



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

TAJIKISTAN AND FAO

PARTNERING TO ACHIEVE SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY AND INCREASED RESILIENCE

Cooperation between Tajikistan and FAO has been ongoing since the country joined the Organization in 1995. FAO assistance was initially provided in the form of short-term emergency interventions in response to a locust outbreak as well as support for the country's transition to stability after a period of civil war. More recently, cooperation has focused on rehabilitation and development interventions to build a sustainable and competitive agriculture sector, including improved food security and nutrition, and resilience to climate change.

Boosting productivity through agrarian reform

As part of its support to implementation of Tajikistan's Agrarian Reform Programme (2012-2020), FAO is supporting the Ministry of Agriculture through institutional development and capacity strengthening under an EU-funded project for a value of EUR 5 million. The Ministry is gaining greater knowledge and expertise in relevant areas of policy-making, financial and policy analysis, disease surveillance and data management. Coupled with improved communication with stakeholders (from farmers to high-level government officials), improved national capacities will in turn strengthen development of targeted agricultural policies. Other improvements consist in the establishment of facilitative regulations and coherent incentives for the effective management of Tajik agriculture.

FAO has provided support for the development regulations and establishment of a new government Committee on Food Security. Three state services – Veterinary Inspection, Phytosanitary and Plant Quarantine, and Breeding – are represented on the Committee.

Project: Strengthening Institutions and Capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture and State Veterinary Inspection Service for Policy Formulation. Funded by the European Union.

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Matching FAO's expertise to Tajikistan's development priorities

FAO's assistance in Tajikistan is shaped by the **2019-2021 FAO Country Programming Framework (CPF)**, which is centred on three priority areas:

- ➔ **Enhancing national food and nutritional security and safety**, including a focus on the governance of food security, nutrition and food safety issues and the provision of technical and managerial support to value chain actors.
- ➔ **Supporting sustainable management of natural resources and improved resilience to climate change**, including efforts to strengthen the policy-enabling environment and promote innovative and multisectoral approaches and gender-sensitive practices and technologies.
- ➔ **Boosting sustainable agricultural productivity and competitiveness** across the livestock, crop and fisheries and aquaculture subsectors.

Jointly formulated with the Government and other partners, the CPF reflects relevant priorities in key national development policies, including **Tajikistan's Agricultural Reform Programme (2012-2020)**. The CPF is fully aligned with the UN Development Assistance Framework for Tajikistan as well as with FAO's regional priorities for Europe and Central Asia for 2018-2021. Tajikistan is involved in the FAO Regional Initiatives on Empowering Smallholders and Family Farms, and Agrifood Trade and Regional Integration in Europe and Central Asia.

Agricultural productivity and competitiveness

The livelihoods of many small-scale farmers have benefited from an Austrian-funded project, designed to strengthen the capacity of seed farms and small-scale farmers to produce high-quality seed for wheat, pulses, oilseed and fodder crops. Implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture of Tajikistan and the Seed Association of Tajikistan, the FAO project has reached about 2 000 beneficiaries, who have not only received improved seed varieties, but have also been trained in early-generation seed production and seed exchanges among households in the community. The FAO Representative in Tajikistan underlines that “this was the key achievement of the project, and it assures the sustainability of the outputs.”

Project: Improving access of small-scale farmers to high-quality seed in Tajikistan. Funded by the Government of Austria.

“Agriculture and food security are the entry points for growth and development strategies in many countries.”

FAO Director-General

Improved capacity for locust management

FAO has implemented a three-year US\$ million project to improve locust management capacities in Tajikistan, Afghanistan and Kyrgyzstan. In the first two years, Tajikistan received support for conducting a locust survey as well as control equipment for more than US\$1.2 million.

The project also provided support and overall coordination to strengthen regional cooperation. Experts from the three countries involved regularly exchanged information and conducted joint activities, including cross-border locust surveys. Operational capacities were enhanced and a number of training courses were delivered at the regional and country levels.

Thanks to the project’s support to the human health and environmental monitoring team, the risks and potential negative impacts of locust control operations have been reduced.

Project: Programme to improve national and regional locust management in Caucasus and Central Asia. Funded by the Government of Japan (2015-2018).

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