

Developing the extension services in Kyrgyzstan

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In Kyrgyzstan, first of all, the extension services in the field of water use and agricultural methods are developing based on the existing consulting organizations. The second way is the establishing of extension services in the frame of each WUA with headquartering at the PWMO where the provincial unit for supporting WUAs and consulting services is organized (Fig. 4.23).

The provincial unit for supporting WUAs is responsible for the following activities:

- developing and coordination of training programs and manuals, as well as plans of joint activity of the extension service and water users associations;
- training specialists of WUAs and consultants of the extension services by advanced methods to enhance the efficiency of irrigation water use and land productivity;
- collecting data on private farms and WUAs;
- assessment and analyzing the existing problems in private farms, water requirements of cultivated crops depending on soil conditions, and the extent of water availability of irrigation canals and WUAs;
- preparing thematic booklets for farmers and district specialists;
- data input into the database and knowledge base; and
- methodological supporting the specialists of WUAs in their consulting work with farmers within the area serviced by these WUAs;

WUA specialists carry out the following activities in the area serviced by the WUA:

- monitoring the indicators of land and water productivity in private farms;
- consulting services to farmers regarding preparation of land for sowing, scheduling irrigations, selection of optimal irrigation pattern, implementing agricultural methods according to the process map of crop growing;
- studying the bottlenecks and shortcomings in agricultural practice and water use; and
- dissemination of thematic booklets in national language prior to execution of each farming operation namely before tillage, sowing, arranging irrigation sites (system of water applications), irrigations, fertilizer application etc.

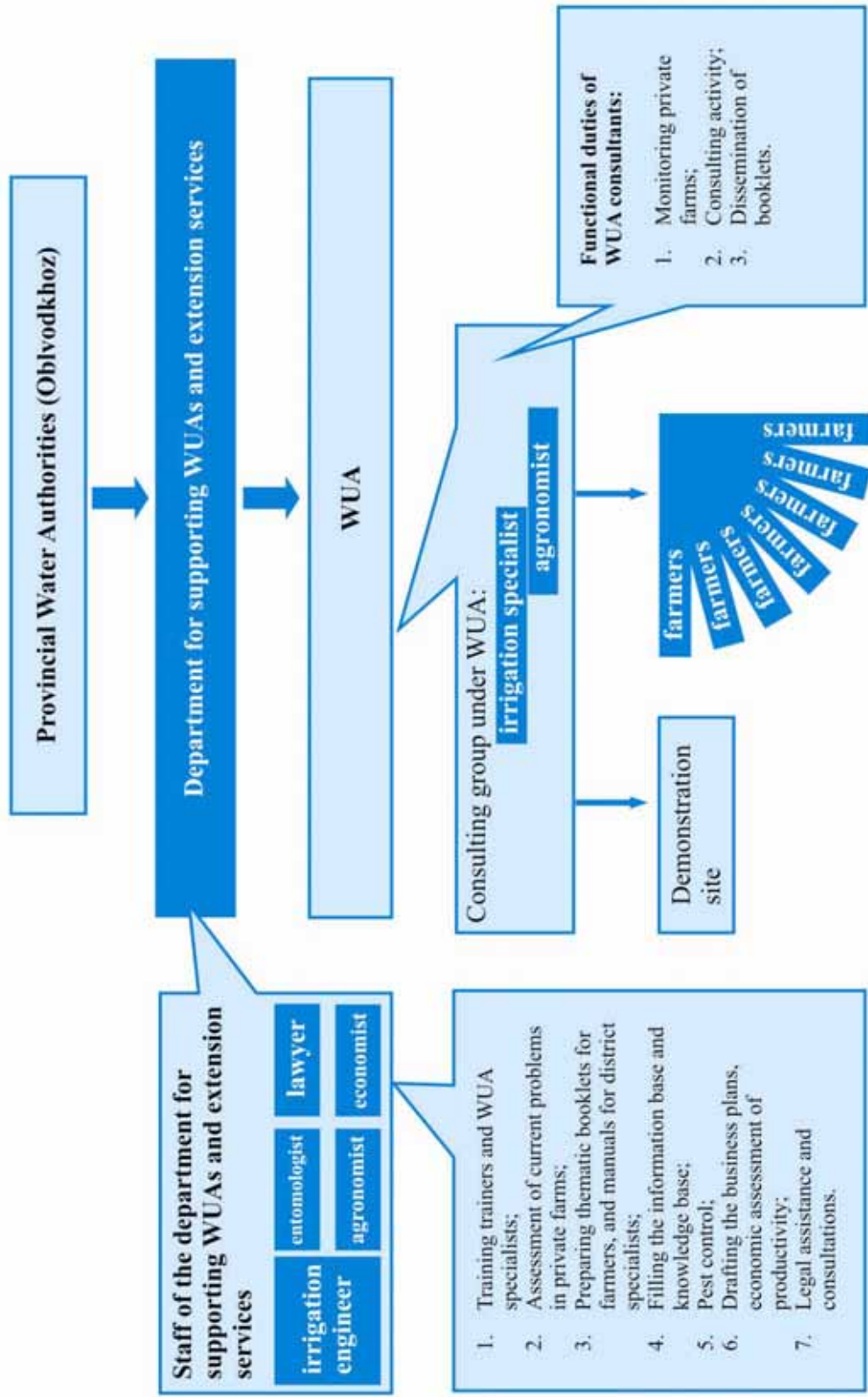


Figure 4.23 Institutional Framework of Extension Services in