



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



COMMERCIAL HORTICULTURE & AGRICULTURAL MARKETING PROGRAM (CHAMP)

FEBRUARY 2010 – DECEMBER 2019

\$61 MILLION OFF-BUDGET

OVERVIEW

The Commercial Horticulture and Agricultural Marketing Program (CHAMP) works with Afghans to increase the yield and quality of high value crops and increase Afghan exports to regional wholesale markets and supermarkets by up to 15,000 metric tons (MT) annually. CHAMP supports and facilitates each stage of the market process to improve the quality of Afghan horticultural products, from farm to market. CHAMP's agribusiness activities stimulate growth in Afghanistan's agricultural sector, create jobs, improve livelihoods, and boost the economy.

ACTIVITIES

- Improve pre- and post-harvest methods for fresh fruits to meet market requirements
- Link farmers with traders, and traders with domestic and international markets
- Facilitate the export of selected fresh and dry fruits and nuts to regional and international markets
- Build the capacity of agribusinesses (exporters) to comply with international market requirements
- Support the trade offices established in Dubai and New Delhi to facilitate exports from Afghanistan and arrange business-to-business meetings with, and between, traders and buyers
- Establish community-based Farmer Field Schools (informal coaching platforms for farmers in the field)
- Train farmers on improved agriculture techniques, including planting, fertilization, irrigation, and disease and pest control
- Support traders to adopt global packing standards by introducing corrugated cartons and plastic containers to reduce damage to fruit during shipment
- Assist Afghan exporters to participate in exhibitions such as the Dubai Gulfood Exhibition and the India International Trade Fair to open up new markets for Afghan produce.
- Mainstream new agricultural practices, such as grape trellising, pruning ladders, collection baskets, sulfur drying of apricots, and growing produce driven by market demand

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Facilitated exports of over 45,400 metric tons of fresh and dried fruit and nuts worth an estimated \$49 million, from 2010-2016, to international markets including Pakistan, Bahrain, Canada, India, the United Arab Emirates, Russia and Saudi Arabia
- Benefitted 38,400 Afghan households through activities ranging from establishing commercial orchards to exporting high quality produce
- Created more than 7,700 full-time jobs through opportunities afforded by increased production, quality improvement and export facilitation
- Increased 19,714 farmers' incomes 4.5 fold by assisting them to switch from annual crops to perennial crops
- Helped 19,500 farmers to plant more than 2.85 million fruit saplings, pomegranate and grape rooted cuttings, and converted 6,170 hectares previously used for cereal crops to fruit orchards and vineyards
- Assisted 2,900 farmers to trellis 600 hectares of existing vineyards in Kabul, Parwan, Logar, Ghazni, Zabul, Helmand and Kapisa provinces, realizing yield increases of more than 100% and a significant increase in quality over traditional method of leaving vines on the ground
- Constructed over 230 improved raisin-drying facilities and cool storage rooms for apples in partnership with farmers

Date: November 2016
E-mail: kblaidocinformation@usaid.gov
Web: <http://www.usaid.gov/afghanistan>