





Reviving Uzbekistan's and Tajikistan's sustainable IKAT and Silk (RUTSIS)

Internal Thematic Consultative and Brainstorming Meeting On Textile and Garments Sustainability Towards Green Recovery 24.02.2021















The Objectives:

- Promotes sustainable growth along the Great Silk Road in Central Asia
- Contributes to the revival and upgrade of local silk and lkat value chains
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- Integrates sustainable production approaches in an ethically and environmentally friendly way
- Strengthens cross-cultural dialogue between Uzbek and Tajik societies
- Creates new education and employment opportunities, safeguarding ancient silk and Ikat production techniques, and developing innovative sustainable design
- Enhances recognition of Central Asian sustainable silk and ikat products in the international market





The Way Forward:

- Identification of further sustainable production issues and improvement potentials along the lkat value chain, a regional strategy is in process;
- Most of the local and cross-regional relationships for building new supply chains are established;
- Needs for supportive training and advisory capacities of local educational/vocational institutions are identified: Tailored training modules in process;
- Developing ikat products aligned with sustainable performance criteria. Trainings should cover aspects of sustainable product development in silk dyeing, silk production (cocoons rearing, silk threads), Ikat weaving and sustainable fabric design and sustainable fashion design;
- Policy dialogue is initiated; first research on product labelling is completed;
- First steps increasing awareness among local and international buyers of Ikat on sustainable consumption and production of Uzbek/Tajik silk/Ikat products are initiated.

Project achievements



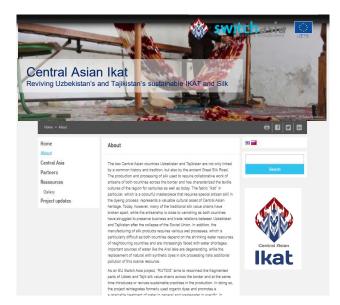


Policy research

Survey







Website, Logo and Textile Data base

Project achievements







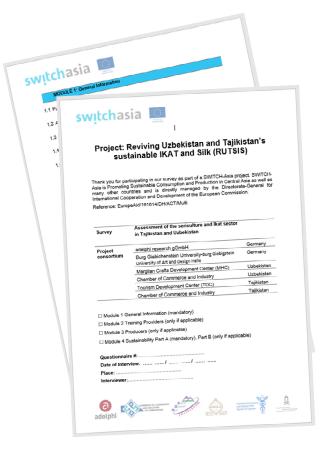
Policy research

Research on Laws and Certifications sericulture/ ikat textiles in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan:

- * Policies/ governmental programs on support of silk, ikat and sericulture in Tajikistan/ Uzbekistan
- * Regulations for quality criteria in Uzbekistan/ Tajikistan now and in Soviet times (including all topics in the silk/sericulture value chain: agriculture: trees planting, cocoon production, silk threads production, dyeing, ikat production)
- Policy on sustainability in silk/ikat and sericulture in Tajikistan/Uzbekistan
- Existing labeling/ certification or eco- labeling schemes in Uzbekistan/ Tajikistan in the sericulture/ ikat sector
- International organizations working in policy on silk/ ikat/ sericulture sector now in Tajikistan/Uzbekistan

Project achievements





Survey

Qualitative and quantitative gap analysis on needs in the sericulture and ikat manufacturing sector

- Over 100 conducted interviews in the Republic of Tajikistan and Uzbekistan
- * Respondent groups:
 - selected MSMEs, producers, (fashion) designers, business associations
 - education centers and institutions.
 - ❖ local and national authorities
 - * researchers connected to the ikat/sericulture sectors

***** Objectives:

- Assessment of regional value chains including raw material supply challenges and sustainable production issues
- ❖ Needs assessment for sericulture and ikat manufacturing sector
- * Review of information and education sources of lkat, silk and raw materials
- Regional mapping of dyes and supplier networks, including analysis against ecological sustainability criteria







Stakeholder map of sericulture and silk sector in Uzbekistan:



International B2B-events and cross-border activities





- ❖ B2B-events planned to take place twice a year in Central Asia (e.g. Ikat Symposium in Uzbekistan, Winter Handicraft Fair in Tajikistan, Atlas Festival in Tajikistan, Silk and Spice in Bukhara, Uzbekistan, Adras Festival Margilan),
- * Cross-border events on policies and certifications in Central Asia
- Study Tour to South East Asia (Thailand)
- One marketing event in Europe (Sustainable Fashion Summit in Kopenhagen)

Objectives:

- Enhancing cross-border network in the silk and ikat manufacturing sector in Central Asia
- Increase awareness of Central Asia silk and ikat products among local and international stakeholder
- Create business opportunities

Synergies with SWITCH ASIA grants projects on Switchasia textiles and garments:





SCP tools and circular economy approach in **Textile Sector Uzbekistan**:

- Synergies in guidelines in greening the textile products supply chain and enhancing the production and consumption of added value products
- Exchange on challenges and opportunities in the textile sector specific for Central Asia
- Cooperation in policy round tables, for better achievements in cross border activities and partnership development

* STeP Eco Lab Sustainable Textile and Eco Labeling in Mongolia:

- Consolidating sustainable and certified raw material sourcing options to meet market expectations,
- Developing a conductive environment for textile processing SMEs to switch to sustainable production practices

Ideas about SWITCH ASIA synergies in Central Asia:

- policy round tables Central Asia
- **B2B**-events and supply chain collaboration
- Workshops and Trainings
- Information management Central Asia
- **❖ Information exchange Central Asia and South East Asia**





Initiated and planned cooperation and partnerships

Cooperation with international stakeholders:

- ❖ UNIDO: Tajikistan Project on Carpet, Textile/ Embroidery Modernization
- **❖ UN ITC**: Ethical Fashion Initiative (Uzbekistan and Tajikistan)
- ❖ Collaborations planned with GIZ and FAO

Cooperation planned with global private sector:

- Suppliers of chemical dyes to Central Asia
- ❖ Possible new export markets for sustainable products in Europe and Asia





Initiated and planned cooperation and partnerships

Started cooperation with national stakeholders:

In Tajikistan:

- Ministry of Industry and New Technologies Tajikistan
- Ministry for Agriculture Tajikistan
- ❖ Committees for Forest Management Tajikistan
- ❖ Committee for Women and Family Affairs Tajikistan

In Uzbekistan:

- Committees for Forest Management Uzbekistan
- ❖ National Silk Association of Uzbekistan Uzbekipak Sanoat





Thank you very much for your attention!



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