

**QUESTIONNAIRE ON ISSUES OF ACCESS TO AND USE OF FOREST RESOURCES—Used by Rural Development
Fund for studying the use of forests in the Kyrgyz Republic**

I. RESPONDENT'S DEMOGRAPHICS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Name

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2. Address if possible

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3. Age

1	15-19	
2	20-29	
3	30-39	
4	40-49	
5	50-59	
6	60-69	
7	70-79	
8	80 and older	

4. Sex

1	Female	
2	Male	

5. Ethnicity

1	Kyrgyz	
2	Uzbek	
3	Tajik	
4	Russian	
5	Other (specify) _____	

6. Family status

1	Single	
2	Married	
3	Divorced	
4	Widowed	

7. What is the highest level of education which you have completed?

1	Incomplete high school (9 classes)	
2	Complete high school (10-11 classes)	
3	Vocational college	
4	Incomplete university	
5	Complete university	
6	Graduate degree	
7	Two university degrees	
8	Other (specify) _____	

8. Employment

1	Public sector (school, health institutions, aiyl okmotus, etc.)	
3	Farmer _____	
4	Entrepreneur	
5	Hired employee	
6	Seasonal jobs	

7	Unemployed	
8	Student	
9	Retired	
10	Other (specify) _____	

9. Are you a head of a household?

1	Yes	
2	No	

10. How many adults (18 years old and over) and children live in your household?

		How many
1	Adults	
2	Children	

11. How long have you been living in this area (specify)?

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12. Do you have a land plot?

1	Yes	
2	No (go to question 15)	

13. Do you have only one land plot?

1	One land plot	
2	Two land plots	
3	More than two	

14. What kind of land plot is it and what is its size?

	Type	Size
1	Land share (owned)	
2	Leased land	
3	Leased and owned	
4	Kitchen plot	

15. Do you have livestock?

1	Yes	
2	No (go to question 17)	

16. How many livestock do you have?

	Type of animals	Number
1	Cattle	
2	Sheep	
3	Goats	
4	Horses	
5	Yak	
6	Other (specify) _____	

17. Considering all sources, what is the income of your family?

	Time period	Amount
1	Monthly	
2	Annually	

18. Please mark up to four major sources of income of your household (from 1 to 4, when 1 is the most important and 4 least important):

		Per month	Per year
1	Salary		
2	Income from second job		
3	Farming land		
4	Livestock		
5	Income from renting out land, equipment, machinery or facilities		
6	Social benefits (poverty benefit, disability benefits, etc)		
7	Pension		
8	Unemployment package		
9	Stipend		
10	Remittances		
11	Selling forest products		
12	Other (specify)_____		

19. What do you think is your livelihood level in comparison to other families in the village?

Assess with 1 being the poorest and 5 the richest

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

20. How far is the forest from your house (in kilometers, ONLY ONE WAY)

1	Less than 1 kilometer
2	Around 1 kilometer
3	From 1 to 3 kilometers
4	From 3 to 5 kilometers
5	More than 5 kilometers

21. How do you get there?

1	By feet
2	By horse or donkey
3	By car
4	By public transportation (bus, minibus)
5	Other (specify)_____

22. What do you use the forest for? Please specify up to five uses in priorities from 1 to 5, with 1 being the most important

	Use type	Priorities
1	Grazing livestock on pastures of forest	
2	Making hay	
3	Grow crops on forestry farm land (please specify what exactly) _____	
4	Collect fuel and dry wood	
5	Collect medicinal and aromatic herbs and plants	
6	Collect wild berries (specify)	
7	Collect fruits (specify)	
8	Collect walnuts	
9	Collect other nuts (specify)	
10	Beekeeping on forest land	

11	Other use (specify) _____	
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23. What do you use the forest for?

	Use type	Subsistence	Commercial	Subsistence and commercial
1	Grazing livestock on pastures of forest			
2	Making hay			
3	Grow crops on forestry farm land (please specify what exactly) _____			
4	Collect fuel and dry wood			
5	Collect medicinal and aromatic herbs and plants			
6	Collect wild berries (specify)			
7	Collect fruits (specify)			
8	Collect walnuts			
9	Collect other nuts (specify)			
10	Beekeeping on forest land			
11	Other use (specify) _____			

24. How many days A YEAR do you spend harvesting forest resources?

	Use type	Days per YEAR
1	Grazing livestock on pastures of forest	
2	Making hay	
3	Grow crops on forestry farm land (please specify what exactly) _____	
4	Collect fuel and dry wood	
5	Collect medicinal and aromatic herbs and plants	
6	Collect wild berries (specify)	
7	Collect fruits (specify)	
8	Collect walnuts	
9	Collect other nuts (specify)	
10	Beekeeping on forest land	
11	Other use (specify) _____	

25. How important are forest resources for your livelihood?

1	Not important
2	Slightly important
3	Important
4	Very important

26. Do you know well what natural resources your forest has?

1	I don't know anything about forest resources
2	Yes, I know some resources
3	Yes, I know all resources
4	Not sure

27. How many other people from your village use forest resources and forest land?

1	Less than 5
2	More than 5 but less than 10
3	More than 10 but less than 20
4	More than 20

28. Do they use forest and forest land for their own consumption or commercial purposes? *Please write how many people you know from your village use forest products for different purposes in the table below.*

	Use type	Subsistence	Commercial	Subsistence and commercial
1	Grazing livestock on pastures of forest			
2	Making hay			
3	Grow crops on forestry farm land (please specify what exactly) _____			
4	Collect fuel and dry wood			
5	Collect medicinal and aromatic herbs and plants			
6	Collect wild berries (specify)			
7	Collect fruits (specify)			
8	Collect walnuts			
9	Collect other nuts (specify)			
10	Beekeeping on forest land			
11	Other use (specify) _____			

29. Do you depend on forest land or forest resources for your livelihood?

1	Yes, very much
2	Yes
3	Sort of
4	Not much
5	Not at all
6	Other (specify) _____

30. What is the major importance of forest land and resources for you? *Please mark up to 4 answers, with 1 being the most important and 4 the least important*

1	Forest land is a place where I have rest	
2	Forest is a land where I graze my livestock	
3	Forest is a land where I make hay for my animals	
4	Forest is a land where I make hay for selling	
5	Forest is a land where I collect fuel for my cooking and heating	
6	Forest is a land where I collect nuts for my own consumption	
7	Forest is a land where I collect nuts for selling them	
8	Forest is a land where I collect berries for my own consumption	
9	Forest is a land where I collect berries for selling them	
10	Forest is a land where I collect fruits for my own consumption	
11	Forest is a land where I collect fruits for selling	
12	Forest is a land where I hunt for my own consumption	
13	Forest is a land where I hunt to sell game	
14	Other (please specify)	

31. Do you think more people in your village would like to be involved in harvesting forest products or using forest land?

1	Yes
2	No
3	I don't know

32. What do you think are the major constraints limiting their use of forest resources? Please mark up to 5 in priority with 1 being the highest importance and 5 the lowest being the most important.

1	They cannot receive forest ticket or lease right
2	They don't want to do that
3	They don't know how to get access
4	They have no skills or abilities/knowledge how to collect resources
5	They have no need
6	Other (specify) _____

33. In your opinion, which activity related to forest resources use produces the most income? Please mark up to 4, with 1 being the most profitable and 4 the least profitable.

	Use type	Income-bringing opportunity
1	Grazing livestock on pastures of forest	
2	Making hay	
3	Grow crops on forestry farm land (please specify what exactly) _____	
4	Collect fuel and dry wood	
5	Collect medicinal and aromatic herbs and plants	
6	Collect wild berries (specify)	
7	Collect fruits (specify)	
8	Collect walnuts	
9	Collect other nuts (specify)	
10	Beekeeping on forest land	
11	Other use (specify) _____	

I. POLICY IN FOREST SECTOR

34. Do you know the legal rules about forest management and use?

1	Yes
2	No
3	Some
4	I am not sure

35. Do you think these rules are clear to all?

1	Yes, they are all clear
2	No, they are not clear at all
3	Some rules are clear

36. Do you think these rules consider the interests and needs of people in the community?

1	Yes
2	No
3	Some
4	I am not sure

37. If the community received easier access to forest resources, do you think it would destroy the forest?

1	Yes
2	No
3	Some
4	I am not sure

38. Do you think leskhoz is following some kind of national rules in the management of forests?

1	Yes, always
2	No, never
3	Sometimes
4	I am not sure
5	I think they follow only their own rules
6	Other (please specify) _____

39. Would you like to participate in decision making on how forest resources are managed and used?

1	Yes
2	No
3	In some (specify which ones)
4	Other (specify) _____

40. If yes, in what decisions would you like to participate the most (mark only two)?

1	Improvement of forest resources
2	Maintenance of forest
3	Protection of forest from fires
4	Allocation of use rights
5	Other (specify) _____

II. FOREST USE REGIMES

41. Do you think leskhoz makes fair decisions on allocation of use rights?

1	Yes, always
2	No, never
3	Sometimes
4	I am not sure
5	Other (specify) _____

42. What arrangements do you have with leskhoz on accessing its resources?

1	I don't have any arrangements with leskhoz and use forest products and/or land without any arrangements
2	I have informal arrangements with leskhoz and use forest products and/or land according to this informal arrangement
3	I have formalized arrangements with leskhoz and use forest products and/or land
4	Other (specify) _____

43. If you DON'T have formal arrangements with leskhoz, why is that?

1	I don't want to pay anything for use of forest products and/or land
2	I don't know how to do formal arrangements with leskhoz to use forest products and/or land
3	Leskhoz doesn't want to make formal arrangements with me
4	I don't use any forest resources and forest land
5	Other (specify) _____

44. Do you pay for your use of forest resources?

1	I pay for all types of use
2	I pay for some products and some use (specify) _____
3	I don't pay anything for use
4	I pay by labor
5	Other (specify) _____

45. If you pay for forest resources, how do you do that?

1	I pay informally to foresters in cash
2	I pay informally to foresters in kind
3	I pay to leskhoz cash and obtain receipt
4	I pay to leskhoz cash, but don't get receipt
5	I work in forest as payment
6	Other (specify) _____

46. If you pay for some resources and for some use, please specify for what? Please mark with *x* what products you harvest and for what you pay.

	Use type	USE	PAY
1	Grazing livestock on pastures of forest		
2	Making hay		
3	Grow crops on forestry farm land (please specify what exactly) _____		
4	Collect fuel and dry wood		
5	Collect medicinal and aromatic herbs and plants		
6	Collect wild berries (specify)		
7	Collect fruits (specify)		
8	Collect walnuts		
9	Collect other nuts (specify)		
10	Beekeeping on forest land		
11	Other use (specify) _____		

47. Do you think you are paying an adequate amount?

1	I pay too much
2	I pay adequate
3	I pay less than products might cost
4	I work too much in forest as payment
5	I don't pay anything
6	Other (specify) _____

48. If you don't pay, why is that?

1	It's too costly
2	I don't know how much and whom to pay
3	I don't have money
4	I use forest resources very little
5	Other (specify) _____

49. Do you know what different types of arrangements your leskhoz has to allow access? Please describe all types you know.

1.	_____
-	
2.	_____
-	
3.	_____
-	
4.	_____

50. Do you think everybody in the village has the same arrangements for the same type of use?

1	There are different arrangements for some people
2	There are the same arrangements for all
3	I don't know
4	Other (specify) _____

51. If not, what are the differences in arrangement for the same type of use or resources?

1	Some people pay more for the same use right
2	Some people pay less for the same use right
3	Some people get better resources/land for the same price
4	Some people have in general better arrangements
5	Other (specify) _____

52. What exact arrangements do you have with leskhoz for using forest land and/or resources? Describe in detail.

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53. Did you choose the arrangement type yourself?

1	Yes, I wanted these arrangements
2	I had no choice and leskhoz made these arrangements
3	I don't know
4	Other (specify)_____

54. Are you satisfied with this arrangement?

1	Yes
2	No
3	Somewhat
4	I don't know

55. Do you think other users have better arrangements than you do for the same type of use?

1	Yes
2	No
3	Somewhat
4	I don't know

56. What exact arrangements do you have with leskhoz for using forest land and/or resources? Describe in detail.

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57. Do you think your arrangements are secure (meaning that it will not be canceled, or have terms and conditions changed, without your consent)?

1	Yes
2	No
3	Somewhat
4	I don't know

58. Will you extend your use right further?

1	Yes
2	No
4	I don't know

59. Do you want to have different arrangements next time?

1	Yes
2	No
3	Partially
4	I don't know

60. If yes, what kind of different arrangements would you like to have?

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61. Do you think that there is corruption in the forest management system?

1	Yes
2	No
3	I don't know
4	I don't want to answer

62. If yes, what do you think is the magnitude of corruption in the forest management system?

1	High
2	Moderate
3	Low

III. INSTITUTIONS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

63. What organizations on the local level make decision about your forest, in your opinion? MARK ONLY ONE ANSWER.

1	Aiyl okmotu
2	Leskhoz
3	Aiyl okmotu and leskhoz
4	Leskhoz and rayon administration

64. Does the aiyl okmotu have any say in managing forests?

1	Yes, aiyl okmotu has a say in all major management decisions
2	Yes, aiyl okmotu has a say in some major management decisions
3	No, aiyl okmotu has NO say in any major management decisions

65. If aiyl okmotu participates in some decisions, what are these issues about, in your opinion? Please mark all relevant answers.

1	Aiyl okmotu participates in allocation of use rights for forest resources and/or forest land
2	Aiyl okmotu participates in decisions on forest improvements
3	Aiyl okmotu participates in decisions on distribution of fuel
4	Aiyl okmotu participates in decisions on protection of forest from fires
5	Aiyl okmotu participates in decisions on protection of forest from poachers
6	Other (specify) _____

66. Do you think aiyl okmotu should be involved in the management of forests?

1	Yes, aiyl okmotu should participate in all decisions on the management of forests
2	Yes, aiyl okmotu should participate in some decisions on the management of forests

3	No, aiyl okmotu should not participate in any decisions on the management of forests
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67. If yes, why do you think aiyl okmotu should be involved in the management of forests?

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68. If not, why?

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69. Do you think users should participate in management decisions?

1	Yes, users should participate in all decisions on the management of forests
2	Yes, users should participate in some decisions on the management of forests
3	No, users should not participate at all in decisions on the management of forests

70. If yes, why do you think users should participate in the management of forests?

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71. If not, why do you think so?

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72. Do you know who the head of leskhoz is?

1	Yes, I know
2	No, I don't know
3	I am not sure

73. Do you know what the functions of the leskhoz are?

1	Yes, I know
2	No, I don't know
3	I am not sure

74. Do you think they are doing a good job in protecting and maintaining forests?

1	Yes, I think so
2	No, I don't think so
3	I am not sure
4	I don't want to answer

75. How would you rate professional qualities of staff of your leskhoz? SELECT ONLY ONE ANSWER

1	Qualifications of staff of leskhoz are consistent with their respective positions
2	Qualifications of staff of leskhoz are low

3

I can't answer

IV. INFORMATION

76. Do you know how leskhoz makes decisions on forest management?

1	Yes
2	No
3	Some
4	I am not sure

77. If yes, where do you know that from?

1	Friends and neighbors
2	Mass media
3	Aiyl okimotu
4	Leskhoz
5	Other sources (specify)_____

78. Do you think leskhoz informs people about its decisions?

1	Yes, always
2	No, never
3	Sometimes
4	I am not sure

79. If yes, does it do it openly and transparently?

1	Yes, always
2	No, never
3	Informs only some people
4	I am not sure

80. Is it difficult or easy to receive full information about rules on forest management and use from leskhoz?

1	It is very difficult
2	It is difficult
3	It is not difficult
4	It is very easy
5	Other (please specify)_____

81. Do you think you need to have more information on these rules?

1	Yes
2	No
3	Some
4	I am not sure

82. If yes, what kind of information about the forest would you like to have?

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V. DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

83. Have you heard anything about disputes between leskhoz and other institutions?

1	Yes, I have heard about some disputes
2	No, I have not heard anything about such disputes

84. If yes, what organizations were these disputes with?

1	With another leskhoz
2	With aiyl okmotu
3	With rayon administrations
4	With oblast administration
5	With regional divisions of the State Agency for Environment and Forestry
6	With the State Agency for Environment and Forestry
7	Other organizations (specify)_____

85. Do you know what the reason was for the dispute?

1	It was about borders between leskhoz
2	It was about border between leskhoz and aiyl okrug
3	It was about allocation of use rights
4	It was about performance of leskhoz staff
5	Other (specify)_____

86. Was this dispute resolved?

1	Yes
2	No
3	I don't know

87. Do you know if there are conflicts between leskhoz and forest users?

1	Yes, often
2	Yes, sometimes
3	No, never
4	I don't know

88. If yes, what are they about?

1	About obtaining access to forest resources
2	About payment for use of forest resources
3	About scope of labor contribution
4	About extending use right
6	Other (specify) _____

89. Are these conflicts largely being resolved?

1	Yes, they are always resolved
2	Yes, they are mostly resolved
3	No, they never get resolved
4	No, they get resolved rarely

90. If anyone in your village has a dispute with leskhoz staff and their decisions, what would he/she do?

1	He/she would do nothing
2	He/she would complain to aiyl okmotu
3	He/she would complain to rayon administration
4	He/she would complain to oblast administration
5	He/she would complain to the regional division of the SAEF
6	He/she would complain national center of the SAEF
7	He/she would go to court

91. Would this be efficient in your opinion?

1	Yes
2	No
3	Sometimes

92. Have you ever had conflicts or disputes with the leskhoz?

1	Yes
2	No

93. In case of a dispute or conflict with leskhoz, did you try to appeal decisions and actions of the leskhoz to other state authorities (such as aiyl okmotu, rayon or oblast administration, SAEF and its divisions)? SELECT ONLY ONE ANSWER OPTION

1	Yes and the attempt was successful
2	Yes, but no effect
3	No, I didn't try to