

PepsiCo to build snack production plant in Kazakhstan

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PepsiCo has announced its plans to build the largest salty snack production plant in Central Asia, to be located in the Almaty region of Kazakhstan. The announcement followed a meeting between Kazakhstan's Prime Minister Olzhas Bektenov and David Manzini, President of PepsiCo for Central Asia, Russia, Belarus, and the Caucasus.

The plant aims to primarily produce Lays potato chips and is scheduled to begin operations in 2026. With \$160 million in secured private foreign investments, the plant is expected to have an initial production capacity of up to 16,000 tonnes of snacks per year, increasing to 21,000 tonnes by 2027. PepsiCo's new facility is intended to not only serve the domestic market but also distribute products throughout Central Asia and beyond.

According to the government of Kazakhstan, the project will focus on localising production and integrating innovative technologies to improve the processing of Kazakh agricultural products. Another highlight of the project is that it will rely on local raw materials, with PepsiCo planning to source up to 66,000 tonnes of potatoes from Kazakh farmers between 2026 and 2030.