

PROGRESS REPORT

2017 mid-year

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 best investment [...] is the investment in the education of girls. Investing in women has a direct effect on the economy, because 90% of what a woman has earned, she invests in the education and health of her children, social protection, besides, the woman in fact is a key link in the economy"

- ex-President of the Kyrgyz Republic, Ms. Roza Otunbayeva during the Aid for Trade regional conference for businesswomen from Central Asian countries

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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 regional output has focused much of its efforts in the first half of 2017 on integrating environmental sustainability thinking into trade policy making. The mix of providing trade intelligence data, as well as integrating a long-term vision of what products will bring the best impact has brought much interest from stakeholders. Much efforts have also been made in terms of Global GAP standards with a series of regional trainings, a handbook, and a large conference for exchanging ideas and experiences.

A flag-ship event for the regional output was the conference on cross-border trade for fruits and vegetables organised jointly with UNECE and GIZ. Partners from Central Asia joined the conference in Tashkent, Uzbekistan to discuss cooperation on standards on fresh fruits and vegetables. The project also organised a conference in April 2017 bringing together female entrepreneurs from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan chaired by Roza Otunbayeva, the former President of the Kyrgyz Republic.



The work linking up Finnish retailers with Kyrgyz producers is also continuing with one very large milestone past in that all products passed the Finnish phytosanitary tests. The project also undertook a study tour to Italy during the first week of July to learn from the intensive orchards in South Tyrol.

Kyrgyzstan



1 Honey production in Naryn, Kyrgyzstan

The JSC Guarantee Fund established in October 2016 with advisory support of the project expert has now received capitalisation of over KGS 200 mln from the Ministry of Finance of Kyrgyzstan and the Asian Development Bank. By June 2017, 84 producers received guarantees totaling KGS 93.4 mln, which supported the mobilization of loans totaling KGS 330 mln (USD 4.8 mln). The project also organised an export caravan jointly with the Kyrgyz State Agency for Investment and Export Promotion. The caravan toured the 7 oblasts of the country with experts from the agency and private sector associations to meet and discuss with entrepreneurs what barriers and opportunities exist. 340 business people (73 women) participated in the caravan. The caravan has proved itself to be extremely successful as a tool that allows entrepreneurs in the region to access the latest information and have contacts with specialist from the capital. The project plans to relaunch the experience. The project also supports the Government of Kyrgyz Republic in developing a national branding contest to improve the export promotion environment. The UNDP NHDR on Trade and Sustainable Development (2016) has also been launched with the support of the Aid for Trade project.

The new services of the State Agency for Investment and Export promotion continue to go strong. In the first six months of 2017, the agency supported 24 clients mostly in

sending samples and accessing new markets. On the local level, the project supported centers for entrepreneurship in Uzgen served over 6 915 individuals in the first sixth month of 2017. The Kara-Suu center provided services for 48 clients (15) and the Osh center trained 2880 (1728 women).

The cooperatives continue to work on improving their production, as well as their standards. The walnut cooperative is particularly successful with exports to three European countries. (Switzerland, France and Holland)

Tajikistan

The project in Tajikistan continues to support the government in its post-WTO accession obligations. The coordination between the different Ministries and Agencies (+60 entities) involved in the post-WTO accession work is regularly highlighted as a success by project partners and as an example of functional coordination mechanisms. The State Programme on Export Promotion and Increasing Competiveness (EPIC) was adopted by the Government of Tajikistan in December of 2016 and the project continues to support the government in implementing the priorities of the EPIC. The project is also supporting the



2 Jewellery production, Sughd, Tajikistan

statistics system through the establishment of a register for businesses. The register of business will support the government in ensuring that businesses are formalized.

The project has also made dedicated efforts in targeting women and youth with activities for women entrepreneurs to participate during the global women entrepreneurship week (last week of January), as well as the launch of a start-up initiative jointly with [UNV](#), and the Aga Khan network. Aside from the traditional trainings, the project has also conducted trainings for microfinance staff of several micro-lending organisations in how to conduct environmental impact assessment for loans (114/24%). The project also supported the organization of the Sughd trade fair (16th June 2017) where over 100 MoUs for contracts were signed; and is currently supporting the participation to the World Food Moscow in September 2017 where SMEs are expected to sign more sales contracts.

Finally, the project has also support cross border dialogue between businesses from bordering areas in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. The work identified concrete bottlenecks for cross border trade which are mostly related to rules and regulations, as well as activities to alleviate the bottlenecks. From the revolving fund, the project also supported nine new business ideas from the microfinance activity 4 of which are in the DRS and 4 in Khatlon region.

Uzbekistan

In terms of advisory services much effort was made in supporting the government in harmonising national legislation with WTO requirements. The project also assessed entry points for markets in South East Asia. Finally, in terms of regional collaboration the national output organised, policy and practical level discussions on market access requirements and standards July 10-13, 2017 international workshop on Agri-food supply chains in cross-border trade of fresh fruits jointly with UNECE and GIZ (REG). The discussions centered around improving quality standards.

Support provided to trade support institutions (TSIs) in 2017 resulted in fruit and vegetable export contracts worth over USD 11 mln and during February – June 2017 actual exports amounted to USD 3.3 mln with the full contracted amount expected to be completed during the second half of 2017. Results from June 2016 to June 2017 total USD 29.6 mln.

The output in Uzbekistan is putting much effort in supporting producers in Global Good Agricultural Practices (Global G.A.P.). Practical Guidelines “International standard Global G.A.P.: main requirements for certification of fruits and vegetables” were prepared and 1000 pieces were distributed during July. A conference with the Global G.A.P. secretariat – a market leader for Global GAP – took place on July 13th 2017 in Tashkent. The focus of the conference was to discuss the benefits of standards and options for nationalisation.



3 Shoe production Namangan, Uzbekistan

Considering the growing importance of issues of fruits and vegetables exports promotion, the Aft project in Uzbekistan in close cooperation with the Ministry for Foreign Trade of Uzbekistan, prepared a concept note and initiated discussions on developing a Fruits and Vegetables Export Promotion Strategy for 2017-2020. The Cabinet

of Ministers of Uzbekistan endorsed this initiative and the Strategy will be submitted for enactment by October 2017.

Two business pilot projects improved their production and sales, and met their respective targets on creating new jobs. In the first 6 months of 2017, 19 new jobs were created, mostly for women, while overall 37 new decent jobs (28 for women, mostly young) were created since the pilot projects initiation. Procurement for the new pilot project to improve agro-processing is finalised and equipment is expected to be set-up in July.

2. External factors and assumptions

3. Progress

Regional

The regional work focuses on shifting the thinking from traditional trade patterns focusing on unsustainable production towards high potential but sustainable patterns which mostly focus around green products with high added value and export potential. The Aid for Trade project advocates that smaller niche products (ex. wild walnuts) that have long-term sustainability in terms of environmental depletion but also in terms of generating jobs and creating income are more beneficial in the short and long run. The basic premise the project wants to highlight is that by targeting environmental sustainability businesses can remain economically viable and contribute to make an economy more competitive. The shift here is to support economies to move gradually away from products with high negative environmental costs and low productivity (primary commodities, low price segment) and low social added value (upward mobility, employment generation, etc.) towards producers that are versatile and can access higher value and environmentally sustainable market demands.

4 Stakeholder consultation in Tashkent, Uzbekistan

The first research (August 2016) focused on data mining in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan to identify green products with the highest comparative advantage in terms of exporting on the basis of a methodology developed by the M.I.T and UNCTAD. In order to include also a high social impact angle, UNDP also sifted the data to identify value chains that have high employment generation rates. Research findings were presented to national stakeholders and policy makers in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan and will be presented in Tajikistan during the fourth quarter 2017. Overall feedback was positive and much interest was highlighted in terms of the findings of the study, as this taps into highly demanded trade intelligence which most countries have only limited access to. The study used 4 digit codes from the WTO, which regroups different products under a chapeau such as cheese, or car parts. Participants, however, highlighted that in order to directly contribute to policy making the data needs to drill down to the 6 digit codes. The project will drill

down to the 6 digit codes by the end of 2017 to provide this information to stakeholders.



The work on Global GAP also continues with two major events organised. One was the Global GAP trainings organised jointly with Hilfswerk Austria (Candy IV EU). The three-part training started at the end of 2016 with two more sessions in March and April 2017. The trainings brought together 23 (11) specialists from Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan and used both theoretical and

practical on-field trainings. 90% of the participants were satisfied with the trainings. The second event on Global GAP was organised jointly with the Global GAP Secretariat which is a market leader in terms of Global GAP standards on 13 July 2017 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The focus of the conference was approaches in using Global GAP in addressing customer needs and increasing exports. Over ninety participants from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan,

Uzbekistan and Afghanistan participated in the event. During the “round table” meetings, an agreement was reached between the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat and the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan on cooperation in the development and implementation of Good Agriculture Practice principles in Uzbekistan, which is expected to further enhance the attractiveness and competitiveness of locally produced fruits and vegetables in foreign markets.



Jointly with UNECE and GIZ, the project organised a workshop on *sustainable cross-border trade of fresh fruits and vegetables: quality, food safety and sustainability* (10-13th July 2017) in Tashkent. The workshop brought together experts from Central Asia, Europe and South-East Asia. Experiences from Central Asia, Thailand, Croatia, Hungary and Slovakia were shared. The discussion focused on developing sustainable strategies to export fresh fruits and vegetables meeting the mandatory and voluntary standards of both the EU and South-East Asian markets. Participants were also trained

on the Business Process Analysis which the **5 UNECE/UNDP/GIZ event on cross border trade** project has been piloting in Uzbekistan.

The project continues to work on linking businesses in Central Asia with Finnish retailers. After the identification of the best products, linkages were established with the support of the Ambassador of Finland to Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, as well as the Honorary Consul of Finland in Kyrgyzstan with 2 Finnish retail chains. Producers sent samples to Finland in June 2017 which underwent testing, all products passed phytosanitary inspection which represents a big step forward. Although the producers managed to send samples, several shortcomings appeared when preparing samples. Producers are unable to collect quickly all relevant exporting documents by themselves, only producers that can afford a support person (i.e. trader) are able to provide a full set of documents. The second lessons learned from this activity relates to selection of courier, which can impact on outcome in terms of delivery and customs procedures. A copy of this activity was launched in Tajikistan with a Finnish -Tajik business forum planned in the beginning of November.



The project also organised a study tour to Italy for the production of cherries (first week of July). 9 (0) participants from Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan took part in the study tour. Unfortunately, the participants from Tajikistan were all denied visas and couldn't join the study tour (uncertainty of return was provided as reason). Italy is the fourth biggest producers of cherries in the world, and is setting best practices in terms of high density trees which slowly are also being introduced in Central Asia. Producers visited orchards, collecting facilities, cold storages, cooperatives, processing facilities and research facilities.

6 Cherries in South Tyrol

The conference *Connecting Female Entrepreneurs* brought together businesswomen from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan in April 2017 to discuss issues and opportunities for female entrepreneurs in Central Asia. The project also presented the findings of its study on barriers to female entrepreneurs in Tajikistan, as well as the results from the green product space study. Roza Otunbayeva, former President of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, participated in the conference and highlighted the economic and social contribution female entrepreneurs make. Participants agreed to undertake an exchange visit between Kyrgyz and Uzbek producers to negotiate on further cooperation.

The regional output also continues to support integrated pest management systems testing in the Fergana valley where on over 1000 hectares' pest heat maps, predatory bugs as well as meteorological data are used to increase the efficiency of spraying approaches. Thereby reducing input cost, as well as crop loss, details of this work can be found under the country output in Uzbekistan.

Kyrgyzstan

The AfT project continues to put a strong emphasis on policy advisory services provided to the government and trade support institutions. The project supports the government on issues related to the EEU, as well as EU GSP+ criteria. The JSC Guarantee Fund established with advisory support of the project at the end of last year is now fully functional and has managed to mobilise additional capitalisation from the Asian Development Bank bringing the total capital to KGS 200 mln. The fund has so far served 84 clients supporting the mobilization of USD 4.87 mln in credits.

The export caravan initiative was also highly successful and hailed by private sector in the 7 oblasts as a lifeline for the regions to access information on trade opportunities (especially with regards to GSP+). The caravan was organised jointly with the State Agency for Investment and Export Promotion, as well as thematic associations, the agrarian platform and the State Guarantee Fund. Experts travelled to all 7 regions to meet with private sector and provide information in terms of latest development and opportunities for the private sector. The experts also gathered information on barriers for entrepreneurs in the different regions. The project also provided advisory services to the government for the development of the regulations of a national branding contest in support of improving the export promotion environment.

The Kyrgyz State Agency for Investment and Export Promotion also continues to deliver on the service lines the Aid for Trade supported the development of. In the first sixth month of 2017, the agency support 24 clients:

- Sending samples 11 companies (2 markets);
- New market accession 4 companies (1 market);
- Trade missions 4 companies (2 markets);
- Distribution of requests on export from buyers abroad 6 companies (1 market).

In 2015, the project supported the establishment of Centres for entrepreneurship and trade support in the cities of Osh, Uzgen and Karasuu. While the local authorities providing premises and staff salaries, the AfT project provided hard ware, as well as capacity development. In the first sixth month of 2017:

- The centre in Uzgen provides services for state taxation services, social fund (mandatory social payments), National Statistics Committee (registration of entrepreneurs). The centre served 6915 individuals, 1012 farm households, 238 individual entrepreneurs, 29 legal entities, 14522 applicants on issuance and prolonging of tax patent;
- The Kara-Suu centre provided consultations on business topics, 48 clients (33 men, 15 women);
- The centre in Osh conducted 96 sessions and meetings, 2880 participants took part in the trainings (1152 men and 1728 women).

Osh

Apple VC. Proper packaging material was sourced by the company, and juice is now being packaged one litre tetra packs. During the first six month of 2017, over 15 000 1 litre tetra packs were produced. The new equipment (packaging line) created 7 new jobs (3 women). Sales focus on the national level with over 12 000 tetra packs sold.

The "Nookat Altyn Almasy" cooperative managed to sell 380 tons of apples in January - February 2017. This is an increase of 180 tonnes compared to the data from last year. Sales went to Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. The project is planning to develop a mobile app to disseminate the experience made with the Nookat cooperative in Osh. The mobile app will target learning on efficient apple production technologies that are also sustainable.

Honey VC. 2 members of the "Kapchygai Too Baly" cooperative and 1 expert of "Agrolead" were trained at the Altai State Agrarian University (Barnaul, Russia) on bee breeding. The training will allow participants to ensure better breeding approaches, as well increasing productivity and quality of production. Concretely, the participants will be able to:

- Carry out valuation and selection of bees;
- Determine the breed of bees and carry out artificial insemination;
- Select the bees on the maternal lines and others.

In April 2017, the cooperative received a new batch of "Karpotka" queen bees from Ukraine. While previously the cooperative sold the queen bees, this year the cooperative will distribute the queen bees free of charge to beekeepers in the Kara-Kulja district. The free distribution of quality queen bees is to improve the gene pool in the area and consequently produce higher quality honey.

Rice VC. In June 2017, the cooperative received the equipment to process and package the rice. At the moment, adjustments are made to the equipment to ensure good quality results. Estimates are that the machine will create at least four new jobs.

Walnut VC. The walnut cooperative "Kyrgyz Tokoi Bailygy" continues to go strong with an ever-increasing portfolio of exports. In 2017, wild walnuts are shipped to:

- Frusek (France) 1 contract (2017) - 5 tons Fair Trade - \$8 per kg;
- Pakka (Switzerland) - 1 contract (2017) - 2 tons of Organic - peeled walnut-USD 8,15 per kg;
- Intersnack, The Netherlands - 1 contract (2017) - 8 tons of organic - walnut-USD 8,1 per kg;
- Intersnack, The Netherlands - 5,75 tons (2017) ordinary walnut - USD 7 per kg;
- Intersnack, The Netherlands - 5 tons (2017) – USD 9.25 per kg.

Naryn

Honey VC. The Association of Beekeepers Naryn Uyuk established a development fund totalling USD 30 000. The association has implemented an efficient means of production that includes an inventory for each producer. In 2017, the project worked with the association on the prevention of disease in bees, as well as sanitary standards in honey production. The cooperative members managed to sell 15 000 cans of white honey, and 2 000 cans of red honey in the first six months of 2017 for a total of KGS 3.4 mln (USD 50.000).

Cheese VC. Atbashi-Sut LLC improved the quality of the cheese products and received a contract with the biggest retailer in Bishkek (Frunze supermarkets). In 2017, the project supported trainings on food safety basics (implementation of HACCP) in the production and technology of dairy products. 16 specialists of the company were trained on technology and quality control. As the production line, has now been modernised the company will also produce novelty cheese products such as mozzarella, cream cheese and melted butter.

Overall production and sales increases/decreases are as follows:

Production increase:

- Atbashi Sut - 29% hard cheese and 108% of butter
- Zakym Atbashi - 17%
- Shagdar - 21%

Increase of sales:

- Zakym Atbashi - 17%
- Shagdar – 8%
- EUM JSC 12000 liters out of 15000 produced.
- Nookat Altyn Almasy coop sold 380 tons (200 tons in 2016 the same period).

In mid of 2017, the number of jobs created and maintained was 222 (including those from previous years).

Tajikistan

At the national level, of the main priorities of the project is to support the government in the implementation of the WTO post-accession plan. For this the project supports the WTO post-accession coordination mechanism that regroups over 60 agencies and state structures and is highlight as one of the functional coordination mechanisms in Tajikistan. The project has also invested considerable time and expertise to support the government in the elaboration of the State Programme on “Export Promotion and Increasing Competitiveness” (EPIC) (i.e. Trade Road Map and Action Matrix) which was adopted on 26 December 2016 by Decree #503 and the project continues to support the government in the implementation of the EPIC. The project in 2017, supports the elaboration of the draft law on export support and increasing national competitiveness which forms part of the EPIC. In addition, the project is also conducting a regulatory impact analysis of the legal-normative acts for trade issues. Finally, in terms of WTO post accession, the project is supporting the elaboration of two by-laws, one which covers anti-dumping measures and subsidies and one which covers protective measures. The project also supports the development of a national register for enterprises in Tajikistan.

On the sub-national level, the project supported the organisation of an international agro fair and B2B events resulting in over 100 MoUs between producers and processors. The project will continue to monitor the implementation of at least part of these MoUs. In Khatlon, the project supported the development of a regional brand (started in 2016). The regional brand was adopted by the oblast administration. Three cross-border trade meetings between Kyrgyz and Tajik producers were organised to identify problems in terms of collaboration and border crossing. Consultations were held in Isfara-Batkent, B. Gafurov-Leilek and Jirgital (Lyakhsh) – Chon Alai.

In order to strengthen the work on youth employment and income generation, the project jointly with UNV and the Agha Khan foundation, supported the establishment of “Choihona [teahouse]” Start-Up initiative. The “Choihona” will be a pitching ground where on a quarterly basis, young entrepreneurs can make business pitches to more experienced entrepreneurs to receive feedback but also to potentially identify business partners. Two pitching events were supported by the project in March and June in Dushanbe and Khujand (Sughd region). The most promising candidates (and ideas) will also benefit from a business skills training.

During the *Global Women Entrepreneurship Week*, the United States Embassy in Dushanbe organises a business forum dedicated to business women. The project identified 8 business women to participate in the forum to ensure that business women from the regions would also be well represented.

In terms of capacity development, 33 entrepreneurs (18% women) from DRS, Sughd and Khatlon were trained in special requirements for exporting to CIS countries, as well as linkages between SDGs and private sector development. In addition, 92 staff from microfinance entities (22 women) and 22 entrepreneurs participated in a training on environmental screening for microfinance loan submissions.

As highlighted above, the project supported the organisation of the Sughd 2017 trade fair, where over 135 SMEs (15% owned by women) participated. Over 100 MoUs were concluded with entrepreneurs from Uzbekistan, Russia, Belarus and Poland for the supply of products.

Support to the AIMS was finalised, however the project continues to monitor the progress and growth of the system. The AIMS continues to cover 75% of the territory of Tajikistan and has around 54 000 subscribers to its mobile app services. The demand for their products is increasing, however the landscape of the technology is changing with an increasing demand for mobile apps, rather than SMS based systems.

The Business Challenge Fund supported 9 new business ideas in 2017 4 (2) in DRS and 5 (1) in Khatlon. Loans were provided for cold storages for fruit and vegetables, storage site for dairy products and cheese, confectionary, citrus greenhouse, plant oil packaging line. The business ideas are expected to generate 90 new jobs out of which 80% should be for female employees.

Uzbekistan

7 Window producer, Khatlon, Tajikistan

analytical note 'On market access barriers for agricultural products to South-East Asian countries' including recommendations for export potential to South-East countries. The project started the preparation of the 'Analytical



report on improving financial instruments of trade policy to increase competitiveness of the Republic of Uzbekistan'. The report will provide policy recommendations on mechanisms for financial support of exporters based on the review of foreign experiences in financial instruments of export promotion such as export credit, guaranteeing export credits, export risk insurance, provision of tax and customs preferences to exporters.

The project also initiated a comparative analysis of the national legislation with WTO agreements and update of the WTO Legislative Action Plan to bring the national legislation in accordance with norms of WTO agreements.

In the trade promotion area, the project supported the organisation of the national

stand and participation of UzAgroExport specialized agro-exporting company and 4 export-oriented private companies at the Fruit Logistica 2017 during 8-10 February 2017. As a result, participants held discussions with over 50 companies and were able to make preliminary contracts worth USD 11.8 mln. To date exhibition participants were able to ship products worth USD 3.3 mln.

During 2017, UzTrade company continued fulfilling contracts made during TextilLegprom, 20-23 September 2016, Moscow and was able to deliver USD 26 mln worth of goods.

Participation at international exhibitions once again highlighted the importance of being internationally certified, in particularly, being Global GAP certified. To address this issue, the project continued its efforts to promote Global GAP certification among decision makers and farmers. With the support of the project, the MFT has initiated and the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan has supported the initiative, and in March of 2017, set-up a



working group consisting of representatives of MFT, UzStandart Agency, Ministry for Agriculture and Water Resources, 'Uzbekovqatholding' (food processing holding) and Council of Farmers to discuss Global GAP international standard and perspectives of its localization. In order to support the consultation process and to popularise the standard, the project in consultation with Global GAP Secretariat held a one day conference on Global GAP on 13 July in Tashkent, where representatives of government agencies, exporters and farmers will discuss the standards requirements and benefits. In order to explain standards among farmers, a Practical Guideline "International standard Global G.A.P.: main requirements for certification of fruits and vegetables" was developed and 1000 pieces were distributed.

Following up on the recommendation from the capacity building trainings on providing hands on support with diversifying exports geography and product lines, the project is providing practical advisory services to 'UzAgroExport' foreign trade company on identifying 2 most promising exports items (fruits and vegetables) and supporting market penetration to countries of the EU. To date, perspective export items include cherries, apricot, pomegranate, lemon, garlic and iceberg salads. At the moment negotiations

are being held with retail chains of EU countries on samples, pricing and packaging requirements.

AfT is continuing to support Uztrade (tradeuzbekistan.com) online export promotion platform, which was launched on 3 May 2016, to make its services more professional and attract new clients. A trade intelligence portal will be added to the existing portal. The TOR for the development of the portal is being developed. As of May 2017, the platform has over 1500 registered companies with more than 2200 export oriented product items and has already generated over 178 requested for purchase of products featured on the platform.

In the area of improving productive capacities and creating new jobs, the project was able to launch the project with 'Rozidil Charm Savdo' on building local capacities on sewing bags in Namangan Region. The project will help to develop local skills, improve product quality, speed up the production process, and create 15 new jobs for women and college graduates.

A new business project on improving processing of dried apricots and mung beans through increasing sorting capacity and quality of sorted products for export markets was launched. The project aims to assist 'Namangan Agro Export Servis' Agro-processing LLC in the Namangan region and the production line is expected to create 15 new jobs and increase the export potential of the products.

During the first half of 2017, 11 new business ideas were solicited through MFT, local authorities and other national partners and 3 promising business ideas were identified in Andijan and Fergana regions. A business idea on setting up fruits processing and packing facility with solar tunnel dryer, packing equipment and cold storage unit in Fergana Region is considered as the most promising idea to be further developed and submitted to MFT for endorsement. It

is expected that the implementation of the project will provide a working business model for setting up a small-scale fruits processing line (from fresh fruit to packed good), lead to establishment of partnership among 10 farmers and the creation of 15 new jobs.

The two business projects supported in 2016 (textile and biogas) have improved both their production and sales in the past year. In the first six months, Imron textile (polo shirts) has grown in such a way that they create 9 new jobs (8 for women) bringing the total number of new jobs to 27 (23) with an additional 20 (20) seasonal jobs. The company expanded its production line by 24 products, production volume increased by 74% (against base year of 2015), exported goods worth USD 245.300 were already shipped. In order to accommodate increased demand for its products, the company started building a new production facility in 2017. The biogas facility is also doing well and has generated much interest from surrounding farms. The biogas facility already tested the use of the equipment during the first season, and was able to expand its production and create 10 new jobs (5).

As a follow-up to the recommendations and based on the findings of the Climate Change Baseline Assessment and Adaptation Measures Report, a pilot project to test out a “System for monitoring, alerting and control of insect-pests and plant diseases” (SMAC) in Turakurgan District of Namangan Region was launched in 2017. The assessments showed that farmers face severe challenges in the prevention and control of insects-pest and plant diseases. The adaptation measures depend on farmers’ level of awareness and knowledge and the level of coordination between the farmers to avoid cross contamination. Farmers note that because of spread of insect-pests and diseases the quality of produce decreases thus negatively affecting marketability. The system connects all actors into one chain, thus improving information flow. The approach will

- 1) strengthen the existing elements of the plant protection system, and;
- 2) create or make up for the missing elements of plant protection.

Currently, a working group, headed by the first deputy governor of Turakurgan district was established, target regions specialized in growing fruit and grapes with a total area of 1,000 hectares identified, and assessment of degree of spread of the major pest species is carried out with the help of pheromone traps. Five practical sessions were held with agricultural firms, orchard owners and community leader on plants pests and diseases and promotion of non-chemical control methods. In order to improve preventive measures, an installation of a meteo-station with disease and pest spread forecasting module is expected. (Regional activity)

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 (apples). 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 and a regional conference dedicated to women entrepreneurs. Increasingly the project is developing dedicated fora for female entrepreneurs, in addition to ensure female participation. Overall the project is reaching its goal of 30% female participation, but still faces problems in finding sufficient number 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

No issues to report for mid-year 2017 report.

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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

No new risk identified during the mid-year report

6. Resources and budget

Countries are on track spending their funds.

A detailed breakdown can be found in the 2017 mid-year financial report.

7. Findings and recommendations

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.

Approach of mainstreaming environmental sustainability in implementation especially under CIII, as well as using greening as a positive economic factor was taken up well and has demonstrated positive results.

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 concretise 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.	2017: ToRs (3) launched to define further recommendations linking the work undertaken in 2016 on the Trade and employment conference with the work undertaken in 2016 and 2017 on the green product methodology. Request received from the Government of Kyrgyzstan to support the development of the new Export Promotion Strategy, which will be supported with small funds from the employment activity.
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	2017: Stakeholder consultations undertaken in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan to discuss finding on the green product space paper. Stakeholder consultation to be held in Tajikistan in the fourth quarter of 2017. Overall positive assessment of approach and opportunity.

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.	2017: No schemes established yet. Stakeholder consultation ongoing, although positive reception the data needs to be expanded from four digit WTO codes to six digit WTO codes to allow for a deeper assessment which will be under taken during the fourth quarter of 2017.
3.1 Number of trade related issues addressed through cooperation and number of new knowledge functions applied	2015: 1 intra-regional collaboration at least 1	2015: 0
	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 (+60 days). 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: Study tour on cherry orchard management and production cycle to Italy conducted in July 2017. Finnish-Kyrgyz business to business matching. After the feasibility assessment (2016), Kyrgyz target businesses were supported to send relevant samples to

		retailers in Finland. All samples passed phytosanitary testing in Finland.
	2017: At least, two new knowledge functions applied (east-east)	2017: 1. Cherry production; 2. Global GAP exchange.
	2017: 60% of participants to the trainings use new skills (trainings)	Assessment to be undertaken during the fourth quarter of 2017
	2017: intra-regional collaboration at least 3	2017: 1. UNECE/GIZ/UNDP workshop on cross border trade for fresh fruits and vegetables (Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan) and a meeting with the market leader on Global GAP certification which brought together 90 participants from Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and Kazakhstan. 2. Regional trainings on Global GAP standards and certification (Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan) 23 (11 women) participants, 90% satisfaction rate; 3. Connecting women businesses in Central Asia conference (regional) which brought over 30 business women from the region to discuss barriers for women entrepreneurs, as well as opportunities for cooperation across countries.
	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 2017: Pest control system piloted which includes heat maps for pests, as well as response system which will include metrological stations. The pilot area covers 1000 hectares,

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
<p>Indicator: K.I.1.1.1. Number of policy recommendations on improving the existing regulatory framework.</p>	<p>K.T. 1.1.1. At least 2 policy recommendations by EoP.</p>	<p>2014 - 3 strategies revised: - 1 strategy on trade for the development of the Naryn Oblast was submitted to the Naryn Oblast Office of the Government (2014), adopted in the Oblast Sustainable Development Strategy; - 2 plans for Osh city and Osh oblast on improving and enhancing the trade potential were developed by the working groups and approved by local authorities (in 2014) as annexes to the existing local development strategies. 2015 - 1 policy recommendation developed and submitted to the Ministry of Economy on analysing 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. 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. 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 Centre (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. 2017-</p>

		<p>1 recommendation was developed for the Ministry of Economy for a national branding contest to improve the national export promotion environment.</p> <p>SC Guarantee Fund is being implemented. Total number companies served 84 (Jan-June 2017).</p> <p>GF issued 84 guarantees (KGS 93.5 mln) in Jan-June 2017. Total sum of loans issued by commercial banks with guarantees: KGS 330.2 mln (~ USD 4.8 mln).</p>
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.	<p>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;</p> <p>1 set of policy recommendations developed and submitted to the Ministry of Economy on the basis of the FEZ study;</p> <p>2016 -Government decree #549 as reported under K.T.1.1 on merging the IPA with the SW center.</p>
Indicator: K.I.1.3. Percentage of supported decision-makers self-assessing improved job qualification.	K.T.1.3. At least 70% (gender-disaggregated).	<p>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);</p> <p>Trade and Human Development training. 90% of self-assessed as improved (17 participants, 13 women);</p> <p>Trainings for pilot Ayil okmotus in Osh Oblast on strategic plans development and integration of trade issues. 151 participants (104 -males and 47 - females);</p> <p>A study tour to Estonia was organised for national partners - Ministry of Economy, CCI, local authorities and Naryn FEZ .</p> <p>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;</p> <p>- 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> <p>15-day training on exhibition management for CCI staff was arranged. 7 participants (3 men, 4 women) self-assessed as improved (100%).</p>
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.	<p>2014- 3 strategies revised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategy on trade for the development of the Naryn Oblast was submitted to Naryn Oblast Office of 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. <p>2016- The NHDR report on Trade and Human Development was approved by the Government and will be presented in the beginning of 2017.</p> <p>2017- NHDR was launched on the 7th June 2017.</p>

<p>Indicator: K.I.1.5. Number of regular coordination meetings among CA countries on cross-border issues</p>	<p>K.T.1.5. At least 8 coordination meetings conducted (2 per year).</p>	<p>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:</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 on improving and enhancing 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>2017-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Under the regional output organisation of a conference for women entrepreneurs: (22 May 2017) "Connecting businesses: building a viable future for women entrepreneurs from Central Asia - Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. 45 participants. 2) 9 workshops in the framework of "Export Caravan" were conducted in 7 Oblasts of the country and Bishkek. Total number of participants 340 (73 women). Total number of private sector entities 183.
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<p>Indicator: K.I.2.1. Number of clients of Export Promotion Agency report as benefiting from services provided.</p>	<p>K.T.2.1. At least 100 entrepreneurs, of these at least 60% stating benefits, disaggregated by gender.</p>	<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> <p>2017 -</p> <p>'State Agency for Investment and Export Promotion - 24 clients. JSC Guarantee Fund - 84 clients. Total - 108 clients.</p>
<p>Indicator: K.I.2.2 Establishment of integrated trade promotion information system.</p>	<p>K.T.2.2. Fully functional integrated trade information system accessible to clients by the EoP.</p>	<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.</p> <p>2016- The Single Window Centre supported the supply contracts for the following companies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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;

		<p>7) Centre Contractation LLC supplied 35 tons of cabbage. 2017 data will be available at the end of the year</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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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); - Too Baly cooperative just started to export 110 tons of honey (∞ %); - Shagdar and Zakym (felt cooperatives) 10% (in 2015) both female headed <p>2016 - 6 companies signed 12 contracts with 11 of the contracts in implementation (totaling USD 1 mln). 20% increase of export sales according to association information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agroplast coop - Agroelita coop - Ecoproduct LLC - Agroproduct Asia LLC - Aravan-Agroservice coop - Centre Contractation LLC <p>2017 data will be available at the end of the year</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. 2017- 'Naryn Shagdar coop increase 21% (6 months 2017), Zakym Atbashi 17% increase (6 months of 2017). There is no data on honey and meat products (season just started). Atbashi-Sut LLC increase of production (updated data after modernization 2016): - hard cheese 29%; - butter 108%; Osh "EUM" received juice packaging equipment at the end of 2015. The company had difficulties in purchasing packaging material in 2016. And started to packaging in 2017. It produced 15 000 liters of apple juice in 1 liter pack. "Nookat Altyn Almasy" cooperative continues to cultivate on 72 ha, expected harvest is 1 000 t of apples. "Zoloto doliny" cooperative has planted corn on 230 hec. Data on 2017 harvest will be provided at the end of the year.</p>
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<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. 2017- Naryn Shagdar coop increase 8% (6 months 2017), Zakym Atbashi 17% increase (6 months of 2017). There is no data on honey and meat products (season just started). Osh "EUM" has sold 12 000 liters of apple juice out of 15 000 liters "Nookat Altyn Almasy" cooperative sold 380 t of fresh apples (compared to 950 tons in 2016)</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. 2017-46% (3622 (1667 women, 1945 men - clients in VCs). Clients served by the Centers of Trade & Entrepreneurship 17450 (9324 women, 8126 men), 53%.</p>
<p>Indicator: K.I.3.4. Number of decent jobs created. Percentage of jobs created for women.</p>	<p>K.T. 3.4 At least 100 additional jobs created, 30% for female (in 2014 – 20, 2015 – 20, 2016 – 30, 2017 – 30).</p>	<p>2015-102 (69% women) (70 women, 32 men); 2016- 215 (32% women) (68 women, 147 men) numbers contain jobs created last year and maintained; 2017 - 222 (32% women) (71 women, 151 men) number contain jobs created last year and maintained.</p>

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).	<p>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;</p> <p>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);</p> <p>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. Update as of June 2016: ministries continue to comment on the road map; 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. The drafts of by-laws were elaborated and submitted to MEDT for implementation.</p> <p>2017: Draft law “On export support and increasing competitiveness” elaboration in the context of the State Programme for Export Promotion started. Regulatory impact analysis of the legal-normative acts in the field of trade in Tajikistan supported.</p>

<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;</p> <p>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;</p> <p>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);</p> <p>2016: EPIC adopted on 26.11.2016 decree 503;</p> <p>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;</p> <p>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>2017: -WTO post accession plan paragraph 1, #2: regulations for the law on foreign trade activity: Law on "Foreign Trade of the Republic of Tajikistan" - 2 by laws ("procedures of anti-dumping and subsidies measures", and "procedures of application of protective measures") elaborated, the documents submitted to the WG of MEDT RT.</p> <p>- National Trade Statistics System Improved (ITSS), information base established for the Register of Enterprises of the RT and Statistical Register for Statistics Agency. This will reduce reporting requirements from 18 to 8 forms, as well as develop clear methodologies for trade volume and economic activities assessments.</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;</p> <p>2015: TDP for Khatlon region elaborated and submitted to the administration of Khatlon;</p> <p>2016: TDP for the Sughd region (2016-2018) elaborated and submitted to the Khukumat for adoption;</p> <p>- TDP for Khatlon region adopted by Decree # 145 on 30 March 2016;</p> <p>- 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>2017: Brand of Khatlon region elaborated and approved by oblast administration;</p> <p>-Video documentary on three FEZs (Danghara, Panj, Ishkoshim) to be finalized;</p> <p>-Website on FEZs in Tajikistan (http://fez.tj/) and fully functional.</p>

Indicator: T.I.2.1. Trade/Export Capacity Development Programme (TCDP) established at national and Oblast level.	T.T.2.1. TCDP established latest in 2016.	2014: TCDP established in Dushanbe, Khatlon and Sughd.
Indicator: T.I.2.2. Number of Trade Promotion Centres (TPC) established with improved capacity on providing services to clients.	T.T.2.2. On national level at least 1, on Oblast level at least 2, latest until 2016	2014: TPCs established in 2014. One at the national level in Dushanbe and one in Sughd and one in Khatlon.
Indicator: T.I.2.3. Number of SMEs/entrepreneurs served by national and Oblasts TPCs.	T.T.2.3. At least 400 entrepreneurs trained and consulted, of which at least 20% are female.	<p>2014: 252 individuals trained and supported by the national and oblast TPCs, of which 13 % are female;</p> <p>2015: 444 individuals trained and supported by the national and oblast TPCs, of which 23 % are female;</p> <p>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>2017: 33 entrepreneurs (18% women) from DRS, Sughd and Khatlon improved their knowledge on the special requirements for the export of products to CIS countries and linkages between the private sector and the SDGS.92 staff from 5 MCFs and 22 SMEs (22 (24%) women) were trained on environmental screening mechanisms for microfinancing activities.</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. 2017: The Association of Agribusiness of Tajikistan (AAT) continues to follow up on the status of the recommendations (2016). Recommendations are planned to reviewed by the CC under the President end of Q3, 2017.</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 in trainings, cost contribution to fairs increases this figure to 18%. Previous years calculation included fair cost contribution; 2017: 93% of TPC clients satisfied with services, 12% cost contribution provided to the training expenses by participants.</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 - 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; 2016: - 12 recommendations elaborated and submitted to the CC under the President of RT. Topics included: 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; - 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. 2017: The Association of Agribusiness of Tajikistan (AAT) continues to follow up on the status of the</p>

		<p>12 recommendations to the WG under the CC under the President of RT. Recommendations provided are planned to be reviewed by the CC in the end of Q3, 2017.</p>
<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 who participated in the 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 USD 1 mln 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 USD 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. Update, June 2017 total volume of sales contract made during 2016 was USD 5 mln.</p> <p>2017: 135 SMEs (15% women headed) participated at the regional "Sughd-2017" trade fair and B2B forum, where over 100 MoUs were concluded with entrepreneurs from Uzbekistan, Russia, Belarus</p>

		and Poland for supply of products. In total, MOUs and contracts were signed for over USD 2 mln. -7 agri processing SMEs selected for participation in the upcoming international exhibition "World Food Moscow 2017" which will be held in September 2017.
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.; 2017: 9 business ideas supported through BCF: 4 in DRS (2 women), 5 in Khatlon (1 woman). Loans covered cold storages for fruit and vegetables, storage for dairy products and cheese, confectionary, citrus greenhouse, oil packaging line.
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); 2017: The new business ideas supported under the BCF are expected to create 90 jobs (80% for women).

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; 2017: 3 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. 2017: in previously supported businesses under the BCF in Khatlon and DRS, the production volumes increased on average by 10% p.a. The overall increase of production volume of all supported businesses will be surveyed during the second half of 2017.
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%; 2017: In previously supported businesses under the BCF in Khatlon and DRS, the sale increased on average by 10% p.a. The overall increase of sales of all supported businesses will be surveyed during the second half of 2017.
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

<p>Indicator: T.I.3.2.2. Number of additional (gender-differentiated) subscribers stating to have benefitted from AIMS.</p>	<p>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>	<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-agroconsulting 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-agroconsulting 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>2017: On average subscribers of AIMS increased.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The web-portal annual unique visitors on 01.07.17: 77 102, out of them 47,4% women 2) The web-portal average daily unique visitors on 01.07.17: 426 (increased by 4%) 3) Annual subscribers of the newspaper on 01.07.17: 2 769 4) Subscribers of the SMS-Agro-consulting on 01.06.17: 150 5) Annual unique users of the mobile apps on 01.06.17: 54 231 (increased by 279%).
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<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). 2017: - Elaboration of new mobile application on organic farming under way: content structure, content developed, information about suppliers/buyers collected. Launch planned for July 2017.</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. 2017: Completed</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. 2017: Completed</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.;</p> <p>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 the Altay region of the Russian Federation and Shenzhen Huaxin Decheng Trade Co. Ltd (China);</p> <p>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> <p>2017: Collection of information on the 8 agro processors is in process.</p>
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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 ago-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>- Analytical report prepared on the challenges and perspectives of improving productive and export potential of the fruits and vegetable sector.</p> <p>2017 - 1 comparative analysis of the alignment of national legislation with WTO agreements and update of the WTO Legislative Action Plan to bring the national legislation in accordance with norms of the WTO agreements started.</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> <p>2017 - 1 analytical note 'Analysis of market access barriers for agricultural products to South-East Asian countries' with recommendations on export potential and diversifying exports to South-East countries prepared;</p> <p>- 1 analytical report on improving financial instruments of trade policy to increase competitiveness of the Republic of Uzbekistan started.</p>

<p>Indicator: U.I.2.1. Number of new clients taking advantage of existing and new trade opportunities.</p>	<p>U.T.2.1. At least 100 new clients receiving support services (starting from year 2)</p>	<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 clients base by 23% (adding 53 companies). "Uzmarkazimpeks" was able to expand its client base by 25% (20 companies on the Russian market). 2016 - UzTrade Export Promotion Platform, supported by UzTadbirkorexport, was launched in May 2016 and over 1400 companies uploaded product information on the platform. 2017 - UzTrade Export Promotion Platform has increased the number of registered companies to 1566 (as of May 2017).</p>
<p>Indicator: U.I.2.2. Number of new linkages facilitated among trade and business support institutions in the region.</p>	<p>U.T.2.2. At least 5 linkages with trade and business support institutions facilitated</p>	<p>2014 - 3 linkages established: World Food Moscow 2014, China Business Forum, International Trade Exhibition on Gardening, Beekeeping and Floriculture 2014; 2015 - 5 linkages established during the Fruit Logistica 2015, International Fair in Berlin (Germany), Textillegprom International 2015 Fair in Moscow (Russia), World Food Moscow 2015 (Russia), Tyumen Business Forum in Russia, Food Week Korea Fair in Seoul (Korea); 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; 2017 - 1 linkage established: Fruit Logistica 2017, International Fair in Berlin (Germany) (as of June 2017).</p>
<p>Indicator: U.I.2.3. Increased export volume achieved at companies receiving support services.</p>	<p>U.T.2.3. At least 10% one year after having received support services</p>	<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. 2016 - Since the launch of Uztrade online platform in May 2016, the platform clients concluded export deals over USD 38 mln. Another 2 project clients: - Uztadbirkorexport was able to increase exports volume by 25.9% to USD 1,386 mln in 2016 from USD 1,100 mln in 2015; - 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 USD 114 mln and supply USD 27.3mln worth of fruits and vegetables. 2017 - to be assessed at the end of 2017.</p>
<p>Indicator: U.I.3.1. Number of cooperation channels facilitated.</p>	<p>U.T.3.1. At least 2 regional trade fairs organized for SME exporters</p>	<p>2014 - International Trade Exhibition on Gardening, Beekeeping and Floriculture organised; 2015 - No regional fair organised; 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. 2017 - to be conducted in the 2nd half of 2017</p>

<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.</p>	<p>U.T.3.2. At least 30%</p>	<p>2015 - MOUs for 2 pilot business projects signed in December 2015, with results to be achieved in 2016. 2016 - Imron Textile was able to export goods worth USD 245 000 in 2016 for the first time on the basis of MoU agree in 2016. 2017 - Production increased by 74% in 'Imron Textile' (knit products);</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 computerised 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; 2017 - 1 project is being implemented (on beans and dried fruits); 1 project idea on mini production line for dried fruits is being developed;</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 Centre 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; 2017 - UzTrade Trade Platform has increased the number of companies linked by over 100.</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	2017: Merged with the green productive sector research, to provide more detailed data for the green product space.
Result 2: Regional validation event	2016: Almaty Trade and Employment conference took place in June 2016. Initial discussions were held to concretise 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	2017: Three ToRs developed focusing on Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. First results are expected by the end of 2017, and the research builds upon work undertaken in 2016 and 2017 under the green activity.
Result 3: Pilot study on barriers facing women entrepreneurs	2016: Micronarratives collected for +1000 individuals. First draft of study finalised.
Result 4: Implementation of recommendations of the pilot study on barriers facing women entrepreneurs.	2017: Training workshops will be implemented during the fourth quarter. The trainings will target experts and organisations working on women and the private sector, so that findings can be integrated in their work. Results of the study were used to design activities for the fourth phase of the Aft project.
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. 2017: Validation and stakeholder consultation held in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. Validation and stakeholder consultation in Tajikistan to be held during Q4. Stakeholders demonstrate high interest, but more data (6 digit codes is required). The project launched new work study to drill deeper into the data.

Result 4: Piloting schemes for at least 3 environmentally friendly technologies	2017: Pest heat maps on + 1000 hectares & meteorological assessment tested. One further idea on efficient solar drying is being assessed.
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 (Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan). 2017: Cherry study tour to Italy, Finnish Kyrgyz business matching
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. 2017: 1. Agri-food supply chains in cross-border trade for fresh fruits and vegetables jointly with UNECE and GIZ 10-13th July 2017 with participants from KGZ, TJK, UZB, Slovakia, Hungary, Greece and Thailand. 2. Global Gap exchange meeting (13th July) with participants from KGZ, TJK, UZB, Kazakhstan and Afghanistan. 3. <i>Connecting women entrepreneurs within the region</i> conference held in Osh in April 2017. One exchange visit between Kyrgyz entrepreneurs to the south of Uzbekistan planned as a result.
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. Consultant left before the end of his contract i.e. vision paper is in draft form. 2017: 1 - Paper on introducing the concept of resilience and regeneration in the thinking on productive capacities.
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 (Issy-kul, March 2016). 2017: Global Gap trainings jointly with Hilfswerk Austria (three: May & June) in Osh, the 23 participants (11) were from Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.
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
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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.

2014- Support to aligning the Kyrgyzstan trade policy with WTO requirements and trade policy review conducted in 2013. Analysis (harmonisation) of NLA re Non-Tariff Regulation (Chapter V, CU Roadmap). Analysis of Regulatory Impact (ARI).

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;

-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.

- 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.

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. 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 Centre (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.

2017-

1) 1 recommendation was developed for the Ministry of Economy on a national branding contest to improve the national export promotion environment.

2) The Ministry of Economy started the process of designing the next Export Development Plan. UNDP Aid for Trade (regional) and GIZ will support the process. 4 sectors (fruits and vegetables processing, dairy products, apparel and textile, machines and instruments) and 2 cross-sectors (access to finance and quality infrastructure) were identified as priority for the next planning cycle. Planned dates of submission to the Government is in October 2017.

3) JSC Guarantee Fund is in active phase of implementation. Total number companies served 84 (Jan-June 2017).

GF issued 84 guarantees (KGS 93.5 mln) in Jan-June 2017. Total sum of loans issued by commercial banks with guarantees: KGS 330.2 mln (~ USD 4.8 mln).

<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, 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); Trainings for pilot Ayil okmotus in Osh Oblast on strategic plans development and integration trade issues. 151 participants (104 - males and 47 - females); - 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 organized 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. 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).
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<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 beekeepers and local self-government bodies. <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 on improving and enhancing 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>2017 -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Regional conference organised "Connecting businesses: building a viable future for women entrepreneurs from Central Asia - Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.", 45 participants 2) Export Caravan informational campaign was supported. 9 workshops were conducted in 7 Oblasts of the country and Bishkek. Total number of participants 340 (73 women). On the basis of the findings of the 1st round of the Export Caravan, the Agency is in process of developing solutions and in-depth information for the private sector which will be provided during the 2nd Export Caravan

	<p>(expected in September). 3) NHDR was presented at the Human Development Week conducted in Bishkek in June 2017.</p>
<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 customers 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 developed 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>2017-</p> <p>'State Agency for Investment and Export Promotion finished process of reorganization after Decree endorsement on merge of functions on export promotion.</p> <p>Total number of clients served 24.</p> <p>After the Export Caravan, the agency started signing agreements with account-managed companies (name of Programme "Your Personal Agent for Export"). Services included:</p> <p><u>Sending samples:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Finland (dried fruits, honey, walnuts). 8 companies. 2) Iraq (confectionery). 3 companies. <p><u>New market accession:</u></p> <p>Japan. New customer (the 2nd buyer) after Osaka Asian Food Show exhibition requested contracting on white honey (TOHO).</p> <p>Japan. 4 companies represented by the Agency (Naryn Uyuk, Bishkek Expo, Oimo Foods, One Village One Product Centre) in Kyoto.</p> <p><u>Trade missions:</u></p> <p>Inward mission of UAE traders. 4 companies.</p> <p>Outward mission to Qatar. 15 companies.</p> <p><u>Guidebooks on foreign markets. (No data of end users number)</u></p> <p><u>Distribution of requests on export from buyers abroad. Russia.</u> 6 companies.</p>
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<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; - 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: 1) Centre 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 Centre served 8405 individuals, 1445 farm households, 1007 individual entrepreneurs, 67 legal entities, 305 applicants on tax patent, 27 049 applicants on prolonging tax patent, 9 980 tax payers on mobile property (auto, moto, etc.). Additionally, to this the banking cashier in the Centre served 40 029 clients; 2) The concept of the Centre of Support to Trade and Entrepreneurship in Kara-Suu was endorsed by the Municipal Parliament of Kara-Suu town. Kara-Suu Centre provides consultations on business topics. In 2016, 124 clients were served (81 men, 43 women); 3) The concept of the Centre 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); Total number of people inquiries served (indirectly benefited) from the centers achieved 31 973 (2016). 2017: 3 centers (Osh, Karasuu, Uzgen) in the 1st half of 2017 served 17 450 people where 9324 are women.</p>
<p>K.I.2.4. Development and support the setup of an 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.</p> <p>2015- Study visit to Estonia on the best practices of trade promotion and entrepreneurship support arranged (14 participants, 5 women), Tallinn, Estonia;</p> <p>- 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).</p> <p>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 USD 1 mln. and implemented as of jan 2017 USD 0.7 mln.).</p> <p>- 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.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>2015 - 2nd Investment Forum of the Naryn Oblast</p> <p>2016 - Interim results of the 2nd Investment Forum in Naryn Oblast.</p> <p>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. The Government of Kyrgyzstan issued decree on land allocation (over 300 hectares), the Chinese side is ready to invest 150 mln. Russian and Kazakh sides are considering investment in the project. As of June 2017, the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic submitted a request to the Asian Investment Infrastructure Bank for a loan targeting the development of the hub. The bank will be conducting a feasibility mission in September 2017.</p>

efforts and continuing these after EoP.	
K.3.1. Conduct agricultural value chains analysis. Result: at least 2 sub-sectors in 2 Oblasts are analysed.	<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. Corn (Karasuu).</p> <p>- 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>
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>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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 Naryn: - 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); Osh: Support with equipment of Kyrgyz Tokoi Bailygy cooperative (walnut); - 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.</p>
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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 USD 30 000. In 2016, production volume increased by 14.6%. Around 54.6% of the produced honey was sold through various channels distributors, direct sales, sales points. The majority of the sales was made on the domestic market, some exports 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.

Osh

In collaboration with GIZ NaWI, 2 trainings:

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).

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.

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:

- Queen bees - 770 (selling price 550 som);
- Bee daughters - 1275 (selling price 150 som);
- Bee packages - 1 piece (selling price of 2500 soms).

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.

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/bee boxes. 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 bee box is 2830 kgs, while it is sold at 3100 kgs to the members and 3500 kgs for other beekeepers.

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.

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 compared to 2015 (1250 tons). The coop sold 380 t of fresh apples where 220 tons of apples were exported to Tajikistan.

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.

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.

2017 -

Osh. Apple VC. "EUM" company started to produce 1 liter Tetra pack in March 2017. In total in the 1st half of 2017 they produced 15 000 packs. 7 new workplaces were created (3 female). Totally, there are now 28 staff (before 21) during the season. "Nookat Altyn Almas" cooperative in the 1st half of 2017 sold 380 tons of fresh apples with most of the sales done in January-February 2017. This year they sold to Tajikistan and nationally. The cooperative also won a tender from USAID which will allow it to provide disease control for 1 500 farmers in the osha oblast, demonstrating that the cooperative has become a leader in plant protection. The AFT project will launch a mobile application which will show-case the best practices implemented with the cooperative in terms of disease control.

Honey VC. 2 members of the "Kapchygai Too Baly" coop and 1 expert of "Agrolead" PA were trained at the Altai State Agrarian University (Barnaul, Russia) on bee breeding. As a result of the training, the specialist can

1. Value and select bees;
2. Determine the breed of bees and carry out artificial insemination;
3. Select the bees on the maternal lines.

In April 2017, the coop received a new batch of "Karpotka" breed queen bees from Ukraine. While the cooperative previously sold queen bees, this year they will distribute them free of charge to ensure that homogenous production is made possible in the kara-Kulja district which will help with standardisation of the quality and improve productivity. The experience of the cooperatives is also being show-cased in neighbouring areas.

Rice VC. In June 2017, the equipment on rice processing and packaging was delivered to "Ozgon guruch" cooperative. The late delivery of the equipment by the supplier was caused by sanctions between Russia and Ukraine as the equipment was assembled in Ukraine while some parts were from Russia. The cooperative is working on finetuning the handing of the machinery to ensure a high-quality product. The new equipment will create at least for new jobs.

Corn VC. In 2017, there are no activities planned with Corn VC actors, except monitoring. "Zoloto doliny" is planning to dry % of its harvest which is an increase of % from previous year.

Walnut VC. The cooperative continues to support its products and is one of the more successful value chains. In 2017, the coop has 5 contracts:

- 1) Frusek (France) 1 contract (2017) - 5 tons Fair Trade - \$ 8 per kg;
- 2) Pakka (Switzerland) - 1 contract (2017) - 2 tons of Organic - peeled walnut-8,15 \$ per kg;
- 3) Intersnack, The Netherlands - 1 contract (2017) - 8 tons of organic - walnut-8,1 \$ per kg ;

- 4) Intersnack, The Netherlands - 5,75 tons (2017) ordinary walnut - \$ 7 per kg;
- 5) Intersnack, The Netherlands - 5 tons (2017) - 9.25 \$ per kg.

	<p>Naryn. Honey VC. The Association of Beekeepers Naryn Uyuk established a Development Fund of USD 30 000 through the reimbursement scheme for the equipment provided to the producers. The association provides access to qualified means of production (drugs and inventory for beekeepers). In 2017, the project conducted a training on the treatment and prevention of bees' diseases and sanitary and hygienic norms. Total number of trained members of the association 15.</p> <p>Cheese VC. Atbashi-Sut LLC improved the quality of the cheese products and received a contract with the largest retailer in Bishkek (Frunze supermarkets). In 2017, the project supported trainings on food safety basics (implementation of HACCP in the production) and technology of dairy products. 16 specialists of the company were trained on technology and quality control. Based on results of modernization the production line and technology training conducted, new types of products will be produced (mozzarella, cream cheese and melted butter). Update of production increase: - hard cheeses 29% increase; - butter 108%.</p> <p>Felt VC (craft). Expert developed specs on felt sewing equipment. Based on preliminary estimation equipment will be provide 8-10 additional jobs. Cooperatives planned to start production of national clothing due to increased demand in domestic market. In 2017 (6 months), sales increased Zakym Atbashi coop 380 000 KGS and Shagdar 220 000 KGS.</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</p>	<p>2014 - 95 members (87 women) of handicraft cooperatives were trained in the 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.</p>

<p>training serials institutionalized until EoP.</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</p>	<p>2014 - 6 representatives of pilot cooperatives participated in the discussions for a strategy for felt products (Naryn);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The project targeted agrifood producers. 1) A trade fair with trainings was organised during the Sulaiman-too international event. Sales totaling 150 000Soms 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 conversation were discussed (Osh). - Support to the annual Investment forum in Osh was provided in May 2014. The 2nd catalogue of investment projects was published. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>In total, 120 (63 women) persons participated in the forum (Osh)</p>

<p>Oblast regularly participates at business forums.</p>	<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);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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; <p>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.</p> <p>-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.</p> <p>Nookat Altyn Almas sold 165 tons of fresh apples to Kazakh traders after the WorldFood Kazakhstan exhibition (in December 2015). Estimated sum of delivery 2.5 mln. KGS. The participation in the exhibition was facilitated by the Single Window Centre under the Ministry of Economy.</p> <p>'-Jointly with USAID Agrohorizon, ICCO & Helvetas, Bai-Jer LTD, Jer-Azygy Association, the project 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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 are 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "Farmers organic garden" Ltd concluded a contract with "Altynym" supermarket (Bishkek) to supply walnut milk; - "Osko" 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".
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2016

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.

2017

'Osh

Fairs and exhibitions for trade promotion are planned for the 2nd half of 2017.

Naryn.

In 2015, UNDP supported development sub-national territorial brand of Naryn Oblast "Tenir-Too" (Sky Mountains). Free Economic Zone Naryn is administrator of the brand. The Aid for Trade project clients are using this brand. In 2017, the project supported the development of promo materials for products of Atbashi-Sut LLC, Naryn Uyuk Association, Janar&Bek LLC, Zakym Atbashi coop and Shagdar coop.

Naryn Uyuk Association of Beekeepers participated in trade mission to Qatar in March 2017. Products were demonstrated to potential clients. Based on results of Osaka Asian Food Show 2016, the Japanese buyer continues to order honey in small batches (100 cans). The State Agency on Investment and Export Promotion promotes honey in the Japanese market and now received several requests for import.

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>2017: Cross border trade problem analysis conducted on TJK-KGZ border in two areas of Sughd oblast and Rasht Valley.</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>2017: Regulatory impact analysis of the legal-normative acts in the field of trade in Tajikistan started. Support provided to the government for the elaboration of the draft of Law “On export support and increasing competitiveness”.</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</p>	<p>2014: Support to the WG on the law on trade and consumer services through technical expertise;</p> <p>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;</p> <p>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>2017: Inter-ministerial WG established on the elaboration of an Improved Trade Statistic System (ITSS). 4 WG conducted. Capacity of 440 employees (195 women, 44%) of the statistical agency and accountants form state organizations and private enterprises strengthened for the production of statistical data, transfer to electronic reporting and use of business register.</p>

requested topic-related trade experts.	
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>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);</p> <p>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;</p> <p>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>2017: Expert group for the improvement of the National Trade Statistics System established and supported at the national level. Meetings held in the capital Dushanbe and 3 regional and 2 district centers for the transition to the electronic reporting system.</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>2015: -Expertise provided for the formulation of the law on trade and consumer services - 3 national consultants hired;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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; <p>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>2017: -Expertise provided for the development of rules/ procedures for anti-dumping measures and subsidies measures, procedures of application of protective measures;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The technical requirements for the establishment of the “Single Centre for Servicing Entrepreneurs and Investors” in the Republic of Tajikistan was jointly defined with SCISP and VA to be launched in July.
T.1.6. Provision of technical assistance for the design of a Trade Road Map Action Matrix and implementing selected	<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);</p> <p>2016: Action matrix of the 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>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>2017: The brand of Khatlon oblast (TDP priority) formulated and adopted by Khatlon administration.</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;</p> <p>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);</p> <p>- 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);</p> <p>2016: TDP for the Sughd region discussed in Isfara, Istarafshan and Khujand;</p> <p>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;</p> <p>At the national level, the law on trade and consumer services was discussed during a seminar, where 105 people participated (15 female);</p> <p>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>2017: 3 meetings with stakeholders of KRG and TJK from B. Gafurov -Arka/Leilek/Isfana, Isfara-Batkent and Jirgital-Chon Alai held. Cross border trade issues discussed, "problem trees" defined and action matrixes to overcome barriers for cross border trade developed. Over 110 (17 female, 15,5%) stakeholders participated in the meetings.</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>2017: Stakeholder problem and solution survey conducted in three regions of the country involving 35 organisations and groups from public, private sectors and the civil society. Needs of the private sector defined and used for planning.</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 were united with T.2.1.)</p>
<p>T.2.3. Support to establishing National and at least two Oblasts Trade Promotion Centers. Result: National and at least 2 Oblast Trade Promotion Centers 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), 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>2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 33 entrepreneurs (6 women, 18%) participated in the trainings on the special requirements for the export of products to CIS countries (TDCP in Sughd, Khatlon and DRS); - 92 (among them 22 (24% women) staff of 5 MCFs and 22 SMEs (in Sughd, Khatlon and DRS) trained on environmental screening mechanisms in microfinancing activates.

<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. 2015: 23 SMEs - 9 processing companies (introduction of HACCP) and 14 companies supported through expert advice (marketing, business planning, feed etc.); 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. - 4 processing SMEs supported with expert advice on the introduction of HACCP, ISO 22000, FSSC 22000, marketing researches, branding and labelling 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 USD 25 000 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. LCC “Dilpisand” - improved lighting in its plant using more efficient lighters. 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. 2017: Actions are planned to start in the second half of year;</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</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 - 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 (<i>this proposal was returned by the GoT to the State commission under the MOF and was not approved</i>) - 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 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. - 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. 2017: The Association of Agribusiness of Tajikistan (AAT) continues to follow up on the status of the recommendations. Recommendations are planned to be reviewed by the CC under the President end of Q3, 2017.</p>

<p>on improving business environment elaborated and submitted to government</p>	
<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 USD 1.5 mln; 2015: 21 Tajik SMEs participated at international exhibitions in Moscow (RF), Xian (China), Astana (Kazakhstan) and Minsk (Belarus). The contracts and MOUs amounted to USD 2.5 mln. Total amount shipped was USD 2.87 mln; 2016: 5 SMEs participated in the international exhibition "World Food Moscow 2016", in September 2016 and contracts and MoUs were concluded for USD 4.5 mln. 2017: 135 SMEs (15% women) participated in the regional "Sughd-2017" trade fair and B2B forum, where over 100 MoUs were concluded with entrepreneurs from Uzbekistan, Russia, Belarus and Poland. -7 agri processing SMEs selected for the participation of the upcoming international exhibition "World Food Moscow 2017" which will be held in September 2017.</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; 2015: No activities; 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. 2017: -Agriculture value chain analysis conducted and three most actual value chains identified: apricot, onion and grape. - Analysis conducted in four territories of TJK to identify four most demanded and advanced products.</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. 2017: 4 awareness campaigns conducted in Khatlon, 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. 2017: Completed</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. 2017: One call for submission of business proposals from SMEs to BCF were announced. The project proposals evaluation committee (PPEC) meeting was conducted (March, 2017). 9 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). 2017: 9 business ideas supported (4 in DRS and 5 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 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.</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>Result: the AIMS services covering whole Tajikistan.</p>	<p>2017: AIMS continues to cover three regions of TJK (Sughd, Khatlon and DRS).</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 into "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. 2017: One new mobile application on organic farming is under development.</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. 2017: 14 awareness raising events for farmers were conducted for the promotion of AIMS' services in Jamoats of Sughd and Khatlon.</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 Istiqloliyati vatan" (Istaravshan) interlinked to the trade platform Foodmarket.Ru and trained on its usage. 2017: Collection of information of 8 agro processors is in the process.</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</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 do develop a mobile application in Uzbek.</p>

information providers from CA countries interlinked, CA information exchange platform established.	2017: Collaboration with three interlinked CA countries continues. An International Conference on ICT for agri business development is planned in August 2017;
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Uzbekistan

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 ago-processing practices in Central Asia.	
Activity/result	Progress
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.	Baseline assessment conducted in 2015.
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.	<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; - Analytical report prepared on the challenges and perspectives of improving productive and export potential of the fruits and vegetable sector. -2017: 1 comparative analysis of the alignment of national legislation with WTO agreements and update of the WTO Legislative Action Plan to bring the national legislation in accordance with norms of the WTO agreements started

<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 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; - Analytical report on the analysis of the status and prospects of non-raw-material exports development prepared; - Marketing research prepared on the perspectives of export of fresh and processed fruits and vegetables. <p>2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 analytical note ‘Analysis of market access barriers for agricultural products to South-East Asian countries’ with recommendations on further developing export potential and diversifying exports to South-East countries prepared; - 1 analytical report on improving financial instruments of trade policy to increase competitiveness of the Republic of Uzbekistan started.
<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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2016: Joint UNECE/UNDP regional workshop on Agri-food supply chains in cross-border trade of nuts and dried fruits conducted during July 11-13, 2016 (REG activity) involving Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan; - 2017: Joint UNECE/UNDP regional workshop on Agri-food supply chains in cross-border trade of fresh fruits and vegetables July 10-12, 2017 (REG activity) involving Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.
<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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Uztadbirkorexport 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 USD 6 mln. As of Dec 2016, goods worth USD 7,8 mln. were exported; - Uztadbirkorexport established linkages and concluded preliminary contracts during TextileLegProm 2016 (in September, Moscow) for USD 40 mln and already exported USD6.8 mln. <p>In total, Uztadbirkorexport was able to increase exports volume by 25.9% to USD 1,386 mln in 2016 from USD 1,100 mln in 2015.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 USD 114 mln and supply USD 27.3 mln worth of fruits and vegetables. - 2017: UzAgroExport specialized agro-exporting company concluded preliminary contracts worth 11.8 mln USD at Fruit Logistica 2017 during February 8-10, 2017.

<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; - 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; 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%. 2017: 1) a joint UNECE/UNDP workshop on agri-food supply chains in cross-border trade of fresh fruits and vegetables to be conducted on July 10-12, 2017. 2) Workshop on Global GAP standard July 13, 2017. Assessments will be provided in the second report of 2017.</p>
<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.</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 D38 mln. - 2017: as of May 2017, the number of registered users of UzTrade is over 1500 (in 2016 it was 1400). During January - May 2017, 78 applications from foreign customers were processed.</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>2016: -Draft text of the guideline on Global GAP standard introduction prepared; 2017 - Guideline on Global GAP standard published, 1000 copies distributed.</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>- 52 project clients: - 11 project clients in 2014; - 21 project clients in 2015; - 13 project clients in 2016. - 7 project clients in Jan - June 2017</p>
<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.</p>	<p>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); 2017 - to be conducted during the 2nd half of 2017.</p>

<p>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.</p>	<p>4 pilot facilities: 2015: 2 pilot projects launched, benefiting 23 people launched (biogas and computerised sewing); 2016: 1 pilot project is being implemented (leather). 2017: 1 project is being implemented (on beans and dried fruits); 1 project idea on mini production line for dried fruits is being developed.</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>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)</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>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; 1 practical guidebook on Cherry Growing is being developed (2017).</p>
<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); 1 event is scheduled for July 2017 (cherry tour to Italy).</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). 2017: - 5 practical sessions were held with agricultural firms, orchard owners and community leaders on plants pests and diseases and promotion of non-chemical control methods; - series of seminars on cherry growing techniques are scheduled for 2nd half of 2017 (REG).</p>

2017 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
<p>1.1. Percentage of supported decision makers self-assessing improved job qualifications. 2017 target: 70% of supported decision makers gender disaggregated self-assessing improved job qualifications.</p>	<p>183 representatives of private sector entities participated in the 1st round of Export Caravan. 146 participants provided their feedback. Self-assessment results: 8% - civil servants; 75% - private sector (companies, farmers, cooperatives); 11% - representatives of private sector (chambers, business associations).</p> <p>Results of participants' self-assessment: - 96% stated that workshops met with their expectations and they will apply knowledge received; - 94% pointed that speakers were knowledgeable; - 92% stated 'improved their knowledge';</p>
<p>1.2. Number of regular coordination meetings among CA countries on cross-border issues. 2017 target: At least 3 coordination meetings on cross-border issues conducted</p>	<p>9 workshops for the Export Caravan conducted in 7 regions of the country. Following main cross-border issues were raised: - Know how on appropriate equipment; - Issues with low prices of middlemen; - Issues with access to finance; - Issues with sales; - Cross-border excessive control (KAZ-KRG border); - Lack of information of export; - Issues with labs.</p>
<p>1.3. Number of policy recommendations on improving existing regulatory framework. 2017 target: 1 policy recommendation in 2016.</p>	<p>1 policy recommendation. Regulation on national branding contest was submitted to the Ministry of Economy.</p>
<p>2.1. Number of clients of Export Promotion Agency report as benefiting from services</p>	<p>State Agency for Investment and Export Promotion - 24 clients. JSC Guarantee Fund - 84 clients. Total - 108 clients.</p>

provided. 2017 target: At least 50 entrepreneurs, of these at least 60% stating benefits, disaggregated by gender.	
2.2. Establishment of integrated trade promotion information system. 2017 target: Fully functional integrated trade information system accessible to clients.	no data yet
2.3. Increased export volume at companies after having received information services (including female headed companies). 2017 target: At least 10% increased export volume six months after having received information services	no data yet
2.4. Number of SMEs having participated at regional and international exhibitions increased their exports promotion in percentage. 2017 target: At least 10 of participating SMEs increased their export turnover by 10%	no data yet
3.1. Percentage increase in production at targeted clients in supported value chains, one year after having received support. 2017 target: At least 10% increase of production.	<p>Naryn Shagdar coop increase 21% (6 months 2017), Zakym Atbashi 17% increase (6 months of 2017). There is no data on honey and meat products (season just started). Atbashi-Sut LLC increase of production (updated data after modernization 2016): - hard cheese 29%; - butter 108%;</p> <p>Osh "15 000 liters of apple juice in 1 liter pack. "Nookat Altyn Almasy" cooperative has the same area for apples - 72 ha volume of apples</p>

<p>3.2. Percentage increase in sales at targeted clients in supported value chains, one year after having received support. 2017 target: At least 10% increase of sales</p>	<p>Naryn Shagdar coop increase 8% (6 months 2017), Zakym Atbashi 17% increase (6 months of 2017). There is no data on honey and meat products (season just started). Osh "EUM" has sold 12 000 liters of apple juice out of 15 000 liters "Nookat Altyn Almasy" cooperative sold 380 t of fresh apples</p>
<p>3.3. Female participation rate at the interventions supporting trade. 2017 target: At least 30% female participants.</p>	<p>46% (3622 (1667 women, 1945 men - clients in VCs). Clients served by the Centers for Trade & Entrepreneurship 17450 (9324 women, 8126 men), 53%.</p>
<p>3.4. Number of decent jobs created. Percentage of jobs created for women. 2017 target: At least 25 additional jobs created, 30% for female.</p>	<p>7 jobs created (4 men, 3 women).</p>

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.	
Target	Progress
T.I.1.1. Number of national trade related policy documents adjusted to the WTO (and in case of relevance, CU) requirements. 2017 target: T.T.1.1. At least 2 by-laws to the law on trade and foreign trade are functional. At least 4 by-laws implemented.	Law on trade and consumer services adjusted. Development of trade register is initiated; Law on foreign trade is being adjusted. Two by laws on antidumping and protective measures elaborated, submitted to the WG MEDT.
T.I.1.2. Number of priorities from WTO post-accession plan and Trade Road Map Action Matrix implemented. 2017 target: T.T.1.2. At least 1 priority supported.	Activity on ITSS resulted in updated information base for trade registry, modernized tools for the acquisition and management of statistical information, development of methodological position on statistics of foreign trade in goods. Capacity of 440 employees (195 women, 44%) of the statistical agency and accountants from state organisations and private enterprises strengthened for the production of statistical data, transfer to electronic reporting and use of business register;
T.I.1.3. Number of national and Oblasts' strategic trade related policy documents developed. 2017 target: T.T.1.3. At least 1 priority supported.	The Brand of Khatlon Region adopted by oblast administration.
T.I.1.4. Number of regular coordination meetings among CA countries on cross-border issues. 2017 target: T.T.1.4. At least 2 coordination meetings conducted.	3 coordination meetings with stakeholders from TJK and KRG conducted.
T.I.2.3. Number of SMEs/entrepreneurs served by national and Oblasts TPCs. 2017 target: T.T.2.3. At least 100 entrepreneurs trained and consulted, of which at least 20% are female.	33 SMEs (6 women, 18%) served by national and oblast TPC.
T.I.2.4. Number of business associations and TSIs improved their capacity on advocacy and providing services. 2017 target: T.T.2.4. At least 4 business associations and TSIs have improved capacities.	5 MCF improved capacity in environmental impact assessment for loan requests.
T.I.2.5 % of TPC client's satisfaction rate. 2017 target: T.T.2.6. At least 70% of clients are satisfied and 30% are paying for the services.	93% clients satisfied with training services;

I.T.2.7. Number of SMEs having participated at regional and international exhibitions increased their export turnover in percentage. 2017 target: T.T.2.7. At least 3 of the participating SMEs increased their export turnover by 10 %.	Over 135 SMEs participated in the Sughd-2017 fair and B2B forum. Export turnover data will be available at the end of the year.
T.I.3.1.1. Number of innovative green business ideas supported through Business Challenge Fund. 2017 target: T.T.3.1.1. At least 7 business ideas supported by BCF.	9 business ideas supported by the BCF (4 DRS and 5 in Khatlon);
T.I.3.1.2. Number of decent jobs created. Percentage of jobs created for women. 2017 target: T.T.3.1.2. At least 100 jobs created, 40% for females.	2017 The new business ideas supported under the BCF are expected to create 90 jobs (80% for women): in Khatlon 50 jobs (42 women) and DRS 40 (20 women).
T.I.3.1.3. Number of female headed enterprises supported by BCF. 2017 target: T.T.3.1.3. At least 10 enterprises.	3 enterprises (female) supported through BCF
T.I.3.1.4. Percentage of productivity increase at supported businesses one year after start of support. 2016 target: At least 10% p.a.	In previously supported businesses under the BCF in Khatlon and DRS, the production volumes increased on average by 10% p.a. The overall increase of production volume of all supported businesses will be surveyed during the second half of 2017.
T.I.3.1.5. Percentage of production volume increased at companies receiving BCF services (including female-headed companies). 2017 target: At least 10% increase p.a.	In previously supported businesses under the BCF in Khatlon and DRS, the sale increased on average by 10% p.a. The overall increase of sales of all supported businesses will be surveyed during the second half of 2017.
T.I.3.2.2. Number of additional (gender-differentiated) subscribers stating to have benefitted from AIMS. No target - for information only	As of 01 June 2017: 1) The web-portal annual unique visitors: 77 102, out of them 47,4% women 2) The web-portal average daily unique visitors: 426 3) Annual subscribers of the newspaper: 2769 out of them 25,5% are women. 4) Subscribers of the SMS-Agro-consulting: 150 5) Annual unique users of the mobile apps: 54 231
T.I.3.2.6. Number of national agro-processors linked to regional and international trade platforms. No target - for information only	In progress- 8 companies selected for analysis

Uzbekistan

Output 2: 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.	
AWP targets	Progress
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. 2017 target: U.T.1.1. At least 1 analytical paper with recommendations published	-1 comparative analysis of the alignment of national legislation with WTO agreements and update of the WTO Legislative Action Plan to bring the national legislation in accordance with norms of the WTO agreements started
U.I. 1.2. Number of recommendation papers on improving regional trade and transport linkages developed with stakeholders and submitted to the governments. 2017 target: U.T.1.2. - At least 1 concept/analytical note prepared and disseminated.	- 1 analytical note 'Analysis of market access barriers for agricultural products to South-East Asian countries' with recommendations on further developing the export potential and diversifying exports to South-East countries is prepared; - Analytical report on improving financial instruments of trade policy to increase competitiveness of the Republic of Uzbekistan started.
U.I.2.1. Number of new clients taking advantage of existing and new trade opportunities. 2017 target: U.T.2.1. At least 30 SMEs are trained on foreign trade promotion.	- to be conducted in second half of 2017
U.I.2.2. Number of new linkages facilitated among trade and business support institutions in the region. 2017 target: U.T.2.2. At least 2 linkages with trade and business support institutions facilitated.	- UzAgroExport specialised agro-exporting company and 4 companies concluded preliminary contracts worth USD 11.8 mln at Fruit Logistica 2017 during February 8-10, 2017.
U.I.2.3. Increased export volume achieved at companies receiving support services. 2017 target: U.T.2.3. Targeted clients export volume increased at least 10%.	- to be assessed at the end of 2017

<p>Indicator: U.I.3.1. Number of cooperation channels facilitated. 2017 target: U.T.3.1. Organization of 1 regional trade fair for SME exporters agreed upon.</p>	<p>- to be conducted at the 2nd half of 2017</p>
<p>U.I.3.2. Percentage increase in production and sales at targeted clients in supported value chains, one year after having received support. 2017 target: U.T.3.2. At least 2 targeted clients have export agreements or MOUs.</p>	<p>- 3 clients have concluded export contracts with contacts at international exhibitions and exported USD 3.485 mln worth good, including: - 2 participants of "World Food Moscow 2016" (September 12-16, 2017) - Green Oriental Products LLC exported lemons and pomegranate for USD 85,000 and Green Agro Food LLC (Global GAP certified) exported goods worth USD 100,000; - 1 participant of 'Fruit Logistica 2017' International Exhibition' (February y 8-10, 2017, Berlin, Germany) exported fruits and vegetables for USD 3.3 mln.</p>
<p>U.I.3.3. Number of subsectors in which eco-sustainable business models are developed and readied for scaling up. 2017 target: U.T.3.3. At least 1 pilot project launched.</p>	<p>- 1 pilot project on dried fruits and beans (sorting) launched; - 1 new pilot project on mini production line for dried fruits identified and submitted to MFT for consideration;</p>
<p>U.I.3.4. Number of national agro-processors linked to regional and international trade platforms. 2017 target: U.T.3.4. At least 10 agro-processors are linked to trade platform</p>	<p>- As of May 2017, the number of registered users of UzTrade is more than 1500 (in 2016 it was 1400);</p>
<p>4. Number of trade and investment promotion services are improved based on analytical notes on introduction of best practices. 2017 target: U.T.4. At least 1 service is improved</p>	<p>-to be assessed at the end of 2017</p>

Abbreviations

AfT	Aid for Trade
AWP	Annual Working Plan
AIMS	Agricultural Information and Marketing System
BCF	Business Challenge Fund
CC	Consultative Council
CCI	Chamber of Commerce and Industry
DRS	Districts of Republic Subordination
EEU	Eurasian Economic Union
EPIC	Export Promotion and Increasing Competiveness
FEZ	Free Economic Zone
GAP	Good Agricultural Practices
GSP+	Generalised System of Preferences
HACCP	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points
MCF	Micro credit fund
ME	Ministry of Economy
MEDT	Ministry of Economic Development and Trade
MFT	Ministry of Finance and Trade
MFERIT	Ministry for Foreign Economic Relations and International Trade
NHDR	National Human Development Report
NTFC	National Trade Facilitation Committee
RRF	Results Resource Framework
SMAC diseases	System for monitoring, alerting and control of insects, pests and plant
SME	Small and medium enterprises
SPS	Sanitary and phyto sanitary
SW	Single window
SWC	Single Window Center
TDP	Trade Development Programme
TPC	Trade promotion center
TPR	Trade Policy Review
TSI	Trade support institution
VC	Value chain