



Uzbekistan: Horticulture Intensification and Productivity Enhancement Project (formerly Infrastructure for Rural Productivity Enhancement Sector Project)

Project Name	Horticulture Intensification and Productivity Enhancement Project (formerly Infrastructure for Rural Productivity Enhancement Sector Project)	
Project Number	53110-001	
Country / Economy	Uzbekistan	
Project Status	Dropped / Terminated	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Loan	
Source of Funding / Amount	Loan: Infrastructure for Rural Productivity Enhancement Project (formerly:Rural Infrastructure Development Project)	
	Concessional ordinary capital resources lending	US\$ 10.00 million
Operational Priorities	OP2: Accelerating progress in gender equality OP3: Tackling climate change, building climate and disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability OP5: Promoting rural development and food security	
Sector / Subsector	Agriculture, natural resources and rural development / Agro-industry, marketing, and trade	
Gender	Effective gender mainstreaming	
Description	The proposed project will finance on-farm investments to improve horticultural productivity for eligible and interested farmers. Investments are likely to include the upgrading of unproductive assets that have deteriorated due to their age or inappropriate management systems applied. These include (i) the rehabilitation of orchards and improvement of vegetable growing areas both on existing and abandoned land, (ii) the development of water sources, storage and application systems using more water-efficient application technologies, (iii) the development of modern horticulture production systems (trellising and shade cloth), and (iv) the introduction of mechanized farming machinery and equipment on developed blocks. In addition, the proposed project will finance the development of associated value chains (infrastructure and equipment) used in handling, storage and processing and marketing of horticultural produce. The proposed project is a pilot to test implementation approaches and the capacity of the implementing agencies. If the PRF is shown to be effective, it is anticipated the concept will be replicated in other locations within the 55 priority horticulture districts of the country.	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	Uzbekistan's gross domestic product (GDP) increased steadily between 2010 and 2015 with annual growth rates exceeding 7% per annum. After 2015, it declined to 5-6% until 2019 after which it declined further to 1.6% over the previous year. Agriculture, fisheries and forestry have consistently contributed to this growth accounting for about 32% of GDP until about 2017 at which stage, sector contribution declined to 27%. Sector growth still remained positive, increasing by just over SUM 20 trillion each year in constant terms. The declining sector contribution to GDP resulted from significantly higher growth in construction and manufacturing sectors since 2017. The structure of agricultural output has also changed dramatically since the early post-Soviet era when government played a significant role in the production and marketing of agricultural produce (informing what to grow and nominating production targets). Agricultural GDP was dominated by cotton and wheat that government regarded as strategic crops, managing their production through preferential access to land, inputs and finance.	
Impact	Livelihoods and living standards of small-scale horticultural producers and associated value chain operators improved.	

Project Outcome

Description of Outcome	Alternate design and implementation arrangements tested and evaluated in pilot districts.
Progress Toward Outcome	

Implementation Progress

Description of Project Outputs	Climate resilient horticulture intensification piloted. Commodity value chains consolidated and strengthened for value addition.
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	

Geographical Location	Nation-wide
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Safeguard Categories

Environment	B
Involuntary Resettlement	B
Indigenous Peoples	C

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects	
Involuntary Resettlement	
Indigenous Peoples	

Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation

During Project Design	
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During Project Implementation

Responsible ADB Officer	Leung, Leonard H.
Responsible ADB Department	Central and West Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Environment, Natural Resources & Agriculture Division, CWRD
Executing Agencies	Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Timetable

Concept Clearance	15 Jul 2019
Fact Finding	20 Feb 2023 to 26 Feb 2023
MRM	14 Apr 2023
Approval	-
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	26 Jan 2020

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/53110-001/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=53110-001
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