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AFGHANISTAN'S AGRIBUSINESS SECTOR AND ITS PROSPECTS

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to address the principal problems which still hinder the growth potential of Afghanistan's agriculture (agribusiness) sector in Afghanistan, and to review the steps taken to develop the Agribusiness sector, - examining the priority issues requiring immediate stakeholders and government attention. And to provide a means of coordinating the efforts and resources of agribusiness sector stakeholders – including Afghanistan government Ministries/Agencies, International development agency programs, business associations, and private sector (Entrepreneurs) to implement projects and initiatives to resolve the principal problems that are inhibiting the growth and expansion of the agribusiness sector in Afghanistan.

Following a review of the literature, the paper describes the proactive measures taken by the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan government to support the development of the country's agribusiness sector. The ministry of industry and commerce (MoIC) has created policies and action plans that outline the key priorities and initiatives required to encourage the growth of this priority sector in Afghanistan. In this paper, I will include information on the resources that can be mobilized to address the identified challenges, secure stakeholder support to undertake systematic efforts to remove constraints and provide the basis for developing detailed suggestions and recommendations to be implemented for achieving the objectives contained.

Keywords: *Situation analysis of the Afghan Agribusiness sector, SWOT Analysis of the Sector, Suggestions, and key set of actions and recommendations to develop the Agriculture Sector in Afghanistan and Identifying requirements for the implementation of the suggested priority actions to secure stakeholder support to undertake systematic efforts to remove constraints in this sector.*

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Recent developments and status of the sector

- ✓ ***Increased exports***. Export trade figures published by the Central Statistics Organization for fresh fruit, dried fruit, and nuts show a 6.4-fold increase from $64.3 million to over $407.3 million in 2023. And recently Afghanistan Products was awarded a gold medal in India's 41st International Trade Fair (November,14-27,2022) from the Indian Government.
- ✓ Cold Storage Facilities. The Higher Economic Commission has given the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock permission to establish

KEY ROLES FOR GOVERNMENT IN SME DEVELOPMENT

- ***Policymaker –*** Develop a national and regional SME policy that will identify priority sectors for SME development and address the major needs of each of those sectors, especially in financing, capacity building, and infrastructure.
- ***Facilitator –*** Remove obstacles, bureaucracy, and market inefficiencies that inhibit SME growth.
- ***Regulator –*** Ensure that the competitive environment for SME growth remains strong and that the many forces that influence their growth (government, SMEs, trading partners, etc.).
- ***Coordinator –*** Help align organizations (donors, NGOs, that are already working to promote SMEs.

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a program for the building of eight new, "state-of-the-art" post-harvest cold storage facilities with a capacity of 20,000 MT each, for large-scale commercial use, to locate in each of the eight major cities throughout Afghanistan.

- ✓ Agribusiness investments. Afghanistan now boasts a state-of-the-art juice concentrate facility that complies with international food safety standards and opens new opportunities for Afghan traders in support of the Afghan First Policy.
- ✓ Export Facilities. Though Afghanistan is a landlocked country, still good initiatives have been taken by the Afghan government through the Ministry of Industries and Commerce (MoIC) and other agencies (Agribusiness Chamber of Commerce and Afghan Chamber of Commerce and Investment (ACCI)) to increase the Afghanistan commodities export through the neighbor countries and the air-corridor facilities to Asian and European Countries. The recent target of the Afghanistan government is to change Afghanistan from an Imported Country to an Exported Country and increase the export to 3 billion by 2025.
- ✓ Employment. Agriculture continues to be the main source of income for the Afghanistan economy with more than 80 percent of Afghanistan's population involved in farming and Agri- processing activities.

1.2 Priority problems and constraints

Lack of availability of local processing and packaging inputs (chemicals, straw, plastic cartons, aluminum cans), (2) Need for training on improved resource and waste management, and for quality standard testing and certification, (3) Need to reactivate Afghanistan's membership of the International Convention on Transport Routes (TIR) agreement and renegotiate the terms and conditions of existing bi-lateral and regional transport agreements, such as the Afghanistan/Pakistan trade transport agreement, (4) MAIL (Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock) and MOIC (Ministry of Industry and Commerce) need to ensure that the program of construction of eight cold storage facilities remains a high priority for the agribusiness sector and the government of Afghanistan and try to keep follow up on its completion within the specified time and budget, (5) High transportation costs limit the ability of exporters to ship goods directly to overseas customers, (6) Limited capacity of local technical expertise to address poor local quality packaging and lack of material inputs. Some 20-40% of post-harvest horticulture products are wasted because of poor packaging, (7) Need to develop improved international market linkages for Afghan dried fruit and nut products, (8) Limited availability of land and service facilities in Industrial Parks for the establishment and expansion of agribusiness value chain activities (storage, grading & packaging), (9) Lack of continuous "three-phase" high voltage power from the national grid supply to operate refrigerated and processing facilities, (10) Lack of access to Islamic/Sharia-based long term finance for the purchase of larger capital investments ($1m to $10m) where the loan tenure should be up to 10 years - or longer; and (11) Lack of commercial bank financing for the lease purchase of refrigerated trucks/reefer containers.

1.3 Growth prospects and investment opportunities

Investments are needed in several key areas, including: (1) Improved transportation and logistics facilities, (2) Investment in modern processing equipment and processes that include - cleaning, sorting, and grading, (3) Investment in packaging plants that incorporate quality control measures such as product hygiene and traceability, (4) More effective export marketing and promotion; and, (5) Provision of serviced land in industrial parks to facilitate clustering of storage, processing, and packaging processes.

2.0 OVERVIEW AND CURRENT STATUS OF THE AGRIBUSINESS SECTOR

2.1 Nature, scope, and importance of the agribusiness sector

The climate of Afghanistan is well suited for the cultivation of horticultural crops and Afghanistan is the geographic origin of many high-end crops like raisins, pomegranates, pistachios, and almonds. There are approximately 1 million farms in Afghanistan and more than 2,000 wholesalers for horticulture products. Products are brought directly from the farms to five major wholesale markets located in Kabul, Mazar-e-Sharif, Kandahar, Herat, and Jalalabad. Between farmers and wholesalers, there are thousands more employed as middlemen all along the value chain.

Agriculture is a primary driver of Afghanistan's economic growth, providing sustainable livelihood support to much of the country's rural population. The agribusiness sector and the multitude of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (traders, wholesalers, processors, packagers, haulers, and retailers) that it embraces, are the driving force for the further development of agriculture in Afghanistan.

Most of the private sector entrepreneurs in Afghanistan are farmers and the bulk of industrial sector processing is geared toward providing services to farmers and farm-related businesses. Because this sector contributes the most to national income and personal livelihoods, increased investment in the agri-business and agriculture areas will have a direct positive impact on the lives of thousands of Afghans. Intensive

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commercial farming increases sustainable economic growth in rural areas, encourages competition, contributes to regional development, and helps sustain the growth of private businesses.

Boosting agriculture and developing the agribusiness sector holds the key to increased product demand. The agribusiness sector plays an essential value chain role in moving products from farm to market in each of the stages of the value chain, including storage, processing, packaging, transportation, and marketing of quality fresh produce to regular domestic and lucrative export markets.

Indeed, all the value chains for fresh fruit and vegetables, dried fruits, and nuts are intact and reasonably profitable for most of the participants in the respective chains, from growers to final consumers. However, these production and marketing systems are attuned to a minimum capital investment system that prevails in an insecure environment and is limited by the challenges that exist in the current environment.

Almost all farming households in rural areas have some fruit trees for self-consumption. Fruit orchards are also a major source of income for farmers in much of the country and production from the majority of large to medium-sized orchards is exclusively for markets. Lack of sufficient water has constrained the planned rehabilitation and replanting of orchards in some districts of the Southern, Southwestern, and Western provinces.

Vegetables
Vegetables are grown by most farm families for market and consumption. An estimated 6% of the total irrigated area is reported to be planted with mostly common summer vegetables. Special areas for the cultivation of onions and potatoes were noted in central, eastern, and northeastern provinces. During 2011-2012 the land area under potato production was approximately 20,500 hectares with cumulative production of 205,000 tons – yielding 10 ten tons per hectare. The land area under onion cultivation was 10,970 hectares with a production of 87760 tons – yielding 8 tons per hectare.

Fruits
Afghanistan produces a variety of fruits such as grapes, pomegranates, apples, apricots, almonds, pistachios, and several varieties of berries. Fruit cultivation accounts for 1.5% of the arable land area covering some 119,229 hectares. Grape production amounted to 492,500 tons during this 2011-2012 period. [1]

Nuts
After years of economic isolation, Afghanistan is now in the process of fully integrating into the global dry fruit and nuts market with approximately 45% of its export earnings coming from dried fruits and nuts. The dried fruit and nuts sector has demonstrated the potential to expand the production of high-quality and unique products and expand the export market. The implementation of a limited number of action plan recommendations would provide a better business environment in which to continue to expand production and exports.

2.2 Principal markets
Dried fruit is the country's largest legal export; and (Principal export markets include Pakistan (48%), India (19%), Russia (9%), Iran (5%), Iraq (4%), and Turkey (3%), which cumulatively account for 88% of total exports during Recent years from 2019-2021).

Exports by Country in Recent Years
Afghanistan is an agricultural country with a total area of 3 percent forest an arable area is 12 percent and land under permanent pastures of 46 percent. The remaining is mountain and constructions (39 percent). There are cultivation plants by land face water and rainfall. Rain-fed wheat is important for cereal production. Wheat constitutes 88 percent of consumption. Fruits including watermelon and melon, apricot, pomegranate, and grapes are produced for consumption and export, also dried fruit, and nuts especially apricot and almond are important for export.[2]

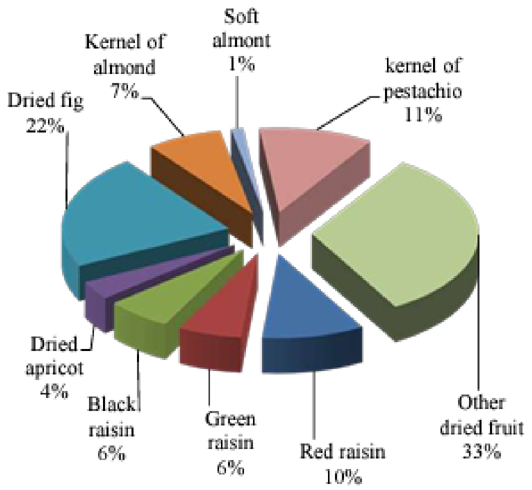
Exports by Country in Recent Years

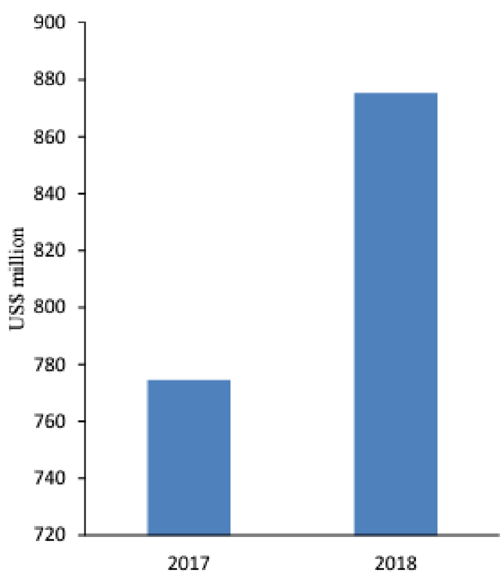
No.	Country	US $
1	Pakistan	180,649,605
2	India	70,437,984
3	Russia	33,033,623
4	Iran	19,533,078
5	Iraq	15,424,454

[1] Afghanistan Statistical Yearbook 2011-2012
[2] Afghanistan Statistical Yearbook 2018

6	Turkey	11,456,047
7	Finland	6,098,307
8	China	5,872,095
9	Tajikistan	5,312,168
10	Turkmenistan	3,845,923
11	U.S.A.	3,540,351
12	United Arab Emirates	3,245,390
13	Poland	2,400,163
14	United Kingdom	1,718,440
15	Germany	1,525,984
16	Italy	1,463,719
17	Egypt	1,371,350
18	Saudi Arabia	1,274,107
19	Kazakhstan	1,118,900
20	Netherlands	1,052,702
21	Belgium	923,526
22	Hong Kong	907,058
23	Canada	882,438
24	Sweden	810,614
25	Brazil	494,000
26	Ukraine	321,480
27	Japan	275,400
28	Latvia	195,700
29	France	166,002
30	Uzbekistan	148,791
31	Yemen Republic	122,000
32	Australia	111,502
33	Denmark	67,179
34	Spain	37,800
35	Greece	5,405
36	Taiwan	4,720
37	Kyrgyzstan Republic	750
Total		**375,848,755**

Source: www.cso.gov.af/exportsbycountry





Export

Composition and Export Value Graph of Dried Fruit-2018
Source: Afghanistan Statistical Yearbook 2018

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3.0 THE AGRIBUSINESS VALUE CHAIN

3.1 Structure and performance

Farming, harvesting, and selling activities in Afghanistan are conducted in a very traditional manner. Traders visit the farmer during production, negotiate a price before harvest, and then collect the produce at harvest. Market information on 25 items is compiled from five urban markets in Afghanistan and Peshawar, Pakistan; this compilation allows farmers to determine fair market prices via cell phone. Traders are responsible for collecting, transporting, and selling product to local and regional wholesale markets, Kabul, and/or neighbouring export markets like Pakistan, based on price. Actors along the value chain (traders, wholesalers, and retailers) themselves are traditional and for the most part, do not have cold storage or refrigerated transport.

The Nangarhar Province, a major fruit and vegetable production area, is a season ahead of Kabul and central Afghanistan and, provides products to Kabul and other parts of the country at reasonably good prices. Pakistan had low production due to poor weather conditions in 2011 and, as a result, has been a strong market for Afghan produce.

Farmers tend to be small, diversified producers with land holdings of approximately four jeribs (less than one hectare). The farmers' first production priority is subsistence, followed by commercial interests. Opportunities for farmers lie within increased productivity/yields and reduced losses. In Nangarhar, the population is increasing due to urban sprawl, resulting in competition for land uses for natural resources. Diminishing land resources combined with increasing land prices deter smallholder farmers from increasing their production base.

Cold storage is not viable as a stand-alone function; it is viable when it is an integral part of a functioning cold chain. The cold chain consists of a series of refrigerated storage-transport links designed to keep perishable commodities at the correct temperature until they reach the end user—the consumer. The cold chain must start at the point where it will be maintained, not broken. Establishing a cold-storage facility at the beginning of the value chain where the cold chain does not exist (participants and transport further along the value chain are without cold storage) will do more harm than good. Products in a cold-storage environment brought into ambient temperature will break down at a much faster rate than not having been cooled at all. The cold chain reflects the degree of sophistication of the value chain and the stage of development of each industry segment.

For perishable commodities, the goal is to move—not store—the product. Apples, onions, and like products can be stored for a period until the preferred market window using appropriate technology such as a controlled atmosphere. The goal is to produce targeted commodities when there is a price advantage based on the market window at consistent quality and volume.
Reducing the field heat at harvest with the use of pre-coolers, combined with the cold chain, prolongs the shelf life of the product by a few weeks, which is of huge benefit and
value to the retailer. The cold chain allows longer shelf life to sell a higher quality product.

Temperature-Controlled Supply Chain

3.2 SWOT analysis - Strengths and weaknesses or gaps in the agribusiness value chain

The SWOT analysis below distills the discussion from the preceding sections into the key strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats facing the Agribusiness sector in Afghanistan.

Strengths • Favourable conditions for fruit and vegetable cultivation • Well-known in regional markets for its fruits' unique taste • Abundance of high-quality dried fruits and nuts	**Weaknesses** • Inconsistent supply and quality • High costs of raw products • Lack of formal value-addition industries, poor packaging, sorting, grading, and processing • Lack of diversified export buyers
Opportunities • Formal Processing facilities • Developing more attractive, functional, and consumer-friendly packaging	**Threats** • Failure to fulfill international quality certification standards and requirements, can jeopardize the development of the sector

• Strengthening the "Produced in Afghanistan brand" • Sourcing new buyers – regional & international	

3.3 Investment needs and opportunities

The Agri-processing sector has first-mover advantages for investors in modern processing techniques that involve cleaning, sorting, and grading, and packaging plants that incorporate quality control measures like hygiene and traceability. Such investments can also offer increased employment opportunities in rural communities, particularly for women and youth. Investment opportunities also exist in marketing services, refrigerated transport, and logistics.

4.0 STRATEGY AND PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVING COMPETITIVENESS

4.1 Suggested Specific development priorities and actions needed to address constraints and take advantage of opportunities

Information provided by stakeholders during the development of this updated action plan, together with a review of available reports and analyses of the Afghanistan agribusiness sector, provides a clear and consistent picture of the principal problems that need to be addressed to support Afghanistan's agribusiness sector.

1. Skill levels and training – The operation of storage, processing, and packaging facilities in the value chain require management by individuals with proven best-management/industry practice experience to minimize waste and maximize price advantage based on consistency of supply volume and quality.
2. Energy cost – The cost of electricity is prohibitive due to limited coverage and poor quality of the electric grid supply. Dependence on diesel-generated energy is the norm. Cold storage should only be considered for grapes, pomegranates, and peaches if the cold chain can be maintained beyond the cold-storage facility. For other fresh fruits, there is a questionable added value when confronted with the high costs of energy. High costs combined with little attention to market structure and cold-chain requirements have proven to be major challenges to existing cold-storage infrastructure.
3. Improving transportation and logistics -- Agribusiness sector firms and associations need to collaborate with shipping and logistics companies and GoIRA ministries (particularly MOTCA) to develop reliable, lower-cost global transportation links and logistic services through an expanded array of trade corridors; exporters need to work together to consolidate shipments and negotiate with shipping companies for more favorable air freight rates; the GoIRA should speed up efforts to remove remaining barriers caused by inefficient and improper customs operations and work to fully implement new trade agreements and transportation treaties such as the TIR (International Convention on Transport Routes).
4. Building market linkages – Exporters, with public sector support, need to increase direct contact with end-market buyers through regular participation in trade shows and market promotion events to improve the flow of market information and generate increased sales.
5. Improving supply of inputs – Development support is needed to facilitate investments in appropriate technology and equipment for processing and packaging such as sealing machines, vacuum wrap machines, potato chip slicers, mincers, juicers, and mixers.
6. Provision of land and infrastructure – MoIC (Ministry of Industry and Commerce) and private sector firms and associations should lobby AISA and other GoIRA ministries to speed up the availability and process of acquiring serviced facilities in industrial parks and other locations. This would encourage the development of agribusiness sector clusters that offer better working conditions and increased employment opportunities.
7. Improving access to finance— Afghan agribusiness-sector entrepreneurs need to be able to access longer-term financing, which is necessary for larger item capital investments, where the loan tenure should be up to 10 years - or longer.

4.2 ***Stakeholder roles in implementing the below-highlighted constraints in this paper***

The following table provides an illustrative summary breakdown of the roles that various stakeholder groups can play in putting into practice the suggested solutions for the issues listed to support the growth of the agriculture sector in Afghanistan. It includes current sources of assistance for various types of business development activities.

Problem area	Stakeholder roles3
Improving the supply of inputs	Agribusiness sector associations and companies – identify needs for new investments or upgrades; and invest in the local production of chemicals, straw, plastic cartons, and cans to reduce product damage and spoilage. Donor programs – help firms acquire equipment (through PPAs or loans) needed to produce inputs required for processing and packaging using local resources.
Improving transportation and logistics	MOIC (Ministry of Industry and Commerce) – reactivate Afghanistan's membership of TIR and renegotiate more favorable terms of existing bilateral transport agreements, including the Afghan-Pakistan trade transport agreement. Agribusiness associations and companies – coordinating efforts to consolidate shipments to obtain more favorable rates; negotiating with freight forwarders and air freight companies to obtain more favorable rates. MOTCA (Ministry of Transport, and Civil Aviation)—facilitate negotiations with shipping companies and offer incentives (such as reduced landing charges for air freight companies) to help exporters obtain more favorable rates.
Skills level and training	Establish training centers – invest in training on post-harvest product handling for improved profitability, resource, and waste management, how to develop better marketing materials and packaging, use of online marketing tools, brochures, websites, etc.
Energy cost	Ministry of Industry and Commerce and Ministry of Energy & Water and Da Afghanistan Da Brishna Shirkat to provide adequate voltage from the national grid at an affordable cost as opposed to diesel generator supplies.
Building market linkages	Agribusiness associations and companies – arrange regular participation in regional/international trade shows and marketing events; invest in training to learn how to use online marketing tools; develop better marketing materials, including online brochures, websites, etc. Donor programs: provide technical and financial support to help organize and conduct market promotion events.
Provision of land and infrastructure for cold storage and cold chain development	Speed up the process of making land and supporting infrastructure available in industrial parks and other locations to agribusiness sector firms to support the development of sector clusters and upgraded processing facilities.
Improving access to finance	Donor programs – provide funds/credit lines to financial institutions to introduce long new term financing products (up to 10 years) to fund larger capital investments. Ministry of Industry and Commerce and Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MOCI, and MAIL) – encourage commercial banks to develop new financing products (e.g., equipment leasing) to meet the real needs of the agribusiness sector.
Improving the supply of inputs	Agribusiness sector associations and companies – identify needs for new investments or upgrades; and invest in the local production of chemicals, straw, plastic cartons, and cans to reduce product damage and spoilage. Donor programs – help firms acquire equipment (through PPAs or loans) needed to produce inputs required for processing and packaging using local resources.

4.3 *Recommendations for implementing the findings and suggestions*

Implementing the activities included in this paper will require active participation and support from the full range of stakeholders in the agribusiness sector, including individuals, companies, business associations, NGOs,

[3] The above list includes some of the projects and organizations that are currently supporting activities related to the agribusiness sector or potentially could contribute resources in the future to help improve performance in these areas. Listing these organizations and projects does not imply a commitment to undertake specific agribusiness development initiatives. Specific roles for different organizations, projects, and other stakeholder groups will be worked out over the course of implementing the outlined suggestions and actions in this paper.

International development agencies and project implementers, and the Afghanistan Islamic Republic Government ministries and agencies. Different groups of stakeholders will need to work out methods for undertaking cooperative initiatives to attack and solve the priority problems highlighted in this paper. This will entail: (1) Organizing working groups that include participants willing to take an active role in dealing with the specific challenges outlined in the paper, (2) Sharing information, (3) Actively collaborating to develop specific implementation plans, systems, and schedules to deal with constraints and problems outlined in this paper, (4) Assigning responsibilities to different groups and individuals and establishing schedules and deadlines for carrying out various tasks; and (5) Monitoring progress in achieving performance targets and meeting deadline.

5.0 Summary of identified findings and priority constraints[4]		
Main problems	**Main priorities**	**Possible tasks/activities**
Food Processing		
Lack of availability of local inputs – chemicals, straws, plastic cartons, and aluminum cans	Support local entrepreneurs to produce input materials and products for the domestic market	Afghan Government Organisations Especially the Ministry of Agriculture, and Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MoIC) SME Directorate to lobby the Ministry of Finance to reduce import levies on these inputs and create incentives for the private sector (Entrepreneurs) to stimulate investment in the agribusiness processing sector.
Licensing	Streamline the licensing/regulatory process	Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MoIC) to Provide Facilities for Entrepreneurs in the process of issuing Investment and Export/import trade licenses.
Access to high-voltage electricity from the National grid	Provide a continuous level of high-voltage power at a reasonable cost	Ministry of Energy and Water to provide “three-phase” power to the agribusiness-processing companies.
ISO certification for domestic produce	For small-scale processors – informal home-based enterprises	MOIC- SME Directorate should facilitate the ISO Certificate through certifications Companies and groups (Hexa Group) and others, to manage and regulate the quality standards certification process for these small processors.
Transportation		
High transportation costs for the export of fresh fruit & nuts	Negotiation of favorable cargo shipping rates with airlines	MOCI to manage the engagement process with major exporters to achieve competitive shipping rates with airline companies and expand freight facilities from Kabul to regional airports, through the recently established air-corridors, (Kam-Air & Afghan Ariana Airlines)
Transport and trade agreements	Renegotiation of existing bi-lateral and regional trade transport agreements	Reactivation of Afghanistan’s membership of TIR and renegotiation of the terms and conditions of the Afghanistan/Pakistan trade transport agreement
Packaging		
Lack of inputs	Elimination of post-harvest product loss/spoilage through inferior packaging	Support to local packaging companies to develop quality packaging solutions to best world standards, upgrading of food packaging lines
Marketing		
Poor market linkages	increase market opportunities for Afghan dried and fresh fruits and nuts, which has a high demand worldwide	MOIC to support the development of a consistent marketing strategy and engage in joint activities that support international marketing programs for Afghan producers and exporters
Cold Storage		
Lack of available	Provide increased cold	Expedite the implementation of the current plan by MAIL to

[4] The above list includes some of the projects and organizations that are currently supporting activities related to the agribusiness sector or potentially could contribute resources in the future to help improve performance in these areas. Listing these organizations and projects does not imply a commitment to undertake specific agribusiness development initiatives. Specific roles for different organizations, projects, and other stakeholder groups will be worked out over the course of implementing the outlined actions in this paper.

cold storage capacity	storage and cold chain capacity	establish eight cold storage facilities of 20,000 MT in eight regional cities of Afghanistan: support investments in refrigerated transport facilities
Access to Credit		
Lack of sources of finance available for capital expenditure and working capital	Identify provider of Islamic based /Sharia long-term financing (7–10-year loan tenure)	Finance required large traders for the establishment of cold storage plants, purchase of processing plant equipment – fruit and vegetable washing facilities, concentrate juice production, and purchase of tetra long life packaging equipment. Financing in the range from $1 million to $10 million due to the loan risk for Afghanistan
Financing for refrigerated vehicles	Presently there is no provider of the medium term based – Sharia financing	SME Directorate to work with MOF (Ministry of Finance) to develop a credit line with Afghanistan financing institutions to develop new leasing /financing products

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[3] www.cso.gov.af/exportsbycountry
[4] Afghanistan Statistical Yearbook 2018
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ACRONYMS

AAIP	Afghanistan Agricultural Input Project
ABADE	Assistance in Building Afghanistan by Developing Enterprises
ACCI	Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry
ACE	Agricultural Credit Enhancement Program
ADB	Agricultural Development Fund
AGF	Afghan Growth Finance
AISA	Afghanistan Investment Support Agency
ANSA	Afghanistan National Standards Authority
ARFC	Agricultural Rural Finance Company
CARD-F	Comprehensive Agricultural and Rural Development – Facility
CHAMP	Commercial Horticulture and Agriculture Marketing Program
CSO	Central Statistics Office
DASTGAH	Developing Access to Skills and Trade for Growth of Agri-business
EPAA	Export Promotion Agency of Afghanistan
FAIDA	Financial Access for Investing in the Development of Afghanistan
GoIRA	Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
HLP	Horticulture and Livestock Program
IDEA-NEW	Incentive Driving Economic Alternatives-North, East, West
IFC	International Finance Corporation
MAIL	Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock
MOEW	Ministry of Energy and Water
MOCI	Ministry of Commerce and Industry
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MOTCA	Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation
MRRD	Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
MSME	Micro Medium and Small Enterprises
NMDP	National Marketing Development Project
OPIC	Overseas Private Investment Corporation
PPA	Public Private Alliance
TIR	International Convention on Transport Routes
USAID	United States Agency for International Development