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Climate Change, Rural Poverty and Food and Nutrition Nexus in Kyrgyzstan



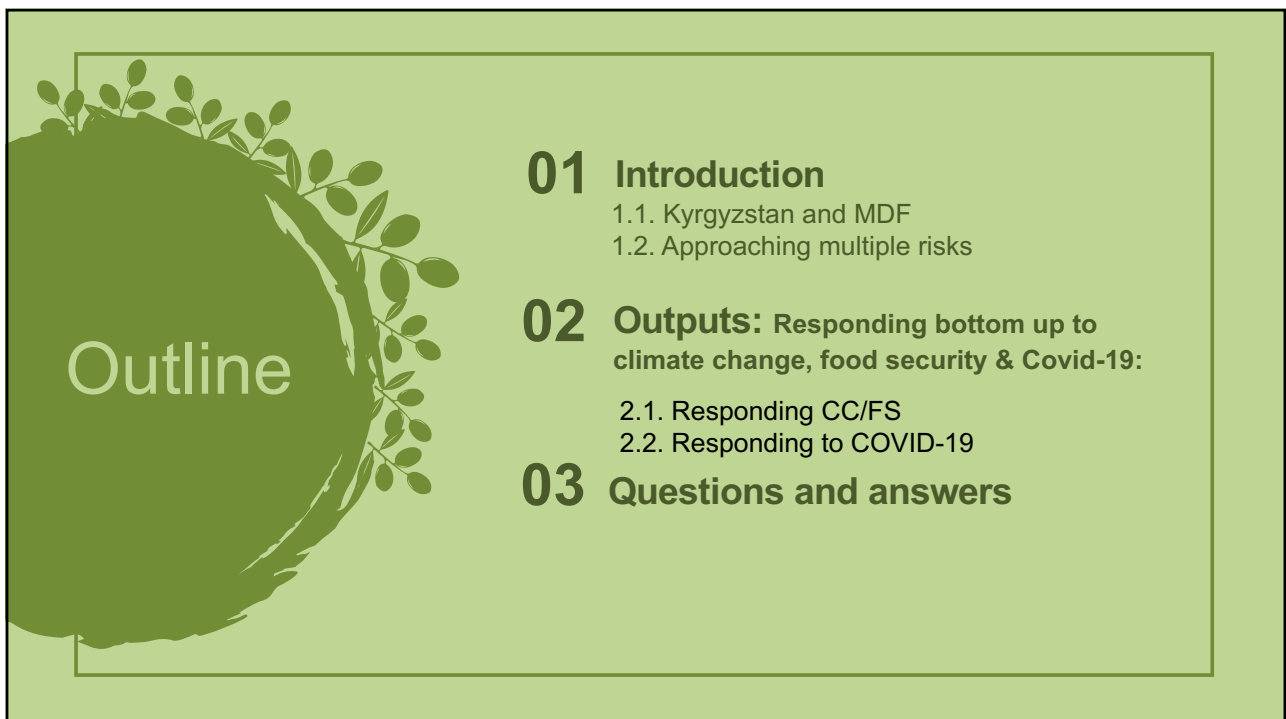
Increasing the resilience and reducing vulnerability of smallholders

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27 October, 2020

Life in Kyrgyzstan Conference

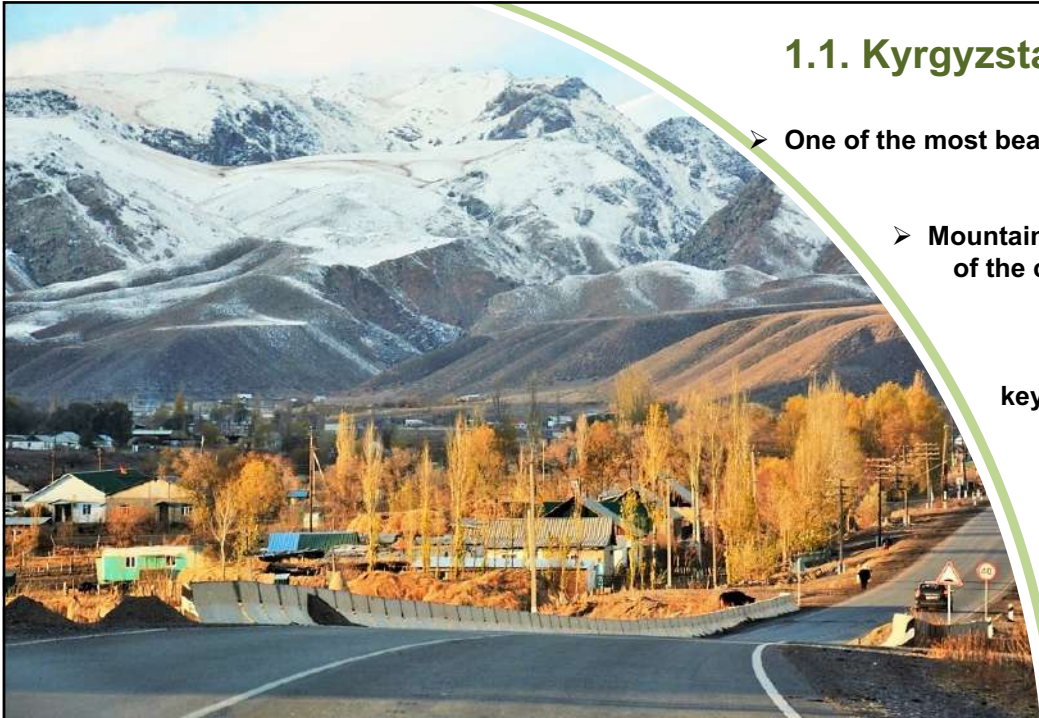
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Outline

- 01 Introduction**
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 - 1.2. Approaching multiple risks
- 02 Outputs: Responding bottom up to
climate change, food security & Covid-19:**
 - 2.1. Responding CC/FS
 - 2.2. Responding to COVID-19
- 03 Questions and answers**

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1.1. Kyrgyzstan and MDF

- One of the most beautiful countries in Central Asia
- Mountains cover over 80% of the country and large Alpine lakes.
- Agriculture is key economic sector

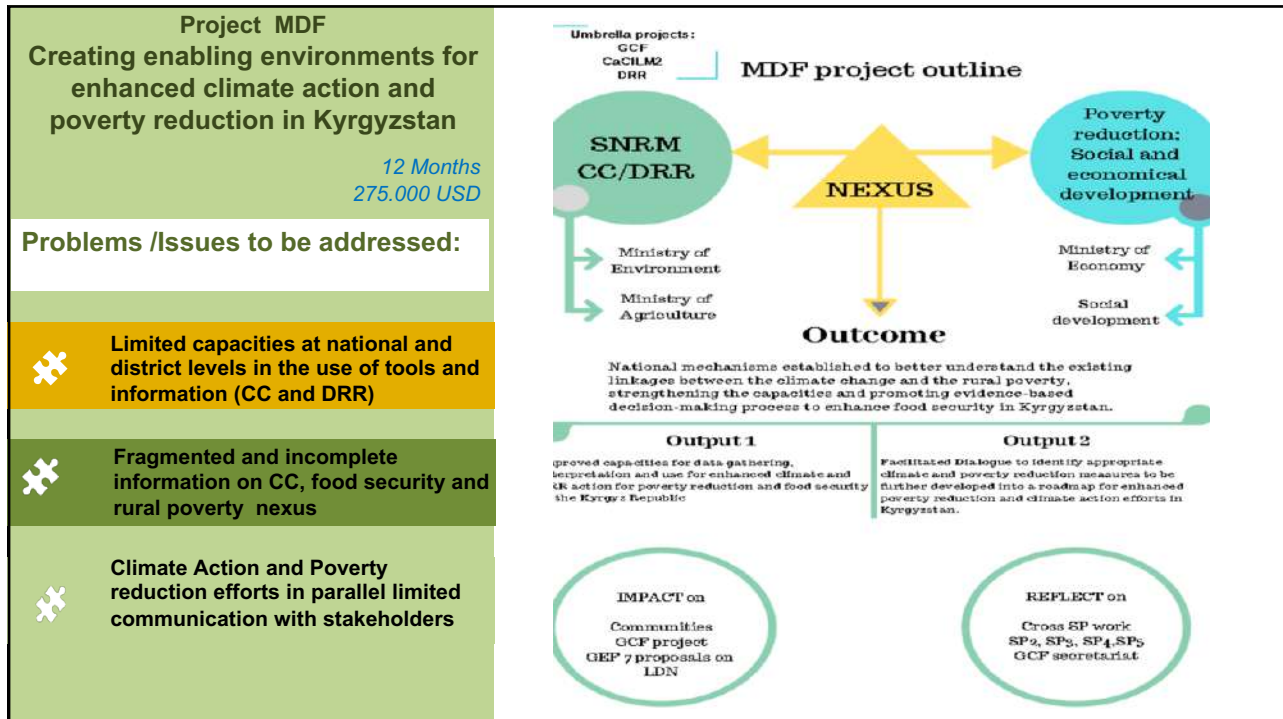
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1.1. Kyrgyzstan and MDF

- Kyrgyzstan is highly vulnerable to the effects of CC
- 25.6 % of population live below min. subsistence level.
- 70% of the poor population live in rural areas.
- Country is preparing for the deployment of important climate finance resources from the Green Climate Fund

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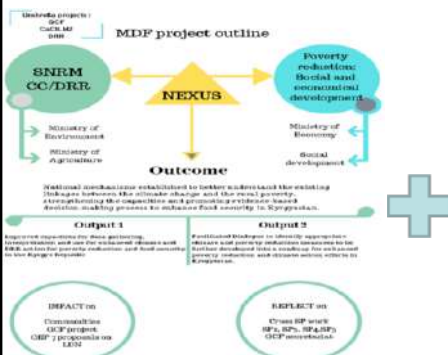
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1.2. The project: Addressing multiple risks

- **2019 September** started the implementation REU/RI3, CO, ADI.

Participatory approach - Ak-Talaa, Batken

- **2020 March** Combating CC and COVID-19




budget re allocation

MDF-1
FAO-ADI-WFP

Increasing the resilience and reducing vulnerability of smallholders Ak-Talaa, Suzak, Nookat, Batken, Leilek




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Research Survey of Ak-Talaa District, 2019.

Results and Findings

*Kanat Tilekeyev, National
Expert*



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Research Survey of Ak-Talaa District, 2019- Results and Findings

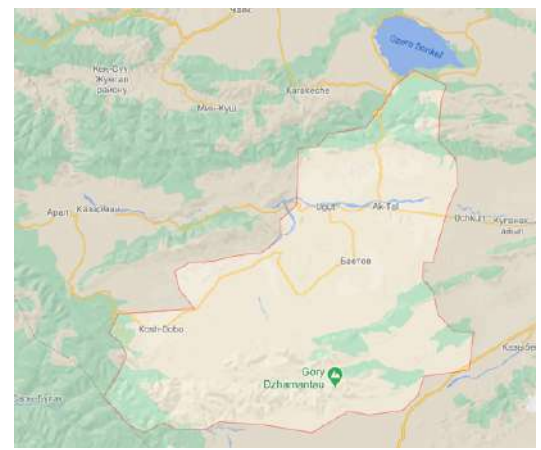
Study Idea and Goal

Main idea of the research is to analyze impact of **climate change** on: **Poverty**, Agriculture, Food and nutrition security, Migration, Market (districts' economy)

Study was implemented in 2019.

It covers 13 villages from all Aiyl Aimaks.

Sample size - 259 HHs, 1395 people.



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Research Survey of Ak-Talaa District, 2019- Results and Findings

Population

Share of males (51.9 %) higher than that of females (48.1%)

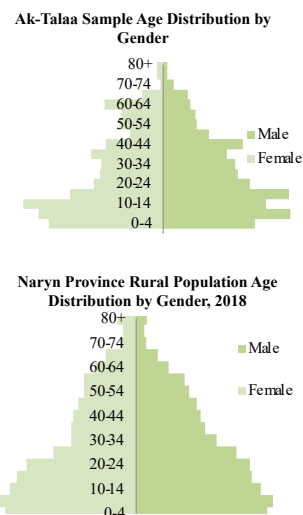
Average household size - 5.4 persons

In each household:

- 2 people under working age (36.8 %),
- 3 persons in the working age (55.1%),
- 0.4 people (8% only) above working age.

Household heads - primarily men (85 %), average age -48.7 y., 94.5 % are married .

Female household heads - 59.3 y., mainly widows – 87%



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Research Survey of Ak-Talaa District, 2019- Results and Findings

Agricultural land

94.2% of all rural households have access to agricultural land

Five agricultural lands: irrigated (58%) and non-irrigated (3%) arable lands, hayfields (34%), gardens (0.1%) and kitchen gardens (5%)

Most popular lands: irrigated arable land (66.8%), average size - 2 ha; kitchen garden (64.9%) average size of 16.8 – are, hayfields - important (37.1%); gardens - minor (6.6% of the respondents)

77% of farmers - assess their agricultural land quality 22% of them assess their lands as good and excellent

42% of them report about the average quality of their lands and 8% informs that land is bad.

Livestock

Cattle and sheep -main livestock production activities in the area.

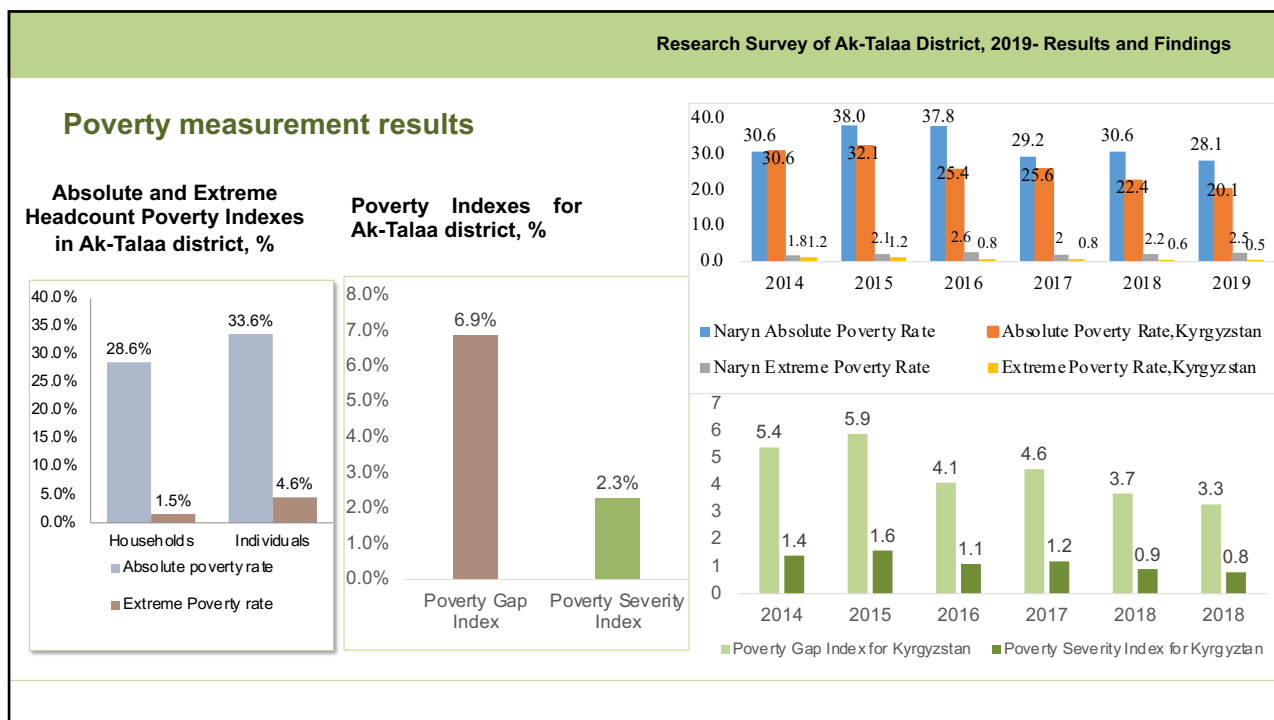
Most popular animals are sheep and cows (86 and 81% accordingly).

Third position held by goats – 61% of all households in Ak-Talaa has goats.

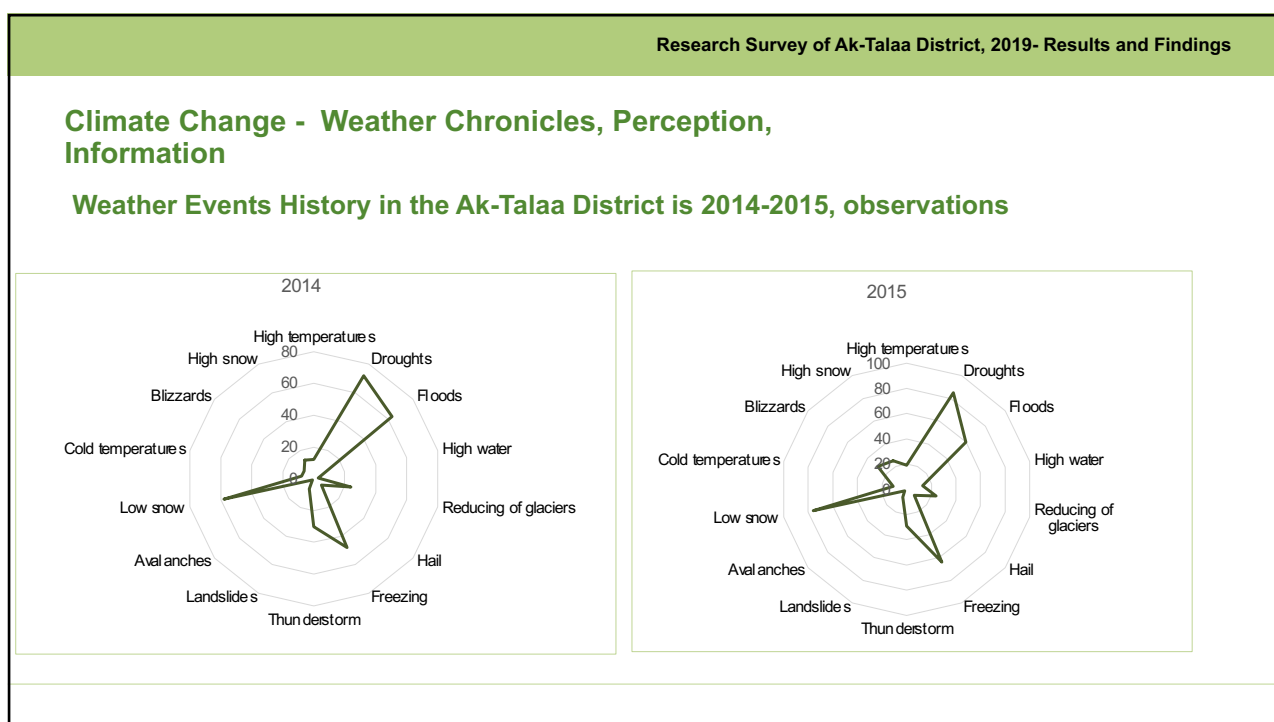
Horses are kept in fourth place by their popularity (52%). Only 37% of farmers keep poultry.

Average herd of cattle - 8 heads, sheep – 31.7, goats – 9.7 and horses - 5.7.

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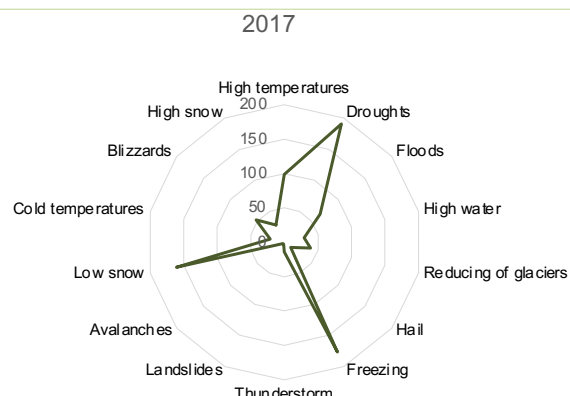
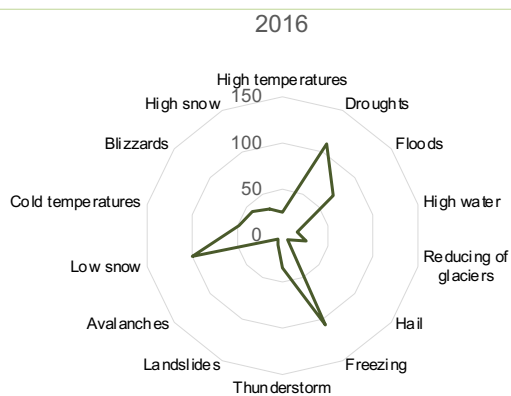


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Research Survey of Ak-Talaa District, 2019- Results and Findings

Climate Change - Weather Chronicles, Perception, Information

Weather Events History in the Ak-Talaa District is 2016-2017, observations

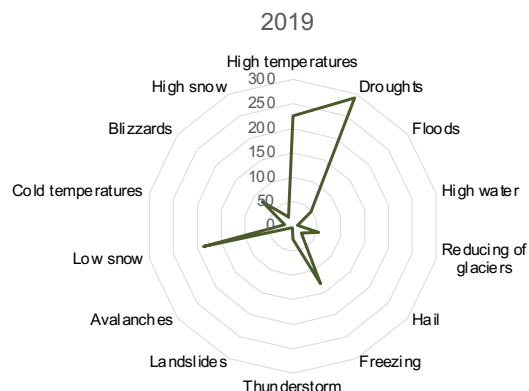
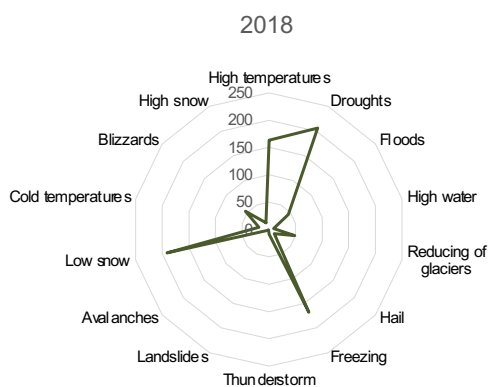


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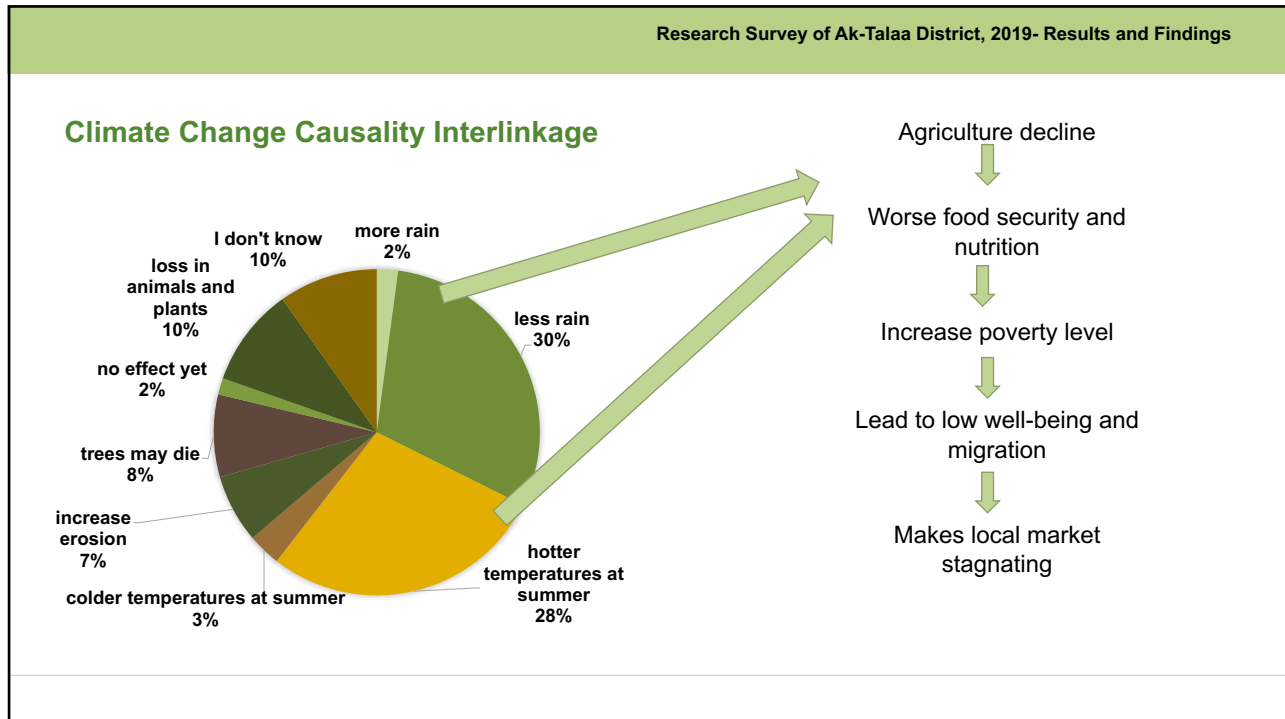
Research Survey of Ak-Talaa District, 2019- Results and Findings

Climate Change - Weather Chronicles, Perception, Information

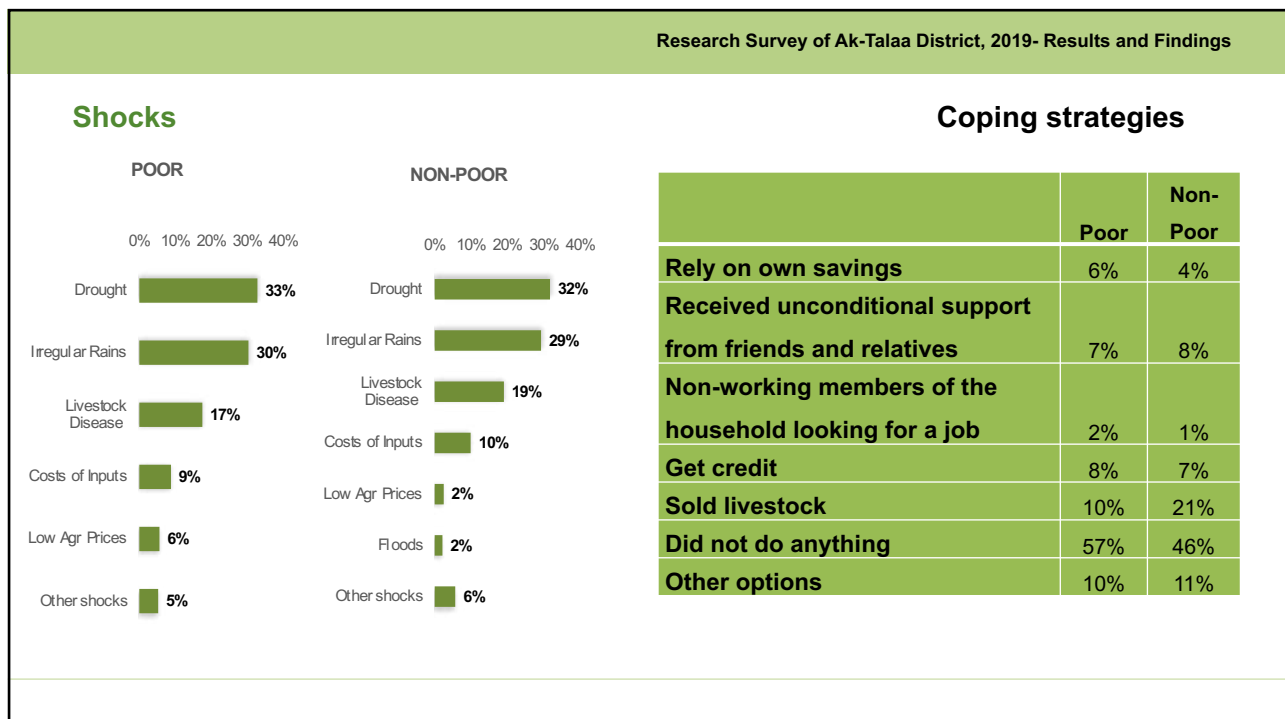
Weather Events History in the Ak-Talaa District is 2018-2019, observations



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Research Survey of Ak-Talaa District, 2019- Results and Findings

Conclusions

- Climate shocks increasing over time in Ak-Taala and affect negatively on rural population
- Agriculture – droughts, floods, unpredictable weather limits agricultural production
- Food nutrition and security – depends from the purchased products
- Poverty – low productivity and agricultural losses destroy the wealth of the local people. Poverty rate and inequality higher – compare to regional poverty indices

Recommendations

1. Further analysis of the impact of climate shocks need to be continued. Local development plans adopted to the improving the situation.
2. New crops, plants and trees resistant to the climate change may improve nutrition patterns.
3. Knowledge and capacity building may reduce vulnerability of local people.
4. Technological decisions designed for small scale production may increase resistance of farmers.

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Outputs: Responding bottom up to climate change, food security & Covid-19:

- 2.1. Responding CC/FS
- 2.2. Responding to COVID-19



Frost and mudflow in spring 2020 and Closed borders and markets due to COVID-19 increased vulnerability of small farmers



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Community Climate Adaptation plan

- Analysis of local context, CC risks & vulnerability
- Creating local CC council
- Participatory development of climate community adaptation plan with FAO consultants
- Community CC adaptation plan consist all local initiatives and activities of various partners (state, municipal, donors)
- Implementation by local administration under CC local council supervision



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Policy and regulatory Support :

- **Assessment** on the potential synergies between the different government institutions
- **Roadmap** for enhanced climate action and poverty reduction efforts in Kyrgyzstan



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Responding bottom up to climate change, FSN

Workshops at national and local levels

National Workshop of MDF Project
September 11, 2019

Pre-validation workshop of the draft Assessment Report on socio-economic impact of climate change to rural poverty in Ak-Talaa district - December 4, 2019

National Training on Disaster Damage and Loss Assessment in Agriculture and Monitoring of the Agriculture Loss Indicators of the Sendai Framework and SDG Agenda
November 11-14, 2019

Validation workshop of the survey in Ak-Talaa district
December 24, 2019

Technical assistance to Ak-Talaa district, Naryn:

5 PCs, 5 UPS, 1 multifunctional printer, 1 colored printer and 1 digital camera. The equipment was handed over to key beneficiaries.



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CAPACITY BUILDING OF LOCAL PARTNERS

- Climate Change nexus Social Protection, Migration, Agriculture (Naryn, Dec.2019)
- GIS and its application (Bishkek, Sep.2019, Naryn Nov. 2020, Batken March 2020)
- Adaptation Technologies to Climate Change (Naryn, March 2020)
- Consultation on developing adaptation plan (February-June, 2020, Ak-Talaa & Batken)





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COVID-19 IMPACT SURVEY /September-October, 2020/



Main objectives:

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To assess the impact of COVID-19 on the activities of farmers, on the food security of their families and to study their coping strategies. With special focus on migrant's and women headed families and the most suffered from climate shocks (snowfall, frost, flood).
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To develop recommendations at the local level on resilience plans based incorporated with local development plans.
- 

To develop recommendation for MoA on policy and COVID-19 consequences responds to support smallholder farmers

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Assistance to vulnerable farmers with vegetable seeds

- **1140** vulnerable farmers' families of 5 districts who didn't get opportunity to buy seeds and who lost seedling from frost and mudflow.
- Local varietal seeds were provided by local farmers from seed custodian network "**Dyikan Murasy**".
- Hybrid seeds were provided from seed companies for free.
- **UN WFP** provided food assistance to project beneficiaries (flour, vegetable oil).



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ToT for experienced farmers to be agro-mentors



Certified training online course (72 academic hours) for experienced farmers to be agro-mentors in remote villages



The proposed topics are based on training need assessment, conducted by project in June 2020

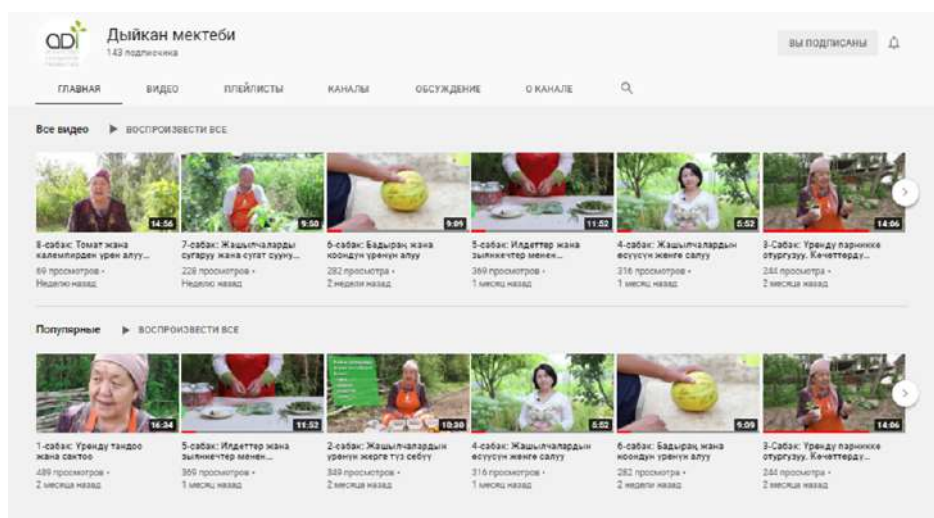


Programme developed together with Kyrgyz National Agrarian University that allow to provide state certificate

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Online Farmers' School (YouTube channel)

- YouTube channel was created
- 8 video-tutorials were developed, 3 more are under development



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