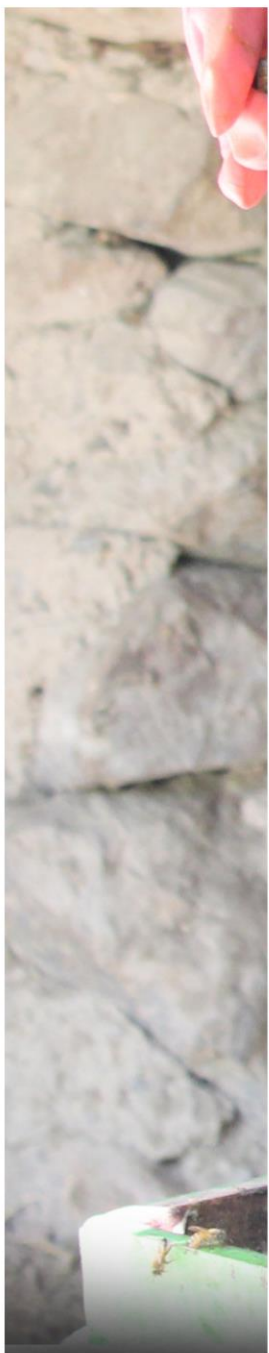


**MONTHLY FLASH REPORT
MAY 2017**



**HAND IN HAND
AFGHANISTAN**



Laila | Gul Sad Barg SHG | Akhtar Khan Village | Balkhab District | Sarepul Province

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

The highlights of activities taken place during May 2017 in Balkh and Sarepul Provinces under below mentioned projects:

1. 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.
2. Socio-Economic Empowerment of Women and Men in Chimtali District of Balkh Province. The project is funded by CAFOD and Hand in Hand International.

SHG MEMBERS ESTABLISH ASSOCIATIONS UNDER DFID FUNDED PROJECT

Hand in Hand Afghanistan establishes associations in order to bring Self-Help Group members together, facilitate their linkages to market and ensure sustainability of their businesses.

During May 2017, HiH Af facilitated formation of district level associations in Sancharak, Gosfandi and Balkhab districts of Sarepul province.

One district level association is formed on top of previously formed village level associations in each district.

Male and female representatives of village level associations elected board of directors at district level associations in each district through a

democratic election process in presence of government officials, DDAs and CDCs.

The board of directors will be trained and capacitated further to be able to well manage their respective associations.

These district level associations will be registered with the Ministry of Justice in order to allow them function as a registered and recognized entity.

These associations, both at the village and district level, tie members and their micro-enterprises together and ensure their sustainability after the project concludes.





Hand in Hand Afghanistan's Chairperson Ms. Seema Ghani, CEO Mr. Abdul Rahim Nasry and Deputy Program Manager Mr. Mohammad Rafi Azimi visited district team, SHG members and micro-enterprises under the "Reducing Poverty and Gender Inequality project" co-funded by DFID and HIHI at Gosfandi and Sancharak districts of Sarepul province. The team while visiting entrepreneurs encouraged members and provided necessary guidance to district teams in order to ensure sustainability and further improvements.



Chairperson and CEO Visiting Beneficiaries | Sarepul Province

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS RECEIVE TRAINING

Elected board of central association at Balkhab districts of Sarepul province received training on management and administration of associations.

The training included topics on association management, accounting and book keeping, basics of marketing management, basics of supply chain management and association's social responsibilities and completed in three days.

After receiving these training the board of directors of central association's capacity were built to properly administer and manage their associations' activities according to law and regulations and also they better understood role of association as well as association's social responsibilities.



Association Training | Group Activity | Balkhab District

INTERNAL SAVINGS AND LOANS

In this reporting period total of **AFN 820,387** have been saved by SHG members and **AFN 933,900** have been internally lent to SHG members.

The internal loans and enterprise startup kits have resulted in establishment of **586** microenterprises and enhancement of **60**.

Both the formation and enhancement of microenterprises have resulted in creation of **905** jobs for the community members.



SHG Group Meeting | Chimalt District

SHARING KNOWLEDGE THROUGH EXPOSURES

Self Help Group members run micro-enterprises to create employment and generate income in rural villages of Sarepul province covered under DFID funded project. Hand in Hand Afghanistan is continuously looking forward to improve their capacity, in order to achieve this during the month of May **8** exposure visits were facilitated for **130** female SHG members.

In these exposure visits members interacted and learnt from each other's successes and challenges. They asked each other questions about market, customers and prices and also they promised to share learning from the visit with other members in their respective communities.



Exposure Visit | Member s Discussing | Sancharak District

A HELPING HAND: ENTERPRISE STARTUP KITS

During this reporting period **563** (**280** female) members received enterprise startup kits in agriculture, horticulture, livestock, wool spinning, handicraft, tailoring, beekeeping, motorbike and mobile repairing sectors.

Additionally **84** (**66** female) members completed vocational skills training in handicraft, tailoring, livestock, and beekeeping sectors.



Enterprise Startup kits Provision | Sancharak District

TUTIKHAL BREAKS LOCAL NORMS TO OPEN A SHOP

Tutikhal is 48 years old and lives in Qol Qala village of Gosfandi district; she is married and mother of 4 kids. She says “My husband is a government employee and his salary is never enough for the entire family, I have two daughters and two sons all attending school. I always suffered financially and was unable to help my husband in family expenses”. She was keen to have a business and help her family. After joining Nooristan SHG, She attended regular group meetings and received series of training including, Group Management, Microfinance, Business Development Services (BDS) training and Life Skills Training for Entrepreneurs. After completing BDS training she dedicated a room of her house for her business and opened a shop. She says “Initially I took an internal loan of AFN 8,000 from the SHG and my husband helped me with AFN 10,000 to establish the shop, it was believed to be a taboo for

women to run a shop in my village, after a few months I was able to prove that I can generate income and I repaid the loan from my income”.

Tutikhal sells groceries, stationary and basic needs of women and children in her village.

Now Tutikhal earns around AFN 5,500 from the shop through which she contributes in family expenses and saves for emergencies as well. She says “Now I am financially independent and I pay for my kid’s stationery and other basics needs”.

Tutikhal says “I am thankful to HiH Af for showing the path to me and other women like me” she added “I am planning to take another loan from the SHG and start selling clothes and products made by other group members here in my shop so that other women will also have income”.



CUMULATIVE RESULTS AS OF MAY 2017



37,130

+0

Members Mobilized
(64 % female)



2,291

+0

SHGs Created
(63% female)



37,130

+0

Members Trained in
Group Management
(63 % female)



35,525

+0

Members Trained in
Microfinance
(65% female)



30,346

+0

Members Trained in BDS
(67% female)



24,535

+84

Members Trained in
Vocational Trainings
(57% female)



5,928

+0

Members Trained in
Life Skills
(73% female)



20,155

+563

Members Received
Enterprise Startup Kits
(78% female)



71,125,256 AFN

+820,387 AFN

Internally Saved by SHG
Members
(67% female)



49,030,910 AFN

+933,900 AFN

Internally Lent by
SHG Members
(68% female)



28,130

+646

Micro-Enterprises
Created/ Enhanced
(71% female)



33,295

+905

Jobs Created
(71% female)

Figures in black and blue indicate cumulative results and achievements during May 2017 respectively

PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS





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