



MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS OF FINLAND



PROGRESS REPORT

2016

Project	Aid for Trade for Central Asia (phase III)
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Approvals	Approved by the Project Board
Purpose	As per the project document, the project is monitored through annual and bi-annual reports. The report is prepared to give a summary of progress, present the overall project situation and provide sufficient information for the Project Board to take decisions and to make recommendations.



“The procurement of this powerful equipment is a great achievement for our area farmers. This grain drying equipment can process not only corn seeds but also other cereals such as wheat, barley with regard to their specifications right after the harvest and opens up great opportunities for export. Grains processed by such drying equipment meet all the requirements of certification and laboratory analysis,” - Kubanichbek Mamedov, Head of the Agro Development Department of Kara-Suu rayon of Osh oblast.

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1. Summary

UNDP's main aim is to support sustainable, inclusive economic development that creates opportunities for all spheres of society. Within this trade and private sector development can play a fundamental role in improving human development. Growing productive capacities and exports mean new opportunities for enterprises to create more and better jobs, ultimately benefitting people. Trade-led growth only promotes human development when it benefits and empowers the less fortunate, and when it does not place unsustainable burdens on ecosystems.

The main objectives of the third phase of the Aid for Trade project are as follows:

1. Trade policies that promote human development, particularly in terms of making best use of regional and global trade agreements, as well as best practices;
2. Support to SME-oriented business/ trade –support organisations to deliver effective services to businesses, ensuring that businesses have the support they need to grow;
3. Direct support to entrepreneurs and small businesses to improve their processing and/or export capacities. The project will support entrepreneurs/farmers through the introduction of new and/or greener technologies, as well as new production methods.

Regional

The [evaluation of the AfT project phase II](#) interventions, conducted by an independent evaluator (March 2016), confirmed the overall positive results of interventions and assessed highly the project's relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact. The evaluation was approved by the Board in March/June 2016.

The [evaluation of the Wider Europe Initiative](#) (WEI), conducted by the Government of Finland, highlighted that the AfT project "brought Finnish added value to the development cooperation programme and benefited both parties". Concrete recommendations were adopted during the board meeting in Tashkent, 2-4th August 2016.



Sample to demonstrate quality issues

The regional output also supported several regional events, the most noteworthy being the [Agrifood Supply Chains in Cross Border Trade in Nuts and Dried Fruits](#) regional workshop, Tashkent, 11-13 July organised jointly with UNECE and GIZ. The workshop brought together stakeholders both from the private and public sector discussing marketing standards, and quality of inspection systems. Over 70 participants, including global experts discussed issues on ensuring quality standards in Central Asia, requirements of target markets, and the importance of linking into global supply chains.

A study tour on fresh grapes was also organised to India for Tajik and Uzbek producers. The study tour was very successful both in terms of improving shelf life of products of participants, as well as sharing knowledge in countries upon the return of participants. For example, Mr. Abdulloev (TJK) who produces 6 000 tons p.a. introduced new storage technologies on the basis of what he learned in India and now extended storage of his fresh grapes from three months to five months which enables him to supply re-sellers with fresh products for a much longer time span. In addition, he trained 100 of his fellow producers in this new technology. Similar result was also achieved for the Uzbek participants.

The project also supported the organisation of the regional conference on [Employment, Trade and Sustainable Development](#). This workshop was organised jointly with ILO and EBRD and brought all Central Asian countries together discussing labour, trade and SDG issues (90 participants).

Kyrgyzstan



Organic walnut processing, Osh Oblast

The project continues to deliver strongly across the board, however special consideration should be drawn to the support provided to the government in terms of developing policy options to the government including recommendations for trade finance mechanisms such as the state guarantee fund for SMEs. The project supported the government in developing policy options for the state guarantee fund, which was established on the basis of the recommendations provided by the project. The currently capitalisation of the fund stands at 280 mln KGS. Capitalisation of up to 1 bln KGS is under discussion. The funds main aim is to ease the lack of access to finance for SMEs. SMEs often face problems in accessing loans due to lack of collateral. The fund tries to address this issue and allow for a better access to finance for SMEs and thereby facilitate SME growth.

The project supported the merger of the Single Window Center and the Export Promotion Agency through concrete inputs for the structure of the new agency. The government will also increase staff from 5 to 15. The aim is to ensure that support for export promotion are mainstreamed under one single agency. The project also supported the establishment of a helpdesk for SMEs, which in the first six month of its establishment received 6 045 phone inquiries.

Activities in Naryn and Osh are also progressing well although the project has to note once more delays in procurement. In both location, the project continues to work on improving the quality of production, as well as marketing products to external markets. The supported value chains managed to create 113 jobs in 2016. This brings the total of jobs created to 215 (68 for women). The project also supported beekeepers in the Sary-Be rayon in Osh oblast to create the very first buffer zone for bees in Kyrgyzstan. The milk production line in Naryn was accepted in the roster of food producers of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), this will facilitate export to EAEU member countries.

Tajikistan

The project in Tajikistan has made good progress in 2016. One of the main priorities for the project at the macro level, is to support the government in establishing and managing a coordination mechanism for the implementation of the WTO post-accession plan. Currently the mechanism is functional and over 60 agencies and state structures are involved in the inter-ministerial working groups.

The project also continues to support the government in developing its strategic visions most notably with the development of the Export Promotion and Increasing Competiveness State Programme (EPIC). The state programme was adopted on the 26th November 2016 (decree 503).

The AIMS system continues to do well. By the end of



December it registered 148 175 unique users. The users of the SMS agroconsulting stands at 1 089 (-1 220 compared to 2015). This decrease is explained by a strong growth in unique users of the AIMS system app 19 423 (+14 618 compared to 2015 data).

The Business Challenge Fund has also supported 13 new business ideas, 11 in the Rasht valley and 2 in Khatlon (revolved). 136 jobs were created, 80 of which were for women through the BCF.

Uzbekistan



The project continues to make good progress in Uzbekistan. Legislative work undertaken in previous years has also started to bear fruits with the approval of the new customs code by the President on 20th January 2016. The project supported the development of customs code in 2014 with harmonizing customs regulation to international standards. Furthermore, to improve business processes, the new customs code empowers ICT based interaction of businesses with customs authorities. The work started in 2015 on Global GAP standards also is starting to bear fruits, with the first client company having successfully completed the external audit and received its certification on 4th April 2016 for lettuces, by the end of the year the company exported 1 mln US\$ worth of lettuces to food chains in Russia. In total, project partners i.e. SME directly benefiting from Aid for Trade interventions exported goods worth over 2.5 mln US\$ in 2016.

On 3rd of May, the project launched the export promotion platform - UzTrade (tradeuzbekistan.com). The online platform, staffed by back-end professional support from Uztadbirkorexport, foreign trade company, is the first of its kind in Uzbekistan and aims to support exports of national producers reaching out to bigger markets. Within just 7 months, it has more than 1400 registered companies with more than 3000 product items and facilitated sales of US\$ 38 mln.

Uzagroexport, a new TSI, specifically established in April 2016 to promote exports of agricultural products, with the support of AfT was able to organise the First International Fruits and Vegetables Fair, to promote national goods at international markets, which led to preliminary export contracts totaling US\$ 114 mln. During 2016, as a result of the participation to international fairs TSIs (UzAgroExport, UzTadbirkorEkspport, UzSanoatEkspport) were able to conclude export contracts worth US\$ 161 mln.

85 people from trade support institutions and private sector were able to improve their knowledge and skills during the trainings on quality, food safety and marketing aspects of nuts and dried fruits, export marketing strategy to EU countries, best Indian practices on fresh grapes value chains, Czech experience on dairy, fresh and vegetable sectors development.

In order to facilitate policy and practical level discussions on improving business processes in export oriented value chains, the project conducted jointly with UNECE an international workshop on agri-food supply chains in cross-border trade of nuts and dried fruits during July 11-13, 2016 in Tashkent (REG).

The implementation of two eco-sustainable pilot projects initiated in 2015, led to the creation in 2016 of 23 new decent jobs, mostly for women in rural areas. The project support led (indirectly) to the creation of 208 new jobs (50% for women) at project partners in 2016.

Monitoring of the AfT project phase II interventions shows that all pilot projects remain sustainable and functioning. This was also confirmed by the independent evaluator during her visit to Uzbekistan in March 2016.

In 2016, the Uzbekistan output hosted the regional project board meeting, which was followed by stakeholder meetings in Tashkent, Namangan and Andijan. In general, stakeholders welcomed and positively assessed the project interventions.

2. External factors and assumptions

Mr. Shavkat Mirziyoyev was announced as the new President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the basis of elections held on December 4, 2016 following the death of President Islam Karimov on 2nd September.

In Uzbekistan, the government created a new export company 'UzAgroExport' to conduct market research, promote and facilitate exports of fresh and processed fruits and vegetables. Functions and services related to sales of agro produce of Uztadbirkorexport, the major partner and client of the AfT project, were transferred to UzAgroExport. So far the project focused on building capacities of Uztadbirkorexport resulting in strong results. Given the new arrangements for exports from Uzbekistan, capacity building and technical assistance envisioned will need to be adjusted to include 'UzAgroExport'.

Overall, exporters and producers have suffered from the devaluation of the ruble and the tenge, the economic crisis as well as the influx of returning migrants. Although in the short term, the returning migrants will allow for an increase in national consumption over the long-run it is expected that national demand will weaken due to decreasing purchasing power of segments of societies dependent on remittances.

In Kyrgyzstan, the ministerial structure changed once again in June 2016. The food industry portfolio was transferred from the Ministry of Economy to the Ministry of Agriculture.

Tajikistan continues to face economic pressures which could translate in increasing unemployment rates, decreasing remittance flow, decreasing power of local currency etc. and may adversely affect the sustainability of achievements made by the project, especially at the macro level.

3. Progress

Kyrgyzstan

Under the trade policy component, the project supports the government in developing stronger mechanism to facilitate access to finance. Providing to the government concrete recommendations that include new financial products that the Government can implement to support its business community. Concretely the project supported:

1. The project provides continues support to the government for the development of a package of recommendations on trade finance mechanisms. An action plan on cross-sector access to finance was developed and submitted to the government. The government is in process of endorsing the proposed changes;
2. The project developed recommendations for the establishment of regional funds to support rural entrepreneurs. Recommendations were submitted for consideration to the Prime Minister's office;
3. The project provided expert advice for the development of a dedicated programme for export financing;
4. The project developed recommendation on the organisational structure and chart of the JSC Guarantee Fund (state-owned) and submitted a package of recommendations to the Ministry of Economy. As a result, a new fund was established on the basis of the recommendations provided by the project. The fund will provide guarantees for entrepreneurs for export operations and collateral. Capital currently totals 280 mln KGS. Capitalization of up to 1 bln KGS is under discussion;
5. The project has also supported the government in developing the decree that will merge the Agency for Investment and Exports and the Single Window Centre. This allows the Government to have a more

streamlined approach in its investment and export promotion. The decree (#549) for the merger was adopted on 14th October 2016.

The project supported the government in developing a helpdesk service for the Single Window Centre. The helpdesk will be available via email, as well as through telephone. Since its establishment in June 2016, the helpdesk has received over 6045 calls. The Single Window Centre supported 93 companies with new service lines, out of these 93, 10 companies signed sales contracts, 34 companies received general information on export activities, 1 company was accepted into the EAEC roster of producers. For the remaining companies consultations are ongoing and results cannot yet be assessed. The Prime Minister, Mr. Sooronbay Jeenbekov, attended the opening ceremony of the Help Desk.

The project has also started a pilot on Kyrgyz –Finnish business matching (regional output). The activity was kicked off with a Kyrgyz-Finnish business seminar which invited private and public stakeholders. A consequent study found that the following products had high potential for export to Finland:

- Honey;
- Walnut;
- Dried fruits;
- Textile.



The novelty of this study is that it looks at requirements both from an EU and a Finnish perspective – related to the standards highlighted as relevant by the Finnish Food Standard Agency or customer requirements in the Finnish market (in terms of product preferences, size and quality). An initial meeting was held by the consultant with the Stockman group, as well as a second meeting with the S-Group in the presence of HE Ilkka Räisänen. Both companies have expressed their interest, however works needs to be done ensuring compliance with not only EU/Finnish national

requirements but also company requirements in terms of quality and quantity. During a meeting with the Prime Minister Mr. Sooronbay Jeenbekov, findings of the study were highlighted by Ambassador Toivonen and Mr. Numminen (pictured above).

The project also supported business matching with Kazakh and Russian companies. 12 contracts were signed for a total of 1 mln USD, as of December 2017 0.7 mln USD were delivered. The project continues to support the Chamber of Commerce of Kyrgyzstan (CoC). The CoC struggles to maintain sufficient levels of income to maintain its operations and provide quality services to its members. As a result, the project supported the CoC both in developing its staff capacities as well as developing new service lines to support income generation activities of the CoC. As a result, the CoC developed a new concept on managing B2C and 12 new topics for its B2B fairs.

In Osh, the project has been exceptionally good in collaborating with other technical partners to ensure a wider impact of activities.

Jointly, with GIZ, the project conducted the following trainings (20, 0 women):

1. Development of business projects for agroprocessors;
2. Financial literacy for cooperative members (for “Nookat Altyn Almasy” and “Ozgon guruch” cooperatives).

The project also supported capacities for the rice and honey cooperatives the project is supporting. Both cooperatives participated in trainings on marketing and quality standards and have developed their export strategy



for the next three years. The members of the Kapchygai Too baly cooperative (honey) established an exclusion zone to ensure that they can breed purebred bees which will produce higher volumes and quality of honey. Despite this good news, the cooperative has faced a very difficult year with a decrease in production volume of over half to that of the previous year, which was due to a very cold and wet spring. Out of the 110 tons produced in 2016, 26 tons went for export to Saudi Arabia and China. The Nookat cooperative (apples) also faced similar issues in terms of production with very weak production in 2016 due to the frost in spring. The cooperative harvested 400 tons of

apples (compared to 1250 in 2015).

In collaboration with the USAID “Farmer to Farmer” programme, a rice expert from the USA gave field consultations on agrotechnology and crop protection to the AfT supported cooperatives “Ozgon guruch” and “Ozgon shalyuroon”.

In Naryn, the association of beekeepers Naryn Uyuk received the beekeeping equipment. The equipment was transferred to the members of the association on a pay-back principle. 40% of the cost of the equipment will be paid back in honey (approx. 14 tons of white honey). As of January 2017, 90% of payments were made by the members. The cooperative has had a very good year in terms of production volume with an increase of 14.6% and sales increased 13.3%. 54.6% of the production was sold mostly at the national level. Test batches were sent to China (5 tons), Kazakhstan (1.5 tons), the UAE (1 ton) and South Korea (300kg). The FEZ Naryn will support the beekeepers in establishing export links to Kashgar (China). The association arranged training on good practices in honey collection in May. In parallel, the Single Window Centre is providing business matching initiative to access German and Japanese markets.

The cheese production line received the equipment and launched production in May. Based on first observations the quality of the cheese improved. Before the start of the season of milk collection, the representatives of the company arranged meetings with milk collectors and farmers on issues related to vaccination, as well as food safety issues during milking. The company was accepted in the roster of producers of the EAEC which will facilitate exporting to member countries of the EAEC. Total production increased by 7.2% and sales by 4.9%.

The project has had to delay its activity for the felt cooperative, unfortunately the supplier of the equipment was unable to deliver all the equipment. As a result, the equipment had to be returned and the project has to re-tender the sewing machines. Despite this set back the felt cooperatives have reaped benefits from the trainings provided in 2015 and 2016 with a strong increase in their sales (over 60%). This is due to a stronger presence in large events (Nomad games) as well as more orders through social media.

Tajikistan

The project continues to frame its policy work on the post WTO accession plan, working together with concerned ministries, state agencies and technical partners. The project supports the coordination and engagement of over 60 agencies and state structures (inter-ministerial working group). The State Programme on “Export Promotion and Increase of Competitiveness” (EPIC) 2016-2020 was completed in 2015 and submitted to the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade which adopted the EPIC. The EPIC was adopted by decree on 26th of November 2016.

In addition, following priorities of Tajikistan were supported by the project:

- Law on trade and consumer services: the project continues to support the government in the adjustment of the law (adopted in 2013), as well as the development of by-laws through technical expertise, as well as through supporting working groups both at the national and regional level. Currently, the project supported the government in the formulation of by-laws on commission trade, consumer services and public catering in schools. These by-laws are now being approved by relevant government departments. In addition, the project is supporting the government in developing by-laws on anti-dumping and protective measures. To support the government with the upcoming WTO Trade Policy Review (TPR), a road map on TPR (2016-2019) was developed. The road map is currently circulated among the different ministries for comments. The project is also supporting the government in developing early protective mechanisms in line with WTO rules and regulations;
- Law on Free Economic Zones (FEZ): the law on Free Economic Zones is a post-WTO accession plan priority. In 2015, the project supported the adjustment of the law through technical expertise, as well as through supporting working groups. The project also organised a study visit to Turkey to learn from the Turkish experience in establishing and managing FEZs. In 2016, the draft law was discussed in the parliament, the law has still not been adopted by the government;
- Capacity development on WTO issues: this activity targets the capacity development of government officials and is a priority of the post-WTO accession plan. The project supported capacity building actions relating to priorities set in the WTO Post Accession plan: capacity building trainings for 252 (70 female) government officials and 327 (100 female) representatives from the business community on trade policy and WTO rules. The project supported trainings on forecasting, modelling, developing trade indicators, WTO and analysing the impact of regional trade integration processes (9 key staff from MEDT - 4 females). A study tour to Turkey on the TPR was organised with the support of relevant Ministries in Turkey. 49 (14 female) government officials, as well as private sector representatives participated;
- Trade Development Programme for the Khatlon region: the project supported the Khatlon region in the development of a Trade Development Programme. The draft Trade Development Programme was elaborated and submitted to the Khatlon administration. The programme was adopted by decree on the 30th March 2016. The project also supported the region in organising an agro fair and B2B events, as well as branding of regional products;
- Consultative Council for the Khatlon region and Rasht Valley: the project has announced the next call for submission of projects for associations targeting legislative priorities defined in the National Development Strategy and EPIC. 8 recommendations were identified and submitted to national authorities for their consideration and adoption;

- Capacity development for entrepreneurs: in 2016, 484 (195 women) entrepreneurs were trained or received advisory support. In addition, the project supported “choihana” start-ups where young entrepreneurs can present their business ideas. 31 entrepreneurs made a pitch out of which 27 will benefit from business skills training. The main idea is to link young entrepreneurs with more established and experienced entrepreneurs. The project, jointly with USAID, supported the National Association of Business Women to organise a national competition for the best business woman in Tajikistan, as well as emphasising a positive image of female entrepreneurs. 278 applications were submitted from all regions of the country. In addition, during the Women Business Forum which is organised annually by the United States Embassy as part of the Global Entrepreneurship week in November, the project invited 8 female project clients to participate in the expo to highlight and emphasise a positive image towards female entrepreneurship. The project also supported the organisation of a study tour of 7 SMEs (dry fruits and dairy processors) and 2 TSIs to Czech Republic (jointly regional output and CTF) focusing on best practices in fruits & vegetables and dairy sectors. As result, 3 companies started negotiations for cooperation with Czech counterparts. Finally, the project also supported an energy audit in 7 SMEs in the Sughd region. As a result, companies received concrete recommendations to reduce energy consumption in production facilities;



Fishfarmer(BCF),DRS

- Targeted export promotion: in 2016, 5 SMEs participated in the "World Food Moscow 2016" in September 2016. Direct contracts and MoUs for over 4 mln. US\$ were signed. LLC "Zoda" was awarded a gold medal for their products and recognised as the best product of 2016. 10 out of 20 SMEs participated in previous exhibitions increased their export volume on average by 20%. The project also supported a number of regional trade fairs “Sughd-2016”, B2B contractors’ forum in Sughd region, as well as the Trade Fair and Investment Forum “Khatlon-2016”. Over 70 contracts and MoUs were concluded with companies from Russia, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan as a result. In addition, the project is supporting producers in complying with international standards. In 2016, 4 processing SMEs were supported with expert advice in the introduction of HACCP, ISO 22000, or FSSC 22000, amongst others;
- Building capacity of TSIs: A dedicated round table was organised with the participation of 20 TSIs (40 people). The focus was on identifying the main issues the sector faces, as well as on professionalization of the sector. As a follow up action, an action plan on the needs of the sector was developed and it was agreed that the sector will regularly meet to discuss on how to offer better services;
- Expansion of AIMS: The AIMS is an online and mobile-based information system that provides market prices, as well as agricultural information to farmers. The system is available in the Sughd region, Khatlon region, as well as the Rasht valley. In 2016, the system registered 148 157 unique users, which is below 2016 prognostic. However, the system has witnessed a marked shift towards its app store with a huge growth of over 14 000 new users. The AIMS is witnessing a rapid change in the use of online technology, with a definite and very rapid shift towards mobile based technology.
- Business Challenge Fund: During the reporting period, the project supported 13 business ideas, 4 SMEs were women-headed. 11 SMEs in DRS and 2 in Khatlon supported. The BCF continues to focus on SMEs demonstrating strong gender, employment and green focus. Issued loans support various production

directions, including - greenhouses, fruit juices production, confectionary, sewing shops, furniture production, fishery farm (pictured above), dairy production, drying fruits, etc.

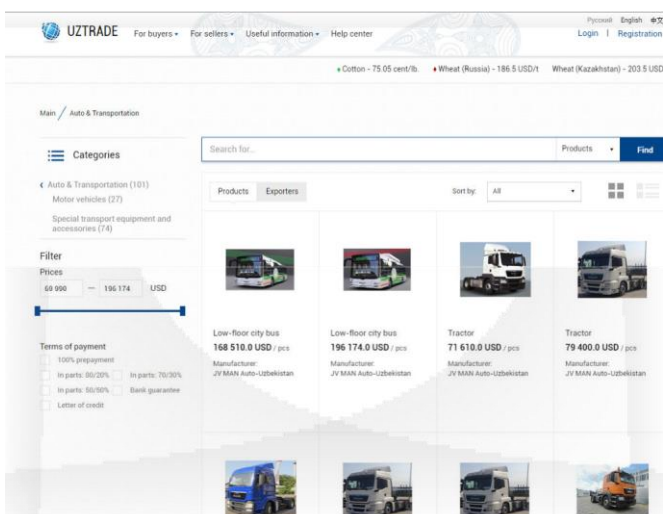
Uzbekistan

The project in Uzbekistan focused on providing concrete recommendations on improving the foreign trade regime and exports in Uzbekistan. The project, jointly with the Center of Economic Research (CER), developed the Analysis and improvement of the foreign trade regime as a factor in raising competitiveness of the economy of Uzbekistan. The analysis advances ideas on how to raise the country's competitiveness through improving the foreign trade regime. One analytical report on the current state and perspective of non-raw-materials exports was prepared jointly with the Institute for Forecasting and Macroeconomic Research (IFMR), using econometric models emphasising the need to diversify from resource based exports to more value added goods and promote the development of labor intensive sectors such as textile, leather and footwear, food industry, construction materials and others. The analysis also confirmed the competitiveness and recommends to further develop the sector of fresh and processed fruits, vegetables and nuts. The project also supported an analysis on improving productivity and export potential of the fruits and vegetable sector.

To complement research recommendations, as well as trainings provided in 2015 and in order to practically demonstrate the effectiveness of the business process re-engineering (BPR) in exporting, the project supports the pilot implementation of BPR recommendations for the issuance of certificates of origin in UzbekExpertiza. The service was re-modeled and modified for electronic processing, and a special software was installed to enable e-provision of the service. On October 5th, the government resolution (UP-4848) codifying the provision of e-services, including the issuance of certificate of origin, was adopted.

The project also prepared an analytical note on the technical regulation system of the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) and analysis of trade-related sanitary, phyto-sanitary and veterinary control measures for market access of agricultural goods of the EEU. The analysis provided an overview of existing requirements and recommendations to access the EEU market. To complement the regulatory analysis, a marketing research: status and perspectives of export of fresh and processed fruits and vegetables of Uzbekistan was conducted. The research highlights the need to diversify export destination and product lines. The project also supported the updating and re-publishing of the Guidebook 'Cost of Doing Business in Uzbekistan' (last updated in 2012) in Russian and English versions.

As a practical step to improve regional trade opportunities, the project was able to organise a joint UNECE/UNDP regional workshop on "Agri-food supply chains in cross-border trade of nuts and dried fruits" July 11-13, 2016 in Tashkent. Stakeholders and private sector participants from three CA countries (UZB, TJK, and KGZ) discussed issues of quality, food safety, business processes and markets for selected products. Speakers from USA, Turkey, France, Italy and China shared their experiences and recommendations for CA countries.



In the trade promotion area, the project achieved several notable results. After two years of planning and testing, the Uztrade (tradeuzbekistan.com) online export promotion platform was launched on May 3rd, 2016. Uztrade platform enables registered companies to create individual websites within the platform thus creating presence in virtual markets and benefit from the professional support of specialists of Uztadbirkorexport in undertaking negotiations and making sales. As of 31st December 2016, the platform has over 1400 registered companies with over 3000 products. The platform in 2016 has facilitated export deals' worth 38 mln US\$. The project is currently working hard on the marketing

front for the platform, including the development of a short reel on the platform, as well as providing information to exporters and businesses.

18 representatives of TSIs and 17 SMEs improved their knowledge and skills on export marketing strategy development and export promotion to EU countries during a 3-day training on July 18-20, 2016. International experts from the Netherlands conducted the training and helped trainees to develop marketing action plans for exports of copper wire, fresh products, pharmaceutical products, carpets and textiles to various EU countries.

The AfT project continued its support to TSIs and SMEs with their participation at international exhibitions to promote and diversify sales. The project assisted 3 TSIs (UzAgroExport, UzTadbirkorexport, UzSanoatEksport (formerly, MarkazSanoatExport)) and 10 SMEs to participate in the "Fruit Logistica 2016" in Berlin, Germany, 'World Food Moscow 2016' and 'TextileLegprom' fair in Moscow Russia. As a result export contracts worth 161 mln US\$ were concluded. Uztadbirkorexport was able to increase exports volume by 25.9% to 1,386 mln US\$ in 2016 from 1,100 mln US\$ in 2015, while UzAgroExport (newly established TSI in 2016) was able to conclude preliminary exports contracts worth 114 mln US\$ and supply 27.3mln US\$ worth of fruits and vegetables, making the total exports reach 546 mln US\$ in 2016. 6 SMEs which participated at exhibitions in 2015 and 2016 concluded export contracts and exported goods worth 2.5mln US\$ and for half of clients it was first exporting experience, for the other half - new markets and products. For example, 'Gold Dried Fruits' LLC based on contracts concluded following the participation at the Food Week Korea 2015 Exhibition (18-21 November, 2015) exported cherries for the first time to Korea worth 540,000 US\$. Another company, Turon Agro Fresh LLC, which participated at Fruit Logistica 2016 Exhibition (Berlin, 03-06 February, 2016), was able to increase exports of dried fruits to 140,000 US\$ in 2016 from 46,000 US\$ in 2015.

Taking into account the importance of the textile sector, and as per request from national partners, the project developed a practical handbook How to export to the European Union using the example of textile products. The handbook provides information on European Union's procedures and requirements for imports of textile produce, as well as on international standards for textile products. Moreover, EU requirements are explained on the basis of 5 textile products most commonly exported.

The work on the Global Good Agricultural Practices (Global GAP) initiated at the end of 2014 and continued throughout 2015, has yielded positive results in 2016. Following the trainings, in 2015 the project provided expert advice to 4 farms/agro-companies from Tashkent, Samarkand and the Syrdarya regions. On April 4th, 2016 upon international audit inspection, Green Agro Food LLC met all Global G.A.P. requirements and issued Global GAP certification for lettuce. This enabled the company to conclude deliver fresh produce (lettuce) to Russia worth 1 mln US\$ and create 135 new jobs (15 permanent and 120 seasonal jobs with 70% being for women).



Energy efficient sewing workshop in Namangan, Imron textile

Following the trainings, in 2015 the project provided expert advice to 4 farms/agro-companies from Tashkent, Samarkand and the Syrdarya regions. On April 4th, 2016 upon international audit inspection, Green Agro Food LLC met all Global G.A.P. requirements and issued Global GAP certification for lettuce. This enabled the company to conclude deliver fresh produce (lettuce) to Russia worth 1 mln US\$ and create 135 new jobs (15 permanent and 120 seasonal jobs with 70% being for women).

In February 2016, the project organised a study tour for 5 agro companies to India on modern technologies and marketing approaches on grape export to European markets. The main take-away from the study tour were: 1) Global GAP certification of grape is required for exporting, 2) processing and individual packaging of grapes is

important so the grapes can be easily shelved in supermarkets. The packaging needs to be carried out in logistics center near the farms 3) transition from wooden crates to corrugated cardboard boxes with the capacity of 5-7 kg is important 4) the widespread introduction of drip irrigation systems maximizes efficiency, and 5) India increasingly grows seedless grape for exporting; 6) investment in pre-cooling and cold storage practices. During the 2016 grape season, study tour participants trained 30 farmers on grape storage technique learned in India. In addition, based on the knowledge received during the study tour, farmers were able to improve their storage techniques and extend storage time from 2 -3 months to 150 days. Farmers applied Indian packaging for premium grapes (40% of all their exported grapes) to Russia.



Energy efficient greenhouse using biogas

The project's assistance to improve productive capacities and creation of new jobs, especially for women, was demonstrated on the basis of 2 eco-sustainable business pilot projects. The project assisted 'Davron Agrosanat' in Buloqboshi district in the Andijan region with the introduction of renewable energy (biogas) for greenhouse production. Construction and installation works were completed in March 2016 and a biogas facility with a 340m³ (two bioreactors 170m³ each) bioreactor was created. It is expected that the production will be expanded and 10 new jobs will be created. In addition, the seedlings which will be distributed to nearby households and farmers will create additional 20-25 jobs.

The project also assisted the 'Imron Textile Group' to ensure more efficient production and reduce waste in the production of child and adult garments. 14 new types of products are now being produced and 20 (15 women) staff hired on a permanent

basis. Imron Textile Group (pictured on p. 13) concluded an export contract for the supply of knitted garments (T-shirts) to Russia and export goods for 245 000US\$.

The project continues facing delays in its business project for the bag production line mostly due to an insufficient number of offers complying with procurement requirements. The delivery of the equipment is expected for February 2017. The project will help to develop local skills, improve product quality, speed up production process, and support the creation of 15 new jobs for women and college graduates. Based on the call for new pilot project ideas, one new pilot project in agriculture was identified (mung bean and dried fruits sorting) and submitted to MFERIT for consideration.

The Climate Change Baseline Assessment Report based on the survey of farmers in Namangan and Fergana Region was finalized, although most of the work was conducted in 2015. The aim of the baseline assessment was to capture views and reflections of farmers on the climate change based on their recent and previous experiences. According to the survey results, almost all acknowledged that climate change influences productivity of the farming business, affects crops yields and quality. In particular, the 5 most mentioned negative impacts of climate change has are 1) decrease of crop yields, 2) increased water deficit and 3) increase of pests and plant diseases, 4) instability of nature, 5) increased costs for achieving targeted crop volumes. Findings of the report were shared

with local authorities, ministries and agencies to take into account in developing measures to improve the agricultural sector and increasing exports. As a follow-up a user-led driven survey was conducted on adaptation measures undertaken by farmers. The survey allows to assess in what way the farmers integrated adaptation measures, and in what way locally grown solutions are used. The measures taken by farmers, as expected, cover 2 most challenging areas caused by climate change - pest control and water deficit. The report consolidates various adaptation measures as used by farmers. In order to help farmers—apple orchard owners to cope with increasing problem of pest and disease spread, the AfT project helped to update and print the Handbook on pest and disease control for apple trees in Uzbek. This is the first of its kind publication in the form of pocket book with high resolution photo illustration of pests and diseases followed by their description and treatment recommendations. The project is also working on a locally grown cost efficient way of establishing heat maps for pest break outs which would allow for rapid interventions avoiding further spread.

Regional

The CTA of the Aid for Trade project departed the project in January 2016, the project assistant departed in February 2016. A part-time expert (50%) joined the team in June 2016 but left his position in the beginning of 2017.

The regional output, under the leadership of the Aid for Trade team in Uzbekistan organised a regional workshop [Agri-food supply chains in cross-border trade of nuts and dried fruits](#) in Tashkent on July 11-13, 2016. The workshop brought together stakeholders both from the private and public sector discussing marketing standards, and quality of inspection systems. Over 70 participants, including global experts discussed issues on ensuring quality standards in Central Asia, requirements of target markets, and the importance into linking into global supply chains. The workshop was organised jointly with UNECE. UNECE, GIZ and UNDP are financially contributing to this event.

The regional output, organised jointly with the UNDP Sustainable Development Cluster, the Employment, Trade and Sustainable Development in Central Asia conference. ILO and EBRD were co-organizers to this event. The participants of the forum included governments, the private sector, and the civil society representatives from the 5 countries, together with staff from UNDP, ILO, and EBRD working on these issues. Among the participants of the conference were also other national and international partners that are actively engaged in employment and social inclusion issues in the sub-region. Participants were also looking at the role of trade and the private sector in promoting employment-rich and sustainable development. Trade can contribute to raising living standards and creating quality jobs, but small producers in the sub-region still face significant barriers in accessing markets abroad due to the high costs of taking goods across borders. The presentations and background materials to the conference can be found at [jobs4prosperity.org](#).

The project has also launched a joint collaboration with UNCTAD on supporting countries in identifying export space for green products. The regional output launched its green product space mapping for Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. The project is using this approach - initially developed by UNCTAD – to identify sustainable labor intensive products with high export capability. The approach first uses the comparative advantage methodology to identify the products best for exporting, then using the WTO core group of green groups it identifies products that are sustainable. Gathering relevant data was a laborious process but by the end of 2016 a first draft was finalised, and data verification is ongoing. The next step will be to organise technical workshops in countries, as well as organise a parallel approach in Kazakhstan (led by UNCTAD). The main aim of this activity is to show-case the economic opportunities in focusing on green products for exports.



Study tour to the Czech Republic

The regional output organised two study tours one to India and one to the Czech Republic (co-financed by the Czech Trust Fund), details for the results are given under the country component. Noteworthy however is that:

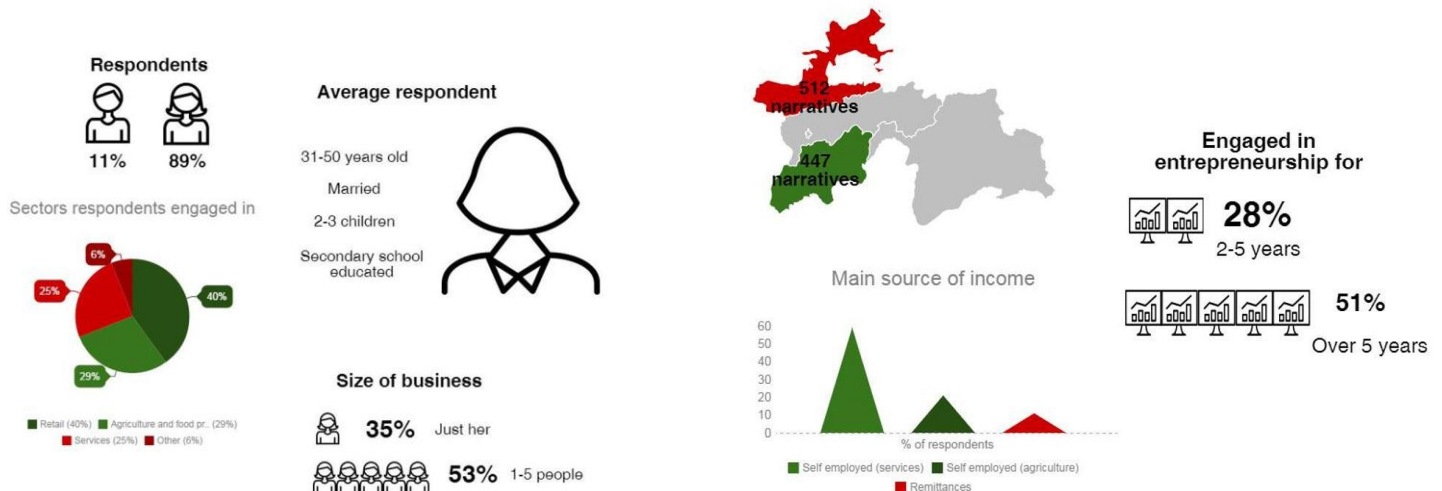
1. Cross country study tours allow for exchange between Central Asian countries;
2. Targeted approaches such as in the Indian case produce measurable impact, notably with increasing shelf-life of fresh grapes from 2-3 month to five months;
3. Entrepreneurs require mentoring after the study tours to ensure that lessons learned are applied;
4. Study tours that are accompanied with a lead entrepreneur that later on can disseminate knowledge have the largest impact.

The regional output has also launched its first Kyrgyzstan 2 Finland activity under phase III. The activity has been very promising and much enthusiasm has been generated around it. More details on the results can be found under the country component results.

The work on agro-innovations is ongoing, agreements have been reached with Uzbek national counterparts that pest heat maps will be the most productive approach. These will allow to identify outbreaks at the earliest possible stage and are expected to decrease the use of pesticides.

The project also run a set of regional trainings for Trade Support Institutions, jointly with ITC in March 2016. This was the second of two practical regional capacity building workshops.

The micro-narratives study on barriers for women entrepreneurs in Tajikistan finalised its data collection with over 1000 participants. First results highlight that women do not perceive societal norms as a limitation to their ability to be an entrepreneur, but rather that the lack of skills and self-esteem as well as lack of support programme is a barrier for them. Across the board, access to markets was highlighted as a main barrier in maintaining business activities. Interestingly, the majority of women active as entrepreneurs are not or do not have family members dependent on remittances. Another interesting finding that more than half of the men (55%) did not think that gender matters in being an entrepreneur. Below graphs provide an overview of the audience of the survey.



Finally, as highlighted in the summary, the AfT project also conducted/supported two evaluations in 2016, namely the [evaluation of the AfT project phase II](#), as well as the [evaluation of the Wider Europe Initiative](#) (WEI) conducted by the Government of Finland.

The project was also highlighted in [UNDP's annual report](#), and received a mention from UNDP's [Executive Board](#) during its mission to Kyrgyzstan:

“38. The delegation had a positive impression of the 'Aid for Trade' projects implemented by UNDP and funded by the Government of Finland that aim at supporting value-added production and increasing commercialization of agricultural products at the community level. They seem to have transformed the lives of communities by increasing employment opportunities.” P.7

4. Cross-cutting objectives

Gender – the project continuously strives to ensure gender equality and improve the situation of women entrepreneurs and female employees. Kyrgyzstan is implementing direct activities with cooperatives which have pre-dominantly female members. In Tajikistan, the project has developed a micro-finance product which focuses exclusively women. In Uzbekistan, the project focuses on sectors that have high levels of female employees. On the regional level, the project has piloted a micro-narratives study with more than 1000 participants to identify perception on the barriers for women entrepreneurs. Overall the project is reaching its goal of 30% female participation, but still faces problems in finding sufficient amount of female participants for more technical activities or its policy activities.

Environmental sustainability – the project is implementing dedicated environmental sustainability activities in Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and on the regional level. On the regional level the study on green products will help the respective governments in taking sustainable decision for economic diversification. In Uzbekistan, the project targets concrete business ideas to demonstrate the profitability on green approaches. Whereas, in Tajikistan the project is implementing a green microfinance product.

5. Risks and opportunities update

Issue 1.2016: Mr. [Goran Sumkoski](#) has joined the project as of 13.06.2016. Mr. Sumkoski is a long-term consultant which will be working part-time for the AfT project (50%). His title will be Local Economic Development and Trade Specialist. He will work on Local Economic Development and Trade issues in the Sustainable Development. Mr. Sumkoski received his B.Sc. in Engineering from the St. Cyril and Methodius University in Macedonia and his M.Sc. in Development Management from the London School of Economics. He is currently finalizing his Ph.D. at the Meiji University in Tokyo, Japan and he has also spent a year as a Visiting Fulbright Fellow at the University of Minnesota, USA working on Corporate and Investment finance. Beyond working and studying in Europe, the United Kingdom and the United States, Mr. Sumkoski was a programme/project director and consultant on number of economic development, investment promotion and trade projects for organizations such as the World Bank, EU, UNDP, ADB, GIZ, SDC, etc. He has implemented projects in regions and countries ranging from East Asia and the Philippines, South Asia, Central Asia and FSU countries, to the Eastern Europe and the Balkans. Mr. Sumkoski supported the Kyrgyz Republic's successful Doing Business reform programme (the country was recognized as the 2nd top reformer in the Doing Business 2010 report), worked on introducing the Local Economic Development approach in Tajikistan for UNDP. He also served for three years in Bangladesh, Nepal, India, Bhutan and Sri Lanka as a regional Program Manager in the World Bank Group, leading the Investment Climate and Regulatory Simplification pillar of a program financed by the Department for International Development (DFID).

Issue 2.2016: The Euro/US\$ exchange rate remains volatile and needs to be closely observed.

Issue 3.2016: Mr. Goran Sumkoski contract was concluded as of 17th January 2017 on the basis of mutual agreement between UNDP and Mr. Sumkoski. Out of the 7 months of his contract, the AfT contributed one month of salary.

Risk Log:

Description	Type	Countermeasures / Management response
Regional cooperation on trade policy, between national trade support organisations and cross-border cooperation between value chain actors may be reduced and/or delayed due to political reasons.	Political	1. Project actively promotes regional cooperation between countries using trade as a means. 2. Develop and disseminate evidence based policy papers showing benefits of cooperation and cost of not doing so.
Implementation of national level activities on building productive capacities may be delayed during times of security instances	Security	Liaison with UN security officer and continued monitoring
Recommendations from papers on regional and national trade policy issues not or only to a limited extent implemented due to political nature. Lack of commitments may affect consultative/participatory process more broadly.	Organizational	1. Early involvement of key client countries 2. Focus on consensus building before starting regional activities 3. Selecting bottom-up and other approaches to pre-test political sensitivity 4. Establishing Steering Committees at the national level 5. Strongly linking major activities to national/local development programmes and strategies
Capacity development for national trade support institutions provide only limited impact. Technical support for upgrading value chains counterbalanced by raised transaction costs.	Organizational	1. Project actively seeking to address specific barriers to trade and business development 2. Coordinating all activities with other projects addressing systematic private sector policies

New risk:

Risk 1.2016: as identified in previous issue logs the project is facing cash shortages due to fluctuations of the US\$/EURO exchange rate.

Management response:

1. careful monitoring of the exchange rate development;
2. Conservative spending on the regional output to mitigate any sharp falls in the cash flow

6. Resources and budget

Countries are on track spending their funds. The project has achieved 63% total budget.

A detailed breakdown can be found in the 2016 financial report.

7. Findings and recommendations

The AWP for 2018 should be formulated based on analysis of implemented actions during past project years and achieved results. Draft AWPs for 2018 will be submitted during the second board in 2018.

Coordination between stakeholders in Central Asian countries remains problematic, especially targeting implementation of joint activities. The project is working in ensuring on moving from cooperation to collaboration.

Across the years, the project has always struggled with timely procurement cases. Despite all the efforts this remains an issue with procurement cases often taking months.

The results of the project are due to excellent teams in the country, their dedication and efforts have managed to uplift the intended results and more importantly to drive a continuously evolving project that strives to achieve more and better impact.

Annexes

RRF targets

Regional output

Indicator	Target	Progress
1.1 Number of recommendations incorporated at the policy level, improvements at institutional structures and/or piloting of best practices to promote employment.	2016: Study on employment and trade including concrete recommendations finalised.	2016: Almaty Trade and Employment conference took place in June 2016: Initial discussions were held to concretize vision and ensure stakeholder engagements.
	2017: At least one recommendation in at least two countries incorporated at the level of policy level improvements, institutional structures and/or piloting of best practices.	
2.1 Number of recommendations integrated into policies, institutional measures and/or piloting of best practices in at least 2 countries at the national and/or sub-national levels to promote greening value chains/technologies.	2016: Study on green productive capacities including concrete recommendations finalised.	2016: Study on green product space with an employment focus was launched and initial results presented during the Almaty conference on Trade and Employment which took place in June 2016. Paper finalised in December 2016. Initial collaboration with UNCTAD established to expand the green product mapping to Kazakhstan.
	2017: At least two recommendations integrated into policies, institutional measures and/or piloting of best practices in at least 2 countries at the national and/or sub-national levels to promote greening value chains/technologies.	
2.2. Number of green schemes established to expand and diversify the productive base on the use of sustainable production technologies.	2017: At least three schemes established.	
3.1 Number of trade related issues addressed through cooperation and number of	2015: 1 intra-regional collaboration at least 1.	2015: 0

new knowledge functions applied.	2015: 1 inter-regional collaboration at least 1.	2015: (3 trainings) Jointly with FAO, training on agricultural technologies and trade policy in Central Asia (Bishkek, May 2015). Jointly with FAO and UNITAR, one e-course on resolving contentious trade issues through international and regional trade-related agreements (11 participants-July 2015). Jointly with UNECE, training on strengthening capacities of trade support institutions (TJK, KGZ and UZB) (Oct. 2015). Jointly with ITC, trainings for trade service providers (Dec 2015 on Kyrgyzstan) 20 trainees from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.
	2015: At least 1 study supported.	2015: Two country studies (TJK, KGZ) and regional assessment resulting in changes in the legal base in TJK.
	2016: 1 inter-regional collaboration at least 2.	2016: Agri-food supply chains in cross-border trade of nuts and dried fruits, Tashkent June 2016. Participants from KGZ, UZB and TJK.
	2016: 1 intra-regional collaboration at least 4.	2016: Exchange visit to India for fresh grape production. Participants from Tajikistan and Uzbekistan demonstrated improvement in shelf life in products as a result of the study tour. Study tour to the Czech Republic (fruit, milk and TSIS) conducted jointly with the Czech Trust fund (30 companies).
	2016: At least 3 studies supported.	2016: Guidance note on gender. Guidance note on innovation in the agricultural sector developed. Vision paper on trade and productive capacities. Consultant left before end of contract.
	2017: 1 inter-regional collaboration at least 1.	
	2017: At least, two new knowledge functions applied (east-east).	
	2017: 60% of participants to the trainings use new skills (trainings).	
	2017: intra-regional collaboration at least 3.	
	2017: 10% of the recommendation were applied.	
Number of innovative ideas in productive capacities or related field supported.	At least two innovative ideas implemented.	2015: 4 agro-innovation camps organised; 2016: two ideas identified.

Kyrgyzstan

Output 3: In Kyrgyzstan trade-related policy makers are better qualified to support favourable pro-poor trade promotion environment, local authorities, selected business association and service providers are enhanced in their capacity to promote pro-poor trade, and the agriculture and agro-processing in selected value chains increased its productivity and exports volume.		
Indicators	Targets	Progress
Indicator: K.I.1.1. Number of policy recommendations on improving the existing regulatory framework.	K.T. 1.1. At least 2 policy recommendations by EoP.	<p>2014 - 3 strategies revised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 strategy on trade for the development of the Naryn Oblast was submitted to the Naryn Oblast office of government (2014), adopted in the Oblast Sustainable Development Strategy; - 2 plans for Osh city and Osh oblast of practical activities on improving and enhancing the trade potential were developed by the working groups and then approved by local authorities (in 2014) as annexes to the existing local development strategies. <p>2015 - 1 policy recommendation developed and submitted to the Ministry of Economy on analyzing the consequences of customs tariff amendments (EEU) and preparation of recommendations on customs tariffs for WTO negotiations. The ministry used the analysis for the preparation of Kyrgyzstan's position in upcoming negotiations in WTO.</p> <p>2016-</p> <p>5 recommendations were developed in line with the Export Development Plan of the Kyrgyz Republic:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Development of a package of recommendations on trade finance mechanisms is ongoing. Action plan on cross-sector access to finance for export development was developed and submitted. It is expected that the action plan will be endorsed by the government by the end of February; 2) Recommendations developed for the creation of regional funds to support entrepreneurship in rural areas is under consideration by the PM's office; 3) Programme of export financing is under endorsement by government; 4) Recommendation on the organizational structure and chart of the JSC Guarantee Fund (state-owned) developed and submitted in a package of recommendations to the Ministry of Economy. As a result, new JSC established in accordance with recommendations. The Fund will provide guarantees for entrepreneurs for export operations and collateral. Fund capitalised with 280 mln KGS (1/3 is provided by Ministry of Finance and 2/3 by Asian Dev Bank). Capitalisation of up to 1 bln KGS is under discussion; 5) Supported the elaboration of 1 analytical note on merging the Investment Promotion Agency with the Single Window Center (export promotion dimension). The project provided substantive input and guidance in the development of the relevant governmental decree. The decree was adopted on 14 October 2016 #549. The Ministry is in process of hiring new staff and update organisational arrangements.

Indicator: K.I.1.2. Number of policy issues related to trade barriers identified and proposed revisions submitted to government.	K.T.1.2. At least 2 proposed revisions by EoP.	2015 - 1 proposal on the regulation of rules of identification of origin of goods manufactured in Free Economic Zones in the Kyrgyz Republic developed and submitted to the Ministry of Economy and approved by governmental Decree #761 on 6 November 2015; 1 set of policy recommendations developed and submitted to the Ministry of Economy on the basis of the FEZ study; 2016 - Government decree #549 as reported under K.T.1.1 on merging the IPA with the SW center.
Indicator: K.I.1.3. Percentage of supported decision-makers self-assessing improved job qualification.	K.T.1.3. At least 70% (gender- disaggregated).	2015 - Regulatory impact analysis training - 17 participants (6 women). Data on self-assessment (overall assessment as improved: 13% good, 60% more than good, 27% excellent); Trade and Human Development training. 90% of self-assessed as improved (17 participants, 13 women); Trainings for pilot Ayil okmotus in Osh Oblast on strategic plans development and integration of trade issues. 151 participants (104 -males and 47 - females); A study tour to Estonia was organized for national partners - Ministry of Economy, CCI, local authorities and Naryn FEZ. 2016 - Roundtable on food safety issues in Osh (23 March 2016). 57% of participants self-assessed as improved. Total # of participants: 70 (47 men, 23 women). The satisfaction level was low, as the trainings were made in Russian, participants would have preferred trainings to be held in Kyrgyz. Based on the findings in Osh, new training materials in Russian and Kyrgyz languages were developed; - Roundtables on food safety in Osh (20-21 July 2016) and Jalalabad. 80% of participants self-assessed as "improved their skills". Total # of participants: 94 (55 men, 39 women); 15-day training on exhibition management for CCI staff was arranged. 7 participants (3 men, 4 women) self-assessed as improved (100%).
Indicator: K.I.1.4. Number of strategies revised to incorporate trade and sustainable development issues.	K.T.1.4. At least 2 by EoP.	2014- 3 strategies revised: - Strategy on trade for the development of the Naryn Oblast was submitted to Naryn Oblast Office of the government (2014), adopted in the Oblast Sustainable Development Strategy; - 2 plans for the Osh city and Osh oblast of practical activities on improving and enhancing trade potential were developed by working groups and approved by local authorities (in 2014) as annexes to the existing local development strategies. 2016- The NHDR report on Trade and Human Development was approved by the government and will be presented in the beginning of 2017.
Indicator: K.I.1.5. Number of regular coordination meetings among CA countries on cross-border issues	K.T.1.5. At least 8 coordination meetings conducted (2 per year).	2015 - Participation at 2 coordinating meetings supported (COMCEC conference on Eximbanks, Regional Public-Private Dialogue platform forum): Supported 3 coordination meetings among CA countries on cross-border issues: - Regional workshop to enhance the connections among trade support institutions and capacity development on trade promotion. Partners: Chambers of Commerce, state agencies, NGOs,

		<p>business associations. Countries: Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan. 22 participants: 6 women, 16 men;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional workshop on findings for the regional Free Economic Zones study. Partners: Ministry of Economy, state bodies, FEZs' administrations, companies, development projects. Countries: Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan. 46 participants: 25 women, 21 men; - Regional workshop on export promotion strategies for TSIs and business consultants jointly conducted with EBRD. Partners: Chambers of Commerce, export promotion agencies, business associations, business consultants. Countries: Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan. 29 participants: 17 women, 12 men; - South branch of ME KR conducted (independently) series of seminars on EEC on the basis of the development plans for Osh city and Osh oblast on practical activities to improve and enhance trade potential developed by the project. <p>2016-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kyrgyz-Finnish Business Seminar. Participants: 40 participants (25 men, 15 women); - Trainings on the development of local strategic plans integrating trade issues for 22 pilot communities were conducted. As a result, 8 ayil okmotus developed and provided their profiles.
Indicator: K.I.2.1. Number of clients of Export Promotion Agency report as benefiting from services provided.	K.T.2.1. At least 100 entrepreneurs, of these at least 60% stating benefits, disaggregated by gender.	<p>2015- 58 services were provided to 137 clients of the Single Window Centre. 47 clients (22 female led businesses, 35 male) stated having benefiting from the services. All services provided after the roundtables on service portfolio development (supported by AFT);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Published catalogues of service providers are being disseminated to traders and businesses. 10 clients surveyed (9 stated having benefiting, 1 - not benefiting); - Nookat Altyn Almasy cooperative participated in the WorldFood Kazakhstan Exhibition 2015 sold apples worth 2.5 mln KGS. <p>2016- SWC provided 19 types of services (on the basis of the service portfolio developed in 2015 with the support of the AfT project). 134 requests were made by clients (64 unique clients). According to the interim report of services provided, 26 clients received benefits:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) 11 clients signed contracts, 10 out of 11 implemented; 2) 7 clients which were sent by the Helpdesk, received consultations; 3) 1 company was accepted into the roster of EEU and received the declaration on food safety; 4) 4 clients received other services; <p>Other clients services are ongoing and have not yet been completed.</p>
Indicator: K.I.2.2 Establishment of integrated trade promotion information system.	K.T.2.2. Fully functional integrated trade information system accessible to clients by the EoP.	<p>2016- The helpdesk service was developed and launched (January) for testing. The short phone number 1220 and web-page: http://info.trade.kg/ are available. From June -December 2016, 6045 calls were received by the call-center;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Based on business intelligence services the ministry started to elaborate analytics on high priority markets.

<p>Indicator: K.I.2.3. Increased export volume at companies after having received information services (including female headed companies).</p>	<p>K.T.2.3. At least 10% increased export volume six months after having received information services.</p>	<p>2015- Agroexportservice LLC started to export after halting its exports in 2012. Export of 4.1 tons of horse placenta to Japan (∞ %) (in 2015). The export was facilitated by the Single Window Centre. 2016- The Single Window Center supported the supply contracts for the following companies: 1) Agroproduct Asia supplied 120 tons of carrot and 20 tons of cabbage to Russian retail companies; 2) Agrologistics Group LLC supplied 40 tons of onions out of 300 tons contracted to a Russian retail group. It also supplied 40 tons of carrot to a Russian company; 3) Nookat Altyn Almasy coop. have started to export of 935 tons (2015-2016) to Kazakhstan (+100%); 4) Agroelita Cooperative 20%; 5) Ecoproduct Asia LLC supplied 1000 tons of apples; 6) Coop Aravan-Agroservice supplied 100 tons of early potato; 7) Centre Contractation LLC supplied 35 tons of cabbage.</p>
<p>K.I.2.4. Number of SMEs having participated at regional and international exhibitions increased their export turnover in percentage.</p>	<p>K.T.2.4. At least 10 of participating SMEs increased their export turnover by 10 %.</p>	<p>2015 - 5 SMEs increased their export turnover: - 10 members of the Association of Food Industry Enterprises - 15%, including 2 women headed: cooperative Agroelita and Fair LLC; - Zoloto Doliny cooperative +100% (in 2015); - EUM JSC 44% (in 2015); - TooBaly cooperative just started to export 110 tons of honey (∞ %); - Shagdar and Zakym (felt cooperatives) 10% (in 2015) both female headed. 2016- 6 companies signed 12 contracts with 11 of the contracts in implementation (totaling 1 mln USD). 20% increase of export sales according to association information. - Agroplast coop - Agroelita coop - Ecoproduct LLC - Agroproduct Asia LLC - Aravan-Agroservice coop - Centre Contractation LLC</p>

<p>Indicator: K.I.3.1. Percentage increase in production at targeted clients in supported value chains, one year after having received support.</p>	<p>K.T.3.1. At least 30% increase of production.</p>	<p>9 companies out of 12 increased production. Detailed data per company can be found below EUM LLC - 125% (in 2015); Too Baly cooperative - 52% (in 2015) 2016- Naryn Uyuk (association of beekeepers) - 14.6% (in 2016); Atbashi Sut - 7% (in 2016); Janar & Bek - 45% (in 2016); Zakym Atbashi - 60% (in 2016); Shagdar - 87% (in 2016); Kyrgyz Tokoi Bailygy coop 117% (average to 2014) - 2014: 55.5 tons, 2015: 60 tons, 2016: 104 tons; Ozgon Kuruchu coop 117% (average to 2014) - 2014: 60 tons, 2015: 80 tons, 2016: 120 tons; Nookat Altyn Almasy 68% (average to 2014). 700 tons, 2015: 1250 tons, 2016: 400 tons; EUM JSC 40% (average to 2014); Orjemil just started, no comparative data; Zoloto Doliny coop 162% (average to 2014). Yield increased 30%; Too Baaly coop 52% (average to 2014). - 2014: 210 tons, 2015: 320 tons, 2016: 110 tons.</p>
<p>Indicator: K.I.3.2 Percentage increase in sales at targeted clients in supported value chains, one year after having received support.</p>	<p>K.T.3.2 At least 20% increase of sales.</p>	<p>9 companies out 12 increased sales. 2015- Shagdar and Zakym (felt cooperatives) 15% (in 2015). 2016- Naryn Uyuk Association. No data on sales; Atbashi-Sut 4.9% (in 2016); Zakym Atbashi 66% (in 2016); Shagdar 150% (in 2016); Kyrgyz Tokoi Bailygy coop 248% (average to 2014); Ozgon Kuruchu. No exports yet (only samples) sales (2016) 100 tons; Nookat Altyn Almasy 467% - exports (2016); EUM JSC 16% (average to 2014). No export in 2016; Orjemil just started, no comparative data; Zoloto Doliny coop 53% (average to 2014); Too Baaly beekeepers coop, no comparative data. - 2014: 1 ton, 2015: 110 tons, 2016: 26 tons.</p>
<p>Indicator: K.I.3.3. Female participation rate at the interventions supporting trade</p>	<p>K.T.3.3. At least 30% female participants.</p>	<p>2015- 47% (1770 women, 1963 men - clients in VCs); 2016- 46% (3622 (1667 women, 1945 men - clients in VCs). Data does not include participants from value chains counted last year, although the project continues working with those. Indirect clients (i.e. centers and helpdesk): 38 018.</p>

Indicator: K.I.3.4. Number of decent jobs created. Percentage of jobs created for women.	K.T. 3.4 At least 100 additional jobs created, 30% for female (in 2014 – 20, 2015 – 20, 2016 – 30, 2017 – 30).	2015-102 (69% women) (70 women, 32 men); 2016- 215 (32% women) (68 women, 147 men) numbers contain jobs created last year and maintained.
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Tajikistan

Output 4: In Tajikistan, trade policy documents developed and adjusted to international trade agreements, trade promotion institutes and stakeholders strengthened in international trading and promoting sound business environment, selected agricultural value chains are based on sustainable use of natural resources, and supported information technology applied to improve business links and innovative economic activities.		
Indicators	Targets	Progress
Indicator: T.I.1.1. Number of national trade related policy documents adjusted to WTO (and in case of relevance, CU) requirements.	T.T.1.1. At least 2 national trade policy documents adjusted (1 latest in 2015, 1 – 2016).	2014: Two inter-ministerial working groups (WGs) at the national level created to adjust national trade policy documents. The WGs worked on the law on trade and consumer services and WTO obligations; 2015: Law on FEZ elaborated (adoption remains pending), law on trade and consumer services - 2 by laws elaborated and submitted to the government (date of codification: 28.05.2015); 2016: Law on trade and consumer services - 3 by laws (rules of commission trade, rules of consumer services, and rules of public catering in schools) elaborated and sent to the government for approval. Tajikistan's upcoming WTO Trade Policy Review (TPR) supported through the elaboration of a road map (2016-2019) on trade policy review. The road map is currently being circulated among ministries for comments and will be submitted to the government for approval once all comments have been integrated. The law on foreign trade is being adjusted according to the post WTO plan parag.2. Two bylaws on antidumping and protective measures are being elaborated.

<p>Indicator: T.I.1.2. Number of priorities from WTO post-accession plan implemented.</p>	<p>T.T.1.2. At least 2 priorities (1 in 2016, 1 – 2017).</p>	<p>2014: WTO related knowledge exchange to Turkey for 6 (1 female) government officials. As a result, a National Trade Facilitation Committee (NTFC) was established; ERRATUM: NTFC was established in January 2017; 2015: The state programme on export promotion and increasing competitiveness (EPIC) including an action matrix (2016-2020) was elaborated and submitted to the MEDT. Submitted to the government for adoption on the 28.12.2015 and adopted on 23.11.2016; WTO post accession plan paragraph 9, #2: capacity-building trainings for MEDT staff on forecasting, modelling, developing trade indicators, WTO and analysing impact of regional trade integration processes in the Republic of Tajikistan (9 key staff from MEDT trained on forecasting and modelling - 4 females); 2016: EPIC adopted on 26.11.2016 decree 503; WTO post accession plan paragraph 9, #3: capacity building trainings conducted for 252 government officials and 327 representatives from the business community on trade policy and WTO rules, 100 (17%) were female participants; WTO Post Accession plan paragraph 9, #2 capacity building on TPR (South-South cooperation) through a study tour and workshop for 49 (14 female) government officials and private sector representatives provided.</p>
<p>Indicator: T.I.1.3. Number of national and Oblasts' strategic trade related policy documents developed.</p>	<p>T.T.1.3. At least 2 documents developed (1 – 2015, 1 – 2016).</p>	<p>2014: Working and expert groups for TDP formulation established in the Khatlon region. An international consultant for the elaboration of the TDP hired. Two (2) meetings of the WG conducted; 2015: TDP for Khatlon region elaborated and submitted to the administration of Khatlon; 2016: TDP for the Sughd region (2016-2018) elaborated and submitted to the Khukumat for adoption; - TDP for Khatlon region adopted by Decree # 145 on 30 March 2016; - TDP of Khatlon region implementation supported through the organisation of an international Agro Fair and B2B events, in addition, elaboration of dedicated regional brand started.</p>
<p>Indicator: T.I.2.1. Trade/Export Capacity Development Programme (TCDP) established at national and Oblast level.</p>	<p>T.T.2.1. TCDP established latest in 2016.</p>	<p>2014: TCDP established in Dushanbe, Khatlon and Sughd.</p>
<p>Indicator: T.I.2.2. Number of Trade Promotion Centres (TPC) established with improved capacity on providing services to clients.</p>	<p>T.T.2.2. On national level at least 1, on Oblast level at least 2, latest until 2016</p>	<p>2014: TPCs established in 2014. One at the national level in Dushanbe and one in Sughd and one in Khatlon.</p>

<p>Indicator: T.I.2.3. Number of SMEs/entrepreneurs served by national and Oblasts TPCs.</p>	<p>T.T.2.3. At least 400 entrepreneurs trained and consulted, of which at least 20% are female.</p>	<p>2014: 252 individuals trained and supported by the national and oblast TPCs, of which 13 % are female; 2015: 444 individuals trained and supported by the national and oblast TPCs, of which 23 % are female; 2016: 484 (195 or 40% are women) people trained and supported by the national and oblast TPCs; (222 individuals trained and supported by the national and oblast TPCs, 16% female; 7 SMEs (1 of them female headed SME) received individual consultancies and 193 people (57% of them are women) staff of these companies trained and consulted; 40 women trained on business planning, how to be an entrepreneur and start their businesses, etc. 3 were awarded winning places, 1 received seed funding, 2 received business partnership proposals, 1 was offered a job; 29 (31% women) employees of MCF “Sarvati Vakhsh” trained on how to use the 1C software and SMART principles.</p>
<p>Indicator: T.I.2.4. Number of Business Associations providing improved capacity on advocacy and providing services to members.</p>	<p>T.T.2.4. At least 5 business associations (2 – 2015, 2 – 2016, 1 – 2017).</p>	<p>2014: 5 business associations trained and providing improved capacity on advocacy and services to members; 2015: 3 business associations. In 2015, over 10 recommendations submitted to government structures for consideration, out of which 4 recommendations were submitted to the government and CC under the President of Tajikistan. Out of the 10 recommendations, 3 proposals related to improving agro industry issues were included into the action plan adopted by the GOT on 27 July 2016, ref.#324; 2016: 1 BA - Association of Agribusiness of Tajikistan (AAT) conducted an analysis and identified current issues on transporting agricultural goods while exporting. Recommendations (12) were submitted in December 2016 to the WG under the CC under the President of RT for further consideration.</p>
<p>Indicator: T.I.2.5. Served TPC clients are satisfied and % of paying for the services.</p>	<p>T.T.2.5. At least 50% of clients are satisfied and paying for the services.</p>	<p>2015: 75% of TPC clients satisfied with the services, 20% cost contribution; 2016: 75% of TPC clients satisfied with services, 4% cost contribution, cost contribution to fairs increases this figure to 18%. Previous year’s calculation included fair cost contribution.</p>

<p>Indicator: T.I.2.6. Number of recommendations on improving business climate elaborated and submitted by Business Associations to government and PPD platforms.</p>	<p>T.T.2.6. At least 6 recommendations submitted.</p>	<p>2015: 3 BAs identified 30 recommendations on taxation, agriculture and agroindustry. 10 recommendations were submitted to relevant government structures and 4 recommendations considered by the government and CC under the President of Tajikistan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 proposal related to taxation of users of natural resources was approved and it is expected that changes will be adopted to the new version of Tax Code starting from the January 01, 2016 (update Dec 2016: this proposal was returned by the GoT to the State commission under the MOF and was not approved); - 3 proposals related to improving agro industry issues were considered at the CC under the President of the RT and included into the action plan for the elimination of barriers in this sector; <p>2016: - 10 recommendations elaborated and submitted to the CC under the President of RT. Topics include: unreasonable controls of logistical transport throughout the country which results in delays of goods, problems of shipment in the terminals, issues in the transition of goods to the territory of Uzbekistan;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The action plan on agro-industry submitted to the GOT on the basis of work undertaken in 2015 on agroindustry was adopted on 27 July 2016, ref.#324 and will be implemented until the end of 2017.
<p>Indicator: I.T.2.7. Number of SMEs having participated at regional and international exhibitions, increased their export turnover in percentage.</p>	<p>T.T.2.7. At least 10 of participating SMEs increased their export turnover by 10 %.</p>	<p>2014: 4 out of 5 SMEs participated at international exhibitions increased their export turnover by 17 %;</p> <p>2015: 14 out of 21 increased their exports on average by 15%. Average increase was 10% (all 21):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6 SMEs participated in the 22nd "ProdExpo -2015" in Moscow (February 2015). Direct contracts for over 1 mln. US\$ were signed. 5 out of 6 companies improved their export volume on average by 15%; - 15 Tajik SMEs participated at international exhibitions in Xian (China), Astana (Kazakhstan) and Minsk; <p>2016: 20 SMEs participated at the regional and international exhibitions and 16 out these have increased their export volume on average by 22%;</p> <p>Participation of 5 SMEs in the fair "World Food Moscow 2016" in September 2016 resulted in contracts for over US\$ 4 mln;</p> <p>Regional trade fairs conducted in 2016: 315 SMEs participated in the Sughd-2016 fair, B2B Contractors' forum in Sughd region, Investment Forum "Khatlon-2016" which resulted in over 70 commercial contracts and MoUs concluded with Russia, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan companies. 14 female headed SMEs/organisations (banking, production of goods, handicrafts provision of consulting services etc.) participated.</p>

Indicator: T.I.3.1.1. Number of innovative green business ideas supported through Business Challenge Fund.	T.T.3.1.1. At least 28 business ideas supported by BCF (in 2014–7, reprogrammed for 2015 2015 – 14, 2016–7, 2017–7).	2015: 18 business ideas supported through BCF (15 Khatlon, 3 DRS) poultry farm, greenhouse, beekeeping, F&V warehouse, confectionary, macaroni production, plastic packs for oil, and handicrafts; 2016: 13 innovative business ideas supported through BCF (11 in DRS and 2 in Khatlon) - greenhouses, fruit juices production, confectionary, sewing shops, furniture production, fishery farm, dairy production, drying fruits, etc.
Indicator: T.I.3.1.2. Number of decent jobs created. Percentage of jobs created for women.	T.T.3.1.2. At least 100 jobs created, 30% for female (in 2014–10 reprogrammed for 2015, 2015–20 40, 2016–40, 2017–30).	2015: 47 jobs (25 female) in Khatlon under BCF, plus 25 through AIMS. Total: 72 (25); 2016: 136 jobs (80 female) in Khatlon and DRS under BCF; 5 (2 female) through AIMS. Total: 141 (82).
Indicator: T.I.3.1.3. Number of female headed enterprises supported by BCF.	T.T.3.1.3. At least 8 enterprises (2014–2 reprogrammed for 2015, 2015–4, 2016–2, 2017–2).	2015: 6 enterprises (female headed) through BCF, 12 female headed enterprises through capacity development; 2016: 4 enterprises (female headed) supported through BCF.
Indicator: T.I.3.1.4. Percentage of productivity increase at supported businesses one year after start of support.	T.T.3.1.4. At least 10% p.a.	2015: 3 out of 15 SMEs supported by the BCF in the Khatlon region increased their volume of production and sales on average by 25%. The remaining 12 SMEs are new businesses and the data will be available next year. On average, 15 supported SMEs in Khatlon region increased their volume of production by 5 % p.a.; 2016: 18 out of 31 businesses supported under the BCF in Khatlon and DRS increased production volumes and sales on average by 18%. Overall average for all companies is 11% p.a.
Indicator: T.I.3.1.5. Percentage of export (changed to sales) volume increased at companies receiving BCF services (including female headed companies).	T.T.3.1.5. At least 10% increase p.a.	2015: 3 out of 15 SMEs in Khatlon increased their sales volume by 5%; 2016: 31 SMEs in Khatlon and DRS increased their sales volume on average by 11%.

Indicator: T.I.3.2.1. Number of additional Oblasts covered by AIMS.	T.T.3.2.1. At least 2 additional Oblasts/areas (1 – 2014, 1 – 2015).	Completed
Indicator: T.I.3.2.2. Number of additional (gender-differentiated) subscribers stating to have benefitted from AIMS.	T.T.3.2.2. Nation-wide subscribers of AIMS, of which at least 30% are female, increase by at least 100% (30% - 2014, 40% - 2015, 30% - 2016).	<p>2014: The nation-wide subscribers of AIMS increased on average by 25% (30% of them are female):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The web-portal annual unique visitors as of 01.01.15: 79 675 (increased by 32%) 2) The web-portal daily unique visitors as of 01.01.2015: 435 (increased by 24%) 3) Annual subscribers of the newspaper as of 01.01.2015: 3 000 (increased by 20%) 4) Subscribers of the SMS-agro consulting as of 01.01.2015: 1 500 (increased by 134%) 5) User of the mobile applications as of 01.01.2015: 1 500 (increased by 25%) <p>2015: On average subscribers of AIMS, of which 30% are female, increased by 50%</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The web-portal annual unique visitors on 01.01.16: 164 924 (increased by 173%) 2) The web-portal average daily unique visitors 01.01.16: 451 (increased by 30%) 3) Annual subscribers of the newspaper on 01.01.16: 3 225. (increased by 29 %) 4) Subscribers of the SMS-agro consulting on 01.01.16: 2 309 (increased by 260 %) 5) Annual unique users of the mobile apps on 01.01.16: 4 805 (increased by 300%) <p>2016: On average subscribers of AIMS, of which 30% are female, increased by 137, 8%</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The web-portal annual unique visitors on 01.01.17: 148 175, out of them 51, 1% women (decreased by 10%) 2) The web-portal average daily unique visitors on 01.01.17: 405 (decreased by 10%) 3) Annual subscribers of the newspaper on 01.01.17: 4 084, out of them 1200 women or 30%. (increased by 27 %) 4) Subscribers of the SMS-agro consulting on 01.01.17: 1 089 (decreased by 53%) 5) Annual unique users of the mobile apps on 01.01.17: 19 423 (increased by 304%)

<p>Indicator: T.I.3.2.3. Number of demand-oriented new services of AIMS and mobile phone applications developed.</p>	<p>T.T.3.2.3. At least 5 new services (1 - 2014, 2 - 2015, 2 - 2016, 2017).</p>	<p>2014: A new mobile application on market prices of Tajikistan on the Android platform was developed and placed on Google Play; 2015: "Mobile plant protection guide" app developed and placed on Google Play; - The mobile application "Market prices of Tajikistan" upgraded to "Market prices of Central Asia"; - Farm Gate prices app developed; 2016: - A new database on agricultural producers was developed: www.farmers.agroinform.tj; - A new mobile application "A to Z" for blackcurrant was developed and posted on Google Play; - A new mobile application "A to Z" for livestock was developed and posted on Google Play; - A new mobile application "A to Z" for corn was developed as per request of KGZ partners (Kyrgyz and Russian, Tajik version will be available in 2017) and placed on Google Play; - Design and software of the web-portal agroinform.tj upgraded: www.new.agroinform.tj (mobile friendly version).</p>
<p>Indicator: T.I.3.2.4. Percentage of spatial coverage of Tajikistan by Agricultural Map and Trade Platform of AIMS.</p>	<p>T.T.3.2.4. At least 40% in 2014, 55% in 2015.</p>	<p>2015: 75% coverage. Agricultural map of Tajikistan upgraded with information of Sughd, Khatlon and DRS regions; 2016: 75% of the territory. Agricultural map (map.agroinform.tj) upgraded and fully covers Sughd, Khatlon and DRS regions.</p>
<p>Indicator: T.I.3.2.5. Number of Marketing Information Systems in CA region interlinked.</p>	<p>T.T.3.2.5. At least 3 Marketing Information Systems of CA region.</p>	<p>2014: Collaboration with marketing information provider from KGZ - agro.kg established and negotiations on interlinking of CA producers and exchanging information started; 2015: Collaboration with another private information marketing system of KGZ – Agro-asia.com established. Market prices of TJK and KGZ will be available in both systems; MoU with the Centre of Agro Information-Innovation of Uzbekistan signed. A joint action plan elaborated and implementation of this action plan started; 2016: The collaboration with all 3 systems continues. AIMS trade platform (trade.agroinform.tj) was upgraded and now covers Kyrgyzstan.</p>
<p>Indicator: T.I.3.2.6. Number of national agro-processors linked to regional and international trade platforms.</p>	<p>T.T.3.2.6. at least 10 agro processors linked to regional and international trade platforms.</p>	<p>2014: 3 agro processing companies of Sughd region (Mevai Tilloi, Mevakand – dry fruits and Subhi Vatan – canning) linked to international trade platforms.; 2015: 4 SMEs - LLC "Oro Isfara" (dried fruits), Mahsuloti Oftobi (Isfara), Shahrinav (Muminobod), and "Obi Zulo" (Istaravshan) platform. In addition, LLC "Mevai Tilloi" was linked with buyers from the Altay region of the Russian Federation and Shenzhen Huaxin Decheng Trade Co. Ltd (China); 2016: 5 SMEs - LLC Zoda (Khujand, production of fruit beverages), LLC "Iskandari Istaravshan" (Istaravshan, export of onion) and LLC "Abdukhafiz Sarkor" (B. Gafurov, production and export of FV), LLC "Mevau sabzavot" and LLC "20-solagii Istiqloliyati vatan" (Istaravshan) interlinked to the trade platform Foodmarket.Ru and trained on its usage.</p>

Uzbekistan

Output 2 (Uzbekistan): In Uzbekistan trade policy makers are better qualified on easing trade with neighboring countries, research and extension service providers are enabled to promote innovative trade approaches and sustainable agricultural agro-processing practices in Central Asia.			
Indicators	Targets	Progress	
Indicator: U.I.1.1. Number of trade policy papers with practical recommendations on implementation of WTO, CIS FTA and CU regulations circulated among decision makers.	U.T.1.1. Three papers	<p>2015 - 1 policy paper on the Trading Across Borders indicator of "Doing Business" report resulting in a better ranking of Uzbekistan;</p> <p>1 analytical report on the role of national quality infrastructure including technical barriers to trade (standardisation and conformity assessment systems) with recommendations to harmonise them with international and WTO requirements;</p> <p>1 analytical note on harmonising the national legislation on custom valuation with international norms developed and submitted to MFERIT.</p> <p>2016 - 2 analytical notes on technical regulations and sanitary, phyto-sanitary and veterinary control requirements for market access of agricultural goods of the Eurasian Economic Union prepared and recommendations proposed;</p> <p>- Draft of analytical report prepared on the challenges and perspectives of improving productive and export potential of the fruits and vegetable sector.</p>	
Indicator: U.I.1.2. Number of recommendation papers on improving regional trade and transport linkages developed with stakeholders and submitted to the governments.	U.T.1.2. At least 3 recommendation papers after being coordinated at regional level by EoP	<p>2015 - 1 analytical paper developed with IFMR on current levels and perspectives of trade development between Uzbekistan and CA countries (including concrete recommendations).</p> <p>2016 - 1 analytical paper with recommendations on improving the foreign trade regime as a factor in increasing the competitiveness of the economy of Uzbekistan prepared jointly with CER and submitted to stakeholders;</p> <p>- 1 analytical report of the status and prospects of non-raw-material exports development prepared jointly with IFMR and submitted to stakeholders;</p> <p>- 1 marketing research on exports of fresh and processed fruits and vegetables prepared and submitted to national partners.</p>	
Indicator: U.I.2.1. Number of new clients taking advantage of existing and new trade opportunities.	U.T.2.1. At least 100 new clients receiving support services (starting from year 2)	<p>2015 - TSIs, which received support in 2014 and 2015 were able to attract 73 new clients taking advantage of trade opportunities. "Uztadbirkoreksport" expanded its client's base by 23% (adding 53 companies). "Uzmarkazimpeks" was able to expand its client base by 25% (20 companies on the Russian market).</p> <p>2016 - UzTrade Export Promotion Platform, supported by UzTadbirkorexport, was launched in May 2016 and over 1400 companies uploaded product information on the platform.</p>	

Indicator: U.I.2.2. Number of new linkages facilitated among trade and business support institutions in the region.	U.T.2.2. At least 5 linkages with trade and business support institutions facilitated	<p>2014 - 3 linkages established: World Food Moscow 2014, China Business Forum, International Trade Exhibition on Gardening, Beekeeping and Floriculture 2014.</p> <p>2015 - 5 linkages established during the Fruit Logistica 2015, International Fair in Berlin (Germany), Textilelegprom International 2015 Fair in Moscow (Russia), World Food Moscow 2015 (Russia), Tyumen Business Forum in Russia, Food Week Korea Fair in Seoul (Korea).</p> <p>2016 - 3 linkages established: Fruit Logistica 2016, International Fair in Berlin (Germany), World Food Moscow 2016, TextileLegprom 2016 (Moscow). 1 linkage, established with Indian importer during study visit to India during February 2016. Return visit of Indian producers is planned for harvesting season 2017.</p>
Indicator: U.I.2.3. Increased export volume achieved at companies receiving support services.	U.T.2.3. At least 10% one year after having received support services	<p>2015 - Due to the economic crisis and price decreases (in USD term) in main target markets, Uzmarkazimpeks and project's other major beneficiaries were able to increase export volumes on average by 10.3% in quantity terms, and manage to maintain export volume in USD terms.</p> <p>2016 - Since the launch of Uztrade online platform in May 2016, the platform clients concluded export deals over US\$ 38 mln.</p> <p>Another 2 project clients: - Uztadbirkorexport was able to increase exports volume by 25.9% to US\$1,386 mln in 2016 from US\$ 1,100 mln in 2015;</p> <p>- UzAgroExport (newly established TSI in 2016) as a result of project support for the participation at the World Food Moscow 2016 was able to conclude preliminary exports contracts for US\$ 114 mln and supply US\$ 27.3mln worth of fruits and vegetables.</p>
Indicator: U.I.3.1. Number of cooperation channels facilitated.	U.T.3.1. At least 2 regional trade fairs organized for SME exporters	<p>2014 - International Trade Exhibition on Gardening, Beekeeping and Floriculture organized;</p> <p>2015 - No regional fair organized;</p> <p>2016 - Support to two International Fruits and Vegetables Fairs provided (12-14 July and 8-10 November, 2016). July fair: 1200 national and 300 foreign exhibitors - +10 000 visitors. November fair: 150 national and 300 foreign exhibitors from 20 countries.</p>
Indicator: U.I.3.2. Percentage increase in production and sales at targeted clients in supported value chains, one year after having received support.	U.T.3.2. At least 30%	<p>2015 - MoUs for 2 pilot business projects signed in December 2015, with results to be achieved in 2016.</p> <p>2016 - Imron Textile was able to export goods worth US\$ 245 000 in 2016 for the first time on the basis of MoU agree in 2016.</p>

<p>Indicator: U.I.3.3. Number of subsectors in which eco-sustainable business models are developed and ready for scaling-up.</p>	<p>U.T.3.3. At least 2 subsectors (1 - 2015, 1 - 2016)</p>	<p>2015 - Pilot business models were identified in 1) the agriculture sector on the introduction of renewable energy (biogas) into production and 2) the textile sector to introduce computerized designing and improve sewing practices to reduce waste and energy consumption. 2016 - 1 pilot business model was initiated in the leather processing sector to develop local capacity on sewing bags (equipment to be delivered in Feb 2017); 1 new business model on improving the quality and quantity of dried fruits and beans for export markets identified.</p>
<p>Indicator: U.I.3.4. Number of national agro-processors linked to regional and international trade platforms.</p>	<p>U.T.3.4. At least 2 per year (starting from year 2)</p>	<p>2015 - MoU between Center for Information and Agro - Innovation of Uzbekistan and "Neksigol Musovir" NGO, Tajikistan signed in August 2015, to exchange information and link national businesses of 2 countries; - Beta version of Trade platform developed; national agro-processors will be linked in 2016; 2016 - UzTrade Trade Platform was launched, over 100 agro-firms linked to the trade platform.</p>

RRF results

Regional output

R.1. Support in developing strategies for linking trade with employment generation.	
Result 1: 3 country studies + one regional analytical study	
Result 2: Regional validation event	2016: Almaty Trade and Employment conference took place in June 2016. Initial discussions were held to concretize vision and ensure stakeholder engagements.
Result 2: Support to clients to implement at least 1 recommendation on employment promoting trade policy and/or institutional measure and/or piloting of best practices in at least 2 countries	
Result 3: Collaboration between 3 research institutes established and network between them created	
Result 4: Pilot study on barriers facing women entrepreneurs	2016: Micronarratives collected for +1000 individuals. First draft of study finalised.
R.2. Promotion of greening productive capacities in the agricultural sector	
Result 1: Study proposing recommendations to overcome barriers faced by green technologies in the agricultural sector	2016: Study on green product spaces in TJK, KGZ, UZB launched
Result 2: Regional/three country validation event	2016: First findings of the green product space presented during the Almaty conference on Trade and Employment (June 2016)
Result 3: Support to the implementation of at least 1 recommendation in at least 2 countries	2016: Initial discussions to roll out the green product mapping to Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan.
Result 4: Piloting schemes for at least 3 environmentally friendly technologies	
R. 3. Capacity development of government staff, trade-related agencies, and entrepreneurs through intra-regional and inter-regional knowledge exchange, and east-east cooperation and collaboration	
Result 1: Inter-regional knowledge exchange: at least four south-south, east-east stakeholder, or regional events/engagement between Ministries, agro-processors, research institutes, associations etc.	2016: Exchange visit to India for fresh grape production. Participants from Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. During the 2016 grape season, study tour participants from Uzbekistan trained 30 farmers on grape storage technique learned in India. In addition, based on the knowledge received during the study tour, farmers were able to improve their storage techniques and extend storage time from 2 -3 months to 150 days. Farmers applied Indian packaging for premium grapes (40% of all their exported grapes) to Russia. Two study tours organised. One TSIs and one on milk and fruits and vegetables to

	the Czech republic jointly with the Czech Trust Fund (KGZ, TJK and UZB).
Result 2: Intra-regional knowledge exchange on trade related issues and productive capacities through at least 8 intra-regional collaborations	2016: Agri-food supply chains in cross-border trade of nuts and dried fruits, Tashkent June 2016. Participants from KGZ, UZB and TJK.
Result 3: Recommendations for at least 4 trade related thematic areas from a regional perspective with at least 2 participating countries	2015: 1-FEZ 2016: 3 -Gender and trade in project implementation; innovations in the agricultural sector. Vision piece on trade and productive capacities. As the consultant left before the end of the contract the documents are currently in draft form.
Result 4: At least 6 trainings at the regional level targeting trade-related institutions from at least 2 countries	2015: Jointly with FAO, training on agricultural technologies and trade policy in Central Asia (Bishkek, May 2015). Jointly with FAO and UNITAR, one e-course on resolving contentious trade issues through international and regional trade-related agreements (11 participants -July 2015). Jointly with UNECE, workshop on strengthening capacities of trade support institutions (TJK, KGZ and UZB) (Oct. 2015). Jointly with ITC, workshop for trade service providers (Dec 2015 on Kyrgyzstan) 20 trainees from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan; 2016: Jointly with ITC, second installment of the trainings for trade support institutions (Issyk-Kul, March 2016).
Result 5: Provide support to the AKT feasibility study for TJK and KGZ	2016: AKT feasibility study completed and adopted by participating governments

Kyrgyzstan

Output 3: In Kyrgyzstan trade-related policy makers are better qualified to support favourable pro-poor trade promotion environment, local authorities, selected business association and service providers are enhanced in their capacity to promote pro-poor trade, and the agriculture and agro-processing in selected value chains increased its productivity and exports volume.	
Activity/result	Progress
K.I.1.1. Technical assistance to MoER on alignment of national regulatory base to the requirements of international trade agreements (WTO, CU and etc.). Result: at least 6 papers and expert consultancies supported.	<p>2014- Support to Kyrgyzstan trade policy development aligned with WTO requirements and trade policy review conducted in 2013. Conduct analysis (harmonisation) of NLA re Non-Tariff Regulation (Chapter V, CU Roadmap). Conduct analysis of Regulatory Impact (ARI).</p> <p>2015 - 1 policy recommendation developed and provided to the Ministry of Economy on analysing the consequences of customs tariff amendments (EEU) and preparation of recommendations on customs tariffs for WTO negotiations. MoE postponed negotiation process in WTO (6 notifications on negotiation received). The Ministry used the analysis for the preparation of Kyrgyzstan's position in negotiations with the WTO;</p> <p>-1 proposal on the regulation of rules of identification of origin of goods manufactured in Free Economic Zones in the Kyrgyz Republic developed and submitted to the Ministry of Economy and approved by governmental Decree #761 on 6 November 2015;</p> <p>1 set of policy recommendations developed and submitted to the Ministry of Economy on the basis of the FEZ study.</p> <p>- Support to the Ministry of Economy on raising awareness on trade issues specific to the EEU accession through 3 video reels (technical regulation, taxation, import from 3rd countries) in Russian and Kyrgyz.</p> <p>2016-</p> <p>5 recommendations were developed in line with the Export Development Plan of the Kyrgyz Republic:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Development of a package of recommendations on trade finance mechanisms is ongoing. Action plan on cross-sector access to finance for export development was developed and submitted. It is expected that the action plan will be endorsed by the government by the end of February; 2) Recommendations developed for the creation of regional funds to support entrepreneurship in rural areas is under consideration by the PM's office; 3) Programme of export financing is under endorsement by government; 4) Recommendation on the organisational structure and chart of the JSC Guarantee Fund (state-owned) developed and submitted in a package of recommendations to the Ministry of Economy. As a result, new JSC established in accordance with recommendations. The Fund will provide guarantees for entrepreneurs for export operations and collateral. Fund capitalised with 280 mln KGS (1/3 is provided by Ministry of Finance and 2/3 by Asian Dev Bank). Capitalisation of up to 1 bln KGS is under discussion; 5) Supported the elaboration of 1 analytical note on merging the Investment Promotion Agency with the Single Window Center (export promotion dimension). The project provided substantive input and guidance in the development of the relevant governmental decree. The decree was adopted on 14 October 2016 #549. The Ministry is in process of hiring new staff and update organisational arrangements.

<p>K.I.1.2. Capacity development of targeted ministries on mainstreaming trade and human development issues. Result: at least 5 on-demand trainings and trade-related.</p>	<p>2014- Trade issues and their importance were discussed during different events in Osh (rice fest in Uzgen and the regional conference "Fergana valley: threats and prospects").</p> <p>2015- Regulatory impact analysis training - 17 participants (6 women). Data on self-assessment (overall assessment as improved: 13% good, 60% more than good, and 27% excellent). One of the participants of the training (Mr. Ulukbek Kydyrbaev) was selected as representative of the business community of Kyrgyzstan in the working group of the Eurasian Economic Commission on the evaluation of the regulative impact of drafts of legal acts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trade and Human Development training. 90% of self-assessed as improved (17 participant, 13 women); <p>Trainings for pilot Ayil okmotus in Osh Oblast on strategic plans development and integration trade issues. 151 participants (104 -males and 47 - females);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - After the accession of Kazakhstan to the WTO and consequent amendment of customs tariffs for 1347 commodity names, the AFT expert provided recommendations to the Ministry of Economy and other state agencies (see K.I.1.1. 2015 WTO analysis). The Ministry has started negotiations with the business community for proposals; - Focus groups on human development & trade were conducted (7 women, 15 men) (in Naryn); - A study tour to Estonia was organised for national partners - Ministry of economy, CCI, local authorities and Naryn FEZ . <p>2016-</p> <p>The project supported the Ministry of Economy to increase knowledge on EEU requirements with regards to food safety issues. Participants to the roundtables and seminars highlighted 1) to have gained a better understanding of HACCP issues and its place in EEU requirements, 2) to have gained a better understanding of procedures for the declaration on conformity compliance, 3) to have gained a better understanding of technical regulation on food safety of the EEU.</p> <p>Following results were achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roundtable on food safety issues in Osh (23 March 2016). 57% of participants self-assessed as improved. Total # of participants: 70 (47 men, 23 women). The satisfaction level was low, as the trainings were made in Russian, participants would have preferred trainings to be held in Kyrgyz. Based on the findings in Osh, new training materials in Russian and Kyrgyz languages were developed; - Roundtables on food safety in Osh (20-21 July 2016) and Jalalabad. 80% of participants self-assessed as "improved their skills". Total # of participants: 94 (55 men, 39 women).
<p>K.I.1.3. Mainstreaming trade and sustainable human development issues into existing national and sub-national strategic platforms. Result: trade and sustainable human development issues are integrated into national sub-national and sectoral strategies.</p>	<p>2014- 3 strategies revised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 strategy on trade for the development of Naryn Oblast was submitted to the Naryn Oblast office of government (2014), adopted in the Oblast Sustainable Development Strategy; - 2 plans for Osh city and Osh oblast of practical activities on improving and enhancing the trade potential were developed by the work groups and then approved by local authorities (in 2014) as annexes to the existing local development strategies. An initiative group was established to develop recommendations on trade policy and issues to the existing Development Strategy of the Osh oblast (2012-2016) and Development Programme of Osh city (2014-2017). The initiative group consists of local authorities, regional branches of the Ministry of Economy of KR (ME KR), "EShIM" PF and experts. The initiative group developed plans of actions on improving and strengthening the trade potential in Osh oblast as well as Osh city; - Honey development programme was developed and presented for Naryn. This programme was agreed upon with local

	<p>beekeepers and local self-government bodies.</p> <p>2016 - The project finalised the National Human Development Report on Trade and Human Development in Kyrgyzstan. The NHDR will most probably be considered as analytical baseline in the SDG adaptation process as well in terms of linkage between trade development and other development issues.</p>
<p>K.I.1.4. Facilitate coordination meetings between stakeholders from CA countries on trade-related cross-border issues by providing organizational support and technical assistance on demand. Result: at least twice a year the trade-related cross-border issues are discussed between countries.</p>	<p>2015 - Participation at 2 coordinating meetings supported (COMCEC conference on Eximbanks, Regional Public-Private Dialogue platform forum):</p> <p>Supported 3 coordination meetings among CA countries on cross-border issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional workshop to enhance the connections among trade support institutions and capacity development on trade promotion. Partners: Chambers of Commerce, state agencies, NGOs, business associations. Countries: Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan. 22 participants: 6 women, 16 men; - Regional workshop on findings for the regional Free Economic Zones study. Partners: Ministry of Economy, state bodies, FEZs' administrations, companies, development projects. Countries: Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan. 46 participants: 25 women, 21 men; - Regional workshop on export promotion strategies for TSIs and business consultants jointly conducted with EBRD. Partners: Chambers of Commerce, export promotion agencies, business associations, business consultants. Countries: Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan. 29 participants: 17 women, 12 men; - South branch of ME KR conducted (independently) series of seminars on EEC on the basis of the development plans for Osh city and Osh oblast on the basis of the practical activities developed by the project to improve and enhance trade potential. <p>2016-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kyrgyz-Finnish Business Seminar. Participants: 40 participants (25 men, 15 women); - Trainings on the development of local strategic plans integrating trade issues for 22 pilot communities were conducted. As a result, 8 ayil okmotus developed and provided their profiles.
<p>K.I.2.1. Needs and capacity assessment of stakeholders translated into capacity building response. Result: Capacity Building Plan.</p>	<p>2014- 3 roundtables were supported (Bishkek, Naryn, Osh) for exporters in services. This was integrated into the service portfolio of the Single Window. Completed</p>

<p>K.I.2.2 Capacity development for Single Window\State Export Promotion Agency in the area of trade promotion. Result: Increased capacity of Agencies for delivering demand-oriented trade information services to clients.</p>	<p>2014-Representatives of the Single Window and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry participated in the TPO conference on best practices in delivering trade information and trade promotion services.</p> <p>2015- Regular consultations of Single Window staff by project staff on issues of service portfolio implementation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supported better customer relationship management for the Single Window Centre through the provision of a CRM-system; - Supported the EBRD workshop on export strategy provided by the British Institute on Export Promotion. Based on the training staff of SWC planned to develop online diagnostics of export readiness (tool). <p>2016- SSWC provided 19 types of services (on the basis of the service portfolio developed in 2015 with the support of the AfT project). 134 requests were made by clients (64 unique clients). According to the interim report of services provided, 26 clients received benefits:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) 11 clients signed contracts, 10 out of 11 implemented; 2) 7 clients which were sent by the Helpdesk, received consultations; 3) 1 company was accepted into the roster of EEU and received the declaration on food safety; 4) 4 clients received other services; <p>Other clients services are ongoing and have not yet been completed.</p> <p>Helpdesk service launched (will be integral part of trade portal). Between June - December 2016, 6045 calls were received by the call-center.</p> <p>Contract on business intelligence services is issued. Ministry is processing the analytics on priority markets for further dissemination to the business community.</p>
<p>K.I.2.3. Capacity development for trade promotion institutions. Result: Improvement of trade procedures, the alignment of the interaction between participants in the trade support network, development of competence in the field of trade.</p>	<p>2015- 2-days workshop conducted in cooperation with the Ministry of Economy of Turkey on the practices of export promotion for TSIs in Kyrgyzstan (12 men and 7 women), Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Centers of entrepreneurship and trade support established in the cities of Osh, Uzgen and Karasuu. The local authorities provided premises and staff, the AfT project provided furniture and hardware, as well as capacity development. Statistics on clients served in 2016: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Center in Uzgen provides services on the basis of One-Stop-Shop principle of State Taxation Service (registration of taxpayers, issue of tax patents, serving reports of taxpayers, check of banking payments), Social Fund (mandatory social payments), National Statistics Committee (registration of entrepreneurs, getting reports). In 2016, the Center served 8405 individuals, 1445 farm households, 1007 individual entrepreneurs, 67 legal entities, 305 applicants on tax patent, 27 049 applicants on prolonging tax patent, 9980 taxpayers on mobile property (auto, moto, etc.). Additionally to this the banking cashier in the Center served 40 029 clients; 2) The concept of the Center of Support to Trade and Entrepreneurship in Kara-Suu was endorsed by the Municipal Parliament of Kara-Suu town. Kara-Suu Center provides consultations on business topics. In 2016, 124 clients were served (81 men, 43 women); 3) The concept of the Center of Support to Trade and Entrepreneurship in Osh was endorsed by the Municipal Parliament of Osh city. The conference room served 120 sessions and meetings, 4800 participants took part (1920 men and 2880 women); <p>Total number of people inquiries served (indirectly benefited) from the Centers achieved 31 973 (2016).</p>

<p>K.I.2.4. Development and support the setup of a sustainable maintenance structure for information databases (trade web-portal, Exporters Directory online, information on exhibitions, missions of exporters and importers); Result: technical and expert support provided on sourcing, updating and advertising demand-driven market information.</p>	<p>2014 - Catalogue for export service providers developed. Published in Russian (both hard copy and online PDF). 2015 - Catalogue of export service providers translated into Kyrgyz and published (both hard copy and online PDF). Disseminated through the branches of the Ministry of Economy and directly at client meetings (Kyrgyz 822 and in Russian 800). - 2 trainings on web-site development (15 participants: 6 women, 9 men) and e-commerce (17 participants: 9 women, 8 men) (Naryn); - Websites for pilot companies created (Naryn). 2016 - Helpdesk launched to provide informational services for the business community. Platform based on e-inquiry system and internet-phone system (single short phone number). Short phone number 1220 and web-page: http://info.trade.kg/. June - December 2016, 6045 requests (calls) received by the call-center.</p>
<p>K.2.5. Support to Business Associations to lobby the interest of their member on business environment. Result: at least 2 business associations are regularly supported with demand-related expertise to formulate trade policy recommendations.</p>	<p>2014- Two round tables were conducted with the participation of local authorities, farmers, processors/agrifood-producers, labs, regional CCI branches. The 1st round table was devoted to strengthening the export potential of agricultural products from the Osh region. The 2nd one focused on international quality standards and food security. 2015- Study visit to Estonia on the best practices of trade promotion and entrepreneurship support arranged (14 participants, 5 women), Tallinn, Estonia; - Strategy and development plan completed for the Associations of potato farmers and beekeepers including the Concept of Field School for Farmers and Information Centre (Naryn). 2016 - B2B meeting of food production companies with Kazakh and Russian trading companies. Total participants: 74 (56 men, 18 women). 12 contracts were signed by companies and 11 out of them are being implemented (total value of contracts 1 mln. USD and implemented as of Jan 2017 0.7 mln. USD); - Trade mission to Japan. 5 companies participated. They participated in the Asian Food Show 2016 in Osaka, and business matching meetings in Tokyo. 45 business contacts were established. Results of lab test were sent to Japanese potential buyers and samples of white honey. Negotiations on supply of dried apricots, plum and walnuts are in process.</p>

<p>K.2.6. Support CCI in organising the participation of selected SMEs at trade fairs/exhibitions and business forums in CA countries. Result: Capacity of CCI in organising delegations visits of entrepreneurs is built, new business links established, locally produced products promoted at regional markets, export turnover increased by 10% at least.</p>	<p>2015 - Expertise provided for the development of a strategy for the CCI branch in Naryn. 2016 - The project provided advisory support to the Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Expert Mr. Udo Traeger conducted a 15-days training on exhibition management for CCI staff. 9 participants (4 men, 5 women) self-assessed as improved (100%). This training resulted in a new concept for a strong yearly consumer show (B2C) and the recommendation to cancel the old spring and autumn shows. 12 new trade show topics for the coming years (B2B) were developed to provide sustainable income for the Chamber. In parallel, advisory support was provided on various topics both at strategic and operational level related to managing exhibitions (focusing on B2B trade shows, establishing advisory boards for trade shows, strengthening cooperation between departments, CRM system, concentrating of service depts in One-Stop dept, relaunch of webpage, management responsibility towards employees).</p>
<p>K.2.7. Support CCI and its branches in Oblasts on organising joint trade fairs and exchange visits between SMEs in the region. Result: CCI and its branches are expanding cross-border cooperation efforts and continuing these after EoP.</p>	<p>2015 - 2nd Investment Forum of the Naryn Oblast. 2016 - Interim results of the 2nd Investment Forum in Naryn Oblast. Shalbar LLC (clothing company) agreement with the Free Economic Zone of Kahsgar (China) on establishing a cloth production line. This project is temporarily halted because it will be interlinked with the industrial and trade hub in Atbashi District. The agreement with Belorussian partners on production of kid's clothes progresses and production is to start in the 3rd quarter of 2017. Atbashi Hub. Government of Kyrgyzstan issued decree on land allocation (more than 300 hectares), Chinese side is ready to invest 150 mln. Russian and Kazakh sides are considering investment in the project.</p>
<p>K.3.1. Conduct agricultural value chains analysis. Result: at least 2 sub-sectors in 2 Oblasts are analysed.</p>	<p>2014- An analysis of economic and agribusiness competitiveness in selected districts of the Osh oblast was conducted. VCs with the best potential were defined (apple, rice production, sweet corn and honey). Research for selecting potential agro VCs was conducted and the following VCs were recommended for support: 1. Rice VC (Uzgen); 2. Apples VC (Nookat); 3. Honey (Kara-kulja); 4. Sweet corn (Karasuu). - A situational analysis of the competitiveness of agribusinesses in Naryn Oblast was conducted defining the priority sectors for the project. The priority sectors include meat and milk processing sector, handicrafts, potatoes and beekeeping. Completed</p>

<p>K.3.2. Conduct of need assessment at stakeholders and support implementation of main recommendation to increase productivity at local processors. Result: at least 2 main recommendations are implemented at 70% of supported local processors.</p>	<p>2014- The value chain analysis on potatoes and handicrafts were completed. The analysis on potatoes includes a concrete action plan for the implementation on the production and sales of potatoes involving 300 households. The main stakeholders are seed and agriculture cooperatives, large farms, state seed and phytosanitary inspections and consultative companies. Some of the actions include the creation of marketing association of potato growers including wholesale point, information and service centers and field education centers for farmers. The action plan will be implemented in 2015. For handicrafts, the focus will be on marketing and production of felt products. This work will focus predominantly on women entrepreneurs and will engage exporters of felt products of Bishkek and Naryn (100 households). A preliminary needs assessment for selected enterprises in Naryn was conducted covering the modernisation of processing lines. Technical specifications, business and marketing plans were developed. Analysis of the production sites was conducted in meat and milk processing enterprises and recommendations and concrete plans were prepared for the introduction of HACCP (Naryn). National and external market analysis of honey and canned meat was conducted. It showed that the demand for canned meat on national markets is low and that canned meat is mainly exported to Kazakhstan and Russia. The analysis of the Naryn honey concluded that the high content of sainfoin make it a unique product, in high demand on national markets and potentially also on markets in bordering China. Recommendations include issues such as standardisation, quality control, and proper packaging (Naryn). The AfT project and GIZ are collaborating to support the "Kyrgyz Tokoi baylygy" cooperative in Jalal-abad oblast which processes forest walnut. The cooperative unites 300 farmers (Osh).</p>
<p>K.3.3. Support business initiatives to improve product quality for meeting international standards, and introducing energy efficient and greener production. Result: at least 2 initiatives of local processors per year have been supported.</p>	<p>2015</p> <p>Naryn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expert support on dairy equipment list technical specifications ; - Expert support for the construction of a potato storage; - Expert support on felt equipment list technical specifications; - Supported the participation in a 1-week capacity building course for employees of dairy companies on cheese production, quality control of primary products and final products, basics of HACCP (2 participants, 1 woman); <p>Osh: Support with equipment of Kyrgyz Tokoi Bailygy cooperative (walnut);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 8 projects were selected (drip irrigation, green-houses, promotion of bonsai gardening, production of honey, fodder production); - Corn: AfT supported "Zoloty doliny (Gold of valley)" cooperative with 1 mobile dryer. The dryer will help to reduce humidity level of corn from 28% to 14%; - Apples: In December, the AfT project supported "EUM" company with packaging equipment. The supplied equipment allows to pack juice into packs up to 1 liter (tetra-packs) and it will significantly improve the competitiveness of the juice and provide advantages for a deeper integration into local, regional and international markets.

2016-
Naryn:

Honey VC. Association of beekeepers of Naryn Uyuk received the beekeeping equipment. The equipment was transferred to the 21 members of the association on pay-back principle. 40% of the cost of equipment will be returned in the form of honey (approx. 14 tons of white honey) to the association as working capital. As of the beginning of January 2017, 90% of payments were made by members, and by the end of the year the development fund of the association will contain 30 000 USD. In 2016, production volume increased by 14.6%. Around 54.6% of the produced honey was sold through various channels distributors, direct sales, and sales points. The majority of the sales was made on the domestic market, some exports (test) to China (5 tons), Kazakhstan (1.5 tons), UAE (1 tons) and 300 kg as sample batch to South Korea. The involvement of the FEZ of Naryn in export promotion is also valuable through their trading house in Kashgar (China). The association arranged a training on honey collection in May. The State Agency for Investment and Export Promotion (ex-Single Window) is supporting the producers in the negotiation with potential Japanese buyers. Jointly with GIZ, a guide on food safety norms for honey production is being developed. The association entered into the roster of food producers of EAEU.

Cheese VC. Atbashi-Sut LLC received the cheese equipment and launched production in May. Based on first observations, the quality of the cheese improved. The company managed to make contracts to supply Chechel cheese (Issyk-Kul region). Before the start of the season, a training was held for the milk collectors on issues related to vaccination and food safety issues during milking. HACCP implementation is ongoing at the production line. Production increased in 2016 by 7.2%. Sales increased by 4.9% in comparison with 2015. Profitability increased by 24%. Atbashi-Sut also signed a contract with the supermarket Frunze (Bishkek) for Dutch and Chechel cheeses (sales equaled around 544 000 KGS in October-November). Cheese is also sold through sales points in Bishkek and a dedicated shop at the wholesale market (Maslosyrbaza). Sales by the end of November totaled 11.2 mln. KGS (73% of production volume). The company also tested pilot batches of new products from milk whey (albumin curd). Currently the company is in process of researching sales channels for this product (hospitals, kindergardens, etc.). Starting from the next year the company will launch a new type of cheese, and there is a preliminary agreement with some pizza restaurants for the supply;

Meat VC. Janar and Bek LLC received the meat equipment provided by AfT. The new equipment will be launched in July. Production volume increased by 44.7% in comparison to 2015. The production with the support of the Russian-Kyrgyz Development Fund will construct a slaughterhouse (construction will start in autumn 2017). Sales are made in Naryn and Bishkek. Pilot batch of yak canned meat is going to Almaty (Kazakhstan). Samples of meat products were sent to an exhibition in Moscow (Russia).

Felt VC (craft). To increase the productivity of the felt cooperatives, the AfT procured cloth sewing machines. The selected contractor was unable to deliver one kind of equipment and therefore all equipment had to be returned. The tender will be re-announced. Total production volume equaled 1.4 mln KGS and 0.7 mln KGS respectively, an increase of 60% (Zakym Atbashi) and 87.4% (Shagdar) in comparison to 2015. Sales increased by 66% (Zakym Atbashi) and 2.5 times (Shagdar), this was mostly due to the festivals in Son-Kul lake and World Nomad Games 2016. The cooperatives also received orders for shyrdaks (felt carpets) through the webpages and social media. Zakym Atbashi will continue to focus on the production of shyrdaks, and Shagdar will start to diversify its production and also include souvenirs for tourists.

	<p>Osh</p> <p>In collaboration with GIZ NaWI, 2 trainings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of business projects for agroprocessors in the pilot VCs; 2. Financial literacy for cooperative members (for “Nookat Altyn Almasy” and “Ozgon guruch” cooperatives). <p>Rice VC. The project worked on enhancing the capacities of rice producers ("Ozgon guruch" cooperative) in the Uzgen rayon and honey producers ("Kapchygai Too Baly" cooperative) in the Kara-Kulja rayon of Osh oblast to promote their products to foreign markets. Both cooperatives had trainings on marketing and quality standards, including HACCP principles. As a result, the cooperatives developed their export strategies for the next 3 years.</p> <p>Honey VC. This year, for the first time in Kyrgyzstan, a buffer zone for beekeeping was organised in Kara-Kuldja rayon of Osh oblast. The main purpose is to ensure no cross breeding with purebred bees and provide the members of “Kapchygai Too baly” cooperative and other interested beekeepers with purebred bees, which will increase yields and improve its quality. The first results of the buffer zone is that the cooperative produced 2 045 thoroughbred bees, among them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Queen bees - 770 (selling price 550 som); • Bee daughters - 1275 (selling price 150 som); • Bee packages - 1 piece (selling price of 2500 soms). <p>This approach helps to maintain bee queen population in kara Kuldja rayon but it also helps produce additional income for the "Kapchygai Too baly" cooperative.</p> <p>The project, unlike in Naryn, supported the cooperative to produce their own beehives through the establishment of a small production shop. The shop produced over 1 000 beehives/beeboxes. The members of the coop updated their bee boxes and the production shop also provided an additional source of income for the coop. The production cost of a beebox is 2830 kgs, while it is sold at 3100 kgs to the members and 3500 kgs for other beekeepers.</p> <p>In 2016, "Kapchygai Too Baly" cooperative produced 110 tons of honey which is 65.6% less than in 2015 - mostly due to the cold weather in spring time. By the 31st of December 2016, the coop exported 26 tons (Saudi Arabia and China). Exports were undertaken through an intermediary. A training on beekeeping, bee vermin and diseases was held for the cooperatives and interested beekeepers.</p> <p>Apple VC. A Nookat apple brand was developed jointly with stakeholders. The brand and its image were presented during the Apple Festival in Nookat rayon (Sept 30, 2016). Due to the cold spring, the "Nookat Altyn Almasy" harvested 400 tons of fresh apples which is 3 times less compare to 2015 (1250 tons). The coop exported 135 tons of apples to Tajikistan.</p>
	<p>Rice VC. Leaders of the rice cooperative participated in a study trip to Kazakhstan to visit rice production companies. In collaboration with USAID “Farmer to Farmer” programme, a rice expert arrived from the USA and gave field consultations on agrotechnology and crop protection to the Aft pilot cooperatives “Ozgon guruch” and “Ozgon shaly uroon”. The cooperative produced 120 tons of rice while in 2015 80 tons of rice were produced (50% increase but mostly due to increasing plot sizes). The project supported a large amount of marketing meetings for Uzgen rice with trade companies from Russia and Kazakhstan and from Bishkek like "Frunze"hybermarket. The main barrier for contracts at this stage is packaging. Equipment is due to arrive in March 2017.</p>

	<p>Corn VC. No direct support was provided to the cooperative in 2016, however the project continues to monitor the progress. In 2016, the mobile corn dryer dried 237,8 tons of corn which brought 88 000 kgs of profit for the cooperative.</p>
<p>K.3.4. Support to establish systematic knowledge exchange setup between agro-processors and cooperatives in selected bordering Oblasts. Result: regular exchange meetings between supported local processors are institutionalized.</p>	<p>2014-6 leaders of pilot potato cooperatives participated in a study tour to Issik-kul to familiarise themselves with new technologies to grow potatoes. Contacts were established between high quality seed producers (Naryn). 2015- Study tour to Osh for the Association of Atbashi Potato Seeders (6 men) (Naryn).</p>
<p>K.3.5. Strengthening stakeholders of selected value chains for deepening integrating into local, regional and international markets. Result: at least 2 systematic marketing training serials institutionalized until EoP.</p>	<p>2014 - 95 members (87 women) of handicraft cooperatives were trained in management, marketing and Kaizen approach. HACCP training for 15 people from meat and milk enterprises organised (Naryn). 2016 - Training "Development of business projects for agroprocessors in the pilot VCs" Participants 9 (7 men and 2 women) (Osh); - Training on financial literacy for cooperative members (for "Nookat Altyn Almas" – total 18 people (3 out of 18 – women) and "Ozgon guruch" – 20 people, all males) (Osh); - A study tour to Czech Republic on fruits and milk processing (REG).</p>
<p>K.3.6. Support participation of selected clients at the national and regional trade fairs and business forums increasing sales volume and accessing new sales channels. Result: at least 30 % of supported cooperatives and local processors regularly participate at the national and regional trade fairs; at least 1 representative per supported value chain and Oblast regularly participates at business forums.</p>	<p>2014 - 6 representatives of pilot cooperatives participated in the discussions for a strategy for felt products (Naryn); - The project targeted agrifood producers. 1) A trade fair with trainings was organised during the Sulaiman-too international event. Sales totaling 150 000 Soms were made. Trainings were provided on sewing (53/7 women), pastry (60/30 women), and ceramics (53/30 women). 2) The rice festival took place in Uzgen town, the rayon's center which is famous for its rice (179/65 women). A fair for rice products was held, where problems of rice production were discussed. The apple festival took place in Osh and farmers from the Nookat rayon participated (49/14 women). The walnut festival was organised jointly with GIZ in Jalal-abad town (314/59 women). Issues of production and forest conservation were discussed (Osh); - Support to the annual Investment forum in Osh was provided in May 2014. The 2nd catalogue of investment projects was published; 1) Purchase of exhibition equipment was done for the "Jer Azygy" Agro businessmen Association of Kyrgyzstan (AAK); 2) Local producers displayed their products during the Sulaiman-too international campaign held in October 2014. In total, 64 (43 women) local producers took part in it; 3) 77 (16 women) producers presented their products in the fairs in November 2014; In total, 120 (63 women) persons participated in the forum (Osh).</p>

2015 - Naryn: 6 (2 female) entrepreneurs participated in the International Exhibition in Cian, China (signed agreement between FEZ Naryn and Cian Innovation Centre for Investment Attraction and New Technologies Promotion);

- Entrepreneurs participated in the World Food Kazakhstan 2015 in Almaty (2 men);
- Entrepreneurs participated in the trade fair on handicraft in Bishkek and Issyk-Kul (10 women);
- CA Trade Forum in Almaty (2 men);
- Participation of handicraft female entrepreneurs in the national festival of felt products in Bishkek and Issyk-Kul (10 women);
- 2 entrepreneurs (1 woman) from Naryn participated in the business forum in Kashgar (China). 1 signed contract on joint production of apparel products;
- Posters and video clips developed for FEZ Naryn;

Osh:- Osh business-forum with over 200 participants. The project invested much effort in turning this event into a more B2B opportunity instead of the traditional formal event. Further capacity development of businesses, as well as associations is required.

- The producers from the pilot VCs took part in the World Food Exhibition in Almaty, Kazakhstan in November 2015. Over 400 companies from 37 countries took part in the exhibition.

Nookat Altyn Almas sold 165 tons of fresh apples to Kazakh traders after the World Food Kazakhstan exhibition (in December 2015). Estimated sum of delivery 2.5 mln. KGS. The participation in the exhibition was facilitated by the Single Window Center under the Ministry of Economy.

'-Jointly with USAID Agrohorizon, ICCO & Helvetas, Bai-Jer LTD, Jer-Azygy Association, the projects supported the annual AgroExpo Exhibition held in Osh in February. About 3,000 people visited the exhibition, 40 companies exhibited their products. More than 20 contracts were signed on supplying agroproducts and providing inputs. 6 seminars on agriculture topics were conducted where 396 (194 males and 202 females) people took part in.

- Women's entrepreneurship workshop in Karakulja (200 women).
- Support to the organisation of the apple festival in Nookat district. Over 200 participants took part in the event (Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Kazakhstan, Turkey and China). The results of the festival is that apple farmers and cooperatives of Nookat rayon/district established good trade links with Taraz city entrepreneurs in Kazakhstan where they sold 120 tons of fresh apples. Exports are ongoing to Russian and Kazakh cities.
- A honey festival was held for the 1st time in KG in Karakulja rayon/district. Over 200 participants took part in the event. Honey producers from all the regions of KG exhibited their produce in the event. There were representatives from Russian and Chinese embassies and entrepreneurs from these countries. As a result of the honey festival:
 - "Too baly" Cooperative concluded a contract with "Golden kg" company for 1 ton of honey to UAE. The total expected volume is 20 tons.
 - "Too baly" Cooperative concluded a contract with local buyers to supply 1 ton;
 - Agreement to supply honey to "KG House" shop in Kazakhstan and "Made in KG" shop in Russia. The expected volume is 10 tons.
- Support to the organisation of the walnut festival. Over 200 participants took part in the event. A forum devoted to the problem of walnut forests where scientists and experts provided recommendations. As a result of the walnut festival:
 - "Farmers organic garden" Ltd concluded a contract with "Altynym" supermarket (Bishkek) to supply walnut milk;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "Osco" Ltd agreed with local forest users to buy dried fruits - apples, prunes. The planned volume is 3-7 tons for each; - There are preliminary agreements on supplying walnut jam to local entrepreneurs; - A local entrepreneur is planning to sell walnut and dried fruits under the brand "Made in kg".
	<p>2016</p> <p>AfT in Osh supported walnut, apple and honey festivals and the business-forum in Jalal-abad. Within the festivals B2B meetings were conducted, where buyers and trade companies from Kazakhstan and Bishkek looked for suppliers. In each event 130-200 people participated. The follow up will be done during 2017.</p>

Tajikistan

<p>Output 4: In Tajikistan, trade policy documents developed and adjusted to international trade agreements, trade promotion institutes and stakeholders strengthened in international trading and promoting sound business environment, selected agricultural value chains are based on sustainable use of natural resources, and supported information technology applied to improve business links and innovative economic activities.</p>	
Activity/result	Progress
<p>T.1.1. Conduct trade related baseline study on national and Oblasts level. Result: national and at least 2 Oblast studies drafted.</p>	<p>2015: Trade baseline study on Free Economic Zones in TJK and the CA region conducted (REG activity). Trade baseline study on TJK export potential conducted. Trade baseline study on increasing competitiveness conducted. Trade baseline study of the Khatlon region conducted;</p> <p>2016: Economic impact study of WTO accession. Baseline study on the impact of multilateral and bilateral international and regional integration processes. Trade barrier analysis for the Sughd region undertaken. Analysis on trade relations in the Kyrgyz-Tajik border area.</p>
<p>T.1.2. Legal review of national trade related documents and WTO requirements for Tajikistan. Result: legal review is supported with on-demand advice from trade experts.</p>	<p>2014: Legal review of the law on trade and consumer services supported. Legal review of the law on Free Economic Zones supported. Recommendations by the MEDT to establish an NTFC (National Trade Facilitation Committee) sent to relevant government authorities;</p> <p>2015: Legal review of the law on trade and consumer services conducted. Legal review of the Law on Free Economic Zones conducted;</p> <p>2016: WTO Trade Policy Review Road Map for 2016-2019 elaborated. Legal review of the rules of commission trade, consumer services and public catering in schools conducted.</p>

<p>T.1.3. Support to the establishing a Working Group at Ministerial level for introducing of adjustments to the National Trade Policy documents and providing it with international and national expertise. Result: Ministerial Working Group is supported by providing requested topic-related trade experts.</p>	<p>2014: Support to the WG on the law on trade and consumer services through technical expertise; 2015: 4 WGs (law on trade and consumer services, law on free economic zones, donor coordination on WTO matters, and export promotion and competitiveness) supported with technical advice; 2016: Established WG on trade policy review at the ministerial level and 4 meetings conducted. Support to WG on law on trade and consumer services provided and 3 meetings conducted. Support to the WG on coordination of WTO activities among international and state agencies provided and 3 meetings conducted.</p>
<p>T.1.4. Support to establishing Expert and Working Groups on national and at Oblasts level for elaboration of trade related policy documents. Result: expert and working groups on trade policy are established on national level and at least in 2 Oblasts.</p>	<p>2014: WG under the Consultative Council of the Khatlon region on SMEs access to affordable financial resources supported. 8 recommendations submitted to the annual meeting of the Consultative Council under the Head of Khatlon administration (8 adopted); 2015: Expert group for the development of the TDP of Khatlon region established and supported. At the oblast level two focus groups were established to support the formulation of the TDP. 3 WG meetings conducted; 2016: Support for the establishment of the WG on the elaboration of the TDP Sughd 2016-2018 provided and WG established. Expert Groups in Isfara, Istarafshan and Khujand established and meetings conducted with the participation of 59 people (9 female, 15%).</p>
<p>T.1.5. Provide national and international technical expertise in formulation of trade related policy documents. Result: at least 6 papers and expert consultancies supported.</p>	<p>2015: -Expertise provided for the formulation of the law on trade and consumer services - 3 national consultants hired; - Expertise provided for the formulation of the law on FEZ- 2 national consultants hired; - Expertise provided for the formulation of the state programme on export promotion and increasing competitiveness- 1 international consultant and 2 local consultants hired; - Expertise provided for the formulation of the Trade Development Programme for the Khatlon region. One international consultant and 2 local consultants hired; - Expertise provided for the formulation of the National Development Strategy for 2016-2030. Two local experts hired; - Technical assistance to improve sanitary, phyto-sanitary and veterinary standards provided. Two international and one local consultant on sanitary and phyto-sanitary (SPS) measures hired; 2016: Local consultant hired to conduct the WTO economic impact analysis, analysis of rules of commission trade and consumer services to improve the law on trade and consumer services, on TPR, regional brand development, the elaboration of the Sughd TDP, the elaboration of rules of anti-dumping and elaboration of rules of protective measures.</p>

<p>T.1.6. Provision of technical assistance for the design of a Trade Road Map Action Matrix and implementing selected priorities through UNDP instrument “Small Grants Programme”. Result: implementation of Action Matrix priorities is supported by providing on-demand advice from experts and grants.</p>	<p>2015: The road map (the state programme "Export Promotion and increase of competitiveness") and its action matrix formulated and adopted by the MEDT (28.12.2015); 2016: Action matrix of Khatlon trade development programme supported through the development of a regional brand, support to B2B events and agro and trade exhibitions. Action matrix of trade policy review supported by the establishment of a WTO discussion club within MEDT.</p>
<p>T.1.7. Promote public discussion of trade related policy documents at PPD platforms on national and Oblasts level through provision of demand-oriented inputs to interested stakeholders ahead of platform meetings. Result: at least once a year trade policy documents are discussed on national and at least on 2 Oblast PPD platforms, advised by trade experts with topic related input papers.</p>	<p>2014: WG on access to affordable financial resources for entrepreneurs involved in production of Consultative Council under the President of the RT of Khatlon region supported; 2 WG meetings conducted; 8 recommendations elaborated and 8 submitted to the Khatlon Consultative Council and 8 adopted by Consultative Council of Khatlon region at the 6th Consultative Council meeting on 26.12.2014 in Kurgan Tube; 2015: Round table on “Consultative Council on Improvement of Investment Climate under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan - an Instrument to Facilitate Open Dialogue between State and Private Sectors” supported. 125 people participated from government and private sector. (23 female); - Seminar on logistics and export and import promotion in the Khatlon region with the Consultative Council and ABBAT supported for local entrepreneurs, 30 representatives from private sector and government officials participated (7 female); 2016: TDP for the Sughd region discussed in Isfara, Istarafshan and Khujand; Cross-border trade issues discussed at the Oblasts level via PPDs in Isfara and Lyakhsh territory. In Sughd, over 140 (25.1% female) and in Lyakhsh over 50 (35% female) people were involved; At the national level, the Law on trade and consumer services was discussed during a seminar, where 105 people participated (15 female); TPR discussed during a 2 day workshop with civil servants and private sector where 49 people participated (14 female). This workshop was organised and conducted jointly with MEDT and MoE of Turkey.</p>
<p>T.2.1. Needs assessment of business community in target areas, including organizing of focus groups discussions at national and Oblasts' level. Result: NA conducted and findings used for TCDP formulation.</p>	<p>2014: Needs assessment conducted in Khatlon, Sughd and DRS. List of capacity development themes defined and included into the trade and export capacity building programme (TCDP). Completed</p>
<p>T.2.2. Needs and capacity assessment on trade capacity development for all trade stakeholders in the target areas. Result: at least 2 assessments are conducted.</p>	<p>2014: Needs assessment conducted in Khatlon, Sughd and DRS. List of capacity development themes defined and included into the trade and export capacity building programme (TCDP). Completed (the actions was united with T.2.1.)</p>

<p>T.2.3. Support to establishing National and at least two Oblasts Trade Promotion Centres. Result: National and at least 2 Oblast Trade Promotion Centres are established.</p>	<p>2014: Three TPCs established - 1 on national and 2 on the regional level (Khatlon and Sughd) under the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) of TJK. Completed</p>
<p>T.2.4. Support to establishing a TCDP on national and Oblasts level providing regular trainings. Result: latest by mid-2015 Trade Capacity Programme conducts annually at least 2 trade-related trainings, satisfying at least 70 % of participants.</p>	<p>2014: The Trade/Export Capacity Development Programme (TCDP) established at the national level and 2 oblasts (completed). 5 training sessions (18 trainings) conducted and 252 entrepreneurs (34 or 13% women) trained. 93 % of entrepreneurs trained are satisfied;</p> <p>2015: 7 training sessions (22 trainings), 2 information sessions (4 events), and individual consultancies provided to 14 SMEs. In total, 444 entrepreneurs (103 or 23% women) trained. 75 % of clients were satisfied with the services;</p> <p>2016: 4 training session (11 trainings) conducted, as well as ad hoc trainings for special target audiences: 484 (195 or 40% women) people trained on trade and business development topics, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National and oblasts TPCs conducted 11 trade related trainings for 222 entrepreneurs (36 or 16% are women); - Individual consultancy provided to 193 staff of 7 SMEs (110 women); - 40 women trained on business planning and entrepreneurial skills; - MCF staff (29, 31% female) trained on SMART principles for microfinance; - Trainings mostly focused on: HACCP, ISO 22000, FSSC 22000, financial and management accounting training, elaboration of product labels and brand, cost calculation etc.
<p>T.2.5. Providing Trade Promotion Centers with support to conduct follow-up actions for SMEs on TCDP trainings on compliance to export standards for agro-processing companies (e.g. Good Management Practice, HACCP, ISO). Result: at least 2 follow-up measures on compliance with export standards are supported per year.</p>	<p>2014: Post-trainings, the project started to provide direct expert support to 9 agro processing SMEs from different areas of TJK in the introduction of HACCP quality standards.</p> <p>2015: 23 SMEs - 9 processing companies (introduction of HACCP) and 14 companies supported through expert advice (marketing, business planning, feed etc.).</p> <p>2016: - Study tour to India for grape producers conducted in February 2016 jointly with UZB producers focusing on best practices in grape production, exporting, Global GAP, ISO 22000, cold storage, post-harvest and marketing practices etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4 processing SMEs supported with expert advice on the introduction of HACCP, ISO 22000, FSSC 22000, marketing researches, branding and labeling etc. The project monitors uptake on the standards: all companies have developed a re-modelling plan to be compliant with HACCP and ISO 22 000. Some of the companies have invested upward to 25 000US\$ for remodeling. One company is preparing itself for the audit in 2017; - 7 SMEs (dry fruits and dairy processors) and 2 TSIs enhanced their knowledge participating in the study-tour to the Czech Republic, organised jointly with the UNDP-CTF project and focusing on best practices of the Czech Republic on fruits and vegetables and dairy sectors. As result, one company Czech Pro BIO has highlighted their readiness to buy organic nuts and fruits from Tajikistan as long as the products are compliant with quality regulations; - 7 SMEs were audited on energy efficiency. The survey on the implementation of the audit recommendation is ongoing, results about the impact on companies EE will be shared by the end of January 2017. <p>LCC "Dilpisand" - improved lighting in its plant using more efficient lighters;</p>

	<p>LLC “Shohshir – Correct” used recommendation in its construction of a new production line; LCC “Fortuna” and LCC “Samsai 33” worked on improving the lighting system for increased energy efficiency. The project is currently running a more detailed survey to capture total energy saved, and related investment cost/improved production cost.</p>
<p>T.2.6. Support to capacity development of Business Associations and CCI, including improving lobbying capacity on enhancing the business environment, utilizing means of Small Grants Programme, national and international experts. Result: at least 5 requests from business associations and CCI on providing capacity development via expertise and trainings. At least 6 recommendations on improving business environment elaborated and submitted to government</p>	<p>2015: 3 BAs identified 30 recommendations on taxation, agriculture and agroindustry. 10 recommendations were submitted to relevant government structures and 4 recommendations considered by the government and CC under the President of Tajikistan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 proposal related to taxation of users of natural resources was approved and it is expected that changes will be adopted to the new version of Tax Code starting from January 01, 2016 (this proposal was returned by the GoT to the State commission under the MOF and was not approved); - 3 proposals related to improving Agro industry issues were considered at the CC under the President of the RT and included into the action plan for the elimination of barriers in this sector; <p>2016: - 10 recommendations elaborated and submitted to the consultative council under the President of the RT. Topics include: unreasonable checks resulting in delays of goods, problems of shipment in the terminals, issues of transition of goods to the territory of Uzbekistan etc.;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The action plan on agroindustry developed in 2015 was adopted by the GOT as of 27 July 2016, ref.#324 and should be implemented till the end of 2017.
<p>T.2.7. Support CCI in organising the participation of selected SMEs at trade fairs/exhibitions and business forums in CA countries. Result: Capacity of CCI in organising delegations visits of entrepreneurs is built, new business links established, locally produced products promoted at regional markets, export turnover increased by 10% at least.</p>	<p>2014: 5 agro processing SMEs participated at the international exhibition “AgroExpo 2014” in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan contracts and MoUs signed for 1.5 mln. US\$;</p> <p>2015: 21 Tajik SMEs participated at international exhibitions in Moscow (RF), Xian (China), Astana (Kazakhstan) and Minsk (Belarus). The contracts and MoUs amounted to 2.5 mln. US\$. Total amount shipped was 2.87 mln USD;</p> <p>2016: 5 SMEs participated at the international exhibition “World Food Moscow 2016”, in September 2016 and contracts and MoUs were concluded for 4.5 mln US\$.</p>
<p>T.3.1.1. Conduct agricultural value chain analysis (productivity, marketing capacity, use of natural resources and etc.) to identify innovative green business ideas for raising productivity and export capacity, and SMEs capable to implement them. Result: at least 2 sub-sectors in 2 Oblasts are analysed.</p>	<p>2014: Agricultural value chain analysis of fruit and vegetable sectors of Sughd, Khatlon and DRS conducted and the 3 most perspective sub-sectors to raise productivity and export capacity identified;</p> <p>2015: No activities;</p> <p>2016: Analysis on agricultural value chain (productivity and marketing capacity, use of natural resources) in order to identify innovative green business ideas to raise productivity and export capacity started. Analysis will be completed by March 2017.</p>

<p>T.3.1.2. Conduct feasibility study on establishing a Business Challenge Fund (BCF) and due diligence analysis implementing capacity of Micro-finance Institutions (MFI). Result: compliance with criteria of financial sustainability of initial funding amount ensured. T.3.1.3. Awareness raising on BCF among the private sector. Result: awareness campaigns are conducted at least every second year in at least 4 Oblasts.</p>	<p>2014: Feasibility study on the establishment of the BCF in the Khatlon region and DRS conducted and 3 new affordable to SMEs microfinance products developed. These microfinance products will cover the needs of women-headed SMEs, support to innovative green business ideas and the agribusiness sector. MFI selected through open competition process. Completed</p>
<p>T.3.1.3. Awareness raising on BCF among the private sector. Result: awareness campaigns are conducted at least every second year in at least 4 Oblasts.</p>	<p>2014: 2 awareness campaigns on the BCF conducted at the national level and in the Khatlon region; 2015: 2 awareness campaigns conducted in the DRS and Dushanbe; 2016: 4 awareness campaigns conducted in the DRS and Dushanbe.</p>
<p>T.3.1.4. Establishing Project Appraisal Committees (PAC) at national and Oblast level, elaborating selection criteria for business ideas, including environmental screening tools. Result: PAC established and selection criteria agreed latest until end of 2014.</p>	<p>2014: Project proposal evaluation committee (PPEC) established in the Khatlon oblast and selection criterion elaborated, application forms prepared and agreed upon; 2015: Project proposal evaluation committee (PPEC) established for the DRS and selection criterion elaborated, application forms prepared and agreed upon. Completed</p>
<p>TT.3.1.5. Integrating BCF in selected MFIs programme(s). Result: institutional arrangement between BCF and MFI(s) contracted latest until end 2014.</p>	<p>2014: Grant agreement for credit related activities with MFI - MCF Sarvati Vakhsh concluded and BCF crediting principles integrated; 2016: An amendment to the grant agreement for credit related activities with MCF "Sarvati Vakhsh" signed and it is expected that 4 additional SMEs of DRS will be supported during the next year.</p>
<p>T.3.1.6. Based on established eligibility criteria, to conduct selection process on innovative green business ideas with increased productivity and export capacity. Result: selection process on business ideas from mid of 2014 to mid of 2016.</p>	<p>2014: Call for business proposals for SMEs announced in the Khatlon region in mid- December 2014 and selection process started in January 2015; 2015: Call for proposals for SMEs in the Khatlon region announced and in total 39 proposals received. Call for proposals for DRS, 6 proposals received; 2016: 3 calls for provision of business proposals from SMEs to BCF were announced, and in total 21 proposals received (DRS: 18 proposals and Khatlon: 3 proposals). 3 project proposals evaluation committee (PPEC) meetings conducted (February, April and June 2016). 19 business ideas were recommended for funding from BCF.</p>

<p>T.3.1.7. Provision support through BCF to selected SMEs' business ideas. Result: at least 7 innovative business ideas are supported per year.</p>	<p>2014: No activities; 2015: 18 business ideas supported (15 in Khatlon, 3 in DRS); 2016: 13 business ideas supported (11 in DRS and 2 in Khatlon from revolving funds).</p>
<p>T.3.2.1. Feasibility study on introducing Agriculture Information and Marketing Service (AIMS) to other Oblasts. Result: conduct study in at least for 3 additional Oblasts.</p>	<p>2014: Feasibility study to introduce the AIMS in other oblasts undertaken in Khatlon, and DRS. Completed</p>
<p>T.3.2.2. Establishing AIMS and its agent network at other Oblasts of Tajikistan. Result: the AIMS services covering whole Tajikistan.</p>	<p>2014: One additional region - Khatlon Oblast fully covered by AIMS services; 2015: One additional region - DRS fully covered by AIMS services; 2016: AIMS continues to cover three regions of TJK (Sughd, Khatlon and DRS). Moreover, the AIMS trade platform also provides market information from Kyrgyzstan.</p>
<p>T.3.2.3. Developing and implementing new service offers at the AIMS platform. Result: range of services providing by AIMS is widened, sustainability of AIMS insured, new ICT developed for mobile phones, electronic trade is piloted and etc.</p>	<p>2014: 1 new mobile application on market prices of Tajikistan (Android platform /Google Play); 2015: 2 new mobile applications developed - "Mobile plant protection guide" and "Farm gate prices", and 1 "Market prices of Tajikistan" upgraded to "Market prices of Central Asia"; 2016: 3 new mobile applications developed - "A to Z" for livestock, for blackcurrant, for corn; 1 new AIMS service "Database of agricultural producers" developed: www.farmers.agroinform.tj.</p>
<p>T.3.2.4. Awareness raising of private and government sectors on AIMS. Result: at least 2 promotion campaigns per additional Oblast at time of introduction and 6 months later.</p>	<p>2014: 4 awareness campaigns for AIMS services in Sughd and Khatlon regions; 2015: 1 awareness campaign for AIMS services at the national level, 5 at the regional/oblast level and 18 at the regional level; 2016: 21 awareness campaigns for AIMS services conducted (1 on oblast level in Sughd, 17 on districts level (8 in Sughd and 9 in DRS), 1 on national level and 2 at international level - Mobile applications were presented in Bishkek and Tashkent.</p>
<p>T.3.2.5. Establishing business links between agricultural producers or processors and potential customers. Result: at least 1 incentive with immediate benefit to participate at AIMS developed for linking vendors with customers</p>	<p>2014: 3 agro processing companies of Sughd region (Mevai Tilloi, Mevakand – dry fruits and Subhi Vatan – canning) linked to international trade platforms.; 2015: 4 SMEs - LLC "Oro Isfara" (dried fruits), Mahsuloti Oftobi (Isfara), Shahrinav (Muminobod), and "Obi Zulol" (Istaravshan) platform. In addition, LLC "Mevai Tilloi" was linked with buyers from Altay region of Russian Federation and Shenzhen Huaxin Decheng Trade Co. Ltd (China); 2016: 5 SMEs - LLC Zoda (Khujand, production of fruit beverages), LLC "Iskandari Istaravshan" (Istaravshan, export of onion) and LLC "Abdukhafiz Sarkor" (B. Gafurov, production and export of FV), LLC "Mevau sabzavot" and LLC "20-solagii Istiqloiyati vatan" (Istaravshan) interlinked to the trade platform Foodmarket.Ru and trained on its usage.</p>

<p>T.3.2.6. Support marketing information providers from CA countries to interlink their agriculture related information systems with neighbouring countries. Result: marketing information providers from CA countries interlinked, CA information exchange platform established.</p>	<p>2014: Collaboration with marketing information provider from KRG - agro.kg established and negotiations on interlinking of CA producers and exchanging information started; 2015: Collaboration with another private information marketing system of KRG – Agro-asia.com was established. Market prices of TJK and KRG will be available in both systems. MoU with the Centre of Agro Information-Innovation of Uzbekistan signed. A joint action plan elaborated and implementation of this action plan started; 2016: The collaboration with all 3 systems continues. In addition, jointly with Uzbek partners it is planned to develop a mobile application in Uzbek.</p>
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Uzbekistan

<p>Output 2 (Uzbekistan): In Uzbekistan trade policy makers are better qualified on easing trade with neighbouring countries, research and extension service providers are enabled to promote innovative trade approaches and sustainable agricultural agro-processing practices in Central Asia.</p>	
Activity/result	Progress
<p>U.1.1. Conduct legal, data and administrative capacity baseline study on trade opportunities and challenges in Fergana valley. Result: at least 1 baseline assessment conducted.</p>	<p>Baseline assessment conducted in 2015.</p>
<p>U.1.2. On-demand engagement of international experts on practical recommendations on implementation of WTO, CIS FTA and CU regulations. Result: at least 3 reviews and analytical notes, e.g. on trade corridors, border facilitation, harmonization of legislation etc., developed and submitted to the governments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of draft customs code prepared in 2014 and new edition of customs code adopted in January 2016; - 2016, 3 analytical papers with recommendations prepared: - Analytical notes on technical regulation in the Eurasian Union and analysis of trade-related sanitary, phyto-sanitary and veterinary control measures for market access of agricultural goods of Eurasian Economic Union prepared and concrete recommendations submitted; - Draft analytical report prepared on the challenges and perspectives of improving productive and export potential of the fruits and vegetable sector.

<p>U.1.3. On-demand engagement of international experts on mechanisms to improve regional trade. Result: at least 3 reviews and analytical notes, e.g. on trade corridors, border facilitation, harmonization of legislation etc., developed and submitted to the governments.</p>	<p>2 analytical notes and 1 draft report prepared:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analytical paper with recommendations on improving foreign trade regime as a factor in raising competitiveness of the economy of Uzbekistan prepared jointly with CER; - Draft of analytical report on the analysis of the status and prospects of non-raw-material exports development prepared and submitted for comments; - Marketing research prepared on the perspectives of export of fresh and processed fruits and vegetables.
<p>U.1.4. identification of mechanism for improving regional trade opportunities by involving representatives of regional trade stakeholders. Result: at least 3 cross-border trade stakeholder workshops organized.</p>	<p>- Joint UNECE/UNDP regional workshop on Agri-food supply chains in cross-border trade of nuts and dried fruits is prepared and scheduled for July 11-13, 2016 (REG activity) involving Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.</p>
<p>U.2.1. Conduct baseline studies on needs of SMEs on export support services. Result: 1 needs assessment report produced.</p>	<p>Activity concluded in 2014</p>
<p>U.1.2.3. Increased export volume achieved at companies receiving support services. Result: At least 10% one year after having received support services</p>	<p>-Uztdbirkorexport and Markazsanoat Foreign Trade Companies established linkages with over 70 potential clients and concluded preliminary contracts with 13 companies at Fruit Logistica 2016 in Berlin worth US\$ 6 mln. As of Dec 2016, goods worth US\$ 7,8 mln. were exported;</p> <p>- Uztdbirkorexport established linkages and concluded preliminary contracts during TextileLegProm 2016 (in September, Moscow) for US\$ 40 mln and already exported US\$6.8 mln.</p> <p>In total, Uztdbirkorexport was able to increase exports volume by 25.9% to US\$1,386 mln in 2016 from US\$ 1,100 mln in 2015;</p> <p>- Another TSI - UzAgroExport (newly established TSI in 2016) as a result of project support for the participation at the World Food Moscow 2016 was able to conclude preliminary exports contracts for US\$114 mln and supply US\$ 27.3 mln worth of fruits and vegetables.</p>
<p>U.2.2. Trainings and advisory services are provided to improve capacity of national export promotion agencies of Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan to promote a higher value added goods and support businesses to adopt resource efficient production methods. Result: at least 8 trainings conducted; in evaluation reports 70 % of participants assessed trainings as positive; at least 25 % percent of participants are female.</p>	<p>- 6 trainings conducted in 2014 - 2015;</p> <p>- 2 trainings conducted in 2016: 1) a joint UNECE/UNDP workshop on agri-food supply chains in cross-border trade of nuts and dried fruits conducted on July 11-13, 2016. All participants (53) assessed the training as positive (69% - excellent, 31% good) and 30% of all participants were female;</p> <p>2) 3-day training on export strategy development and export marketing for representatives of trade support institutions and foreign trade companies conducted on July 18-20, 2016. 95% of all participants (35) found the trainings as positive (71% - excellent, 24% - good). 11 women- 31.4%.</p>

U.2.3. Support to establish an IT platform for export promotion and exchange of market information servicing at least 2 CA countries. Result: Export promotion and market information exchange platform is established; at least 300 clients served.	-UzTrade (tradeuzbekistan.com) export promotion IT platform created and launched in May 2016, over 1400 companies registered on the platform. UzTrade online platform processed 100 applications from foreign customers. Uztrade Platform facilitated export deals worth US\$38 mln.
U.2.4. Support research and extension institutions to cooperate on promoting sustainable agricultural practices in Central Asia. Result: at least 5 targeted publications and information on sustainable agricultural practices.	-Draft text of the guideline on Global GAP standard introduction prepared.
U.3.1. Support participation of selected clients to regional trade fairs and business forums to increase and diversify their sales. Result: at least 50 project clients participated at fairs and forums.	-45 project clients: - 11 project clients in 2014; - 21 project clients in 2015; - 13 project clients in 2016.
U.3.2. Support national export promotion agencies to establish a regular joint regional business forum. Result: regional business forum for SMEs conducted at least once a year.	2014 - Support to CCI to conduct the International Trade Exhibition on Gardening, Beekeeping and Floriculture; 2015 – None; 2016 - Support to UzAgroExport provided in the organisation of two International Fruits and Vegetables Fairs (12-14 July and 8-10 November, 2016).
U.3.3. Support piloting of innovative agro-processing facilities with higher productivity and eco-innovative practices. Result: at least 4 pilot facilities, benefiting at least 50 people, operational by EoP.	3 pilot facilities: 2015: 2 pilot projects launched, benefiting 23 people launched (biogas and computerised sewing); 2016: 1 pilot project is being implemented (leather). 1 project idea identified and submitted for consideration to national partner (beans and dried fruits).
U.3.4. Provide recommendations and support introduction of food standards required for exporting. Result: Review of national legislation and conduct gap analysis on required export standards.	Reviews conducted in 2015 (How to export to European Union Handbook and Analytical report on the role of national quality infrastructure in the modernisation strategy of Uzbekistan prepared and submitted to national partners).
U.3.5. Conduct baseline studies to assess risk and challenges posed by climate change to agriculture production in Central Asia. Result: at least 2 research papers developed.	1 research paper on baseline assessment of risks to agriculture posed by climate change conducted in 2015; 1 research paper on adaptation measures in agriculture to climate change conducted in 2016.

<p>U.3.6. Facilitate introduction of eco-innovative sustainable solutions to improve agro-processing and agricultural productivity by organizing sub-sectoral exchange visits, study tours, hands-on trainings and regional innovation camps over Central Asia. Result: At least 4 events organized.</p>	<p>2 events organised in 2015; 2 events organised in 2016. Study tour to India on fresh grape value chains (drip irrigation and water saving techniques, harvesting and packaging practices, Global GAP experience). Study tour to Czech Republic on fruits and vegetables (Czech experience on organic farming, drip irrigation, cold storage).</p>
<p>U.3.7. Make knowledge and response mechanisms to climate change more accessible to (agro-) business stakeholders by awareness raising campaigns, electronic outreach aimed at national and regional audience. Result: 2 seminars; 4 targeted thematic publications issued.</p>	<p>2016: 1 workshop on intensive orchards conducted. Instruction on biogas technology was broadcasted on regional TV; 1 publication on adaptation measures was prepared, 2 info graphics on water usage and pest control published (on-line).</p>

2016 AWP results

Kyrgyzstan

Output 3: In Kyrgyzstan trade-related policy makers are better qualified to support favorable pro-poor trade promotion environment, local authorities, selected business association and service providers are enhanced in their capacity to promote pro-poor trade, and the agriculture and agro-processing in selected value chains increased its productivity and exports volume.	
AWP targets	Progress
K.I.1.1 Number of policy recommendations on improving existing regulatory framework. 2016 target: K.T. 1.1. 2 policy recommendations in 2016	5 recommendations were developed in line with the Export Development Plan of the Kyrgyz Republic: 1) Development of a package of recommendations on trade finance mechanisms is ongoing. Action plan on cross-sector access to finance for export development was developed and submitted. It is expected that the action plan will be endorsed by the government by the end of February; 2) Recommendations developed for the creation of regional funds to support entrepreneurship in rural areas is under consideration by the PM's office; 3) Programme of export financing is under endorsement by government; 4) Recommendation on the organisational structure and chart of the JSC Guarantee Fund (state-owned) developed and submitted in a package of recommendations to the Ministry of Economy. As a result, new JSC established in accordance with recommendations. The Fund will provide guarantees for entrepreneurs for export operations and collateral. Fund capitalised with 280 mln KGS (1/3 is provided by Ministry of Finance and 2/3 by Asian Dev Bank). Capitalisation of up to 1 bln KGS is under discussion; 5) Supported the elaboration of 1 analytical note on merging the Investment Promotion Agency with the Single Window Center (export promotion dimension). The project provided substantive input and guidance in the development of the relevant governmental decree. The decree was adopted on 14 October 2016 #549. The Ministry is in process of hiring new staff and update organisational arrangements.
K.I. 1.2. Number of policy issues related to trade barriers identified and proposed revisions submitted to the government. 2016 target: 1.2. 2 proposed revisions in 2016	Based on requests made from the government, the project supported the following: 1) Revision of institutional framework for the new agency on investment and export promotion. Government decree #549; 2) In parallel to the establishment of the JSC Guarantee Fund, the project drafted the internal regulation of the guarantee fund including the chart of the fund.
K.I.1.3. Percentage of supported decision makers self-assessing improved job qualifications. 2016 target: K.T.1.3. Capacity of at least 15 decision-makers and stakeholders of trade policy process is strengthened.	53 decision makers self-assesses improved their skills.

K.I.1.4. Number of strategies revised to incorporate trade and sustainable development issues. 2016 target: K.T. Trade and human development issues are submitted to incorporate into national strategies.	NHDR report on Trade and Human Development was approved by the government and will be launched in the beginning of 2017.
K.I.2.1. Number of clients of Export Promotion Agency report as benefiting from services provided. 2016 target: K.T. 2.1. At least 20 entrepreneurs, of these at least 60% stating benefits, disaggregated by gender.	SWC provided 19 types of services (on the basis of the service portfolio developed in 2015 with the support of the AfT project). 134 requests were made by clients (64 unique clients). According to the interim report of services provided, 26 clients received benefits: 1) 11 clients signed contracts, 10 out of 11 implemented; 2) 7 clients which were sent by the Helpdesk, received consultations; 3) 1 company was accepted into the roster of EEU and received the declaration on food safety; 4) 4 clients received other services; Other clients services are ongoing and have not yet been completed.
K.I.2.2. Establishment of integrated trade promotion information system. 2016 target: K.T. 2.2. Fully functional integrated trade information system accessible to clients.	The helpdesk service was developed and launched (January) for testing. The short phone number 1220 and web-page: http://info.trade.kg/ are available. From June -December 2016, 6045 calls were received by the call-center;
K.I.2.3. Increased export volume at companies after having received information services (including female headed companies). 2016 target: K.T.2.3. At least 10% increased export volume six months after having received information services	Supply contracts for the following companies: 1) Agroproduct Asia supplied 120 tons of carrot and 20 tons of cabbage to Russian retail companies; 2) Agrologistics Group LLC supplied 40 tons of onions out of 300 tons contracted to a Russian retail group. It also supplied 40 tons of carrot to a Russian company; 3) Nookat Altyn Almasy coop. Over 1000% increase. 935 tons (2015-2016) to Kazakhstan; 4) Agroelita Cooperative 20%; 5) Ecoproduct Asia LLC supplied 1000 tons of apples; 6) Coop Aravan-Agroservice supplied 100 tons of early potato; 7) Centr Contractation LLC supplied 35 tons of cabbage.

<p>K.I.2.4. Number of SMEs having participated at regional and international exhibitions increased their exports promotion in percentage. 2016 target: K.T.2.4. At least 10 of participating SMEs increased their export turnover by 10%.</p>	<p>7 companies increased after participating in B2B trade missions and exhibitions: 1) B2B meeting of food production companies with Kazakh and Russian trading companies 2016. Total participants: 74 (56 men, 18 women). 6 companies signed 12 contracts and on 11 of them started to export (contracts totalling 1 mln. USD). 20% increase of export sales according to association information. - Agroplast coop - Agroelita coop - Ecoproduct LLC - Agroproduct Asia LLC - Aravan-Agroservice coop - Centr Contractation LLC 2) Worldfood Kazakhstan 2015. Increased export in 2016: - Agri cooperative Nookat Altyn Almasy exported (in 2016) 770 tons to Kazakhstan (total export in 2015-2016 achieved 935 tons). - Agroelita coop 20% (2016).</p>
<p>K.I.3.1. Percentage increase in production at targeted clients in supported value chains, one year after having received support. 2016 target: K.T. 3.1. At least 10% increase of production.</p>	<p>Naryn Uyuk (Association of beekeepers) - 14.6% (in 2016); Atbashi Sut - 7% (in 2016); Janar & Bek - 45% (in 2016); Zakym Atbashi - 60% (in 2016); Shagdar - 87% (in 2016); Kyrgyz Tokoi Bailygy coop 117% (average to 2014) - 2014: 55.5 tons, 2015: 60 tons, 2016: 104 tons; Ozgon Kuruchu coop 117% (average to 2014) - 2014: 60 tons, 2015: 80 tons, 2016: 120 tons; Nookat Altyn Almasy 68% (average to 2014). 700 tons, 2015: 1250 tons, 2016: 400 tons; EUM JSC 40% (average to 2014); Orjemil just started, no comparative data; Zoloto Doliny coop 162% (average to 2014). Yield increased 30%; Too Baaly coop 52% (average to 2014) - 2014: 210 tons, 2015: 320 tons, 2016: 110 tons.</p>
<p>K.I.3.2. Percentage increase in sales at targeted clients in supported value chains, one year after having received support. 2016 target: K.T.3.2. At least 10% increase of sales</p>	<p>Naryn Uyuk Association. No data on sales; Atbashi-Sut 4.9% (in 2016); Zakym Atbashi 66% (in 2016); Shagdar 150% (in 2016); Kyrgyz Tokoi Bailygy coop 248% (average to 2014); Ozgon Kuruchu. No exports yet (only samples) sales (2016) 100 tons; Nookat Altyn Almasy 467% - exports (2016); EUM JSC 16% (average to 2014). No export in 2016. Orjemil just started, no comparative data; Zoloto Doliny coop 53% (average to 2014); Too Baaly beekeepers coop, no comparative data. - 2014: 1 ton, 2015: 110 tons, 2016: 26 tons.</p>

K.I.3.3. Female participation rate at the interventions supporting trade. 2016 target: K.T.3.3. At least 30% female participants	46% (3622 (1667 women, 1945 men - clients in VCs). Data does not include participants from value chains counted last year, although the project continues working with those. Indirect clients (i.e. centers and helpdesk): 38018.
K.I.3.4. Number of decent jobs created. Percentage of jobs created for women. 2016 target: K.T.3.4. At least 30 additional jobs created, 30% for female.	2015-102 (69% women) (70 women, 32 men); 2016- 215 (32% women) (68 women, 147 men) numbers contain jobs created last year and maintained.

Tajikistan

Output 4: In Tajikistan, trade policy documents developed and adjusted to international trade agreements, trade promotion institutes and stakeholders strengthened in international trading and promoting sound business environment, selected agricultural value chains are based on sustainable use of natural resources, and supported information technology applied to improve business links and innovative economic activities.	
Activity/results	Progress
T.1.1. Conduct a trade related baseline study at the national and Oblasts level, with consideration of gender aspects, wherever applicable. Result: At least one trade related study on the WTO aspects conducted	At the national level analysis of Tajikistan's WTO membership conducted. At the Oblast level trade related analysis of the Sughd region within TDP conducted. Kyrgyz Tajik border area economic assessment conducted.
T.1.2. Legal review of national trade related documents and WTO requirements for Tajikistan. Result: legal review is supported with on-demand advice from trade experts.	Law on trade and consumer services - 3 by laws (rules of commission trade, rules of consumer services, and rules of public catering in schools) elaborated and sent to the government for approval. Tajikistan's upcoming WTO Trade Policy Review (TPR) supported with the elaboration of a road map (2016-2019) on TPR. The road map is circulating among all ministries and will be sent to the government for approval once all comments have been collected. Law on foreign trade is being adjusted according to the post WTO plan parag. 2. Two bylaws on antidumping and protective measures are being elaborated.
T.1.3. Support to establishing a Working Group at the Ministerial level to introduce adjustments to National Trade Policy documents and provision of international and national expertise. Result: Ministerial Working Group is supported through topic-	Established WG on TPR at the ministerial level and 4 meetings conducted. Support to WG on law on trade and consumer services provided and 3 meetings conducted. Support to the WG on coordination of WTO activities among international and state agencies provided and 3 meetings conducted.

related trade experts.	
T.1.4. Support to establishing Expert and Working Groups on the national and at Oblasts level for elaboration of trade related policy documents. Result: expert and working groups on trade policy are established on the national level and in at least 2 Oblasts.	Support for the establishment of the WG on the elaboration of the TDP Sughd 2016-2018 provided and WG established. Expert Groups in Isfara, Istarafshan and Khujand established and meetings conducted with the participation of 59 people (9 female).
T.1.5. Provide national and international technical expertise for the formulation of trade related policy documents. Result: at least 3 papers and expert consultancies supported.	Local consultant hired to conduct the WTO economic impact analysis, analysis of rules of commission trade and consumer services to improve the law on trade and consumer services, on TPR, regional brand development, the elaboration of the Sughd TDP, the elaboration of rules of anti-dumping and elaboration of rules for protective measures.
T.1.6. Provision of technical assistance for the implementation of selected priorities of the Action Matrix. Result: implementation of Action Matrix priorities is supported through the provision of on-demand advice from experts and grants.	WTO Post Accession plan paragraph 9, #3: capacity building trainings conducted for 252 government officials and 327 representatives from the business community on trade policy and WTO rules, out of this, 100 (17% were female); WTO Post Accession plan paragraph 9, #2 capacity building on TPR (South-South cooperation) through a study tour and workshop for 49 (14 female) government officials and private sector representatives provided; WTO Post Accession plan paragraph 1, #17: development of a monitoring mechanisms and early warnings for anti-dumping measures; TDP Khatlon Action Matrix #52 supported for the elaboration of a regional brand and organisation of B2B events and trade fairs; Trade policy review action matrix supported through the establishment of a WTO discussion club within MEDT.
T.1.7. Promote public discussion, involving active participation of women, on trade related policy documents at PPD platforms at the national and Oblasts level through the provision of demand-oriented inputs to interested stakeholders ahead of platform meetings. Result: at least once a year trade policy documents are discussed at the national and at least on 2 Oblast PPD platforms, advised by trade experts with input papers.	Cross-border trade issues discussed at the Oblast level PPD's in Isfara and Lyakhsh territory where over 190 (female) people participated. In Sughd, over 140 (female 25.1%) and in Lyakhsh over 50 (female 35%) people were involved; In Dushanbe, the law on trade and consumer services was discussed during a one day seminar 105 people (15 female).

<p>T.2.1. Needs assessment of business communities in target areas, with gender considerations in mind, including organizing of focus groups discussions at the national and Oblasts' level. Result: NA conducted and findings used for the updating of the TCDP.</p>	<p>Completed in 2014.</p>
<p>T.2.4. Support to running a TCDP at the national and Oblasts level providing regular trainings. Result: latest by mid-2015, the Trade Capacity Programme conducts annually at least 2 trade-related trainings, satisfying at least 70 % of participants.</p>	<p>4 training session (11 trainings) conducted, as well as ad hoc trainings for special target audiences: 484 (195 or 40% women) people trained on trade and business development topics, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National and oblasts TPCs conducted 11 trade related trainings for 222 entrepreneurs (36 or 16% are women); - Individual consultancy provided to 193 staff of 7 SMEs (110 women); - 40 women trained on business planning and entrepreneurial skills; - MCF staff (29, 31% female) trained on SMART principles for microfinance; - Trainings mostly focused on: HACCP, ISO 22000, FSSC 22000, financial and management accounting training, elaboration of product labels and brand, cost calculation etc.
<p>T.2.5. Providing Trade Promotion Centers with support to conduct follow-up actions for SMEs on TCDP trainings on compliance to export standards for agro-processing companies (e.g. Good Management Practice, HACCP, and ISO). Result: at least 2 follow-up measures on compliance with export standards are supported per year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Study tour to India for grape producers conducted in February 2016 jointly with UZB producers focusing on best practices in grape production, exporting, Global GAP, ISO 22000, cold storage, post-harvest and marketing practices etc. - 4 processing SMEs supported with expert advice on the introduction of HACCP, ISO 22000, FSSC 22000, marketing researches, branding and labeling etc. The project monitors uptake on the standards: all companies have developed a re-modelling plan to be compliant with HACCP and ISO 22 000. Some of the companies have invested upward to 25 000US\$ for remodeling. One company is preparing itself for the audit in 2017; - 7 SMEs (dry fruits and dairy processors) and 2 TSIs enhanced their knowledge participating in the study-tour to the Czech Republic, organized jointly with the UNDP-CTF project and focusing on best practices of the Czech Republic on fruits and vegetables and dairy sectors. As result, one company Czech Pro BIO has highlighted their readiness to buy organic nuts and fruits from Tajikistan as long as the products are compliant with quality regulations. - 7 SMEs were audited on energy efficiency.
<p>T.2.6. Support to Business Associations and CCI on enhancing the business environment, utilizing means of Small Grants Programme, national and international experts. Result: 2 recommendations on improving business environment elaborated and submitted to government.</p>	<p>BA (AAT) conducted a survey of entrepreneurs, transportation services companies, Tajik railway company etc. Based on the analysis made, over 10 recommendations were elaborated (e.x. unreasonable checks resulting in delays of goods, problems of entrepreneurs at shipment in the terminals, issues of transition of goods in the territory of Uzbekistan etc.). The analysis was provided to the WG of the Consultative Council under the President of RT for further consideration. It is expected that the WG will prepare a paper integrating the recommendations provided by AAT and to be submitted for consideration of the CC under the President of RT (first quarter 2017).</p>

<p>T.2.7. Support CCI in organizing the participation of selected SMEs (including those headed by women) at trade fairs/exhibitions and business forums in CA countries. Result: Capacity of CCI in organizing delegations visits of entrepreneurs is built, new business links established, locally produced products promoted at regional markets, export turnover increased by 10% at least.</p>	<p>5 SMEs were selected through EOI and participated at the international exhibition "World Food Moscow 2016" in September 2016. Logistical and organisational issues for participation of 5 SMEs at exhibition conducted jointly with CCI of RT. CCI was responsible for the negotiation process with organizers of exhibition as well as general preparation of the participation. As result, direct contracts and MoUs worth over 4 mln. US\$ were signed. 3 out of 5 participated companies already start to supply the products according to the concluded contracts. LLC "Zoda" was awarded a gold medal for their products and recognized as the best product of 2016. 10 out of 20 SMEs which participated in previous fairs increased their export volume on average by 20%.</p>
<p>T.3.1.1. Conduct agricultural value chain analysis (productivity, marketing capacity, use of natural resources etc.) to identify innovative green business ideas for raising productivity and export capacity, and SMEs capable to implement them. Result: at least 2 sub-sectors in 2 Oblasts are analyzed.</p>	<p>Analysis of agricultural value chain (productivity and marketing capacity, use of natural resources) in order to identify innovative green business ideas to raise productivity and export capacity started. Analysis will be completed by March 2017.</p>
<p>T.3.1.2. Conduct a feasibility study on establishing a Business Challenge Fund (BCF) and due diligence analysis implementing capacity of Micro-finance Institutions (MFI). Result: compliance with criteria of financial sustainability of initial funding amount ensured.</p>	<p>Completed in 2014.</p>
<p>T.3.1.3. Awareness raising of BCF among the private sector. Result: awareness campaigns are conducted at least every second year in at least 2 Oblasts.</p>	<p>4 awareness campaigns conducted in DRS and Dushanbe.</p>
<p>T.3.1.4. Establishing Project Appraisal Committees (PAC) at the Oblast level, elaborating selection criteria for business ideas, including environmental screening tools.</p>	<p>Completed in 2014.</p>

<p>T.3.1.6. Based on established eligibility criteria, to conduct selection process on innovative green business ideas with increased productivity and export capacity. Result: selection process on business ideas from mid of 2014 to mid of 2016.</p>	<p>3 calls for provision of business proposals by SMEs announced, and in total 21 proposals received (DRS: 18 proposals received. Khatlon: 3 proposals received to be funded from revolving funds). 3 PPEC meetings conducted (February, April and June 2016) which recommended for further consideration by MCF "Sarvati Vakhsh" 17 ideas in DRS and 2 ideas in Khatlon.</p>
<p>T.3.1.7. Support provision through BCF to selected SMEs' business ideas. Result: at least 7 innovative business ideas are supported per year.</p>	<p>13 business ideas supported (11 in DRS and 2 in Khatlon).</p>
<p>T.3.2.1. Feasibility study on introducing Agriculture Information and Marketing Service (AIMS) to other Oblasts. Result: conduct study in at least 3 additional Oblasts.</p>	<p>Completed in 2014.</p>
<p>T.3.2.2. Establishing AIMS and its agent network at other Oblasts of Tajikistan. Result: the AIMS services covering whole Tajikistan. (miss match with AWP target and result)</p>	<p>AIMS established and covering 3 regions in TJK (Sughd, Khatlon and DRS), continues to operate. Moreover, AIMS trade platform covers also Kyrgyzstan.</p>
<p>T.3.2.3. Developing and implementing new service offers at the AIMS platform. Result: range of services providing by AIMS is broadened, sustainability of AIMS insured, new ICT developed for mobile phones, electronic trade is piloted and etc.</p>	<p>3 new mobile applications developed - "A to Z" for livestock, "A to Z" for blackcurrant, "A to Z" for corn; 1 new AIMS service "Database of agricultural producers" was developed: www.farmers.agroinform.tj.</p>
<p>T.3.2.4. Awareness raising of private and government sectors on AIMS. Result: at least 2 promotion campaigns per additional Oblast at time of introduction and 6 months later.</p>	<p>21 awareness campaigns on AIMS services conducted (1 on oblast level in Sughd, 17 on districts level (8 in Sughd and 9 in DRS), 1 on national level and 2 at international level. Mobile applications were presented in Bishkek and Tashkent)</p>
<p>T.3.2.5. Establishing business links between agricultural producers or processors and potential customers. Result: at least 1 incentive with immediate benefit to participate at AIMS developed for linking</p>	<p>5 SMEs - LLC Zoda (Khujand, production of fruit beverages), LLC "Iskandari Istaravshan" (Istaravshan, export of onion) and LLC "Abdukhafiz Sarkor" (B. Gafurov, production and export of FV), LLC "Mevau sabzavot" and LLC "20-solagii Istiqloliyati vatan" (Istaravshan) interlinked to the trade platform Foodmarket.Ru and trained on its usage.</p>

vendors with customers.	
T.3.2.6. Support marketing information providers from CA countries to interlink their agriculture related information systems with neighboring countries. Result: marketing information providers from CA countries interlinked, CA information exchange platform established.	Collaboration with all 3 systems continues (agro.kg; agro-asia.com), and moreover, jointly with Uzbek partners it is planned to prepare next year mobile application in Uzbek.

Uzbekistan

Output 2: In Uzbekistan trade policy makers are better qualified on easing trade with neighboring countries, research and extension service providers are enabled to promote innovative trade approaches and sustainable agricultural agro-processing practices in Central Asia.	
Activity/results	Progress
U.1.2. On-demand engagement of international experts on practical recommendations on implementation of WTO, CISFTA, CU and other regional multilateral agreement regulations. Result: at least 1 training conducted and analytical note developed and submitted to the stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analytical notes on technical regulation in the Eurasian Union and analysis of trade-related sanitary, phyto-sanitary and veterinary control measures for market access of agricultural goods of Eurasian Economic Union prepared and concrete recommendations submitted; - Draft analytical report prepared on the challenges and perspectives of improving productive and export potential of the fruits and vegetable sector.
U.1.3. On-demand engagement of experts on mechanisms to improve regional trade. Results: 1 review (analytical note) with recommendations on improving mechanisms of regional trade; Piloting BPR system at 1 national agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analytical paper with recommendations on foreign trade regime as a factor in improving the competitiveness of the economy of Uzbekistan prepared jointly with CER; - Analytical report on the analysis of the status and prospects of non-raw-material exports development prepared jointly with IFMR; - Pilot implementation of business process re-engineering recommendations for the issuance of certificate of origin was initiated in UzbekExpertiza. Since June 2016, 3800 certificates were issued.
U.1.4. identification of mechanism for improving regional trade opportunities by involving representatives of regional trade stakeholders. Result: at least 1 cross-border trade stakeholder workshops organized.	- Joint UNECE/UNDP regional workshop on Agri-food supply chains in cross-border trade of nuts and dried fruits took place on July 11-13, 2016 (REG activity) involving Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.

<p>U.2.2. Trainings and advisory services are provided to improve capacity of national export promotion agencies. Result: at least 2 trainings conducted; in evaluation reports 70 % of participants assessed trainings as positive; at least 30 % percent of participants are female.</p>	<p>3 trainings conducted: - 1) 3 day training on export promotion and marketing for representatives of trade support institutions and foreign trade companies conducted on July 18-20, 2016. 95% of all participants (35) found the trainings as positive (71% - excellent, 24% - good). Female participation 31.4% (11); - 2) 2 TSIs were supported to participate in two study tours to the Czech Republic on fruits /vegetables and dairy products (24-28 Oct. 2016 and 7-11 Nov.2016, REG output) in cooperation with the UNDP Czech Trust Fund. All participants rated study tour as positive.</p>
<p>U.2.2.1 Support national export promotion agencies in providing professional services and capacity building. Result: Establishment of at least 1 linkage upon participation at trade fairs/exhibitions and business forums/conferences.</p>	<p>-Uztadbirkorexport and Markazsanoat Foreign Trade Companies established linkages with more than 70 potential clients and concluded preliminary contracts with 13 companies at Fruit Logistica 2016 in Berlin worth US\$ 6 mln. As of Dec 2016, goods worth US\$ 7,8 mln. were exported; - Uztadbirkorexport established linkages and concluded preliminary contracts during TextileLegProm 2016 (in September, Moscow) for US\$ 40 mln and already exported US\$6.8 mln. In total, Uztadbirkorexport was able to increase exports volume by 25.9% to US\$1,386 mln in 2016 from US\$ 1,100 mln in 2015; - Another TSI - UzAgroExport (newly established TSI in 2016) was able to conclude preliminary exports contracts for US\$114 mln and supply US\$ 27.3 mln worth of fruits and vegetables.</p>
<p>U.2.3. Enhancement of IT platform aimed at export promotion and exchange of market information. Result: Database of at least 300 clients created and serviced through an IT platform.</p>	<p>-UzTrade (tradeuzbekistan.com) export promotion IT platform created and launched in May 2016, over 1400 companies registered on the platform. UzTrade online platform processed 100 applications from foreign customers. Uztrade Platform facilitated export deals worth US\$38 mln.</p>
<p>U.2.4. Support research and extension institutions to cooperate on promoting sustainable agricultural practices in Central Asia. Result: at least 1 targeted publication on sustainable agricultural practices and practices introduced at 1 pilot agro producer.</p>	<p>-Green Agro Food Limited - project client has successfully passed the audit and obtained Global GAP certificate on April 4, 2016 for lettuce and exported US\$1 mln. worth of goods in 2016; - Draft guidebook on Global GAP prepared.</p>
<p>U.3.1. Support participation of selected businesses to regional trade fairs and business forums to increase and diversify their sales. Result: at least 5 project clients participated at fairs and forums.</p>	<p>- 4 SMEs (0 women) participated at the Fruit Logistica 2016 International Exhibition; - 4 SMEs (0 women) participated at World Food Moscow 2016 Exhibition; - 1 SME (2 people/ 0 women) participated at TextillegProm Moscow 2016 Exhibition.</p>

U.3.2. Support national export promotion agencies to establish a regular joint regional business forum. Result: regional business forum for SMEs conducted at least once a year.	- Support to UzAgroExport provided with the organisation of two International Fruits and Vegetables Fairs in Tashkent (12-14 July and 8-10 November, 2016).
U.3.3. Support piloting of innovative agro-processing facilities with higher productivity and eco-innovative practices in the regions (processing of fruits and vegetables, food and light industry, construction materials). Result: at least 2 pilot facilities, benefiting at least 20 people, operational.	- Procurement for pilot project on bag sewing, benefiting 15 people, initiated - equipment to be delivered in Feb 2017; - 1 pilot project on improving agro/food processing, benefiting 19 people, identified, and submitted to MFERIT for consideration.
U.3.5. Conduct baseline studies to assess risk and challenges posed by climate change to agriculture production in Central Asia. Result: at least 1 research paper is prepared.	- Research paper on adaptation measures in agriculture to climate change prepared.
U.3.6. Facilitate introduction of eco-innovative sustainable solutions to improve agro-processing and agricultural productivity by organizing sub-sectoral exchange visits, study tours, hands-on trainings and regional innovation camps over Central Asia. Result: At least 1 event organized.	- Study tour for 5 agro companies to India during 21-28 February, 2016, on modern technologies and marketing approaches on grapes export to European markets is organized; - Climate change adaptation pocket cards on pest and disease control published. GIZ is undertaking seminars.
U.3.7. Make knowledge and response mechanisms to climate change more accessible to (agro-) business stakeholders by awareness raising campaigns, electronic outreach aimed at national and regional audience. Result: 1 seminar, 2 targeted thematic publications issued	- 1 workshop on intensive orchards conducted; - Instruction on biogas technology was broadcasted on regional TV; - 1 publication on adaptation measures is prepared; - 2 info graphics on water usage and pest control published (on-line); - Pocket-brochure on apple diseases and pest control published.
U.4.1. Revision of customs legislation pertaining to customs valuation, customs clearance and customs control to harmonize with best practices in order to facilitate foreign trade. Result: at least 1 round table is conducted and analytical note developed and submitted to the government.	Practical Handbook (in Russian) on EU import requirements (including customs and other market access requirements) using the example of textile products prepared in cooperation with GIZ and the Bureau for export promotion under Uzstandart Agency and widely disseminated.
U.4.2. Increasing visibility of Investment climate of Uzbekistan including that of special industrial zones. Result: at least 2 publications	- Guidebook for investors 'Cost of Doing Business in Uzbekistan' updated (the last updated was in 2012) and published in Russian and English.

<p>U.4.3. Improving capacity of national partners on market intelligence information and facilitation in proof of origin. Result: At least 2 analytical briefs on market assessment (agriculture, textiles, minerals and etc.) prepared and certifying authority is linked to online system of proof of origin.</p>	<p>- Access to specialised market intelligence information on fertilisers and metals provided and over 150 market reviews were prepared and disseminated among TSIs, industry associations, exporters for their usage.</p>
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