





WELCOME TO THE 4th ISSUE OF THE

GEFF TAJIKISTAN NEWSLETTER!

We continue reporting on the latest results, activities and progress undertaken within the project. Current and past issues are available on our GEFF Tajikistan website.

Building awareness is a key element of the global response to climate change. It helps people understand and address the impact of climate change, increase their knowledge of the environment and encourages changes in attitudes and behaviour that can help them better adapt to the effects of climate change.

GEFF Tajikistan is raising the awareness of climate change impact and suitable mitigation and adaptation options through a range of channels such as the Radio Interviews and Podcast series. This improves the climate change awareness of the Tajik community by focusing on the diverse and unique climate characteristics of each region.

The GEFF Tajikistan Podcast Series aims to provide insights about green financing, benefits of investing in high performance green technologies, products and practices which will support Tajikistan's transition to a green economy. You can find and listen to the five episodes of Podcast Series covering different technologies on our website.



The GEFF Tajikistan Radio Interview Series is focused on the awareness building of innovative technologies, primarily oriented towards rural farmers and agri-businesses. Different technologies like intensive orchards, drip irrigation, minimum tillage, dairy farming and others are discussed during each Radio Interview.

Lastly, as part of the gender mainstreaming activities under GEFF Tajikistan, we conducted the National Gender Workshop to discuss the findings of the baseline assessment and to draw inputs from local stakeholders to enhance the recommendations in the Gender Action Plan.

During this current difficult time, we would like to encourage everyone to stay safe, take care of yourselves and each other! Kairat Shalabay

EBRD's Green Technology Selector (GTS)

The Green Technology Selector is a new world-class platform and another tool to promote green technologies in Tajikistan. The technologies registered in the platform are available on the global level, which gives a great opportunity to the private sector to present their own products and find technologies provided by suppliers from other countries. The Green Technology Selector interacts with contributors from

different countries, helps to bring more innovation to the local community, enhances the green development of Tajikistan and makes growth more robust, resilient and sustainable. The GTS contains materials and technologies that increases energy efficiency, ensures the use of renewable energy sources and reduce water use and soil erosion.











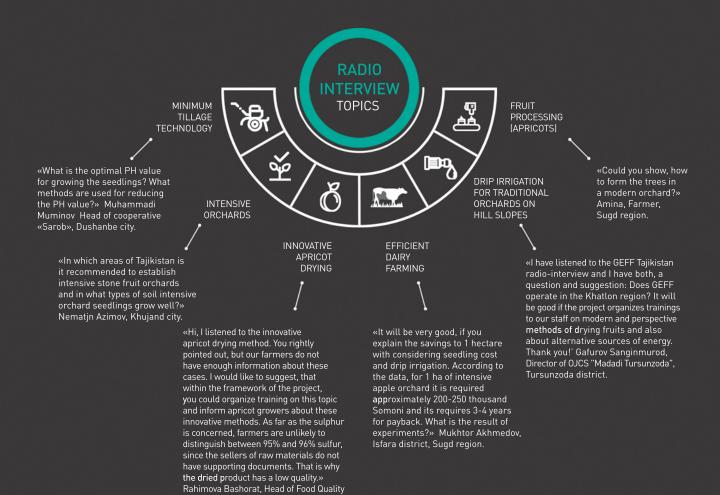




The GEFF Tajikistan Radio Interview Series is focused on awareness building of innovative technologies, primarily oriented towards rural farmers and agri-businesses. The GEFF Tajikistan Radio Interview Series aims

to provide valuable information about innovative green technologies. Dedicated interviews are released on a bi-weekly basis, as moderated by a well-known Tajik speaker. Local radio station Vatan provided technical support and broadcasted the Interview Series throughout Tajikistan. GEFF Tajikistan Deputy Project Manager Mr. Usmonkul Boturov

participated as a representative of the GEFF Tajikistan project, and together with the invited expert provided unique expertise in a particular topic. Each topic was designed to review aspects relating to environmental sustainability, explore ways to use resources and processes more responsibly. Each interview contains solutions shared by the invited expert, who reviewed the actual situations of using green technologies, shared the analysis of the advantages & disadvantages and described the strategies, models and tools required to overcome various challenges. All GEFF Tajikistan Radio Interview and Podcast Series can be found here.



§2.1 GEFF TAJIKISTAN PODCAST SERIES

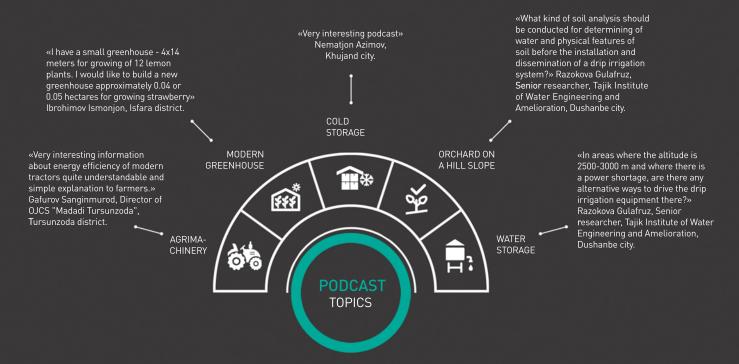
high performance technologies, products and practices



For the past several weeks, GEFF Tajikistan team has been working on a targeted program to inform the Tajik community about the benefits of green financing and investing in

Laboratory, Isfara district, Sugd region.

which will support Tajikistan's transition to a green economy. The Podcasts series are exploring different types of resource efficient technologies, methods of selecting the right ones for the farms and benefits that can be reached. All episodes of the GEFF Tajikistan Podcast series can be found here.



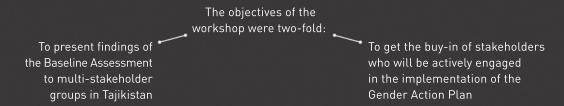
The MP3 files of Radio and Podcast series are published on our Website, post on Facebook page and Viber farmers groups.



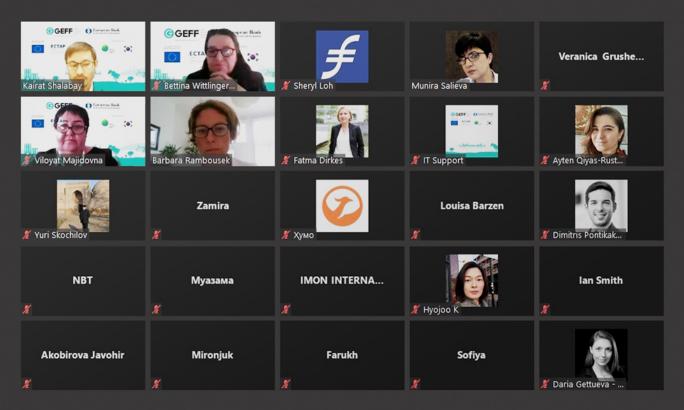
We thank our partners, clients, followers and active listeners for communicating and providing feedback, which inspire us to keep moving forward and to paving the way towards a green future!

§3 THE GEFF TAJIKISTAN NATIONAL GENDER WORKSHOP

The <u>GEFF Tajikistan National Gender Workshop</u> was conducted on 22 September 2020, with over 75 participants including Tajik government representatives, local financial institutions, donor community, private sector, civil society and experts. During the workshop we actively discussed how to enhance women's and men's equal opportunity to access finance for green technologies.



The online workshop program was designed to be an interesting format with multiple interactive elements, including audience polls, break-out rooms to facilitate participation from the audience and case study videos. The interactive workshop engaged participants in stimulating and comprehensive discussions about gender equality, which is a key factor for sustainable transition and inclusive growth.



During the Plenary Session, International Gender Expert Bettina de Wittlinger presented key insights of women's sensitivity and responsiveness to climate change. The following questions were discussed:

- What are the barriers and challenges for women to do so?
- What needs to be put in place to enhance women's access to finance and climate resilience?

During the Parallel sessions, GEFF Tajikistan Project Manager Kairat Shalabay and Local Gender Expert Viloyat Mirzoeva engaged workshop participants in break-out rooms to discuss the following topics:

• Session 1: Serving the unmet demand for green financing under gender lens



• Session 2: Raising public awareness about measures to adapt to climate changes and risks.

«Excellent event! I have been to many workshops; this is by far one of the most informative. Great cases. Love the open environment to ask questions. Good job, thanks for putting the time into this event»

Bozrikova Tatiana, NGO Gender and Development. «Presented in a clear and engaging way! Thank you for inviting me. Loved it. Look forward to the next one»,.

Khairiniso Rasulova, Women and Society Association We are delighted to receive this positive feedback. All proposals and recommendations received from workshop participants will be taken into account when drawing up the Gender Action Plan under the GEFF Tajikistan.

More details on the baseline assessment and its corresponding recommendations, please contact the Project Consultant via email tajikistan@ebrdgeff.com.

GEFF Tajikistan helps the Tajik private sector invest in high-performing technologies by providing concessional loans, investment incentives (for the agricultural sector) and technical assistance to enhance the competitiveness of agricultural value chains and improve climate resilience in Tajikistan. The private sector has a responsibility and

self-interest to assume a vital role in adopting solutions that can combat climate change.

Here are a few case studies of green investments taken by farmers in Tajikistan:



Mr. Gulomjon Ismoilov manages a 6-hectare farm in B. Gafurov, one of the agricultural regions in Tajikistan producing dried fruits and nuts for wholesale trade and export. As a trained economist, he took over the farm management 8 years ago from his parents and was keen to boost its productivity and improve overall farm operations. Mr. Ismoilov approached one of the EBRD partner banks for a GEFF loan of \$13,407 for

a Luzhong 604A model tractor from China. The GEFF team performed the project analysis, assessed the potential of energy savings and technical parameters.

"We are gradually improving our business. With the increased production, we target to export to regional suppliers from Kazakhstan and Russia." said Mr. Ismoilov.



Ms. Balkhumor Mengliqulova manages a 5-hectare farm, cultivating wheat, cotton and vegetables in the Yovon region in southern Tajikistan. Due to increasing groundwater levels, farms in this region face the risk of over-watering of crops as well as soil salinization. This has affected plant growth and water quality, resulting in lower crop yields.

Ms. Mengliqulova approached the GEFF Tajikistan team directly to consult on possibilities for technical and financial

solutions. She agreed to take a loan of \$4,156 to construct a drainage system that is 1,550 meters in length, in order to channel surplus water away. As a result, water savings amounts to 633 m3 per month.

"We are thankful for the technical expertise provided by the GEFF team in addressing problems we face at the farm. With this solution, I can now save water and more importantly improve my crop quality and sell them for better prices at the markets." said Ms. Mengliqulova.















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.

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.

*Eligible technologies must exceed minimum performance requirements and perform beyond current market practices, for more details on specific criteria please visit our <u>website</u> or call GEFF office.

Please contact us for more information:



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