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Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction



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

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

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ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	–	Asian Development Bank
CPO	–	country project office
EA	–	executing agency
IDA	–	iron deficiency anemia
IDD	–	iodine deficiency disorders
IMR	–	infant mortality rate
JFPR	–	Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction
MDG	–	Millennium Development Goal
MMR	–	maternal mortality ratio
NGO	–	nongovernment organization
PHC	–	primary health care
RCAO	–	regional coordination and administration office
SES	–	sanitary epidemiological services
SRC	–	staff review committee
UNICEF	–	United Nations Children’s Fund
USI	–	universal salt iodization

NOTE

In this report, “\$” refers to US dollars.



A. Summary

1. The governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan all aim to eliminate iodine deficiency and reduce IDA and folic acid deficiency. These deficiencies are more common in Central Asia than many other developing countries. Iodine deficiency has a negative impact on brain development of the fetus, while iron deficiency constrains cognitive development of the young child, and hampers mental and work performance of the older child and adult. Negative effects of iodine and iron deficiency at a young age are irreversible and affect school achievement and later productivity. Iron deficiency is also a major contributory factor for maternal mortality. Folate deficiency, prevalent in these countries, causes neurotube defects in infants. These deficiencies 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.

2. JFPR 9005 Regional Project¹ (2001-2004) has focused support on the poor currently afflicted or at risk, (ii) piloted capacity-building processes to establish a regional marketing and distribution network and rules of trade, and (iii) demonstrated the efficacy of a regional approach to solving common nutrition problems that depress human and economic development. 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 activities focusing on these key nutritional issues. In only two years the Project resulted in substantial increases in iodized salt production and the passage of supporting legislation. While only the Kyrgyz Republic had USI legislation at the beginning of JFPR 9005, Tajikistan enacted USI legislation in 2002, and Kazakhstan and Mongolia in 2003. Uzbekistan is drafting similar legislation. The iodization level has been adjusted to the world standard. Some salt industries have made a significant shift from free supply of potassium iodate to partial cost sharing for potassium iodate.

3. All countries also initiated production of fortified flour in a few provinces following successful project-supported actions that resulted in much-needed legislative and regulatory action. Pilot production introduced a world-standard fortification system enabled by competent flourmill engineers, which will help the countries access cheaper equipment in the long run. The equipment supplier has developed a much cheaper version of fortification equipment for the Central Asian market. JFPR 9005 created the momentum to improve nutrition through fortification of salt and flour and brought new micronutrient-enriched staples to families.

4. While these significant 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 know that these achievements may be lost if not made firm and sustainable. The JFPR 9005 experience has helped the governments and private sector identify steps required for sustainable food fortification, and also clarify what more needs to be done.

5. In July 2004, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved for grant assistance of two million US dollars under the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR) a regional project² for five Asian Countries in Transition (ACT)³. The goal of the Project is to reinforce and sustain the reduction of iodine deficiency disorder (IDD) and iron deficiency anemia (IDA) among poor children and women in Central Asia through parallel attention to supply (production and distribution); demand (public awareness and demand creation); and regulation (quality control, implementation of regulations and legislation, and trade

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

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.

facilitation). The specific objectives are to (i) obtain and sustain use of iodized salt by 90% of households; (ii) sustain fortification of at least one third of wheat flour consumed domestically; (iii) build capacity of 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 awareness of consumers about prevention of IDD and IDA, and benefits of micronutrient-enriched food.

6. The JFPR Project scope has four major components:

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

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

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

9. The Project will build on the achievements of JFPR 9005, including impact monitoring, region-wide communication exchange of technical information, multi-country training, and sharing of lessons learned through project Web site participation. Using the system developed in the first project will increase cost-effectiveness and overall technical resources available to all the countries involved. International technical assistance will be continued but on a limited basis and focused on critical tasks related to major goals. Region-wide technical assistance for project impact monitoring and Web site development and maintenance will be supported through the Kazakh Academy of Nutrition. Finally, project management strategies for the new Project will also draw on well-developed and trained groups in place. This will exploit the considerable investment already made during JFPR 9005 in training country and regional teams in procurement, administration, finance, and reporting procedures and ensure that the Project is cost-efficient.

10. Asian Development Bank (ADB) coordinates the Project with assistance of the Regional Coordination and Administration Office (RCAO) in Almaty, Kazakhstan. RCAO is responsible for coordinating Project activities in the five participating countries, and centralized procurement of equipment and fortificants. The Ministry of Health (MOH) is the executing agency (EA) for the Project in each country. The EA has set up a country project office (CPO) which is responsible for implementing daily project activities and a steering committee for project oversight. The Project has been implemented in close coordination with the private sector (salt producers and flour millers) and NGOs and community based organizations.

11. The Project commenced in May 2005 and is scheduled for 25 months. Details on the

Project implementation are available at www.caffproject.net.

B. Technical/Project Components

Strengthening of the capacities of salt industries and flour mills

12. In the reporting period the Country Teams have revised the letters of agreement with participating food industries. The number of the participating enterprises has been enlarged from 59 flour mills in 2004 to 65 due to the involvement of the small and medium-size flourmills in Tajikistan and Kyrgyz Republic. The amount of salt industries also reached 51 companies.

a) Fortified Wheat Flour Production

13. The overview of the fortified wheat flour production is presented in **Tables 1-2** below.

Table 1. Activity of participating flour mills (metric tons) in 2004-2005

Country (flour mills)	2004		January-June 2005		July-August 2005	
	Active flourmills	Production of WFF (MT)	Active flourmills	Production of WFF (MT)	Active flourmills	Production of WFF (MT)
Kazakhstan (17)	13	121,418	11	55,595	5	21,404
Kyrgyz Republic (10)	8	31,429	5	2,071	8	2,624
Mongolia (7)	5	35,763	5	12,823	6	4,444
Tajikistan (17)	6	58,063	17	28,166	17	21,968
Uzbekistan (14)	14	336,260	14	36,859	-	-
Total (65):	46	582,933	52	135,514	36	50,440

Source: Country Project Progress Reports, 2004-2005

Table 2. Consolidated data on production of wheat fortified flour (metric tons) in 2004-2005

Country	Planned annual WFF production (MT)	2004		January – August 2005	
		Consolidated WFF production (MT)	Consolidated WFF production (%)	Consolidated WFF production (MT)	Consolidated WFF production (%)
Kazakhstan	393,900	121,418	30.8	76,999	19.5
Kyrgyz Republic	117,500	31,429	26.7	4,695	3.9
Mongolia	58,200	35,763	-	17,267	29.6
Tajikistan	154,710	58,063	37.5	50,134	32.4
Uzbekistan	250,000	336,260	134.504	36,859	14.7
Total	974,310	582,933	63.6	185,954	19.1

Source: Country Project Progress Reports, 2004-2005

Kazakhstan

14. The absence of the appropriate diagnostic equipment at the local certification laboratories and limited certification were named as the main reason for hindered wheat flour fortification at Atbassar Flour Mills Co., Urozhai Co., Nan-Onimderi Co., Mamlyutskii Melkombinat Co., Batt Kokshe Astyk Co., Kyzyltuiskii Melkombinat Co., Tsesna Astyk Concern, Karagandy Nan Co., Kazbestproduct Co., Tshuchinskii Melkombinat Co. In order to overcome the difficulties the Kazakh Academy of Nutrition adopted the amendments to the technical regulations on the fortified wheat flour. Now this document should be adopted by

SES and NATEX. The Committee on Metrology and Technical Regulations of the Ministry of Industry and Trade gave the preliminary approval for the simplified procedure on certification of the fortified wheat flour. JSC Vostocho-Kazakhstanskii Melkombinat was under reconstruction from July 2004 to September 2005. Karagandy-Nan Co. and Koluton-95 Co. noted the lack of demand on the fortified wheat flour. By the 30 September 2005 the retained KAP Premix amount at beneficiary enterprises was about 46.1 tons.

15. The Kazakh Academy of Nutrition started discussion with the Progress-Agro Ltd. Co. on the domestic KAP Komplex premix production in Kazakhstan. In case of replacement of the electrolytic iron with the carbonyl iron, the annual production can be estimated in 1000 tons.

16. In July 2005 EA and CPO organized a number of meetings with the representatives of flour milling industry, SES, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Association of Food Producers on the issues of certification of the fortified wheat flour, including of the fortified wheat flour in recognized statistical data.

17. The annual national workshop "Current Technology and Equipment for Post-Harvesting Grain Processing" for flour millers was carried out by the League of Grain Processors and Bakers (LGBK) on 6-8 July 2005 in Astana, Kazakhstan. 77 flour millers from 35 flour mills in 9 regions of Kazakhstan, and also the representatives from the Ministries of Agriculture and Public Health, machinery and equipment companies, KAN and UNICEF. Total amount of participants was 111 persons. The presentations on the status of grain and flour production in Kazakhstan, wheat flour fortification technology, regulations on wheat flour fortification and quality assurance and control were delivered by the LGBK, CPO, SES and KAN. The discussion pointed out the urgent issues to be considered by the Government: certification of the fortified wheat flour; transportation tariffs and facilitation of its delivery to the pilot areas; incentives for flour millers on production the fortified wheat flour. The Turkish Company *Ana Food Machinery Ltd.* presented its feeders for wheat flour fortification, and Kazakhstan *Progress-Agro Ltd. Co.* informed about the status of setting the domestic KAP Premix production in Stepnogorsk. The workshop adopted the recommendations to be followed by the Steering Committee and CPO.

18. The annual national workshop "Current Approaches and Methods for Grain Quality Evaluation" for flour millers was carried out by the League of Grain Processors and Bakers (LGBK) on 4 August 2005 in Astana, Kazakhstan in order to discuss the issues of the quality control system of the fortified wheat flour and bakery products and follow-up of the Law "On Quality Control and Safety of the Food Products" and the Government decree "On the procedures of the mandatory fortification of the premium and first grade wheat flour produced at the Republic of Kazakhstan" (from 7 July 2006, ref. no. 708). The total amount of participants was 68 persons, including 44 flour millers from 31 enterprises at 8 regions; government control and standard agencies, Astana Chamber of Commerce and Industry, CPO and UNICEF. The technical issues of fortified wheat flour production were discussed, and the aspects of internal and external quality control; certification on final product; existing and proposed legislative and regulatory documents. It was mentioned that the absence of the authorized certification agency hinder from the shipping of the fortified wheat flour to traders; also the actual legislation does not allow medium- and small-size flour millers to carry out spot test, as some reagents are treated as precursors. The workshop recommended conducting several local information workshops for medium- and small-size flour millers in order to disseminate the information on the schedule of the mandatory wheat flour fortification in Kazakhstan and brief the millers on the technical aspects of wheat flour fortification.

Kyrgyz Republic

19. The wheat flour fortification equipment and fortificants were provided to 10 big and medium-size flour mills, and the additional micro feeders were supplied to 12 medium and 5

small size flour mills. Due to the various reasons (economic situation, lack of wheat grain etc.) the total amount of produced fortified wheat flour in 2005 was 4, 695 MT only (including 650 MT at small flour mills). Still the piloting of the wheat flour fortification at small-size flour mills required additional efforts; so CPO jointly with UNICEF/GAIN and Independent Bread Inspection has identified pilot mills for evaluation of feeder's and premix parameters.

20. At present the Ministry of Economic Development, Industry and Trade considers issues of reducing VAT on fortified food, providing soft loans for development and modernization of production to these enterprises, and other incentives to promote interest of industry in production of fortified food.

21. In July The Independent bread Inspection held a meeting of flour millers on establishment of the Association of Flour mills, which could play a positive role in setting fair dialogue between the Government and industry. All necessary legal documents for enacting of national association were finalized and conveyed to the consideration of the Ministry of Justice for registration. The registration of the Association is expected in October 2005.

Mongolia

22. Two flour mills from six beneficiary companies - Selenge flour mill and Darkhan flour mill stopped the production of fortified wheat flour from the beginning of 2005. CPO discussed with the flourmills the issues of reallocating the remained premix. The country team had to postpone the training of the newly joined small and medium-size producers as the micro feeders from China were not shipped and installed yet. The total fortified wheat flour production for July-September 2005 was 17,268 tons (29.6 % of planned amount and 7.1 % of overall public consumption).

23. The Mongolian Flour Association was established at the joint meeting of the representatives from the Food Division of Ministry of Food and Agriculture, flour millers and research community. Mr. Batmend, Mr. Sanjkhoo, Manager of Ulaanbaatar Guril Ltd; Mr. Altantsetseg, Food and Biotechnology School of Mongolian University of Science and Technology; Mr. Sh. Altantsetseg, research officer of Khunstech Corporation; Mr. Tungalag, Head of Food Division of Ministry of Food and Agriculture; Ms. Azzaya, representative, Ministry of Food and Agriculture; Mr. Erdenebayar, member of steering committee, Ms. Tsermaa, Head of mill sector and Mr. Zorig, Chief of manufacturing division, Altan Taria Ltd. and some other have participated to the meeting. The Country project Coordinator informed on the objectives of the JFPR 9052 project and Mr. Batmend announced the establishment of Mongolian Flour Association. The issues of the current harvest, wheat grain supplies, wheat flour import were discussed. It was noted that before 1990's the 9 domestic flourmills covered the national wheat flour demand, and by present time 60-70% of consumed wheat was imported. The imported and donated grain had a low quality, which affected the domestic flour production and grain supply. Due to the rainy summer the domestic grain, harvest is expected to be low. The Mongolian Flour Association should support the manufacturers in solving problems, like improving the data and dealing with taxes elimination or decreasing. The need for thorough selection of beneficiary enterprises was expressed at the meeting. The Country team also discussed with the Grain Foundation (MOFAA) the possibilities of priority supplies of the wheat grain for project beneficiary enterprises.

24. The accountability of the flourmills was discussed as the CPO found the inaccurate reporting in some of participating flourmills. It was agreed that CPO would plan the quality monitoring activities jointly with the Trade, Industry and Service Department of State Inspection Agency and Mongolian Flour Association.

Tajikistan

25. Wheat flour fortification was conducted at 17 flour mills, and from this amount 11 medium-size and small flour mills joined the Project from the reporting period. Total amount of produced fortified wheat flour was 21,968 MT, and 9,506 MT from the given amount were produced at newly joined flour mills. In August-September 2005 CPO and the Association of

Food Producers (Mr. U.Isokov and Mr. M.Zokirov) arranged visits to the participating flour mills at the Regions under National Supervision (RNS) and Sogd Province. The flour millers expressed the interest in wheat flour fortification, provided support for the draft regulations on the mandatory wheat flour fortification (which was designed by MOH, CPO and Association of Food Producers) and confirmed their willingness to continue wheat flour fortification and purchase premix and labels from their funds after certain initial period. The newly joined 11 small and medium-size flour mills received 200,000 labels for the flour bags which indicated the importance of the fortified wheat flour, data on micronutrients' content and 'Healthy Food' logo. The request on technical assistance on calibration of the micro feeders was expressed in order to ensure adequate supply of premix into the flour flow.

Uzbekistan

26. In accordance with the agreements between the Government of Uzbekistan, ADB, UNICEF and GAIN, the funding for wheat flour fortification would be made beyond the JFPR funds in 2005-2007, while JFPR funds will continue to be used for general food fortification activities (quality assurance and control, advocacy, poverty targeting) and strengthening of the universal salt iodization. The micro feeders would be supplied to the 34 additional flour mills thus making the number of participating enterprises of 48. The utilization of KAP Premix was completed by March 2005, and GAIN Project Office started the procurement of the annual amount for 2005/2006.

27. The adopted standards and regulations include: technical regulations and technical requirements on the fortified premium grade wheat flour; and KAP Premix.

b) Salt Iodization

28. The overview of the iodized salt production is presented in **Tables 3-4** below.

Table 3. Activity of participating salt industries in 2004-2005

Country	2004		January-June 2005		July-August 2005	
	Active salt companies	Production of IS (MT)	Active salt companies	Production of IS (MT)	Active salt companies	Production of IS (MT)
Kazakhstan (2)	2	62,975	2	30,376	2	18,199
Kyrgyz Republic (6)	6	11,735	6	5,970	-	-
Mongolia (26)	23	7,057	14	2,794	16	1,764
Tajikistan (4)	3	22,588	3	10,080	4	9,345
Uzbekistan (13)	13	43,004	13	32,245	13	17,600
Total (51):	47	147,359	38	81,465	35	46,908

Source: Country Project Progress Reports, 2004-2005

Table 4. Consolidated data on production of iodized salt in 2004-2005

Country	Planned annual iodized salt production (MT)	2004		January – August 2005	
		Consolidated IS production (MT)	Consolidated IS production (%)	Consolidated IS production (MT)	Consolidated IS production (%)

Kazakhstan	67,391	62,975	93.4	48,575	72.0
Kyrgyz Republic	13,200	11,735	88.9	5,970	45.2
Mongolia	5,600	7,057		4,558	81.4
Tajikistan	37,650	22,588	59.9	19,425	51.5
Uzbekistan	70,000	43,004	61.4	49,845	46.0
Total	193,841	147,359	78.2	128,373	66.2

Source: Country Project Progress Reports, 2004-2005

Kazakhstan

29. During the year 2004-2005 the medium and small-size salt enterprises in Kazakhstan discussed the issues of cooperation in quality salt production and trade. While the JFPR 9005 project concentrated at 2 main salt companies (AralTuz and PavlodarSalt), new salt companies have appeared in Southern and Western Kazakhstan.

30. In early September 2005 the Association of Salt producers of Kazakhstan was established. Six salt companies from South and Central Kazakhstan accepted the invitation of Araltuz on consolidating the efforts on eligible quality iodized salt production and trade. The inauguration press conference was conducted by the President of Salt Association, UNICEF and ADB. Mr Eugeni Karpov, UNICEF Good Will Ambassador and former Chess World Champion addressed mass media on the importance of the universal salt iodization.

31. The managers of the salt companies – members of the salt producers Association – conducted the working meeting on 6 September 2005 in order to discuss the short-term plans and centralized procurement of potassium iodate. Representatives from KAN, CPO and RCAO took place at the meeting. Mr Joseph Hunt, former ADB Senior Nutrition Specialist, addressed the salt producers and discussed the economic aspects of quality iodized salt production and its impact on micronutrient deficiency elimination and poverty reduction.

32. On 27 July 2005 the Country Project Coordinator visited JSC PavlodarSalt Co and discussed with the new management the issues of the quality iodized production, quality control and assurance, labelling with the 'healthy Food' logo, and the suppression of the illegal salt trade from the Pavlodar province salt deposits.

Kyrgyz Republic

33. In the Kyrgyz Republic 14 salt processing enterprises were registered, 9 of them are working regularly and thereof 6 were the beneficiaries of the JFPR 9005 project. Most of the salt enterprises joined the Kyrgyz Association of Salt Producers. At present only five salt companies from 14 produce salt on the regular basis: the consolidated iodized salt production by the 5 enterprises for the six month of 2005 achieved 5,971 MT, while the total production of other salt companies for the same period was 1,321 MT only. The competition between the salt companies led to decrease of the wholesale price of iodized salt below the profitability level, which impacted on the production. Moreover the import of good quality salt from Kazakhstan also led to decrease of the domestic production.

34. One of the participating salt companies (Exstra Tuz) faced management and financial problems and therefore it was not operating since January 2005. The Ministry of Health made a decision to take back the salt iodization and packing equipment from this salt enterprise and reallocate it.

35. The Kyrgyz Association of Salt Enterprises took responsibilities for potassium iodate supply to its members. 500 kg of potassium iodate were supplied to salt companies already. The Association also made the estimations on the needs in potassium iodate for the year 2005, which is expected for delivery in November 2005.

Mongolia

36. Salt enterprises, which produce salt from domestic salt deposit (Delger Hyargas, Tsavdan Impex, Tseverleh Bulag, Zavkhan Bayalag, Mongol Khan, Davst Trade, Talst, Tulga Altai) reported on the production of 367 tons iodized salt. Salt companies which import salt and then iodize it (Mon Davs, BTsZS, Tsagaan Davs) reported on production of 1,398 tons. The total amount of iodized salt production in July-September 2005 reached 1,765 tons (31.5% of planned amount and 18.3 % of overall consumption).

37. CPO arranged meetings with the management of Davs Trade, Mon Davs, Tsagaan Davs and BTsZS companies to discuss the issues of the ongoing production and import of the iodized salt.

Tajikistan

38. The Association of Food Producers in cooperation with CPO and with UNICEF support arranged regular supply of the potassium iodate to the salt companies. 250 kilograms were purchased by three salt companies. The total amount of the produced iodized salt for the reporting period achieved 9,345 MT. The situation in Khatlon Province was developing positively. Following the decisions of the meeting at June 2005, the small salt producers provided the locally produced salt for its iodization to the newly established Dushanbe JSC Co., which produced 850 MT of the iodized salt in July-September 2005. The production of two non-participating medium-size enterprises – Azal JSC CO. and Guli Kukhsor JSC Co. – was interrupted by Tajikistan Standard Agency because of the trade of the non-iodized salt.

Uzbekistan

39. The Country Project Office renewed the LOAs with the 13 participating salt companies, which produced 17,600 tons on the iodized salt for the period of July-September 2005. Now the production of the iodized salt should follow the sanitary regulations adopted by the Ministry of Health. The draft standard on the iodized salt was designed by the Uzbekistan Standard Agency with the assistance of the Ministry of Health, Association of Salt Producers and CPO, and now th adoption is expected.

40. On 13 August 2005 UNICEF Country Office in cooperation with the Salt producers Association, Ministry of Health and CPO conducted the national workshop for salt producers from all regions of Uzbekistan. The issues of sustainable salt iodization and quality iodized salt production were discussed, and the mechanism of the revolving fund between UNICEF, CPO and Association of Salt Producers was proposed. The participants also discussed the issues of adoption of the USI law with parliamentarians, who took part in the workshop.

It was planned that at the initial stage the UNICEF would purchase potassium iodate and provides it to salt producers with the assistance of the Salt Producers Association on the reimbursement base.

Strengthening of the capacities of the Government

a) Legislation and Regulations on Fortified Food

41. The Government of *Kazakhstan* adopted the decree "On the procedures of the mandatory fortification of the premium and first grade wheat flour produced at the Republic of Kazakhstan" (from 7 July 2006, ref. no. 708). The decree stipulated the schedule of mandatory wheat flour fortification in Kazakhstan: from 1 July 2006 for the flourmills with the production capacity from above 150 tons per day; from 1 April 2007 - for the flourmills with the production capacity from 50 to 150 tons per day; and from 1 January 2008 - for the flourmills with the production capacity less than 50 tons per day.

42. In order to promote the production of fortified wheat flour and its affordability in rural areas, the Government of Kazakhstan adopted the decree "On adoption the list of goods, civil works and services (in proportion) to be procured from small business enterprises in 2005" (from 11 August 2005, ref. no. 828), which included fortified wheat flour, bread and bakery from the fortified wheat flour and iodized table salt. The Ministry of Health has made a contract on designing of a national standard on bread and bakery from the fortified wheat flour.

43. The *Kyrgyz* Country Team continued discussion with the parliamentarians of the amendments on the draft law "On fortification of wheat flour".

44. *Mongolian* Country Project Office organized meetings with Mr.D.Terbishdagva, Minister of Food and Agriculture and other members of State Great Hural (Parliament) - Ms. Tuya, member of the Committee on national law on Salt Iodization and IDD Prevention and Mr. Gansukh, parliamentarian from agricultural region. The issues of the second stage of the JFPR 9005/9052 Project implementation were discussed, and parliamentarians assured the CPO in their support of further activities. CPO arranged the meetings with the Ministry of Trade and Industry's officials to discuss the elimination of the customs taxes and tariffs on fortification equipment by including it to the list of the priority industrial equipment non-produced in Mongolia.

45. The Ministry of Health of *Tajikistan* designed and discussed the draft law "On Fortification of the Bakery Wheat Flour", draft intergovernmental agreement "On the Iron Deficiency Anemia Prevention in the Commonwealth of the Independent States" and draft Governmental Decree "On Fortification of the Bakery Wheat Flour". The revised draft was presented for inter-agency consideration.

46. In accordance with the Government Decree (ref. no. 30 from 25 January 2005), the Ministry of Health of *Uzbekistan* designed the national Program on Prevention and Elimination of Iodine deficiency Disorders in the Republic of Uzbekistan (adopted by the Government on 26 September 2005), which envisaged the design of the legislation amendments. In September 2005 MOH established the working group on the design of the draft USI Law, and plans to present it for Cabinet of Ministers for approval.

b) National Fortification Alliances

47. The National Fortification Alliance in *Kyrgyz Republic* was established by the Presidential Decree on 9 March 2004 and had conducted several meetings in 2004-2005 on program design and implementation, illegal supplies of the non-iodized salt and wheat flour, and ongoing food fortification. NFA also provided assistance for design of the draft law "On fortification of the wheat flour", which stipulates mandatory wheat flour fortification with iron. The NFA comprises representatives of the Government, civil society, industrial enterprises and international organizations and provide an institutional basis for civil-state and public-private mechanisms for overcoming micronutrient and vitamin deficiencies in the country. On 25 June 2005 the new membership of the NFA was adopted by the President of the *Kyrgyz Republic*. The 5th meeting of NFA in July 2005 considered the issues of prevention of iodine deficiency disorders and iron deficiency, and the draft National Plan on prevention of IDD, IDA and vitamin A deficiency.

c) Quality Control on Fortified Food

48. On 1 September 2005 the *Kazakhstan* Country Team took part in the national conference "Evaluating the Progress towards the Universal Salt Iodization and Anemia Prevention by Wheat Flour Fortification", which was conducted by KAN and UNICEF. Parliamentarians, food producers and nutritionists took part at the conference. The KAN has presented the evaluation report on the quality of salt iodization and its consumption in Kazakhstan. It was noted that the consumption of the iodized salt at the household level has achieved 86% in comparison to 29% at previous baseline. The conference also considered the issues of certification of the fortified wheat flour and addressed the Ministry of Industry and Trade on the simplification of this procedure.

49. The *Kyrgyzstan* Country Project team prioritized its activities on the quality of the

iodized salt. In cooperation with the Salt producers' Association and Swiss Red Cross Project CPO organized visits to the biggest wholesales markets and all salt production sites to collect samples of salt. The tests results would be provided at the forthcoming workshop for salt producers and the issues of the quality assurance and internal control would be discussed. Also CPO made an agreement with Department of Sanitary Epidemiological Surveillance on making regular test samples free of charge, and providing the information of the tests in mass media.

50. In *Tajikistan* an agreement was achieved with all participating flour mills that each enterprise would arrange at least 4 spot-tests per working day, and also send on quarterly basis 15 samples of produced fortified flour to the Association of Food Producers for HPLC testing on the contents of micronutrient. Also the flour mills would provide monthly reports on the micro feeders' performance and accuracy of premix feeding.

51. UNICEF provided funds for temporary employment of the monitoring specialist on the iodized salt quality, and CPO assisted in arrangements of the monitoring at the wholesale markets and trading places. The reports on monitoring of 22 markets in Khatlon province (Shurabad, Khamadoni, Dangara, Vaksh, Kumsangir, Muminobod, Khisrav, and Kulyab city) revealed that the only 60% of tested samples were iodized. In Pyandzh, Kholkhosabad, Shakhrituz and Chomi districts non-iodized salt was tested mainly, and only in Kurgantube city and Nurek the tests revealed quality iodized salt. Monitoring also identified suppliers which provided non-iodized salt which was labeled as 'iodized'. The results of the monitoring were provided to the Tajikistan Standard Committee, Khurokvori Corporation and Antimonopoly Agency.

52. The overview of the internal/external monitoring on iodized salt production in participating countries is presented in **Tables 5-6** below.

Table 5. Consolidated data on internal quality control on iodized salt in 2003-2005

Country	2003/2004		2005	
	Number of tests	% of quality iodized salt	Number of tests	% of quality iodized salt
Kazakhstan	3,078	100.0	1,522	92.6-100
Kyrgyz Republic	-	-	20	100.0
Mongolia	5,048	85.0-100.0	701	98.0-100.0
Tajikistan	4,891	92.5-100.0	2,912	0-100.0
Uzbekistan	23,095	100.0	4,507	100.0
Total:	36,112		9,662	

Source: Country Project Progress Reports, 2004-2005

Table 6. Consolidated data on external quality control on iodized salt in 2003-2005 (by SES and other authorized control agencies)

Country	2003/2004		2005	
	Number of tests	% of quality iodized salt	Number of tests	% of quality iodized salt
Kazakhstan	23,159	78.1-99.9	79	100.0
Kyrgyz Republic	42,992	64.1-81.7	20	100.0
Mongolia	1,631	71.0-100.0	140	97.5-100.0

Tajikistan	1,793	89.5-100.0	1,565	91.2-100.0
Uzbekistan	17,667	23.6-88.4	665	84.3-100.0
Total:	87,242		2,220	

Source: Country Project Progress Reports, 2003-2005

Social mobilization and poverty targeting

53. On 22-24 August 2005 Regional Coordination Communication Office (RCAO) conducted the regional information meeting in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic on the communication strategy and project management. CPOs presented the Country Communication Strategies and the outlines of communication/social mobilization plans. Mr. Gary Gleason, Director of IDPAS Communications Department and JFPR Consultant, facilitated the information meeting and shared the overview of successful communication/social mobilization strategies on nutrition/food fortification. The participants discussed the issues of food fortification advocacy, efficacy of the various communication messages and its delivery to target groups. It was noted that the high spread of iron deficiency anemia, iodine deficiency, folic acid deficiency, group B vitamins and zinc deficiency is still the case for the Central Asian countries; the current technologies of food stocks and products are micronutrient depleting and good quality food products still are not available to the overwhelming majority of population. It was also noted that food fortification still did not become the priority for the food industry, and there was no visible shift of consumer's demand. The meeting defined the goals for the revised communication country strategies and criteria for the revised communication strategies and selection of local communication consultants, involvement of the efficient NGOs, communication campaign monitoring and the ways of improving the Project Web-site.

54. In Kazakhstan CPO in cooperation with KAN Country Communication Team and the Confederation of NGOs of Kazakhstan (CNOK) has selected the local partners among acting NGOs and supported it with the T-shirts, caps and bags with the 'Health Food' logo. The production was arranged with the funds from the private food industry. There were several meetings between the Country Communication Team, KAN, UNICEF and CNOK on shaping the interaction with NGOs, local authorities and food producers. The Country Team considered the most effective samples of messages to be further discussed with nutritionists and NGOs (pre-testing) in order to design the list of the communication materials for printing.

55. Kyrgyzstan Project Team conducted several meetings with project partners from UNICEF, Swiss Red Cross, and ADB Project on Early Childhood Development; Family Group Practitioner and Health Promotional Center in order to identify the Communication/Social Mobilization strategy and activities plan. Country Communication and Social Mobilization strategy was designed, revised after Bishkek Information Meeting and presented for ADB consideration.

Association of Salt Producers and NGO "For People" with support of JFPR and UNICEF conducted the training on importance of fortified food in IDD/IDA prevention for wholesale traders of the fortified food products.

56. In Mongolia the events on the occasion of the National day on IDD Prevention were conducted in Bayanzurkh and Songinokhairkhan districts of Ulaanbaatar city, and Darkhan-Uul Aimag at the first week of September 2005. The communication events included advertisements at the main streets and local markets, interviews in mass media and TV. Mon Dava Company sponsored the competitions of essays for the young ladies contesting the title of "Miss Mongolia 2005" and schoolchildren in "Nairamdal" International Children's Center, which took place on 6 September 2005. The billboard, advertising the advantage of iodized salt consumption, which is located on the road from the Buyant-Ukhaa International Airport to Ulaanbaatar city, has been renewed. The Country Team updated the information at Project Web-site.

57. The local communication consultants were selected by EA/CPO in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic and started work on Communication Activities Plan implementation.

C. Financial Performance

58. The total cost of the Project was estimated at \$2 million equivalent financed on a grant basis from Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR), funded by the Government of Japan. The JFPR funds are spent in the framework of CIPs (**Appendix I**). Consolidated Statement of Accumulated Expenditures from the beginning of the project to 30 September 2005 is attached in **Appendix II**. The utilization of JFPR funds by 30 June 2005 was \$82,904 (see **Tables 7 and 8**):

Table 7. Utilization of JFPR Funds in May-September 2005

Country	CIP Appraisal estimate (US\$)	Amount utilized (US\$)	Unutilized amount (US\$)
Kazakhstan	300,000	49,679	250,322
Kyrgyz Republic	300,000	6,784	293,216
Mongolia	300,000	5,917	294,083
Tajikistan	300,000	21,244	278,756
Uzbekistan*	300,000	3,275*	300,000
Total	1,500,000	86,897*	1,416,378

Source: Country Project SOE Forms, 2005

(*) Uzbekistan CPO utilized reimbursement funds

Table 8. Utilization of JFPR Funds (by the Project Components) in July-September 2005

Project Expenditures Category	Beginning to date (US\$)	This period (US\$)	Accumulated expenditures (US\$)
Equipment and Supplies		14,019	14,019
Training, Workshops, Seminars, Public Campaigns		14,195	14,195
Consulting Services		28,290	28,290
Project Management	17,096	27,981	45,076
Other Project Inputs		2,413	2,412
Total	17,096	86,897	103,993

Source: Country Project SOE Forms, 2005

59. The overall funds utilization by the end of reporting period is estimated as 5.8% of total grant amount. During the reporting period only Kazakhstan CPO applied for funds replenishment two times, as they have already utilized the amount of initial advance. The utilized amount in Uzbekistan was used from reimbursement, no JFPR funds utilized during this period.

60. RAO noted that Kyrgyz and Tajik CPOs overspent the allocations for CPO office operations, which was agreed at ceiling of \$1,500 per month or \$4,500 per quarter. Some CPOs did not follow adequately ADB requirements on prior approval of contracts on services. The financial reporting of Tajikistan CPO required permanent RAO supervision; also Uzbekistan CPO showed improved performance after ADB/RAO comments.

61. Following Project Implementation Schedule, RAO had prepared the Procurement Plan designed on the information presented by Countries' Teams and shared with several CPOs the draft of bidding documentation for further procurement consideration.

D. Management and Operations

62. The implementation arrangements of the JFPR Project are the following. ADB coordinates overall implementation in all five countries through the Regional Coordination and Administration Office (RCAO) set up in Almaty, Kazakhstan. RCAO is also responsible for centralized procurement of equipment and fortificants. Participating countries set up Countries Steering Committees for project oversight, the latter comprising representatives from the finance, economic development, and health ministries; the private food industry; and the NGO community. The Ministry of Health (MOH) of each participating country was functioning as the Executing Agency (EA) of the JFPR project and established the Country Project Offices (CPO). The EA in each participating country is responsible for overall coordination of Project activities in its country, including the following: (i) coordination with other ministries, agencies and NGOs; (ii) approval of annual work plans and disbursement plans; and (iii) ensuring compliance with ADB rules for procurement and disbursement. A Country Project Coordinator (medical doctor), a Financial Specialist and Administrative Assistant (optional) staffed the CPO in each participating country. The CPO staff has formal contract arrangements with EA based on terms of reference approved by ADB. The RCAO staff is recruited by ADB and financed under the Project. The RCAO acts as the central project implementation unit and will coordinate Project planning, reporting, monitoring of implementation progress, international procurement, and organizing workshops and round table meetings. RCAO responsibilities also included: (i) detailed project planning and management; (ii) assistance to EAs on local procurement and contract administration; (iii) review of withdrawal applications for CPOs imprest accounts; (iv) monitoring on disbursement of funds, including timely submission of withdrawal applications to ADB; (v) preparation of consolidated quarterly progress and completion reports; (vi) coordinating of annual audits; (vii) design and support of the project Web-site; (viii) assistance to ADB/JFPR staff and consultants' missions. The Kazakhstan Academy of Nutrition (KAN) acts as a technical advisor to the RCAO and facilitates exchanges with nutrition institutes in the other Project countries.

63. In July-September 2005 Mr Joseph Hunt, former ADB Senior Nutrition Adviser, provided Project evaluation mission to all six participating countries. He conducted the meetings with project stakeholders, government officials, parliamentarians, ministries of health and nutrition community, captains of food industry and leading NGOs. The achievements and lessons learned from JFPR 9005 Project implementation were discussed, and also the detailed assessment of country-tailored approaches was made, which contributed to planning and coordination of activities both at national and regional level. Meetings with partner agencies – ADB Resident Missions, UNICEF Country Offices – as well as other international agencies and NGOs (Aga Khan Development Network, CARE International and others) were arranged in order to discuss the areas of effective cooperation in tackling micronutrient deficiencies.

64. KAN has designed and proposed to the Country Teams the vision on conducting the third round of the sentinel studies. It is important to ensure that the target families in the pilot areas continue receiving the fortified food within the period of 12-18 calendar months. The Country Teams conducted discussions with the local health institutions in order to define the study plans and implementing partners.

65. In *Kazakhstan* the Country Project Team designed the revised list of the Steering Committee and the Working Group and presented it for the Government's approval. In July-September 2005 CPO and Independent Bread Inspection arranged visits to the participating flour mills in Osh, Jalalabat, Batken and Issykkul provinces. Deputy Project Director and the members of the Working Group (Ms. Shteinke and Ms. Aitmyrzaeva) visited Southern region of the Kyrgyz Republic in September and discussed issues of IDD and IDA prevention with local authorities, SES, medical institutions and flour and salt enterprises.

66. In *Kyrgyz Republic* the Country Project Team designed the revised list of the Steering Committee and the Working Group and presented it for the Government's approval. In July-September 2005 CPO and Independent Bread Inspection arranged visits to the participating flour mills in Osh, Jalalabat, Batken and Issykkul provinces. Deputy Project Director and the

members of the Working Group (Ms. Shteinke and Ms. Aitmyrzaeva) visited Southern region of the Kyrgyz Republic in September and discussed issues of IDD and IDA prevention with local authorities, SES, medical institutions and flour and salt enterprises.

In *Tajikistan* the Board of the Ministry of Health had a special meeting on 29 September 2005 for evaluation of the JFPR 9052 Project implementation. CPOI presented the detailed report and results of the Project implementation in May-September 2005. The Board considered positively the project implementation and gave the instructions to health institutions in support of the Project Team on further implementation of the project activities. It was noted that SES should strengthen the monitoring on the quality of production and trade of the food products; the Country Team should design the draft regulations on the use of the 'Healthy Food' logo and procedure of its granting to the food enterprises; health promotion centers should contribute to the fortified food advocacy and all medical institutions should organize information sessions on the USI law. Hospitals were instructed to ensure that only locally produced iodized salt and fortified wheat flour should be procured for catering services.

67. In *Mongolia* the Steering Committee at its regular meeting on 5 August 2005 has reviewed the implementation results of the JFPR 9005 Project and the workplan on JFPR 9052 Project implementation. The situation with wheat flour fortification was discussed, as three flour mills from the initial six had stopped the wheat flour fortification for the management and financial reasons. The fortification equipment was reallocated to Ulaanbaatar flourmill. The premix would be reallocated to the newly joined flourmills. The project would support the wheat flour fortification at small-size flour mills, after shipment and installation of the micro feeders. The Steering Committee members also noted the growth of import of salt in comparison to domestic production. The Steering Committee stressed the importance of strengthening the quality assurance and control by means of the State Professional Inspection Agency and the laboratory of School of Food and Biotechnology of Mongolian Science University. Also the information on GAIN workshop was provided and the next activities to submit the proposal for GAIN.

E. Miscellaneous

68. In June-July 2005 Kazakh Academy of Nutrition conducted the research project on studying the prevalence of folic acid deficiency among children from 10 years old and interviews of the women of reproductive age women in Almaty city.

69. On 30 June-1 July 2005 KAN and the Ministry of Health of Kazakhstan conducted the First International Scientific and Research Conference "Biological Active Food Additives and Useful Food for the Purpose of Malnutrition Elimination". The conference was attended by 700 participants from Central Asian Countries, Russia and other states of the region, which comprised nutritionists, health specialists and food additives companies. JFPR Project team, KAN experts and UNICEF shared with participants the evaluation of progress of food fortification and supplementation programs.

70. On 25-29 September 2005 the flourmills from Central Asia countries took place at annual conference of Active Operating Flour Millers (IAOM), which took place in Marrakesh, Morocco. The special sessions on wheat flour fortification were organized by IAOM, Flour Fortification Initiative, CDC and UNICEF. The achievements and future perspectives of the wheat flour fortification in Central Asia were presented. The conference adopted the resolution on further support to quality wheat flour production, wheat flour fortification and strengthening of the cooperation between flour millers.

APPENDIXES

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2.	Consolidated Statement of Accumulated Project Expenditures	19
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Country Investment Plans

		KAZ		KGS		MON		TAJ		UZB	
		JFPR	Other sources	JFPR	Other sources	JFPR	Other sources	JFPR	Other sources	JFPR	Other sources
Component 1. Strengthening the capacity of salt industries and flour mills											
1.1	Equipment and Supplies		649,000	2,625	128,715	7,100	215,000	5,000	857,510	17,500	262,500
1.2	Training, Workshops, Seminars	21,820	24,320	23,000	4,500	36,000		34,000	7,000	31,000	12,100
1.3	Consulting Services	11,000	8,500	1,500		2,400		1,000	4,900	1,200	1,200
1.4	Other Project Inputs	19,900	332,800	14,000	9,000	6,600	23,000	18,100		32,000	15,300
Component 2. Strengthening the capacity of the Governments											
2.1	Equipment and Supplies		22,400	9,200	4,000	16,500	10,000	8,000		14,600	5,200
2.2	Training, Workshops, Seminars	2,000	22,500	20,500	500	21,000		24,200	1,000	12,100	4,800
2.3	Consulting Services	10,900		6,600		12,000		2,200		1,200	500
2.4	Management Costs to Governments		20,000		17,520	5,000	15,000		2,000		6,000
2.5	Other Project Inputs									14,500	10,200
Component 3. Social mobilization/poverty targeting											
3.1	Equipment and Supplies	34,100	40,000	64,500	28,000	28,500		50,000		45,000	10,000
3.2	Training, Workshops, Seminars	26,000	553,000	23,000	32,000	34,500	10,000	22,000		45,750	21,600
3.3	Consulting Services (e.g., for management and monitoring/assessments)	20,000	31,400	7,700	500	4,200		7,000	1,000	4,750	300
3.4	Social Mobilization	55,000	289,400	43,000	30,000	13,000	35,000	52,000		5,000	4,200
3.5	Management Costs to Governments		20,000		9,000		40,000				1,800
3.6	Other Project Inputs					14,000					
Component 4. Project management, monitoring, and evaluation											
4.1	Training, Workshops, Seminars	5,000		6,500		12,000		6,500		5,200	2,000
4.2	Consulting Services (e.g., for management and monitoring/assessments)	12,000		12,600		19,000		16,000		16,000	1,000
4.3	Management and Coordination of this Component	59,580	20,000	36,000	14,000	36,000	36,000	36,000		39,000	4,500
4.4	Other Project Inputs	14,000	45,000	20,275		17,200		10,000		6,200	2,000
Contingency		8,700		9,000		15,000		8,000		9,000	
Total		300,000	2,078,320	300,000	277,735	300,000	384,000	300,000	873,410	300,000	365,200

Statement of Expenditures per Country for July-September 2005

Amount per country (in \$US)

		KAZ	KGS	MON	TAJ	UZB
1	Equipment and Supplies					
	a Quality assurance equipment and supplies for salt industries					
	b Quality Assurance Equipment and Supplies for Flour Mills					
	c Fortification Equipment and Fortificants					
	d Laboratory Equipment for SES or reference laboratory and accessories					
	e Reagents					
	f Laboratory supplies					
	g Fortification equipment for pilot studies					
	h Table fortificant packets					
	i Portable salt test kits for communities and retailers					
	j Communication materials				14,018.99	
2	Training, Workshops, Seminars, Public Campaigns					
	a Regional workshops and seminars for salt enterprise and flour mills			1,841.00		
	b Training fortification technology	2,455.00				
	c Training for laboraroty technicians	2,455.00				
	d Seminars on marketing and business management					
	e Workshops for customs officers		479.09			
	f Workshops on legal enforcement					
	g Training for SES laboratory staff					
	h Regional round table on trade regulations					
	i Advocacy and communication workshops	6,000.00				
	j TV spots and other mass media campaigns			964.77		
3	Consulting Services					
	a Salt industry specialist (domestic)					
	b Flour mill specialist (domestic)	3,590.00				
	c Domestic legal specialist					
	d Kazakhstan Academy of Nutrition (KAN)					
	e Domestic communication consultant	6,600.00	400.00			
	f Other consulting services					
	g Regional communication specialist(KAN)					
	h External audit					
	n Social mobilization by NGOs and households	1,000.00				
	o Pilot activities for poverty targeting	6,700.00				
4	Project Management					
	a Country project office	9,377.33	5,904.53	2,910.78	5,929.39	3,274.75
	b Office space					
	c Government's administration					
	f Central and local government staff time					
5	Other Project Inputs					
	a Market research and consumers survey					
	b Operational studies	1,500.54			711.18	
	c Impact assessment					
	d Website			200.67		
	e Final reports					
7	Contingencies					
	Total	49,677.87	6,783.62	5,917.22	21,243.56	3,274.75

A G E N D A**Information Meeting on JFPR 9052 Project Implementation at Country Level:
Communication, Social Mobilization, Monitoring and Reporting
25-26 August 2005****Wednesday, 24 August 2005**

Arrival of participants at Issyk Kul Hotel (Bishkek).

Thursday, 25 August 2005

Registration of participants and distribution of workshop materials.

09:00-10:00 Informal meeting of Country Project Coordinators

10:00-10:20 Welcome and Opening Remarks. Introduction in the workshop agenda.

RCAO and Mr Gary Gleason, ADB/JFPR Consultant

10:20-11:00 Keynote Address: Beyond Creation of Consumer Demand for Iodized Salt and Flour Fortification in Central Asia (Overview of JFPR 9005 Project achievements and missing)

Mr Gary Gleason, ADB/JFPR Consultant

11:00-11:20 Coffee Break

11:20-13:00 **Session 1: National Communication Strategies: Challenges and Perspectives**

- Presentations of each CPO (20 minutes)
- Questions and answers for each presentation (10 minutes)
- Discussion and conclusive remarks

13:00-14:00 Lunch Break

14:00-16:00 **Session 1: (continuation)**

16:00-16:20 Coffee Break

16:20-18:30 **Session 2: Social Mobilization: Country Vision and Lessons Learned**

Open-ended discussion on the following topics:

- Advertising Fortified Food Products
- Project Advocacy Campaign at national and local levels
- Mobilizing NGOs
- Community Involvement and Shift of Consumers' Demand

**Discussion and conclusive remarks
Friday, 25 August 2005**

08:30-10:30 **Session 3: National Plans on Communication Activities**

- Presentations of each CPO (10 minutes)
- Questions and answers for each presentation (10 minutes)
- Discussion and conclusive remarks

10:30-11:00 Coffee Break

11:00-12:00 **Session 4: Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation of Communication and Social Mobilization Activities**

Open-ended discussion on the following topics:

- Partnership and leadership in food fortification advocacy and communication
- Monitoring and evaluation of communication and social mobilization activities
- Selection and arrangements for local communication consultants
- Regional Communication Team

12:00-13:00 **Session 5: Project Web-site Development and Project Visibility**

- Presentation of revised Project Web-Site(20 minutes)

Ms Akkumis Salkhanova, KAN

- Comments on Country Web-Pages (30 minutes)

Ms Zhanara Tolysbayeva, KAN

- Questions and answers for each presentation (10 minutes)

13:00-14:00 Lunch Break

14:00-16:00 **Session 6: JFPR 9052 Project Implementation Procedures**

RCAO presentation and discussion on the JFPR 9052 Grant Implementation Manual

- Financial Procedures and Reporting
- Selection and Recruitment of Consultants
- National workshops, trainings and operational studies
- Quarterly Progress Reports and Project Implementation Criteria

16:00-16:30 Coffee Break

16:30-17:30 Keynote Address: Food Fortification: Challenges and Progress in central Asia Region

Mr Joseph Hunt, ADB/JFPR Consultant

17:30-19:30 **Session 6: (continuation)**

Closing remarks

Saturday, 26 August 2005

Departure of participants from Bishkek.

FINAL LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**Information Meeting on JFPR 9052 Project Implementation at Country Level:
Communication, Social Mobilization, Monitoring and Reporting
25-26 August 2005****JFPR 9052 COUNTRY PROJECT OFFICES**

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