

U.S. AGRICULTURE ASSISTANCE STRATEGY FRAMEWORK FOR AFGHANISTAN (PUBLIC VERSION)

The U.S. Agriculture Strategy for Afghanistan mobilizes support for the Afghan government and the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock (MAIL) and the private sector to revitalize Afghanistan's agricultural economy and increase income and jobs. Shared objectives of MAIL and the USG (USDA, USAID, ADT, and USACE) within the context of the National Agricultural Development Framework include:

Goal 1: Increase agricultural sector jobs and income

- 1.1 Increase agricultural productivity by increasing farmers' access to inputs and effective extension services
- 1.2 Invigorate agribusiness by increasing linkages between farmers, markets, credit, and trade corridors
- 1.3 Rehabilitate watersheds and improve irrigation infrastructure

Goal 2: Increase Afghans' confidence in their government

Increasing the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock's capacity to deliver services and promote the private sector and farmer associations through direct budget and technical assistance

Key Guiding Principles:

- The Afghan government leads;
- Agriculture assistance will have a strong focus on counterinsurgency objectives in insecure areas and investment in sustainable agricultural growth throughout Afghanistan;
- Government involvement in markets should focus on regulation and enabling the private sector;
- Projects should be linked to key value chains where possible; and
- Agriculture assistance should be demand driven from farmers and rural communities, with technical guidance from provincial agricultural working groups.¹

¹ National-level programming will be required from some efforts such as agri-business that need to focus on regional and national market development.