

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

The highlights of activities taken place during February 2018 in Balkh and Sarepul Provinces under below mentioned projects:

- 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 Programs in Faqir Abad village of Mazar-i-Sharif and Shah Raheem Village of Khulm district, Balkh Province. This project is funded by Hand in Hand International.
- 4. Creating Future Economic Prospects for Reintegration of Refugees and IDPs in Balkh, Samangan and Baghlan Provinces of Afghanistan through the Layer Poultry Value Chain. This project is funded by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

HIH AF RECEIVES APPRECIATION LETTERS FROM STAKEHOLDERS

Following the Bond's Outstanding Award last year, HiH Af's performance is now appreciated by Provincial Council and Directorate of Economy of Sarepul province. Putting all these together proves the hard work and effectiveness of HiH Af.

Director of Economy Department presenting the appreciation letter to HiH Af said "HiH Af has been doing outstanding job for our rural communities, especially for women. We are very happy to present you this award and we wish HiH Af keep up the good work in the future".

HiH Af is currently implementing the "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" project targeting 9,500 (70% female) in Gosfandi, Sancharak and Balkhab districts.

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATIONS





HIH AF EXPANDS "VILLAGE UPLIFT PROGRAM" TO KHULM DISTRICT

Following the previously started "Village Uplift Program" in Faqir Abad village of Mazar-i-Sharif, now Hand in Hand Afghanistan with funding from Hand in Hand International launched "Village Uplift Program" in Shah Rahim village of Khulm district, Balkh province.

Under this project 110 women will be mobilized in Self Help Groups and will go through HiH Af's four step job creation model which includes, 1) Community Mobilization and Formation of SHG 2) Training and Capacity Building 3) Access to Credit and Tools 4) Market linkages and Value Addition; to enable them establish or enhance micro-enterprises and create 140 job opportunity for the community members at Shah Rahim village of Khulm district.

This project is implemented in cooperation with "Every Voice Counts" project of CARE Afghanistan in order to empower rural women through enterprise and job creation.







PROJECT MONITORING BY STAKEHOLDERS

Mr. Gul Moohammad Safaye, representative of Directorate of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled (DoLSAMD) monitored the ongoing DFID funded project in mentioned district of Sarepul province.

The team visited different types of enterprises including poultry, livestock, carpentry, handicraft and blacksmith in Shaikhan, Malikan, Qalacha and Koran villages.

Mr. Safaye thanking HiH Af said "The training have been very important for improving capacity of rural entrepreneurs, now these business are doing well".



MEMBERS RECEIVE SKILLS TRAINING

During this reporting period 224 (198 female) members completed vocational skills training on layer poultry farming, livestock and bike repairing in Nahr e Shahi and Chimtal districts of Balkh province and Gosfandi and Sancharak districts of Sarepul province.

Additionally, another 8 members who previously completed their vocational skills training received enterprise startup kits in Balkhab and Sancharak districts of Sarepul province in order to establish or enhance their micro-enterprises.



ENTREPRENEURS VISIT SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSES

Capacity building unit of HiH Af conducted exposure visits for rural entrepreneurs of Shabokand and Archato villages of Sancharak district, Sarepul province.

In this exposure visits SHG members visited same businesses such as tailoring and poultry, exchanged ideas and knowledge and learned from each other's successes and challenges.

The participants promised to share the leanings with others in their respective communities and fellow group members.

In these exposure visits total 33 women entrepreneurs participated.



INTERNAL SAVINGS AND LOANS

This reporting period total of AFN 923,140 has been saved, and AFN 918,350 has been internally lent by the SHG members. The internal loans and enterprise startup kits have resulted in establishment of 67 (52 female) micro-enterprises and enhancement of 31 (all female) existing ones.

The internal loans, enterprise startup kits, formation and enhancement of micro enterprises have resulted in creation of 48 (30 female) jobs for the community members.



MEET ROZI KHAL: AN IDP WHO RUNS A POULTRY FARM

Rozi Khal is 45 years old and mother of 7 children, she says "my eldest son got injured during the war and we fled to Pakistan, we lived there for 27 years and we didn't have anything, my husband worked as labor in Queta city of Pakistan, he did very tough and hard work which made him sick, now he can hardly move. We returned to our country 5 years ago and life was getting worse day by day until HiH Af started "Creating Future Economic Prospects for Reintegration of Refugees and IDPs in Balkh Province" project and I joined Bahar group".

Rozi Khal received poultry vocational skills training and built her backyard poultry farm with support and guidance of HiH Af trainers, she says "I never had a business idea until I learnt in training that I can have a business in my home, the poultry enterprise enables me to earn a decent income and help my family".

After completion of poultry training Rozi Khal received feeders, 30 chickens, feed and other required materials from HiH Af as a helping hand in order to establish her poultry farm.

Now she earns around AFN 4,200 per month from selling eggs, she produces around 20 eggs every day.

Rozikhal says "Now I am earning more than what I used to earn in bricks making factory, working in bricks making factory was very difficult too, I never had the idea and required skills to start this business earlier. The training and support of HiH Af has encouraged me to start the enterprise and now I am confident that I will be generating good income. I am planning to expand my enterprise within coming months to increase the number of chicken because there is good market for the eggs".









CUMULATIVE RESULTS AS OF FEBRUARY 2018



38,295

+275

Members Mobilized (65% female)



31,058

+0

Members Trained in BDS (67% female)



80,212,532 AFN

+923,140 AFN

Internally Saved by SHG Members (68% female)



2,350

+13

SHGs Created (64% female)



26,671

+224

Members Trained in Vocational Trainings (60% female)



58,313,729 AFN

+918,350 AFN

Internally Lent by SHG Members (69% female)



37,241

+0

Members Trained in Group Management (63 % female)



5,928

+0

Members Trained in Life Skills (73% female)



31,500

+98

Micro-Enterprises Created/ Enhanced (72% female)



36,125

+0

Members Trained in Microfinance (65% female)



22,746

+8

Members Received Enterprise Startup Kits (78% female)



36,416

+48

Jobs Created (72% female)

Figures in black and blue indicate cumulative results and achievements during February 2018 respectively

PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

























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