



ANNUAL REPORT 2017



**JOINT DEVELOPMENT
ASSOCIATES INTERNATIONAL INC.**

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OUR MISSION

JDA believes that all people have unlimited creativity and potential for transformation. In that spirit, JDA joins the people and communities of Afghanistan in developing holistic solutions that affect fundamental progress toward a more equitable society. We support locally integrated solutions in community development, education, health, agriculture, and economic growth.

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

Dear Friends,

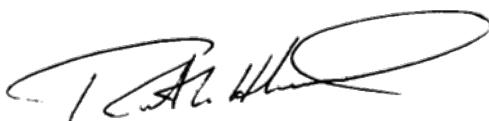
This 2017 report of accomplishments would not have been possible without the outstanding commitment and effort from our staff. JDA's team has achieved again remarkable results. Despite increasing insecurity in Afghanistan, great progress was made when it comes to the programs we run. I am delighted to see how families continue to become actively engaged in their communities through our agriculture, WASH, BLiSS, and Nutrition programs.

Equally exciting in 2017, JDA is now fully registered as an NGO in Kurdistan and Iraq. In the latter part of the year, we spent many weeks surveying villages and districts severely impacted by the war with ISIS. We have developed a work plan to help families return to their communities and to help restore agriculture livelihood. I look forward to 2018 to see how JDA can be a catalyst of transformation to thousands of people in Iraq.

JDA is a community of people who are committed to the growth and well-being of the people we serve. This report outlines some of the achievements and progress we have made in community health, water access, nutrition, and agriculture.

The support of our generous donors and partner organizations is what makes such achievements possible.

Thank you for making 2017 a great year!



ROBERT HEDLUND

President/CEO

AREAS OF WORK



AFGHANISTAN

PROVIDING SUSTAINABLE WATER SUPPLY



One of JDA's main and essential project components is the provision of clean water. Access to water is a human right, however, most of the communities where we work are consuming water from polluted streams and unprotected dug wells. Scarcity of clean water, along with poor hygiene practices leads to the prevalence of diarrhea and other water borne diseases. These are health risks that can be prevented. We not only want to create awareness about these problems and their effects on health, but also make every effort to ensure access to clean water in each community.



13,812 AFGHANS GAIN ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER



JDA worked with local community members to determine where well placement was needed most. Ten new wells were drilled in the Balkh province, improving water access for an estimated 13,812 Afghans. Each well ranges from 60 to 78 meters and benefits an average of 1,381 people. Two of the wells were drilled for schools, which provide water to the students and their families. These wells are providing an essential human necessity, and also giving people a better quality of life.

In 2017, 46 men received hand pump repair training, and 16 hand pumps were restored. Men in the communities often share their concerns about water shortfalls due to lack of hand pump repair and maintenance knowledge. JDA's hand pump repair training allows men from the communities to maintain and repair broken pumps to restore water access, without the need to hire and pay a technician. Instead, the community can spend their shared money on other priorities and development activities to impact the health of each family and their economic situation. Hand pump repair training positively impacts the health of each family, thus creating sustainability, not just a short term output for the project.





STRENGTHENING HEALTH

To improve sanitary and health conditions it is necessary that individuals, families and entire communities participate actively in the process. They must take initiative on their own to adopt healthy behaviors and strive to improve their community's overall hygiene. Our WASH program accomplishes this through small group training and encourages changes in behavior. We focus our training on good hygiene and nutrition practices as well as child and maternal health.

The most evident change in behavior is the increase in hand washing. Hand washing is the easiest, most affordable way to prevent diseases. Communities who receive hygiene education realize how effective hand washing can be in protecting themselves from diseases. Our hygiene and sanitation training is focused more on women than on men, because women are the caregivers in the home. Training boosts their awareness and confidence in the value and role of women in the family. Men also undergo a very similar training program in hygiene and sanitation. The excitement of their wives in regards to the training produces a desire to learn also.



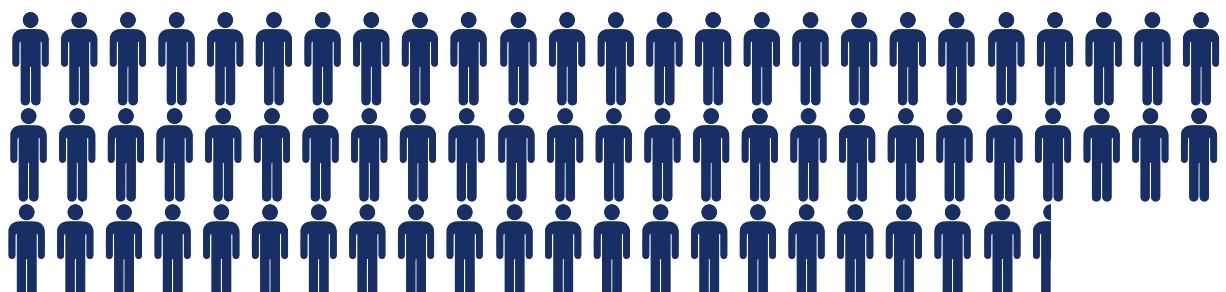
488 

MEN TRAINED IN HYGIENE & SANITATION



1,310

WOMEN TRAINED IN HYGIENE & SANITATION



7,110

INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES



Understanding good hygiene and sanitation practices is essential to all, however, it is especially critical for children. Every day, children under age 5 die from preventable diarrhea related diseases caused by lack of clean water, and poor sanitation and hygiene practices. Our puppet show engages children into a fun and appealing activity, in which they learn about good hygiene practices. The puppet show emphasizes the importance of hand washing with soap, especially before eating, before food preparation and after using the latrine. Hand washing is a simple act that reduces the spread of germs, thereby reducing the risk of getting sick from diarrhea.

**1,081 STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN
HYGIENE & SANITATION TRAINING
THROUGH THE PUPPET SHOW.**



80%

**IMPROVEMENT
IN
DIARRHEA
DISEASES IN
CHILDREN UNDER 5
YEARS OLD
THROUGH WASH.**





**521 WOMEN TRAINED IN BIRTH LIFE
SAVING SKILLS**

LIFE SAVING CARE

Two thirds of Afghan women give birth at home without a skilled attendant (World Health Organization), putting their lives and that of their child at risk. Home births with unskilled attendants is often the norm for Afghan women. This results in a great need for community based interventions. It is crucial to have the assistance of someone who has the skills and knowledge to be able to assist them, and to recognize complications if something goes wrong.

Birth Life Saving Skills (BLiSS) program brings vital education in: first aid, family planning, safe birthing practices, prenatal care, nutrition, and general health care for mother and child. The program has been successfully preparing women to create safer environments for expecting mothers and infants during birth. Women will recognize that their traditional practices were harmful, and replace those practices with what they have learned in the lessons. They also advise and assist other women in the community.

TAZAGUL'S STORY

"I did not know how to care for my baby. I never breastfed my newborn babies, instead I would feed them sugar and black tea. My children always seemed to be weak and thin. The lessons made me understand how important breastfeeding is. I was able to breastfeed my 3 month old baby, he has gained weight and is looking healthy."

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES



1. MEETINGS WITH THE MALE SHURAS

They are the primary local governing body in each village. The objectives for the initial meeting are: relationship building, introduction, explanation, research about community needs, and petitioning for permission to commence work.

3. TRAINING

A group of women are nominated to participate in the training. They must have the interest to participate, to be able to implement the changes within the community, invite other community members, and must be willing to teach others. When inviting community members to participate, the disabled are prioritized.

5. FINAL SURVEY

A survey is completed in each target area after training and well installations. This allows for monitoring of positive behavior changes and improved health. Once we have trained at least 80% of the women in a community, we consider it sustainable and begin working in the next community.

2. BASELINE SURVEY

JDA team surveys each household through a questionnaire that goes over their water needs, nutrition, and hygiene and sanitation practices. The baseline surveys allow the team to better determine the needs of the community. JDA team again meets with the community leaders to discuss the results and perform water testing.

4. PROVIDING WATER SOURCES

In agreement with community Shuras, locations for well installations are selected. Selection is based on existing wells, number of families with current access to clean water, and the underground water level. For the sustainability of the program, a group of men is trained in hand pump repair and maintenance.

BUILDING ECONOMIC SECURITY FOR FARMERS

Over the past three years, JDA has been working with USAID and Development Alternatives International to advance food and economic security for rural Afghans in the provinces of Samangan, Baghlan, Jawzjan, and Balkh. JDA has been assisting this project by strengthening the capacity of farmers in wheat production. Farmers benefit through training sessions in weed control, conservation agriculture, laser land leveling, and seed business development. These activities enable farmers to increase their commercial viability and competitiveness in response to market demand.



LASER LAND LEVELING HAS INCREASED WHEAT YIELDS BY 54%.



Farmers who have used laser land levelers have reported an average of 46% savings in irrigation water. Most importantly, wheat yields have increased by an average of 54% in Balkh Province.



Seed Business Development training empowers farmers by knowing the names and characteristics of seeds available. They can better determine and seek out those varieties that work best for their environment and objectives. There is an average of 35% higher yields after seed business development training.



Weed control is another important part of improving wheat yields. Farmers on average lose about 30% of their wheat yield to weeds. To change this, farmers are trained in integrated weed management, with a particular focus on the safe handling, storage, and use of herbicides, including backpack sprayers, and other mechanical means of weed control.

Women are also empowered through kitchen gardening, which is an extension of JDA's nutrition program. Women enjoy hands-on training in producing their own vegetables for preparing their meals. The kitchen gardening activity has resulted in 2,032 gardens planted.



QODRATULLAH

Qodratullah was a trainee farmer in a weed control course in Jowzjan province. He grows wheat every year and he was losing his wheat yields to weeds.

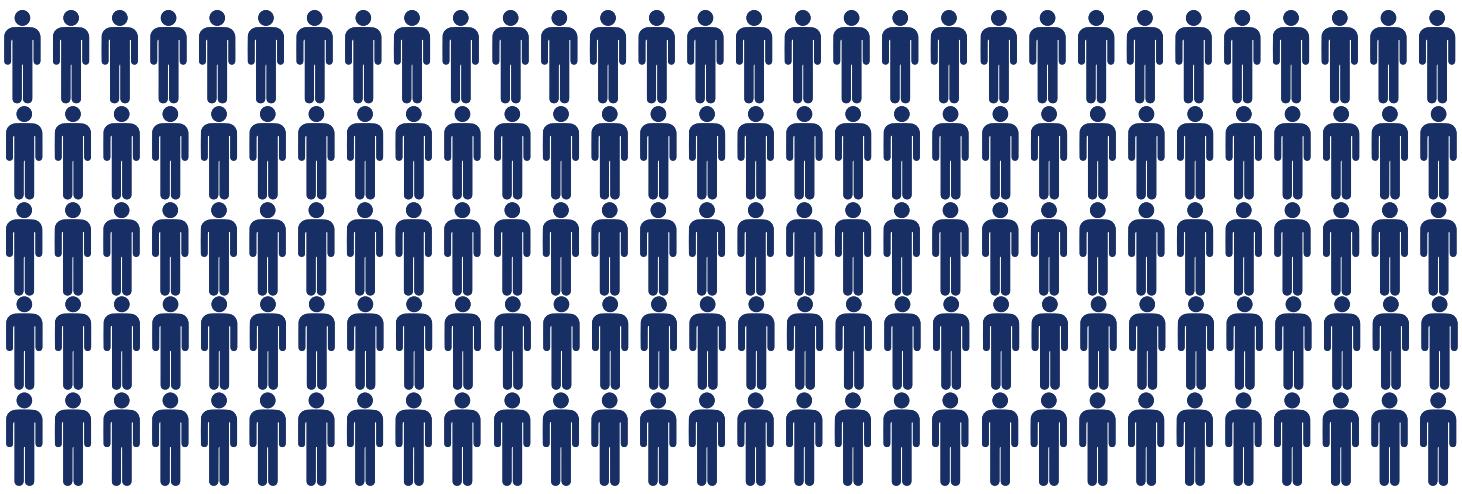
Qodratullah decided to implement a crop selection technique that he learned in weed control training. In result, his wheat yield increased from 1,260 kg per 8 jeribs to 3,220 kg per 8 jeribs. He is very pleased with the results and believes he will be able to get an even higher yield next season by keeping the weeds under control.

ABDUL MANAN

Abdul has leveled 60 jeribs of his land. He says he can now irrigate one jerib every 20 minutes, whereas it previously took him 60 minutes to irrigate. Abdul also had an 8% increase in yield, as well as an increase in water use efficiency. He expects to double yield in the upcoming year compared to the prior year. Overall, Abdul is very happy with the results, and the advantages he has seen from land leveling and conservation agriculture practices.

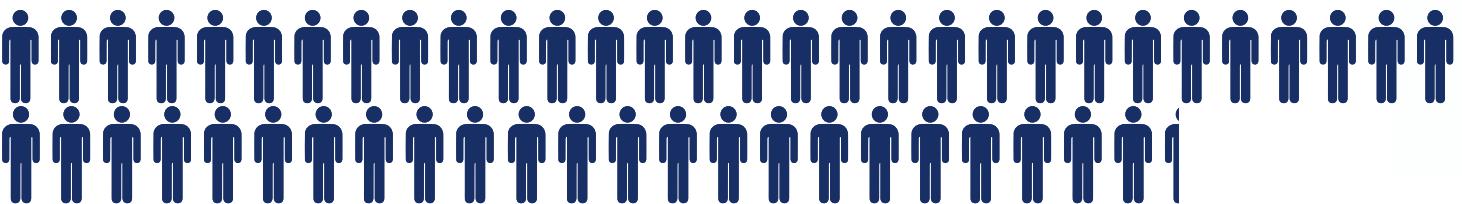
ABDUL SALAM

Abdul is a weed control activity farmer. He grows wheat every year, but was losing an average of 33% of wheat yield to weeds. Weed control training enabled Abdul to effectively control weeds on his farm. He uses various methods taught in weed control training. Particularly, he is rotating wheat with oilseed and legume crops. He also applies herbicide to control existing weeds. He reports that his fields are free of weeds and that he gets a clean harvest now.



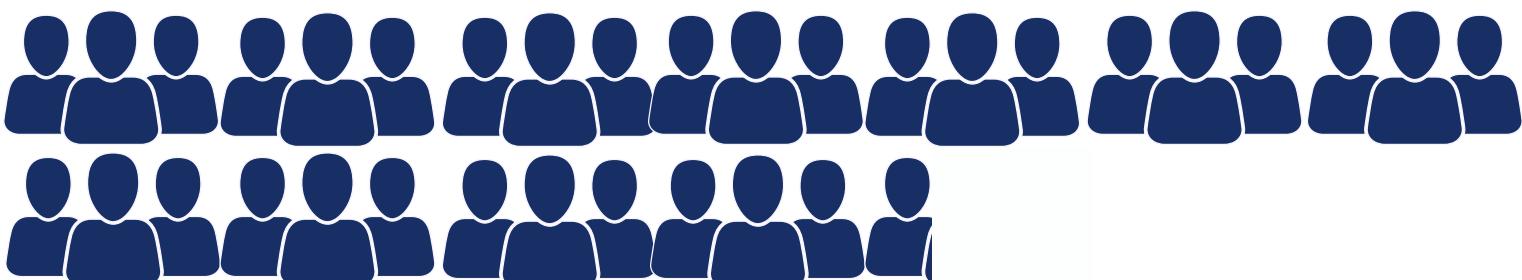
15,000

FARMERS TRAINED IN WEED CONTROL



5,310

FARMERS ATTENDED LASER LAND LEVELING
DEMONSTRATIONS



3,402

FARMERS RECEIVED SAMPLE SEED PACKS &
PARTICIPATED IN FIELD DAY TRAININGS



2,047

WOMEN TRAINED IN KITCHEN GARDENING

DISCOVERING GOOD NUTRITION

Hygiene and nutrition training teaches beneficiaries about the kinds of food they should be eating and how to properly prepare meals for their family.

FARIDA

"I had anemia for some time, because I was unaware about good nutrition. I was weak and tired most of the time. The doctor I went to see prescribed me medications and told me I had anemia, but I would forget to take the medication. The hygiene and nutrition classes helped me understand the different food groups and their nutritional benefits. I began making changes in the food I prepared. It has been five months since the program and I feel much better and healthier, with no weakness or tiredness anymore. I thank this program and the trainers who saved me from the darkness."

DILBAR

"I used to think good nutrition meant meat and rice. After the lessons, I leaned about food groups. Now I know I can use beans and lentils instead of meat. I can use all types of beans, vegetables and fruits. I am very happy about everything I have learned, and my family is happy that I can prepare nutritious meals. My husband is also very pleased with the program and would like for it to continue and reach all women in the village."

BERAR

"I never thought about good nutrition or bad nutrition. My husband is a farmer, and I would always prepare bread and water for his breakfast and lunch. I sometimes became too busy with housework and forgot to feed my children. In the nutrition lessons, I learned about good and bad nutrition, as well as food groups and their benefits to the human body. I immediately made changes in what was served at our table to more nutritious options. My husband has expressed his satisfaction and admiration towards the program."



STATEMENT OF FINANCES

(per audited financial report)
For fiscal year ending December 31, 2017
(all figures in US dollars)

Support and Revenue

Federal Contract Revenue	1,606,401
Contributions & Donations	206,446
Miscellaneous Revenue	3,556
Total Support and Revenue	1,816,403

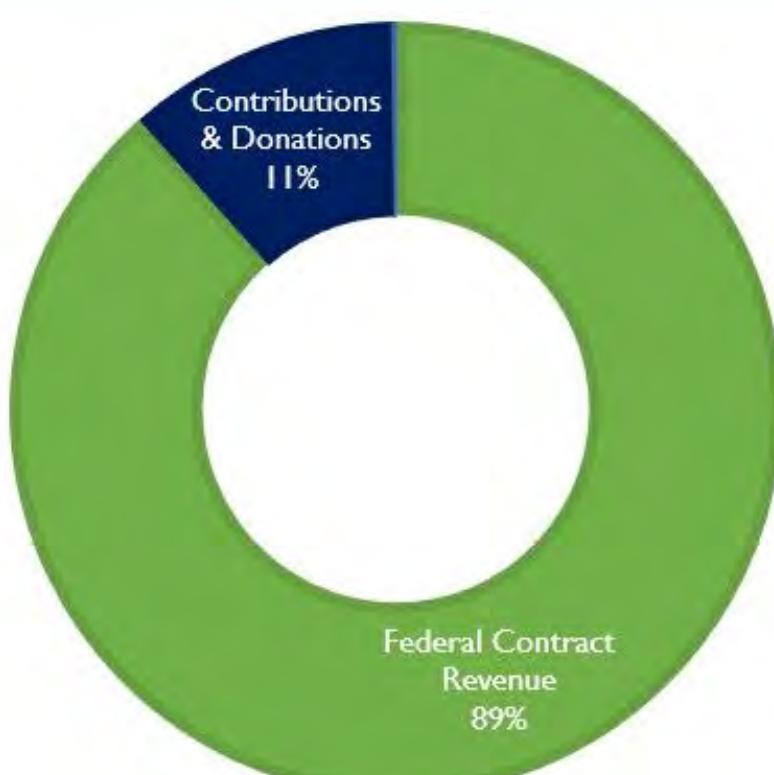
Expenses

Agriculture Development	1,239,655
Water Sanitation & Hygiene	208,764
Project Development**	127,358
Education	3,602
General & Administrative	232,397
Fundraising	4,041
Total Expenses	1,815,817

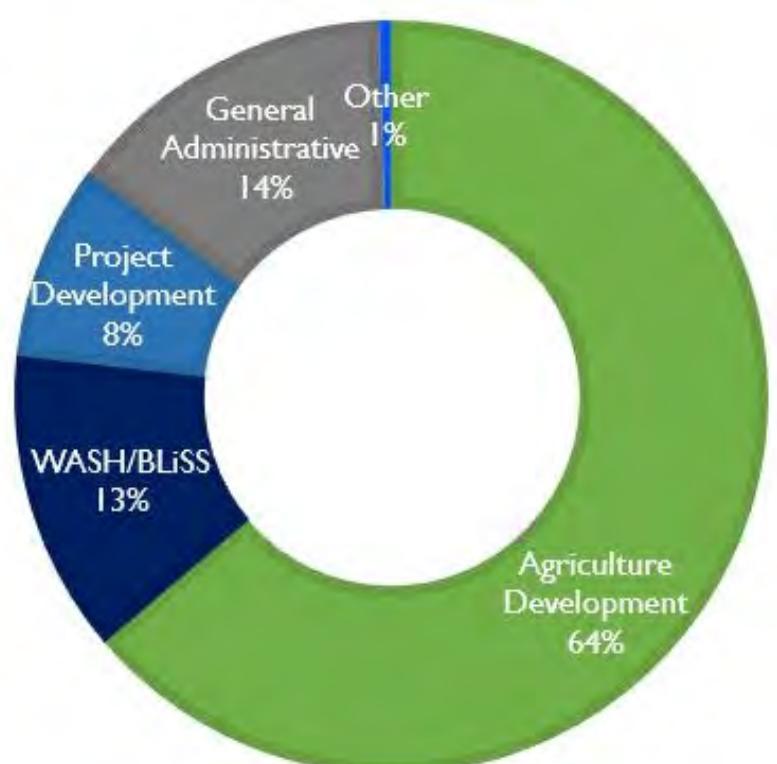
**Iraq and Kurdistan office opening and registration.



Support



Expenses





**WOULD YOU LIKE TO DONATE TO
JDA'S MISSION ?**

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