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# THE USAID AGRIBUSINESS COMPETITIVENESS ACTIVITY IN TAJIKISTAN FACT SHEET

Working to improve and expand market systems in Tajikistan for increased employment opportunities and incomes for agribusinesses.

A five-year, \$18.6 million activity, USAID Agribusiness Competitiveness Activity in Tajikistan uses a market-driven, private sector-led approach to stimulate economic growth, increase employment opportunities and improve livelihoods, while enhancing the competitiveness of Tajikistan's dairy and horticulture sectors.

By teaching local enterprises and business service providers to identify and successfully engage in market opportunities, USAID Agribusiness Competitiveness Activity is building a network of business leaders for sustained and equitable economic growth. This network not only increases Tajikistan's ability to effectively participate in regional trade, but also improves the connectivity of the countries in Central Asia thus supporting overall regional stability.

The activity focuses primarily on strengthening agribusiness competitiveness within the targeted horticulture and dairy value chains, especially in Feed the Future's focus districts located on the border with Afghanistan. By utilizing its Technical Assistance and Partnership and Innovation Fund, the activity provides demand-driven assistance to agricultural associations, cooperatives, market integrators, and micro, small and medium enterprises in specific sub-sectors to take advantage of domestic, regional, and international market opportunities.

## ACTIVITIES



### Diversify

the agricultural sector to include higher-value commodities and value-added products



### Strengthen

linkages between aggregators, wholesalers, exporters, and international and domestic end-markets



### Partner

and leverage resources to catalyze systemic change in the agribusiness sector

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **9,571 individuals** benefited during Year 2 through training; grants; access to finance; B2B meetings, local and international study tours, forums, expositions; and technical assistance;
- **7906 individuals** applied improved management practices or technologies, including new high-value and value-added products; pruning and grafting techniques; tomato and cucumber growing practices; methods for storing fruits and vegetables; and safe use of pesticides, minerals, and vitamins;
- **29 agribusinesses** reported improved performance through value-add product developments; labeling and certifications; establishment of FSCs; and organizational capacity building of target enterprises;
- **14 Public Private Partnerships** formed, including market-focused business partnerships between the Khatlon State Business Incubator and horticulture and dairy enterprises;
- **24 new value-added products developed** through provision of production equipment, consulting, mentoring and study tours.
- **13 firms supported** to meet regional and international trade standards and certification requirements;
- **57 target enterprises/firms** received technical support in order to export their produce, seven of which are led by either women or youth;
- **14 new services made available** through **11 Farmer Service Centers** that now provide consultations and technical support to farmers, and logistics via newly established **one logistics center**;
- **2,139 full-time, part-time, and seasonal jobs created** in select enterprises, of which 67 percent are occupied by women.
- **More than half a million dollars of private sector investments leveraged** from eight approved grants;
- Nearly \$ 300,000 in loans disbursed **through local financial institutions** to enable target beneficiaries to start/expand businesses, but they also led to improved inputs/equipment, and launch of new product lines.

### PROJECT DURATION

July 2018 – June 2023

### IMPLEMENTING AGENCY

Winrock International

### PROJECT AREA

Khatlon Region: Khuroson, Abdurahmoni Jomi, Yovon, Kushoniyon, Vakhsh, Levakant, Jaloliddini, Balkhi, Jayhun, Dusti, Qubodiyon, Shahritus, Nosiri Khusrav and Panj

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