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Supporting Smallholder
Farmers in Asia and Pacific
Islands Region through
Strengthened Agricultural
Advisory Services
(SAAS Project)

BEST PRACTICE NOTES



IT SOLUTION FOR IMPROVING THE EFFICIENCY OF THE RAW MILK SUPPLY CHAIN IN KAZAKHSTAN

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5 Key Points

1. Challenges and constraints

- Not enough milk collection centers
- Lack of linkages between dairy stakeholders

2. Objective

Collect Mobile is a free and open source mobile application devised to improve the milk production and collection system of the dairy sector.

3. Methodology

- Field based surveys
- Stakeholder engagement
- Capacity development

4. Highlight of result

The technology yields benefits for all the stakeholders, resulting in higher income for farmers and overall improvement in milk production and quality.

5. Highlight recommendation

Continuous capacity development activities for stakeholders and further developments in the mobile platform.

Introduction

- Dairy is the second largest agricultural sub-sector in Kazakhstan. With the demand growing higher than production can meet, the country lacks enough milk collection centers to cater to the needs of milk producers and milk processors, resulting in the decline in milk quality, availability, as well as high logistics costs and risk of spoilage. The lack of direct linkages between stakeholders also makes difficult for one another to communicate industry-related challenges.
- To support the needs of the national dairy sector, the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) developed Collect Mobile, a mobile application that provides a better milk collection system and direct communications between suppliers and processors. Collect Mobile is part of the OpenForis Suite, a mobile platform developed for the Forestry sector.
- The project has been implemented in Kazakhstan, catering to farming households, small and medium dairy farms as well as dairy companies (processors).
- Through Collect Mobile, milk processors are able to generate accurate data on milk availability and geo-locate raw milk suppliers via GPS, allowing for better management of hundreds of milk producers as well as a more optimal product collection, transportation and storage system. It also fosters direct interaction across dairy stakeholders, enabling them to diagnose and solve industry-related problems.
- Implementation of the technology resulted in robust sales for farmers, now with direct access to factories and industry information; enhanced supply chain management for milk processors and overall improvement in milk quality.