

## **Fifth Annual Life in Kyrgyzstan Conference 2019**

**Organizers:** University of Central Asia (UCA), Kyrgyz Republic  
The Leibniz Institute of Vegetable and Ornamental Crops (IGZ), Germany  
International Security and Development Center (ISDC), Germany  
World Bank

**Venue:** Park Hotel, Orozbekov Str. 87, Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

**Date:** October 23-24, 2019

### **AGENDA (as of Oct 21, 2019)**

#### **DAY 1: Wednesday, October 23, 2019**

08:30-09:00 **Registration of Participants**

09:00 – 09:20 **Opening Remarks**

Bohdan Krawchenko (UCA)  
Charles Edmund Garrett (UK Ambassador)  
Nurbek Jenish (National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic)  
Nurgul Ukueva (American University Central Asia)  
Saida Ismailakhunova (World Bank)  
Tilman Brück (IGZ, ISDC)

09:20 - 10:30 **PLENARY SESSION**

**Keynote Speech by Prof. Louise Grogan**

University of Guelph  
*The Soviet Union and the status of women in Central Asia*  
Moderator and Discussant: Bohdan Krawchenko (UCA)

10:30-11:00 **Coffee Break**

11:00 - 12:30 **Parallel Sessions**

**SESSION 2 Gender and Employment**

Moderator: Nurgul Ukueva (AUCA)

**Kathryn Anderson** (Vanderbilt University), Damir Esenaliev (IGZ/ISDC)  
*Gender earnings inequality and wage policy: teachers, health care and social workers in Central Asia*

**Christian Kelly Scott**, Guangqing Chi (both Pennsylvania State University)  
*Women's entrepreneurship in the Pamir mountains*

**Aselia Sagynbaeva** (International Republican Institute)

*How presence of children influences female entrepreneurship: Evidence from the Kyrgyz Republic*

**SESSION 3 Climate and Agriculture**

Moderator: Kanat Tilekeyev (UCA)

**Ian Canlas**, Marzhan Aikimbaeva (both UCA)

*Livestock and crop production in Kyrgyzstan: Opportunities and challenges in the face of climate change*

**Kadyrbek Sultakeev**, Martin Petrick (both Justus Liebig University Giessen)

*Livestock, poverty and household response to shocks in Kyrgyzstan*

**Maksim Kulikov**, Evgenii Shibkov (both UCA)

*Vegetation trend analysis in Batken oblast of Kyrgyzstan*

**Maksim Kulikov** (UCA)

*Vegetation dynamics in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan*

12:30 – 13:30 **Lunch**

13:30 - 15:00 **Parallel Sessions**

**SESSION 4 Nutrition and Health**

Moderator: Damir Esenaliev (IGZ/ISDC)

**Kanat Tilekeyev** (UCA)

*Situational analysis of health and nutrition issues and food systems in Kyrgyzstan*

**Nazgul Abazbekova** (Mercy Corps)

*Improved water and sanitation systems that impact nutrition and education outcomes for primary grade students in Kyrgyzstan*

Bahrom Mirkasimov, **Alisher Suyunov** (both Westminster International University in Tashkent )

*The relationship between sugar-sweetened beverages consumption and weight gain: Empirical evidence from Central Asia*

**SESSION 5 Household Norms**

Moderator: Tilman Brück

Charles Becker (Duke University), Susan Steiner (C4ED), **Lin Zhao** (Duke University)

*Ala-kachuu husbands and wives*

**Alisher Aldashev** (Satbayev University)

*Social norms, status spending and household debt: Evidence from Kyrgyzstan*

**Namazbai Ishmakhmetov**, Askhat Yktybaev (Independent Researchers)

*Analyzing happiness levels in Kyrgyzstan in relation to socio-economic driving forces*

15:00-15:30 *Coffee Break*

15:30 - 17:00 **Parallel Sessions**

**SESSION 6 Labor Markets and Youth Employment**

Moderator: Kathryn Anderson (Vanderbilt University)

Bahrom Mirkasimov, **Alisher Suyunov** (both Westminster International University in Tashkent )

*Wages, participation and unemployment in the economic transition of Kyrgyzstan*

**Eliza Mandieva**, Sonja Scheuring (both University of Bamberg)

*Determinants of the youth unemployment and NEET in the Kyrgyz Republic*

**Aigul Kantoro kyzy** (UCA)

*Matching skills and education with employment for youth' economic empowerment in Kyrgyzstan.*

**SESSION 7 Distributional Effects of Policies and Institutions**

Moderator: Roman Mogilevskii (UCA)

**Saida Ismailakhunova** (World Bank), Aliya Ismailakhunova (National Academy of Science)

*Distributional impact of inflation in the Kyrgyz Republic*

**Saida Ismailakhunova** (World Bank)

*How progressive is social spending in the Kyrgyz Republic?*

**Tchoro Seyitov** (National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic)

*Informal credits: evidence from a pilot study in the Kyrgyz Republic*

17:30 – 21:00 **Reception at Park Hotel**

**Day 2: Thursday, October 24, 2019**

08:30-09:00 **Registration**

09:00 - 10:30 **Parallel Sessions**

**SESSION 8 Coherence Between Social Protection and Agriculture in the Kyrgyz Republic: Diversifying Livelihoods, Supporting Nutrition, Building Resilience**

Moderator: Armen Sedrakyan (FAO)

**Ana Ocampo** (FAO)

*"Productive Social Contract / Cash plus" pilot: rationale, approach and components*

**Mari Kangasniemi** (FAO)

*Analytical work on "Cash plus" pilot: results from microsimulations and rapid assessment*

**Olivier Appaix** (FAO)

*Analytical work on "Cash plus" pilot: process evaluation results*

**SESSION 9 Gendered Transformation of Family and Community Norms in the Context of Migration**

Moderator: Gulnara Ibraeva ("Pikir Izildoo Laboratory", PIL)

**Asel Myrzabekova** (PIL)

*Religion + migration= radicalization?*

**Gulnara Ibraeva** (PIL)

*New - old elites in community and migration.*

**Gulfia Abdullaeva** (PIL)

*Vulnerabilities and needs of women and girls affected by migration in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan*

10:30 - 11:00 **Coffee break**

11:00 - 12:30 **Parallel Sessions**

**SESSION 10 Regional Cross-Border Trade**

Moderator: Roman Mogilevskii

Rosa Alieva (Westminster International University in Tashkent), **Aida Bolotbekova** (UCA), Zalina Enikeeva (UCA)

*Analysis of cooperation in the tourism sector between Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan: a study of cross-border value chains*

Zehra Waheed (Lahore University of Management Sciences), **Zalina Enikeeva** (UCA)

*Opportunities and challenges for agri-food trade between Kyrgyzstan and Pakistan*

**Zehra Waheed**, Fizzah Malik (both Lahore University of Management Sciences)

*Enhancing Regional Integration and Economic Growth through enhanced Kyrgyzstan-Pakistan Trade: Trade Environment, Infrastructure and Potential*

**SESSION 11 Youth Education and Employment**

Moderator: Kanat Tilekeyev

Kanat Tilekeyev, **Bakytbek Tokubek uulu** (both UCA)

*Analysis of youth labor market trends in Kyrgyzstan*

**Aliia Burkitova** (MSDSP KG)

*Enhancing youth civic and economic participation: Highlights from "Demilgeluu Jashtar" project*

**Beksultan Rustamov** (IDEA Central Asia)

*Engaging youth into community planning through participatory research*

12:30-13:30 **Lunch**

13:30 - 15:00 **Parallel Sessions**

**SESSION 12 Panel Discussion: Migration and Rural Development: Mutually Exclusive or Complementary Relationships?**

Moderator: Irina Kuznetsova (University of Birmingham)

**Nurgul Ukueva** (AUCA)

*Intentional migration and investment decisions in rural Kyrgyzstan*

**Gulnara Ibraeva** (PIL)

*Migration and construction boom in Kyrgyzstan*

**Maksim Kulikov** (UCA)

*Pasture degradation in migration affected areas of Jalal-Abad region*

**Asel Murzakulova** (UCA)

*Migration and Rural Development: The "black box" of the policy.*

**Elena Kim** (AUCA)

*Post-migration 'growth' and 'stress' among returning migrant workers: A patriarchal bargain continued*

### **SESSION 13 Entrepreneurship and Institutions**

Moderator: Bernard Musyck (UCA)

**Kanat Tilekeyev** (UCA)

*Main trends of the SME development in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan*

**Olga Sayfulloeva** (Khorog State University)

*The role of micro, small and medium entrepreneurship in the mountainous areas of Central Asia: the case of Tajikistan*

**Gulzana Kurmanalieva** (Naryn State University)

*The role of micro, small and medium entrepreneurship in the mountainous areas of Central Asia: the case of Kyrgyzstan*

**Ilias Mamadiarov** (INALCO/French Institute for Central Asian Studies)

*Trust and informal financial institutions in Central Asia: the case of Kyrgyzstan*

15:00 – 15:30 **Coffee Break**

15:30 - 16:30 **Parallel Sessions**

### **SESSION 14 Social and Economic Impact of Migration**

Moderator: Zalina Enikeeva (UCA)

**Nargiza Abdyrakhman kyzy** (AUCA)

*The impact of labor migration to Russia on the status of kelin in rural Kyrgyzstan*

**Jodar Joldoshov** (Independent Researcher)

*International labor migration and remittances in Kyrgyzstan: Evidence from the Life in Kyrgyzstan Survey*

### **SESSION 15 Social Capital and Institutions**

Moderator: Aida Bolotbekova (UCA)

Evangelia Papoutsaki (UCA), **Elira Turdubaeva** (AUCA)

*Exploring remoteness and social capital through community media in Kyrgyzstan*

**Lidija Budisa** (Helvetas Kyrgyzstan)

*Functional area assessment for inter-municipal cooperation*

16:30 - 16:40 **Concluding Remarks**