



Center for Agribusiness and Rural Development **MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

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CARD AND WORLD VISION TALIN COOPERATE ON IMPROVEMENT OF GENETIC FEATURES

Since April 2011, CARD and World Vision Talin Area Development Project have established genetic units and conducted trainings on artificial insemination in five communities of Aragatsotn marz. The project aims at breeding 250 heads of cattle through specialists of artificial insemination.

In Zovasar, Zarinja, Talin, Nerqin Bazmaberd and Kaqavadzor communities of Talin region, 75 farmers were trained on animal care, cattle genetic improvement, dairy cattle herd management, dairy cattle



milking and artificial insemination.

The World Vision selected these communities as geographical centers so that the adjacent communities could also get use of the services.

Heads of the communities, farmers, veterinarians and specialists of artificial insemination took part in the trainings.

The veterinarians of these communities were taught both theoretical and practical technologies of cattle artificial insemination. The trainings included the advantages of artificial insemination, the technologies of semen selection, maintenance and usage. As a part of the practical trainings in each community CARD specialists implemented 10 demonstrative artificial inseminations of cattle.

The results are evident. There are already 85 heads of inseminated animals. It is intended to continue the work of genetic improvement in Talin region with the increase of the number of communities.

ARMENIA AND POLAND TO ESTABLISH COOPERATION BETWEEN SMES AND LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENTS

Partners for Local Government Foundation (Poznan, Poland), together with CARD Foundation, ICSRD and "Work and Motherland" NGO start implementation of an international project "Armenian SMEs development through increasing activity of local governments from Vayots Dzor region - pilot project." The project is supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland within its Foreign Aid 2011 program, which aims to develop SMEs in Armenia, in particular, the ones operating in the field of eco-business, as well as to foster SMEs and local self-governments cooperation.

The main goal of the project is eco-business development in Vayots Dzor region of Armenia. Due to its high potential, the region can become a good example for other marzes of Armenia to implement similar projects.

Within the project, visits to Armenia and Poland are envisaged. In order to establish appropriate frames of dialogue with entrepreneurs and representatives of local administrations to enable SMEs development in Armenia a one-day "Forum of Co-operation for SMEs Development" and trips to Yeghegnadzor, Vayk and

Areni will be organized.

During the visit to Poland, representatives of local self-governments and partner organizations of Armenia will meet with local government and Polish SME representatives (eco-business – food production and processing, renewable energy sphere and others) of Wielkopolska region to get acquainted with the Polish administrative structure, role of local governments, as well as the Polish experience of implementing similar projects.



Polish aid

STAGE II: STEP BY STEP DEVELOPMENT OF ARMENIA-GEORGIA BORDER AREAS

CARD Foundation (Armenia), CARE International in the Caucasus and CiDA (Georgia) for almost two years now have developed cross-border cooperation within the project “Poverty Reduction and Confidence-building in Border Areas of Georgia and Armenia by Strengthening Civil Societies in Sustainable Rural Development” (STAGE II).

The activities implemented during the project were focused both on developing capacities of the civil society organizations and local government, building dialogues and sharing experiences and knowledge among representatives of both countries.

In March 2011, as a result of Strategic Planning and Policy development consultancies, all three target CSOs – “Shirak Competitiveness Centre”, “Spitak-Farmer” Association and “Yerevak” NGO received essential inputs in developing their internal policies and revisiting their 5-year strategic plans. The workshops were conducted individually in order to maximum meet the needs of each CSO and ensure active participation of their members.

Further, in April 2011, a workshop on Urban Planning was organized for Spitak municipality. This topic was also identified through needs assessment conducted at the beginning of the project. Since 1988 Earthquake, Spitak community has not had architectural layout for the town. Despite some construction work implemented, the town still needs reconstruction, beautification and naming of the streets. This workshop aimed at developing the skills and capacities of the members of Spitak Municipality’s urban planning department.



Together with the consultant, the participants developed the draft of the assignment/ request on the layout of the town.

Two study tours were organized in the frame of the STAGE II Project. In March 2010 the Armenian partners hosted Georgian colleagues and presented their projects and activities in Shirak and Lori regions. On May 2-4, 2011, the Armenian delegation, among them the management of CARD Foundation, representatives of the Ministry of Territorial Administration and regional governments, Mayors of Spitak and Noyemberyan towns and Directors of CSOs visited Georgia.

During the three-day study tour organized by CiDA and CARE international in the Caucasus, the Armenian delegates visited different project sites in Marneuli, Bio-farm and Milk processing facility in Akhalkalaki municipality, met with Rustavi Mayor Zakro Darchiashvili and Advisor to Georgian President Van Baiburt and participated in the Local Economic Forum organized in Tbilisi.

Similar events aim at strengthening the existing links between the partners in Armenia and Georgia and build new networks for cooperation. The project is still in the implementation phase, but the outcomes have already ensured positive impact on the communities benefiting from the STAGE II Project.

“Poverty Reduction and Confidence-building in Border Areas of Georgia and Armenia by Strengthening Civil Societies in Sustainable Rural Development” (STAGE II) Project is financed by the Austrian Development Cooperation and Cooperation with Eastern Europe (ADC) (for more information please visit: www.mfa.at/adc, www.ada.gv.at), implemented by CARE Osterreich and CARE International in the Caucasus, along with the partner organizations – Civil Development Agency (CiDA) in Georgia and Center for Agribusiness and Rural Development (CARD) in Armenia.



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PHYTONCIDE PLANTS: USEFUL COMFORT

Phytodesign is a scientifically grounded method of using plants for the improvement of environment in artificial systems. Its functions include the following: purification of the air from dust, toxic mushrooms, chemical compositions, pathogenic bacteria and viruses, ionization and moisturizing, acoustic absorption, biogenic concentration of the air which have positive influence on human organism, creation of a nice and comfortable environment.

At present there are two scientific directions of phytodesign: ecological and medical. When selecting plants for air purification from chemical gas pollutants, gas absorption characteristics of a plant are studied. To estimate the antimicrobial influence the phytocide activity of volatile discharges is determined. To determine the influence of volatile discharges on human organism, complex medical research is carried out.

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