

# IPM CRSP Trip Report

**Country Visited:** Tajikistan

**Dates of Travel:** October 17 - 21, 2010

**Traveler's Name and Affiliation:** Dr. Karim M. Maredia, Michigan State University

**Sites Visited:** Dushanbe

## Description of Activities:

As a part of the Central Asia Regional IPM project, I visited Tajikistan from October 17 – 21, 2010. The main purpose of my visit was to follow-up on the progress made on various components of the project. I arrived in Dushanbe on the night of October 17.

On October 18 (Monday) morning, I met with Dr. Nurali Saidov, Team Leader and Coordinator of the IPM CRSP project in Tajikistan. A detail discussion on the selection and establishment of IPM Applied Research and Demonstration sites was held with Dr. Saidov. For Wheat IPM, two sites were selected – one in Hissor District (Southern Tajikistan) and the second site in Soug Region in Pitamin District (Northern Tajikistan). In addition, two sites for Potato IPM will be established in Rasht Valley near Kyrgyzstan and in Muminabad District jointly with FAO. Additionally, one site for Tomato IPM will be established in Khurgandtabete region in Bhoktan District. In this area, there is cultivation of tomato crop both in greenhouses and in open fields.

On the afternoon of October 18, I visited the Tajik National University and University of Central Asia campuses both in Dushanbe. At Tajik National University, I met with the President, Dr. Nuruddin Saidovich Saidov and discussed about the potential collaboration with the IPM CRSP project, especially for the Graduate Student Training linked with the Applied Research Sites of Wheat, Potato and Tomato IPM.

I also visited the Dushanbe campus of the newly established University of Central Asia (UCA) and met with Dr. Sharofat Mamadambarova. The UCA Agricultural and Rural development programs will be offered through a new campus in Khorog in the high mountain Pamir region of Tajikistan. The UCA is planning to establish a new Mountain Society Research Center in Khorog and expressed strong interest in collaborating with MSU for faculty development and collaborative research on crops relevant for mountain communities such as Potato.

On October 19 (Tuesday), I met with Mr. Anwar Jalilov, Head of the Plant Protection Department at the Institute of Farming based in Dushanbe. The Institute of Farming has 9 major divisions.

1. Department of Plant Protection
2. Agriculture Machinery and Technology
3. Agrochemicals (Fertilizers)
4. Pasture Crops
5. Maize Breeding and Rice Breeding
6. Seed Multiplication and Seed Distribution (Wheat and Barley)
7. Cotton Breeding Program and Seed Distribution
8. Wheat and Barley Breeding
9. Leguminous Crops.

The Institute of Farming has agreed to provide technical support for the planting and establishment of Wheat IPM Research and Demonstration sites in Hissor Region (South) and Suog Region (North) of Tajikistan.

On October 19, I met with Mr. Nicholas Ahouissoussi, Senior Agricultural Economist at the Europe and Central Asia Region of the World Bank. The World Bank programs in Tajikistan are mainly focusing on water resources and water management.

On the morning of October 20 (Wednesday), I visited the USAID Mission in Dushanbe and met with the Mr. Jeffrey Lehrer (Tajikistan Country Office Director) and Mr. Daler Asrororov (Project Management Specialist/Economic Growth). The USAID Mission was very pleased to hear that IPM CRSP has implemented various training programs (short-term and long-term) for Tajik

Scientists and Researchers. The USAID is currently funding the Family Farming Program (FFP) through the DAI/Winrock Consortium and strongly encouraged MSU to benefit from this program/project.

The USAID Mission Director is very keen to hear the progress on the Applied Research and Demonstration Sites for Wheat, Potato and Tomato crops. The Mission encouraged to work with most underserved regions in Tajikistan (Pamir/Badakhshan region). The Mission also encouraged, Dr. Nurali Saidov to remain in touch with the Agriculture Officer, Mr. Sukhrob Tursunov and keep him informed on the progress on the IPM CRSP project in Tajikistan.

I departed from Tajikistan on Thursday morning, October 21, 2010.

### List of Contacts Made:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title/Organization</b>	<b>Contact Info (address, phone, email)</b>
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