



HAND IN HAND
AFGHANISTAN

FLASH REPORT NOV 2017



Shah Bibi | Razawia SHG | Khorasan Village | Gosfandi District | Sarepul Province

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

The highlights of activities taken place during November 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 Chimtal 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.

RETURNEES AND IDPS RECEIVE POULTRY TRAINING AND ENTERPRISE STARTUP KITS

Under “Creating Future Economic Prospects for Reintegration of Refugees and IDPs in Balkh province through the Layers Poultry Value Chain” 500 members (82% female) completed poultry vocational skills training and received poultry enterprise startup kits in order to establish their micro-enterprises.

Gul Ahmad one of the beneficiaries said “I have learnt poultry farming through training and enterprise startup kit enabled me to start my poultry business”.

Representatives of sectorial departments and community elders who attended enterprise startup kit distribution thanked the donors and implementer of the project and encouraged members for further improvement of their businesses.

This project is implemented in Shahrak Qaleen Bafa and Bala-e-Shahrak Hamdard villages of Nahr-i-Shahi district and Mahajir Qeshlaq village of Sholgara district.



VILLAGE ENTERPRISE FACILITATORS RECEIVE TOT

“Socio Economic Empowerment of Women and Men” and “Village Uplift” projects teams received training of trainers (TOT) in Life Skills Training for Entrepreneurs (LSTE).

The training covered topics on role and responsibilities of trainers, skills and teaching methodology, and adults teaching methods.

In this training 9 (7 female) trainers participated who will deliver the LSTE course to Self Help Group members in targeted districts over a period of 6 months.



KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE SHARING

As part of capacity building efforts HiH Af conducts cross fertilization visits for rural entrepreneurs.

In this reporting period under “Socio Economic Empowerment of Women and Men” project in Chimtal district, Khorshid SHG member visited Tolo SHG members. During this visit members interacted with each other, shared knowledge and experiences.

Nazoko member of Khorshid SHG said “I learnt the importance of bookkeeping and role of internal loans for success of the enterprises”.



INTERNAL SAVINGS AND LOANS

This reporting period total of AFN 1,279,130 has been saved, and AFN 1,502,750 has been internally lent by the SHG members. The internal loans and enterprise startup kits have resulted in establishment of 679 (592 female) micro enterprises and enhancement of 41 (40 female) existing ones.

The internal loans, enterprise startup kits, formation and enhancement of micro enterprises have resulted in creation of 685 (598 female) jobs for the community members.



MEMBERS EQUIPPED WITH SKILLS AND ASSETS

During this reporting period 94 (86 female) Self Help Group members completed vocational skills training on livestock rearing in Gosfandi, Sancharak and Balkhab districts of Sarepul province.

Additionally, another 643 (556 female) members who previously completed their vocational skills training received enterprise startup kits in Gosfandi and Balkhab districts of Sarepul and Chimtal district of Balkh provinces in order to establish or enhance their micro-enterprises.



MEET GULBUDDIN, THE CARPENTER WHO DREAMS BIG

Gulbuddin is 33 years old, married and has 2 kids, lives in Taziyan village of Gosfandi district, Sarepul province. He says *“When I was a kid I never had the opportunity to go to school because of the war and conflict, I didn’t have any skill either, my father was a farmer and after he passed away I am responsible not only for my own family but also I have to take care of my mother and sister. I used to do tough and heavy tasks as a wage worker, my mother was sick and we were all struggling”*.

Gulbuddin joined Etilfaq Self Help Group after HiH Af launched *“Reducing Poverty and Gender Inequality”* project in Sarepul province. He attended regular group meetings and received Group Management, Book Keeping, Microfinance and Business Development Services (BDS) training. He says *“I was very interested in the project because I wanted to learn a skill so I joined carpentry vocational skills training and received*

enterprise startup kit upon completion of the training”. Gulbuddin established his carpentry enterprise in the district center, he says *“I borrowed AFN 3,000 from the SHG and bought some raw material, I am producing different types of doors, windows and other home accessories for my customers who are mainly from Gosfandi district center and some surrounding villages”*.

Gulbuddin has already repaid the loan, he says *“Now I earn around AFN 7,000 per month, I have sufficient raw material in my shop, I have savings for emergencies and I am optimistic about my future, I dream bigger and it doesn’t feel impossible for me to have a bigger business soon”*.

Gulbuddin plans to continue the business and recruit someone for apprenticeship so that can create another job as well as he can expand his services.



CUMULATIVE RESULTS AS OF NOVEMBER 2017



37,741
+0

Members Mobilized
(64 % female)



2,323
+0

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)



26,096
+94

Members Trained in
Vocational Trainings
(59% female)



5,928
+0

Members Trained
in Life Skills
(73% female)



22,689
+643

Members Received
Enterprise Startup Kits
(78% female)



77,256,751 AFN
+ 1,279,130 AFN

Internally Saved by
SHG Members
(68% female)



54,752,629 AFN
+ 1,502,750 AFN

Internally Lent by
SHG Members
(69% female)



31,199
+720
Micro-Enterprises
Created/ Enhanced
(72% female)



36,286
+685
Jobs Created
(72% female)

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

PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS





Vocational Skills Training Class | Sar Asyab Village | Chimtāl District | Balkh Province

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