

Supporting economic reforms and sustainable economic development in regions of Uzbekistan

Context

Since its independence, Uzbekistan underwent significant structural reforms becoming the most dynamically developing country in Central Asia. The transformation has had a positive impact on all aspects of the economic, political and social spheres. The country made significant progress not only in improving the investment climate but also in ensuring more liberal, transparent, and favourable conditions for entrepreneurs. With the recently adopted development strategy “Uzbekistan-2030” the government of Uzbekistan continues the transition to market-oriented economy emphasizing a green economy, intensive development of agriculture, compliance with international standards and balanced, decentralised socio-economic development across all regions.

Objective

Local economic development is being driven forward in the regions of Uzbekistan.

Our activities

Drawing on many years of experience and cooperation in the field of sustainable economic development, GIZ continuously supports the Government of Uzbekistan in elaborating policy documents and implementing development strategies. It contributes to the reform processes and transition of Uzbekistan to an upper-middle-income country by 2030. Through implementation of the project, a team of experts supports economic policy reforms in agriculture, export promotion, tourism, information technology (IT), and education.

Project name	Supporting economic reforms and sustainable economic development in regions of Uzbekistan
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Project regions	Tashkent, Samarkand, Bukhara, Namangan, Fergana, Andijan, Kashkadarya, Khorezm and the Republic of Karakalpakstan
Political partner	Ministry of Economy and Finance of the Republic of Uzbekistan
Duration	04.2021 – 12.2025

The project activities are implemented in close collaboration with the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Committee for Veterinary and Livestock Development, the Agency of Quarantine and Plant Protection, the Tourism Committee, and the Academy of Public Administration. The Khokimiyats (regional and district governments) along with other government organizations, educational institutions and associations are actively involved in the implementation of these activities.

Our approach

- Improve the knowledge and skills of farmers, entrepreneurs and other service providers in the field of agriculture, agribusiness, livestock, plant quarantine and protection, tourism, handicraft, IT, and education. This will help to create job and income opportunities for vulnerable groups, women, and youth.
- Promote modern production and processing technologies, improve the quality of infrastructure, strengthen the competitiveness, and export potential of agricultural products.
- Support to elaborate development master plans and policy papers through initiating Public-Private Dialogues and Public-Private Partnerships.

The project activities are aimed at supporting and developing farmers, households, agricultural cooperatives, processing



L. to r.:

Field visit to learn the basic concepts of the EU plant health system and food safety, study trip to Croatia.

The pilot dairy farm under Andijan Institute of Agriculture and Agrotechnology.

Page 2. L. to r.:

Supporting tourism community networks at international Tourism Fair, ITB 2024, Berlin.

Improving teaching methodology to promote employment in tourism sector, technical university, Dublin.



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companies, traders, and educational institutions. Special attention is paid to the youth, women, and people with disabilities.

Project areas and offices



Outcomes

The key project results are as follow:

- ✓ 2507 full-time equivalent jobs were created including for 831 women, 666 youth, 176 people with disabilities.
- ✓ 343 farmers and field facilitators were trained on the development of agricultural cooperatives.
- ✓ More than 500 research and educational institutions, public and private service providers started to deliver 96 new business development services in the areas of agriculture, tourism, and IT.

- ✓ More than 900 entities and freelancers working in the field of agriculture, tourism and IT that have used business development services confirm improvements in their services and products.
- ✓ 36 strategic implementation experiences have been integrated into policy reform processes, including 12 pilot district development master plans, the SME Development Strategy 2025–2030, a Presidential Decree on supporting exports of agricultural and food products, a Strategy for supporting exporters to the EU, and a Roadmap for tourism development in Karakalpakstan (2025–2027).
- ✓ The new Law “On Agricultural Cooperatives” was developed, supported by a Model Charter, promoting investment in modern technologies and strengthening the production of high-quality, internationally competitive agricultural products.
- ✓ Organic and GLOBALG.A.P certifications enabled three companies in Samarkand and Fergana to access higher-value markets and improve their competitiveness through compliance with international production standards.
- ✓ 21 Public-Private Dialogues are established in the fields of territorial economic development, tourism and plant quarantine and protection.
- ✓ 3 Vocational tourism schools are capacitated to practise elements of the dual education system.
- ✓ More than 700 tourists visited the Ferghana Valley within the framework of project activities, including over 300 from the EU, supported by new cooperation agreements, among others with France and several EU partners.

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