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# GEFF TAJIKISTAN —NEWSLETTER—

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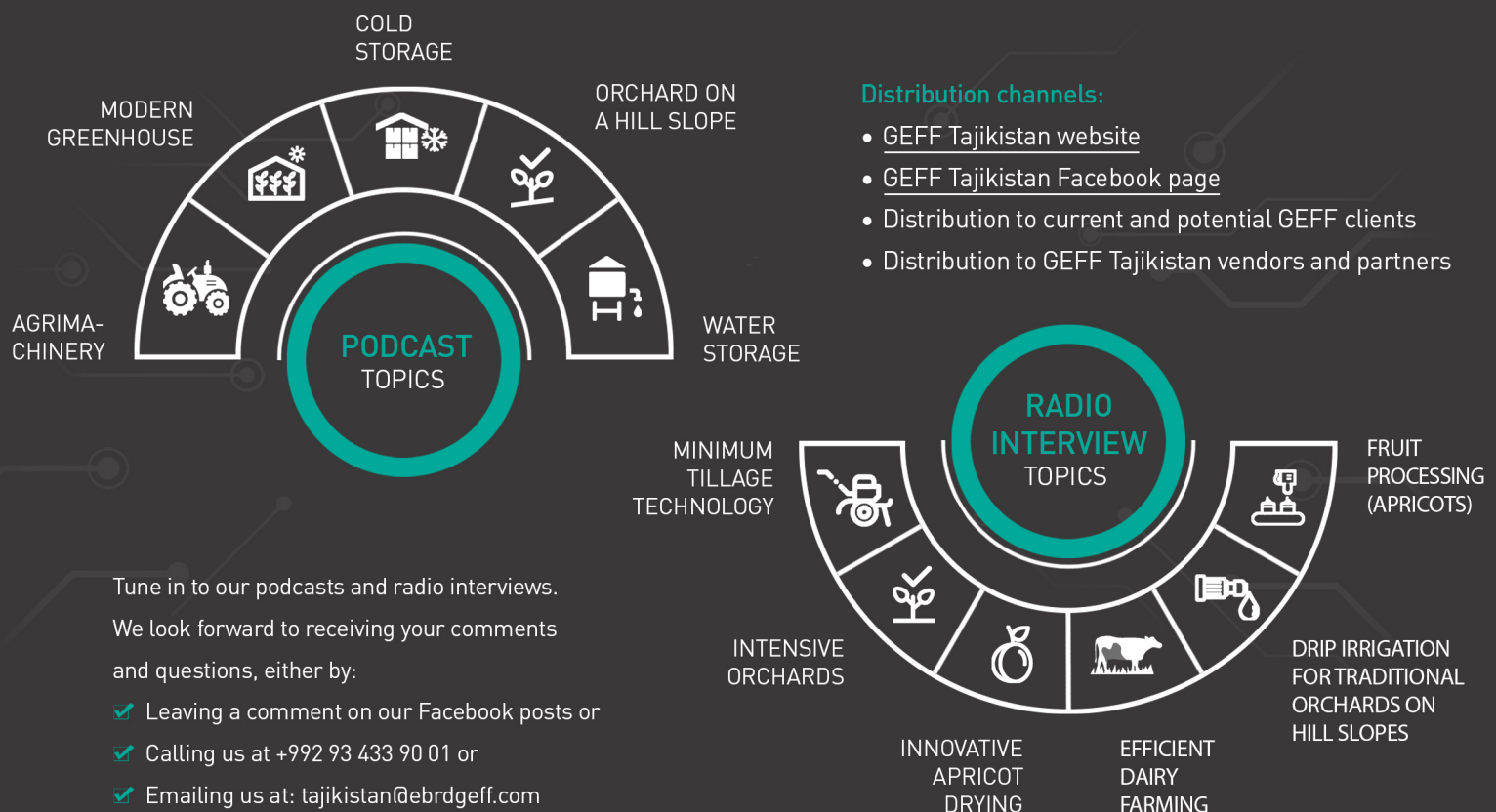
## Welcome to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Issue of our **GEFF Tajikistan Newsletter!**

This issue of the GEFF Tajikistan newsletter features the latest achievements, news and activities undertaken during Q2 2020. During the Covid-19 lockdown period in Tajikistan, GEFF Tajikistan has pivoted its activities to continually engage with our PFI(s) and beneficiaries during this difficult period. Agriculture is the backbone of the Tajik economy. The current outbreak of COVID-19 has disrupted agricultural and food systems around the world including Tajikistan, with the highest impact expected to be on smallholder farmers and other vulnerable groups, especially women and labor migrants. To support agricultural value chains, GEFF Tajikistan has launched a series of podcasts and radio interviews targeted at capacity building. The aim is to promote innovative and efficient technologies and practices suitable for the Tajik context. These practices and technologies can be adopted by smallholders and entrepreneurs to im-

prove their food security and create income generating opportunities. Through the GEFF Tajikistan Podcast and Radio Interview Series (June–August 2020), our experts will share on the challenges faced by the agricultural sector, potential technology solutions and the important considerations that need to be made before making green investments. It also provides useful tips on what can already be done during this period, such as assessing the efficiency of your current tractor or how to identify the right locations for a green house in your farm. Listen to the first episode on Agricultural machinery and farm mechanization [here](#). We are thankful to our partners and clients for their strong support and we look forward to further scale up our efforts for a greener, more sustainable and prosperous future.

Take care of yourselves and each other!

**Kairat Shalabay** **GEFF Tajikistan Project Manager**



GEFF Tajikistan is a credit line facility of up \$25 million for participating financial institutions in Tajikistan for on-lending to private sector investing in resource efficiency projects, developed by European Bank for Reconstruction and Development working in cooperation with the Green Climate Fund, the Republic of Korea and the European Union.



[tajikistan@ebrdgeff.com](mailto:tajikistan@ebrdgeff.com)



[www.ebrdgeff.com/tajikistan](http://www.ebrdgeff.com/tajikistan)



+992 93 433 90 01



37/1 Bokhtar st., office #802, "Vefa Center"

Dushanbe 734025, Republic of Tajikistan

## Green Technology Selector - an online tool to accelerate the delivery of climate finance

In 2018, the EBRD has launched the Technology Selector, a shopping-style web tool for climate resilience technologies. The Technology Selector is a global directory of high-performing technologies offered by manufacturers and vendors across all countries. The technologies include energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies ranging from solar panels and biomass boilers to thermal insulation and process technologies.

More recently the Technology Selector was rebranded as the Green Technology Selector. A new visual identity makes the Green Technology Selector more accessible and useful for our users to navigate. More stakeholders utilize the platform and benefit from its straight-forward process in local and global mar-

kets. The range of technologies was also expanded with the inclusion of water efficiency and sustainable land management technologies.

The Green Technology Selector displays information on vendors that offer high-performing technologies in a specific country, all of which will be eligible for financing under the EBRD's GEFF, provided by local partner banks, leasing companies and micro-finance institutions. Products, vendors and manufacturers registered in the Green Technology Selector are promoted worldwide as best-in-class green technologies and clients are encouraged to choose them among other alternatives.

### Benefits for Financial Institutions

- Streamlined and fast procedure
- Easy eligibility check
- Easier to cooperate with vendors
- Supports sustainable image of the PFI

### Benefits for Sub-borrowers

- Best available & eligible products
- Free engineering support
- Clear and simple procedure
- User-friendly

### Benefits for Vendors

- Increased brand awareness
- Support in marketing
- Certification – highest standards
- Increased sales

The pre-approved equipment and materials exceed minimum performance requirements and perform beyond current market practices, resulting in clear benefits and environmental improvements.

### Technology Selector for Tajikistan

**52 vendors** registered on GTS representing **1017** green products

The "Tech Selector" mobile application is already available on Android and will be launched soon on IOS platform as well.

The Green Technology Selector is always live and accessible anytime, locally and globally!



### User steps for potential investors:



### User steps for vendors:



**EBRD monitor assesses the resilience of emerging economies to Covid-19**

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development has developed a new monitor to assess the resilience of emerging economies across its regions to withstand the impact of Covid-19 pandemic.

The coronavirus is placing countries' health care systems under unprecedented strain, while domestic containment measures are weighing on both supply and demand. External shocks, including falling commodity prices, value chain disruption and a decline in tourism and remittances, are compounding the impact of these domestic measures. The EBRD has unveiled a **1 billion Euro financial package** to help countries in its region

cope with the impact of the virus as a first step in its support for member countries.

The resilience of the economies to the Covid-19 shock reflects the structure of output and labour markets, the extent of exposure to various external shocks, availability of fiscal space and the ability of the financial system to absorb a rise in non-performing loans. In the context of health care system resilience, the EBRD monitor shows that public-sector health spending in the EBRD regions is far below that in advanced economies, with a lower number doctors per capita, in particular in the lower-income economies. The report "Resilience to the Covid-19 shock in the EBRD regions" is available [here](#).

**Resilience to the Covid-19 shock in Tajikistan**



**EU GLOBAL RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS IN TAJIKISTAN**

The coronavirus pandemic is a global crisis that requires a global solution. The European Union is mobilizing EUR 15.6 billion to end the spread of the virus and to avoid spillover effects on economic and social stability and security in our partner countries. For more information, please click [here](#).



**EUR 48 MILLION**  
of additional support will be provided to Tajikistan to:

Tackle immediate needs or prevention for protection, medical care and crisis response

Strengthen the health, water and sanitation systems

Address the economic and social consequences

*"This multifaceted pandemic requires an unprecedented level of mobilisation within the countries themselves. However, with the experienced gathered from Europe and other parts of the world - working closely together is the most effective way to overcome both the acute medical crisis as well as to mitigate the long term negative socio-economic impacts. Now is the time for cooperation and solidarity, as the virus does not discriminate between people or borders. Only a fast, massive and coordinated response can help to save lives, protect people and tackle the negative economic fallout..."*

Ms. Marilyn Josefson,  
Ambassador of the European Union Tajikistan

## GEFF Tajikistan Gender Component: Baseline Assessment activities are completed



The Gender Baseline Assessment for GEFF Tajikistan is successfully completed in June 2020, with the submission of a Gender Baseline Assessment Report to the EBRD. Through this process, we have developed a deeper understanding of women's and men's sensibility and responsiveness to climate change and risk as well as challenges and barriers to access finance, particular the financing of green technologies.

During the baseline assessment, we have carried out Focus Group Discussions, a survey comprising 151 participants from Dushanbe, Khatlon, DRS and the Sugd regions. In addition, we also held meetings with PFI(s) and dialogues with Civil Society Representatives

such as Helvetas, UN Women and Oxfam, Association for Women Entrepreneurs and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE).

As a next step, we plan to organize a virtual national workshop to present the findings of these assessments to multi-stakeholder groups, including an innovative gender strategy and enhanced gender action plan that supports the GEFF Tajikistan Programme objectives.

More details on the virtual workshop will be announced via [Facebook](#), [website](#) and [email](#).



GEFF Tajikistan offers comprehensive environmental sustainability consulting services that already helped a number of farmers and entrepreneurs experience clear benefits to their businesses. Two of these examples are summarized below. The support of gender equality has a positive impact on society and gives women and men equal access to opportunities. Ms. Shamsikhol Sultonova invested in an energy-efficient tractor to enhance farming productivity and benefited from green finance. Mr. Abdurasul Jalilov successfully implemented his idea to construct a modern greenhouse, which illustrated the cost-effectiveness of investing in green solutions.

Ms. Shamsikhol Sultonova is the most established female farmer in her village Aivoch. Managing 20 permanent workers where more than 50% are female, she owns 15 hectares of land for planting cotton and additionally rents 20 hectares of land for cotton production.

Ms. Sultonova approached one of the EBRD's partner banks for a GEFF loan of US\$ 23,729 and invested in a new fuel-efficient tractor. The higher fuel efficiency of the tractor will lead to reduced diesel fuel consumption of at least 20%. The tractor is used for the soil preparation, planting, dissemination of mineral fertilizers and inter-row soil processing.

"With the increased revenues, I plan to introduce a number of different crops and import high quality seeds from neighbouring countries such as Uzbekistan. I will also hire more female workers which provides employment and income opportunities to women in the village as well" explained Ms. Sultonova.



Mr. Abdurasul Jalilov decided to construct two greenhouses covering a total area of 600 m<sup>2</sup> for producing cucumber and tomatoes due to the high demand for them on the market. He approached one of EBRD's partner banks and took a GEFF loan for a modern greenhouse investment.

The US\$ 6,198 investment does not only increase farm revenue, but also significant reductions in water consumption of 1,260 m<sup>3</sup> per year are expected.

"We are known to be successful in combining technical expertise in disease management with our vegetable production. With our greenhouse, we aim to produce high quality, disease-free seedlings in early spring to be sold to other farmers" asserted Mr. Jalilov.



## Examples of eligible technologies\*:

### Agricultural Value Chains

Eligible borrowers are micro, small and medium-sized enterprises operating in agricultural & agribusiness sectors.



- Agricultural machinery



- Intensive orchards



- Irrigation pipes & pumps



- Greenhouses



- Drip irrigation systems



- Cold storages



- Agri processing equipment

In partnership with the EU, GEFF Tajikistan offers incentives to enhance the competitiveness of Tajik farmers and agribusinesses. **Investment grants worth 20% or 30% of loan amount are available for successfully completed and verified projects.**

\*Eligible technologies must exceed minimum performance requirements and perform beyond current market practices, for more details on specific criteria please visit our [website](#) or call **GEFF** office.

### Commercial | Residential

Eligible borrowers are micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and households.



- Equipment modernization



- Solar PV & collectors



- Biomass boilers



- LED lighting



- Insulation materials



- Energy efficient domestic appliances



- Rain water harvesting and storage

Suppliers and vendors of high-performing equipment and materials are also eligible for **GEFF** loans. By partnering with **GEFF** vendors will benefit from increased brand awareness and sales.

## Please contact us for more information:



+992 93 433 90 01;



[tajikistan@ebrdgeff.com](mailto:tajikistan@ebrdgeff.com);



[www.ebrdgeff.com/tajikistan](http://www.ebrdgeff.com/tajikistan)

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