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AFGHANISTAN

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FACT SHEET

Badam Bagh Demonstration Farm

OVERVIEW

Badam Bagh Demonstration Farm, located in Kabul, provides Afghan farmers with the knowledge to improve agricultural practices, use modern technology, and access new markets. The farm is a vibrant educational center with laser-leveled land; fresh fruits and vegetables; and modern, hygienic farming systems that are helping to invigorate Afghanistan's agricultural sector. Managed by USAID as part of the Accelerating Sustainable Agriculture Program (ASAP), Badam Bagh is also the site of the annual Kabul International AgFair.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

- **Share technology and best practices:** Badam Bagh is a site of constant testing, demonstration, and use of new technologies including water-saving techniques such as laser-land leveling, plastic mulch, and drip-and-siphon irrigation, which conserve water while increasing production
- **Introduce experimental products:** Badam Bagh is experimenting with improved varieties of popular crops to research which high-value fruits and vegetables can be grown in the Kabul region
- **Adapt to new markets:** Hygienic farming practices and an absence of contaminants in the fields reflect Badam Bagh's commitment to demonstrating the highest degree of environmental responsibility
- **Provide income to local women:** Partnership with the Afghan Women's Business Council (AWBC) for an integrated gender and development project
- **Kabul AgFairs:** Badam Bagh is the site of Kabul International AgFairs, which have generated millions of dollars in business deals and have raised the profile of Afghanistan's agricultural sector to the global level
- **Transition to Afghan Government:** Transition responsibility of the Badam Bagh Demonstration Farm to the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock to ensure sustainability of the important venue

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Established Badam Bagh Demonstration Farm in Kabul to demonstrate the modern technologies and practices of a commercial farm to Afghans
 - Local women's organization are harvesting and marketing the produce locally to contribute to the economy and use the profits to establish agribusinesses
 - Restaurants and supermarkets are welcoming Badam Bagh's new crops, which include strawberries, sweet corn, cherry tomatoes, broccoli, and spinach (strawberries in particular have been very successful, with fresh packed containers selling for up to \$3 per kilogram)
- Increased the quantity and quality of grapes two-fold and made maintenance and harvesting easier than the traditional Afghan method of growing grapes near the ground through trellising