

STRENGTHENING EXPORT COMPETITIVENESS OF SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES IN THE TEXTILE AND CLOTHING SECTOR AND ENHANCING TRADE SUPPORT INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES IN TAJIKISTAN

12 November 2015, Milan, Italy

Tajik companies gain access to modern garment manufacturing technologies

Tajik textile and clothing companies are visiting one of the world's largest integrated textile and garment manufacturing technology fairs in the world, ITMA (www.itma.com). It's the first time that Tajik textile and clothing companies have visited this fair which began today, 12 November 2015, in the world's fashion center, Milan, Italy.

The following companies from Tajikistan will participate in this leading one-week long international fair: "Maftuna", "Nassoji Khujand", "Nohid", "Olim Textile", "Ortex", "Spitamen Textile", and "Vahdat".

Tajik participation in the fair has been organized under the ITC Tajikistan project funded by the Government of Switzerland within its Trade Cooperation Program (TCP) in Tajikistan.

ITMA provides an established global platform for over 1,500 exhibitors, from more than 40 countries, to showcase their technologies to garment manufacturers from more than 140 countries. ITMA helps to connect companies looking for partnerships and provides cooperation prospects across the whole sector. Mr. Saidmumin Kamolov, ITC National Programme Manager in Tajikistan, says, "the Tajik delegation will have an unique chance to seek cooperation opportunities with producers of exciting manufacturing technologies, raise its awareness of modern processing techniques for advanced materials, meet new partners within the fibre & yarn sector including the new recycled fibres and yarns sub-sector, and see emerging and sustainable printing technologies. The fair will also serve as a knowledge sharing and networking platform for Tajik textile and clothing business leaders".

Apart from offering innovative and sustainable manufacturing technologies, the fair also hosts different forums and conferences related to the textile and clothing industry, such as the 2nd World Textile Summit on 13 November 2015 and the Digital Textile Conference on 15 November 2015.

Since it began working in Tajikistan in 2002, the International Trade Centre has supported the Tajik private sector in its efforts to enter foreign markets through improving products, expanding design and marketing skills, as well as establishing international contacts through participation in international fairs.

This 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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