

INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR AGRIBUSINESS  
RESEARCH AND EDUCATION



# Project References

*March 2018*

International Center for Agribusiness Research  
and Education (ICARE) Foundation

***Anna Yeritsyan, Research Director***

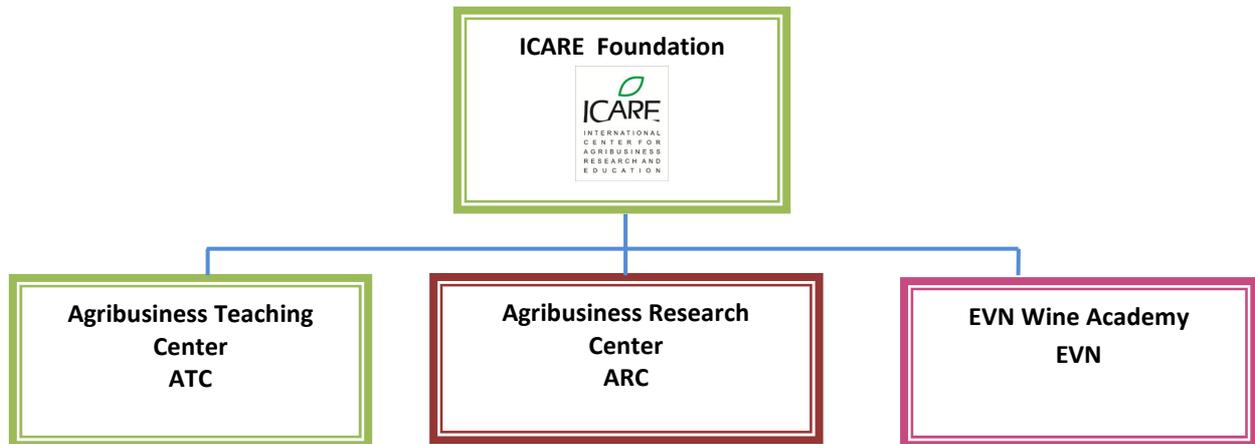
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The **International Center for Agribusiness Research and Education (ICARE)** Foundation is an Armenian non-governmental and non-commercial organization established in Yerevan, Armenia in April 2005 by Texas A&M University. The ICARE now administers the Agribusiness Teaching Center (ATC) operating within the Armenian National Agrarian University (ANAU) since 2000, as well as the Agribusiness Research Center (ARC) and the EVN Wine Academy (EVN).



ICARE professionals have extensive research experience in the Agribusiness field starting from 2000. Research topics include, but are not limited to comprehensive assessment of agricultural products value chains, sustainability of agricultural production in Armenia, market assessment and development for organically grown produce, economic efficiency analysis, project monitoring and evaluations, impacts of the global financial and economic crisis on the agro-food sector, consultancies for improvement of agricultural production and marketing process, calculation of food waste and loss and many others.

ICARE has great teaching capacity and rich experience in conducting trainings and providing short term seminars in fields of Sustainability of Agricultural Production in Armenia, Financial literacy for farmers, Role of Cooperatives in rural development, Cooperative Management and Principles, Farmers Markets, Agro processing and agro production, Resource Efficiency and Profitability and other topics. ICARE also hosts EVN Wine Academy, the first training center in Armenia that offers a wide platform for structural and recreational learning about wine, winemaking and wine business.

Major clients list includes governmental organizations such as the U.S. Embassy, USDA, Ministry of Agriculture of Armenia, Ministry of Education and Science of Armenia as well as numerous non-governmental and international organizations such as the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), The World Bank, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Center for Agribusiness and Rural Development (CARD), Federation of Agricultural Associations (FAA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), etc.

During different projects ICARE partnered with the Texas A&M University, the Central Bank of Armenia, Swiss College of Agriculture, Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Central & Eastern Europe, European Research Institute on Cooperative and Social Enterprises, Viva-Cell MTS, Euroquality, SBFIC, German Agency for International Cooperation, Swiss Cooperation Office in South Caucasus and many others.

## Wild Harvest Sector Assessment and Training Development

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: 7 months, <b>2017-2018</b>
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Name of the client: <b>IFC</b> (within the scope of the Armenia Gender Project)	Staffing: <b>5</b>
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The study aims to support the Government to design a strategy for the wild harvest sector by conducting an in-depth technical analysis of the value chain to understand key issues and constraints to a more effective participation of women in the value chains. Steages in project implementation included: evaluation of wild harvest skills of individuals and groups, as well as identification of wild harvest practices and methods utilized, Identification of skills gap of wild collectors, and composing the training manual for wild collection. The project also includes component of policy support to Ministry of Agriculture for improvements in the wild-harvest sector's regulatory environment that in turn will support inclusion of more women in formal decision making.

## Pre-Study on value chains in Aragatsotn and Shirak Marzes

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: 2 months, <b>2017</b>
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Name of the client: <b>Swedish Public Employment Service</b> (within the scope of “Strengthening current and future employment and self-employment programmes through sustainable value chain management systems under the Migration Resource Centres and Local Centres of the State Employment Agency” project)	Staffing: <b>8</b>
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The purpose of the assignment is to investigate economic development opportunities in Aragatsotn and Shirak regions and assess the skills that migrants and potential migrants in the regions should possess to successfully get involved in labor market in their region and in Armenia in general. Within the scope of the project agricultural and tourism sectors prospective value chains were mapped and recommendations on activities and infrastructure development necessary for closing the chain were provided. Framework of the online platform to evaluate the possible business opportunities was developed and handed to State Employment Services of the RA.

## Pre-Study on Creative Employment Opportunities in Armenia

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: 4 months, <b>2017</b>
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Name of the client: <b>GIZ</b> (within the scope of “Private Sector Development South Caucasus”)	Staffing: <b>7</b>
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The purpose of the assignment is to assess the creative sector in Armenia, identify the Creative jobs that are interesting to focus on particularly for Syrian Armenian integration, and to reveal the sector specific issues, such as needs for skills development and the significance of

intellectual property rights for the sector development.

## Development of the Organic Agriculture Master's program for the Armenian National Agrarian University

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: 36 months, <b>2017-2020</b>
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Name of the client: <b>APPEAR</b> (Austrian Development Cooperation)	Staffing: <b>5</b>
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In collaboration with the BOKU (University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna), ICARE research division is developing Organic Agriculture curriculum for introduction to the ANAU Masters level studies. The scope of the Project is to strengthen institutional capacities in higher education as well as academic research and management in Armenia. The project involves organic agriculture sector assessment and study program development in collaboration with ANAU and BOKU faculty and staff.

## Accounting Consultancy Services

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: 11 months, <b>2016 -2017</b>
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Name of the client: <b>UNIDO</b> (within the scope of “ENPARD Technical Assistance: Producer Group and Value Chain Development”)	Staffing: <b>3</b>
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The purpose of the assignment is to train accountants of established agricultural cooperatives to ensure compliance of the statements they file with the regulations set by the RA Law on Agricultural Cooperatives.

The project aims to strengthen producer groups, effectively engage producer groups in value addition activities, strengthen value chains that provide improved access to affordable, better quality food, contribute to the development of rural areas, improve access to local and international markets, and ensure the introduction of environmentally-friendly farming and food processing practices.

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### Development of training programs in greenhouse crop production management

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: 5 months, <b>2016 -2017</b>
Name of the client: <b>International Finance Corporation of the World Bank (within the scope of the Armenia Investment Climate Project)</b>	Staffing: <b>4</b>
The purpose of the assignment is: - Thorough study of Armenian greenhouse sector needs and capacities; - Development of study modules for “Greenhouse Management”	

### The assessment of and recommendations for staff appraisal systems and training needs analysis for the Ministry of Agriculture of the RA

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: 2 months, <b>2016</b>
Name of the client: <b>Food and Agriculture Organization</b>	Staffing: <b>14</b>
The main objective of the assignment is supporting the Ministry of Agriculture and adjacent agencies personnel to run more effective working practices that will result in successful implementation of Sustainable Agricultural Development Strategy. This assumes suggestions on human resources training and development systems within the MoA and its relevant agencies, that are effective and in line with European best practices.	

### Capacity development needs assessment of OASI stakeholders/institutions

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: 6 months, <b>2016</b>
Name of the client: <b>Organic Agriculture Support Initiative</b> (project of Austrian Development Cooperation and EU Delegation in Armenia)	Staffing: <b>7</b>
The purpose of the assignment is to: - Facilitate a comprehensive capacity needs assessment revealing the existing capacity development needs, challenges and gaps in terms of organic agriculture and identify possible; - Develop a capacity development strategy/plan based on the assessment results, indicating both short and long-term requirements of all stakeholders.	

### Composing activities flowcharts for primary agricultural commodities in

<b>Armenia</b>	
Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: 3 months, <b>2016</b>
Name of the client: <b>Business Finance Consulting</b> (within the scope of the KFW “Support for the financing of the agriculture sector in Armenia” project)	Staffing: <b>6</b>
The aim of the project is development of agricultural flowcharts (technological cards) for 71 primary agriculture commodities cultivated in Armenia. The developed flowcharts are then used by Armenian financial institutions to be utilized in the process of lending to agricultural clients.	

<b>Stocktaking of Policies and Legal Framework for Organic Agriculture in Armenia</b>	
Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: 1 months, <b>2016</b>
Name of the client: <b>Austrian Development Cooperation (OASI)</b>	Staffing: <b>2</b>
The aim of the project is identification of all policies, laws and standards regulating organic agriculture, including production, processing, export, and import in Armenia. As a result of desktop study and number of industry expert interviews, major differences between Armenian laws and internationally accepted regulations were identified and further policy recommendations were drawn.	

<b>Sustainable Fisheries for Efficient Water Reuse in Armenia (within the scope of USAID PEER projects)</b>	
Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>2015-2018</b>
Name of the client: <b>National Academy of Science (USA)/ USAID</b>	Staffing: <b>5</b>
The main goal of the project is preservation and efficient use of water resources in the Ararat Valley. The project includes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Analysis of targeted fish farms in Ararat Valley to address the issues related to improving water quality and increasing efficiency of water use.</li> <li>2. Revealing the potential to improve discharge water distribution efficiency and discharge water quality for targeted fish farms to agricultural plots in Ararat Valley.</li> <li>3. Analysis of current regulatory framework and recommendations for improved policy for water usage in fish farm production systems and for better management of discharge water.</li> </ol>	

## **Agriculture Investment Guide**

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>7 months, 2015</b>
Name of the client: <b>Swiss Cooperation Office, South Caucasus</b>	Staffing: <b>4</b>
<p>The aim of this project was to promote investments in the agriculture sector through increasing awareness on investment opportunities in the agricultural sector. It entails design and publishing of an investment guide that would elaborate on investment opportunities in the agricultural sector.</p>	

<b>Innovation for Agricultural Training and Education / Armenia</b>	
Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>5 years, 2014-2018</b>
Name of the client: <b>United States Agency for International Development (USAID)</b>	Staffing: <b>3</b>
<p>The project mission is to develop the human and institutional capacity necessary to promote the rural innovations needed to achieve sustainable food security, reduce poverty, conserve natural resources and address other rural problems. InnovATE/Armenia partnership will reinforce ICARE human and institutional capacity in instruction, research, outreach, and program, administration. InnovATE is managed by the Office of International Research and Development at Virginia Tech, which works in partnership with University of Florida, Pennsylvania State University, Tuskegee University.</p>	

<b>Exploring the potential for agricultural and biomass trade in the Commonwealth of Independent States</b>	
Target country (region): <b>CIS countries</b>	Project duration: <b>36 months, 2014</b>
Name of the client: <b>EU Commission</b>	Staffing: <b>4 people</b>
<p>AGRICISTRADe includes partners and collaborators from 13 countries and contributes to the analysis of the present situation, the potentials and the projection of future agri-food developments. This project will improve the understanding of present agricultural and food processing sectors in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) by collecting and evaluating statistical data and related policies. One of the objectives of the project is to explore developments in agricultural supply chains within the WP “Explore CIS competitive chains in food and biomass on international markets”</p>	

<b>Certificate Program in Enology and Wine Business</b>	
Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>2 years, 2014-2016</b>
Name of the client: <b>GIZ, German Society for International Development</b>	Staffing: <b>3</b>
<p>The aim of this project was to establish a Certificate Program in Enology and Wine Business. This is an 18-month program, including the industry internship, open for all applicants pursuing</p>	

a career in winemaking and wine business.

### Establishment of Enology Lab

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>10 months, 2014-2015</b>
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Name of the client: <b>GIZ, German Society for International Development</b>	Staffing: <b>2</b>
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Support the equipment of a professional enological laboratory in the meet of objectives of the "Enology and Wine Business" educational program. The aim of the laboratory will be to educate students in basic wine chemistry and enology. The enological laboratory will provide services to Armenian wineries - conduct courses for professionals and additional basic enological analysis.

### Agro Insurance in Armenia and Georgia – Data Collection for Country Risk Profile

Target country (region): <b>Armenia, Georgia</b>	Project duration: <b>1 month, 2015</b>
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Name of the client: <b>BFC</b>	Staffing: <b>5</b>
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The aim of the project is data collection with the purpose of compiling Country Risk Profile for agricultural insurance. Tasks implemented include providing statistical data on production of main groups of agricultural commodities, presenting climatic maps and giving an overview of climate changes that might affect agricultural production volumes. GIS maps and projections were implemented to forecast the production of selected agricultural commodities.

### INT.RE.COOP - International Research Exchange on Cooperatives

Target country (region): <b>Armenia, Georgia</b>	Project duration: <b>2012-2015</b>
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Coordinator: <b>Euricse</b>	Staffing: <b>3</b>
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INT.RE.COOP will enlarge the Research Network established by RECOSET. Partners' diverse research expertise (in economics; development studies; applied economics; sociology; law; management and business administration) and geographic specialization (EU/AC, CIS; North America; Latin America), will ensure that a multidisciplinary and international approach is adopted and comparative analyses across sectors and countries are carried out, given the goal of developing policy recommendations on how to support the growth of cooperatives where they show competitive advantages.

### The Global Food Crisis – Impact on Wheat Markets and Trade in the Caucasus and Central Asia and the Role of Kazakhstan, Russia and Ukraine

Target country (region): <b>Caucasus and Central Asia</b>	Project duration: <b>2012-2015</b>
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Name of the client: <b>World Bank</b>	Staffing: <b>4</b>
The research project investigates wheat markets in the Caucasus and Central Asia and the major supplier countries of this region, namely Kazakhstan, Russia and Ukraine (KRU) against the background of the on-going global food crisis. Long-term rising prices and increasing price volatility on the world markets for agricultural raw materials have considerably affected the countries in Central Asia and the Caucasus.	

<b>Baseline Study of the Armenian Wine Sector</b>	
Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>2 months, 2014</b>
Name of the client: <b>GIZ</b>	Staffing: <b>6</b>
The purpose of the study was to present the baseline situation of the wine sector in Armenia, including the current state of wine producing companies, the ease of operating in the market, relations across the value chain, further development expectations, as well as possible collaboration with other institutions and career prospective of graduates.	

<b>External Review and Appraisal of the Law of Agricultural Cooperatives</b>	
Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>4 months, 2014</b>
Name of the client: <b>Swiss Cooperation Office, South Caucasus</b>	Staffing: <b>3</b>
The aim of the project was to conduct an international assessment and analysis of the draft law on agricultural cooperatives. It was necessary to ensure that the law was consistent with the basic principles of respective international legislation.	

<b>Resource Efficiency Management System for Canneries</b>	
Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>4 months, 2014</b>
Name of the client: <b>The Pragma Corporation Armenian Branch</b>	Staffing: <b>2</b>
Objective of this activity was to assist local experts to examine and highlight major areas where resource inefficient practices are prevalent in canneries and to support these experts to devise tailor-made interventions for each company in order to optimize inefficiencies that will reduce costs and increase operating profits.	

<b>Mitigation of Climate Change Risks of Rural Communities through Improved Local Development Planning</b>	
Target country (region): <b>Armenia, (Tavush and</b>	Project duration: <b>2 months, 2014</b>

<b>Vayots Dzor marzes)</b>	
Name of the client: <b>United Nations Development Programme – Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (UNDP-BCPR)</b>	Staffing: <b>5</b>
<p>The task objective was to design and deliver tailor-made training courses with the aim to strengthen the capacity of beneficiaries to identify and manage climate change related risks for sustainable development, with main emphasis on agricultural activities. The trainings were conducted for decision makers, as well as farmers and specialists from about 20 rural communities in Tavush and Vayots Dzor marzes.</p>	

### Assignment name: Assessment of Training Needs and Skill Development of the Armenian Winemakers

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>2 months, 2013</b>
Name of the client(s): <b>German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ)</b>	Staffing: <b>5</b>
<p>The main goal of this research was to improve the perception of the experience and needs of winemaking companies in Armenia, as well as to identify training and technical assistance needs for wine technologists. The research also pursued the goal of involving winemaking companies in the modernization and reform of the existing academic curricula, identifying the preferences of the operating wineries in the winemaking educational programs.</p>	

### Comprehensive Assessment of Wheat and Barley Value Chains in Armenia

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>3 months, 2013</b>
Name of the client: <b>German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ)</b>	Staffing: <b>4</b>
<p>The study aimed developing an in depth understanding of the whole wheat and barley value chain, map the roles and linkages among the key players of the wheat and barley industry, understand the incentive mechanisms driving their current behavior, and reveal potential collaboration opportunities and synergies hidden in the value chain, which would contribute to the agro-biodiversity preserving and improvement in the country.</p>	

### Assignment name: Feasibility Study - Development of Open Air Food Retail Markets in Armenia

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>5 months, 2013</b>
Name of the client: <b>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)</b>	Staffing: <b>4</b>
<p>The study aimed at analyzing the value chains of selected farm food products that play a significant role in the overall agri-food system. It also aimed to assess farm product value chain to identify existing challenges and identify solutions to facilitate market access. The ICARE developed a market information system (MIS) ensuring information flow among all relevant stakeholders: farmers, market managers and staff, customers and the national and local authorities and supporters engaged in the functioning of the farmers' markets.</p>	

<b>Agrofinance Training Development</b>	
Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>2 months, 2013</b>
Name of the client: <b>Pragma Corporation, Armenian Branch</b>	Staffing: <b>8</b>
<p>The objective of this activity was to improve skills of loan officers in Enterprise Development and Market Competitiveness (EDMC) partner Armenian banks and Universal Credit Organizations in the field of Agricultural lending. The training subjects include agricultural related information such as the yield of specific crops, as well as cost calculations and pricing forecasts for crops including but not limited to apricot, peach, apple, plum, grapes.</p>	

<b>Agribusiness Education Support to ICARE/ATC</b>	
Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>2007-2013</b>
Name of the client: <b>United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)</b>	Staffing: <b>40</b>
<p>The project is aimed at strengthening Higher Agribusiness Education, Research and Career Building in Armenia and Georgia. As an outcome well educated agribusiness professionals were prepared to provide leadership in the future of Armenian and Georgian agriculture and related industries. ICARE Provided expertise to deliver courses based on Agribusiness Curriculum. A total of 39 courses were developed and delivered to the agribusiness major students.</p>	

<b>Financial Literacy Trainings in Rural Areas of Armenia</b>	
Target country (region): <b>Armenia (Armavir, Ararat, Aragatsotn, Shirak, Tavush and Gegharqunik marzes)</b>	Project duration: <b>2012-2013</b>
Name of the client: <b>Savings Bank Foundation for International Cooperation (SBFIC)</b>	Staffing: <b>5</b>
<p>The objectives of the project were to develop financial literacy training materials, knowledge and financial capability test of SBFIC and conduct the trainings in the marzes Armavir, Ararat, Aragatsotn, Shirak, Tavush and Gegharqunik in cooperation with agricultural cooperatives, rural extension centers and Youth Banks for at least 1,000 participants.</p>	

<b>Food Processing Technologists' Training</b>	
Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>2 months, 2013</b>
Name of the client: <b>The Pragma Corporation, Armenian Branch</b>	Staffing: <b>2</b>
<p>Objective of this activity was to support in preparing high quality technology specialists for food processing factories, including canneries and dried fruits and vegetable producers, through organizing trainings for producers to help meet the demand by companies for these skills.</p>	

### Food Technology Curriculum Development

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>3 months, 2013</b>
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Name of the client: <b>The Pragma Corporation, Armenian Branch</b>	Staffing: <b>3</b>
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The objective of this task was to assess the Armenian National Agrarian University's Food Technology department's curriculum and revise it to modernize and harmonize with international standards.

### Quick Start Training with Jujevan Cannery

Target country (region): <b>Armenia (Tavush marz)</b>	Project duration: <b>3 months, 2013</b>
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Name of the client: <b>The Pragma Corporation, Armenian Branch</b>	Staffing: <b>2</b>
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The objective of this task was to assist Arthur & Edita LLC (a cannery in Tavush marz) to expand its operations through preparing new highly quality workforce and improving the skills of existing workers of the company.

### Socio-Economic Tools for Integrated Conservation Planning in the Multi-Ethnic South Caucasus

Target country (region): <b>Armenia (partnership member)</b>	Project duration: <b>22 months, 2012-2013</b>
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Name of the client: <b>Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Germany)</b>	Staffing: <b>2</b>
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The project was committed to foster the implementation of the BMBF- (Federal Ministry of Education and Research) Strategy on International Co-operation in Science and Research by forming a research partnership with the south Caucasus countries Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan, which also facilitates the scientific exchange among these Caucasian countries.

### Baseline Study of Livestock Practices in Sisian region

Target country (region): <b>Armenia (Sisian marz)</b>	Project duration: <b>4 months, 2012</b>
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Name of the client: <b>Center for Agribusiness and Rural Development (CARD)</b>	Staffing: <b>12</b>
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A Farm and Veterinary Service Center (FVSC) has been established in Syunik Marz of Armenia. The main goals of the project, which was a new concept in the country, were to assure availability of technical information and high quality livestock farm supplies, as well as to provide animal health (AH) and artificial insemination (AI) services in the region year-around. This pilot program also aimed at analyzing the operational and impact performance of the FVSC.

### Feasibility Study - Assessment of Milk Vending Opportunities in Yerevan

Target country (region): <b>Armenia (Yerevan)</b>	Project duration: <b>5 months, 2012</b>
Name of the client: <b>Center for Agribusiness and Rural Development (CARD)</b>	Staffing: <b>3</b>
<p>In order to understand the attitudes of supermarket managers, the ICARE conducted several interviews with the managers of the main supermarkets in Armenia. In addition, face to face and telephone interviews were conducted to reveal the current practices and attitudes of milk consumers in Yerevan. International experience was analyzed to reveal current developments and opportunities. Stakeholder interviews were conducted, to estimate the possible outcomes related with the project. Study results assess the opportunities of milk vending business opportunities in Yerevan.</p>	

### Impact Evaluation of Food Safety Training and Capacity Building

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>4 months, 2012</b>
Name of the client: <b>Center for Agribusiness and Rural Development (CARD)</b>	Staffing: <b>12</b>
<p>ICARE conducted a study among 60 food processing companies with the support of Caucasus Agricultural Development Initiative of the USDA FAS in order to improve the understanding of the experiences and needs of food processing firms in Armenia with respect to food safety practices and training needs.</p>	

### RECOSET – Research Network on Cooperative and Social Enterprises in Transition Contexts

Target country (region): <b>Armenia (consortium member)</b>	Project duration: <b>2 years, 2010-2012</b>
Name of the client: <b>European Union</b>	Staffing: <b>2</b>
<p>RECOSET project aimed at stimulating the creation of a network of research centers that are committed to studying cooperative and social enterprises in European (EU)/ Associated (AC) and Third Countries (TC). RECOSET supported the exchange of staff members and researchers devoted the study the rationale and potential of these institutions.</p>	

### Assessment of the Economic and Social Impact of Unsustainable Forest Practices and Illegal Logging on Rural Population of Armenia

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>6 months, 2010 - 2011</b>
Name of the client: <b>International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Regional Office for Pan-Europe</b>	Staffing: <b>4</b>
<p>The objectives of the surveys were to provide up to date data of the extent and scale of illegal logging in Armenia and to identify the key drivers, behind the illegal logging activities. The outputs of the survey were used to support the development of policy and programme recommendations, presented to the FLEG working group, in the first quarter of 2011.</p>	

### Rapid Assessment of Farm Food Retailing Patterns and Structures in Armenia

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>4 months, 2011</b>
Name of the client: <b>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Subregional Office for Central and Eastern Europe</b>	Staffing: <b>2</b>
The aim of the project was conducting an appraisal of existing retailing patterns and farm food market and structure and operation of marketing system in major urban areas of Armenia. The results of the appraisal were used to propose structure and scale of FAO technical assistance project related to the establishment of the open-air food retail markets in major urban areas of Armenia.	

### Rapid Assessment of Existing Value Chains with Growth Potential in Kapan Area

Target country (region): <b>Armenia (Kapan region)</b>	Project duration: <b>4 months, 2010</b>
Name of the client: <b>World Vision International, Armenian Division</b>	Staffing: <b>3</b>
The objective of this assessment was to identify existing value chains in Kapan area which have the highest potential of growth and recommend on concrete interventions that World Vision Armenia can implement in order to expand the market for a specific product through better collaboration of market chain actors aimed at improving the livelihoods of the poor.	

### Empowering Rural Women of Shirak marz

Target country (region): <b>Armenia (Shirak marz)</b>	Project duration: <b>7 months, 2009 - 2010</b>
Name of the client: <b>The U.S. Embassy in Armenia</b>	Staffing: <b>2</b>
The project aimed at reaching to the required results via a) establishing Women Initiative groups, b) conducting capacity-building trainings and roundtable discussions on gender awareness, women rights, women's leadership, business communication as well as practical skills enabling women's community participation, c) developing training materials on gender issues, gender mainstreaming and rural entrepreneurship, d) providing information dissemination activities on national and international mechanisms and instruments of promotion of Women's Rights.	

### Strengthening the Agribusiness Education in the Republic of Georgia

Target country (region): <b>Republic of Georgia</b>	Project duration: <b>2 years, 2009-2010</b>
Name of the client: <b>United States Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA FAS</b>	Staffing: <b>4</b>
The project, in partnership with Georgian Center for Agribusiness Development, aimed at strengthening the agribusiness education in the Republic of Georgia through implementing set of	

activities in the area of teacher and student trainings, organizing agribusiness field trips and curricular revisions.

### Training on Cooperative Principles and Management for World Vision Talin ADP employees

Target country (region): <b>Armenia, (Talin region)</b>	Project duration: <b>2 months, 2010</b>
Name of the client: <b>World Vision International, Armenian Division</b>	Staffing: <b>2</b>
The aim of this project was to conduct two-day training for WVA Talin ADP employees on Cooperative Principles and Management.	

### Development of Armenian Platform for Sustainable Agriculture

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>ongoing since 2009</b>
Name of the client: <b>joint initiative of ICARE and Swiss College of Agriculture</b>	Staffing: <b>5</b>
The main aim of the platform is to gather and develop knowledge on sustainable agricultural practices in consonant with the three dimensions of sustainability: social, environmental and economic and then share the gained knowledge with farmers, input providers, food processors, extensionists, researchers, government, international organizations, NGOs, consumers and others. The compiled knowledge on sustainable agricultural practices used worldwide will be analyzed to reveal whether the particular practice can be used in Armenia as it is or it should be localized and adapted.	

### Consultancy for Improvement of Milk Collection and Marketing Process and Governance Procedures by Milk Producers Marketing Cooperatives in Sisian Area

Target country (region): <b>Armenia (Sisian region)</b>	Project duration: <b>2 months, 2009</b>
Name of the client: <b>“Accion Contra el Hambre Foundation” Armenian Branch</b>	Staffing: <b>2</b>
To improve the processes of milk collection, organization and management of milk marketing by milk producers marketing cooperatives in Sisian area, the International Center for Agribusiness Research and Education (ICARE) contracted by ACH started a series of consultancies and training sessions during September – December 2009 for the management, board and members of Tolors, Shaghat, Akhlatyan and Lor milk producing consumer cooperatives.	

### Impacts of the Global Financial and Economic Crisis on the Agro-Food Sector of Central and Eastern European and Central Asian Countries: Evidence from Armenia

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>4 months, 2009</b>
Name of the client(s): <b>FAO Sub-regional Office for Europe and Central Asia</b>	Staffing: <b>3</b>
The study assessed the impact of the 2008-2009 financial and economic crisis on three supply	

chains within the Armenian agro-food sector: wheat, grapes and milk.

### Sustainability of Agricultural Production in Armenia – analysis of the current situation and improvements through farm advice and facilitation of policy action to adapt framework conditions using the RISE (Response Inducing Sustainability Evaluation)

Target country (region): <b>Armenia (Aragatsotn, Lori, Shirak, and Tavush marzes)</b>	Project duration: <b>3 years, 2005 – 2008</b>
Name of the client: <b>Swiss National Science Foundation</b>	Number of staff provided: <b>5</b>
<p>The research project, in partnership with the Swiss College of Agriculture, aimed at introducing the RISE evaluation tool into Armenian agriculture as a sustainability assessment and management tool for farmers and decision makers to help overcome the difficulties Armenia faces due to the transition period. The research group identified, in terms of sustainability, the strengths (potential) and the weaknesses, thus providing consultancy to farmers on the one hand, and, on the other hand, identifying the spheres of relevant specific intervention for the purpose of overall improvement of works.</p>	

### Sustainability Assessment and Analysis of Farmers in Armenia

Target country (region): <b>Armenia (Aragatsotn, Armavir, Gegharqunik, and Shirak marzes)</b>	Project duration: <b>3 months, 2008</b>
Name of the client(s): <b>Federation of Agricultural Associations Union of Legal Entities</b>	Staffing: <b>4</b>
<p>The project aimed to implement sustainability assessment and analysis among two hundred farmers through in-depth surveys and analysis with the use of RISE model.</p>	

### Casualty Analysis of Rural Women’s Participation within the Federation of Agricultural Associations

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>4 months, 2007</b>
Name of the client(s): <b>Federation of Agricultural Associations, Union of Legal Entities (FAA ULE)</b>	Staffing: <b>8</b>
<p>The project analyzed the current problems of women’s participation and representation in FAA, identified areas and mechanisms facilitating advancement of women which need continued strengthening in terms of the structure of FAA, and outlined an action plan on promotion of equal rights within FAA.</p>	

### Severe Weather Warning Survey

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>3 months, 2006-2007</b>
Name of the client(s): <b>The World Bank Country Office in Armenia</b>	Staffing: <b>4</b>
<p>The aims of the project were to measure the publics’ awareness, knowledge and perceptions of</p>	

the Armstatehydromet particularly in Yerevan and in rural areas, explore the effectiveness of Armstatehydromet's services with concentration on Severe Weather Warnings, and to understand how people access the weather forecast information as well as the severe weather warnings and how they react to the severe warnings.

### Backyard Poultry Farmer Survey

Target country (region): <b>Armenia (Armavir, Ararat, Shirak, and Gegharkunik marzes)</b>	Project duration: <b>2 months, 2007</b>
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Name of the client(s): <b>Agricultural Reforms Support Program PIU and World Bank Yerevan Office</b>	Staffing: <b>4</b>
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This project aimed to reveal the quantitative impact of Avian Flu on backyard poultry farming in the targeted marzes in Armenia.

### Teaching and Learning Technologies and Student Success in Agricultural Higher Education of Armenia

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>2 months, 2007</b>
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Name of the client(s): <b>ICARE initiative</b>	Staffing: <b>4</b>
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The objective of this research was to reveal current understanding of student success in the Armenian State Agrarian University (ASAU), show the current level of teaching and learning technologies in the ASAU, and reveal the problems that educators face in adopting new teaching and learning technologies.

### Market Assessment and Development for Organically Grown Produce

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>2 months, 2007</b>
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Name of the client(s): <b>SHEN NGO</b>	Staffing: <b>2</b>
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The main objectives of this research project were to conduct market assessment for organically grown produce in Yerevan and define strategies for future development of the sector.

### Conducting Assessment in the Commercial Poultry Sector Supply Chain

Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>2006</b>
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Name of the client(s): <b>Development Alternatives Inc./Armenia, Agribusiness Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise Market Development Program (DAI ASME)</b>	Staffing: <b>4</b>
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The research project had an objective to reveal the realistic picture of the current situation and long term implications for the commercial poultry sector supply chain. The study provided guidance on priority action to provide relevant information on Avian Flu to the public and to assist the poultry sector in remaining competitive and profitable.

<b>Baseline Study Survey for the Armenian Food Safety System Project</b>	
Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>2 months, 2006</b>
Name of the client(s): <b>Center for Agribusiness and Rural Development (CARD)</b>	Staffing: <b>6</b>
The objective of this study was to provide specialized technical assistance to USDA FAS and CARD Food Safety team in the scope of the Armenian Food Safety System Project.	

<b>The Socio-Economic Impact of the Avian Influenza Panic on the Poultry Chain of Armenia</b>	
Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>2 months, 2006</b>
Name of the client(s): <b>Development Alternatives Inc./Armenia, Agribusiness Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise Market Development Program (DAI ASME)</b>	Staffing: <b>4</b>
The objective of this study was to provide specialized technical assistance to DAI ASME project team with a realistic picture of the current situation and long term implications for the commercial poultry chain actors and supporters.	

<b>The Socio-Economic Impact of Water Well Project on the Villages</b>	
Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>10 months, 2004</b>
Name of the client(s): <b>United States Department of Agriculture, Marketing Assistance Program (USDA MAP) through ATC</b>	Staffing: <b>3</b>
This research study aimed at revealing the socio-economic impact of USDA MAP-constructed and reconstructed water wells in 75 villages of Armenia. At the end of the project, a number of recommendations and development strategies were provided to USDA MAP for its further irrigation development and pipeline projects.	

<b>The Economic Efficiency Analysis of the USDA MAP Supported Milk Marketing Cooperatives</b>	
Target country (region): <b>Armenia</b>	Project duration: <b>4 months, 2004</b>
Name of the client(s): <b>United States Department of Agriculture, Marketing Assistance Program (USDA MAP) through ATC</b>	Staffing: <b>3</b>
This research analyzed the importance of milk marketing cooperatives to the member farmers by revealing and presenting the possible benefits that farmers would not obtain by acting on their own. Empirical results from surveying cooperative members are used to test the hypothesis that milk marketing cooperatives are beneficial for farmers utilizing their services.	