

ARAB AUTHORITY
FOR AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT



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للإستثمار والإبتماء الزراعي

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H.E Mr. Mohammed Bin Obaid Al Mazrooei

President and Chairman of the Board of Directors of AAAID



This issue of AAAID’s Newsletter comes with inclusions that highlight the most significant activities and contributions that AAAID has achieved during the previous period. In cooperation with the private sector, the Arab Authority established six new companies in some Arab countries, working in the fields of producing red meat, poultry, fish, fruits, vegetables and veterinary vaccines; thus, the number of companies that AAAID contributes in has reached to about 50 companies.

In the field of development programs, AAAID implemented a series of developmental programs and activities aimed at small farmers in the Member States, which amounted to a total of 14 programs, with a number of beneficiaries of about 7 thousand farmers. These programs have achieved an increase in the productivity of cultivated crops by 150% compared to productivity previously. The Arab Authority has also conducted about 20 research experiments to locally disseminate new varieties of crops, seeds and modern agricultural technologies.

Additionally, in order to diversify sources and mechanisms of funding at the Arab Authority and to mobilize additional financial resources for investment in the agricultural sector, a number of funds specialized in financing agricultural projects were approved. These funds will finance the capital and operational needs of existing companies to take advantage of their full available design capacity, increase their productivity and produce commodities to help bridge the food gap including Globe Agricultural Development Fund and the Aquaculture Fund.

In order to reinforce food security in AAAID’s Member States, the Arab Authority established a number of agricultural companies in the Sultanate of Oman. The investment cost of the Arab Authority’s projects in Oman amounted to about OMR 127.12 million, where AAAID is a shareholder in Omani Euro Food Industries Company. This in addition to a number of companies under implementation such as; Osool Poultry Company, Al Bashaer Meat Company and Al Murouj Dairy Company. This is including Knowledge for Aquaculture LLC, which is one of the companies undergoing studies.

In this context, and because of AAAID’s keenness to be present in the field of agriculture and closely follow up on food security strategies and plans in the Member States, AAAID participated in a number of events related to the field of agriculture. These events include the Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Investment Forum, organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Wealth of Oman. AAAID (AAAID), in collaboration with the National Fisheries Development Program, and the Saudi Aquaculture Society also organized the Saudi Investment Forum for Aquaculture, which was held under the “Invest Saudi” initiative on 8 April 2019 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

It is AAAID’s intention to continuously participate in agricultural and investment events and activities held to support and reinforce the march towards attaining food security, during which pioneers in various fields and specialties in the agricultural sector meet. These events and gatherings are a hub for interested businessmen, importers, exporters, investors, business owners, farmers and producers from all over the world to exchange experiences, hold dialogues and introduce products and innovations in the agricultural sector. It is in this regard that AAAID participated at AgraME 2019 as an Exclusive Investment Partner. The event took place on 5-7 March 2019 at Dubai World Trade Center under the patronage of the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment of the United Arab Emirates. During the conference, AAAID organized a discussion session on agricultural investment titled the Agricultural Investment Forum that saw presence from over 200 participants. The forum aimed at introducing to participants the investment climate in Arab countries and the investment opportunities available to AAAID in Arab countries. Whereby the sessions dealt with the different projects and activities of AAAID and the companies in which it contributes, in addition to the sectors in which AAAID works and its contribution to the reinforcement of food security.

In the pursuit of AAAID to achieve sustainable development in rural agricultural communities in its Member States, and in recognition of the role of small farmers and producers, AAAID accepted the invitation of the farmers of the Sarhan region in the state of Al Gezira and North and South Kordofan to attend the launching of wheat harvest ceremony. This is in addition to the project to support and improve the production of women farmers, in which AAAID is a role contributor.

In conclusion, AAAID aims to push forward and continuously contribute in the journey to attaining food security in the Arab world.

AAAID's 43rd Board of Shareholders Meeting

The Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development's (AAAID) 43rd [Board of Shareholders](#) meeting was held in Kuwait on 25 April, 2019, as part of the annual joint meetings of the Arab financial institutions, which include the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, the Arab Investment and Export Credit Guarantee Corporation, the Arab Monetary Fund, the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa, in addition to AAAID. The opening session of the joint annual meetings was addressed by His Excellency Ali Shareef Al Emadi, Minister of Finance of Qatar and Chairman of the Board of Shareholders of the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development for the 43rd Session.

His Excellency Mohammed Bin Obaid Al Mazrooei, President and Chairman of the Board of Directors of AAAID, delivered a speech in which he thanked His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah, Emir of Kuwait, for his generous patronage of the annual meetings of the Arab financial institutions. His Excellency further thanked the Government and people of Kuwait for their warm welcome and generous hospitality, and also expressed his thanks and appreciation to His Excellency the Minister of Finance of Iraq for the positive role he played while presiding over the Board of Shareholders meeting in its previous session.

His Excellency summarized the [Annual Report of the Arab Authority for 2018](#), which indicates that the AAAID achieved a net profit of about USD 12 million, noting that shareholders' equity amounted to about USD 938 million compared to about USD 890 million for the previous year. Adding that by the end of 2018, AAAID's total investments in the affiliate companies amounted to about USD 607 million, which represents 84% of the paid up capital of USD 720.7 million. Pointing out that these investments are divided into four major sectors, including the agricultural manufacturing sector amounting to 47%, the animal production sector amounting to 25%, the plant production sector amounting to 24%, and the agricultural services sector with 4%.

His Excellency also explained that in terms of performance of agricultural investments during 2018 and in cooperation with the private sector, AAAID was able to establish (6) new companies working in the areas of production of red meat, poultry, fish, fruits, vegetables and veterinary vaccines, making the number of companies in which AAAID contributes add up to 50 companies. Further adding that during 2018, the Arab Authority implemented a series of programs and development activities aimed at small farmers in the Arab member states reaching a total of 14 programs resulting in about 7 thousand farmers benefiting from the programs. These programs have achieved an increase in the productivity of cultivated crops by 150% compared to previous output results. AAAID also conducted about 20 research experiments to localize new varieties of crops, seeds and modern agricultural technologies. H.E the President of AAAID further explained

that the Arab Authority organized a number of events in 2018 to promote the available agricultural investment opportunities and participated in a series of conferences, symposiums, forums and Arab and international exhibitions, which resulted in the signing of a number of agreements and Memoranda of Understanding.

To conclude the meetings, the Board issued a number of resolutions, including the authorization of the budget which was approved as at 31/12/2018, the final and reserve accounts and the Board of Directors' report on these statements, which were presented as approval of the AAAID Annual Report for 2018. The Board also approved the allocation of 10% of net profits of 2018 to the legal reserve, as well as the allocation of 10% of the net profit of 2018 to support the Palestinian people through Al Aqsa and Jerusalem Fund. The Board further approved AAAID's investment operations program for 2019 with a KWD 9.1 million endowment, which is equivalent to about USD 30 million, to implement new projects, development programs and structuring programs. The Board of Directors was further authorized to take all necessary executive decisions, bearing in mind that the standard for selecting or contributing to a new project is subject to the existence of the appropriate investment climate and the technical and economic feasibility of the project. The Board also appointed the representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt as Chairman of the Board of Shareholders for the 44th cycle, with the representative from People's Democratic Republic of Algeria as his Deputy, where they assume their duties effective as of the next meeting



AAAID's Board of Directors' Meetings

The First of 2019



The Board of Directors of AAAID held its second (emergency) meeting for the year 2019 on 24 April 2019 in Kuwait on the sidelines of the 43rd annual meeting of the Board of Shareholders. The Board of Directors approved the issuance of a license to establish a virtual company to provide smart integrated agricultural solutions for companies, and after evaluation of the experiment, an integrated feasibility study will be prepared for the company.

The Board of Directors of the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development held its third meeting in 2019 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates on 8 June 2019. The meeting was chaired by HE Mohammed bin Obaid Al Mazrooei, President of AAAID, and Chairman of the Board, in the presence of the distinguished members of the Board of Shareholders. The agenda of the meeting included a number of important topics related to the investments of the Arab Authority. The Board made a number of decisions and resolutions, including a decision approving the contribution of the Authority to increase the capital of the Dairy Factory (Riyada) in the Arab Republic of Egypt. As well as a decision to approve the partnership with Al Rajhi International for Investment Company and the contribution of AAAID in the founding capital of this investment entity in the field of agriculture. In addition to other decisions related to the follow-up of the companies in which AAAID contributes. It was also decided that the Board of Directors would hold its fourth meeting for 2019 on 18 and 19 September 2019 at the Regional Office of the Arab Authority in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Highlight of AAAID's Affiliate Companies

Highlight of AAAID's Affiliate Companies

Establishing specialized investment funds

Highlight of AAAID's Affiliate Companies

Arab Cooperative Company - KSA	Arab Poultry and Cattle Equipment Company (APCECO)- UAE
Al Ahlia Vegetable Oil Company – Syria	Arab Iraqi Dairy Production Company- Iraq
Arab Qatari Agricultural Production Company - Qatar	Al Muzdana Zero-Tillage Agricultural Company- Sudan
Arab Sudanese Seeds Company - Sudan	Albagair for Red Meat- Sudan (Under Implementation)
Al Murouj Dairy Company-Oman (Under Implementation)	





Arab Cooperative Company - KSA

The company was established in 2009, with a capital of SAR 200 million (equivalent to about USD 53 million) in which AAAID contributes 20% and the Cooperative Association of Poultry Producers in Aseer region by 80%.

The Company aims to produce about 60 thousand tons of poultry meat annually and the project consists of:

- * Slaughterhouse: with a production capacity 60 Million birds / year.
- * Hatchery: With a production capacity 40 Million hatching eggs with 18 incubators and 9 hatcheries
- * Waste treatment unit: 45 tons / day.

The company has been able to utilize more than 50% of the design capacity and expand the quota to become a total hatching 42 million chick / year, and the development and expansion of solid waste plant in addition to its ability to meet the challenges of the poultry market in Saudi Arabia. As well as the expansion of a fleet for transport and distribution and the appointment of staff in the management of sales and marketing and the start of promotional programs, which enabled it to achieve net profit in 2018 about 30 million Saudi riyals. Due to the improvement of the marketing situation, the company seeks to complete the remaining production workshops (mother farms and broiler farms), either with the founding partners or through attracting investors.



Arab Poultry and Cattle Equipment Company (APCECO)- UAE

The company was established in 1992 in Fujairah, United Arab Emirates, and is engaged in manufacturing and assembling the components of different systems for poultry and livestock farms equipment for the ground breeding system.

The company's authorized and fully paid up capital is AED 50 million (equivalent to USD13.7 million), with 27.44% contributed by AAAID, along with the Government of Fujairah with 42.22% and other shareholders by 30.34%.

The Company's products are characterized by good reputation and high demand, and are making notable profits despite challenges such as the fire that broke out in 2011, which destroyed most of the company's assets as well as fierce competition from international companies operating in the field.

In the context of reinforcing agricultural production in the United Arab Emirates, the company has started to expand its production sites by opening a new branch in Al Ain city for the purpose of expanding the sale of poultry products and the preparation of poultry units of all kinds.



Al Ahlia Vegetable Oil Company – Syria

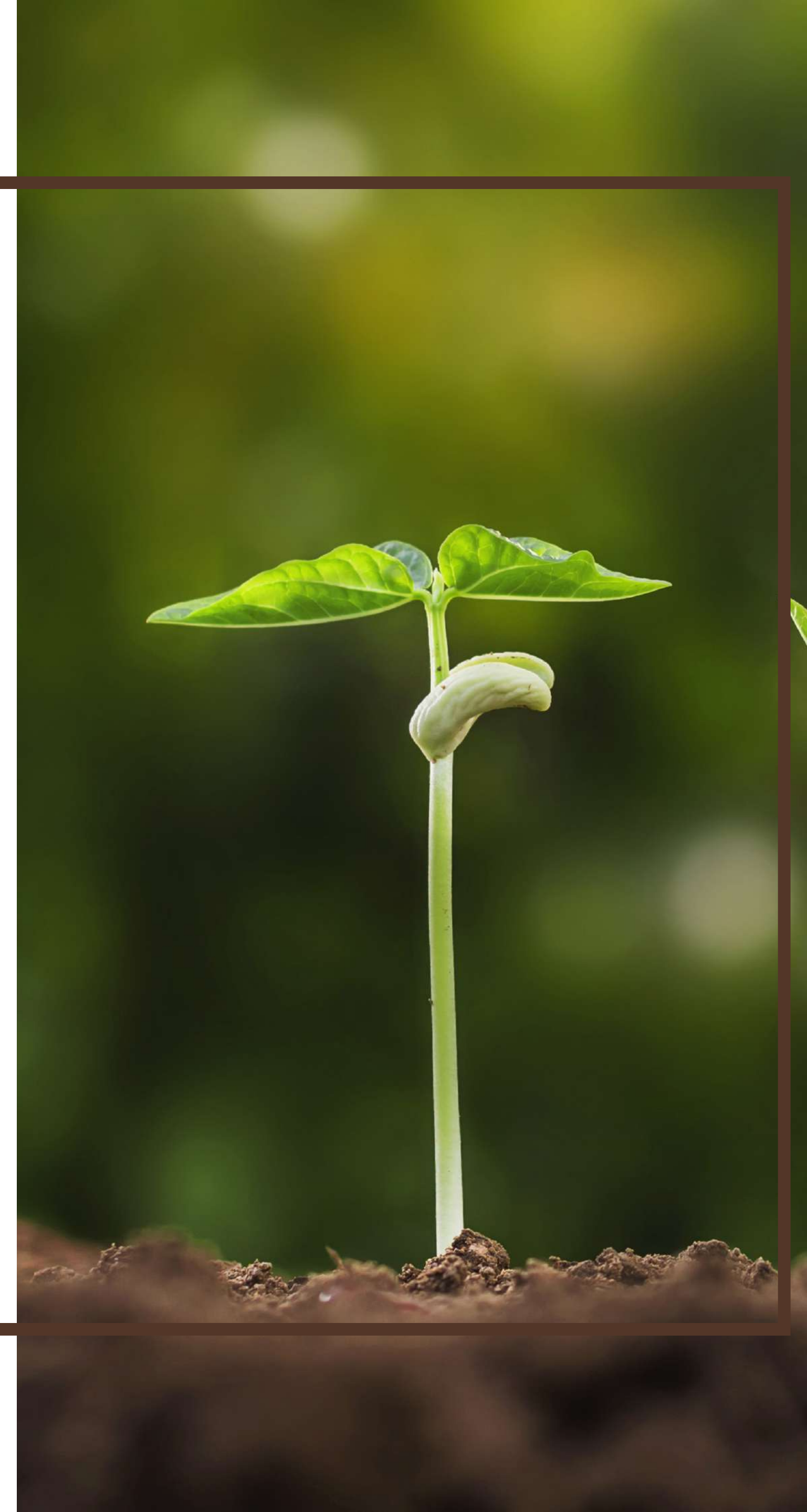
The Company was established in 1996 in the city of Hama, 250 km south of Damascus, and started commercial production in November 2001.

The company aims to produce vegetable ghee and vegetable oil with a capacity of 55 thousand tons / year.

The authorized and fully paid up capital is about 1.5 billion Syrian Pounds (about USD 30 million), in which the Authority contributes 40% and private shareholders contribute 60%.

The company's products are characterized by high quality, reputation and high demand, which enabled it to achieve significant profits and distribute dividends to shareholders despite the challenges it faces such as the security conditions facing the Syrian country and the consequent economic implications.

The company contributes to the support of community services by allocating amounts of annual net profits to be spent on services and charitable works in the region.





Arab Iraqi Dairy Production Company- Iraq

The company was established in 1986 with a capital of IQD 11.4 million (equivalent to about USD 37.6 million) contributed equally between AAAID and the Government of Iraq represented by the Iraqi Fund for External Development.

The company is engaged in cattle breeding, milk production, processing and field crop production strategy, in order to meet the local demand for milk and its products and contribute to the provision of national and Arab food security.

The company produces strategic crops in an area of 2,250 hectares.



Arab Qatari Agricultural Production Company - Qatar

The company was established in 1986 with a capital of QAR 47 million (equivalent to USD 12.9 million) contributed equally between the Authority and Hassad Food Company.

The company is engaged in the production of vegetable crops, decorative plants, seasonal and evergreen seedlings, installation of greenhouses and provision of agricultural services to others. It also aims to meet the growing domestic demand for vegetables and all kinds of decorative plants.

The company's capacity in producing vegetable crops is about 4 thousand tons / year, and the production of seasonal and permanent seedlings about 6 million seedlings.

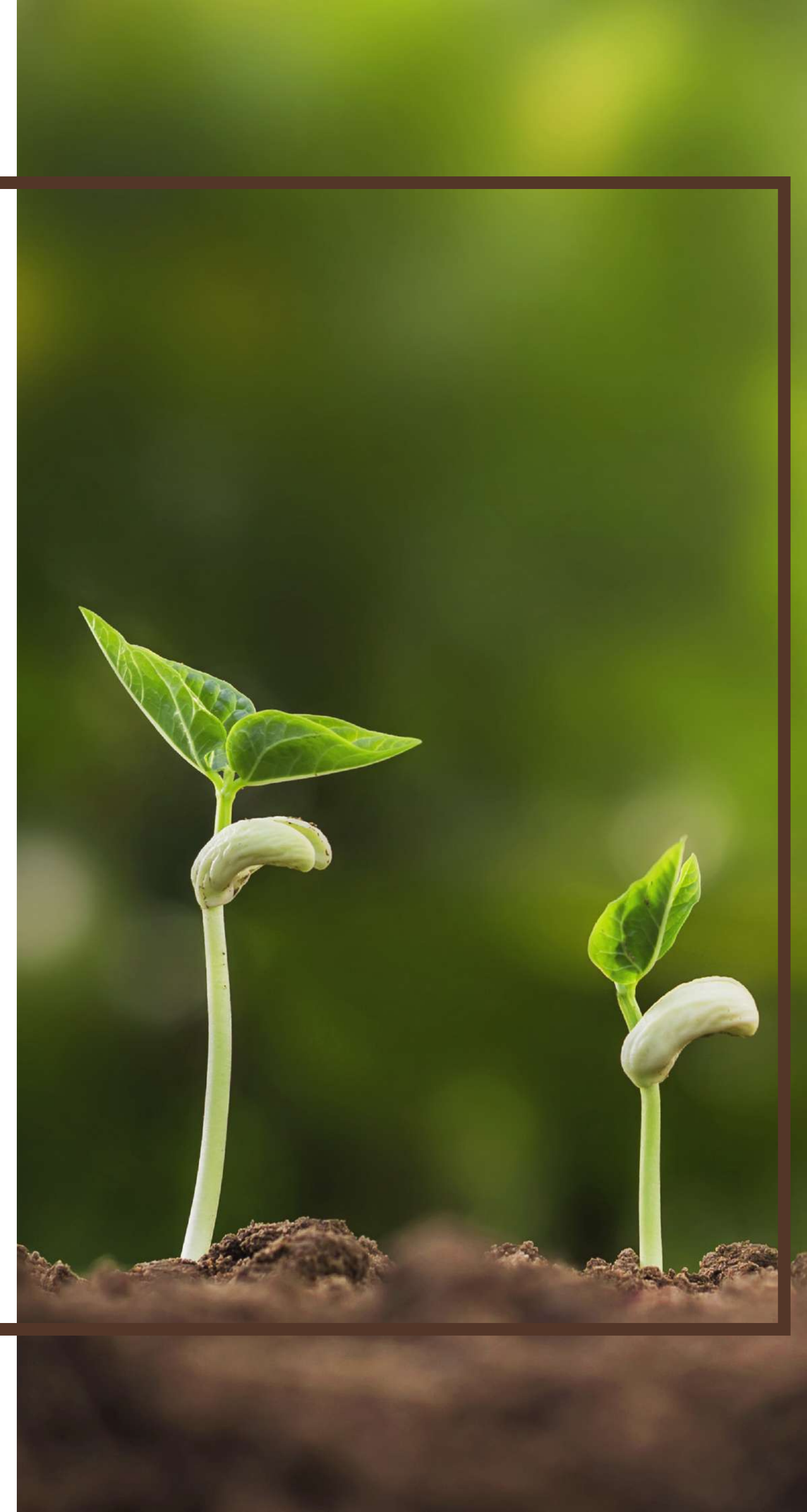
The company applies advanced agricultural techniques in production and has extensive experience in the agricultural field.

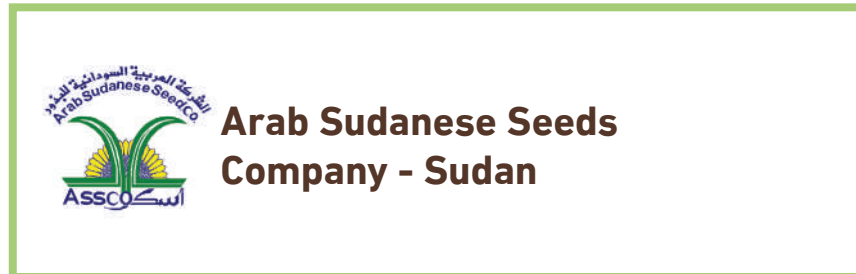


Al Muzdana Zero-Tillage Agricultural Company- Sudan

The company was established in 2010 with an authorized capital of USD 10.25 million. The Arab Authority contributes 13.43%, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry contributes 30.4%, and the Agricultural Bank of Sudan contributes 39.14%, whereby other bodies contribute 8.68% of the shares, leaving 8.35% as unsubscribed Shares.

The company is engaged in providing integrated agricultural services in the field of zero-tillage agriculture for farmers in the rain fed and irrigated sectors of the various states of Sudan through the possession of modern and sophisticated agricultural techniques.





The company was established in 1997 with a capital of USD 12 million, from which AAAID contributes 34.93%, and the government of Sudan by 51.55%, with 13.52% contributed by other institutions and banks.

The company is engaged in providing improved seeds and camel for the main crops to cover the needs of the local market and achieve a profitable return to the shareholders by owning six agricultural sites scattered in the most prominent agricultural production sites in Sudan.

The production design capacity of the company is about 14,500 tons of improved seeds for a range of crops and some vegetables.

The company's products have a good reputation among farmers as a result of accumulated experience in producing improved seeds.



The investment cost of the project was estimated at USD 119 million, funded with contributions of USD38.6 million and loans of USD 80.4 million.

AAAID contributed to the project with about USD11.9 million, representing 30% of the total shares. The idea of the project is to set up an integrated chain for the production and processing of meat through the collection of cows and sheep and fattening, slaughtering, processing, marketing and export, as part of the sacrifice practice during the Muslim pilgrimage (Hajj) season. The project includes six animal collection units, a sheep-fattening unit, another cattle-fattening plant in Khartoum state, a world-class automatic slaughterhouse, a meat processing plant, a meat inspection laboratory, and other auxiliary service units (transport unit and administrative unit). The project has a production capacity as follows:

- * 500,000 sheep for the export market.
- * Fattening and preparation of 150,000 sheep for the local and export market.
- * Fattening and preparation of 45,000 cows for the local and export market.
- * 15,000 calves for meat processing.

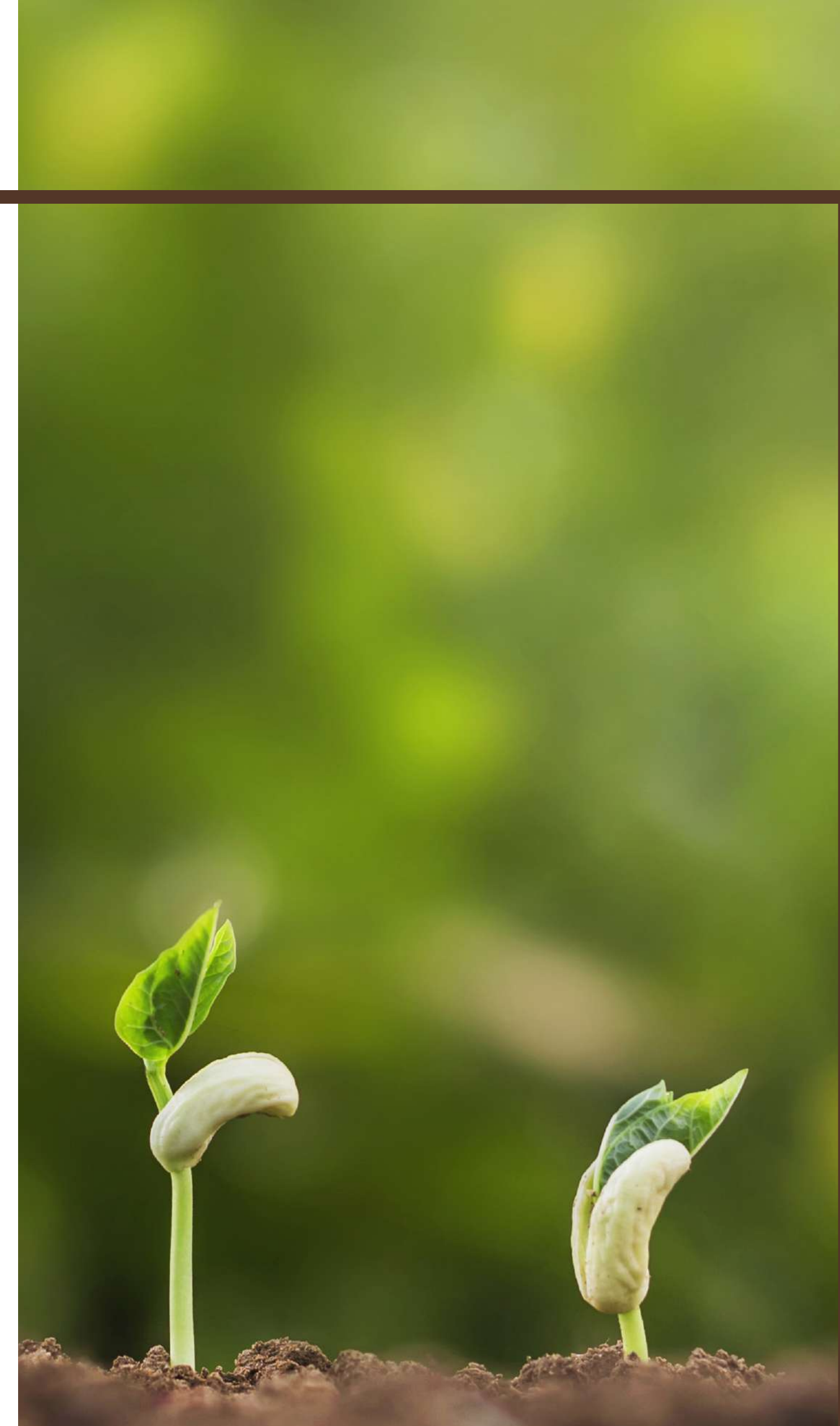


The investment cost of the project is about OMR 17.5 million (equivalent to USD 45.5 million). The pilot project is financed by cash contributions from shareholders of OMR 1 million. The project's revenues were estimated at OMR 1.4 million in the first year and OMR 2.2 million in the second year. The pilot project is expected to generate profits of OMR 34,000 in the second year.

AAAID contributed to the Al-Murouj Dairy Company in the Dhofar Region of Oman with OMR 1.98 million (equivalent to USD 5.148 million) representing 20% of total contributions.

The project aims to gather and produce raw milk, butter, cheese and other dairy products, processing, pasteurization, sterilization and packing of fresh milk, processing dairy products and sweetened and natural products in Dhofar and other governorates. The work plan for the pilot project has been prepared for two years as a first experiment, with follow up on the implementation of the remaining components of the project.

The design capacity of the pilot project is about 6.1 million liters of cow's milk in the first year, and 9.9 million liters of milk in the second year. In addition, 1.8 million liters in the first year and 2.4 million liters in the second year of camel's milk. The project, if successful, is considered the first stage of the large project, according to the study of Dutch expert house HVA.



Establishing Specialized Investment Funds:

In order to diversify sources and mechanisms of funding, and to mobilize additional financial resources for investment in the agricultural sector, AAAID established a number of specialized funds for the financing of agricultural projects. These funds will finance the capital and operational needs of existing companies to take advantage of their full available design capacity, increase their productivity and produce commodities to help bridge the food gap. The funds include:



Globe Agricultural Development Fund - Sudan

- * [The Fund aims](#) to establish an investment portfolio for the production of cereals and legumes crops in an area of 100,000 feddans in the Arab Sudanese Blue Nile Agriculture Company –Agadi, and to export its products for the achievement of profitable returns.
- * AAAID contributed about USD 8 million, representing 20% of the Fund's total capital of USD 40 million.



Export Growth Fund - UAE

- * [The Fund aims](#) to invest in existing companies and new projects to export agricultural products such as: olive oil, dates, almonds and tuna fish. It targets the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) countries with a competitive advantage, whose exports are expected to contribute to food security
- * AAAID contributed about USD 40 million representing 13.33% of the Fund's total capital of USD 300 million



Tunisia Aquaculture Fund

- * [The Fund aims](#) at investing in a portfolio that contains about 15 projects with an average investment cost of TND 3 Million (USD 1.5 Million). It is aimed at small and medium-sized enterprises engaged in aquaculture (feed production, larva production, fish breeding and marketing) primarily in Tunisia and in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region secondarily.
- * AAAID contributed about TND 7.5 million (equivalent to 3.75 million US dollars) representing 15% of the Fund's total capital of TND 50 million.

Activities

Farmers from Umm Al-Jamal village at the Province of Mafrag in Badia North, Jordan
Express their pleasure from the interest of AAAID
In small farmers and producers

AAAID launches Harvest Day celebrations to support and improve production for women farmers in South and North Kordofan states, Sudan

AAAID celebrates the inauguration of the harvest of 1000 feddans of wheat in the region of Sarhan, Al Gezira State

Development and Applied Programs and Studies implemented from January to June 2019,

Farmers From Umm Al-Jamal Village At The Province Of Mafraq In Badia North, Jordan Express Their Pleasure From The Interest Of AAAID In Small Farmers And Producers

The role of the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development (AAAID) is noticeable in regards to the interest in small farmers and producers in its Member States. This comes in light of the visit of a delegation from AAAID to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan from 6-7 January 2019 to meet with representatives of the International Finance Corporation and the Agricultural Credit Corporation.

The delegation from AAAID, in the presence of representatives of the International Finance Corporation, met with Eng. Mohamed Al-Hayari, Director General of the Agricultural Credit Corporation. The Director General of the Agricultural Credit Corporation welcomed the attendees and thanked the Arab Authority and its President for the support that the Foundation received from AAAID. He also explained the establishment and activities of the Corporation and its role in contributing to agricultural and rural development in Jordan through the provision of financing services to workers in the agricultural sector.

The delegation also met with Mr. Abdullah Al-Jefri, IFC's Senior Investment Officer, who was briefed on AAAID and its projects and investment opportunities. During the meeting, the Arab Authority was confirmed as a Strategic Partner of the International Finance Corporation. This is through the [granting of joint loans](#) to small farmers or some projects that AAAID contributes in, such as Domaine Youssef Company in the Kingdom of Morocco, as well as contributing to the projects and opportunities available to both parties.

To conclude this significant visit, the delegation of the Arab Authority, accompanied by the Director General of the Agricultural Credit Corporation, undertook a field tour of the projects financed by AAAID for Small Farmers in Jordan through the Agricultural Credit Corporation. During the tour, the delegation visited the Umm Al-Jamal village at the Province of Mafraq in Badia North, Jordan, where a number of farmers were interviewed and the expressed their pleasure from the funding and confirmed their need for more loans to develop their business in the coming stages. The number of farmers benefiting from the grant line, which is estimated at about USD 2 million from the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development through the Agricultural Credit Corporation, reached about 330 beneficiaries, where they were granted loans to benefit from in their agricultural projects as well as other agricultural activities such as pesticides, fertilizers and nurseries.





AAAID Launches Harvest Day Celebrations To Support And Improve Production For Women Farmers In South And North Kordofan States, Sudan

H.E Mohammed bin Obaid Al Mazrooei, President of AAAID, accompanied by a delegation from AAAID, visited the State of South Kordofan on 12 February 2019 to participate in the celebration of harvest festivals for the women farmers’ support and development program in the states of Al Gozz, Sheikan and North and South Kordofan. The project is implemented by the [Fund for the Development of Rural Women](#), Ministry of Agriculture in North Kordofan and AAAID.

The delegation was received by Mr. Mohamed Hussein Al Imam, Deputy Governor of South Kordofan and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Fund for the Development of Rural Women and a large number of state leaders. H.E the President of AAAID inaugurated the celebrations of the harvest festivals where the women farmers who excelled in the agricultural production of the season were honored, with a notable increase from 150 farmers in the previous season to 450 farmers this season. The total production for this year was about 2,502 tons in a total area of 4500 feddans. His Excellency the President of AAAID also laid the foundation stone for the cattle and sheep farm in Khor Al-Abyad area, North Kordofan State. The delegation also witnessed the launch of the farm of the Fund for the Development of Rural Women and the induction of solar energy in the agriculture process.

During the celebration of the harvest festival in Al-Gozz, South Kordofan State, His Excellency the President of AAAID gave a speech praising the success of the program and its importance to improving the standards of living in the region. He further explained that this project was started by AAAID in the previous year on an area of 1500 feddan, and as a result of successful collaboration and coordination has achieved notable and promising outcomes, which led to doubling the area this year to 3240 feddans to include a range of crops such as sesame seeds, millet, peanuts and sorghum. The program included the cultivation of an area of 3238 feddans in the state of South Kordofan and an area of 1260 feddans in the state of North Kordofan. Explaining that the implementation of this experiment for the second year in a row is a result of full conviction of the significance of the state and its human cadre. Noting that this interest began since 2007 where the Arab Authority implemented a development program introducing a system of agriculture without tillage in the areas of Kadugli, Hbila and Aldling.

His Excellency the President of AAAID also delivered a speech during the celebration of harvest festivals in Sheikan, Northern Kordofan, in which he expressed his thanks and appreciation to His Excellency the Governor of North Kordofan State and the Minister of Agriculture of the State for their support to the program of funding local farmers. H.E Al Mazrooei also expressed his appreciation to the Fund for the Development of Rural Women for organizing the celebration and the honorable results achieved by the program to support and improve production for women farmers, explaining that AAAID targeted this experiment by planting an area of 1260 feddans with peanut seeds, sorghum, sesame, millet and fruit plantations. It is worth mentioning that some 120 women farmers participated in the experiment, where AAAID implemented a developmental program to utilize solar energy in agriculture to enable remote areas to use modern agricultural techniques such as drip irrigation system.

To conclude the celebrations, the women farmers whose agricultural productivity was remarkable were honored. The President of AAAID was also honored by the Fund for the Development of Rural Women in recognition and gratitude of the support that AAAID has provided and continues to offer to the state.

AAAID Celebrates The Inauguration Of The Harvest Of 1000 Feddans Of Wheat In The Region Of Sarhan, Al Gezira State

His Excellency Mohammed bin Obaid Al Mazrooei, President of AAAID, accompanied by a delegation from the Arab Authority, visited the Sarhan area in Al Gezira State on 25 March 2019. This came in the pursuit of AAAID to achieve sustainable development in rural agricultural communities in its member states, and in recognition of the role of small farmers in contributing to Arab food security as well as the invitation of the farmers of the Sarhan region in the state of Al Gezira to the President of AAAID to attend the launching of wheat harvest ceremony.

The delegation was received by the governor of the Gezirah Scheme, the head of the organization of the farmers' association of Al Gezira and Al Managil States, Chairman of the Board of the Agricultural Bank, Director General of Al Muzdana, Director General of the Agricultural Research Authority in addition to a number of farmers and managers of private agricultural companies. The delegation accompanied by the President of AAAID toured the fields and the wheat harvest was launched. The delegation met by a number of prominent farmers who expressed their happiness with the experience, which they described as unique and unprecedented as the Al Gezirah Scheme agricultural project, in terms of using modern technologies in completing the preparation process and the timely flow of funding for agriculture.

During the ceremony, the President of AAAID presented a speech in which he expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Republic of Sudan, the President, the Government and the people for their support towards the Arab Authority in order to fulfill its mission and achieve its objectives. His Excellency expressed his happiness at the harvest launching ceremony in Sarhan region, which represents an extension of the efforts of AAAID in supporting small farmers through the [Revolving Loan Fund](#) established by AAAID to provide finance for small farmers. The productivity of a feddan ranged between 18-24 sacks, which will contribute to the expansion of the beneficiaries of the program in all states of Sudan.

It is worth mentioning that the Arab Authority started financing small farmers in Al Gezirah Scheme agricultural project in the 2013-2014 season in an area of 176 feddan for the cultivation of wheat crop and the area was gradually increased until it reached 16 thousand feddan. Additionally, during the winter season 2018-2019, the Arab Authority funded an area of 1000 feddan to grow the wheat crop in the Sarhan/ Al Gezirah region. The experiment targeted 253 farmers with a total funding of SDG 13 million.

At the end of the ceremony, the President of AAAID was honored by the Farmers' Association of Sarhan in Al Gezira State in recognition of AAAID's role in the region and how it seeks to maintain continuity in it. The ceremony was also included the honoring of a number of bodies that contributed to the success of the experiment.





Development And Applied Programs And Studi Implemented From January To June 201

1

Agriculture Development Program in Al Rahad Agricultural Project- Khor Abujabal/South Kordofan, Sudan

The Arab Authority embarked on implementing a [developmental research project](#) in Al Rahad Agricultural Project in Khor Abujabal area, where farmers suffer from problems with weeds and lack of productivity in the crops they cultivate. The aim of this project is to develop agriculture in the project area by introducing drip irrigation system, and providing them with hybrid seeds to increase their productivity.

The Arab Authority also installed a number of solar power units and solar water pumps for the purpose of benefiting from the cultivation of many horticultural crops and vegetable crops on the land of the project on an area of 30 acres. This is expected to achieve qualitative stability for the farmers of the region, with increased quality in the productivity of cultivated crops.

2

Cooperation with research centers and agricultural institutions

The Arab Authority worked with several research and agricultural centers and institutions in cooperation with counterpart institutions to implement a number of agricultural research and modern technical programs aimed at increasing production and productivity and enhancing Arab food security.

The list of contacts included the Agricultural Engineering Company in the United Arab Emirates for the implementation of an applied research project to test varieties of Larido feed in the saline lands of Sudan, the International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA) for the experiment of growing Quinoa crop in Sudan and other Arab countries. In addition to the Agricultural Research Corporation in Sudan to implement a number of applied research experiments.

Joint Collaborations

A Giant Agricultural Investment Entity Combines AAAID And Al Rajhi International For Investment Co



In June 2019, the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development signed a framework agreement with [Al Rajhi International for Investment Company](#) for the establishment of an agricultural investment entity aimed at developing the performance of existing agricultural companies and the integration of related companies to be a pioneering model in agricultural investment to serve the [strategies](#) and [objectives](#) of both parties. As a first stage, the entity will study and evaluate companies and factories that have the potential and right elements for success. H.E Dr. Khaled Al Malahy, CEO of Al Rajhi International for Investment Company stated that Al-Rajhi International and AAAID are among the largest investment establishments in the Arab region and both parties share similar strategies and objectives. At a later stage, and under the umbrella of the new entity will rise the opportunity for existing investments to expand, grow and develop, in accordance with the regulations and conditions of investment agreed upon by both parties.

H.E Mohammed Bin Obaid Al Mazrooei, President of AAAID, expressed that the accumulated expertise of the Arab Authority and Al Rajhi International for Investment in the field of agricultural investment in Arab countries, the financial solvency of the two parties and their distinguished relations with Arab, regional and international institutions, funds and organizations are among the most important strengths that will achieve the desired objectives of this partnership. The two sides will seek sustainable agricultural development in Arab countries through the integration of agricultural projects, the transfer and resettlement of modern agricultural technologies, smart farming systems and the development of rural communities. In addition to the management of investment projects in modern and innovative ways using the appropriate technology to achieve efficient productive that contribute to the reinforcement of Arab food security.

AAAID's Visits

Sudan's Minister Of Foreign Affairs Praises AAAID's Efforts And Its Contribution Towards Food Security

H.E Mohammed bin Obaid Al Mazrooei, President of the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development (AAAID), accompanied by a delegation from the Arab Authority, met with H.E Dr. Dirdiri Mohammed Ahmed, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Sudan, on March 27, 2019 at his office in the Ministry.

His Excellency the President expressed his appreciation to His Excellency the Minister for providing the opportunity for this meeting, which comes in order to acquaint the Minister with the Arab Authority, its vision, mission, objectives and investments, while reviewing AAAID's investments and its projects in Arab countries. H.E also explained [the sectors](#) in which AAAID works, which are represented in the industrial sector, plant production and animal production, as well as services and developmental activities. Further highlighting the efforts of the Arab Authority to achieve sustainable development in the rural communities of Member Countries of the Arab Authority, referring to AAAID's experience in the Al Gezirah Scheme agricultural project in the winter season 2018-2019. Whereby AAAID funded an area of 1000 feddan for the cultivation of wheat crop in the area of Sarhan, Al Jazira State. The experiment targeted 253 farmers with a total funding of SDG 13 million. Indicating that the excellent

results achieved by the experiment at the Al Gezirah Scheme agricultural project, which ranged from 18 to 24 sacks per feddan will contribute to expand the number of beneficiaries of the program in all states of Sudan. His Excellency also praised the support and responsiveness received by AAAID's projects in Sudan which hosts AAAID's headquarter office, and is optimistic towards further support to aid AAAID to achieve its mission of reinforcing Arab food security.

On his part, the Minister welcomed the President of AAAID and his accompanying delegation and wished the Arab Authority success in its ambitious endeavors to increase investments in Sudan, appreciating the role of the Arab Authority in the Republic of Sudan and its contribution to the Sudanese economy in the field of agricultural processing. Pointing out that Sudan is still looking forward to more opportunities for cooperation with the Arab Authority in support of the initiative of His Excellency the President of the Republic for food security. H.E the Minister also vowed to provide all assistance and support to the Arab Authority and its affiliate companies in the headquarters country to serve its objectives to reinforce food security.





AAAID's Events

The Arab Authority For Agricultural Investment And Development As Exclusive Investment Partner At AgraME 2019



The Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development continuously participates in agricultural and investment events and activities held to support and reinforce the march towards attaining food security, during which pioneers in the agricultural sector meet in various fields and specialties. These events and gatherings are a hub for interested businessmen, importers, exporters, investors, business owners, farmers and producers from all over the world to exchange experiences, hold dialogues and introduce products and innovations in the agricultural sector.

It is in this context that AAAID participated at [Agra ME 2019](#) as an Exclusive Investment Partner. The event took place on 5-7 March 2019 at Dubai World Trade Center under the patronage of the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment of the United Arab Emirates.

During the conference, AAAID organized a session of presentations on agricultural investment, delivered by HE Mohammed bin Obaid Al Mazrooei, President of AAAID, HE Abdalla Sultan Al Owais, Chairman of Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and HE Jamal Saif Al Jarwan, Secretary General of the UAE International Investors Council. The presentations aimed at providing the participants with information on the investment climate in Arab countries and the investment opportunities available to AAAID in Arab countries. Whereby [HE President Al Mazrooei discussed the different projects and activities of the Arab Authority](#), the companies in which AAAID contributes, the sectors in which it works and AAAID's contribution to reinforcing food security.

To promote practical achievement and activate the joint partnerships between the Arab Authority and other investment bodies, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between AAAID and the Emirates Food Industries in synchronization with the AAAID's joint efforts to reinforce food security in the Arab world. Both AAAID and Emirates Food Industries endeavor to cooperate with each other on industrial, agricultural and financial investment, exchange of experiences and information on available investment opportunities and studies, as well as discuss funding sources for proposed projects and attract shareholders. This is in addition to preparation of studies, project management and promotion of opportunities and investment prospects in the field of activity of both parties. The signing was blessed by the attendance of His Excellency Dr. Thani Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, Minister of Climate Change and Environment of the United Arab Emirates, during his visit to AAAID's stand at the exhibition.

On the third day of the exhibition, on March 7, a joint cooperation agreement was signed between AAAID and Spatial Business Integration, a German company working in the field of agricultural technology. The signing was blessed by the attendance of HE Saif Mohammed Al Shara, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment of the United Arab Emirates.



Reality And Future Visions

Title of AAAID's participation at the Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Investment Forum - Muscat, Oman

With the aim to reinforce food security in the Arab Member States contributing to the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development, AAAID has established a number of agricultural companies in the Sultanate of Oman. The investment cost of the Arab Authority's projects in Oman amounted to about OMR 127.12 million. Whereby AAAID continues to invest in already established companies like the Omani Euro Food Industries Company, and companies under implementation like Osool Poultry Company, Al Bashaer Meat Company, Al Murouj Dairy Company, as well as Knowledge for Aquaculture Technologies LLC, which is under establishment.

Because of AAAID's keenness to be present in the field of agriculture and closely follow up on food security strategies and plans in the Member States, H.E Mohammed Bin Obaid Al Mazrooei participated at the Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Investment Forum, organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Wealth of Oman. The event took place on 23-24, January 2019 at the Oman Convention & Exhibition Centre, Muscat, Oman.

During the First Session, titled "Prospects and opportunities for agricultural investment, fish and food", H.E Mohammed Al Mazrooei gave a presentation under the title "[The Efforts of the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development in Promoting Agricultural and Fisheries Investment in the Arab World «Reality and Future Visions»](#)". During the Forum, H.E discussed the projects and activities of the Arab Authority, the companies in which AAAID contributes to reinforce food security, AAAID's development programs, and AAAID's activities in the field of fish farming and sea fishing in Arab countries. This is in addition to AAAID's efforts in mobilizing financial resources and promoting agricultural investment opportunities highlighted through presenting the current status of Arab food security and the Arab food gap, estimated in 2017 at USD 33.6 billion. Along with the efforts of the Arab Authority in achieving Arab food security, AAAID adopted a special approach to implement its programs and investment activities to reduce the food gap by focusing on investment in commodities in the Arab food basket and sectoral diversification through cereals, vegetable oils, sugar, milk, meat, fish and fodder.

The forum included a Discussion Panel focused on four main themes: the reality and prospects of investment and finance, innovations and technologies in food systems, partnership between the public and private sectors, and finding solutions to different challenges.

The forum also incorporated an exhibition for a number of companies that highlighted their works and activities in agricultural, fish and food production. Bilateral meetings were also organized through which promising investment opportunities available for promotion were presented and discussed. Additionally, brochures that contained 70 different investment opportunities were distributed. The opportunities included (15 prospects) in the vegetable sector, (19 prospects) in the livestock sector, (30 prospects) in the fish sector and (6 investment prospects) in the agricultural sector to encourage Arab investors to participate in these projects.

At the conclusion of the forum, AAAID, some of its Affiliate Companies, and a number of companies that participated in the forum were awarded.

AAAID Organizes The Saudi Investment Forum For Aquaculture In UAE

The Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development (AAAID), in collaboration with the National Fisheries Development Program, and the Saudi Aquaculture Society organized the [Saudi Investment Forum for Aquaculture](#), which was held under the "Invest Saudi" initiative on 8 April 2019 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

During the forum, H.E Mohammed bin Obaid Al Mazrooei, President of AAAID, gave a speech in which he explained that one of the main reasons for the broadening of the food gap in commodities, estimated at USD 34 billion by the end of 2017, is due to not giving the agricultural sector the appropriate significance with its role in development, especially the fisheries sector. Pointing out that Arab countries have all the potential to reduce the size of the food gap significantly through the integration of the utilization of agricultural resources, financial and human resources and scientific capabilities available in Arab countries. His Excellency also expressed that the future forecasts indicate a worsening deficit in the production of red meat in the Arab world, which increases the need to expand fish production to cover human needs of animal protein and to meet the high demand due to a growing population.

H.E Al Mazrooei stated: "Through this forum we are keen to highlight the results achieved in driving the growth of the aquaculture sector and the initiatives that fall within the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's 2030 vision to promote this industry, especially as aquaculture will be the main source of seafood supply in Saudi Arabia and the neighboring region, with growth in capture fisheries and stringent safety rules on imports."

During the forum, a series of completed investment opportunity portfolios were presented, in addition to holding specialized dialogue sessions in the field of aquaculture and the allocation of work meetings between investors and participants. This is in addition to the opportunity for Saudi investors to meet with their counterparts from Gulf and Arab investors and foreign investors and the participation of a number of Arab and international investment funds, banks, financial institutions, business leaders and companies specializing in aquaculture.

It is worth mentioning that the forum aims to share best practices, experiments and experiences in the aquaculture sector among investors and to introduce fish farming and different aquaculture projects, as the consumption of seafood in the Kingdom is expected to increase by 8% annually until 2030.



Arab Authority For Agricultural Investment And Development Honors Strategic Partners For Their Support To Arab Food Security



Under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and Minister of Finance, the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development (AAAID) honored its strategic partners during a ceremony held at the One and Only Royal Mirage Hotel, Dubai on 04 March 2019. The ceremony was attended by several top-level officials including ministers, undersecretaries, ambassadors of Arab and foreign countries, heads of Arab and international organizations, local authorities, directors of companies and banks, as well as a group of senior investors in the agricultural sector and businessmen.

The ceremony is in recognition of the contribution of partners of AAAID towards attaining Arab food security and their continued support for the ambitious vision and strategic plans that AAAID have shown whereby more than 50 agricultural companies are now dealing with the Arab Authority by the end of 2018, reflecting total investments of about USD 631 million. The number of investment opportunities studied by the Arab Authority has also reached to about 115, which focused on plant and animal production, food processing and agricultural services, while 69 development programs were conducted for small farmers and producers in the Arab countries, with agricultural areas amounting to about 26,000 feddans. AAAID also allocated about USD 13 million as funding support to small farmers and producers and about USD 5 million to promote the activity of contractual crops, while the number of beneficiaries of all these programs have reached to 93,000 farmers and producers. In the field of agricultural research and localization of modern technologies, the Authority has implemented about 95 applied research experiences in several Arab countries.

H.E. Mohamed bin Obaid Al Mazrooei, Chairman of the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development, expressed his appreciation for all partners from government and private institutions, diplomatic missions, organizations, Arab, regional and

international entities for their continuing support for the Authority's efforts in achieving success in agricultural development and food security projects in Arab countries. He also stressed on the keenness of the Authority to strengthen its relations with strategic partners and develop ties with various government and private sectors in the efforts to further develop investments for the agricultural sector and develop existing industries in Arab countries using the latest technologies. He emphasized that the future of agricultural and food investments are based on the localization of technologies in modern agriculture and technological innovations in the Arab world.

H.E Al Mazrooei concluded with: "We look forward to continuing our path to success, given our leadership of over more than 42 years, during which the Authority focused its efforts on optimizing the benefits of distributing natural resources in the Arab countries and acquiring multiple expertise in various fields of agricultural investment. We look to tap the huge investment opportunities within the agricultural sector currently available to investors from the public and private sectors and address urgent need to develop an arable area of 220 million hectares. This area has not even exceeded the total area exploited for development which is only 33%, while livestock is currently estimated to reach 350 million heads, the actual production of which has not covered the needs of the entire Arab region, and currently uses 62% of water resources or about 258 million cubic meters per year."

It is worth mentioning that a number of ministries and embassies of AAAID's Member States were honored, including the Embassy of the Republic of Sudan. The shield was received by HE Mr. Mohammed Amin Abdullah Al Karib, Ambassador of the Republic of the Sudan in the United Arab Emirates, in addition to honoring a number of Arab and international organizations, businesspersons, the private sector and media institutions.