

Sub-program (Target Priority Area)	2. Strengthening Policy Making Capacity for Economic Development
Component (CP) (Development Issues)	2-2. Agriculture / Regional Development / Environment
Expected Research Areas	Agricultural Policy, Food Safety, Livestock Epidemics, Agricultural Machinery, Farmers' Organizations, Agricultural Economy, Local Government, Regional Development, Economic Development Projects in the Area
Accepting University	University of Tsukuba (2) GS of Science and Technology Master's Program in Environmental Science (SUSTEP Program) - Master of Environmental Sciences <u>If applicants do not fulfill a regular period of school education (16 years from primary school to university), the eligibility will be assessed.</u>
<u>Purpose of the Study:</u>	
<p>While more than 60% of the population in the Kyrgyz Republic lives in rural areas, with 29.3% of the labor population working in agriculture, the ratio of agriculture in the GDP is decreasing annually, down to approximately 13.2% in 2017. The development of the sector stagnated due to several problems such as (1) fragmentation of farming and the insufficient development of agricultural cooperatives to increase production (large number of smallholding farmers, with an average farm size of 2.7 ha per household emerged as the result of the dissolution of the Soviet-era's state farms (kolkhozy, sovkhozy); (2) reduced soil fertility, (3) insufficient farm machinery, (4) poor irrigation facilities, (5) poor animal health and lack of an effective veterinary system, and (6) lack of access to the necessary financial resources. There is no system for promoting farming techniques, and the lack of a price formation system or distribution system that could give incentives to producers are also reasons for the agricultural slump. Kyrgyzstan is now the member of Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) and the issues of improving the quality, export competitiveness of agricultural products, developing the capacity of regional agricultural producers became very important.</p> <p>In the DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM OF KYRGYZ REPUBLIC FOR the period 2018-2022 "UNITY, TRUST, CREATION" which was announced in April 2018, Agro industrial sector was noted as one of the development of strategic branches of economy. In this policy, the priority direction of the Government's policy will be the state support for production and processing of agricultural products, which create high value added and are labor-intensive. Target orients for the development of the industry will be growth in production volumes and its efficiency, improvement of the quality of agricultural products, provision of country's food security, building the capacity of the processing industry. Therefore it is necessary to foster administrative officials who will tackle those challenges and achieve targets of the country.</p>	