

Punjab Food Department, Government of Punjab and PEEP Sign Memorandum of Understanding to Modernize Grain Storage System in Punjab

Representatives from Punjab Food Department (PFD), Government of Punjab, and the USAID Punjab Enabling Environment Project (PEEP), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to roll-out delivery of technical assistance for establishment of an efficient grain storage mechanism, involving transformation of grain storage from bag to bulk handling system. This initiative will be based on a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model to establish modern storage facilities throughout the province.

PFD has been entrusted by the Government of Punjab for establishing 200 near-farm wheat silos with a capacity of around 20,000 metric tons each to ensure availability of clean, high quality wheat throughout the year. Through Transaction Advisory Services (TAS) Program, one of PEEP's facilitation tools, the project will provide technical assistance to PFD in setting up grain storage facilities in Punjab. PEEP's TAS program offers a series of financial, technical, commercial, and legal advisory services for potential investors through project-contracted service provider KPMG Taseer Hadi & Co.

PEEP and PFD seek to modernize the agriculture sector in Punjab by facilitating the shift to advanced and efficient storage system for agriculture produce. This initiative will lead to food security, price stabilization, and storage of grains at international food standards. This initiative is expected to mobilize private sector investment worth \$200 million to build around 200 silos with an estimated storage capacity of 2 million metric tons.

