

FLASH REPORT 2017



HAND IN HAND
AFGHANISTAN



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

The highlights of activities taken place during October 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 Chimal District of Balkh Province. The project is funded by CAFOD and Hand in Hand International.
3. Village Uplift Program in Faqir Abad village of Mazar-i-Sharif, Balkh Province. This project is funded by Hand in Hand International.
4. Creating Future Economic Prospects for Reintegration of Refugees and IDPs in Balkh Province of Afghanistan through the Layers Poultry Value Chain. This project is funded by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

HIH AF CHAIRPERSON AND CEO VISIT PROJECT SITES IN CHIMTAL DISTRICT

Seema Ghani the Chairperson of HiH Af met rural entrepreneurs under “Socio-Economic Empowerment of Women and Men Project” in Chimal District of Balkh Province. In this project 205 women have recently completed the poultry vocational training and are receiving poultry enterprise startup kits in order to establish and enhance poultry micro-enterprises.

Meanwhile Abdul Rahim Nasry the CEO of HiH Af met with the district governor representatives and community elders. Government officials and local community leaders promised their usual and continues support while they were encouraged by the CEO to engage in the project and further motivate rural entrepreneurs.



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND COORDINATION MEETING

HiH Af held coordination meeting with project stakeholders in Balkh regional office to discuss the current projects in Balkh and further engage them in to the projects. In this meeting sectorial departments, representatives of district governors and partner organizations participated.

HiH Af presented the on-going projects progress and future plans, participants discussed about their role, deputy to economic department appreciating the hard work of HiH Af's team added "I am very pleased to say that, HiH Af has been doing a great work by creating jobs for the most vulnerable people including

women and we have always monitored their progress".

HiH Af team addressed participants questions and shared the future plans with relevant departments and participants promised their continued cooperation and support.

HiH Af is currently implementing three projects in Balkh province, "Socio Economic Empowerment of Women and Men in Chimtal district", "Village Uplift Program in Shahrak Ulia Faqir Abad" and "Building Future Economic Prospect for Reintegration of Refugees and IDPs in Nahr e Shahi and Sholgara districts of Balkh province.



500 MEMBERS RECEIVE VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Under “Creating Future Economic Prospects for Reintegration of Refugees and IDPs” project 500 members (409 female) mobilized in 25 groups and received training in layers poultry vocational skills.

The training covered topics on introduction to poultry, types of poultry farming, structure of poultry coops, feeding, diseases and vaccination.

Additionally, in order to enable returnees and IDPs to establish their poultry enterprises they were supported with enterprise startup kits to building poultry coops and upon completion of the construction they will receive layer chickens and establish income-generating layer poultry enterprises.



Poultry Vocational Training | Nahr e Shahi District

RURAL ENTREPRENEURS SHARE KNOWLEDGE

Self Help Group members from Chintal district visited Sholgara district's beekeeping enterprises.

As part of capacity building efforts HiH Af conducted an exposure visit for SHG member in Sar Asyab and Mir Qasimjan village under “Socio Economic Empowerment of Women and Men Project” to visit and learn from entrepreneurs in their neighboring district. In this exposure visit members interacted and learnt from each other's success and challenges.

Participants promised to share the knowledge gained with other entrepreneurs in their respective communities.



Exposure Visit | Sholgara District

INTERNAL SAVINGS AND LOANS

This reporting period total of **AFN 714,248** has been saved by SHG members, and **AFN 778,400** has been internally lent to SHG members. The internal loans and enterprise startup kits have resulted in establishment of **911 (755 female)** micro enterprises and enhancement of **31 (26 female)** existing ones.

The internal loans, enterprise startup kits, formation and enhancement of micro enterprises have resulted in creation of **911 (755 female)** jobs for the community members.



SHG Group Meeting | Shahrak Faqir Abad Ulia Village

MEMBERS EQUIPPED WITH SKILLS AND ASSETS

During this reporting period **727 (619 female)** Self Help Group members completed vocational skills training on poultry, livestock and tailoring.

Additionally, another **887 (730 female)** members who previously completed their vocational skills training received enterprise startup kits in Balkh and Sarepul provinces in order to establish or enhance their micro-enterprises.



Enterprise Startup Kits Provision | Shahrak Qaleen Bafa

SHAH BIBI: THE BREADWINNER OF THE FAMILY

Shah Bibi is 38 years old and has 4 children, lives in Khorasan village of Gosfandi district, Sarepul province.

She says “my husband used to work in market as wage worker and 8 years ago one day he left home and never came back, we have searched him a lot, but we couldn’t find him”. After Shah Bibi’s husband was lost, she had to take the lead in family and started searching for a job to earn a living. She says “there was no school in our village for girls in the past and therefore, I never had the chance to go to school, I didn’t have any skills either, so I was in trouble for earning food for myself and my children. I was always dependent on neighbors and relatives to donate something; I would do any work I could find such as laundry, cleaning or washing dishes”.

Shah Bibi joined HiH Af’s Self Help Group named Rizwana after “Reducing Poverty and Gender Inequality” project started in their village, she attends regular group meetings and has received several trainings including Group Management, Microfinance, Business Development Services, Vocational Skills

Training and Life Skill Training for Entrepreneurs (LSTE).

She says “I always wanted to work and be able to take care of my children therefore; I choose to learn embroidery and received enterprise startup kit from HiH Af after completing the vocational skills training. I choose embroidery because there is good demand both in winter and summer”.

Now Shah Bibi makes embroidery clothes for men, women and children. She says “I am working from home so I can take care of my children, customers come to me and I am earning around AFN 5,000 per month, I am no longer dependent on neighbors or relatives donations, I have my own savings for emergencies too”.

Since she has received LSTE from HiH Af, now she can help her kids in school lessons and she says “It makes me very happy to be able to help my kids with their studies”.

Shah Bibi says “Now I am confident that my future will be brighter, my kids will have my support to study and make a better future for themselves. I will soon expand my business by selling embroidery materials”.



CUMULATIVE RESULTS AS OF OCTOBER 2017



37,741
+500

Members Mobilized
(64 % female)



2,323
+25

SHGs Created
(63% female)



37,241
+0

Members Trained in
Group Management
(63 % female)



36,125
+0

Members Trained in
Microfinance
(65% female)



30,948
+0

Members Trained in
BDS
(67% female)



26,002
+727

Members Trained in
Vocational Trainings
(59% female)



5,928
+0

Members Trained
in Life Skills
(73% female)



22,046
+887

Members Received
Enterprise Startup Kits
(78% female)



75,977,621 AFN
+ 714,248 AFN

Internally Saved by
SHG Members
(68% female)



53,249,879 AFN
+ 778,400 AFN

Internally Lent by
SHG Members
(68% female)



30,479
+942

Micro-Enterprises
Created/ Enhanced
(71% female)



35,601
+911

Jobs Created
(71% female)

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

PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS





HiH Af's Chairperson Visiting Rural Entrepreneurs | Shahrak Ulia Faqir Abad | Balkh Province

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