Central Asia Office
World Agroforestry Centre

1. CURRENT SITUATION
FORESTS IN KYRGYZSTAN 2017

- High pasture / mountain ecosystems, snowfields, and glaciers
- Crop land
- Forests
- Lake Issyk Kol

2. 1980 1.1 million ha
2016 6.5 million ha

3. Without financial support from any donor

4. BEST PRACTISE & LESSONS LEARNED

- Laws are unclear regarding agroforestry.
- Legal advice should be provided.
- Crop land cannot be converted into forests.
- Is planting single trees already a conversion into forests?
- Definition of “crop land” is also partly unclear.
- Private sector investments are a key to successful agroforestry plantations.
- Poplars are planted by people, partly in shelterbelt-like arrangements.
- There is a number of nurseries that deliver posters.
- This indicates there is a market for shelterbelt trees.
- Farmers and businessmen establish plantations with fast growing trees.

5. INTRODUCTION OF
AGROFORESTRY

- Increase numbers of trees considerably
- Especially in those areas were people live & need wood
- Hence people have less demand to use wood from forests
- Thus forest degradation can be reduced

- Tree shelters are a major agroforestry system. It has its tradition all over Central Asia, where it was strongly promoted during the time of Soviet Union.
- After the collapse of Soviet Union large numbers of shelterbelt trees were cut to gain firewood.
- Major trees for shelterbelts are poplars (hybrids from Populus nigra and P. alba).

6. THEORETICAL ILLUSTRATION

- Shelterbelts are restored in a square shaped grid on all crop land.
- People harvest trees from shelterbelts instead of cutting trees from forests.
- Timber from shelterbelt trees helps to reduce imports from Russia.
- Pressure on forests will be reduced.

7. OUTLOOK

- BEST CASE SCENARIOS
SHELTERBelt GRID

- 153.8 million trees [distance 1 m, single row]
- 77 million trees [distance 1.5 m, single row]
- 28.9 million trees [distance 2 m, single row]

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- [The 3000 m x 1500 m grid could already meet the annual timber demand.]
- [The 200 m x 200 m grid could meet the annual timber demand and a substantial part of the fuel wood demand.]

Source: Undeland, 2015

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Niels Thevs & Kumar Aliev
World Agroforestry Centre
Central Asia Office

Map: Niels Thevs, 2017
Virtual grid: 500m x 500m

Crop land: 38503 km²
Total length of shelterbelts of crop land: 154232 km

1.1 million ha
70 Million Trees for Kyrgyzstan

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for Kyrgyzstan