

# MONTHLY REPROT FLASH JUNE 2016



HAND IN HAND  
AFGHANISTAN

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

Below are highlights of activities taken place during June 2016 in Shortepa and Kishindeh districts of Balkh<sup>1</sup> province, Balkhab, Sancharak and Gosfandi districts of Sarepul<sup>2</sup> Province and Dara-i-Suf Bala and Dara-i-Suf Payan districts of Samangan<sup>3</sup> province:



### Sustainability through Market Linkages

Linkage between enterprises and value chain actors such as input suppliers, retailers, wholesalers and traders were established to strengthen entrepreneurs. The enterprises have been mobilized to identify the potentials for business relationships in the value chain and were linked in order to ensure sustainability. The market linkages not only increase job creation opportunities but also help rural entrepreneurs improve quality of their products/services and increase their income.

Market Linkage Unit has successfully linked 40 female and 20 male microenterprises to local and regional markets as well as market linkage unit has placed products of several handicraft and embroidery enterprises to the previously established outlet in Mazar-e-Sharif.

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

<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>3</sup> "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



### **Access to Credit through Saving**

Access to Credit is very essential to start, run and expand any business. Hand in Hand Afghanistan creates the self-help groups (SHG) not only for bringing people together for achieving long term cooperation in rural communities, but also encourages them to keep saving on regular bases.

SHG members are internally saving and lending to start new enterprises or enhance the existence ones.

During this reporting period, a total of AFN 1,692,200 has been internally saved by the SHG members in all targeted districts of Balkh, Samangan and Sarepul provinces.

Provincial figures are:

- 799,800 AFN saved in Sarepul province by the SHG members.
- 483,650 AFN saved in Samangan province by the SHG members
- 236,950 AFN saved in Balkh province by the SHG members

During June 2016 SHG members issued 251 loans worth AFN 1.489.750 (85% female).



### **Startup Kits Help Micro Entrepreneurs to Start Enterprises and Create Job Opportunities.**

Hand in Hand Afghanistan (HiH Af) as part of its learning module conducts vocational training for rural men and women covered in targeted districts of Balkh, Samangan and Sarepul provinces.

Upon completion of the vocational trainings, HiH Af provides enterprise startup kits to entrepreneurs in order to help them start the business as well as kits are provided to enhance and ensure sustainability of micro enterprises.

During the month of June 2016, a total of 1,537 startup kits such as Layers Poultry, Broilers Poultry, Beekeeping, Livestock and Horticulture were provided to rural women and men resulting in creation of 2,152 jobs (71% female). At the same time 277 (87% female) jobs were created by issuing internal loans from SHGs.

## CASE STUDY

### **I was Lost, Hand in Hand Afghanistan showed me the path.**

Abdul Razaq is 48 years old, father of 4 children lives in Aqkobrok village of Kishindeh district, Balkh province. He joined Omid Self-help group after Hand in Hand Afghanistan started mobilization in his village. Since joining the SHG, he has attended regular biweekly group meetings and received group management, microfinance services, market linkage & value addition and business development services trainings from Hand in Hand Afghanistan.

Mr. Abdul Razaq had the skills of tinworks, but due to financial issue and lack of business knowledge, he was jobless. After joining the SHG and participating in trainings he was encouraged to start his own tinsmith enterprise by taking AFN 4,000 as loan from the SHG.

Now he has a shop in district market and most of his customers are from district center and villages around. He says “I was jobless and lost, with Hand in Hand Afghanistan support I was able to find the right path”. Abdul Razaq has already repaid the loan and running a successful business.

Abdul Razaq was jobless before joining the SHG, now he earns AFN 3,500 each month and he is confident that his business will be much better in the future.

“My life has improved, I have a job and I am able to earn my family expanses, Thank you Hand in Hand Afghanistan for the support.” Said Abdul Razaq.



## CUMULATIVE RESULTS AS OF JUNE 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)



15,386 SHG Members  
Trained in Vocational  
Trainings  
(52% female)



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



14,121 SHG Members  
Received Enterprise  
Startup Kits  
(84 % female)



58,162,076 AFN  
Internally Saved  
by SHG Members  
(67% female)



35,971,850 AFN  
Internally Lent by  
SHG Members (67%  
female)



20,956 Micro-  
Enterprises  
Created/ Enhanced  
(71% female)



26,345 Jobs  
Created  
(71% female)

## Partners and Supporters



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INTERNATIONAL



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S.Attahulla | Kilkaba SHG | Hosh Village | Balkhab District | Sarepul Province

**HiH Af Head Office:**  
House P-860, Street 10, Taimani, Kabul Afghanistan  
Tel: +93 202 230 791  
Mob: +93 780 059 891

**Regional Office:**  
Guzar Marmul, Behind Sultan Razia High School,  
Mazar-e-Sharif, Afghanistan  
Tel: +93 799 108 196  
Mob: +93 795 225 141

Email: [info@handinhand.org.af](mailto:info@handinhand.org.af)  
Website: [www.handinhand.org.af](http://www.handinhand.org.af)