

Agrinas' first Asian branch office was opened in [Kyzylorda](#), Kazakstan in June 2000. Kyzylorda is the administrative center of Kyzylorda oblast. Its location is strategic, in the heart of the oblast and bordering on the largest irrigation scheme of the oblast. Agrinas Kazakstan has developed activities in the rural area of Kyzylorda oblast.



Twenty years after the collapse of the Soviet Union Kazakstan is still struggling economically with the sudden transition. Some have benefited from the changes that took place, others haven't. Agrinas Kazakstan supported farmers and rural communities in Kyzylorda oblast in the process of socio-economic development.

In a document, titled "The Aral Sea Region Development and Humanitarian Assistance Programme" (1997) the oblast akimat has set a priority list for economic development activities in Kyzylorda oblast. It ranked Water, Health and Work as the most important needs.

In accordance with this, Agrinas was able to assist local communities in dealing with needs in the area of:

- rural drinking water supply; for example by drilling wells and installing desalination equipment
- hygiene as related to water and sanitation
- income generation by agriculture; by helping farmers technically and by giving advice



Smallholder farmer in Agrinas, Kazakhstan, sorting chili peppers for export to the market.



Smallholder farmer in Agrinas, Kazakhstan, receiving information on chili pepper production and marketing from a local extension officer.