



PRESS-RELEASE

Enhanced Competitiveness of Tajik Agribusiness Programme (ECTAP) in cooperation with the Government of Khatlon, Agralis, Agrotechservice, Cooperative Sarob, Madadi Tursunzoda and Bank Eshkata organize open house

Dushanbe, 18 July 2017

Following the very successful events in Tursunzoda and Gissar, the EU-funded Enhanced Competitiveness of Tajik Agribusiness Programme (ECTAP) has organized two more “Open Houses” (together with the Government of Khatlon region, Agralis, Agrotechservice, Cooperative Sarob, Madadi Turzonzoda and Bank Eshkata). Through these events ECTAP has contributed to establish effective links between farmers, agribusinesses, local financial institutions and machinery service providers in agricultural value chains.

Farmers has received clear information on modern agricultural machinery available under the ECTAP approved List of Eligible Machinery and Equipment (LEME) (<http://ectap.org/innovative-machinery-and-equipment-/list-of-eligible-machinery-and-equipment/>) and could already see some of them in the demonstration areas in Bokhtar and in Shahruz. Further, interested farmers have received individual advice if and how this machinery or equipment can contribute to income growth and how purchase of such equipment could be financed. Currently, farmers and agribusinesses can obtain funding through two local financial institutions (Bank Eshkata and MDO Arvand) another institution is planning to join the Programme shortly. These financial institutions have received funding by EBRD to on-lend funds to farmers and agribusinesses if they want to replace obsolete equipment or buy new machinery from LEME list. The EU made a grant facility available to support farmers and agribusinesses who plan to invest in their businesses. The grant to approved eligible farmers or agribusinesses will equal 20% of the ECTAP-loan delivered subject to local tax requirements. The eligibility of a sub-borrower to receive such financial grant incentive will be subject to verification and certification (providing all criteria are met by a sub-borrower) by an independent verification consultant assigned by the EBRD.

The first event took place on July 11th, 2017 from 7.30 a.m. at the premises of Restaurant Sayod (next to Trade Center Azam) at the Jamoat of the town of Bustonqala. The second event was held on July 13th, 2017 in Shartuz district at Rohat Restaurant, Vodkhoz Jamoat of Obshoron. The events were opened by the Mr. Qurbonboy Hakimzoda, the first deputy of Khatlon region. More than 380 farmers and dehqan farms have participated in total for both events.

Further details can be obtained from the organisers at the following address: Enhanced Competitiveness of Tajik Agribusiness Project (ECTAP), Istaravshan Street 19 - Apartment 2, 734003 Dushanbe, Tajikistan, tel. 93 511 05 09, E-mail: ectap@int.fs.de.



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