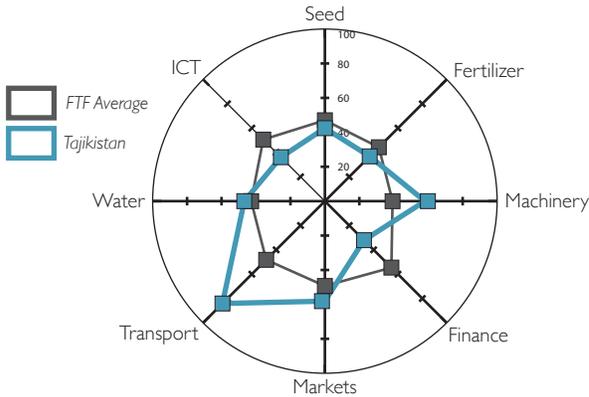




Feed the Future Enabling Environment for Food Security Project Policy Data Snapshot: Tajikistan

2017 EBA Scores



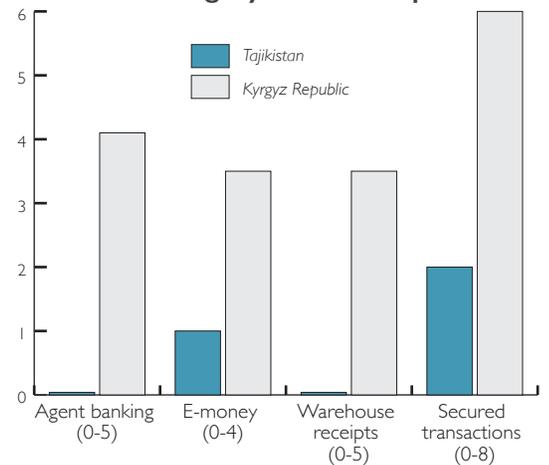
The World Bank's Enabling the Business of Agriculture Index (EBA) is a unique tool for measuring the ease of doing agribusiness. EBA data, coupled with contextual analysis and consultations with key stakeholders, can inform priority reforms and allow for transparent result tracking over time and across countries. The index scores, on a scale of 0-100*, the strength of the legal and institutional environment for agribusinesses across eight topics: seed, fertilizer, machinery, finance, markets, transport, water, and ICT. Scores and detailed topical data can be used to inform design and monitoring of Feed the Future's (FTF) agricultural reform efforts. As seen in the graphic, Tajikistan performs relatively well in machinery, markets, water, and especially transport. Areas with the greatest room for improvement include access to seed, fertilizer, and ICT technologies. Scores highlight weak enforcement of registration regimes such as those for agricultural inputs and machinery, poor quality control systems, and gaps in laws governing financial services. The following sections take a deeper look at selected EBA data relevant to USAID/Tajikistan.



Finance

Tajikistan's weak performance in fostering access to financial services suggests severe limitations in the legal framework supporting branchless banking and moveable collateral. These scores are in stark comparison with the Kyrgyz Republic. With respect to branchless banking, there is no legal framework regulating agent banking activities. Although there is a law governing electronic money transactions, it is limited to registered financial institutions and does not require safeguarding customer funds. Such limitations on branchless banking limit the geographic reach and scope of financial services. With respect to moveable collateral, neither warehouse receipts nor moveable assets have legal grounding for their use in secured transactions, limiting the ability of agribusinesses to borrow for their capital investment and cash flow needs.

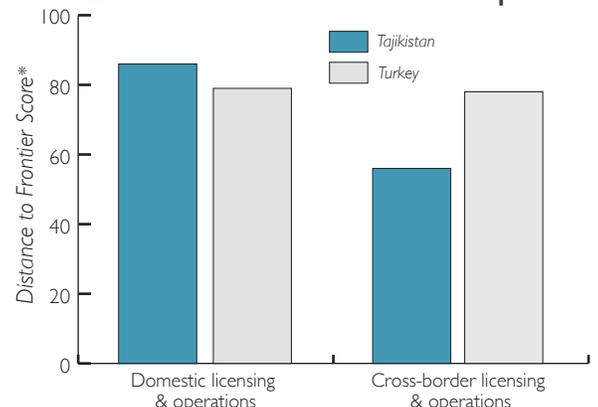
Sub-Category Index Comparison



Transport

A strong regulatory regime for transport – covering both domestic and cross-border travel – reflects efficient and affordable licensing systems. Clear guidelines are provided on required documentation for domestic travel and specific regulations related to the transport of perishable agriculture products. Cross-border transport rights are fairly comprehensive, though licensing must be renewed every year. Global best practices in transport regulation rank Tajikistan sixth among the 62 countries evaluated, outranking Turkey at number 28.

Distance to Frontier Score Comparison

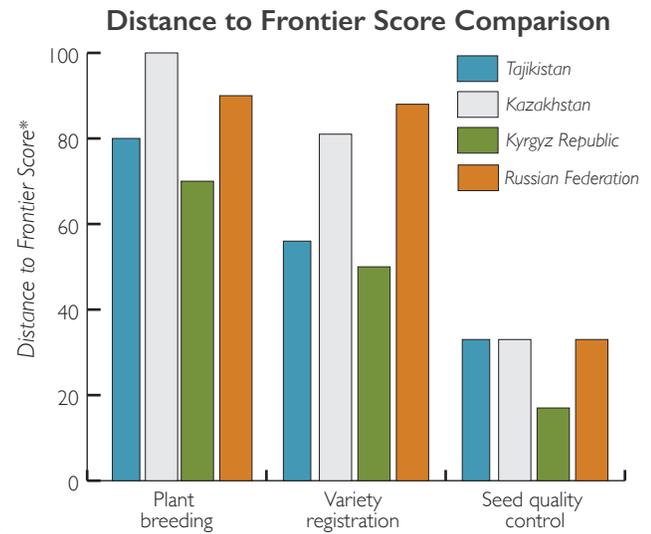


*The distance to frontier score compares a country's performance to the highest performing country ("frontier"). The higher the score, the more of a top performer the country is in a particular area.



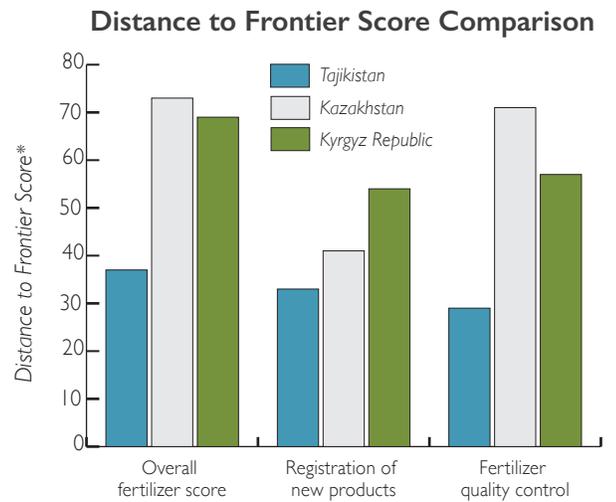
Seed

Tajikistan has one of the lowest seed scores of the 11 countries evaluated in Europe and Central Asia. The legal framework granting and protecting plant breeders' rights adheres to eight of ten best practices, but does not allow for a company to produce breeder/pre-basic seed of local public varieties. The country's variety release system is weak and unused. Seed sold in the marketplace is not well-labeled; and there are no penalties for mislabeled seed bags. Lax seed certification requirements and guidelines for third party accreditation to perform certifications also weaken seed quality controls in Tajikistan. On the whole, the seed system is weak and lacks private-sector involvement, as well as investment.



Fertilizer

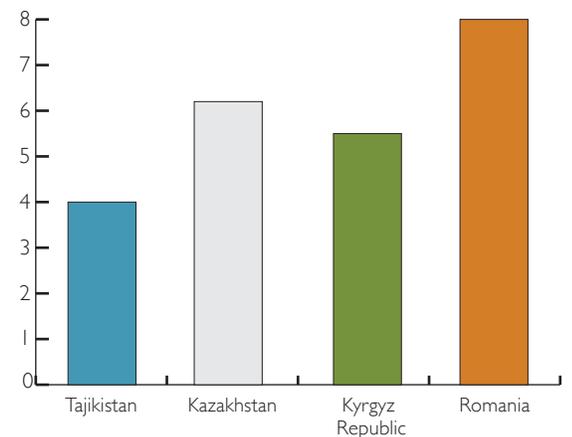
Tajikistan's import procedures for fertilizer pose few barriers to accessing these yield-boosting technologies. However, the new fertilizer registration system is weak, with no field or sample testing requirement. Ultimately, the registration system has never been tested in practice. Fertilizer sold in the market must undertake few quality control measures. For example, scant guidelines for labeling of fertilizer bags include storage and safety instructions but omit important information such as product name, weight, nutrient contents, name of manufacturer, and expiration date. Furthermore, the law does not prohibit the sale of fertilizer from opened bags, nor does it establish penalties for the sale of mislabeled fertilizer bags. By comparison, Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic score much higher in this area.



Machinery

This topic evaluates regulatory framework for tractors as a proxy for all agricultural machinery. Sub-indicators measure import, registration requirements, and quality and safety standards. Tajikistan's perfect score for machinery imports reflects the ease by which tractors can be brought into the country. No special registration is required of companies, nor must they obtain special import permits. Once imported, tractors must be registered for all types of usage. Registration is administered in an efficient and affordable manner. All tractors must undergo annual inspections for road-worthiness in accordance with national and international standards, though vendors are not legally required to provide after-market service or parts. The tractor testing and standards score is weighed down by poor guidelines for the required procedures to obtain type approval. In practice, companies have no experience obtaining type approvals, suggesting no enforcement of the law.

Tractor Testing & Standards Score (0-8)



The **Feed the Future Enabling Environment for Food Security** program is a global support mechanism for Feed the Future focused and aligned Missions to address policies, as well as legal, institutional, and regulatory factors that affect food security. To learn more, please contact Lourdes Martinez Romero (COR) at lmartinezromero@usaid.gov or Nate Kline (Chief of Party) at nkline@fintrac.com.