





Women Tailroing | Sancharak District | Sarepul Province





# **HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH**

Bellows are summery of the major activities taken place during February 2016 in Shortepa and Kishindeh districts of Balkh<sup>1</sup> province, Balkhab, Sancharak and Gosfandi districts of Sarepul<sup>2</sup> Province and Dar-i-Suf Bala and Dar-i-Suf Payan districts of Samangan<sup>3</sup> province:



#### New Micro-Entrepreneurs Join Self Help Groups

It was a good month for Gosfandi, Sancharak and Balkhab districts of Sarepul province. e. A total of 37 new members joined the existing SHGs in the targeted districts of Sarepul province.



#### Learning Skills to Start-up or Expand Micro-Businesses

1,835 (1,520 female and 315 male) members were trained in eight modules of Business Development Services (BDS) training package in Gosftandi district of Sarepul province. 295 members (198 female and 97 male) members also received BDS training package in Kishindeh district of Balkh province.



#### Refresher Trainings for Better Results

1,356 members (1,140 female and 216 male) received refresher training on Business Development Services (BDS) and Microfinance.



### Reading and Writing Skill for Micro-Entrepreneurship

76 new members (43 female and 33 male) joined Life Skills Training for Entrepreneurs in Dar-i-Suf Payan district of Samangan province.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Sustainable Livelihood Program", a project funded by Hand in Hand International

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "Reducing Poverty and Gender Inequality in Sarepul province of Afghanistan by Improving Household Income and Financial Resilience for Rural Women through Enterprise and Job Creation", a project funded by DFID and Hand in Hand International

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "Supporting Rural Entrepreneurship and Promoting Women's Socio-Economic Empowerment in Dar-i-Suf Bala and Dar-i-Suf Payan districts of Samangan province", a project funded by EU, J&J CCT and Hand in Hand International



#### In-Hand Budgets to Start-up Micro-Businesses

During this reporting period, a total value of 1,296,350 AFN was saved in the SHGs by the group members. Also total value of 1,749,460 AFN was lent to 334 (264 female and 70 male) group members as internal loan.



#### **Receiving Toolkits to Run Micro-Enterprises**

Members of SHGs who have completed vocational skill training received business start-up toolkits to run and/or expand their microenterprises. Toolkits distributed in Gosfandi, Sancharak and Kishidneh districts.



#### No Only Trainings in a Class

1,205 (751 female and 454 male) members are under the vocational training on different occupations while 44 female members received vocational training during this month and were enabled to start and/or expand their micro-enterprise in Sarepul (Balkhab, Gosfandi and Sancharak), Samangan (Dar-i-Suf Bala and Dar-i-Suf Payean) and Balkh (Kishindeh and Shortepa) provnices.



The Last Result

During this reporting period, 113 (75 female and 38 male) micro-enterprise formed and 114 (89 female and 25 male) micro-enterprise expanded which has resulted in creation of 111 (71 female and 40 male) jobs

# **SUCCESS STORY**

## Giving A Helping Hand

Because her husband had no stable job, 48 year old Fatima – mother of six children - was looking a way out to give a helping hand for family's expenses. But she was illiterate and had no vocational skill. This all changed, she found a micro-entrepreneurship idea when she joined Gul-Sahar Selpf Help Group of Hand in Hand Afghanistan in her home district of Dar-i-Suf Bala of Samangan province.



Since joining the group, she has been a regular member and enjoys the time she spends on her group and training sessions. She is also considered a quick learner and after she learned basic information on micro-entrepreneurship and vocational skills, she was inspired to start-up a micro-poultry business at her home's backyard. She later received business start-up toolkit for her chicken-raising business and started her micro-business by selling eggs to neighbors. Because she used skills she learned during training modules, she now earns 100 AFN per day making a total income of 3,000 in a month.

So far she has an internal saving of 1,850 AFN in her group. She says she can now support her husband in providing family's expenses.

"Now I can properly take care of my family, especially my children's education. SHGs saved my life." Says Fatima.

# **CUMULATIVE RESULTS**



36,507 Members Mobilized into SHGs (64 % female)



2,252 SHGS/ CIGs Created (63% female)



36,645 SHG Members Trained in Group Management (63 % female)



35,525 SHG Members Trained in Microfinance (65% female)



26,846 SHG Members Trained in BDS (67% female)



14,552 SHG Members Trained in Vocational Trainings

(52% female)



3,960 SHG Members Trained in Life Skill (73% female)



9,446 SHG Members Received Enterprise Startup Kits

(76 % female)



15,298 Micro-Enterprises Created/ Enhanced (68% female)



20,186 Jobs Created (68% female)



52,360,161 AFN Internally Saved by SHG Members (64% female)



28,548,078 AFN Internally Lent by SHG Members (62% female)

## **Partners and Supporters**







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