

## District 2430 Governor Tours Rotary Water Villages



District 2430 Governor Ali Akinci and his spouse, Demet, spent two days in Tajikistan on March 15 and 16, 2007 as part of his tour of Central Asian Rotary clubs. District 2430 unites 86 clubs in Turkey with 5 clubs in 4 other nations - Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Ali's service as a Rotarian dates back to 1989 when he joined the Rotary Club of Ankara-Gaziosmanpasa.

DG Akinci and local Rotarians visited the Rotary water project sites in Varzob District, north of Dushanbe.

District Governor Ali Akinci and Demet Akinci

The Governor held meetings with two Water User's Associations established during the 2005-2006 TRF Matching Grant project. The first WUA has successfully managed their new utility system, distributing water to residents in accordance with local rules for both home and agricultural use. Since completion of the initial Rotary project, villagers have added a number of new distribution points, making water access even more convenient for residents. The second WUA is newly established and beginning its duties as the local utility committee.



DG Akinci, Head of Luchobi Poyon WUA and representatives of CARE Tajikistan and Rotary Club of Dushanbe tour a new project village.

Head of Luchob Water Users Association



After only a few months of water availability in the village of Luchobi Poyon, the positive effects on village life are evident. Old family dwellings are being repopulated, new homes are being built, and backyard orchards and gardens are helping provide food and income for many families.

"People in these rural regions live in really tough conditions," observed DG Akinci as the delegation departed one of the villages. He continued, "But with water they can now do many things to improve their lives."