

resources. As a part of CPEC, technical exchange and cooperation in fields such as crop seed reproduction, livestock and poultry breeding, breeding and production technology, agricultural products processing, animal & plant epidemic prevention & control, mechanization demonstration and ICT-enabled agriculture will be strengthened. Post-harvest handling, storage and transportation of agricultural products will be improved, and innovation of advanced marketing and sales models has also been proposed. Cooperation between Pakistan and China will also work together to improve flood management, develop rangeland & deserts and strengthen remote sensing technologies. In order to improve agricultural practices, production of agriculture inputs particularly pesticides, fertilizer, machinery will be enhanced and support services including agriculture education and research will be provided to the farmers to ease adoption of better quality inputs. Collaboration in horticulture, fisheries and livestock medicines and vaccines is also one of the key areas covered in the LTP.

In particular, within agriculture, China aims to develop different stages of the value-chain, as proposed in the detailed LTP. A set of steps will be taken in order to improve pre-harvest agricultural practices. To develop breeding and plantation, agricultural practices will be modernized along the corridor by guiding farmers regarding agricultural mechanization and optimum scale production and encouraging use of improved varieties to improve productivity. An agricultural mechanization demonstration will be provided to the farmers and a leasing center will be constructed in Punjab to promote drip irrigation under plastic film and other water-saving agricultural techniques. Protected cultivation for the development of facility agriculture will also be encouraged. It has been planned to establish a plant and animal disease prevention and control system in Faisalabad and Lahore to reinforce R&D in view of the current cotton leaf roll virus and other plant viral diseases.

Post-harvest agricultural practices, including storage, transportation and agricultural processing will also be enhanced. Warehousing and logistics facilities in Islamabad and Lahore will be strengthened to form a warehousing and logistics network system connecting cities and covering the area along the CPEC. To develop agricultural processing capacity, modern agricultural product processing equipment and facilities will be provided to the processing units. It is also proposed to develop agricultural industry cluster around Islamabad and Lahore to create a processing base meeting international standards. These measures will help overcome some of the existing bottlenecks and upgrade post-harvest handling and processing of agriculture.

China and Pakistan have potential for symbiotic trade relations, whereby China can take advantage of the low-cost production resources available in Pakistan, and Pakistan can benefit from the technology and financing that China has to offer. Pakistan has an abundance of labor force, available at cheap rates, which can be employed by the Chinese companies to produce cost competitive products. Moreover, there is a large demand for Chinese products in Pakistan, so an increased ease of trade will lead to a spur in Chinese exports. Pakistan, on the