

October 17, 2024

Seed Potato Harvesting in the Foothill Areas of Sughd Region

This year, seed farms in Sughd Region (project beneficiaries), taking advantage of favorable weather conditions, timely conducted sowing operations, including the planting of potatoes, on an area of 83 hectares. As a result of proper adherence to agricultural techniques, crop yields have significantly increased, and farmers have begun harvesting.

It is worth noting that with the support of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, the State Institution "Agriculture Entrepreneurship Development" provided high-quality elite-certified seed potatoes of the "Evolution", "Picasso", and "Arizona" varieties to seed farms across the country as part of the "Strengthening Resilience of the Agriculture Sector" project for the sowing campaign.

Motivated by the continued attention from the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, seed farms are committed to harvesting the crops on time and without losses.

Currently, average yields are between 750-850 centners per hectare, with some areas reaching up to 950 centners per hectare, marking a significant step forward in the development of seed farming.

<https://youtu.be/s5AIKzivxSg>



October 17, 2024

Working Meeting on Agricultural Digitalization

On October 15, 2024, a working meeting was held at the State Institution “Agriculture Entrepreneurship Development” as part of Subcomponent 3.1 of the “Strengthening Resilience of the Agriculture Sector” project. The meeting focused on the potential for data analysis, planning, and real-time monitoring to ensure sustainable agricultural development.

The working group included representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Agency for Hydrometeorology, and the State Institution “Agriculture Entrepreneurship Development”. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the regular and timely collection of essential data on land use and agricultural production through digital technologies, and how this data can be transformed into actionable insights, including crisis preparedness and response.

Additionally, this subcomponent will support the production of real-time agrometeorological data, enabling the Ministry of

Agriculture to improve its capacity to collect and analyze accurate weather information. In collaboration with the Agency for Hydrometeorology, the plan includes timely notifications and forecasts for farmers, aimed at reducing delays in accessing agrometeorological information.



October 17, 2024

The World Bank Mission's working group conducted an inspection of research activities in the Sughd and Khatlon regions

The technical working group, consisting of representatives of the World Bank and environmental and social specialists of the State Institution "Agriculture Entrepreneurship Development,"

visited several work sites in the Sughd and Khatlon regions.

During the visit, the group inspected the “Free Economic Zone” (ALC), the State Institution “Locust Control Expedition,” and several seed-producing farms in Sughd and Khatlon, including OJSC named after A. Jumayev, OJSC “S. Urunkhodjaev,” Dehkan Farm “Yakkatoot” in J. Rasulov District, the “Kulyab” Trading Cooperative in Vakhsh District, and Dehkan Farm “Khoji Zakir” in Vakhsh District.

Throughout the inspection, the group discussed the proper storage of pesticides, compliance with safety regulations, adherence to sanitary and hygiene standards, conditions for storing mineral fertilizers and seed reserves, as well as compliance with the project’s environmental and social requirements and labor conditions monitoring.

It is worth noting that a biological laboratory operates at the A. Jumayev seed farm, where beneficial insects—entomophages—are bred for biological pest control. The results of this activity are extended to other districts. World Bank specialists reviewed the laboratory’s work and positively evaluated the project’s contribution to its future development.

Additionally, meetings were held with representatives of vulnerable farms, allowing the group to become familiar with the current social and environmental conditions of these farms.

In conclusion, environmental and social specialists provided valuable recommendations to the project beneficiaries for further improving their operations.



October 17, 2024

Distribution of Agricultural Machinery and Equipment in GBAO

With the support of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, the State Institution “Agriculture Entrepreneurship Development,” has launched a new phase of agricultural machinery and equipment distribution in the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region (GBAO) within the framework of the Strengthening Resilience of the Agriculture Sector Project.

It is important to note that the distribution of modern agricultural machinery coincided with the working visit of the Founder of Peace and National Unity, Leader of the Nation, President of the Republic of Tajikistan, respected Emomali Rahmon to GBAO. This equipment was delivered to vulnerable farms in the region (the project beneficiaries).

It should be emphasized that, in order to further strengthen the material and technical base and facilitate the work of farmers, on June 4, 2024, with the support of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, the institution had already

provided 21 units of modern machinery—tractors and motor cultivators with equipment—to seed-producing and vulnerable farms in GBAO within the framework of the Strengthening Resilience of the Agriculture Sector Project.

Fortunately, in the new phase on October 13, 2024, additional 15 units of modern small tractors with trailers and equipment were distributed to the vulnerable farms of the region.

The project beneficiaries expressed deep gratitude for the continuous support from the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan. This important initiative significantly eases the work of farmers and greatly increases the yield of agricultural crops.



October 17, 2024

Compliance with Safety Requirements in Institutions of the Ministry of Agriculture

With the support of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, the State Institution "Agriculture Entrepreneurship Development," as part of the third component of the "Strengthening Resilience of the Agriculture Sector Project," for the first time since independence organized the disposal of outdated chemicals and pesticides, as well as containers that held chemical solutions, using safe methods.

This initiative was launched based on a contract between the State Institution "Agriculture Entrepreneurship Development" and the public organization "Peshsaf." The first institution to undergo the disposal process was the Institute of Soil Science and Agrochemistry of the Academy of Agricultural Sciences of Tajikistan. Currently, the disposal of outdated chemicals and pesticides is being carried out at the Department of Chemistry of the Tajik Agrarian University named after Sh. Shotemur and the State Institution "Locust Control Expedition."

Specialists in the field strictly adhere to safety requirements when transporting and packaging chemical materials. Using specialized protective clothing and vehicles, they transport the materials to the pesticide disposal site in the Vakhsh district.

The organization has also received a license from the Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan for the transportation of waste, in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan. During these activities, the organization strictly complies with the environmental and social standards of the World Bank and follows the Environmental and Social Management Plan

(ESMP) .



October 17, 2024

Harvesting of Cotton in the Khatlon Region is Ongoing

The cotton harvesting process is currently underway in the Khatlon region, where farmers (project beneficiaries) have received high-quality seeds of three elite cotton varieties—Lima, Laser, and Ramses—this year, with support from

the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan under the “Enhancing Agricultural Resilience” project.

With this assistance, farmers have successfully planted cotton across 2,170 hectares using the aforementioned varieties. These high-yielding varieties, imported from abroad, are resilient to climate changes, making them particularly suitable for vulnerable farms and seed production enterprises. As of now, the first phase of the harvest has been completed, while the second phase is in full swing.

This year, by following agronomic practices, farmers have been able to significantly increase their cotton yield, achieving between 17 to 20 quintals per hectare during the first phase of harvesting.

Beneficiaries of the project are focused on effectively utilizing the favorable autumn weather conditions to ensure a timely and loss-free completion of the harvest, with the goal of increasing the yield to 50-55 quintals per hectare.



October 17, 2024

Seed Potato Harvest in the Rasht District

With the support of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, the State Institution “Agriculture Entrepreneurship Development” has provided vulnerable farms and seed production enterprises in the country (project beneficiaries) with high-quality certified elite seed potatoes of the “Evolution,” “Picasso,” and “Arizona” varieties as part of “Strengthening Resilience of the Agriculture Sector Project” in 2024.

Thanks to favorable weather conditions and the timely adherence to agrotechnical practices, the yield of agricultural crops, particularly potatoes, has been high across the regions of the country. Currently, the potato harvest is actively continuing in the mountainous areas.

On October 9, 2024, specialists in the field visited the farms “Abror,” “Parviz,” “Khost,” “Bakht,” and “Faiz” in the Rasht District. During their visit, it was observed that the potato yield has significantly increased compared to the previous

year, much to the satisfaction of the farmers.

Based on the results of the yield approbation (appraisal), specialists confirmed that this year's potato yield across the country is strong, contributing significantly to food security and the development of the seed sector.

During the working visit, specialists also provided farmers with practical recommendations on the timely and loss-free harvesting of potatoes, as well as on proper storage practices in warehouses.

https://youtu.be/_dDX7GE13wg



October 17, 2024

**Renovation and Restoration Work at the State Institution
“Plant Protection and Chemicalization” of the Ministry of
Agriculture**

With the support of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, the State Institution “Agriculture Entrepreneurship Development” as part of the “Strengthening Resilience of the Agriculture Sector” Project, is carrying out repair and reconstruction of several scientific and educational buildings of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Tajik Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

As part of the third component of the project, high-quality painting and major repairs of the interior of the State Institution “Plant Protection and Chemicalization” of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan were completed, covering a total area of 1,605 square meters, along with external repairs covering 1,454 square meters.

In addition, the previously worn-out roof of the laboratory

building and storage facilities, with a total area of 785 square meters, was fully renovated. The entrance and canopy, covering 51 square meters, were also reconstructed with high standards of quality.

The conference hall and employee offices, covering an area of 1,605 square meters, underwent major renovations featuring modern design solutions. During the renovation, doors, windows, floors, ceilings were replaced, and new chandeliers were installed.

All construction work was carried out in full compliance with the environmental and social standards of the World Bank, ensuring high quality and the use of modern technologies. The building has already been put into operation.

Currently, the renovation of the laboratory section is nearing completion. The management of the State Institution "Plant Protection and Chemicalization" expressed their deep gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan for its continuous support.

