

STRENGTHENING EXPORT COMPETITIVENESS OF SMES IN THE TEXTILE AND CLOTHING SECTOR AND ENHANCING TRADE SUPPORT INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES IN TAJIKISTAN

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TAJIKISTAN AT THE ISTANBUL YARN FAIR

Three Tajik spinning companies, “Faizi Istiqlol-2011”, “Spitamam Textiles”, and “Tenta Kulyab” will represent Tajikistan at the 11th International Istanbul Yarn Fair from 26 March to 29 March 2014.

The International Trade Centre (ITC) is organizing the participation of the Tajik companies in this leading specialized exhibition with a large number of buyers and visitors from the region for the third year running. The presence of the Tajik companies at the fair is made possible by the ITC project funded by the Government of Switzerland within its Trade Cooperation Program (TCP) in Tajikistan. As last year, the 11th International Istanbul Yarn Fair will once again be concurrently held with the 31st International Textile, Weaving, Spinning, Finishing, Knitting, Hosiery Machines, Related Industries & Chemicals Fair. Ms. Nargiza Abdumajidova, National Programme Associate from the International Trade Centre in Tajikistan, who will accompany and guide the Tajik delegation throughout the fair, believes that *“The International Istanbul Yarn Fair is an ideal event for visitors and exhibitors from the yarn industry. Visitors will get an overview of the options available and learn more about yarn product manufacturers and suppliers. It will be an excellent opportunity for Tajik spinning companies to show and promote their products to a wide range of buyers (sales agents, wholesalers and retailers) from Turkey and other countries. The Tajik companies will gain access to new markets in Turkey – the world’s 3rd largest manufacturer”*.

The exhibition will increase cooperation opportunities for Tajik spinning companies. Tajik companies achieved very good results from last years’ participation in the fair.

Hosting more than 40,000 visitors from around 70 countries and more than 200 exhibitors from different countries, the International Istanbul Yarn Fair acts as a meeting point for sector professionals. The exhibition displays cotton yarn, textile machinery, fabrics, animal yarn, textile pigment, clothing, textile products, fibres yarns & threads and much more. Tajik participants believe that participation will open up new opportunities for companies, which already export yarn to Turkey, as well as companies hoping to export their products. Mr. Mirzokodir Bakoev, General Director of “Spitamam Textiles” says, *“I believe that the exhibition will be very useful and beneficial for us. Last year’s participation was very useful for our company. There is high demand for our product in the region and the fair will give us the perfect opportunity to establish direct business linkages and partnerships with potential clients and to diversify our orders. We can also gain a lot of useful information about modern equipment and machinery, as well as lab equipment used in the textile industry”*.

The present project is component FOUR of the Trade Cooperation Program (TCP) in Tajikistan and aims to increase the export competitiveness of the textile and clothing (T&C) sector, by providing sector specific support to SMEs and relevant trade support institutions (TSIs), as well as supporting respective stakeholders in taking a strategic approach to the sector’s development. It will also explore the challenges and development potential of the tourism and handicraft sectors in Tajikistan, outlining relevant trade related technical assistance priorities.

Swiss support: Within its Cooperation Strategy for 2012-2015, Switzerland focuses on four sectors in Tajikistan; Health, Rule of Law, Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation, and Private Sector Development. The overall goal of Swiss Cooperation in Tajikistan is to support the transition process in the country through

contributing to economic development and by helping build institutions and systems which are responsive to the population's needs. www.swisscoop.tj, www.deza.admin.ch, www.seco-cooperation.admin.ch

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