

# MONTHLY REPROT FLASH AUGUST 2016





## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

Following are the highlights of activities taken place during August 2016 in Balkh, Samangan and Sarepul Provinces under below mentioned projects:

1. Sustainable Livelihood Program, a project funded by Hand in Hand International.
2. 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.
3. Supporting Rural Entrepreneurship and Promoting Women's Socio-Economic Empowerment in Dara-i-Suf Bala and Dara-i-Suf Payan districts of Samangan province, a project funded by EU, J&J CCT and Hand in Hand International

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### Associations and Enterprises Linked to Market

Hand in Hand Afghanistan has formed 46 Associations in 4 different sectors (Beekeeping, Poultry, Handicraft and Livestock) in Dara-i-Suf Bala and Dara-i-Suf Payan districts of Samangan Province under the project named "Supporting Rural Entrepreneurship and Promoting Women's Socio-Economic Empowerment" co-funded by EU and HiH International.

Market Linkage Workshop was held on 6th August 2016 where Government officials, Sectorial Departments and value chain actors such as investors, whole sellers and suppliers were invited in order to establish Market Linkages between these Associations and value chain actors.

As result total of 68 MoUs in Poultry, Agriculture, Handicraft and Beekeeping sectors were signed between associations and private sector which links more than 5,400 micro-entrepreneurs to the market.

Also in this event Rural Entrepreneurs from Keshendeh and Shortepa districts of Balkh province covered under the "Sustainable Livelihood Project" funded by HiH International participated which resulted in linkage of 46 rural enterprise groups to market.





## Refresher Training Conducted for Trainers

During August 2016 Training of Trainers were conducted for Village Enterprise Facilitators (VEFs) and district staff in Balkhab District of Sarepul province.

In this training 18 VEFs and 3 district staff participated and the following modules were delivered within 7 days:

- Group Management
- Microfinance
- Business Development Services
- Market Linkage and Value Addition

Also a total of 4,339 SHG members have completed different vocational skill training in below mentioned districts:

- Balkhab District 2,468 members (1,757 Female)
- Gosfandi District 289 members (251 Female)
- Sancharak District 579 member (466 Female)
- Shortepa District 248 member (222 Female)
- Kishindeh District 42 member (11 Female)
- Dara-i-Suf Bala 311 members (160 Female)
- Dara-i-Suf Payan 402 members (310 Female)

At the same time access to tools is very essential in order to start or expand an enterprise; therefore during the month of August a total of 543 members received access to different types of enterprise start up kits as follow:

- Balkhab District 334 (253 Female)
- Sancharak District 143 (65 Female)
- Gosfandi District 24 (15 Female)
- Shortepa District 19
- Dara-i-Suf Bala District 19
- Dara-i-Suf Payan District 4

During the month of August a total of **815** jobs have been created by internal loans and enterprise startup kits.



## Engaging Local Stakeholders

On 23<sup>rd</sup> of August 2016, Hand in Hand Afghanistan conducted stakeholders meeting in HiH Af branch office at Gosfandi district of Sarepul province, under the DFID funded project. In this meeting head of Community Development Councils, District Development Assembly (DDA), Agriculture Department Representatives, National and International NGOs operating in Gosfandi and Sancharak districts such as ZOA & PMU and HiH Af beneficiaries from SHGs participated.

The event started by a presentation from district staff explaining goals of HiH Af, importance and role of associations on the top of SHGs, importance of access to credit through savings and utilizing domestic products and understanding local market demands, followed by a speech from Mr. Fazul Ahmad representative of Gosfandi district Agriculture Department. He said that "HiH Af is implementing a fundamental project, it changes and promotes life of the most vulnerable and marginalized people with focus on women". He also encouraged rural women to actively take part in the project and promised his continues cooperation.

The meeting concluded after a question and answer session where participants asked for clarification about associations that were answered by the relevant staff.

### Provincial figures of Internal Saving and Loans:

#### Savings (AFN):

- Sarepul Province: 725,965
- Samangan Province: 530,850
- Balkh Province: 280,200

#### Amount of Loans (AFN):

- Sarepul Province: 922,210
- Samangan Province: 225,800
- Balkh Province: 259,500



## A Dream Came True

“Hand in Hand Afghanistan helped me to start a business, generate income and support my family” Says Baseera.

Baseera is a 25 year old girl. She lives with her parents and 10 siblings in Aqkamar Lalmi village of Sholgara district. They were a very poor family and her father was the only one who was working and struggling to pay for the entire family expenses, that is why Baseera was not able to continue her school.

When HiH Af started the Sustainable Livelihood Project in Balkh province, she joined Hadia SHG and regularly participated in the group meetings and received a series of trainings such as Group Management, Financial Management, Business Development Services, Life Skill Training for Entrepreneurs (LSTE) and Tailoring Vocational Training. She learnt how to sew clothes and also received the Enterprise Startup kit including sewing machine to run her business.

Now she is sewing clothes for her relatives and neighbors, her monthly income is around AFN 2,500. She helps her father with contributing to their living expenditures and she says “My dream to help my family has come true as I am able to pay for my brothers and sisters education”

Now she has many customers from her own village and neighboring villages. She plans to further expand her business and is marketing her services in district level.



## Cumulative Results as of August 2016



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



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



36,507 SHG Members  
Trained in Group  
Management  
(63 % female)



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



30,346 SHG Members  
Trained in BDS  
(67% female)



20,879 SHG Members  
Trained in Vocational  
Trainings  
(56% female)



4,928 SHG Members  
Trained in Life Skills  
(73% female)



16409 SHG Members  
Received Enterprise  
Startup Kits  
(81 % female)



61,684,129 AFN  
Internally Saved  
by SHG Members  
(67% female)



40,072,160 AFN  
Internally Lent by  
SHG Members  
(68% female)



23,236  
Micro-Enterprises  
Created/ Enhanced  
(71% female)



27,164  
Jobs Create  
(71% female)

## Partners and Supporters



**HAND IN HAND**  
INTERNATIONAL



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