



HAND IN HAND  
AFGHANISTAN

FLASH REPORT  
MONTHLY 10  
2016 9



Veterinary Support | Vaccination of Goats | Gosfandi District | Sarepul Province



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

The highlights of activities taken place during October 2016 in Balkh, Samangan and Sarepul Provinces under below mentioned projects

1. Sustainable Livelihood Program. The project is implemented in Kishindeh and Shortepa districts of Balkh province and 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. The project is implemented in Sancharak, Gosfandi and Balkhab districts of Sarepul province and 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. The project is funded by EU, J&J CCT and Hand in Hand International

### HiH Af SHG MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN EXHIBITION

Hand in Hand Afghanistan continuously looks for opportunities to support rural entrepreneurs in various ways that can help them increase income through sustainable enterprises.

HiH Af's SHG members and rural entrepreneurs participated in Agriculture and Trade Exhibition in Balkh province (31<sup>st</sup> October to 3<sup>rd</sup> November) to showcase their products to visitors and consumers. Government officials, national and international organization representatives and local people visited the exhibition.

Exhibitions are proven to be the most effective and efficient way for introducing products and services of entrepreneurs to the customers, therefore HiH Af always encourages and supports beneficiaries to participate in exhibitions in order to promote domestic products and ensure sustainability of enterprises.

Frozan, a beneficiary of HiH Af who participated in this exhibition said *"Despite selling my products and understanding market demand, I have learnt practical marketing skills, improved communication skills and now I have a better knowledge of my competitors in the market"*.



HiH Af Beneficiaries' Stall | Agriculture & Trade Exhibition | Mazar i Sharif | Balkh Province

## SHG MEMBERS EQUIPPED WITH NEW SKILLS

Hand in Hand Afghanistan as part of its capacity building in order to create sustainable enterprises and jobs conducts vocational skills training for members of SHGs.

During this reporting period 997 (%80 Female) members of SHGs successfully completed their vocational skills training in three districts of Sarepul province as follows:

- Gosfandi District: **96**
- Sancharak District: **15**
- Balkhab District: **886**

Entrepreneurs are provided with enterprise startup kits as a helping hand so that they can establish their enterprises.

During the month of October 2016 a total of 891 (%76 Female) various enterprises startup kits were provided as follows:

- Gosfandi District: **345**
- Sancharak District: **190**
- Balkhab District: **347**
- Kishindeh District: **9**

Total **1,290 (%76 Female)** Jobs created through micro-enterprises run by SHG members.

## SHG MONTHLY SAVINGS AND LOAN SUMMARY

During this reporting period total **AFN 1,196,600** have been saved internally by SHG members supported by HiH Af, and **AFN 749,200** have been internally lent by SHG members for the enterprise creation/enhancement.

## STAFF CAPACITY BUILDING

During this reporting month Hand in Hand Afghanistan's Capacity Development Unit (CDU) conducted a 3-days Training of Trainers (ToT) for Village Enterprise Facilitators (VEFs) in order to train them on association manual.

In this training 14 VEFs, 4 district officers, 2 assistants from Kishindeh, Shortepa and Dara i Suf districts and 3 other staff from M&E and Market Linkages unit participated.

This ToT covered following topics:

- Association Management and Administration
- Accounting and Book keeping
- Marketing Management
- Association Rules and Regulations

VEFs will be conducting this training for associations in their respective villages of Balkh and Samangan provinces.

HiH Af conducted refresher trainings for Life Skills Training for Entrepreneurs (LSTE) trainers in Gosfandi, Sancharak and Balkhab districts of Sarepul province. This training was conducted in 3 separate classes total 40 trainers including 28 female trainers participated.





## ENGAGING LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS

Hand in Hand Afghanistan conducts stakeholder meetings on regular bases to ensure efficient communication and timely reporting to government authorities and stakeholders in district level as well as provincial level. Two stakeholder meetings were conducted in two districts as below: On 9<sup>th</sup> October the stakeholder meeting was held in HiH Af branch office at Kishindeh district of Balkh province.

In this meeting Governor of Kishindeh district, Head of Community Development Councils, District Development Assembly, Security Officials in Kishindeh district and beneficiaries of HiH Af participated.

The event started by a presentation from district staff explaining goals of HiH Af, achievements of Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP), future plans and challenges.

The event was followed by a speech from Mr. Abdul Ghafor "Hamrah" Governor of Kishindeh district. He said *"HiH Af SLP meets the need of most vulnerable people including women and we will extend our support as usual"*. Later community elders spoke about effectiveness of HiH Af project for reducing poverty and job creation.

At the end Mr. Kazim Khaki HiH Af branch offices coordinator answered participants questions, discussed future plans. The event was closed by thanking everyone for their participation.

On 18<sup>th</sup> October the stakeholder meeting was held in HiH Af branch office at Sancharak district of Sarepul province.

In this meeting Deputy of Governor, Head of Community Councils, District Mayor, Community elders, Head of Education Department, HiH Af Beneficiaries in Sancharak district participated.

The event started by welcoming participants and followed by a presentation from HiH Af branch staff about "Reducing Poverty and Gender Inequality by Improving Household Income and Financial Resilience for Rural Women through Enterprise and Job Creation" project funded by DFID and HiH International.

Then Mr. Ghulam Ali Deputy Governor spoke about importance of the project, role of women in economic development and thanked the project donors for their support. The event was followed by speech from community elders and other local stakeholders, they all encouraged people for engaging in HiH Af project and promised to extend their support in the future.



Stakeholders Meeting | Kishindeh District | Balkh Province

## MEET IBRAHIM, A DAIRY FARMER

Mohammad Ibrahim, father of 6 children is 36 years old and lives in Chelato village of Kishindeh district. He says *"I used to be a labor and work on daily wage which was not only instable but also I usually had to travel in search of a job in different villages. During winter I could rarely find a job and most of the times I had to borrow from village shops for my family food and basic needs which made life difficult for me and my family. I was depressed and lost"*.

Mohammad Ibrahim joined Kamyab SHG around two years ago after HiH Af started the Sustainable Livelihood Program in his village. After joining the SHG he along with other members of the group saved regularly. He received Group Management Training, Microfinance Training, Business Development Services (BDS) trainings and training on livestock rearing. He says *"After learning about entrepreneurship I thought of my own business and took an internal loan of AFN 10,000 from the SHG combined with my personal savings I bought a cow"*. He has also received enterprise startup kit from HiH Af which has helped him to establish his dairy microenterprise.

Now he is producing around 14 liters of milk daily, he sells 10 liters of the produced milk for AFN 20 each liter and his family uses the remaining. He says *"Now my family has access to dairy products at home and I also work the days if I could find a job that will add to my income"*. His internal saving has reached to AFN 2,400 and he along with other members of the SHG continues their regular savings.

Mohammad Ibrahim is very thankful to HiH Af for implementing Sustainable Livelihood Program in Kishindeh district.

Mohammad Ibrahim has already repaid his internal loan and he is confident to expand his enterprise by buying another cow within next year to increase his production.



Mohammad Ibrahim | Dairy Farmer | Kishindeh District | Balkh Province

# CUMULATIVE RESULTS AS OF OCTOBER 2016



+0

**36,507**

Members Mobilized  
(64 % Female)



+0

**2,252**

SHGs/ CIGs Created  
(63% Female)



+0

**36,507**

Members Trained in  
Group Management  
(63 % Female)



+0

**35,525**

Members Trained in  
Microfinance  
(65% Female)



+0

**30,346**

Members Trained in BDS  
(67% Female)



+997

**22,675**

Members Trained in  
Vocational Trainings  
(57% Female)



+0

**4,928**

Members Trained in  
Life Skills  
(73% Female)



+891

**18,146**

Members Received  
Enterprise Startup Kits  
(80 % Female)



**+1,196,601 AFN**

**64,212,930 AFN**

Internally Saved by SHG  
Members  
(67% Female)



**+749,200 AFN**

**41,734,360 AFN**

Internally Lent by  
SHG Members  
(67% Female)



**+1,009**

**25,224**

Micro-Enterprises  
Created/ Enhanced  
(71% Female)



**+1,290**

**29,691**

Jobs Created  
(71% Female)

## Partners and Supporters







Tailoring Vocational Skills Training | Dare-i-Suf Bala District | Samangan Province

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