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**Kyrgyzstan**

Agricultural vocational training for young farmers



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# Kyrgyzstan

## Agricultural vocational training for young farmers

### Country

Kyrgyzstan, Central Asia, former member of the Soviet Union.

### Problem

After the break-up of the Soviet Union, numerous former employees of collectivised agricultural enterprises were founding themselves in a completely new position: from one day to the next they became heads of private farms. Used to working in a centralized system of large-scale agriculture, they were quickly overwhelmed by the problems posed by the management of a small private farm that had to operate productively under completely new circumstances.

In the planned economy they had known before, the problems they were facing had been completely different from the ones they encountered in the a market economy that was introduced after the break-up of the USSR. Neither the knowledge nor the mentality of these new farmers were adapted to the new situation.

### Aims of the project

In response to the new situation and the new challenges the Kyrgyz farmers were - and still are- facing, a new vocational agricultural training program was installed by Helvetas in cooperation with Kyrgyz authorities. The training program in its current form - experiments with shorter cycles are under way - takes three years and consists of theoretical and practical parts, with a primary focus on enabling the (mostly young) farmers to manage their small to medium sized farms in an efficient and professional manner that will allow them to compete on the market with their products.

In this way the project makes a valuable contribution to the country's development and helps people cope successfully with the process of transition from old economic and societal models to new ones the Kyrgyz Republic is still undergoing.

### Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries are the students supported by the project (in average 50 per school); indirectly their (future) workers, families and the communities they live in will profit from their improved capacity and knowledge.

### Start and duration of the project

The project activities to be supported by the contributions raised via Donation Pixel will contribute to the running of the two schools of Kochkor and Ottuk in the Naryn Oblast, during a period of one year (2007).

During the said period the funds will ensure the proper functioning of these two schools as well as the continuous development of modern curricula and adequate teaching materials, and the capacity building of teachers and other pedagogical experts which are an integral part of the program. The funding will also cover professional monitoring and technical support of the project by local and international experts. Furthermore, part of the money will be invested in a credit fund for students starting their own enterprise.

### Amount needed

US\$ 100'800

[further information](#)