

# **Agriculture in Pakistan**

## **Opportunities and Challenges**

**Arif Nadeem**

Pakistan Agricultural Coalition

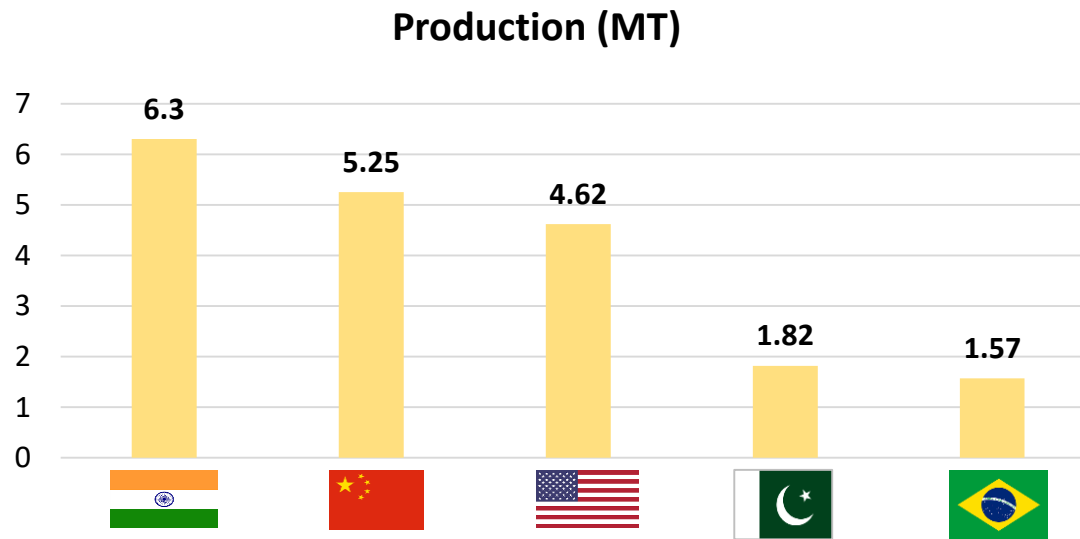
# Pakistan's Potential in Crop Sector

- Cotton
- Rice
- Oilseeds
- Storage

**Cotton**

# Pakistan's cotton landscape

- Cotton is Pakistan's 2<sup>nd</sup> largest crop planted on 6.66 million acres
- Pakistan is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest cotton producer in the world
- Pakistan is 3<sup>rd</sup> largest cotton consumer in the world

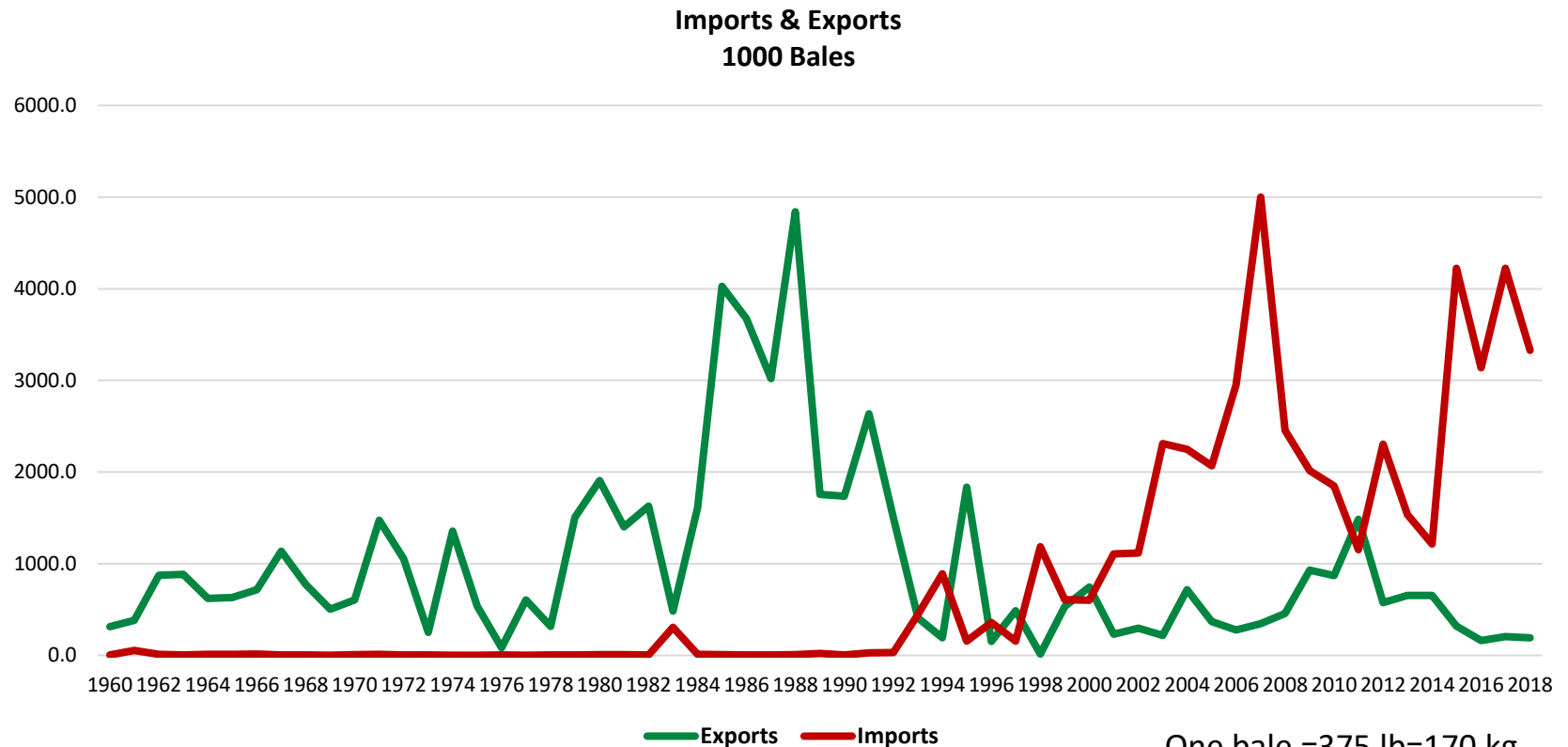


Pakistan Economic Survey, 2017-18

- It is the main source of cash earning for the farming community
- Cotton picking is the single largest source of employment for poor rural women
- Provides livelihood to nearly **1.7 million** farm families

# Cotton sector decline

- Pakistan was a major cotton exporter up to 1995
- Now is a net importer of raw cotton (**exports 0.21 m bales & imports up to 3.5 m bales**)



One bale = 375 lb = 170 kg

Source: [www.indexmundi.com](http://www.indexmundi.com)

# All three pillars of agricultural development are weak for cotton crop

## Technology

- Inadequate seed provision system
- Ineffective insect and pest control
- Poor weed management

## Yield Loss

~2-3 million bales  
~1-2 million bales  
~2 million bales

## Water Productivity

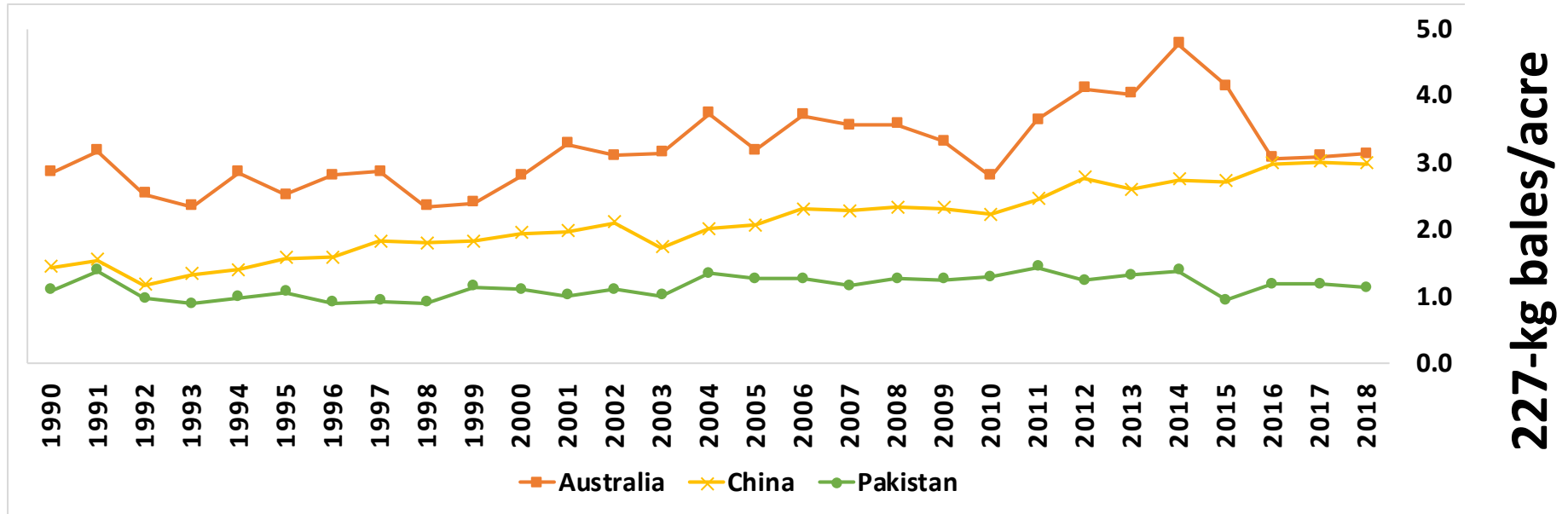
- Inappropriate irrigation technologies
  - Inequitable and unreliable surface supplies
  - Lack of farm level drainage facilities
- } ~2 million bales

## Agronomy Support

- Obsolete production technology
- Inadequate agriculture advisory support

# SANIFA: Developing quality seed to raise cotton yields

Pakistan's cotton yields have been stagnant for decades



## Issues behind low cotton productivity

- Critical input required by farmer: SEED!
  - 88% unbranded seed, informal market: farmers ripped off (germination: 44%)
  - Not just quantity but also quality issues
- Average cotton imports: 2 million bales annually

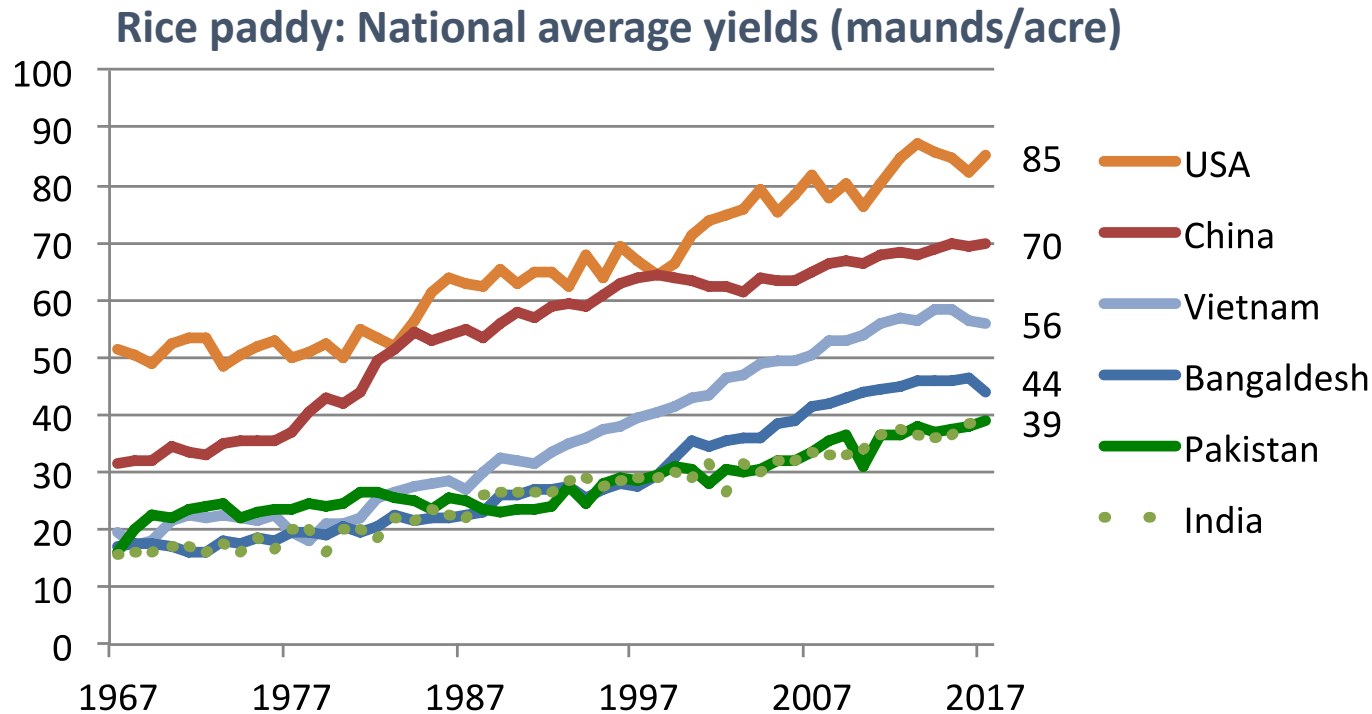
## Solution: SANIFA

- A world-class cotton seed company by Sapphire, Nishat and Fatima
- Engaged international cotton breeders Dr. Don Keim and Dr. Albert Santos and leading Entomologist Dr. Neil Forrester
- **Result: 90% seed germination, ~100% purity, 2 bales/acre average yields**

**Rice**



# Pakistan's low rice yields and high post-harvest losses present an opportunity



Yields observed within Pakistan (maunds/acre)

**Basmati**  
Super Basmati: 30  
**Non-Basmati**  
IRRI-6, IRRI-9: 45  
Hybrid: 60

**Post-harvest losses:** about 20% of farm output

# Rapid program development: PAC & REAP

First meeting with REAP



Agreements: among partners,  
with service providers,  
and with farmers



Farmers receiving mechanized  
rice cultivation services

Follow-up meetings to  
design program and interventions



Creation of business model for  
mechanized rice cultivation services



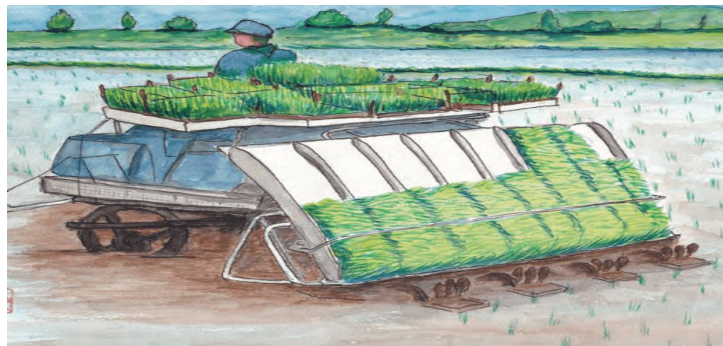
Presentation of proposed  
program to REAP



Presentation to Mr. Razzak  
Dawood & stakeholders



Preparation for  
scale up on-  
going thru PPP  
mode



Dec 2018

Jan-Mar 2019

Apr 2019

# Interventions for yield increase & loss reduction piloted by the Asian Development Bank in Pakistan (2018)

Under implementation in Districts Thatta and Badin by Garibsons Consortium

## CURRENT

Seed saved from last year

Seed choice

Proper seed

Unleveled fields



Bed preparation



Traditional nursery-raising & manual transplantation: 55,000 plants per acre



Nursery raising

Transplantation



Nursery-raising in trays and mechanical transplantation

Plant population about 100,000 per acre  
→ Higher yield

Harvesters intended for wheat



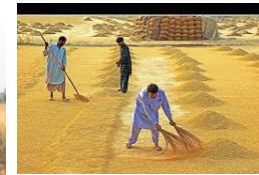
Harvesting



Harvesters intended for rice

50% reduction in harvesting losses and broken

Sun-drying of paddy



Drying

Traditional paddy storage



Storage



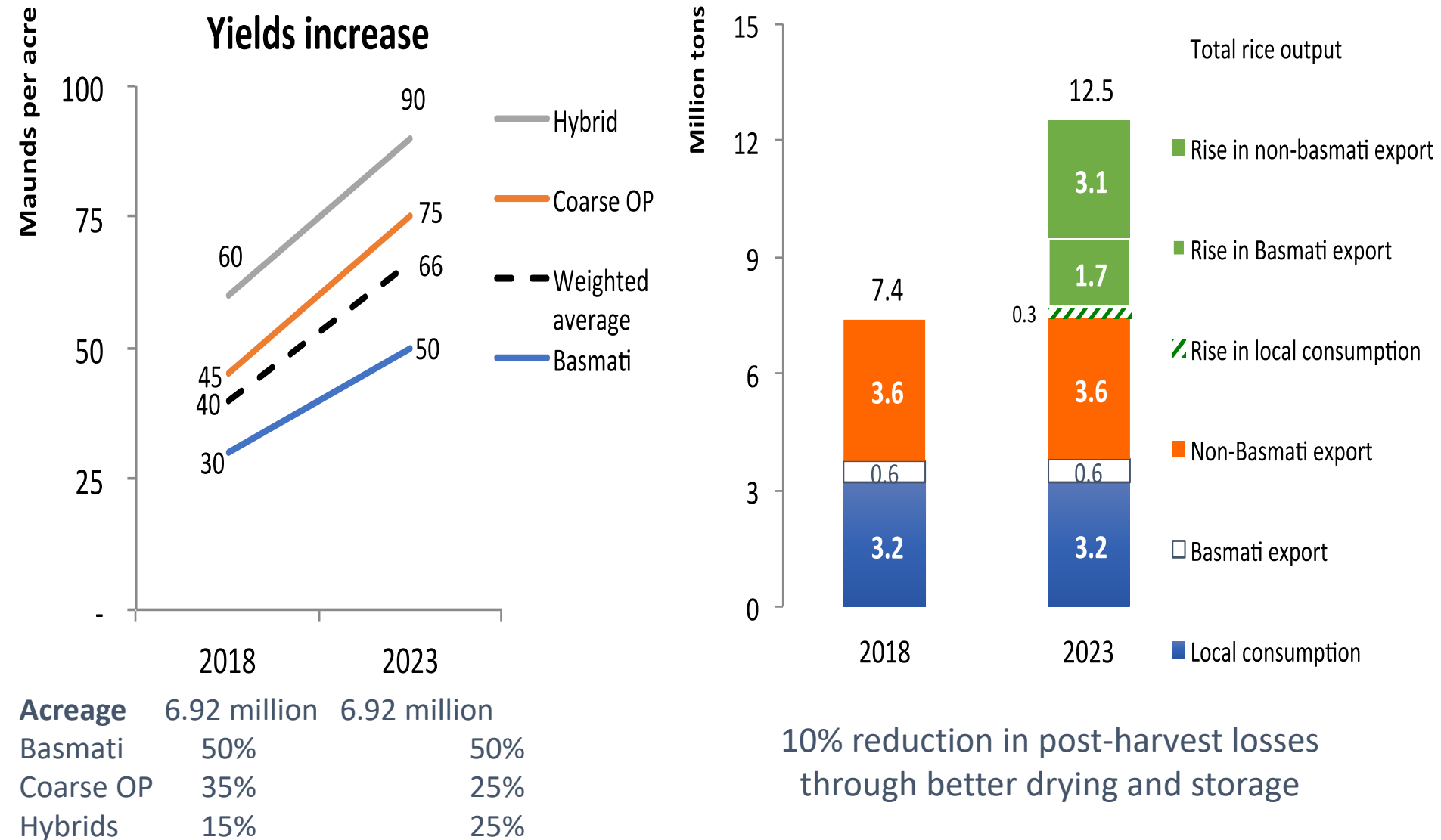
## PROPOSED

Laser-leveled fields

+20% water saving  
Around 10% yield increase

Up to 50% yield increase

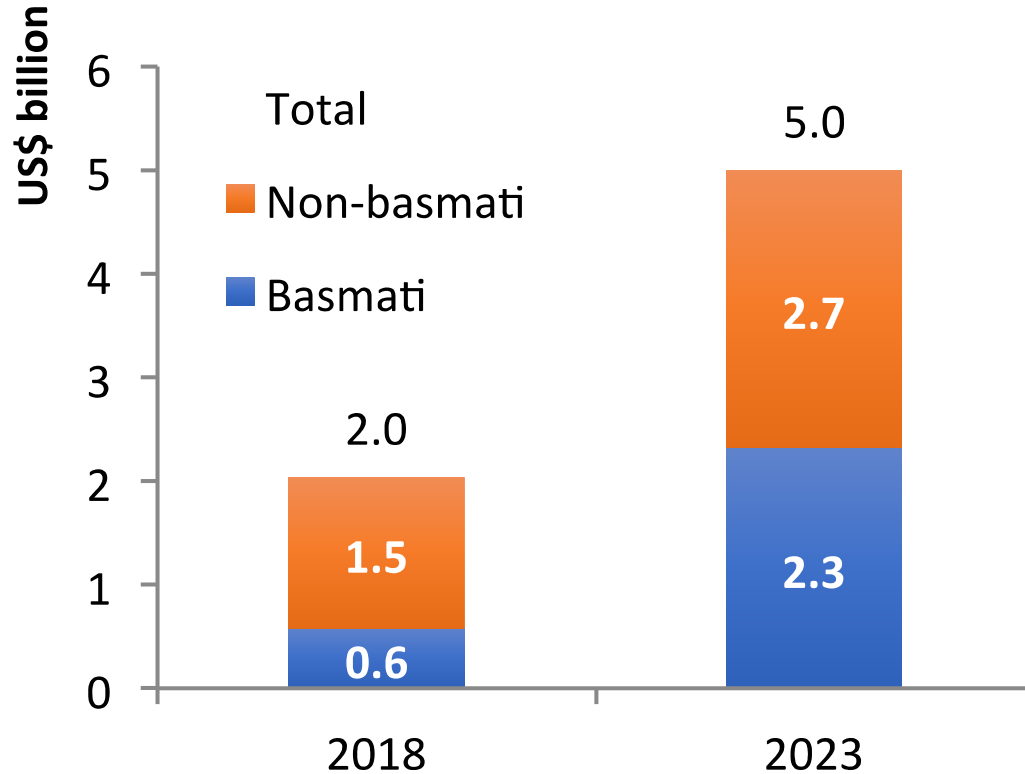
# Target yield increase, loss reduction and output 2018-23



10% reduction in post-harvest losses through better drying and storage

Assumptions: 5% per annum rise in local consumption

# Proposed program 2019-23 for doubling rice exports



**A**

Seed  
development  
& advisory to  
farmers

**B**

Farm machinery-based  
services to farmers

Minimized water use

**C**

Investment  
in drying  
& storage

**D**

Investment  
in rice  
processing

# Oilseeds

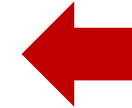
# 88% of edible oil in Pakistan is imported



**Edible Oil Requirement** (3.62  
Million Tons)



**Import Share**  
(3.191 Million Tons 88%)



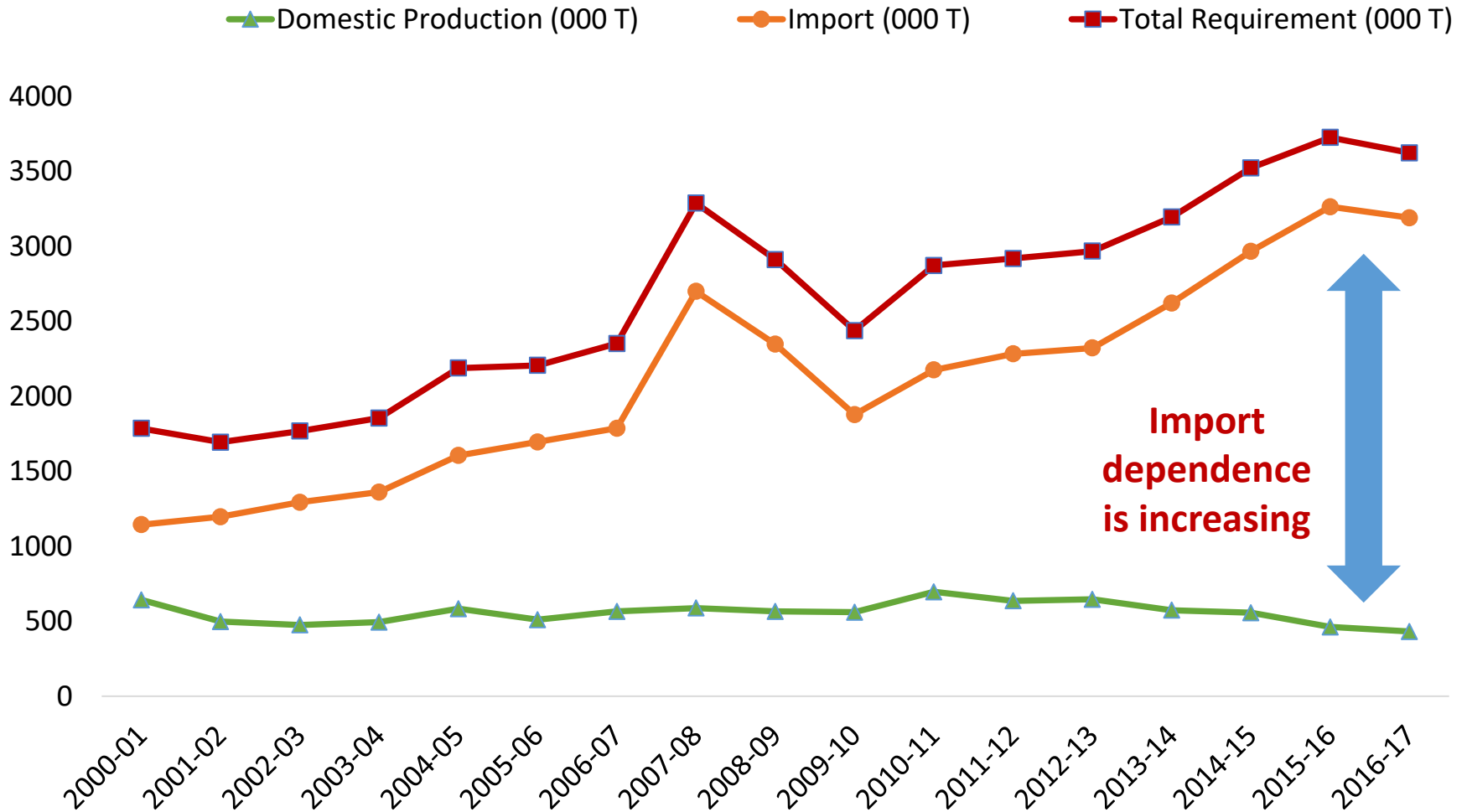
**Import bill**  
of ~USD 2  
billion



**Local Production**  
(0.431 Million Tons 12%)

# Increasing demand and static local production has made us dependent on importing edible oils

'000s Tons





# There are 3 main causes of poor domestic output of edible oils

Challenges	Details
<b>Low returns of oilseed crops vis-à-vis competing crops</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Planting of oilseed crops on marginal lands mainly under rainfed conditions</li><li>■ Sub-optimal use of inputs and minimal crop care</li><li>■ Traditional cultural practices (seed broadcasting, minimal weed control, hand harvesting etc.)</li></ul>
<b>Oilseed Categorized as “Minor Crops” and interpreted as “unimportant”</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Negligible focus on R&amp;D<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Lack of high yielding varieties/ hybrids</li><li>■ Non development of appropriate production technologies</li></ul></li><li>■ Insignificant extension advisory support</li></ul>
<b>Nonexistent Oilseeds Policy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Liberal imports-enabling regime restricting local production</li><li>■ Oilseed planning is exclusively a provincial subject after 18th amendment but got little attention in the provinces</li></ul>

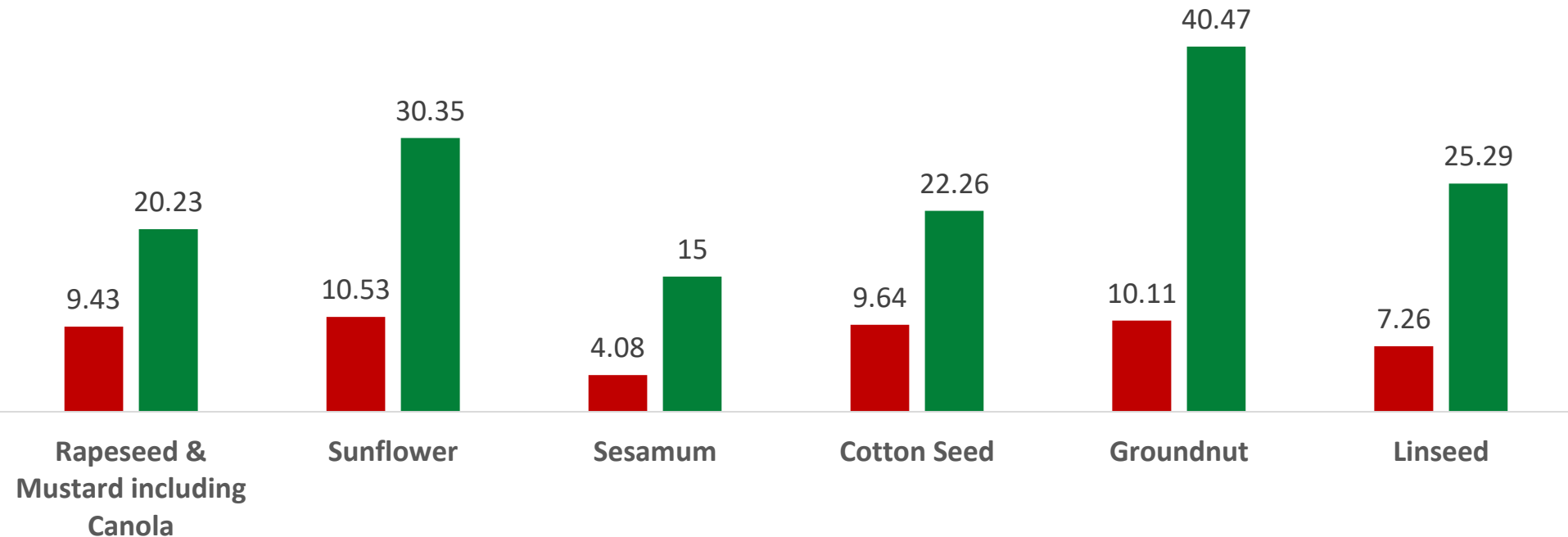
# Low yields of oilseed crops is the key reason for poor returns

- Average national yields of all oilseed crops are 25% to 50% of what the progressive farmers achieve

**Maunder's per Acre**

■ Average yield

■ Progressive farmer yield



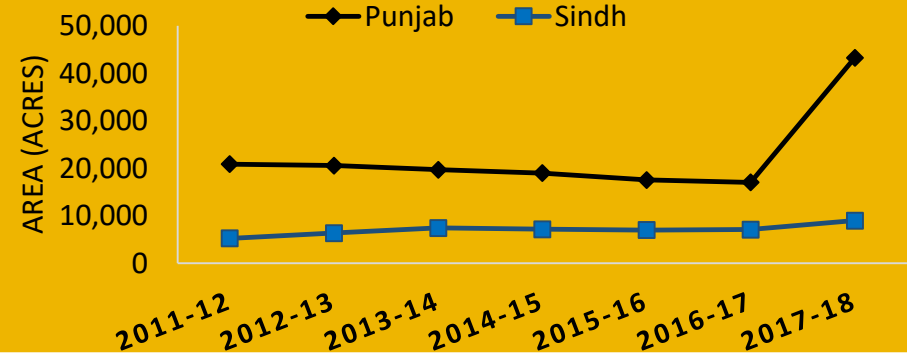
# Oilseed Promotion initiative: GoPb successfully piloted direct cash transfers to farmers

## Program features

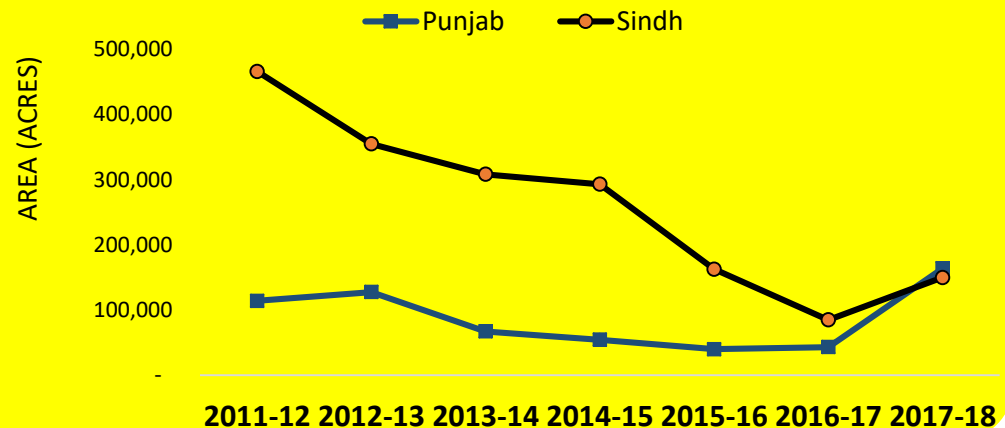
- Cashless transfers of Rs. 5,000/acre into grower's account through scratch cards placed in oilseed bags
  - Farmers receive Rs. 1,000 in their accounts at the time of sowing and remaining Rs. 4,000 on verification of planting the crop
- Farmers are provided off-take guarantee @ Rs. 2,500/maund by solvent extraction plants

The program has exponentially increased canola and sunflower acreage

### Canola



### Sunflower



# Sesame cultivation is attractive and has a solid export demand

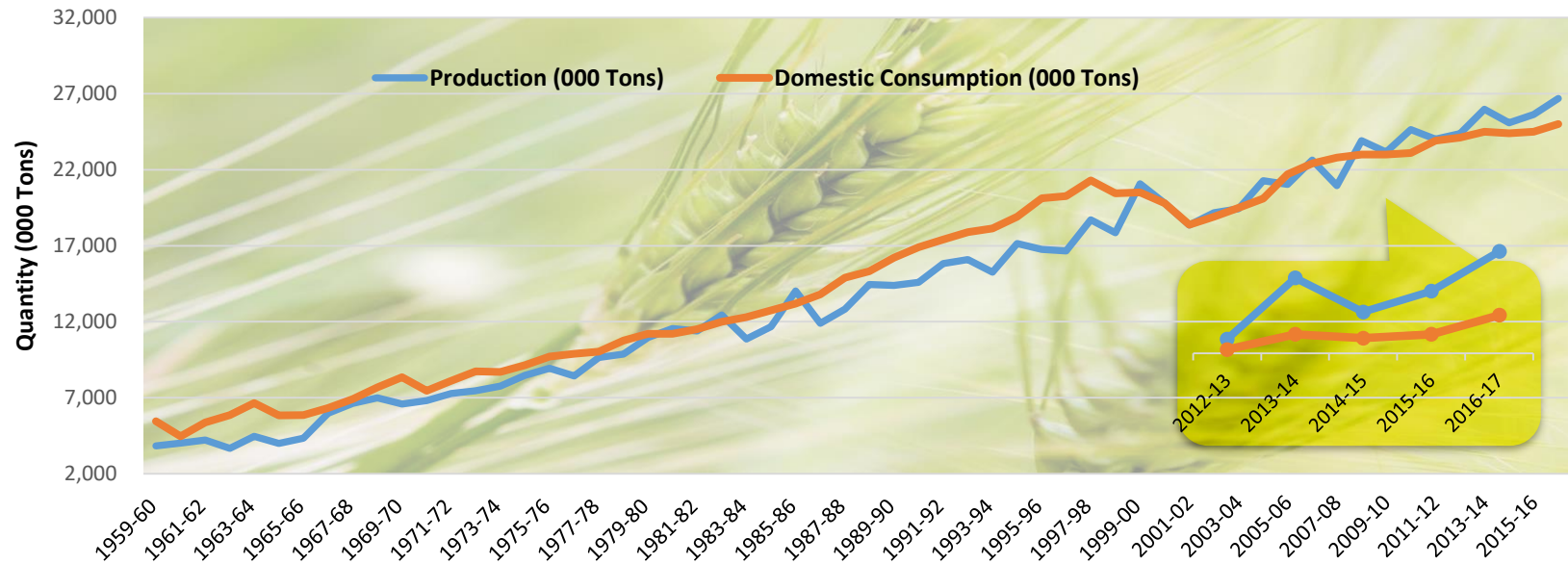
- Pakistan annually exports ~27,000 tons (87% of production) sesame worth USD 45 million to Kazakhstan, Vietnam, Turkey, Korea, China, Japan, USA and UAE
- Average yield of sesame is 4 maunds/acre whereas progressive growers are achieve 15-20 maunds/acre and *earn more than PKR 70,000* per acre

## There is a massive untapped potential:

- Current annual international export market of sesame is US\$ 2 billion
- Only China imports sesame valuing USD 734 million every year; our share is USD 2-3 million
- Sesame is a highly water efficient
- Sesame exports can be enhanced in 5 years to US\$ 300 million by:
  - Increasing cultivated area to 500,000 acres from of 192,544 acres by substituting rice
  - Enhancing average yield from 4 maunds/acre to 10 maunds/acre

# Prospects of agriculture as an engine of growth for Pakistan

**Pakistan has now attained self-sufficiency in wheat and now producing it in surplus quantities**



Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics

- About 2 million acres can, therefore, be shifted from wheat to sunflower and canola cultivation; which together with enhancing their average yield from 10 maunds/acre to 20 maunds/acre
  - can curtail country's annual edible oil imports by nearly **US\$ 600-700 million**
- Likewise, growing sesame on 500,000 acres with 10 maunds/acre yield
  - may earn around **US\$ 300 million** foreign exchange from its exports

# Storage

# Existing agri-warehousing landscape of Pakistan

## Lack of quality public storage facilities

- Existing system is unstructured and fragmented
- High post-harvest losses (~20%)
- Quality degradation

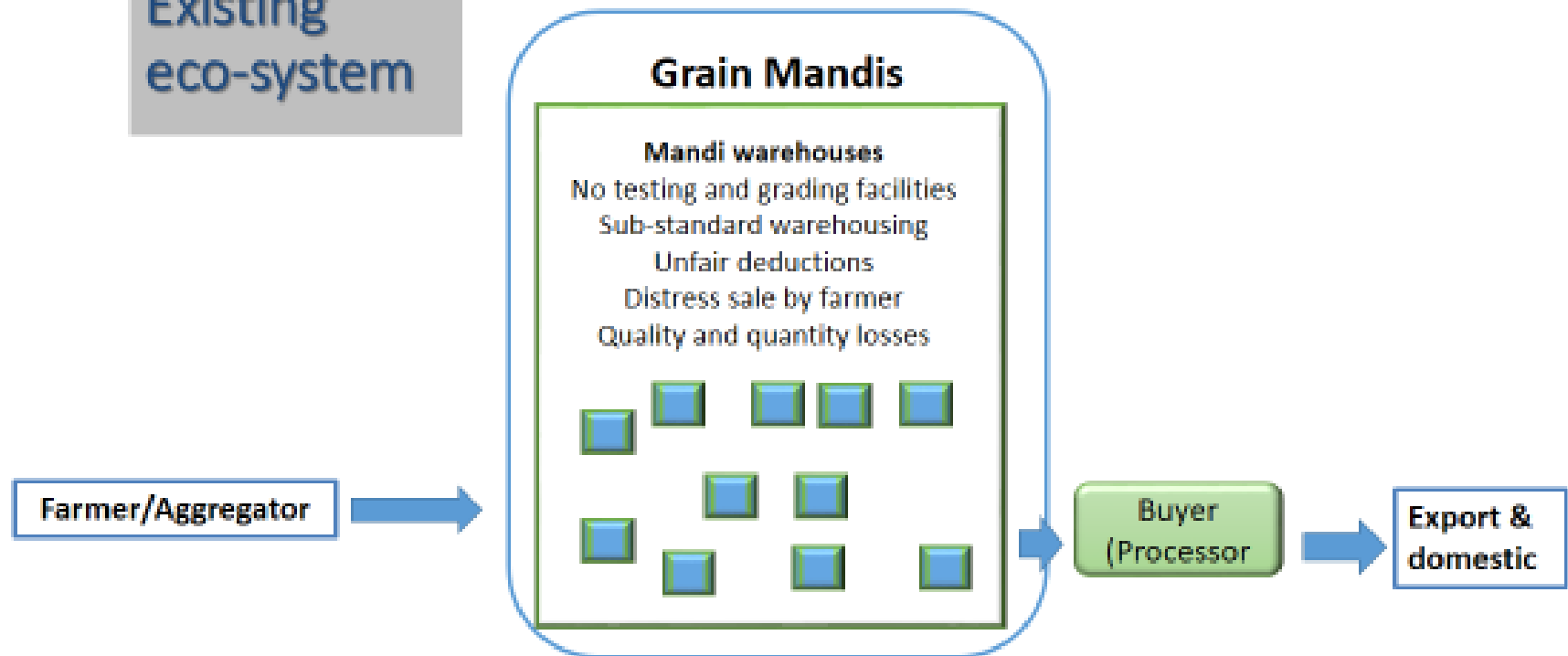
## Farmers have to make 'distress sale' to repay loans

- Commodity prices are lowest at time of harvest
- Farmers sell at harvest time to finance next crop
- Benefit of price increase goes to middlemen

## Lending product is not beneficial for farmers

- Banks require land as collateral; leaves out tenant/landless farmers
- Borrowing from middlemen who typically charge more than 36% per annum!

## Existing eco-system





Sun-drying of maize



# Post-harvest losses of 20%

## Near-farm agri-warehousing is needed!

Aggregation at maize mandi, Okara



Proper warehousing  
exists inside mills...



Sun-drying of rice paddy



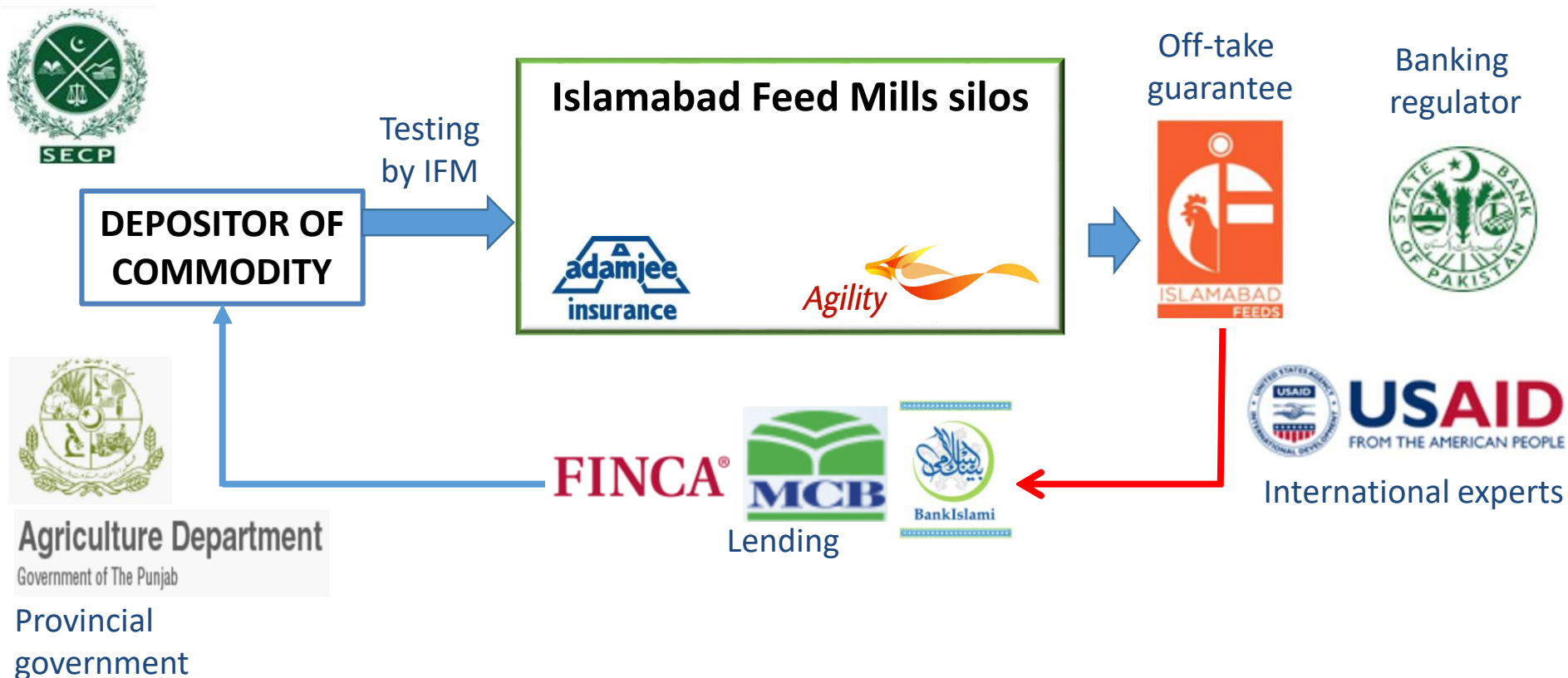
Traditional paddy storage



...but not  
near farms

# Basic business model of collateral management

Pakistan Agricultural Coalition's maize pilot 2018 at Okara



Banks lend 70% of the value of the collateral

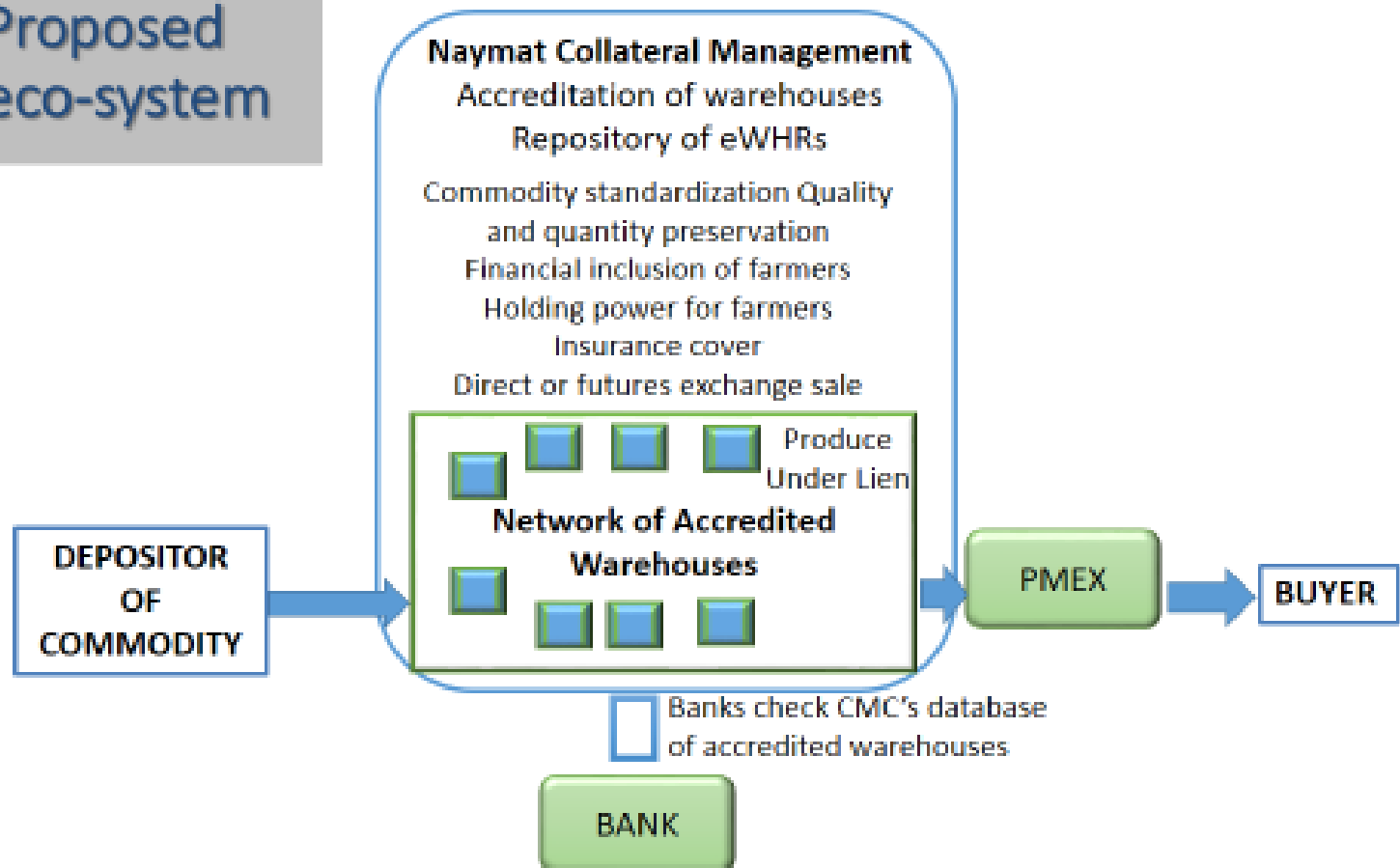
Islamabad Feeds guaranteed off-take if farmer unable to sell

Adamjee insured the commodity listing each bank as co-loss payee

Islamabad Feeds paid insurance; depositor paid Islamabad Feeds a charge

Islamabad Feeds was warehouse operator; Agility oversaw as collateral manager

## Proposed eco-system





# Launch of first CMC under the EWR regime set for Mar-Apr 2020

**Jun 26** PM Advisor on Finance chaired meeting on EWR regime

Set 5-week deadline for launch

Governor State Bank and Chairman

SECP & endorsed this timeline

**Jul 31** SECP notification of CMC Regulations 2019

**Sep 24** SECP stakeholders consultation in Karachi

**Oct 18:** SBP amended all relevant PRs to declare EWRs as collateral for lending

**Oct onwards** PAC brought in IFC to advise SECP on the operational and regulatory framework for CMC

**Nov 24** Application for registration of Naymat Collateral as CMC sent to SECP



# Collateral management will help reduce post-harvest losses of 20%

- Cumulative annual volume of these leading crops of Pakistan:
  - 44 million tons
  - Rs. 1.8 trillion
- Value lost in post-harvest losses:  
Rs. 360 billion per annum!
- Wheat
- Maize
- Cotton
- Sugar
- Rice paddy
- Rice
- Oil seeds

**Thanks**