries	3	3	4	5	5
actual production [f]	40 952	22 588	30 475	38 870	8 430
import	-	-	-	-	
export [g]	…	1 560	2 570	5 100	
Uzbekistan					
desired production [a]	93 805	94 900	95 995	97 455	48 728
active industries [h]	13	13	13	13	13
actual production [h]	44 861	43 004	66 595	71 575	31 740
export	…	…	…	…	
import	…	…	…	…	

Sources: [a] Estimated amount calculated on the needs of 10 grams per person/day;
[b] Salt Producers Association of Kazakhstan; [c] Association of Salt Producers of Kyrgyzstan;
[d] Association of Salt Producers of Mongolia; [e] Ministry of Food and Agriculture of Mongolia;
[f] Association of Fortified Salt and Flour Poducers of Tajikistan;
[g] Ministry of State Revenues and Taxes of Tajikistan; [h] Ministry of Health of Uzbekistan

25. In *Kazakhstan* the third salt company (SozakTuz) started regular production of quality iodized salt in Southern Kazakhstan. The new management of the Pavlodar Salt Company applied for membership in the Association of Salt Producers.

26. In the *Kyrgyz* Republic, the CPO and the Association of Salt Producers conducted the workshop on quality monitoring on 23 May 2007. The Association elected its new

Chairperson (Mr Eshaliev was appointed to the position of head of local authorities in Talas province). The salt producers discussed the results of the public monitoring at local markets (most of the 139 samples had demonstrated inadequate iodine content). The monitoring results were published in local newspapers and announced on TV programs.

27. In *Tajikistan* the Ministry of Health continued regular monitoring in Khatlon Province; and threatened to withdraw the license from a small private salt company (Khodja Sarkhes), which continued supplying non-iodized salt. The salt companies agreed on the plan of regular supply of potassium iodate with the use of revolving funds, and the Association of Flour Millers and Salt Producers procured 500 kilograms from the vendor from Russia.

28. In *Uzbekistan* in accordance with the data of the Ministry of Health, 47 industries are involved in salt production and trade, but only 19 produce salt and 28 are engaged in salt packing, labeling and distribution. 13 salt industries which have been involved with salt iodization since 2002, produce about 65% of the national demand. The procurement of potassium iodate is arranged through the UzmedExport (specialized agency under the Ministry of Health).

Table 13. Capacity Building of Salt Producers in Central Asia and Mongolia in 2002-2007 (*calendar year; events; number of participants)*

Regional and Country Activities	2002-2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Events	Participants	Events	Participants	Events	Participants	Events	Participants
Regional events								
salt iodization technology			1	28				
quality assurance and control								
information meetings					1	2		
Kazakhstan								
salt iodization technology	1	1		…		…		
quality assurance and control				…		…		
information meetings	1	3		…		…		
Kyrgyz Republic								
salt iodization technology	1	40	1	15	1	30	1	27
quality assurance and control		…		…		…		
information meetings		…		…	1	11		
Mongolia								
salt iodization technology	6	45	1	17		…		
quality assurance and control	14	81		…		…		
information meetings	39	186		…	2	26		
Tajikistan								
salt iodization technology	2	13	2	2	2	8	4	16
quality assurance and control	1	8	1	6		…		
information meetings	3	15		…		…		
Uzbekistan								
salt iodization technology								
quality assurance and control								
information meetings								

Sources: Country Reports, 2002-2007

29. The JFPR Project ensured the adequate training on salt iodization for salt industries technologists and laboratory technicians. While the regional trainings facilitated the access of participants to the global experience and best practice of the participating countries, the national and local trainings provided practical guidance on the national legislation and regulations. The technologists and laboratory technicians were encouraged to provide comments on the practical implementation of the existing and desired regulations and monitoring procedures. **Table 13** provides an overview of the training events and capacity-building for the salt industries in the participating countries. It should be noted that UNICEF in cooperation with CDC also conducted regular trainings on quality assurance and monitoring on the iodized salt in all countries in 2004-2007.

30. The Project agreements ensured the design and adoption of the quality assurance and control procedures. The internal control procedures include measuring of the iron content in salt samples by: salt test indicators; spectrophotometer's method and/or WYD iodine checkers and titration method. **Table 14** provides an overview of the internal quality monitoring at industrial sites, and **table 15** – at local markets. The JFPR's support in strengthening the quality assurance at industrial sites (supply of laboratory equipment and reagents; training of laboratory technicians) resulted in a visible increase of the quality of the iodized salt. Simultaneously, the salt industries shifted from the test indicators to titration and spectrophotometers' methods. The JFPR 9052 Project contributed to strengthening the governmental control agencies that allowed conducting regular monitoring at wholesale and retail markets.

Table 14. Data on Quality Control of Iodized Salt at Industrial Sites in 2004-2007

Country (years)	Titration Method			WYD Checkers		
	Number of samples		*Percentage of Adequate samples (%)*	Number of samples		*Percentage of Adequate samples (%)*
	Total	*Iodine content 40±15 ppm**		*Total*	*Iodine content 40±15 ppm**	
Kazakhstan						
2004	2,517	2,517	100.0			
2005	2,183	2,175	99.6			
2006	2,281	2,279	99.9			
2007 (prelim)	1,026	1,025	99.9			
Apr-June 2007	526	525	99.8			
Kyrgyz Republic						
2004	79	77	97.5	56	52	92.2
2005				30	30	100.0
2006				192	192	100.0
2007 (prelim)				139	139	100.0
Apr-June 2007				74	74	100.0
Mongolia						
2004	211	158	74.9			
2005	1,128	1,126	99.8			
2006	8,337	8,125	97.5	8	8	100.0
2007 (prelim)	246	238	96.9	5	5	100.0
Apr-June 2007	108	106	98.1	3	3	100

Tajikistan						
2004	1,928	1,789	92.8	560	397	70.9
2005	2,566	2,432	94.8	193	189	97.9
2006	4,500	4,304	95.6			
2007 (prelim)	2,724	2,697	99.0	135	135	100.0
Apr-June 2007	1,490	1,471	98.7	73	73	100.0
Uzbekistan						
2004	2,945	2,945	100.0			
2005	2,039	2,039	100.0	190	190	100.0
2006	2,206	2,206	100.0	216	216	100.0
2007 (prelim)	1,287	1,287	100.0	162	162	100.0
Apr-June 2007	849	849	100.0	112	112	100

* The adopted iodine content in Mongolia is 30±10 ppm

** The appropriate iodine content was ≥ 15 ppm

Source: League of Grain Processors and Bakers of Kazakhstan; Association of Fortified Wheat Flour and Bakery Producers of the Kyrgyz Republic; Association of Food Producers of Mongolia; Association of Salt Producers and Flour Millers of Tajikistan; Uzbekistan National Flour Fortification Program

Table 15. Data on Quality Control of Iodized Salt at Local Markets in 2005-2007

Country (years)	Titration Method			WYD Checkers		
	Number of samples		Percentage of Adequate samples (%)	Number of samples		Percentage of Adequate samples (%)
	Total	*Iodine content 40±15 ppm**		*Total*	*Iodine content 40±15 ppm**	
Kazakhstan						
2005	11,124	10,818	97.2	n/a		
2006	13,057	12,785	97.9	n/a		
2007 (prelim)	4,852	4,750	97.9			
Apr-June 2007	2,342	2,293	97.9	n/a		
Kyrgyz Republic						
2005	2,438	1,969	80.8	930	755	81.2
2006	1,286	1,078	83.8	256	212	82.8
2007 (prelim)						
Apr-June 2007						
Mongolia						
2005						
2006						
2007 (prelim)	32	30	93.8	36	31	86.1
Apr-June 2007	32	30	93.8	36	31	86.1
Tajikistan						
2005	648	530	81.8	526	431	81.9
2006	681	571	83.8	670	573	85.5
2007 (prelim)	1,151	1,104	95.9	293	293	100.0

Apr-June 2007	755	719	95.2	182	182	100.0
Uzbekistan						
2005	20,021	14,786	73.9	1,216	955	78.5
2006	20,950	17,154	81.9	1,249	983	78.7
2007 (prelim)	11,498	9,807	85.3	755	673	89.2
Apr-June 2007	6,931	5,496	79.3	569	378	66,4

* The adopted iodine content in Mongolia is 30±10 ppm

** The appropriate iodine content was ≥ 15 ppm

Source: Ministry of Health of Kazakhstan; Confederation of NGOs of Kazakhstan; Association of Salt Producers of the Kyrgyz Republic; Association of Food Producers of Mongolia; Association of Salt Producers and Flour Millers of Tajikistan; Ministry of Health of Uzbekistan

31. The quality of iodized salt at industrial sites eventually improved, but the checks at local markets still revealed certain amounts of non-iodized salt in the markets. The control agencies have now designed the country-tailored activities plans in order to eliminate the non-iodized salt from the markets.

32. In *Kazakhstan* the SES and other control agencies made 525 inspections of the iodized salt quality at industrial sites and local markets. While the quality of the salt at salt industries was adequate, 875 kilograms of non-iodized salt was withdrawn from the local markets.

33. In *Tajikistan* the Ministry of Health (Sanitary-Epidemiologic Service) reported on a sufficient increase of the quality of the iodized salt at the local markets (86.3-93.5%) and households (83.3-88.8%) in Khatlon Province, which was the proven result of the integrated activities after the Social Society Forum.

34. In *Uzbekistan* the Ministry of Health (Sanitary-Epidemiologic Service) carried out 7,500 tests of the salt in local markets and reported on the quality of the iodized salt to be up to 90%.

B.3 Strengthening the Capacities of the Government

a) Legislation and Regulations on Fortified Food

35. The country teams facilitated their continuous work on strengthening the legislation on fortified food. The status of the existing legislation is attached as **Annex 5**.

36. In *Kazakhstan*, LGBK designed the draft standard on fortified wheat flour and the draft standard on the premix dilution, and distributed it among the authorized governmental agencies for revision and comments. The revised drafts have now been conveyed to the Committee on Technical Regulations for adoption, which would create the technical feasibility for wheat flour fortification at medium- and small-size flour mills.

37. The Senate of Kazakhstan after consideration of the President's veto eliminated the article on the mandatory wheat flour fortification from the revised Food Security Law. Simultaneously, the Office of the President of Kazakhstan authorized the Ministry of Health to design and submit the draft law on the prevention of iron-deficiency anemia, which should include the statement on the mandatory fortification of the premium and first grade wheat flour. The working group, which was comprised of the representatives of the Ministry of Health, KGBK, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Economy and Budgetary Planning, has conducted regular meetings on the draft law.

38. In the *Kyrgyz Republic* two Parliament Committees conducted public hearings on the draft law on the mandatory wheat flour. The Minister of Health, authorized representatives

from the government agencies concerned and flour producers took active part in the discussion. The parliamentarians supported the draft law and conveyed it to the plenary for consideration. It was also amended with the recommendations: (i) to allocate funds for premix procurement in the national budget; (ii) to facilitate the design and adoption of the National Anemia Prevention Program; and (iii) to consider the legislative amendments on VAT reduction on the domestic production of fortified wheat flour.

39. In *Mongolia* the Working Group revised the draft law on the mandatory wheat flour fortification in accordance with the comments received from the governmental agencies. The Government has adopted the third National Program to eliminate the Iodine Deficiency Diseases, which envisaged the joint actions plans for each aimag.

40. In April 2007 the Government of *Tajikistan* adopted the National Strategy on the National Development until the Year 2015, and the National Strategy on Poverty Reduction. Both conceptual documents incorporate the sections on food security and food fortification. The Working Group conducted several meeting with parliamentarians and the senior officials from the President's Executive Office and the Ministries involved on revising the draft Law of Tajikistan on the prevention of iron deficiency anemia and mandatory wheat flour fortification.

41. On 3 May 2007 the President of *Uzbekistan* brought into force the Law on Prevention of Iodine deficiency Diseases, which stipulated universal salt iodization.

b) Quality Control of Fortified Foods

42. In *Kazakhstan* in February 2007, KAN designed and discussed with the authorized governmental agencies the draft joint regulation of the Ministry of Health, Customs Committee (Ministry of Finance) and the Technical Regulations and Metrology Committee (Ministry of Industry and Trade) on strengthening the monitoring on the quality of iodized salt. The draft regulation was submitted to the Government for entering into force.

43. In *Mongolia* the Government Control Agency (SCIA), in cooperation with the Project Team, conducted the workshop for state specialized control inspectors in Ulaanbaatar (26-27 June 2007) on monitoring the imported salt and flour.

44. The JFPR Project ensured the adequate training on quality assurance and control of fortified food at industrial sites, local markets, and cross-border check-points for the governmental control agencies. **Table 16** provides an overview of the training events and capacity-building in the participating countries in 2002-2007.

B.4 Social Mobilization and Poverty Targeting

45. In *Kazakhstan,* the local communication team designed the draft of curricula for teachers of secondary schools on the nutrition-related diseases and submitted it for consideration and adoption by the Ministry of Education and Science of Kazakhstan.

46. The *Mongolian* Women's Federation focused on the Western areas of Mongolia to advocate the consumption of fortified food products. The Project Team conducted information meetings in the remote *baghs* (5-6 families' village) in Khovd aimag in April-May 2007.

47. The local project teams in Orkhon, Bulgan, Arkhangai and Zavkhan aimags implemented activities to increase the demand for fortified food products. In Arkhangai and Bulgan aimags, the project teams conducted continuous broadcasting of information on local TV and radio channels on the advantages of fortified food, its affordability in site and the quality of the salt at local markets.

48. The Project Team released the 3rd issue of the newsletter and renewed the Country Project Web-site (www.jfpr9052mn.org). The Salt producers Association, in cooperation with

the CPO, renewed the billboard located on the way from the national airport to the Ulaanbaatar City.

49. In *Tajikistan* the Project Team arranged regular presentations on national TV-channels and newspapers on the advantages of fortified food.

50. In *Uzbekistan* the National Youth Organization Kamalot, in cooperation with the Project team, arranged youth festivals and various activities on food fortification advocacy in Surkhandarya Province (21-24 May 2007), Ferghana Province (28-30 May 2007) Nad Bukhara Province (4 June 2007). The local Kamalot branches supported the communication campaign in 19 districts of the Ferghana Province (Besharik, Uchkuprik, Dangara and Sokh). The youth campaign was widely covered on national TV-channels and local newspapers. The advocacy activities were conducted at Bukhara University, Bukhara Food technology High School, Bukhara medical High School and in several *makhallyas* (local communities).

Table 16. Capacity Building of Control Agencies in Central Asia and Mongolia in 2002-2007 (*calendar year; events; number of participants)*

Regional and Country Activities	2002-2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Events	Participants	Events	Participants	Events	Participants	Events	Participants
Regional events								
MOH/SES Specialists			2	20	2	26		
Customs Lab Technicians			1	1				
Standard Agency Lab Technicians					1	2		
Other Government Agencies			1	1	2	7		
Kazakhstan								
MOH/SES Specialists	2	58	3	11	3	12	2	2
Customs Lab Technicians	1	39	3	4		…		…
Standard Agency Lab Technicians	1	2	3	6	3	6	2	19
Other Government Agencies	3	38	3	5	3	13	2	36
Kyrgyz Republic								
MOH/SES Specialists	6	337		…	5	123		…
Customs Lab Technicians		…	1	106		…		…
Standard Agency Lab Technicians		…		…	5	20		
Other Government Agencies		…		…		…		
Mongolia								
MOH/SES Specialists	13	585		…		…	3	93
Customs Lab Technicians	1	45		…		…		
Standard Agency Lab Technicians	2	68		…		…	2	39
Other Government Agencies	39	1,560		…		…		
Tajikistan								
MOH/SES Specialists	10	58	6	26	12	22	2	8
Customs Lab Technicians		…		…		…		
Standard Agency Lab Technicians	4	8	2	4	6	6	2	4
Other Government Agencies	2	10		…		…	2	4
Uzbekistan								
MOH/SES Specialists	14	56						
Customs Lab Technicians								
Standard Agency Lab Technicians								
Other Government Agencies								

Sources: Country Reports, 2002-2007

C. Financial Performance

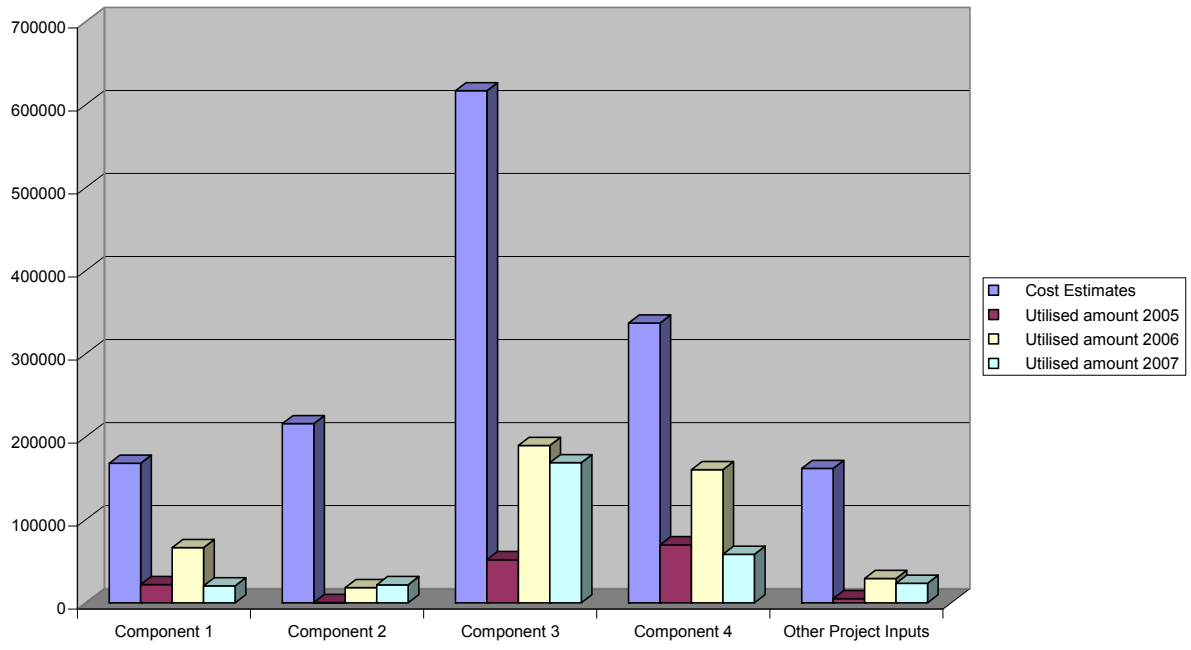
51. The Project, funded by the Government of Japan and financed on a grant basis by JFPR, received US$2 million or its equivalent for the estimated total costs of project. JFPR's funds are spent within the framework of CIPs (Appendix I). A consolidated Statement of Expenditure from the beginning of the Project until 30 June 2007 (Appendixes II and III) shows the progress in the utilization of the funds. Of the total grant amount, an estimated 61.1% had been used by the end of the reporting period. The consumption of JFPR's funds by 30 June 2007 had been $1,008,251 (see **table 17** and **Diagram A**).

Table 17. Utilization of JFPR Funds in April-June 2007

Project Expenditures Category	Cost Estimates	Beginning to date (US$)	This period		Accumulated expenditures	
			US$	%	US$	%
Equipment and Supplies	414,000	102,768.67	31,439.81	7.59%	134,208.48	32.42%
Training, Workshops, Seminars	424,000	178,607.92	21,935.23	5.17%	200,543.15	47.29%
Advocacy and Communication Activity	125,000	32,041.31	27,505.02	22.00%	59,546.34	47.64%
Consulting Services	52,500	57,231.57	21,750.92	41.43%	78,982.49	150.44%
Social Mobilization by NGOs	250,000	131,059.32	17,215.52	6.89%	148,274.83	59.31%
Project Management	225,000	289,232.01	39,340.40	17.48%	328,572.41	146.03%
Operational Studies and Impact Assessment	50,000	42,283.27	11,311.03	22.62%	53,594.30	107.19%
Other Project Inputs	377,200	2,650.67	1,878.55	0.50%	4,529.22	1.20%
Contingency	82,300	0	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%
Total	**1,650,000**	**835,874.74**	**172,376.48**	**10.45%**	**1,008,251.22**	**61.10%**

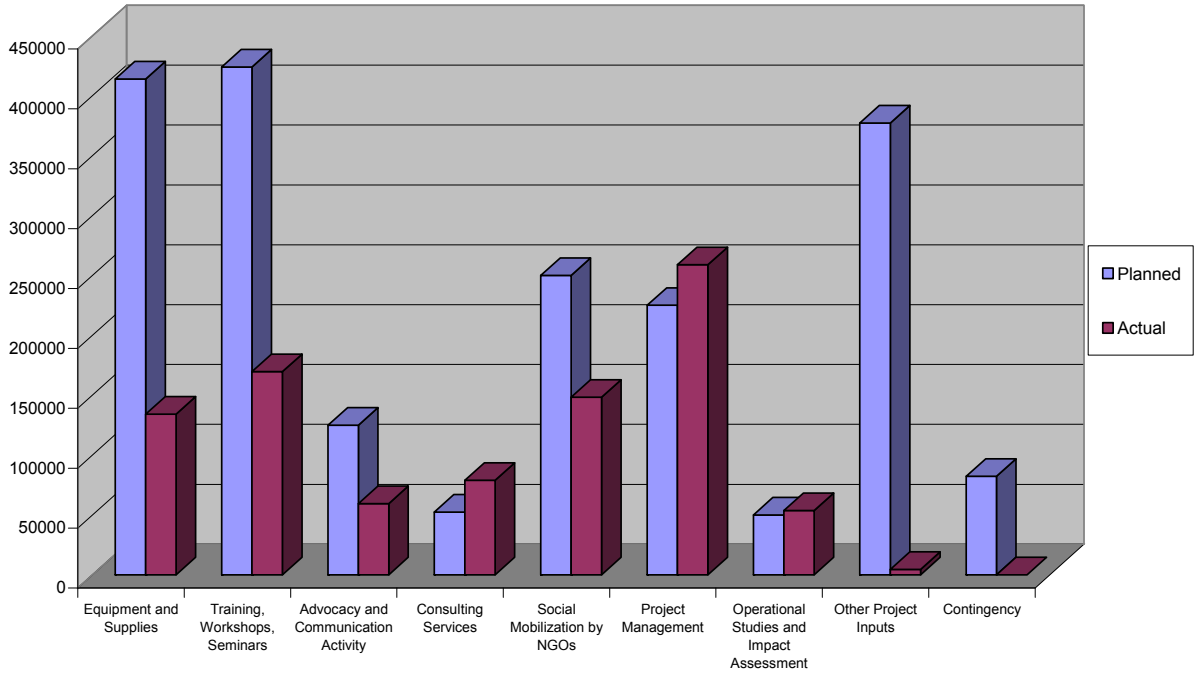
Source: Country Project SOE Forms, 2007

Diagram A. JFPR 9052 Funds Utilization (by CIP Components)



52. The use of JFPR's funds was sufficiently low in Kazakhstan (due to the external problems with the Project's Imprest Account) and in Uzbekistan; it was also noted that most of the CPOs limited project implementation to training and workshops, the production of communication materials, and routine project management activities. The details of JFPR fund utilization by 30 June 2007 can be found at **Diagram B** and in **Annex 6**.

Diagram B. JFPR Funds Utilization by SOE Categories



D. Management and Operations

53. The Governments of Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan discussed with the ADB and JFPR the possibility of extending the project implementation period until 31 December 2007 in order to finalize the consideration and adoption of the legislation on fortified food, and to strengthen the established national quality assurance and control systems. The revised workplans for the period June-December 2007 were adopted by ADB and the Executing Agencies in the participating countries.

54. The 3rd round of sentinel studies was completed in Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. The samples were sent to the Kazakh Academy of Nutrition for HPLC testing and compilation of the regional report.

55. The Government of Kazakhstan has released the Project Imprest account and instructed the Ministry of Finance to return the withheld amount of JFPR 9052's funds to the Project Imprest account.

56. In Mongolia, the Project Team arranged missions to Zavkhan and Arkhangai aimags (June 2007) on information sharing for local authorities, community leaders and monitoring the affordability of the fortified food at the local markets.