

An Information guide for potential investors



Funded by the European Union



Ministry of Agriculture  
of the Republic of Uzbekistan



# Invest in the Agri-food sector of Uzbekistan



Funded by the European Union



Ministry of Agriculture  
of the Republic of Uzbekistan

## INVEST IN THE AGRI-FOOD SECTOR OF UZBEKISTAN

### An Information guide for potential investors

This brochure is intended to provide relevant information and data on Uzbekistan's agri-food sector of use to potential investors, new businesses, and other stakeholders with an interest in the sector.

The agri-food sector of Uzbekistan offers significant opportunities for both domestic and foreign investors alike. The sector is a Government priority which is being supported by an ambitious reform agenda, articulated in a new agricultural strategy. New policies, legal frameworks, business support services, guarantees, targeted incentives schemes and other measures are being rapidly introduced to encourage entrepreneurship and increase the attraction of investment into the sector.

**Acknowledgments:** This publication was prepared by the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan, with the financial and technical support of the European Union.

**Published by:** Main Department of Strategic Development and Investment, Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan. December, 2020. 2, University str., Kibray district, 100140, Tashkent region, Uzbekistan.

**Copyright:** © Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan. All rights reserved.

**Data sources:** Statistical information were taken from available national and international official sources

**Printed by:** Print.uz. 41/2 Mirabad street, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

**Designed by:** Rustam Fedorov

**Disclaimer:** Any policies, views or opinions in this publication are those of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan and do not necessarily represent any official views of the European Union







## Introduction

### 1. Background

- 1.1 Uzbekistan at a glance
- 1.2 Macro-economic development
- 1.3 Importance of the agri-food sector in the Uzbek economy
- 1.4 Underlying advantages of the Uzbek agri-food sector

### 2. Agri-food market trends

- 2.1 Main agriculture production facts
- 2.2 Agri-food trade
- 2.3 Agri-food labor market

### 3. Strategy & policies to develop the agri-food economy

- 3.1 Agri-food Transformation Strategy 2030
- 3.2 Public support and commercial funding to agriculture
- 3.3 Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System
- 3.4 International support to agriculture development

### 4. Investment and business environment

- 4.1 Legal framework for investors
- 4.2 Guarantees & protections for enterprises with foreign investments
- 4.3 Taxation regime for investors
- 4.4 FDI incentives and free economic zones
- 4.5 Business environment scores and rankings
- 4.6 Successful agri-food sector investors

### 5. Useful information

- 5.1 Requirements for a foreign investor
- 5.2 Establishing a registered company
- 5.3 Useful contacts & services for investors





As in ancient times, modern Uzbekistan remains open to economic, cultural and political cooperation with the West and the East.



## INTRODUCTION

Uzbekistan is committed to a dynamic reform and transformation of the economy, political systems and society. An ambitious program of liberalization, institutional and structural changes to create an open, market-based economy which was launched in 2017, has already produced many tangible results.

Large-scale reforms are also taking place in the agri-food sector. The agriculture and food industry is one of the key drivers of the Uzbek economy. The share of the agriculture and food sector in total GDP is currently over 40% and it employs an estimated 4.2 million people, which represents over 30% of total national employment. As the liberalization and reform process accelerates, this is providing significant new opportunities for further expansion and diversification of the agri-food sector.

Reforms currently underway are wide ranging and include:

- actions to promote further agriculture land reform and strengthen land tenure rights;
- development of new services to advise farmers, improve access to information, knowledge and innovation;
- reform of training and education systems; digitalization of the sector; and
- investment in agri-logistics infrastructure and services.

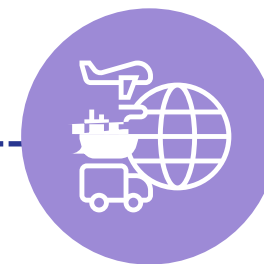
All of these actions and more are aimed at improving competitiveness of the sector, both at home and abroad.

The agriculture sector has recently received a boost from the adoption of the Strategy for Agriculture Development in Uzbekistan during 2020-2030. The Agricultural Strategy's vision is to develop a competitive, market-based and export-oriented agri-food sector that will increase farm incomes, create new jobs, enhance food security and ensure sustainable use of natural resources.

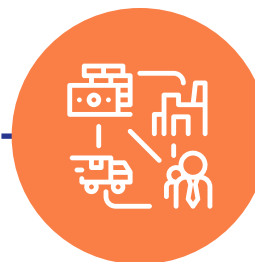
Uzbekistan aims to become one of the leading producers and exporters of high-value agri-food products in Central Asia. To accelerate this transformation and modernization process the country is seeking new investment partners that can bring access to new expertise, experience and innovation.



Diversification



Agri-food exports



Value added chains



Consumer markets



Business environment



Market infrastructure





Uzbekistan offers a wide range of opportunities for investment and business development. Political stability, rich potential, geographic location and a large market, create favorable conditions for cooperation with Europe and Asia. And the agri-food sector is one of the most attractive areas for investment.



# 1. BACKGROUND

## 1.1 UZBEKISTAN AT GLANCE

Uzbekistan is located in the heart of Central Asia. It is the only country which borders with all Central Asian countries. Uzbekistan has an ideal strategic location between China and Europe with trade routes connecting many countries.

The total land area of Uzbekistan is 448,978 square kilometers. This includes over 25.6 million hectares of agricultural land of which approximately 4.5 million hectares is arable land.

With a population of almost 34 million people, approximately half of which live in rural areas, Uzbekistan's population accounts for approximately 46% of Central Asia's population. Uzbekistan is the 56th largest country in the world and the third largest of the former Soviet states - behind Russia and Ukraine. Uzbekistan is also a young country demographically, with more than two-thirds of the population being of working-age (18-64), contributing to a strong labour force. This makes Uzbekistan one of the most attractive consumer markets in the region.

In 2011 the World Bank re-classified Uzbekistan from a low-income to a lower middle-income nation. Nominal GDP per capita was 1,725 USD in 2019 and GDP per capita (at purchasing power parity, PPP) made 7,288 USD.


The Uzbekistan economy also belongs to the International Monetary Fund's group of 29 resource-rich developing countries (RRDCs).

In February 2017, the Government of Uzbekistan began to implement a large-scale program of political and economic reforms (2017–2021). The government identified five priority areas for the country's development, namely:


- Public administration reform;
- Judiciary system reform, including reforms to strengthen the rule of law and parliamentary reform;
- Economic development and liberalization, modernizing agriculture and industry to make their goods and services more competitive;
- Social reforms to achieve income growth and better jobs and improved health care, education, and housing;
- Security reforms centered on national stability, as well as a balanced foreign policy.



 **Location:** Central Asia, landlocked country. Strategic location between China and Europe  
**Area:** 448,978 km<sup>2</sup>


 **Working-age population:** 60.5% of total population  
**Main languages:** Uzbek-74%, Russian-14%, Tajik-4.5%, other-7.5%

 **Nationality:** More than 250 nationalities  
**Density:** 76 people per km<sup>2</sup>  
**Population:** 33,905,242

 **Urbanization:** ~50.5% (2020)  
**Literacy:** 97-99%

 **Income category:** Lower middle income  
**GNI per capita:** 1,800 USD (2019)  
**GDP:** 57.9 bln. USD (2019)  
**Nominal GDP per capita:** 1,725 USD (2019)

 **Gold and foreign exchange reserves:** \$34.7 billion  
**Exchange rate:** USD/UZS = 10,500 (December 2020)

 **Political system:** Presidential Multi-party Democratic Republic



## LOCATION

Uzbekistan is approximately the size of Morocco or California and has an area of 447,400 square kilometres (172,700 square miles). It is the 56th-largest country (after Sweden).

Bordering Turkmenistan to the southwest, Kazakhstan and the Aral Sea to the north, and Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan to the south and east, Uzbekistan is not only one of the largest Central Asian states but also the only Central Asian state to border all of the other four. Uzbekistan also shares a short border with Afghanistan to the south.

Uzbekistan is a dry, double-landlocked country of which 10% of the land area consists of intensely cultivated, irrigated river valleys. An interesting fact is that Uzbekistan is one of the only two double-landlocked countries that exist in the world today – the other being Liechtenstein!

## HISTORY

The Republic of Uzbekistan has an immensely rich heritage in terms of culture, art and natural resources. The monuments that remain throughout the country bear witness to a long and eventful history in which Alexander the Great, Genghis Khan and Tamerlane the Great all left their marks.

The Uzbeks are descendants of nomadic Mongol tribes who mixed with the sedentary inhabitants of Central Asia during the 13th century. The Khanates of Khiva and Kokand and the Emirate of Bukhara ruled the region during the 18th and 19th centuries.

People settled on the territory of Uzbekistan centuries ago. They built beautiful cities of Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva and others, which were ruined by neighboring tribes, but thanks to people's efforts they again rose from the ashes and regained their beauty. This land was the crossroads of the Great Silk Road, connecting Asia and Europe. Here, in numerous bazaars and workshops, craftsmen created fine works of art, which, via the Silk Road, were traded in the most remote parts of Europe and Asia.

## CLIMATE

Natural resources, especially excellent climatic conditions, provide the foundations of the vibrant horticulture sector of the country. Hot days and cool nights are the perfect climate for horticulture. The country produces a wide range of fruit and vegetables throughout the year, including some tropical crops such as persimmons, pomegranates and others. The favorable climate also minimize pest and disease-related problems.

The climate of Uzbekistan supports two harvests of vegetable crops in most areas and three harvests in some provinces, such as Surkhandarya and Kashkadarya. The climate also enables farmers to grow crops with different ripening cycles (early, medium and late) throughout the year. Many farmers use organic fertilizers, and the weather provides the conditions for high levels of productivity without reliance on heavy pesticide use. This gives Uzbek farmers a comparative cost advantage in supplying high-quality fruit, nuts and vegetables to domestic and high-end export markets.



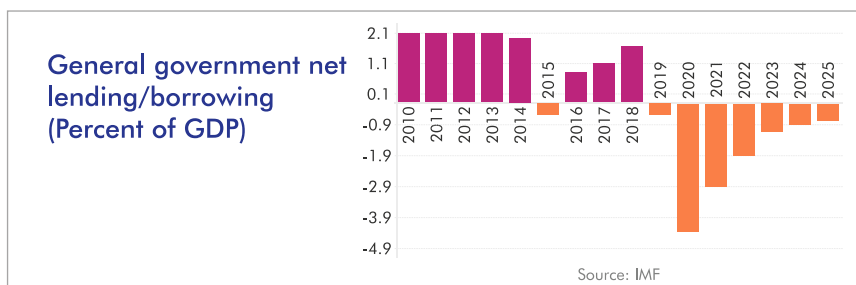
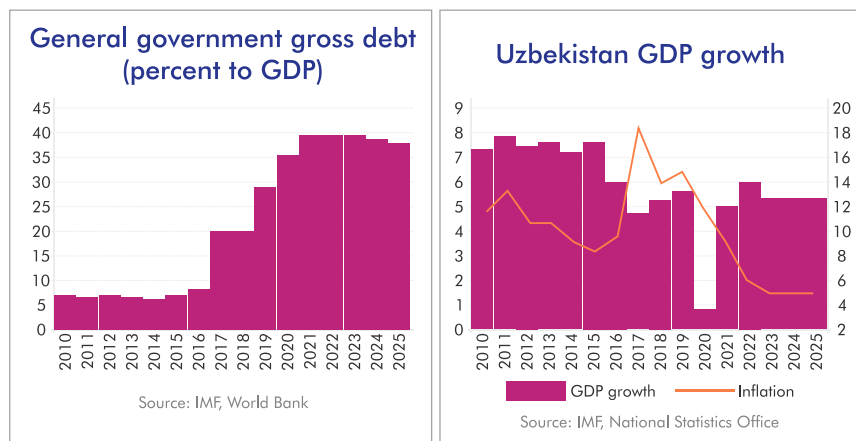


Liberalization of the economy in 2017 provided a stimulus to private sector development and boosted economic growth. Uzbekistan is currently implementing an ambitious market-oriented economic reform programme.

## 1.2 MACROECONOMIC TRENDS

Liberalization of the economy in 2017 provided a stimulus to private sector development and boosted economic growth. Uzbekistan is currently implementing an ambitious market-oriented economic reform programme. Starting in September 2017, the government unified the exchange rate, liberalized the foreign exchange market, initiated price and trade liberalization and, since January 2019, has made significant cuts to tax rates for both companies and individuals.

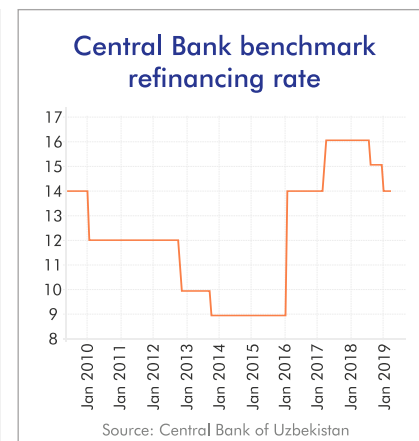
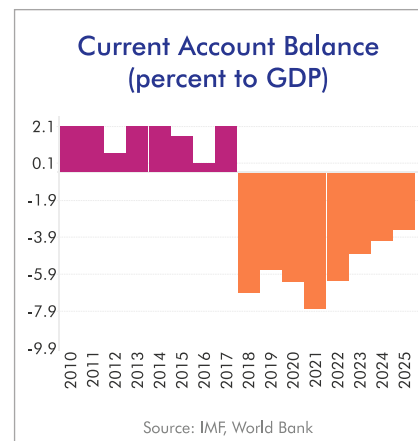
The COVID-19 pandemic has led to a short-term decline in GDP growth rates, increases in current account borrowing and fiscal deficits. However, IMF, World Bank & ADB forecasts predict stable macro-economic performance of the Uzbek economy in the medium to long-term



GDP growth is projected to be between 5-6% in 2021-2025. Inflation is forecast to be moderate over the medium term at around 5% per year. The current account deficit is expected to decrease and stabilize at around 5% of GDP. And the fiscal deficit is projected to be moderate in 2021–22 and to decrease further in the medium term.

Public external debt is projected to increase to approximately 35% of GDP in 2020. Although debt has increased since 2017, it is expected to stabilize over the medium term, with most of the increase linked to a scale-up in multi-lateral support for the governments economic reform program.

The Government is pursuing a wide range of reforms to boost economic growth. Priority policy directions include, in particular: (i) increasing access to credit and improving the investment climate; (ii) fully implementing the tax administration reform; (iii) ensuring the transparency of state budget operations – particularly regarding inefficient implicit subsidies to state-owned enterprises (SOEs); (iv) reforming land user and ownership rights in the industry, services, and agriculture sectors; (v) restructuring monopoly SOEs and strengthening their corporate governance and financial reporting requirements; and (vi) providing state support to export-orientation (including ISO quality certification, export risk mitigation, diversification, and WTO accession).







With its favorable climatic conditions for crop production, agriculture has long been considered one of the priority areas of the economy of Uzbekistan.



## 1.3 IMPORTANCE OF THE AGRI-FOOD IN THE UZBEK ECONOMY

Agriculture plays a significant role in the economy. The agri-food sector in Uzbekistan includes agriculture, livestock, fishery, forestry, related manufacturing industries which process agricultural products. The government has been promoting an active state agriculture policy, aimed at efficiency and sustainability.

Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries produces about a third of GDP (28.1% in 2019). The overall agri-food sector contributes more than 40% to the national GDP (40.9% in 2019). Uzbekistan is one of the largest producers of fresh fruit and vegetables in the world, due to very favorable climate and soil conditions.

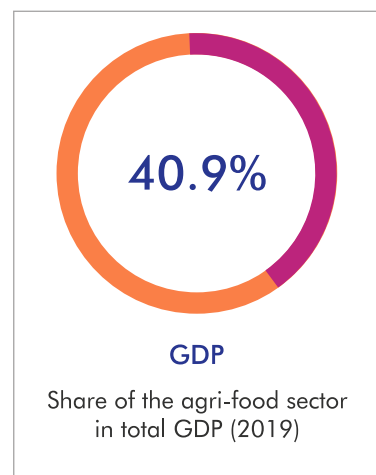
Agriculture, forestry and fisheries provide jobs for over a quarter of the population employed in the economy (26.2% in 2019). The agri-food sector as a whole (including Primary agriculture, Food and Beverages, Textiles, Garments & Food services), represents over 30% of total employment in 2019 (World Bank and Uzbekistan State Statistics Committee).

Fixed capital investments in agriculture represented over 15% of total investments in 2019.

Agri-food sector exports contributed 17.2% of total exports in 2019. The factors driving competitiveness include the low cost of agricultural production, availability of qualified and skilled labor resources, significant agricultural land resources, low-cost energy, and access to local and international markets, supported by both general and special incentive programmes.

Despite the severe implications of the COVID-19 pandemic, Uzbekistan's agri-food sector remains an important driver of economic growth and export. It is projected to grow by 2.8% in 2020, compared with 0.6% growth in national GDP.

The Uzbekistan Agriculture Development Strategy 2030 is aimed at promoting a more efficient use of land and water resources, increase the volume of exports of fruit and vegetable products, and creating favorable conditions for exporters and investors.







Agriculture in Uzbekistan has many advantages, which are associated with the peculiarities of the climate, the existing export potential, cheap and skilled labor, and a large consumer market.

## 1.4 UNDERLYING ADVANTAGES OF THE UZBEKISTAN AGRI-FOOD SECTOR

Agriculture in Uzbekistan has many advantages, which are associated with the peculiarities of the climate, the existing export potential, cheap and skilled labor, and a large consumer market. These conditions provide great opportunities for investors who are interested in investing in crop production, animal husbandry or processing of agricultural products.

The government of Uzbekistan is committed to undertaking a wide range of reforms in the agriculture sector. This includes actions on agriculture land reform, development of new services to advise farmers, improving access to information, knowledge and innovation, reform of training and education systems, digitalization of the sector and investment in Agri-logistics infrastructure and services. All of these actions are aimed at improving competitiveness both at home and abroad.

Vast land resources provide potential for extensive growth in agriculture. While improving soil fertility, increasing labor productivity, capital-labor ratio become important drivers of economic growth in agriculture.

With the share of the working age population set to expand in the next few years, and with the number of dependents remaining at a moderate level, Uzbekistan will have favourable demographic conditions for a growth spurt - the so-called demographic dividend – that could substantially lift real incomes and help to reduce poverty.

Extending value-added activities will provide new opportunities to gradually shift employment from lower to higher value-added production and more sustainable, higher quality employment and incomes.

Increasing household incomes will serve as a sustainable demand driver for farmers and processors to increase and diversify agri-food products and services.

**01 Land**  
Gradual increase in availability of cultivated land. Currently 62.6% of the land in Uzbekistan is used for agriculture, with 51.7% of that land used for permanent pasture.

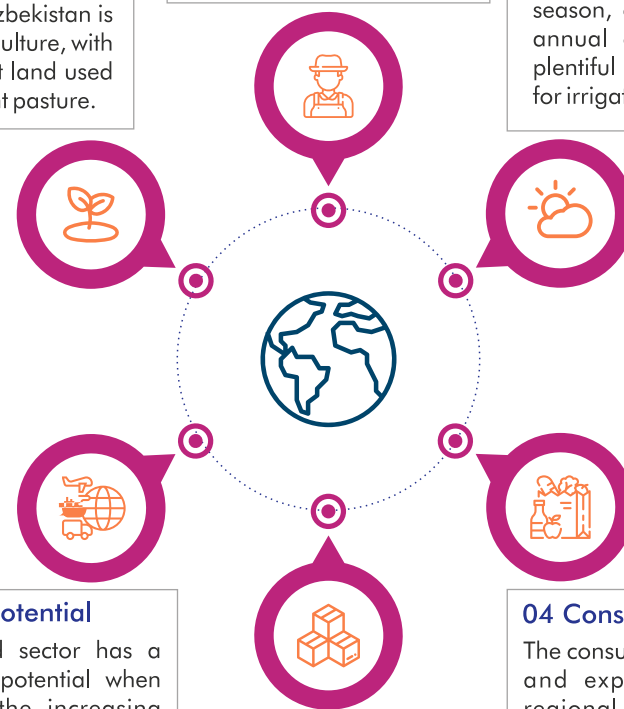
**02 Labour**  
The cost of labour is low and the labor market has sufficient capacity to ensure sustainable growth of agricultural production & processing.

**03 Climate**  
Uzbekistan has the advantages of a warm climate, a long growing season, allowing multiple annual crop cycles and plentiful sources of water for irrigation.

**06 Export potential**  
The agri-food sector has a huge export potential when considering the increasing demand in both traditional & new emerging markets. The surrounding Eurasia countries provide a huge potential market for agri-food products from Uzbekistan.

**05 Supply chain**  
The supply chain in the agri-food sector has a great potential for long-term growth in the processing of agriculture raw-materials.

**04 Consumer market**  
The consumer market is vast and expanding, due to regional population and income growth, providing medium to long-term conditions for increased consumer and investment demand.







Medium term projections, based on estimates of the impact of structural reforms, indicate a steady increase in growth to an average of 5% per annum, over the next five years.

## 2. AGRI-FOOD MARKET TRENDS

### 2.1 MAIN AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION FACTS

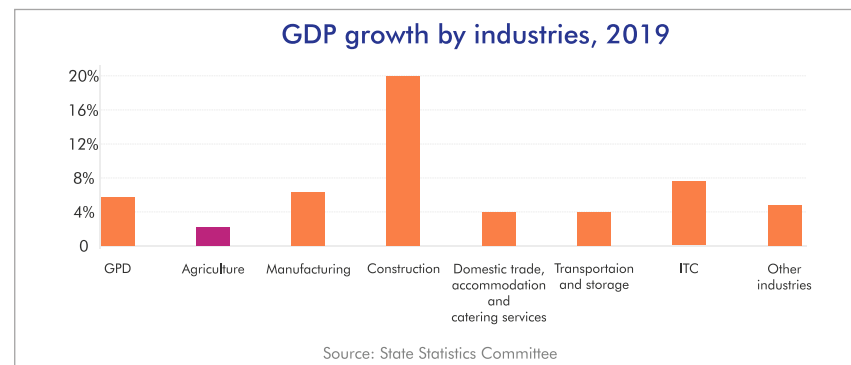
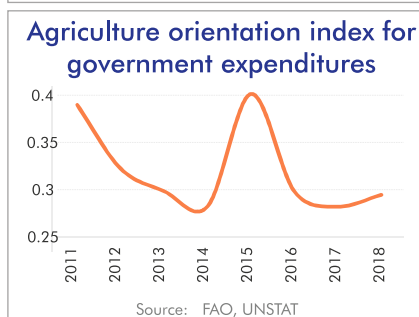
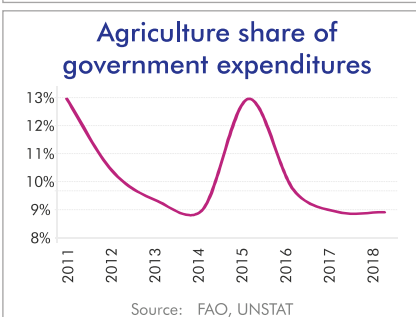
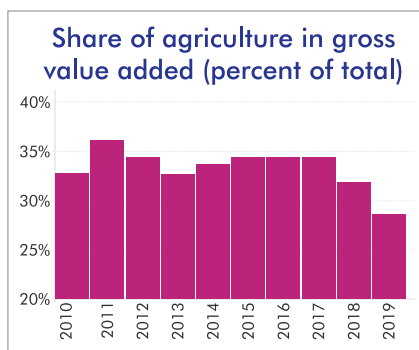
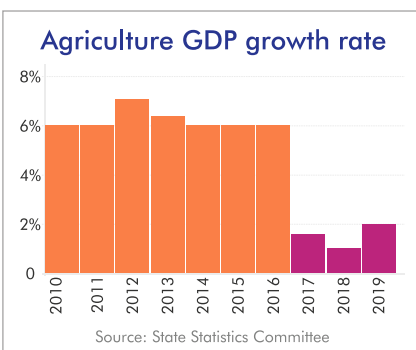
#### Agriculture GDP growth projections

Agriculture GDP growth was 2.5% in 2019 which is broadly in line with average global agriculture growth rates.

This represented a recovery from declining growth rates in the previous two years, as the sector gradually adjusted to the wider liberalization and structural reforms taking place in the Uzbek economy during 2017-2019.

Medium term projections, based on estimates of the impact of structural reforms, indicate a steady increase in growth to an average of 5% per annum, over the next five years.

The share of agriculture in total GDP is predicted to decrease modestly in the medium term, as economic reforms create more value-added growth in other sectors of the economy.



#### State support of agri-food sector development

The state continues to provide significant support for the development of the agriculture and food sector.

The Uzbekistan Agriculture Development Strategy 2030 outlines a plan for the gradual realignment of public expenditure in support of the sector aimed at improving public services, increasing access to innovative technologies through greater investment in agriculture research, & boosting the availability of investment capital to accelerate restructuring & modernisation of farm production & expansion of value-chains.

State support targets in Agriculture Strategy 2030 (Priority VI: "Diversification of government spending in support of the sector")				
Indicator	Baseline (2018)	2021 Target	2025 Target	2030 Target
The increase in the state budget expenditures on services of the agri-food sector not related to irrigation	20% of total sector expenditure for agriculture	30% of total sector expenditure for agriculture	35% of total sector expenditure for agriculture	40% of total sector expenditure for agriculture
Gradual increase of public spending on research in agriculture (as a percentage from agriculture GDP)	0.02 %	0.05 %	0.5 %	1 %
Introduction of mid-term expenditure framework	Mid-term expenditure for 2020-2022 prepared and approved	Mid-term expenditure for 2020-2022 implemented	Mid-term expenditure for 2020-2022, Mid-term expenditure for 2025-2027	Mid-term expenditure for 2028-2030 implemented



## 2. AGRI-FOOD MARKET TRENDS

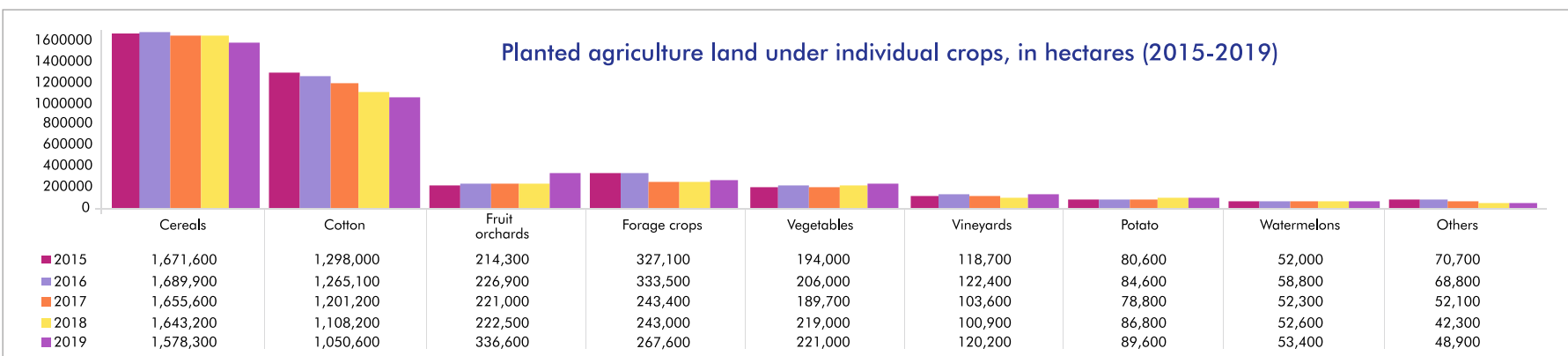
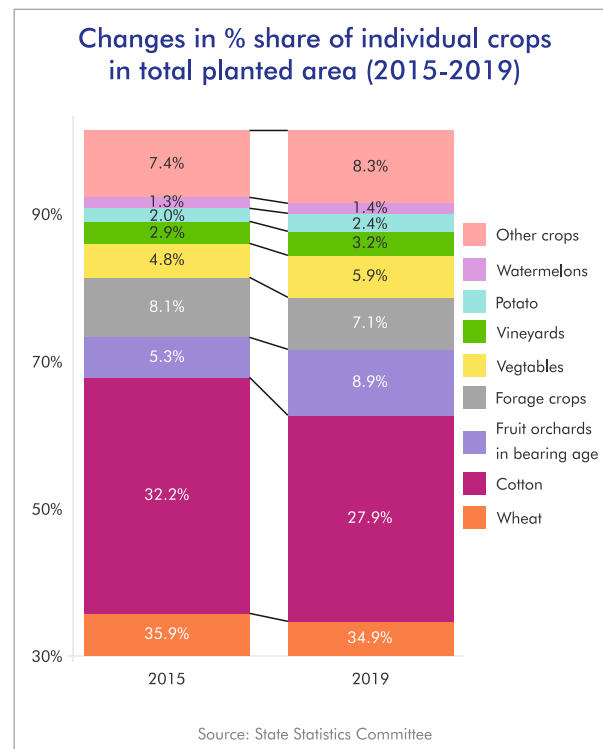
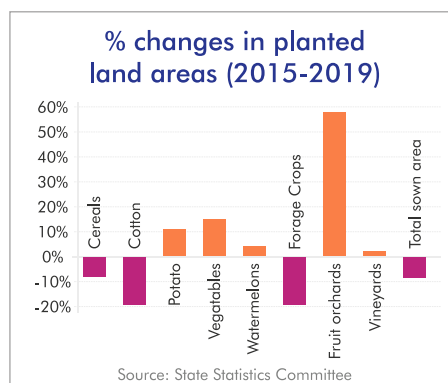
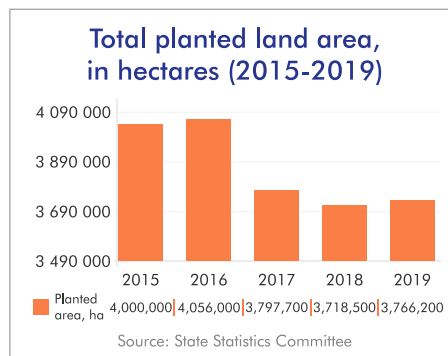
### 2.1 MAIN AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION FACTS

#### Agriculture land cultivation and gradual diversification

The total cultivated land area experienced a decrease in 2017-2018, primarily due to the impact of liberalization of crop markets, structural reforms, crop diversification & irrigation rehabilitation challenges in some areas.

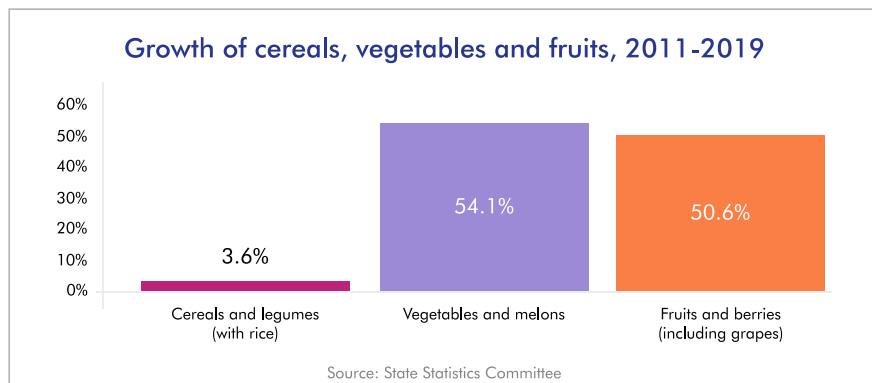
During this period there has been a gradual increase in cultivated land used for fruit and vegetable production, with areas allocated to fruit production experiencing the largest increases, by over 50%, between 2015 & 2019.

There continues to be a corresponding decrease in land areas used for cotton production, as the government policies to encourage the expansion of higher value crop production and value-added activities accelerate.



## 2. AGRI-FOOD MARKET TRENDS

### 2.1 MAIN AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION FACTS



#### Cereals

Cereals has experienced moderate growth, reflecting the gradual transition to the production of higher value crops.

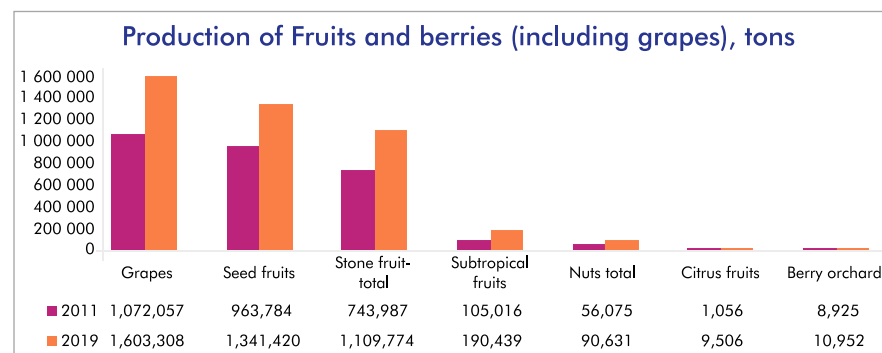
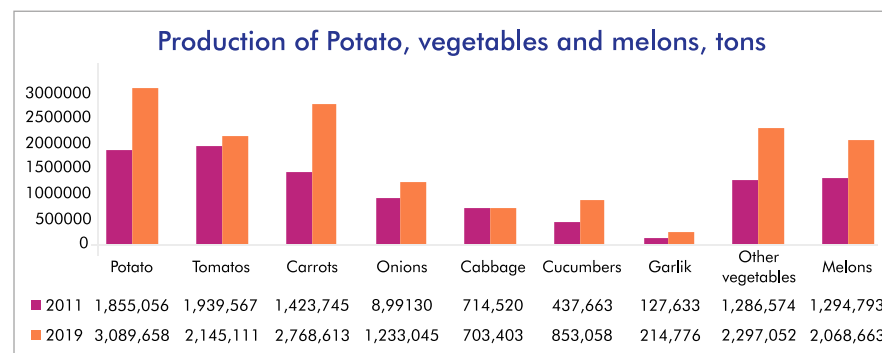
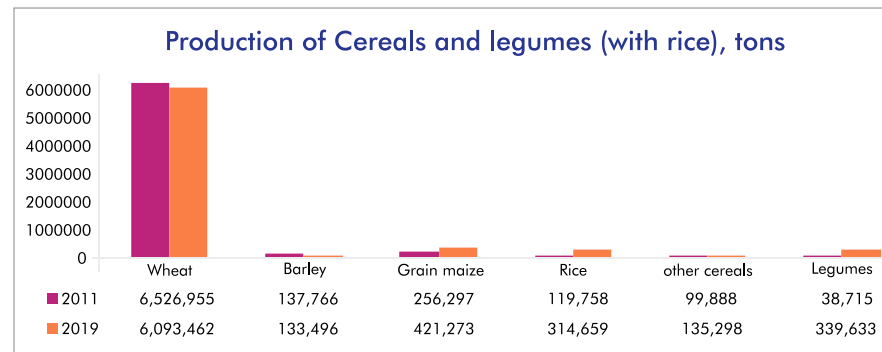
Wheat remains the most important cereal crop, reflecting its significance in terms of national food security.

#### Vegetables

Vegetable production is growing steadily with positive changes in sown areas and increased yields for certain types of vegetables.

#### Fruits

Various fruit crops, including stone fruits, orchard fruits, berries and grapes have experienced significant increases in production over the last decade.





## 2. AGRI-FOOD MARKET TRENDS

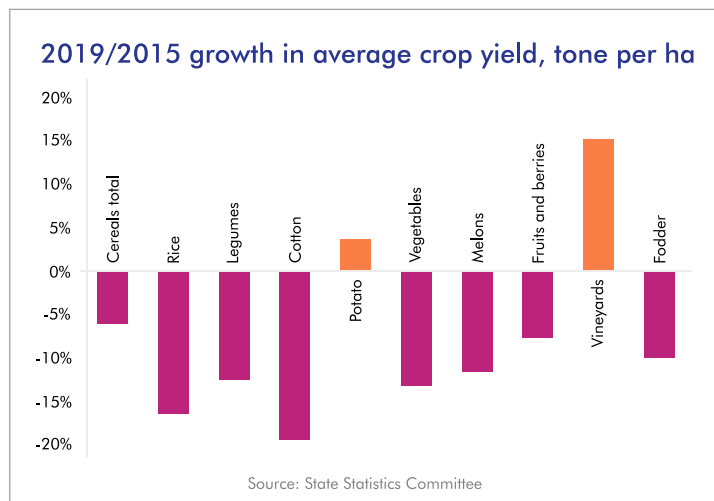
### 2.1 MAIN AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION FACTS

#### Crop yields

Cereals, vegetables, fruits and melons yields have experienced certain decrease over the last 4 years, however the situation varies considerably between regions.

Factors limiting improvements in productivity include limited access to higher yielding seeds and plant varieties, soil fertility, cultivation technologies, fertilizer use, farmer knowledge & access to new technologies, and under-developed market infrastructure services, resulting in post-harvest losses.

To address these challenges, the Agriculture Development Strategy 2030 promotes a range of actions including: increased investment in farm support services; incentives to accelerate the transition to sustainable water management and resource-saving technologies in crop cultivation; and increased investment in agriculture research, farm modernization and market infrastructure.



#### Target indicators in the Agriculture Strategy 2030 to increase yield, effective use of resources

Indicator	Baseline	2021 Target	2025 Target	2030 Target	Strategic Priority
An increase in the average yield of cereal crops	4.3 tons/ha	6 tons/ha	7 tons/ha	7.5 tons/ha	Priority I: Ensuring food security of the population
Increase in the number of farmers applying Good Agriculture & Environmental Practices & International standard for quality management	2 %	5 %	10 %	20 %	Priority 4: Ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources & environmental protection
Total land area irrigated with water-saving technologies	1.7 %	10 %	20 %	32 %	
Reduction in total % of land affected by "high rates" of salinity	45 %	43 %	41 %	37 %	
Increase in the total area allocated for nut crops (i.e. pistachio, walnut and almonds)	11,634 ha	10 %	15 %	18 %	

## 2. AGRI-FOOD MARKET TRENDS

### 2.1 MAIN AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION FACTS

#### Dynamics of the livestock products

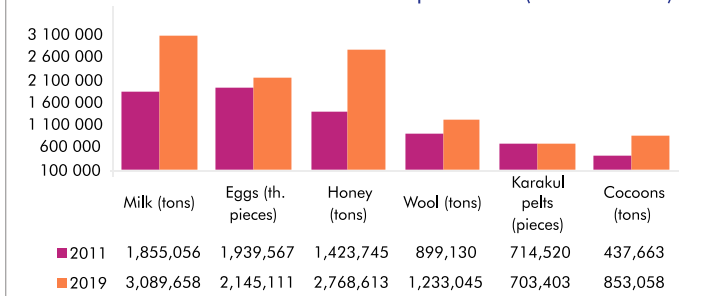
In 2019 the Livestock sub-sector generated an estimated 48.3% of total primary agricultural production.

Total live weight production of meat in 2019 was 2.5 million tons. Since 2011, the livestock sector has grown by over 58%. The largest share of total livestock production is cattle (75.6%), with sheep and goats (15.4%) and poultry (8.3%) making up the majority of other livestock production.

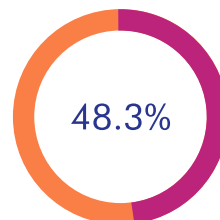
Livestock products, including milk, eggs, honey, wool and cocoons, have also experienced a steady increase over the last decade or more.

New emerging opportunities now exist in Uzbekistan to further increase livestock productivity and transform and modernize the sub-sector. The growing urbanization and liberalization of the national economy, coupled with increases in per capita income, and the increased availability of large and diverse livestock producer networks, and improved access to feedstuffs and pasture areas, offers increased opportunities for expansion and specialization in all areas of meat and livestock production.

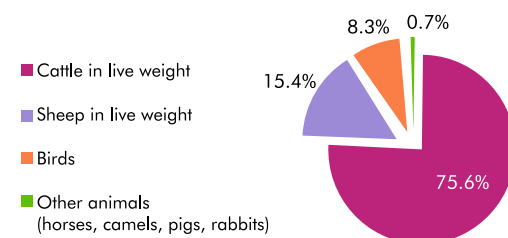
Growth of the selected livestock products (2011-2019)



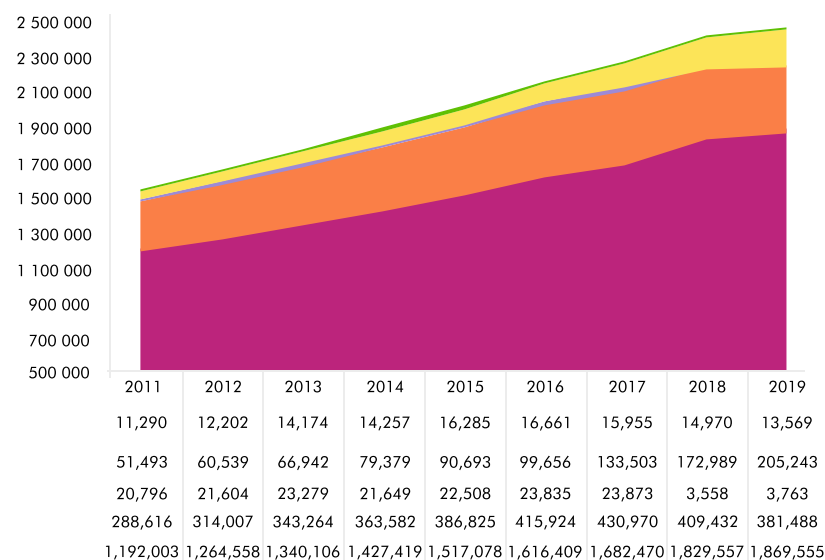
Share of Livestock products in the Agriculture, forestry and fisheries, 2019



Livestock and poultry produced for slaughter, in live weight, 2019



Livestock in live weight, tons (2011-2019)



Source: State Statistics Committee



## 2. AGRI-FOOD MARKET TRENDS

### 2.1 MAIN AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION FACTS

#### Livestock sector growth

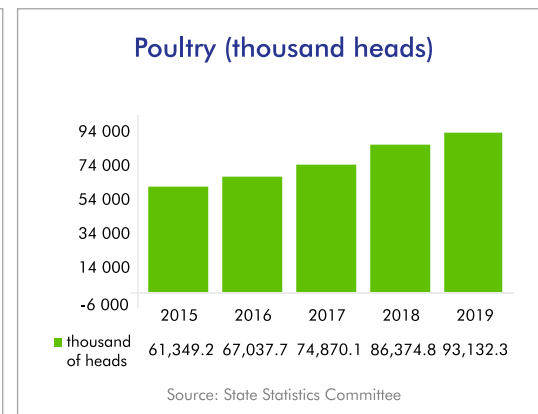
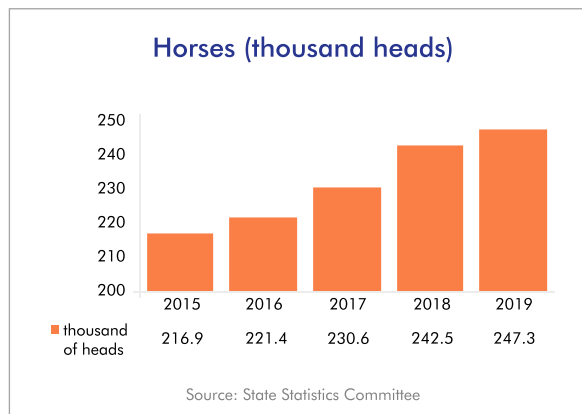
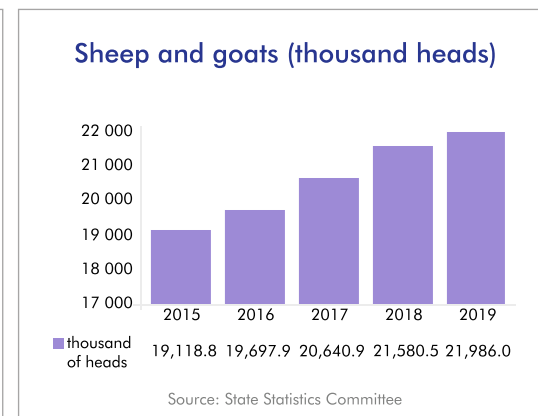
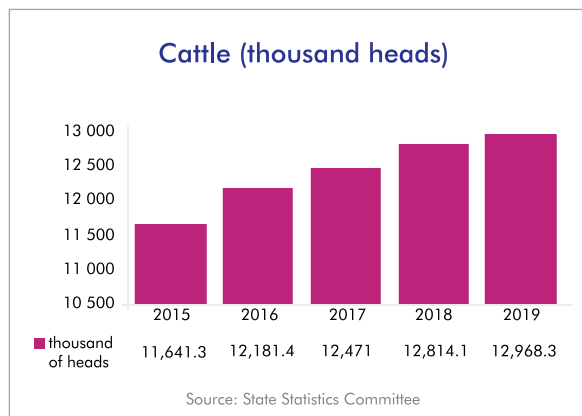
The livestock sub-sector is key to the growth of the agricultural sector and the overall national economy of Uzbekistan, and it will continue to remain so for the foreseeable future, as the national, regional and global demand for animal-based products increases.

The overall number of all types of livestock (cattle, sheep and goats, horses, poultry) have been gradually increasing. A sharp increase in cattle numbers began in 2003, when Uzbekistan started importing higher-yielding cattle breeds into the country and distributed the animals to rural residents. Since that time national cattle numbers have been gradually expanding in all regions of Uzbekistan.

#### The importance of livestock in food security

The Livestock sub-sector also plays a key role in improving food security, increasing incomes of livestock breeding households, and reducing malnutrition. Some estimates indicate that livestock breeding activities contribute between 45 to 67% of family incomes in many rural areas in Uzbekistan.

Sustaining and increasing the livestock sectors contribution to food and nutrition security and satisfying the current and future consumer demands of Uzbekistan for animal-based foods will require a more integrated approach to livestock sub-sector development. In response to this need, the government is currently in the process of developing a new national livestock development strategy (2021-2025), aiming to boost investment and enhance productivity and overall performance of the livestock sector in the medium term.



## 2. AGRI-FOOD MARKET TRENDS

### 2.1 MAIN AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION FACTS

#### Strategic priorities for the development of Livestock & Veterinary services

The Uzbek government is in the process of developing a new strategy and set of policies to promote the develop of the livestock sector and improve veterinary services. Priorities include:

- Introduction of a national animal identification and traceability system;
- Improvement of quality and variety of livestock infrastructure support services;
- Development of value chains and production of competitive livestock products;
- Conducting research aimed at increasing livestock productivity, sustainable intensification of production of fish, poultry meat and milk;
- Improving animal husbandry / breeding support systems and services;
- Strengthening the material and technical base of veterinary laboratories;
- Enhancing resource efficiency, sustainability and environmental protection;
- Bringing the national system for protecting animal health and controlling livestock production into line with the standards of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)

Introduction of national animal identification & tracing system



Strengthening the material and technical base of veterinary laboratories



Enhancing resource efficiency, sustainability and environmental protection



Improvement of quality and variety of livestock infrastructure services



Improving animal husbandry /breeding support systems & services



Development of value chains and production of competitive livestock products



Priority actions for implementation in the field of Veterinary & Livestock







Agri-food sector exports play an important role in increasing export competitiveness of the Uzbek economy. The share of Agri-food exports has been increasing steadily since 2016 and reached 17.2% of total Agri-food exports in 2019.

## 2. AGRI-FOOD MARKET TRENDS

### 2.2 AGRI-FOOD TRADE

#### Agri-food export in total exports

Agri-food sector exports play an important role in increasing export competitiveness of the Uzbek economy.

One of the wider objectives of improving the agri-business enabling environment is to increase the export potential of the agri-food sector. Planned actions include: increasing the volume of value-added products; expansion the introduction of certification systems, based on international standards; and the development of cooperation mechanisms to promote farmer groups.

The share of agri-food exports has been increasing steadily since 2016 and reached 17.2% of total agri-food exports in 2019.

If resource-based exports such as gold, energy and oil products, ferrous and non-ferrous metals are excluded from total exports, then agri-food exports represent over 1/3 of total exports (34.4%) in 2019.

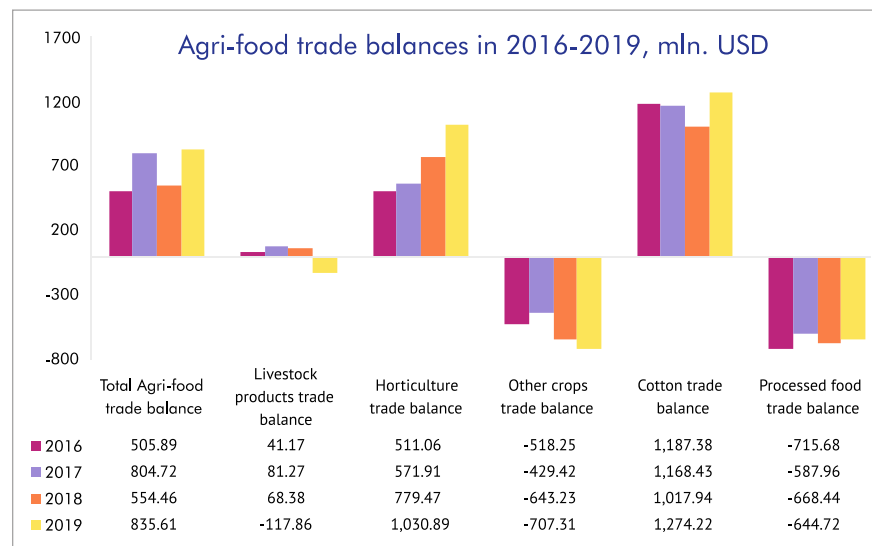
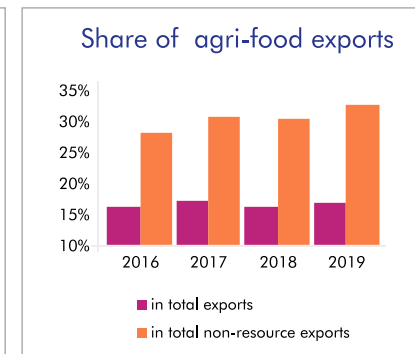
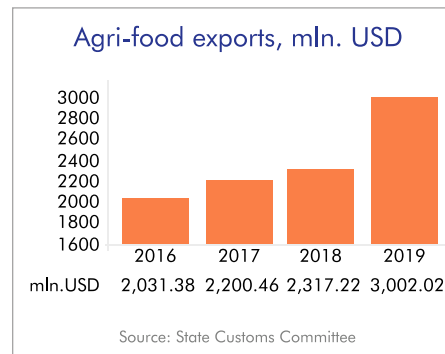
#### Agri-food trade balances

The overall agri-food trade balance remains positive.

Horticulture exports (fruits and vegetables) have become a critical driver of agri-food export growth due to both absolute & comparative advantages.

Cotton exports remain the most important traded agriculture product in 2019.

The medium-term strategic priority is focused on increasing productivity and quality assurance systems, strengthening producer groups, expanding existing agri-food value chains & diversifying value-added activities, including agri-food processing.





## 2. AGRI-FOOD MARKET TRENDS

### 2.2 AGRI-FOOD TRADE

#### Agri-food exports by categories

There is a steady growth in the share of Horticulture exports in total exports as the country gradually transitions from the cultivation of lower value commodities (cotton) to higher value commodities (horticulture).

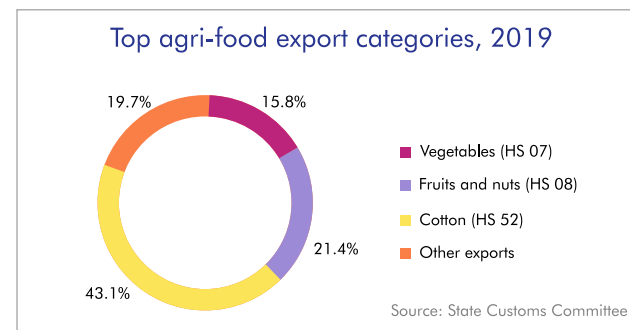
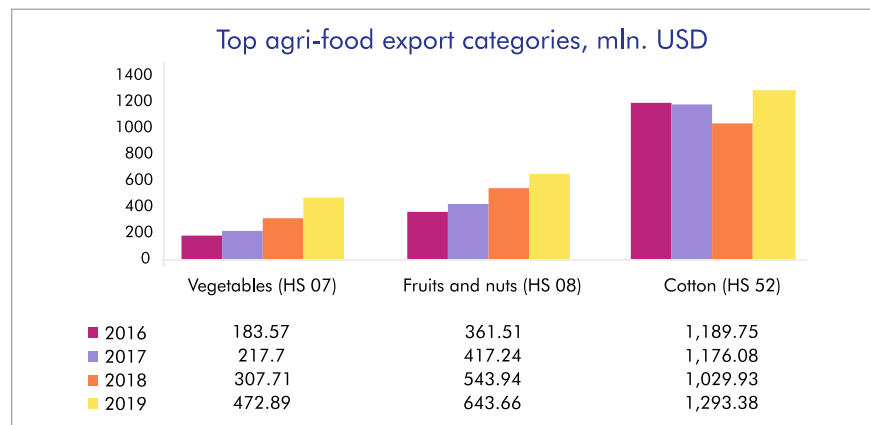
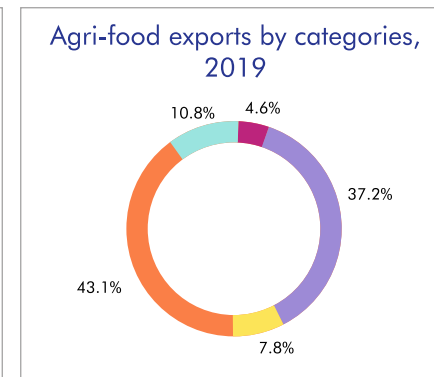
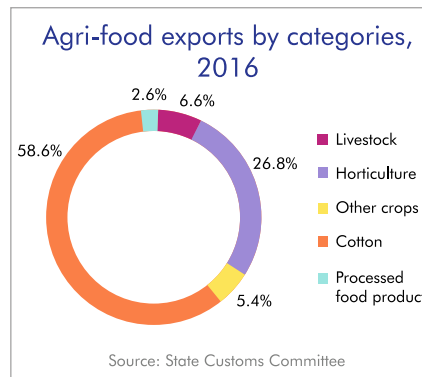
There is a significant growth in the share of processed food products in total exports, since 2016, supported by new policies encouraging investment in agricultural value-chains & processed agri-food products.

#### Top three agri-food exports (million USD)

The leading agriculture export in value is Cotton (43% of total / 1,293 mln USD in 2019)

The second most significant agriculture export category is Fruits and Nuts (21% of total / 644 mln USD).

The third most significant agriculture export category is Vegetables (15.8% of total / 473 mln USD).



## 2. AGRI-FOOD MARKET TRENDS

### 2.2 AGRI-FOOD TRADE

#### Export of vegetables

Uzbek exports of all of the main types of vegetables have expanded significantly over the last three years (2017-2019).

The greatest growth has been in the export of “Dried leguminous vegetables (shelled, whether or not skinned or split)”; “Onions, shallots, garlic, leeks and other alliaceous vegetables (fresh & chilled)”; and “Tomatoes” (fresh & chilled).

#### Export of fruits

All groups of fruits have also seen positive growth over the last three years (2017-2019).

The top fruit category exports in 2019 currently include: “Grapes”; “Apricots, cherries, peaches incl. nectarines, plums and sloes” and “Fresh strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, back, white or red currants, gooseberries and other edible fruits”.

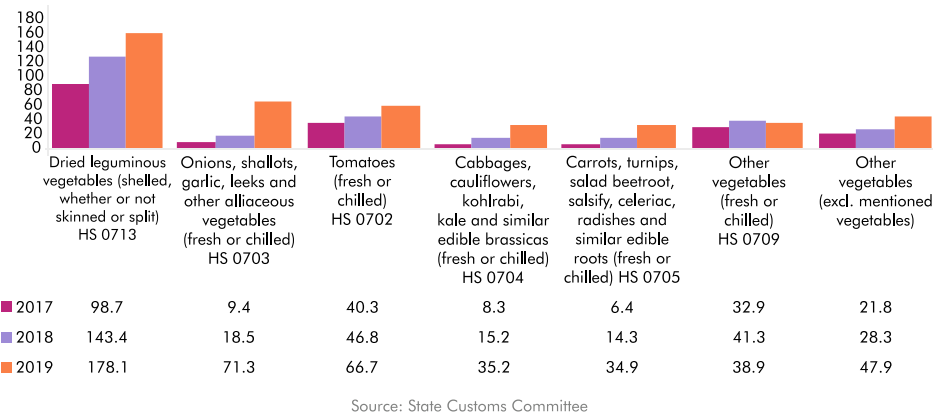
Uzbekistan was one of the leading countries on exporting fresh apricots with the 2nd place, 4th place for persimmons, 7th place with fresh cherries and at 10th place for fresh peaches (including nectarines) in 2019.

#### Export potential of horticulture

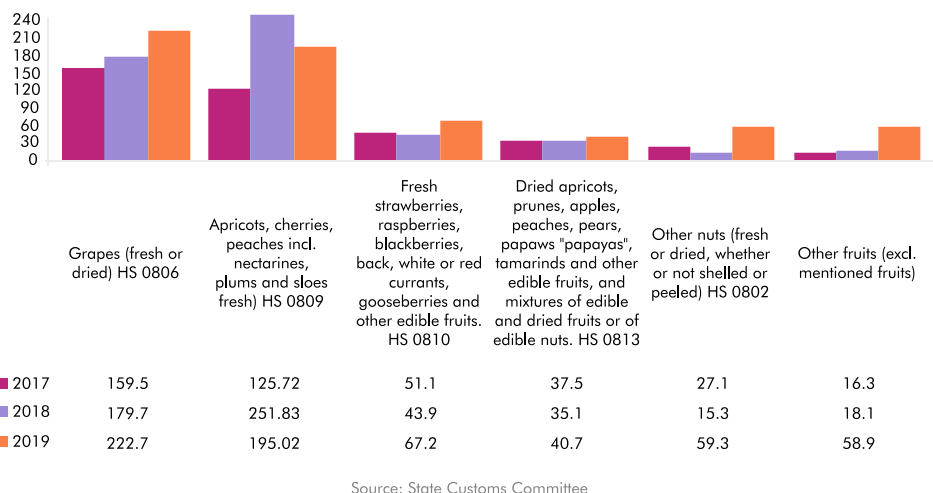
The good news is that Uzbekistan’s horticulture sector is well positioned to capitalize on the export opportunities. Its high export potential, especially for fruits such as cherries, peaches, apricots and plums, grapes, and vegetables such as tomatoes, is confirmed by many studies. This potential has only started to be realized as shown by the growth of horticulture export from \$570 million in 2017 to \$1,200 million in 2019, with clear and significant potential for much greater growth over the next decade. What is most important is that global market opportunities closely match Uzbekistan’s comparative advantages, which need to be now converted into a competitive advantage for horticulture.

Source: World Bank (2020). Uzbekistan: Agri-Food Job Diagnostic

Export of vegetables, mln. USD



Export of fruits, mln. USD





## 2. AGRI-FOOD MARKET TRENDS

### 2.2 AGRI-FOOD TRADE

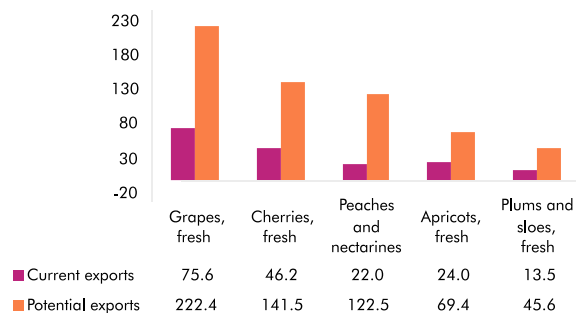
#### Top export destinations

The top five destinations for Uzbek agri-food exports in 2019 were China, Russia, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey & Kazakhstan.

The share of these countries agri-food imports, out of total agri-food exports, grew from 56% in 2016 to over 70% in 2019.

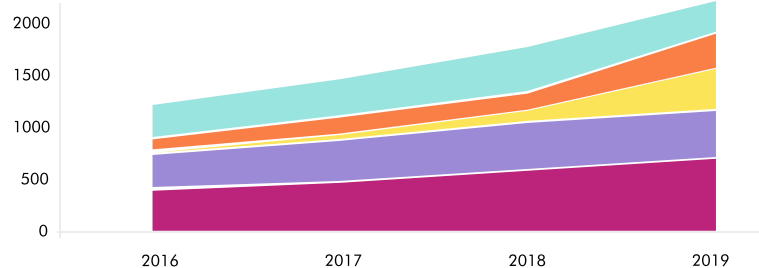
The traditional trade connections, gradual liberalization of cross-border trade & expanding consumer markets in these countries, coupled with comparatively low transportation costs have contributed to the significant export penetration of these markets.

#### Export potential of Uzbek fresh fruits, mln. USD



Source: International Trade Center (2018)

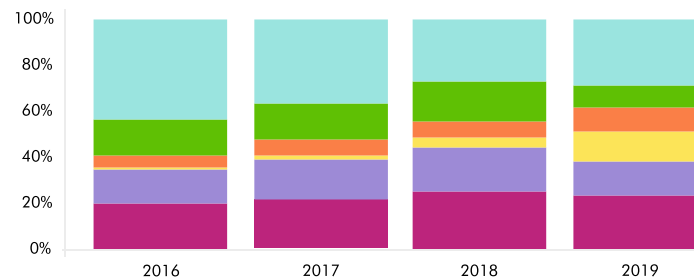
#### Top agri-food export destinations, mln. USD (2019)



	2016	2017	2018	2019
Kazakhstan	319.97	344.72	416.51	306.59
Turkey	99.73	153.29	159.48	315.1
Kyrgyzstan	15.21	40.33	95.65	390.19
Russia	315.33	388.4	442.3	442.55
China	396.69	464.21	581.57	697.01

Source: State Customs Committee

#### Top agri-food export destinations (2019)



	2016	2017	2018	2019
Other countries	43.6%	36.7%	26.8%	28.4%
Kazakhstan	15.8%	15.7%	18.0%	10.2%
Turkey	4.9%	7.0%	6.9%	10.5%
Kyrgyzstan	0.7%	1.8%	4.1%	13.0%
Russia	15.5%	17.7%	19.1%	14.7%
China	19.5%	21.1%	25.1%	23.2%

Source: State Customs Committee



Uzbekistan has resumed WTO membership negotiations on 7 July 2020. The WTO accession is an integral part of Uzbekistan's modernization and economic reform agenda.



## 2. AGRI-FOOD MARKET TRENDS

### 2.2 AGRI-FOOD TRADE

#### WTO accession prospects

Currently Uzbekistan acts as an observer in WTO. However, Uzbekistan resumed WTO membership negotiations on 7 July 2020. The WTO accession is an integral part of Uzbekistan's modernization and economic reform agenda. It is crucial for Uzbekistan to be the part of the world economic community and the multi-lateral trading system.

The Government is aiming to further use the rights and benefits of full membership in the WTO to foster export-led growth, diversify the country's economy and markets, attract investment, create jobs and improve the economic welfare of the population.

The Government of Uzbekistan is committed to continuing the measures aimed at liberalizing trade, modernizing all trade and political instruments, based on the principles and rules of the WTO framework and agreements.

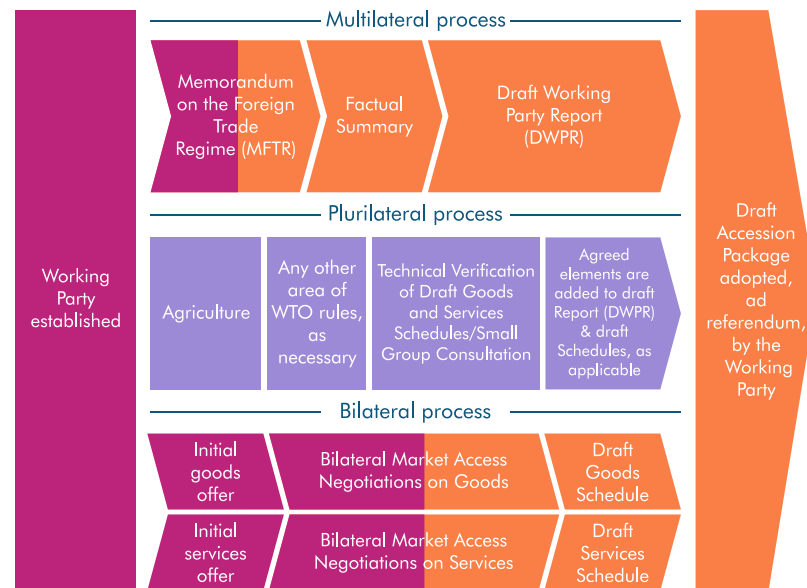
Legislative developments in the areas of investment, currency regulation, competition policy, taxation, technical barriers to trade (TBT), customs, intellectual property (IP) and sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures have been introduced over the last two years and further reforms are planned in the next period to ensure full conformity with all relevant WTO rules and procedures.

#### Enhanced Partnership & Cooperation Agreement (EPCA) with Uzbekistan

On 16 July 2018, the Council adopted negotiating directives for the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and the European Commission to negotiate an Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with Uzbekistan. The new agreement will replace the 1999 Partnership and Cooperation Agreement and further strengthen EU-Uzbekistan relations.

The new agreement is expected to cover many areas, including trade and economic and sustainable development and generally create a more favorable trade, business and investment environment.

Uzbekistan has achieved significant progress in recent years to improve human rights, enhance regional cooperation with its Central Asian neighbors and international partners, and to promote security and stability in the region. Through the envisaged 'Enhanced Partnership & Cooperation Agreement', the EU has indicated its commitment to further extend its engagement and to support key reform efforts and to bring bilateral relations to a new level, in the interests of both the EU and Uzbekistan.



## 2. AGRI-FOOD MARKET TRENDS

### 2.2 AGRI-FOOD TRADE

#### EU's Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP) system

Uzbekistan is currently a member of the basic Generalized Scheme of Preferences (GSP) system, which makes it possible to export goods to the European Union at reduced tariff rates and duties. Uzbekistan already makes very good use of general GSP preferences: total imports under GSP for 2019 were 93 mln. EUR, with utilization rates around 90% over the last three years (2017-2019). GSP-eligible products made up around 70% of Uzbekistan's total exports to the EU.

In early 2019, the EU Delegation in Tashkent held a series of meetings with all relevant ministries, agencies and economic actors, to discuss the possibility for Uzbekistan to receive the status of GSP Plus (GSP+) beneficiary, as well as of familiarizing Uzbek businesses with the opportunities stemming from increasing exports to the EU under this status.

The EU supports the accession of Uzbekistan to the WTO and has opened negotiations for privileged trade relations / tariff preferences (GSP+), which will provide an important basis for the growth and diversification of exports.

On November 30th 2020, the European Commission (EC) decided to grant Uzbekistan the status of beneficiary country to the EU's GSP+. The decision was based on the reports of the EC groups that monitor Uzbekistan's performance in implementing the provisions of 27 international conventions in the field of human rights protection, complying with labor standards, protecting the environment and good governance. On the basis of the analysis made, the European Commission concluded that Uzbekistan met the criteria for participation in GSP+ and proposed to include it in the list of beneficiaries of this system.

Uzbekistan with an enhanced GSP+ status will enjoy 0% duties in the GSP-covered sectors, with plastics and clothing sectors benefiting the most. Uzbek producers and exporters will be able to begin to use unilateral tariff preferences when exporting their products to the European market. At the same time, the number of items that Uzbek producers can export to EU countries will increase to 6,200.







With the development of more integrated agri-food supply chains, more employment is gradually being created in other agri-food value-added activities including food processing, textiles & other services.

## 2. AGRI-FOOD MARKET TRENDS

### 2.3 AGRI-FOOD LABOUR MARKET

#### Rural population – labor supply, mobility, skills

With almost 50% of the national population living and working in rural areas of country this creates an abundant labor force available for both labor-intensive agricultural activities & agri-food processing.

Uzbekistan is pursuing a policy of developing rural areas, which will contribute to the connectivity and mobility of labor resources within the country and the competitiveness of the labor market.

#### Employment – shift to agricultural processing

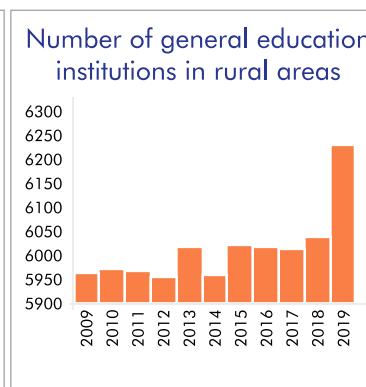
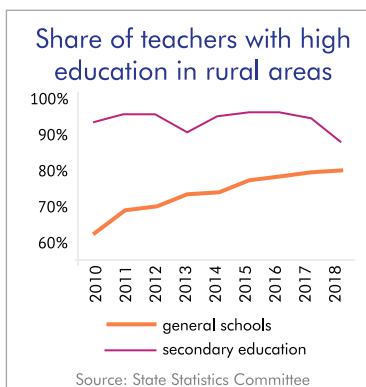
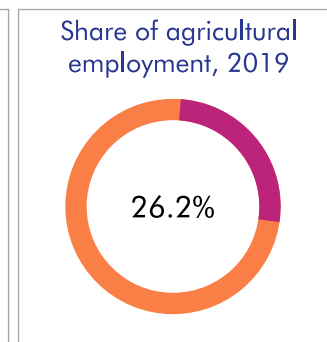
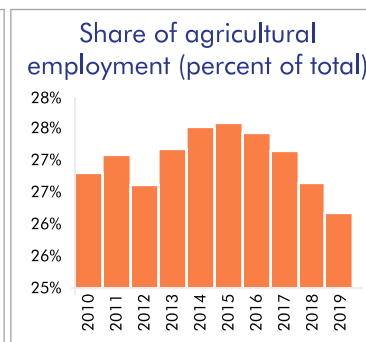
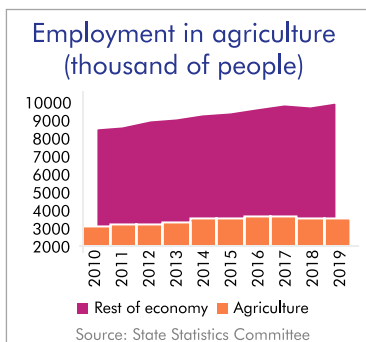
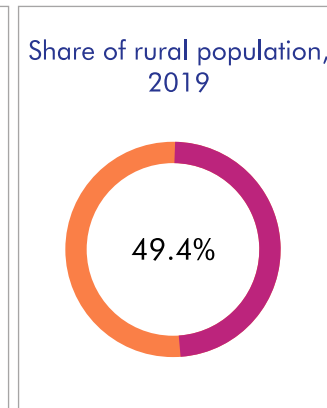
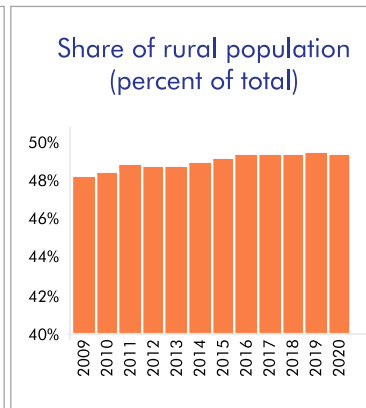
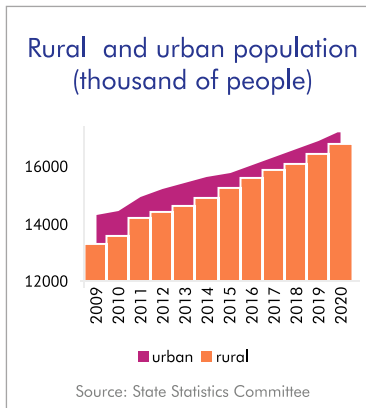
Steady increase in incomes in other industries, with more value added, increasing labour mobility & increased urbanization are leading to a gradual decrease in the share of employment in agriculture. However, despite this gradual shift, the share of Agriculture, forestry and fisheries in total employment remains high, at 26% (2019). Moreover, employment in the Agri-food sector as a whole (including Primary agriculture, Food and Beverages, Textiles, Garments & Food services), represents over 30% of total employment in 2019.

With the development of more integrated agri-food supply chains, more employment is gradually being created in other agri-food value-added activities including food processing, textiles & other services.

#### High level of literacy of labour

The high level of literacy in rural areas creates conditions for the active engagement, training, skills development of the labor force.

The Uzbekistan Agriculture Development Strategy 2030 (Priority II: Creating a favorable agribusiness climate and value chains) outlines a plan for the gradual increasing the share of employment in the food and light industry (% of total agri-food employment) up to 20% to 2030.





## 2. AGRI-FOOD MARKET TRENDS

### 2.3 AGRI-FOOD LABOUR MARKET

#### The potential for job creation in the Agri-food sector (World Bank, 2020)

The sector has a large potential for creating more jobs over the next decade, before releasing it to other sectors, as is the trend occurring in other countries. However, employment in the agri-food sector will be attractive only if the sector succeeds in providing remuneration close to the levels that can be achieved in other sectors. Much will depend on the extent of the future agricultural growth, which, in turn, will hinge on the ability of farmers, with the support of public policy and investments, to:

- raise productivity, including through closing crop yield and livestock productivity gaps;
- and (ii) allocate the factors of production (e.g., land, labor, and capital) to most profitable uses.

In both instances, success requires the government to play a different role than it has in the past. To help farmers close productivity gaps, a combination of:

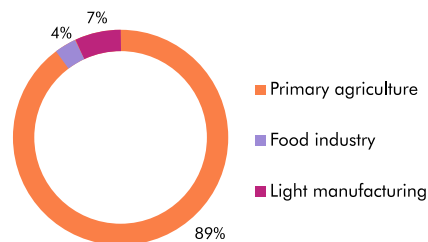
- increased public expenditures on agricultural research and advisory/extension services is needed, as well as seed/seedling programs, currently at just 0.04 percent of agricultural GDP but planned to be increased under the Agricultural Strategy; and
- improved quality of implementation of agricultural public programs and delivery of public services, will also be required.

A better allocation of the factors of production to the most profitable uses will also require less administrative and more facilitative government that helps farmers with advice and information to make profitable production and marketing decisions.

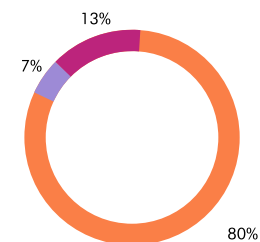
The employment outlook for Uzbekistan’s crop sector to create more good jobs lies in several areas, with the most promising being: (i) shifting more land to more labor-intensive crops that also show higher land productivity and better market outlooks; (ii) increasing secondary cropping; (iii) prioritizing commodities with lower probability of mechanization / automation; and (iv) adopting technologies that would not only increase farm incomes but also demand more labor.

Source: World Bank (2020). Uzbekistan: Agri-Food Job Diagnostic

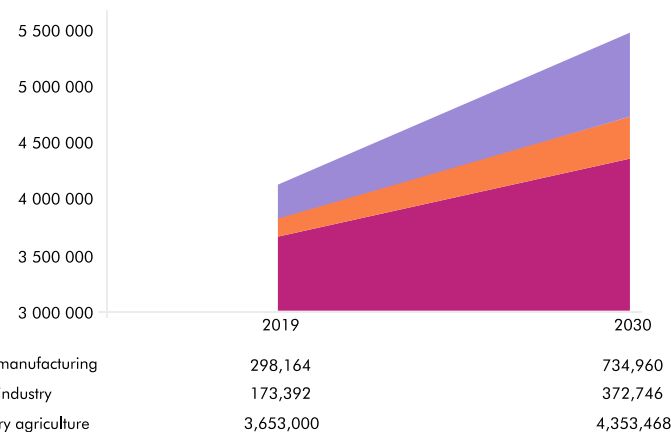
Agri-food sector’s employment in 2019



Agri-food sector’s employment in 2030 (projection of World Bank)



Agri-food sector’s employment in 2019 and 2030 (people, World Bank projection)



Source: World Bank (2020). Uzbekistan: Agri-Food Job Diagnostic

## Market Value



Available Volume	Actual Volume	Average Cost	Market Price	Amount (Price)	Market Value	Unrealized P/L	%Unrealized P/L	Realized P/L
400	400	254.19	290.00	101,675.56	116,000.00	+14,324.44	+14.09	0.00
1,100	1,100	210.57	197.00	231,630.33	216,700.00	-14,930.33	-6.45	0.00
400	400	102.23	115.50	40,890.72	46,200.00	+5,309.28	+12.98	0.00
1,000	1,000	72.48	85.50	72,477.08	85,500.00	+13,022.92	+17.97	0.00
1,500	1,500	194.53	185.50	291,788.00	278,250.00	-13,537.99	-4.64	0.00

The Agri-food Development Strategy 2020-2030 determines major priorities including the effective use of land and water resources, the widespread attraction of investments in the industry, the generation of higher incomes among processors and the growth in product competitiveness.



### 3. STRATEGY AND POLICIES TO DEVELOP THE AGRI-FOOD ECONOMY

#### 3.1 AGRI-FOOD TRANSFORMATION STRATEGY 2030

The Agri-food Development Strategy 2020-2030 aims ‘to develop a competitive, market and export-oriented agri-food sector that will increase farm incomes, create new jobs, enhance food security & ensure the sustainable use of natural resources’, articulated through 9 Strategic Priorities.

“Creating a favorable agri-business environment and enhancing value-chains” is set as Priority 2. The main objective of this strategic priority is to increase the export potential of the agricultural sector, increase the volume of value-added products, widely introduce a certification system based on international standards and develop cooperation mechanisms.

The 3rd Priority is "Reducing the state involvement in sector management and enhancement of investment attractiveness". The main objective of this strategic priority is to create an effective system to facilitate the attraction of private investment for the modernization, diversification and sustainable development of the agri-food sector.

“Development of research, education, and system of information and advisory services in agriculture” is the 7th Priority. Creation of a modern, integrated and flexible system in the areas of agriculture, food supply, education, training and information and advisory services is the main purpose of this strategic priority. Activities under this priority will improve business environment, increase human capital in rural areas, support labour productivity and agricultural innovation.

The Agriculture Development Strategy 2020-2030 aims to increase the annual growth rate of the agriculture sector to 3% in 2021 and to 5% by 2025.

The Agricultural Development Strategy 2020-2030 suggests an increase in the number of people employed by 2030, not only in agriculture (1%), but in related industries such as the food industry (5%) and the textile industry (3%).

The value of agri-food exports target aims to achieve a per annum value of 20 bln. USD by 2030.

Agriculture labor productivity (USD per agricultural worker per annum) is forecasted to rise to 6,500 USD over the same period.



1. Ensure food security for the entire population

Ensuring that all households have access to safe and nutritious food at affordable and stable prices



2. Create a favorable agri-business environment & enhance value-chains

Increase the export potential of the agri-food sector, increase value-added production, raise quality standards & enhance cooperation & collaboration between farmers & agri-businesses



3. Reduce state involvement & improve the investment environment

Facilitate attraction of investment for the modernisation, diversification and sustainable development of the agri-food sector businesses



4. Ensure the rational use of natural resources & enhance environmental protection

Restructuring & establishment of new systems, services & support structures to enhance support for farms & agri-businesses



5. Development of modern public administration systems

Gradual redistribution of public finances to support the development of new public services & structural reforms



6. Gradual diversification of state expenditure

Ensure the rationale & efficient use of water, agriculture land, forestry & fisheries resources & climate change adaptation & mitigation



7. Development of research, education, information & advisory services

Creation of a modern, integrated & flexible system to directly support the needs & priorities of farmers & agri-businesses



8. Development of rural services

Development of a national programme for rural development to promote new rural employment & development of enhanced rural services



9. Development of transparent statistics & information systems

Enhancing the quality & availability of reliable agri-food statistics & information for public and private stakeholders



Uzbekistan has developed a sophisticated policy-based finance system which accumulates and channels financial resources to priority sectors in agriculture and related processing industries (such as agri-food processing and textiles).



### 3. STRATEGY AND POLICIES TO DEVELOP THE AGRI-FOOD ECONOMY

#### 3.2 PUBLIC SUPPORT AND COMMERCIAL FUNDING TO AGRICULTURE

##### Policy-based finance framework to farms

Uzbekistan has developed a sophisticated policy-based finance system which accumulate and channel financial resources to priority sectors in agriculture and related processing industries (such as agri-food processing and textiles).

This system of state-based and business institutions include in particular:

- State Support Fund for Agriculture under the Ministry of Finance
- JS Commercial Bank "Agrobank" (preferential lending)
- JSC "Uzagrosugurta" (insurance)
- JSC "Uzagrolizing" (leasing of machinery)
- JS Commercial Bank "Kishlokkurilishbank"
- Council of Farms, Dehkans and Homestead Land-Owners (loans, services)

Other commercial banks, non-bank financial institutions also channel resources to agricultural entities, agricultural processing businesses and entrepreneurs at competitive interest rates.

##### Commercial bank lending to agricultural sector

Commercial Bank loans for agriculture are increasing.

Government call commercial banks to open revolving credit lines to finance introducing drip irrigation systems, operations of agricultural clusters, purchasing new agricultural machinery.

#### Support policies and services to farms and processors

State purchases of priority agricultural products at state-guaranteed prices (for raw cotton and cereals)

Specially created business network "Tomorqa Hizmati" helps farmers with the purchase of inputs and the sale of grown products

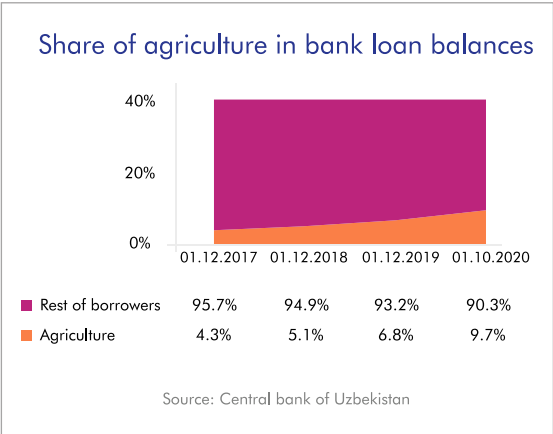
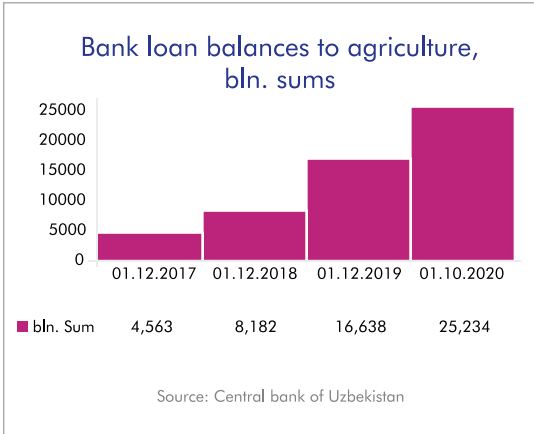
Insurance

Financing, consulting, accounting and marketing services through the Council of Farms, Dehkans and Homestead landowners

Lending for purchasing and leasing of agricultural machinery

Preferential loans for construction of greenhouses, seedlings of vegetables and fruits, melons, purchase of irrigation equipment

Other types of support



## Task manager

6AM

Feed Water

8AM

Feed Fertilizer

12Am

Check Temp

MELON KIMOJI

Harvest in 25 days

MELON Marriage

Harvest in 30 days

MELON KIMOJI

Harvest in 25 days

MELON Marriage

Harvest in 30 days

MELON KIMOJI

Harvest in 25 days

MELON Marriage

Harvest in 30 days

Air temp

25C

Water temp

21C

PH

6.0

Humidity

60%

Uzbekistan is making important steps to develop an integrated Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS) to deliver more effective agriculture research, education, training, information, and advisory services to support farmers and agri-businesses.



### 3. STRATEGY AND POLICIES TO DEVELOP THE AGRI-FOOD ECONOMY

#### 3.3 AGRICULTURAL KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION SYSTEM

##### Integration of Research, Education and Advisory Services

Uzbekistan has made decisive steps in 2020 to establish an integrated Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS) to deliver research, education, training, information, and advisory services to farmers and agri-businesses.

The broad program of measures to establish and develop an effective AKIS includes:

- Radical reform of the structure, focus, capacity, and resourcing of the agricultural research system to support and respond to the current and future needs of farmers and agri-businesses.
- Establishment of a modern, functional agricultural education and vocational training system that can respond to the technology, knowledge, skills, and information needs of farmers and agri-businesses.
- Establishment of an Uzbek advisory service available to farmers and agri-businesses that can ensure the effective exchange and transfer of knowledge, information, and skills through a centrally coordinated, regional and local network of certified public and private advisory service providers.
- Establishment of an AKIS operational management framework that can effectively deliver these services at central, regional, and local levels.

Government implements policies targeting improving education, R&D, vocational and professional training. The strategy will enhance fostering entrepreneurship, developing agri-business management, increasing labor productivity, developing value chains, generating jobs, sustaining economic growth.



Target indicators in the Agriculture Strategy 2030 addressing knowledge and innovation in agribusiness

Indicator	Baseline (2018)	2021 Target	2025 Target	2030 Target	Strategic Priority
Establishment of the Coordination Council on integration of agricultural science, education and production as well as introduction of mid-term framework for funding research activities	-	Approval and implementation of mid-term research budget for 2019-2021	Development and approval of mid-term research budgets for subsequent three-year cycles	Development and approval of mid-term research budgets for subsequent three-year cycles	Priority VII: Development of research and education, and system of information and advisory services in agriculture
Increase in number of graduates of education institutions employed in agri-businesses	2,180	10 %	30 %	50 %	
Increasing the number of farmers with access to advisory and extension services	51.1 thousands	10 %	35 %	50 %	
Increase in the number of farmers satisfied with extension centers and advisory services	41.1 thousands	20 %	40 %	80 %	



Loans from international financial institutions are an important source of concessional lending to agricultural development projects.



### 3. STRATEGY AND POLICIES TO DEVELOP THE AGRI-FOOD ECONOMY

#### 3.4 INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT TO AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT

##### Commercial bank lending to agricultural sector

Loans from international financial institutions are an important source of concessional lending to agricultural development projects.

The World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Islamic Development Bank and others provide policy financing to important directions of developing agricultural market in Uzbekistan.

Current committed international support provided for the Uzbek agri-food sector (2015-2030) is in excess of USD 4 billion.

This includes loans from the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, EIB, EBRD, JICA, IFAD, Islamic Development Bank, Bank of China.

This also includes significant grant funds from the European Union, Korea, Japan, USA, Turkey and other multi-lateral and bi-literal donors, providing support for the gradual reform & modernization of the agri-food sector.

Ongoing projects (USD 4,187.37 million)			
Areas	Sector/Subsector	Financing	Budget (USD million)
IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE PROJECTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Irrigation and water management</li> <li>Drainage, rehabilitation and recover of main irrigation channels</li> <li>Integrated water resources management</li> <li>Food safety</li> </ul>	WB, ADB, IDB, JICA, EU, EIB	1,137.6
HORTICULTURE RELATED PROJECTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Horticulture value chain development</li> <li>Crop diversification</li> </ul>	WB, ADB, EU, JICA	1,467.11
LIVESTOCK RELATED PROJECTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dairy sector development</li> <li>Livestock value chain development</li> </ul>	WB, ADB, AFD, IFAD, EU	511.06
OTHER AGRI-FOOD RELATED PROJECTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhancing productivity-supporting agricultural services</li> <li>Investments in high-value horticulture value chains</li> <li>Facilitating trade and marketing</li> <li>Supporting project management</li> <li>Cotton value chain development</li> <li>Sustainable crop management</li> <li>Value chain development</li> <li>Land and forest management</li> <li>Agri-food strategy implementation</li> <li>Technical &amp; vocational education &amp; training</li> <li>Cotton farming sector</li> <li>Agri-business retail chain</li> <li>Warehouse management system</li> </ul>	WB, IFC, IFC, FAO, FAO/GEF, IFAD, German Government, EU, USAID	862.45
OTHER REGIONAL AGRI-FOOD RELATED PROJECTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrated land and forest management</li> <li>Desert ecosystem conservation</li> <li>Horticulture</li> <li>Trade</li> <li>Water management</li> <li>Drought and salinity</li> <li>Smart agriculture</li> </ul>	FAO/GEF, EU, EBRD, German Government, Turkish Government, Korean Government, USAID	209.14



### 3. STRATEGY AND POLICIES TO DEVELOP THE AGRI-FOOD ECONOMY

#### 3.4 INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT TO AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT

##### EU support to agri-food sector

The Uzbek Government has committed to embark on an ambitious process to transform its agriculture sector into a competitive, market and export-oriented sector, which will generate economic growth, improve incomes and create new employment opportunities in the sector. Moreover, the Government has also committed to introducing measures to enhance food security and ensure the sustainable use and protection of its natural resources, particularly land and water. The sector’s growth is expected to contribute significantly to improved incomes, employment and food security in rural areas.

The European Union is a key partner engaged in a systematic and comprehensive way in support of the Uzbekistan agri-food sector and its development, sharing best EU practices, expertise, technical advice and knowledge.

EU engagement also includes significant financial support provided through leading European institutions such as the European Investment Bank (EIB), European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and a wide range of EU bi-lateral financial institutions, providing a multi-faceted support framework for the development of the Uzbek agri-food sector, including livestock, horticulture, water resources, vocational training, capacity building of key governance bodies, rural public services development & World Trade Organisation (WTO) accession.



Policy advice, technical support, loans, grants to support agri-food sector development





The word "CHANGE" is displayed using seven light-colored wooden blocks with rounded corners and a slight shadow. The letters 'C', 'H', 'A', and 'N' are arranged in a single horizontal row. The letter 'G' is positioned above the letter 'C', and another letter 'C' is positioned below it. The letter 'E' is positioned to the right of the 'G' and 'C' blocks, also in a single horizontal row.

# CHANGE

Over the last two years Uzbekistan has significantly enhanced and simplified the legal and regulatory framework for the establishment and operation of businesses and foreign investors.

## 4. INVESTMENT AND BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

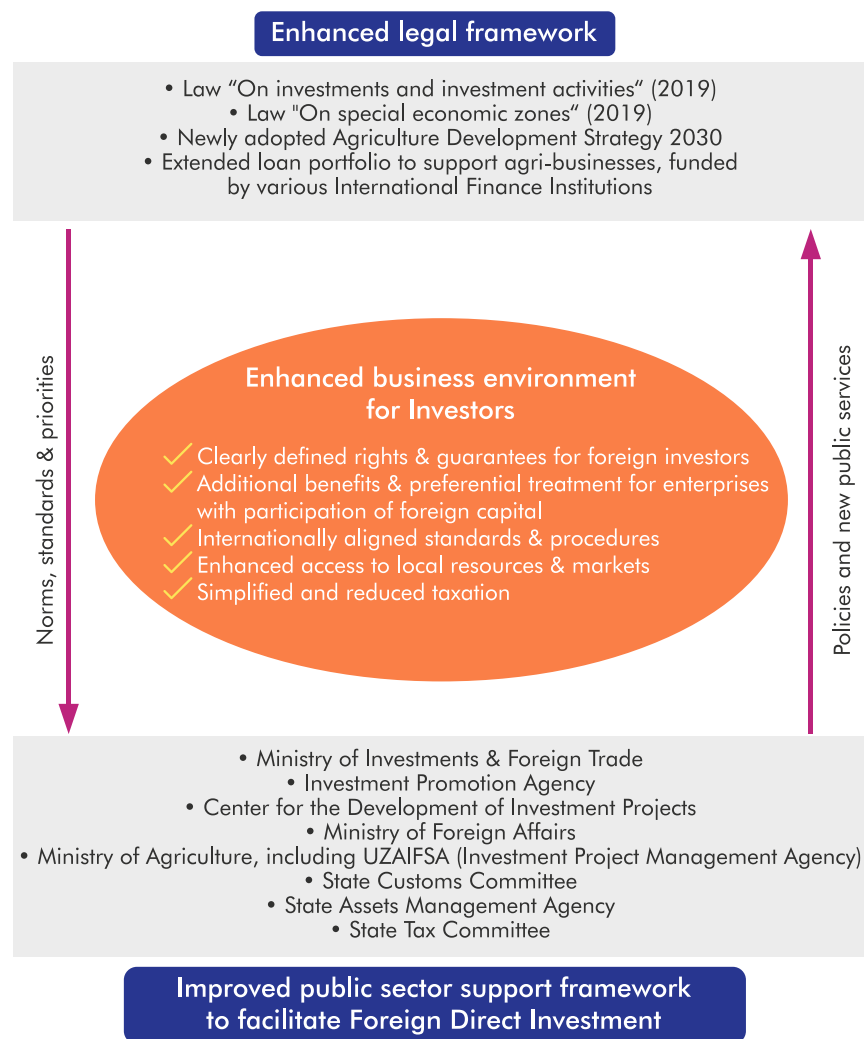
### 4.1 LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR INVESTORS

Over the recent years Uzbekistan has significantly enhanced and simplified the legal and regulatory framework for the establishment and operation of businesses and foreign investors.

Since the election of Shavkat Mirziyoyev, the new President of Uzbekistan, significant changes in legislation, local rules, and decrees of Uzbekistan aimed at creation of the most favorable conditions for investors have constantly been implemented.

The Uzbek legislation provides investors with certain incentives to encourage manufacturers, importers and exporters of strategically important products. There used to be a number of tax incentives available to investors and enterprises with foreign investment. Some of these incentives were set in the general tax legislation; some of them were granted on a case-by case basis, mostly in respect of investments made to key industries. The case-by-case incentives were provided by the Government through issuing enterprise specific decrees.

Reforms in Uzbekistan during the three last years, such as liberalizing the foreign currency market and establishing seven special economic zones, with tax breaks for investors, has made the country a more appealing destination for international capital.







The government has established a regime that ensures that all foreign investors have equal conditions to those available for Uzbek businesses & investors.

## 4. INVESTMENT AND BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

### 4.2 GUARANTEES AND PROTECTION FOR ENTERPRISES WITH FOREIGN INVESTMENTS

The state guarantees and protects the rights of all foreign investors in carrying out investment activities on the territory of Uzbekistan.

The government has established a regime that ensures that all foreign investors have equal conditions to those available for Uzbek businesses & investors.

The legislation provides for a notification procedure of using a ten-year warranty.

Thus, upon the occurrence of any of the above types of deterioration of the investment conditions, the foreign investor notifies the relevant authorized body about the application of the guarantee.

The authorized bodies that are notified of the application by a foreign investor of a guarantee are state organizations that carry out state registration of legal entities, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, Investments and Trade, the State Tax Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan and serving banks.

Notification of a foreign investor is the basis for the application by the authorized body to the foreign investor of the legislation in force at the date of investment. The notification, regardless of the date of its direction to the authorized body, is valid from the moment the act enters into force.

## Incentives for investors

### 1 Guarantees for the use of funds

No restrictions on the use of income and profits generated from investment activities after the payment of all relevant taxes & social security

### 2 Guarantees of free transfer of funds

Investors are guaranteed free transfer of funds in foreign currency to and from the Republic of Uzbekistan without any restrictions, provided they pay all due taxes and other social payments, including currency conversion for repatriation of funds.

### 3 Guarantees of return on foreign investment upon termination of investment activities

After the termination of an investment activity, a foreign investor has the right to freely repatriate their assets in cash or in kind.

### 4 Guarantee against adverse changes in legislation for the investor

Legislation in force at the time of the investment applies to investors for a minimum period of 10 years from the date of that investment. Any new legislation that may negatively impact on the investment does not apply. However, an investor also has the right to apply, at its own discretion, the provisions of any new legislation that may improve the conditions for its investment.

### 5 Guarantee of investment protection

The state guarantees investment protection in accordance with the legislation and international agreements of Uzbekistan. Investments and other assets of investors are not subject to nationalization.





Newly adopted Uzbek tax code and tax reforms have reduced the tax burden, simplified tax legislation, ensured healthy competition along with the creation of a favorable investment climate.

## 4. INVESTMENT AND BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

### 4.3 TAXATION REGIME FOR INVESTORS

#### Discretionary tax benefits for Agri-food processing investors

Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan (No. DP-3594 of 11.04.2005) exempted from legal income tax, property tax, improvement tax and development of social infrastructure, single tax payment for micro firms and small enterprises, as well as mandatory deductions to the Republican Road Fund for the following Agri-food activities:

- ✓ Production of finished industrial-processed food products from local raw materials (with the exception of alcoholic, non-alcoholic beverages and tobacco products).
- ✓ Production of finished types of meat and dairy products, cheese and butter, as well as products for processing of animal viscera.
- ✓ Processing & canning fish & fish products.

#### Cross-cutting taxation regime defined in the Uzbekistan Tax Code

##### Reduction of taxable income (Article 159 of the Tax Code)

Reduction of taxable income (Article 159 of the Tax Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan)

Taxable income of legal entities is reduced by the amount of:

- ✓ Funds allocated for modernization, technical & technological re-equipment of production, purchase of new technological equipment, expansion of production in the form of new construction, reconstruction of buildings & structures used for production needs, as well as repayment of loans received for these purposes, reimbursement of the value of the leased object, less depreciation accrued in the relevant tax period, but not more than 30% of taxable profit.
- ✓ The taxable profit is reduced for 5 years, starting from the tax period in which the above-mentioned expenses are made, and for technological equipment – from the moment of its commissioning.

##### Exemptions from payment of value added tax (Articles 208-209, 211 of the Tax Code)

Exempted from value added tax (Articles 208-209, 211 of the Tax Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan):

- ✓ Turnover on the sale of property transferred as investment liabilities in accordance with the contract concluded between the investor and the authorized state body for managing state property.
- ✓ Provision of services under a financial leasing agreement in terms of the interest income of the lessor.
- ✓ Import of technological equipment imported into the territory of Uzbekistan according to an approved list of eligible equipment which also includes components and spare parts, provided that their supply is stipulated by the terms of the contract for the supply of equipment.
- ✓ Import of property imported as investment obligations in accordance with the contract concluded between the investor and the authorized state body for managing state property.

##### Benefits for tax on property of legal entities (Article 269 of the Tax Code)

- ✓ When calculating the tax on the property of legal entities, the tax base is reduced by the average annual value of machinery & equipment that has been in operation for up to 10 years.
- ✓ Newly created enterprises – within two years from the date of state registration. This exemption does not apply to enterprises established on the basis of reorganized legal entities, as well as legal entities operating in the territory of other enterprises using equipment leased from these enterprises.

##### Benefits on paying customs duty

Article 33 of the Law “On customs tariff” provides many exemptions and benefits for enterprises with foreign investors.

More details - <http://invest.gov.uz/>



## 4. INVESTMENT AND BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

### 4.3 TAXATION REGIME FOR INVESTORS

#### Tax code (regular and simplified tax regimes)

Uzbekistan Tax Code entered into force from 1 January 2008 in an attempt to develop a fairer tax system, ease the tax burden on businesses, simplify tax procedures, encourage saving and investment and promote economic development in the country.

Under the current tax legislation, Uzbekistan-resident companies, e.g. LLC may choose to apply for simplified or general taxation regimes, depending on the scale of their business.

Legal entities applying simplified taxation regime pay unified tax payment (out of revenue), which substitutes corporate income tax and VAT.

#### Tax incentives to support exports

Goods exported for hard currency; the processing of certain goods for export and international transportation services are subject to zero-rated VAT.

From January 1, 2019, legal entities with an export share in the total proceeds from the sale of goods (works, services) of more than 15 percent, reduce the tax base by:

- Corporate income tax in terms of profits attributable to the volume of export sales of goods (works, services);
- Single tax payment in terms of the volume of sales of goods (works, services) for export.

The benefits provided for in this paragraph do not apply to the export of certain raw materials (Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On measures to further stimulate the export potential of domestic producers", November 29, 2018; No. UP-5587, <https://lex.uz/docs/4085153>).

#### Tax incentives in Free Economic Zones (FEZ)

Particularly attractive conditions created for foreign investors, including free economic zones, namely:

- 0% income tax if you are a SME
- From 30 to 50% tax reduction
- Depending on export volume 0% VAT

#### Regular tax rates

Tax names	Rates
Personal income tax	12%
Single Social Payment	12%
Corporate income tax	Standard rate– 15%
	For commercial banks and mobile communication companies– 20%
Property tax	2%
Value added tax	15%

#### Simplified VAT rates

Taxpayers	Simplified VAT rates
Legal entities all sectors of the economy (except as provided below)	7%
Construction organizations	8%
Retail, wholesale and wholesale trade enterprises	6%
Catering, hotel industries	10%
Legal entities providing professional services (auditing services, tax consulting services, consulting, brokerage, etc.)	15%
Legal entities engaged in the sale of agricultural products, with the exception of products of own products	4%

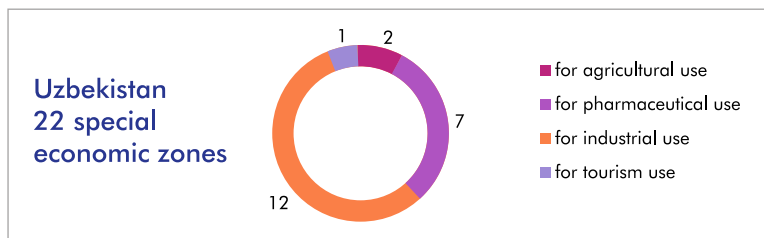


Uzbekistan has created 22 free economic zones (FEZ) with a 30-year lifespan and the possibility of further extension. Two of these FEZ's are dedicated to Agri-business.



## 4. INVESTMENT AND BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

### 4.4 FDI INCENTIVES & FREE ECONOMIC ZONES



#### Free Economic Zones (FEZ)

Uzbekistan has created 22 free economic zones (FEZ) with a 30-year term of operation and the possibility of further extension. Two of these FEZ's are dedicated to Agriculture.

Uzbekistan has 12 Free Economic Zones (FEZ) in the industrial sector (Navoi, Angren, Jizzakh, Urgut, Gijduvan, Kokand, Khazarasp, Sirdaryo, Namangan, Termez, Nukus, Chirakchi), 7 FEZs in the pharmaceutical industry (Zomin-farm, Kosonsoy-farm, Sirdaryo-farm, Boysun-farm, Bustonlik-farm, Parkent-farm, and Andijon-farm) and 2 FEZs in the agricultural sector (Bukhara-agro and fish producer). Besides, there is also a special economic zone "Sport" and a free tourist zone "Charvak". They provide substantial privileges in terms of taxation and facility services to their members, as well as a number of special foreign exchange and customs benefits.

The "Law on special economic zones" (2019) determines the standard terms & conditions applicable for domestic and foreign investors operating in these special economic zones. More details can be found at <https://sez.gov.uz/>

#### Providing agricultural land

Agricultural land may be provided in exceptional cases to special economic zones of pharmaceutical and agricultural areas only for the cultivation of agricultural products and medicinal plants.

Special economic zones that have a different functional and sectoral specialization may be granted agricultural land by separate decisions of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

### Incentives for investors in Free Economic Zones

#### TAX INCENTIVES

Enterprise-participants of free economic zones (FEZ) are exempt from payment of:

- ✓ Land tax, income tax, tax on property of legal entities, tax on improvement and development of social infrastructure, single tax payment for micro-firms and small enterprises, as well as mandatory contributions to the Republican Road Fund and extra-budgetary Fund for reconstruction, overhaul and equipment of secondary schools, professional colleges, academic lyceums and medical institutions under the Ministry of Finance.

The "Law on special economic zones" (2019) determines the standard terms & conditions applicable for domestic and foreign investors operating in these special economic zones. More details can be found at <https://sez.gov.uz/>

#### CUSTOM INCENTIVES

Enterprise-participants of free economic zones (FEZ) are exempt from payment of:

- ✓ Customs payments (except for customs clearance fees) for equipment, raw materials and components imported for their own production needs.
- ✓ Customs payments (except for customs clearance fees) for construction materials not produced in the Republic and imported within the framework of investment projects, according to lists approved by the Cabinet of Ministers.

#### OTHER BENEFITS

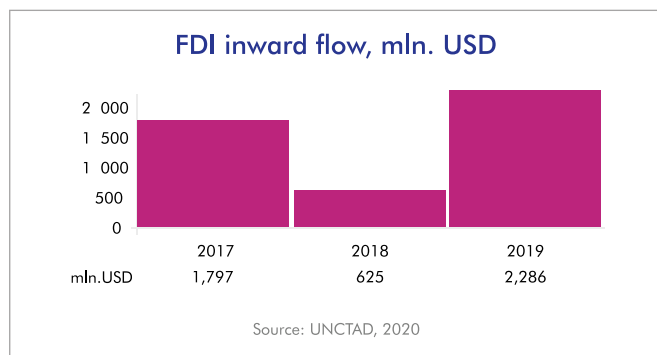
Benefits in the free economic zone are granted for a period from 3 to 10 years, depending on the amount of investments made, including the equivalent (USD):

- ✓ From 300 thousand dollars to 3 million dollars – for a period of 3 years;
- ✓ From 3 million dollars to 5 million dollars – for a period of 5 years;
- ✓ From 5 million dollars to 10 million dollars – for a period of 7 years;
- From 10 million dollars and above – for a period of 10 years, with application of the profit tax rate, and the single tax payment in the amount of 50% below the current rates, for the next 5 years.

The "Law on special economic zones" (2019) determines the standard terms & conditions applicable for domestic and foreign investors operating in these special economic zones. More details can be found at <https://sez.gov.uz/>

## 4. INVESTMENT AND BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

### 4.4 FDI INCENTIVES & FREE ECONOMIC ZONES

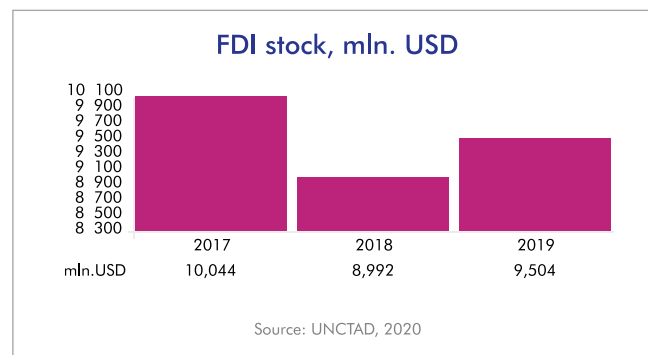


#### Growth of foreign direct investments (FDI)

To improve the business environment, the Government has introduced a number of legislative changes, including the cancellation of unscheduled, and arbitrary or punitive, inspections of businesses (Jan 2017); elimination of the requirement to convert certain percentages of hard currency export earnings at the official (artificially low) exchange rate; simplification of business registration procedures; creation of a Business Ombudsman office; and a Law on Countering Corruption that attempts to increase transparency in Government of Uzbekistan functions.

Reforms in Uzbekistan during the recent years, such as liberalizing the foreign currency market and establishing special economic zones with tax breaks for investors, has made the country a more appealing destination for international capital. Foreign direct inflows increased significantly in 2019 to USD 2,3 billion, compared to USD 625 million in 2018. Total FDI stock stood at USD 9.5 billion in 2019. FDI traditionally arrives from Russia, South Korea, China and Germany, but Canada recently increased its financial presence.

Uzbekistan ranked 69th in the World Bank 2020 Doing Business, gaining seven places from the previous year. Restructuring of large state enterprises and joining the WTO are also anticipated to further bolster Uzbekistan's attractiveness for Foreign Direct Investment.



#### Foreign Investors Council (FIC) under the President

The President established a Foreign Investors Council (FIC) which is intended to act as a high-level advisory role in November 2020. The Council provides an institutional platform for direct dialogue between the Government and investors.

The purpose of the Council is to support the further development of a favorable, non-discriminatory, transparent and constructive business environment in Uzbekistan, which will help to attract investment, through an open and constructive dialogue between government bodies of Uzbekistan and representatives of international financial institutions, foreign companies, banks, investment and other structures operating in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The main tasks of the Foreign Investors Council are:

- Effective identification of key obstacles to attracting investment and the work of investors, including foreign ones, and ensuring a favorable business environment and investment climate in the country.
- Development of solutions to eliminate these obstacles through the joint efforts of state bodies of Uzbekistan and representatives of foreign companies, banks and investment structures, as well as international financial institutions operating in the country.



The World Bank scored the Uzbekistan business environment as 69 out of 200 countries (2020 ranking in the global 'Doing Business' index).



## 4. INVESTMENT AND BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

### 4.5 BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT SCORES AND RANKS

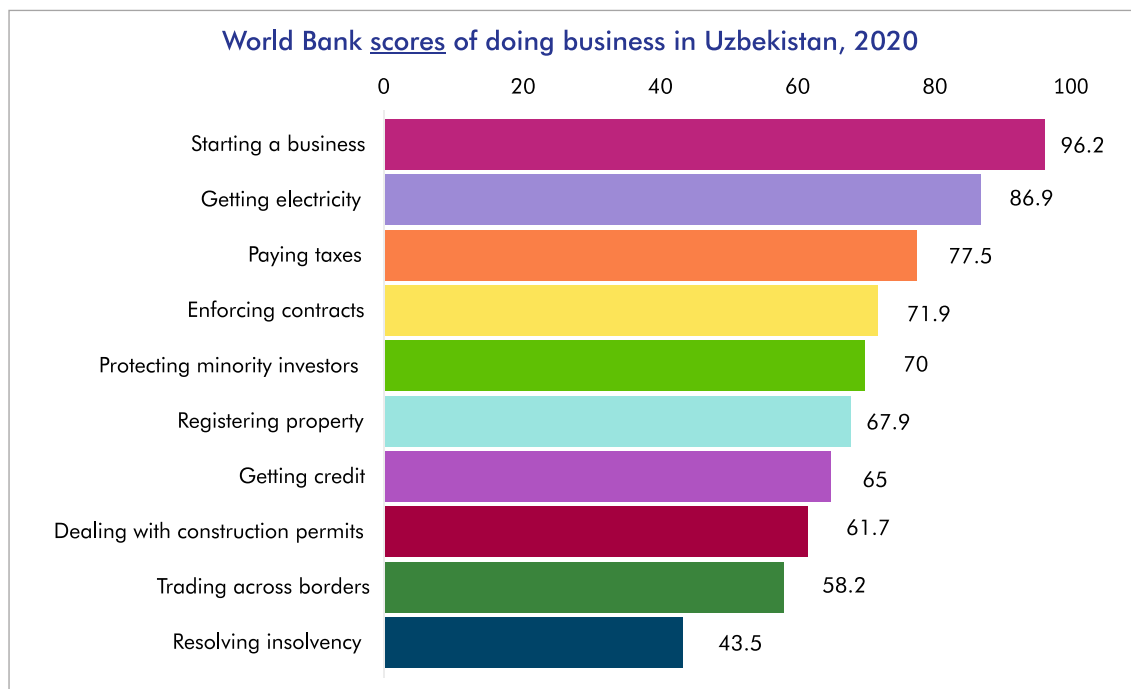
Since launching in 2017, the new agenda of market reforms of the Uzbekistan Government have aimed to significantly improve the business environment.

Measures target simplification of registration & licensing procedures, taxation & lending, easing access to resource & product markets, developing infrastructure & services, combatting corruption & increasing transparency.

Uzbekistan ranked 69th out of 200 countries in the World Bank 2020 Doing Business, gaining seven places from the previous year. Restructuring of large state enterprises and joining the WTO are also anticipated to further bolster Uzbekistan' attractiveness for Foreign Direct Investment.

1<sup>st</sup> Rank

69th ranking in World Bank  
Global 'Doing Business Index  
(2020)



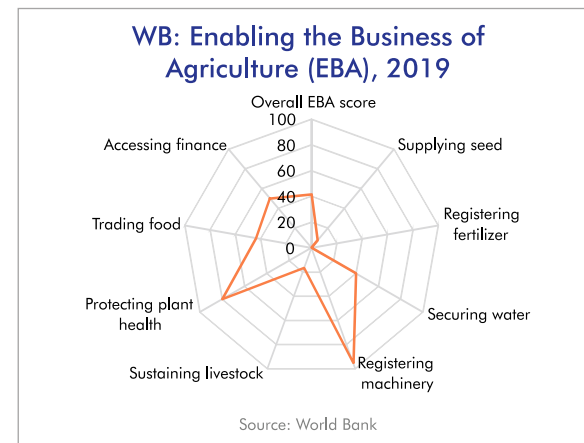
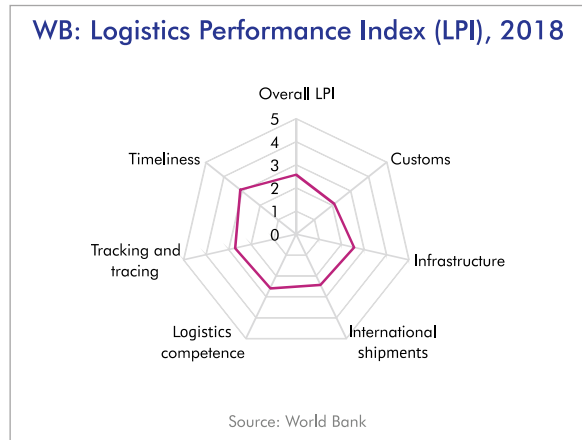
## 4. INVESTMENT AND BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

### 4.5 BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT SCORES AND RANKS

Logistics Performance Index (LPI) shows average scores for logistics components such as Customs, Infrastructure, International shipments, Logistics competence, Tracking and tracing, and Timeliness. The global country LPI rank is 99 in 2018. Agricultural Strategy 2030 puts the task to increase LPI ranking by 20 points until the 2030.

Enabling the Business of Agriculture (EBA) overall score is 41.63 and country rank is 77 in 2019 .

One of the priority actions identified in the Agricultural Strategy 2030 is to introduce key reforms that will increase the WB Global EBA ranking by at least 10 points by 2030.



### Target indicators in the Agriculture Strategy 2030 addressing business environment

Indicator	Baseline (2018)	2021 Target	2025 Target	2030 Target	Strategic Priority
Improving the position of Uzbekistan in the World Bank ranking on the Global Logistics Performance Index	99th global position	96th global position 3 point climb	89th global position 10 point climb	79th global position 20 point climb	Priority II: Creating a favorable agribusiness climate and value chains
Improved ranking in the World Bank Enabling the Business of Agriculture (EBA) Index	77 (in 2019)	Established ranking	Ranking improvement by 5 points	Ranking improvement by 10 points	Priority III: Reducing the role of the state in sector management and increasing investment attractiveness



Enterprises with foreign investments successfully operate in various segments of the agricultural and food sector of Uzbekistan.



## 4. INVESTMENT AND BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

### 4.6 SUCCESSFUL AGRI-FOOD SECTOR INVESTORS

#### Case New Holland

Case New Holland (CNH) has been successfully operating in Uzbekistan since 1997 and since that time the company have established four joint ventures which are involved in the manufacture distribution (UzCase Mach & UzCaseTractor), financing (UzCase Agro-Leasing) and servicing of CNH agriculture equipment (UzCase Service).



#### INDORAMA KOKAND TEXTILE

Uzbek-Singapore joint venture Indorama Kokand Textile is a modern plant for the production of cotton yarn. The Indorama plant turns cotton fiber into high-quality yarn for the textile industry. The projects initiated by Indorama have attracted over \$164 million (including \$ 120 million from Indorama industries + \$40 million from IFC). More than 1,100 jobs have been created + exports in excess of \$ 93 million per annum.



#### LEMKEN CHIRCHIQ LLC

The joint venture LEMKEN Chirchiq LLC was established in December 2011. The company produces mounted rotary ploughs, rotary harrows, soil compactors and mechanical seeders. Currently, the company is working intensively to expand its range & volume of products.



#### BMB TRADE

Research & Production Center for the Development of Tea Production started its business in 2018, as a joint venture between Uzbek and Chinese partners. BMB Trade has been allocated land plots in the Zamin district of Jizzakh region where work is underway to organize the harvesting of seeds and planting tea seedlings. Production is located in the city of Tashkent, where modern lines of industrial processing and packaging of tea products were installed for the processing and packaging of tea in bags.



#### NESTLE UZBEKISTAN LLC

The company started operations in 2002 at the Nafosat dairy plant in Namangan region. Initially, the Namangan plant started production of drinking water & sterilized milk. In 2004, the company expanded production to include children's cereals. In 2011, Nestle launched a new enterprise for the production of drinking water in Tashkent. This was followed in 2013, with the opening of a new dairy processing plant in Namangan. Nestle is gradually expanding its operations by supporting Uzbek farmers by organizing various training and educational programs and providing direct advice & support to improve productivity.



#### UZ CLAAS AGRO

The joint venture company Uz CLAAS Agro was established in 2010. The CLASS Agro Plant now successfully produces combine harvesters, universal combines & balers. 50% of the components for CLAAS machines are sourced locally. The company operates a central office and warehouse in Tashkent and has also established a network of regional service centers. During the harvest season, mobile warehouses of spare parts are also operated to support farmers.



Investors can easily and quickly get answers to their questions from various information resources and authorized agencies.

## 5. USEFUL INFORMATION

### 5.1 REQUIREMENTS FOR A FOREIGN INVESTORS

#### Documents required for state registration of enterprises with foreign capital participation

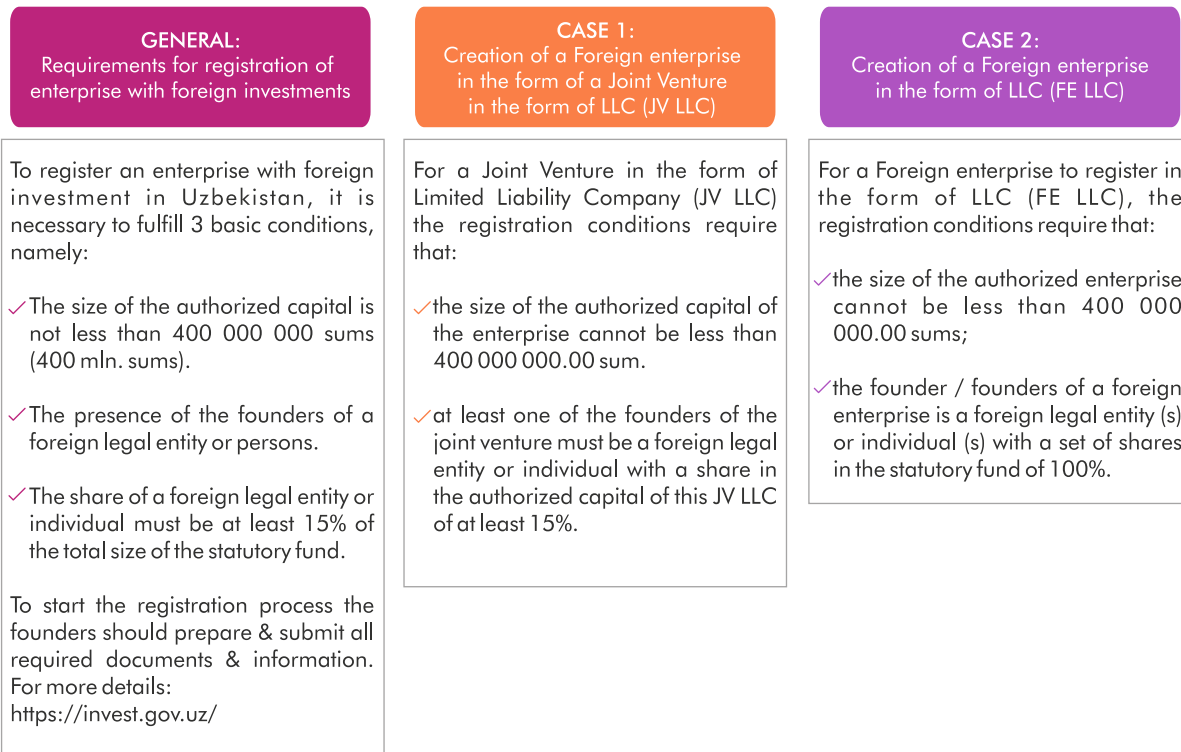
Application (electronic request – during registration via the Internet) should include:

- Original of constituent documents in the state language (one copy);
- A copy of the payment document on the payment of the established amount of state duty;
- When registering via the Internet: the consent of each founder from the Uzbek side to join the founders' composition (confirmation by e-mail);
- When registering via the Internet: the certification of the request of the digital signature of all foreign founders;
- When registering by personal delivery: power of attorney (for foreign investors – translated into the state language and legalized), if documents for registration are submitted by the representative of the founder.

Requests sent through an automated system for state registration of enterprises with foreign investments, enterprises with foreign capital, other legal entities, whose founders indicate persons who are not citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan, must be signed with an electronic digital signature (EDS) of these persons. For more information - <https://e-imzo.uz/>

After state registration, an enterprise independently opens payment and other accounts in bank institutions. The bank must be provided with a card with signature samples of the head and chief accountant and a seal (if any).

#### Conditions and requirements for a foreign investor







The company can be registered online or in-person by visiting the Public Service Center of the relevant district.

## 5. USEFUL INFORMATION

### 5.2 ESTABLISHING A COMPANY

The majority of businesses in Uzbekistan are organized as limited liability companies, open and closed joint stock companies, partnerships, sole proprietorships, and representative offices of foreign companies. Companies may limit their presence to a permanent establishment (not a legal form and only for tax purposes).



#### Step 1 (one day) Registration at Public Service Center

- ✓ Prepare the company's incorporation documents and send to Register at the Public Service Center and obtain the Certificate of State Registration (for more details see [www.fo.birdarcha.uz](http://www.fo.birdarcha.uz))
- ✓ The company can be registered online or in-person by visiting the Public Service Center of the relevant district. The following registration documents should be submitted:
  - Application form
  - Constitutive documents: shareholders agreement and charter (for LLC)
  - Confirmation of registration fee payment (if not done at the moment of registration).

#### Step 2 (one day) Make a company seal

- ✓ The company's seal must be made by a specialized seal-making company. For ordering a seal, the company should provide the Registration Certificate.
- ✓ The company seal may also contain the brand name in other languages of the company's choice.
- ✓ The company may have stamps and letterheads bearing its corporate name, its own emblem and duly registered trademark and other means of individualization.
- ✓ For more details see #PHP-531, March 20, 2019, Article 5 - [www.lex.uz/docs/18793](http://www.lex.uz/docs/18793).

#### Step 3 (one day) Open a permanent bank account

- ✓ Companies open bank accounts in order to conduct official business.
- ✓ In practice, Tax Authorities expect a notification regarding the company's corporate account number.
- ✓ To open a permanent bank account it is required to submit the Decision of the newly registered company on the nomination of the director of the company and the accountant.
- ✓ When opening a bank account, banks independently gain access to information about the business entity (registration certificates and constituent documents).
- ✓ After opening a permanent bank account for the company, the bank notifies the Tax Authorities.

## 5. USEFUL INFORMATION

### 5.3 KEY CONTACTS & SERVICES FOR POTENTIAL INVESTORS

Services	Contacts
Information and guidance	<b>Ministry of Investments and Foreign Trade</b> Address: Uzbekistan, 100060, Tashkent, Taras Shevchenko St., 34A. Phone: + (99871) 252-22-16. <a href="http://www.mift.uz">www.mift.uz</a>
Business registration, Legal regulation	<b>Ministry of Justice</b> Address: Uzbekistan, 100047, Tashkent, Sayilgoh St., 5. E-mail: Phone: (+998 71) 233-13-05. <a href="http://www.minjust.uz">www.minjust.uz</a>
Visa	<b>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</b> Address: Uzbekistan, 100000, Tashkent, A. Temur 3. Phone: (+998 71) 233-80-98. <a href="http://www.mf.uz">www.mf.uz</a>
Taxation	<b>State Tax Committee</b> Address: Uzbekistan, 100011, Tashkent, Abdulla Kadiri Str., 13-a. Tel.: + (99871) 202-32-82. <a href="http://www.soliq.uz">www.soliq.uz</a>
Customs	<b>State Customs Committee</b> Address: Uzbekistan, 100011, Tashkent, Abdulla Kadiri Str., 13-a. Tel.: + (99871) 202-32-82. <a href="http://www.soliq.uz">www.soliq.uz</a>
Bank system, financial markets	<b>Central Bank</b> Address: 100001, Tashkent, Islam Karimov street, 6. Helpline: (+998 71) 200-00-44. <a href="http://www.cbu.uz">www.cbu.uz</a>
Networking, corporate services	<b>Chamber of Commerce and Industry</b> Address: 100047 Uzbekistan, Tashkent, str., Amir Temur 4, Tel.: +998 78 150 60 06. <a href="http://www.chamber.uz">www.chamber.uz</a>
Quality standards and certificates	<b>Uzbek Agency for standardization, Metrology and certification</b> ("Uzstandart" Agency). Address: 100174, Toshkent city, Street Farobiy, 333 A. <a href="http://www.standart.uz">www.standart.uz</a>
Food safety and nutrition	<b>Ministry of Health</b> Address: 12 Navoi street, 100011, Shaykhantaur district, Tashkent. Tel.: +998 (71) 241-16-91E <a href="http://www.minzdrav.uz">www.minzdrav.uz</a>
Phytosanitary safety, Phytosanitary certificates for exports	<b>State Plant Quarantine Inspection under the Cabinet of Ministers</b> Address: 100100, 17, 1 Turn, Bobur Str., Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Services	Contacts
Priorities, programs, projects in agriculture	<b>Ministry of Agriculture</b> Address: Uzbekistan, 100140, Tashkent Region, Qibray district, University St., 2. Phone: + (99871) 260-48-73. <a href="http://www.agro.uz">www.agro.uz</a>
Regulation of livestock	<b>State Committee for veterinary medicine and animal husbandry development</b> Address: 21A Kichik Khalka Yuli Street, Tashkent Tel: +998 712021200. <a href="http://www.vetgov.uz">www.vetgov.uz</a>
Labour market regulation	<b>Ministry of Employment and Labor Relations</b> Address: 15 Mirabad Street, Mirabad district, Tashkent Tel: +998 71 2000600, <a href="http://www.mehnat.uz">www.mehnat.uz</a>
Water supply and irrigation	<b>Ministry of Water Resources</b> Address: 100005, Tashkent city, Mirzo-Ulugbek district, 39, Qori Niyaziy street, <a href="http://www.water.gov.uz">www.water.gov.uz</a>
Privatization of state assets	<b>State Assets Management Agency</b> Address: Uzbekistan, 100000, Tashkent, A. Temur Str, 3. Tel.: + (99871) 239-44-46. <a href="http://www.davaktiv.uz">www.davaktiv.uz</a>
Statistical data	<b>State Statistics Committee</b> Address: 63 Mustakillik Shokh Str, Tashkent, 100170. <a href="http://www.stat.uz">www.stat.uz</a>
Social and economic information	<b>Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction</b> Address: 45A Ave Islam Karimov, Tashkent, Uzbekistan 100003 Tel: +998712077173, <a href="http://www.mineconomy.uz">www.mineconomy.uz</a>
Free economic zones	<b>Unified portal of Free Economic Zones and Small Industrial Zones</b> <a href="http://www.sez.gov.uz">www.sez.gov.uz</a>
Project implementation	<b>Agency for Implementation of Projects in the Field of Agroindustry and Food Security "UZAIFFSA"</b> Address: 21A Labzak Str, Tashkent, <a href="http://www.uzaifsa.uz">www.uzaifsa.uz</a>
Research and development	<b>Agency of Horticulture and Greenhouse development</b> under the Ministry of Agriculture Address: 6 Abay Street, Tashkent, Tel: +998712444625





## An Information guide for potential investors



Funded by the European Union



Ministry of Agriculture  
of the Republic of Uzbekistan

**Published by:** Main Department of Strategic Development and Investment,  
Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan. December, 2020.  
2, University str., Kibray district, 100140, Tashkent region, Uzbekistan.

**Copyright:** © Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan. All rights reserved.

[www.agro.uz](http://www.agro.uz)