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Regional Agricultural Development Program (RADP)—North

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FY2018

Quarter 1



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ACRONYMS

AAIDO	Afghanistan Almond Industry Development Organization
ADWSO	Afghanistan Development Welfare Service Organization
AITIC	Afghan/India Trade and Investment Conference
ASRLC	Asia Silk Road Agriculture Services Company
B2B	Business-to-Business
BUFA	Balkh University Faculty of Agriculture
CA	Conservation Agriculture
CaCO ₃	Calcium Carbonate
Co.	Company
CO	Contracting Officer
DAIL	Department of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock
DAP	Diammonium phosphate
DCA	Dutch Committee for Afghanistan
DCOP	Deputy Chief of Party
DCP	Di-calcium phosphate
DoWA	Directorate of Women Affairs
EC	Electrical Conductivity
ERF	Environmental Review Form
GPS	Global Positioning System
H&N	Hygiene and Nutrition
HR	Human Resource
HVC	High Value Crop
ICA	Independent Consultant Agreement
IP	Implementing Partner
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
JDA	Joint Development Associates
Kg	Kilogram
KRD	Kia Research and Development
KSAC	Karwan Sabz Agricultural Company
LLL	Laser Land Levelling
Ltd.	Limited
Ltr.	Liter
MGCSSC	Meeran Guzarga Cold Storage Service Company
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAASC	Nasir Azizi Agriculture Service Company
NUPAS	Non-US Pre-Award Survey
NSDO	New-way Social and Development Organization
PHH	Post-Harvest Handling
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PPM	Project Performance Management
PVS	Participatory Varietal Selection
RADP-N	Regional Agricultural Development Program
RFA	Request for Application
RSI	Rahman Safi International Consulting
SBD	Seed Business Development

SC	Seed Company
SDBFAO	Social Development and Better Future for Afghanistan Organization
SSMLASC	Stanikzay Seed Multiplication Livestock and Agricultural Services Company
SoW	Scope of Work
STIP	Science, Technology, Innovation and Partnerships
ToT	Training of Trainers
VFU	Veterinary Field Unit
ZOA	Refugee Care Organization
2WT	Two Wheeled Tractor

FY2018 QUARTERLY REPORT: OCTOBER 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2017

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Activity Start/End Dates

May 21, 2014–May 20, 2019

Prime Implementing Partner

DAI Global LLC

Sub-Contractors/Sub-Awardees

ACDI/VOCA, Alcis, Dutch Committee for Afghanistan (DCA), Joint Development Associates (JDA), Rahman Safi International Consulting (RSI)

Project Description

The Regional Agricultural Development Program-North (RADP-N) advances food and economic security for rural Afghans in six Northern provinces. To achieve this, the program strengthens the capacity of farmers in improved production in the wheat, High Value Crop (HVC) and livestock value chains. Its activities enable farmers to increase their commercial viability and competitiveness in response to market demand, thereby generating greater income opportunities and empowering families to better meet their household needs. RADP-N uses a value chain facilitation approach to address numerous bottlenecks and identify lead firms capable of leveraging positive change. The final piece of RADP-N's holistic framework is supporting a policy environment through advocacy and dialogue that strengthens the private sector.

Geographic Coverage

Badakhshan, Baghlan, Balkh, Jawzjan, Kunduz, and Samangan provinces.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In first quarter of FY2018, RADP-N marked significant progress through implementing 15 activities and issuing 18 grants valued at \$617,725 to local partners.

The highlights of the first quarter are as follows:

Progress on Wheat Value Chain

RADP-N continued the market linkages activity between seed companies, mills and manufacturers, resulted in signing of four contracts as the team introduced new improved wheat varieties at several facilitation meetings. RADP-N laser land leveling (LLL) contractors conducted 62 demonstration field days for 1,778 farmers in the four target provinces, which resulted in 11 farmers showing interest in buying LLL units and 556 other farmers interested in contracting for land leveling. Besides the demonstration field days, 22 LLL unit operators

contracted with 148 farmers from Balkh and Jawzjan provinces to level 966 jeribs, generating revenue of \$35,577. During this period, 44 farmer-led conservation agriculture (CA) sowing field days were conducted by two-wheel tractor (2WT) and mechanized seeders to 875 farmers in Baghlan, Balkh, and Jawzjan provinces. The seed companies sold 35 tons¹ of Moqavim wheat variety and earned over \$13,798. The Hygiene and Nutrition (H&N) training continues at a full schedule in all four provinces, with 750 women in 30 groups of 25 trained this quarter. The wheat team conducted weed control Training of Trainers (ToT) for 198 attendees in four project provinces, and trained 1,186 farmers in 100 groups on weed control lesson one in Jawzjan province. The kitchen gardening training lessons for fall season are complete, with a total of 2,048 beneficiaries trained. The 2WT and seeder activity operators cultivated 132 jeribs for 132 farmers in Balkh, Jawzjan, and Samangan provinces.

Progress on High Value Crop Value Chain

RADP-N HVC team supported nine agribusinesses to attend the World Food India 2017 trade show, November 3-5. The agribusinesses displayed their products, negotiated and signed contracts, attended several business to business (B2B) meetings, and generated total sales of \$1,614,200. The HVC team completed beneficiary selection for grapevine trellising and the production management II activity by selecting 6,300 farmers, including 675 women. The team completed beneficiary selection for melon production upgrades III by selecting 5,520 farmers, including 1,380 women from 20 districts. RADP-N grantees aired 128 live radio show programs in the six project provinces with 702 farmers including 74 women making direct phone calls to the stations to discuss the program's topic with the technical specialist. The team also conducted nine field days in nine districts of Balkh and Samangan provinces to promote the radio shows.

Progress on Livestock Value Chain

The livestock team provided technical specifications for inputs for the FY2018 butcher shop improvement activity, and selected the grantee² to implement the activity in the six provinces. The team conducted the second round of a five-day refresher training for 14 (ten male and four female) paravets on livestock extension and animal husbandry. The 15 RADP-N trained paravets held three-day training sessions, one each month, for 600 beneficiaries (400 male and 200 female) on additive feeds, animal health management, deworming, and hay making for winter season in five provinces. Through the silage activity, the team assisted beneficiaries to make their own silage. By the end of the quarter, 1,219³ (1,119 male and 100 female) of 1,950 targeted farmers prepared silage.

The livestock team conducted the remaining 15 feed block demonstrations and distribution events benefitting 375 male farmers. Six radio stations, one per province, broadcasted 540 feed block promotional messages in Dari and Pashto. The final evaluation of this activity was also completed.

Following selection of 1,000 beneficiaries (800 male and 200 female) for urea treatment activity, the RADP-N trained paravets conducted 40 training sessions for 1,000 beneficiaries in Balkh, Jawzjan, and Samangan provinces. The number of farmers preparing their own urea treatment silos reached 766 (600 male and 166 female) of 1,000 targeted.

Progress on Enabling Environment

¹ The reference to tons reflects metric tons throughout this report.

² Afghanistan Development Welfare Service Organization (ADWSO)

³ 353 in Balkh, 172 in Baghlan, 246 in Badakhshan, 52 in Jawzjan, 247 in Kunduz, and 149 in Samangan.

In October, RADP-N sponsored 13 production and processing companies to attend and display their products at the 19th Kabul Ag-Fair, at Badam Bagh, Kabul which helps build linkages with farmers, producers, processors, and other businesses. This event is the leading agriculture trade show in Afghanistan, serving to boost trade and increase local and international investment in agriculture. The team also signed a sub-contract with Kanava International to develop the capacity of selected local organizations.

RADP-N completed business training for 30 female noodle producers in Dehdadi district of Balkh province. The team completed the procurement of all equipment, and interviewed master trainers for the Samangan bakery and pasta noodle activities.

ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION

Wheat Value Chain:

Sub IR 1.2.1. Productivity of Key Agriculture Crops Increased

Outcome 1: Increased Agriculture Sector Productivity and Profitability in Target Region

Activity 1: Laser Land Leveling

The LLL activity makes forty units available for purchase by contractors at 50% of the original cost. Throughout this reporting period, LLL operators conducted 62 levelling demonstration field days attended by 1,778 farmers in Balkh, Jawzjan, and Samangan provinces. The field days were held to introduce the technology to farmers in areas where operators see a potential market for service providers. In total, 127 jeribs were leveled as shown in the table below:

LLL Field Days in First Quarter of FY2018							
Province	District	Field Days	Field Day Participants	Jeribs Leveled	Farmers Interested in LLL Services	Jeribs Promised	Farmers Interested in Buying
Balkh	Balkh	9	267	19	90	459	3
	Dawlatabad	5	149	10.2	48	261.5	0
	Dehdadi	8	229	16.2	66	214.5	4
	Chimtal	4	113	8.1	18	97	1
	Sholgara	16	451	33.3	171	543.5	2
	Khulm	1	29	2	4	13	0
Jawzjan	Sheberghan	6	175	12.1	44	156.5	1
	Aqcha	1	26	2	2	6	0
	Faizabad	3	84	6.1	28	54.5	0
Samangan	Aybak	4	120	8	16	53	0
	Hazrat-e-Sultan	5	135	10	69	189	0
Total		62	1778	127	556	2047.5	11

The final 14 of 25 LLL operators have completed their remaining ten demonstration field days concluding this first phase of LLL activity for the 25. The 25 LLL operators reached their target of 250 LLL demonstration field days to 7,088 male farmers.

LLL Demonstration Field Days Conducted By 25 LLL Operators							
Province	Planned Field Days	Conducted Field Days	Field Days Participants	Jeribs Leveled	Farmers Interested in LLL Services	Jeribs Promised	Farmers Interested in Buying
Balkh	181	181	5,101	376	1,429	7,771	95
Jawzjan	40	40	1,134	82	262	1,264	12
Samangan	19	19	553	38	103	321	1
Baghlan	10	10	300	20	3	38	0
Total	250	250	7,088	516	1,797	9,394	108

During this quarter, 22 of 25 LLL operators contracted with 148 farmers from Balkh and Jawzjan provinces to level 966 jeribs generating revenue of \$35,577. A survey of 109 farmers that contracted for levelling indicates that the 966 jeribs leveled produced an increase of 255 tons of wheat compared to the land's yield before levelling: a value at \$85,000 in one year.

Activity 2: Farmer-Led Conservation Agriculture (CA)

During this quarter, 44 farmer-led CA sowing field days by 2WT and mechanized seeders were conducted for 875 male farmers in Baghlan, Balkh, and Jawzjan provinces. CA lead farmers and RADP-N staff explained the methods and benefits of direct sowing using seeders. Previous farmer-led CA activities were discussed, with comparisons made between direct sowing and broadcast sowing with conventional systems. In broadcast sowing, the seed rate is 25-30 kg/jerib and the diammonium phosphate (DAP) rate is 25 kg/jerib, while in direct sowing the seed rate is 20 kg/jerib and 20 kg/jerib of DAP.



LLL demonstration field day in Chehel Dukhtaran village, Dehdadi district of Balkh province. November 9, 2017.

Conservation Agriculture Sowing Field Days					
#	Lead Farmer	Province	District	Village	Attendees
1	Ata Mohammad	Balkh	Dawlatabad	Khala Bachagan	20
2	Abdul Basir			Abunaser Faryabi	20
3	Fazal Ahmad			Sadar Abad	20
4	Salam bi			Hashimabad	20
5	Shahabuddin			Dehnow	20
6	Muhammad Yasin		Balkh	Khulabachgan	22
7	Dad Mohammad			Omaki	20
8	Mohammad Eshaq			Dehqazi	20
9	Sadullah		Chimtal	Sar Asyab	20
10	Muhammad Anwar			Mirqasim	20
11	Haji Hussein		Sholgara	Khujasakandar	18
12	Muhammad Nawab			Jangali	20

13	Shahzada			20
14	Manan			20
15	Rohllah			20
16	Haji Bahadar			20
17	Haji Dwood			17
18	Muhammad Bashir			20
19	Banwal			20
20	Mohammad Rasool			20
21	Shahmahmod			20
22	Mir Azam			20
23	Abdul Nabi			20
24	Abdul Jawid			20
25	Mohammad Yasin			20
26	Rahmatullah			20
27	Mohammad Basir			20
28	Shirzaman			20
29	Abdul Khaliq			20
30	Zainullabeddin			19
31	Samaruddin			19
32	Abdul Hakim			20
33	Muhd Ibrahim			20
34	Naqib Ahmad			20
35	Gul Ahmad			20
36	Ana Murad			20
37	Malikddin			20
38	Zabihullah			20
39	Abdul Hamid			20
40	Mohammad Eshaq			20
41	Rahmuddin			20
42	Toriali			20
43	Lahor			20
44	Adam Khan			20
Total				875

RADP-N signed 102 Memorandum of Understandings (MoU) (Baghlan 14, Balkh 28, Jawzjan 29, and Samangan 31) with farmers interested in adopting CA principles (diversified crop rotation, permanent soil cover, and reduced tillage), and committed to promote CA by conducting field days for neighboring farmers. Under this activity, each farmer will convert one jerib to CA management practices. The adopting farmer will also work with a variable number of farmers ranging from four to 15.

Mulch Application: Field staff applied mulch in 20 plots based on lessons learned from the first



Sowing field day in Atta Muhammad farmer-led CA plot in Khala Bachagan village, Dawlatabad district of Balkh province. October 23, 2017.

year of the activity. Last year, the mulch was applied two to three days after wheat sowing. This year, the mulch was applied when the wheat crop growth was at 2-5 leaves to avoid wind risk which was blowing mulch from soil surface.

Collecting Soil Samples for Soil Full Analysis: Twenty-seven soil samples were collected for full soil analysis (NPK, CaCO₃, pH, EC and SOM).⁴ The soil samples were transferred to the JDA office for drying at room temperature, ready for soil analysis in the BUFA soil lab.

Activity 3: Weed Control

Throughout the quarter, the technical team conducted weed control ToT for 198 male participants (163 grantee trainers, four Department of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (DAIL) staff from four project provinces, 13 wheat team field staff, and 18 back up trainers⁵) in Baghlan, Balkh, Jawzjan, and Samangan provinces. The timing of the training is outlined below:

Weed Control Training of Trainers					
Province	Grantee	Group	Participant	Start Date	End Date
Jawzjan	ZOA	1	23	November 13, 2017	November 15, 2017
Balkh	NAASC	1	27	November 20, 2017	November 22, 2017
		2	33	November 27, 2017	November 29, 2017
		3	37	December 4, 2017	December 6, 2017
Baghlan	SSMLASC	1	26	November 27, 2017	November 29, 2017
		2	20	December 4, 2017	December 6, 2017
Samangan	ADWSO	1	16	December 4, 2017	December 6, 2017
		2	16	December 11, 2017	December 13, 2017
Total		13	198		

The topics discussed in the weed control ToT are as follows:

- Adult learning and its importance for trainers.
- Training principles.
- Conducting proper pre-visits.
- Introductory discussions and their importance in training of farmers.
- Economic importance of weeds.
- Weed seeds dispersing agents/media from location to location.
- Mechanical weed control in wheat.
- Chemical weed control in wheat.
- Risks of using herbicides, e.g. hazards to humans and animals, environment hazards, weed resistance to herbicides, and role of integrated weed management and safe herbicide application.
- Integrated weed management in wheat.
- Rey control.
- Sprayer calibration.
- Components of the weed control year four activity.
- Technical format used in training of farmers.

⁴ Nitrogen Phosphate potassium, Calcium Carbonate, Power of Hydrogen, Electrical Conductivity and Soil Organic Material.

⁵ Back up trainers are introduced by grantees in each ToT and are trained beside other trainers. When any of the listed trainers are absent, the backup trainers are substituted.

ZOA, the grantee, started weed control training of farmers in Jawzjan province covering lesson one. As of the end of the quarter, 1,186 male trainee farmers in 100 groups (12 farmers per group) received weed control training lesson one.

Farmers Trained on Weed Control Lesson 1				
Province	District	Groups Trained/District	Farmers Trained /District	Absent Farmers
Jawzjan	Sheberghan	43	502	14
	Faizabad	35	420	0
	Aqcha	22	264	0
Total		100	1,186	14

Activity 4: Seed Business Development (SBD)

Early in the quarter, RADP-N conducted the first SBD year four ToT for 23 grantee and technical staff, eight DAIL district extension officers, and four male Independent Consultant Agreements (ICA), in Negari village, Dehdadi district of Balkh province for three days (October 17 – 10, 2017).

The following subjects were included in the ToT:

- Activity introduction and goals.
- Background and status of seed programs in Northern Afghanistan.
- SBD introduction and work package.
- Work plan, mobile marketing schedules, and selling methods for improved seed.
- Procurement of seven kg bags.
- Village and farmer selection for Participatory Varietal Selection (PVS) plots.
- Conducting field days.
- Importance of improved varieties compared to local seed.
- Land selection and preparation for PVS plots.
- Cultivation methods and irrigation stages.
- Introducing sample tool packages for project implementation.
- Wheat weeds and control methods.
- PVS plot yield data collection.
- Postharvest evaluation and damage control methods.
- Group work (final evaluation).

SBD Mobile Marketing and Outlets Sales: RADP-N SBD grantees sold 580 bags (50 kg) of certified seed to 301 farmers and 4,159 bags (seven kg) to 481 farmers through outlets and mobile marketing stops with \$2,441 value in the four provinces. Seed sales volume was 58.1 tons, enough to plant 480 ha. Twenty-four outlets were opened for certified seed marketing and two other outlets were opened by grantees for their own marketing and selling purposes. To date, 173 mobile stops have been conducted in which 4,798 male farmers participated.

SBD Seed Sales During the First Quarter of FY2018						
#	Grantee	Province	District	Outlets and Seed Bags	Mobile Stops and Seed Bags	Farmer

				Outlets	50 kg	Seven kg	Seed Stops	50 kg	Seven kg	s
1	Ensaaf Jawzjan Seed Company (SC)	Jawzjan	Sheberghan	3	145	109	30	9	43	104
2	Sultan Dawood SC	Baghlan	Pul-e-Khumri	3	8	131	21	89	477	130
3	Noor Mohammad Khan SC	Samangan/Balkh	Aybak/Sholgara	7	0	414	41	68	757	98
4	Sweda SC	Balkh	Dehdadi	4	242	39	19	0	51	210
5	SSMLASC SC		Balkh, Dawlatabad, and Chimtal	9	19	2,129	62	0	9	240
Total				26	414	2,822	173	166	1,337	782

SBD First Field Days: During this reporting period, the technical team conducted 210 field days for 3,360 male farmers in Baghlan, Balkh, Jawzjan, and Samangan provinces. The following subjects were discussed:

- SBD introduction and goals.
- Importance of improved varieties compared to local seed.
- Wheat weeds and control methods.
- Line sowing of 19 varieties and one local seed variety (Zardana) by farmers.
- Distribution of seven kg of improved wheat seed to 15 trainee farmers.

PVS Plots Cultivation: All 210 PVS plots have been cultivated in 70 villages, and seven kg of improved wheat seed distributed to each participant. A total of 22,050 kg of different varieties of improved wheat seed have been distributed to 3,150 farmers for cultivation beside their local seed for plot comparisons to select the best variety for the next season.



Seven kg bags of certified wheat seeds were distributed to each participant during SBD first field day in Ghulam Jan village, Pul-e-Khumri district of Baghlan province. November 6, 2017

Cultivated PVS and Field Days for SBD Participants in the First Quarter								
#	Grantee	Location		Villages	PVS Plots	Field Days	Gender	Farmers
		Province	District					
1	Sweda SC	Balkh	Dehdadi	7	21	21	Male	336
2	Noor Mohammad Khan SC		Sholgara	8	24	24		384
3			Samangan	Hazrat-e-Sultan	8	24		384

4	SSMLASC SC	Balkh	Chimtal	7	21	21		336
5			Balkh	10	30	30		480
6			Dawlatabad	10	30	30		480
7	Ensaaf Jawzjan SC	Jawzjan	Sheberghan	10	30	30		480
8	Sultan Dawood SC	Baghlan	Pul-e- Khumri	10	30	30		480
Total				70	210	210		3,360

Activity 5: 2WT and Seeder

Mechanized row seeding by seed drills provides multiple benefits from improved seed placement, lower seeding rates, more rapid and even establishment, better water use efficiency, higher yields, and permits mechanical inter-row weeding. It reduces labor time which allows farmers to plant more during the optimum period. In wheat-rice systems, such as in Baghlan province and Sholgara district of Balkh province, strip seeding reduces cultivation requirements, fuel consumption, and time between wheat and rice cropping. Direct seeding leaves soil structure intact and plant residue on the soil surface where it is most beneficial. Mechanized seed drills also enable farmers to reduce fertilizer rates at sowing which improves returns in lower-yield land or low external input systems.

Throughout the reporting period, under the 2WT and seeder activity, the wheat team conducted two rounds of 2WT operator and seeder trainings for 14 participants plus four DAIL staff and two ICAs. The training topics in theoretical and practical sessions included parts assembly, maintenance, safety, and business development. Participants learned how to set seeding and fertilizer application rates, and to operate the 2WT and seeder for planting. By the end of the training, 14 2WT and seeders were handed over to the 14 farmers.

The 14 operators demonstrated the seeders to neighboring farmers, explained the objectives and benefits of the technology, and cultivated one jerib of wheat with ten kg of sulfur coated urea for each of the farmers. The target for seeding is 140 jeribs (ten jeribs per operator). By the end of the quarter, the operators completed 132 jeribs for 132 farmers in Balkh, Jawzjan, and Samangan provinces. Thirteen operators completed their target, with one operator yet to complete their remaining eight jeribs.

IR 1.2.1. Commercial Viability of Agribusinesses Increased

Outcome 2: Increased Profitability of Small, Medium, and Large Agribusinesses

Activity 1: Market Linkages

During this quarter, the RADP-N wheat team held ten business facilitation meetings in Balkh, Samangan, Jawzjan, and Baghlan provinces, resulted in signing of four contracts between seed companies, wholesalers, a cookie company, a bakery, and a mill. The seed companies sold 35 tons of Moqavim wheat grain and earned \$13,798.

Contracts Resulting from Business Market Linkage Activity					Grand Total
Seller	Insaf Jawzjan Seed Company	Khorasan Samangan Seed	Ensaaf Jawzjan Seed	Shirabad Seed Company	

		Company	Company		
Buyer	Kalantar Ghulam Sakhi Bakery	Haji Sardar Wholesaler	Haji Amanullah Cookie Company	Insaf Flour Mill	
Agreement #	1	2	3	4	4
Agreement Date	November 8, 2017	November 21, 2017	December 13, 2017	December 25, 2017	
Variety	Moqavim	Moqavim & Sheshembagh	Moqavim	Moqavim	
Sales Volume (Ton)	10	22	10	3	45
Sales Price/Ton	\$294	\$294	\$352	\$290	
Total Sales	\$2,940	\$6,468	\$3,520	\$870	\$13,798

To intensify mechanization the RADP-N seeder activity team conducted the 2WT operator and seeder training for 14 eligible farmers. The training consisted of maintenance, safety, and business development. After completion of the training, the team distributed 14 2WT and seeders with 50% cost share to the 14 farmers from Balkh, Jawzjan, and Samangan provinces.

In mid-October, five agribusinesses were supported by the wheat team at the Kabul Ag-Fair. The exhibition provided the participating agribusinesses the opportunity to exhibit, sell their products, and conduct meetings. The agribusinesses, distributed their business cards and promotional materials and made several verbal contracts. See the table below for more details:

Kabul International Ag-Fair October 2017					
Agribusiness	Value Chain	Amount Sold/USD	Contracts	B2B Events	Promotional Materials
Ruslan Barez Biscuit Company	Wheat	586	Made promise of six contracts with Kabul supermarkets and food dealers.	Participated in B2B events	Distributed more than 300 business cards and brochures
Aryana Rahman Habib Mill		176	Decided to establish its branch in Kabul and made promise of 4 contracts in Kabul province.		Distributed 100 business cards and brochures
Delaram Cookies Company		393	Made promise of 7 contracts in Kabul, Samangan and Baghlan provinces.		Distributed 250 promotional materials
Sultan Dawood Seed Company		49	Made contacts and meeting appointments with Food Agriculture Organization, Agriculture Development Fund, and Agriculture management Assistant.		Distributed 615 brochures

Nasir Azizi Agriculture Services Company		58	Contracted for establishment of outlet in Badakhshan province.		Distributed more than 1,000 brochures and business cards
Total		1,262			

Activity 2: Laser Land leveling Sales

The RADP-N wheat team followed up with interested LLL unit buyers and updated the 141 people in LLL sales database. In January 2018, the team will submit to USAID for approval of seven new LLL buyers that are ready to sign MOUs and deposit their cost shares. The team has introduced the new LLL importer, Asia Silk Road Logistic Company, selected by RADP-N as the LLL vendor to interested buyers and will follow up with other prospective buyers in the coming months.

LLL Interested Farmers/Buyers					
#	Name	Father Name	Province	District	Village
1	Muhammad Kabir	Muhammad Elyas	Balkh	Balkh	Khoshkak
2	Muhammad Yasin	Muhammad Shah		Chimtal	Chimtal
3	Abdul Fatah	Abdul Razaq		Center	Center
4	Mirbat	Mir Hashim		Dawlatabad	Dairaabad
5	Sayed Asrar	Said Mansour		Mazar-e-Sharif	Karshigak
6	Faiz Muhammad	Dad Muhammad		Jawzjan	Sheberghan
7	Mohammad Ismail	Abdul Ghafor		Center	

Impact Survey:

A survey was conducted to evaluate the impact of LLL demonstration plots during September to December 2017 where 109 were randomly selected of the 250 LLL demonstration plot owners. Most of these farmers have experienced at least one crop harvested from their leveled lands. They were surveyed at their plot site using the Open Data Kit (ODK) tool. The survey is based on self-reporting.

The survey indicates that 97% of the 109 farmers observed irrigation water savings while the remaining 3% did not grow a crop on their leveled land this year. Other benefits include 54% reduction in labor cost, and mechanical reaping became more economical leading to reduced production cost. The survey indicated average grain yields of 69%, from 460.8 kg jerib to 724.8 kg jerib.

Impact of Wheat Crop Yield Between Unleveled and Leveled Land		
Yield before leveling kg/jerib	Yield after leveling kg/jerib	% Gain in yield
460.8	724.8	68.6

The survey shows reduction in hours per irrigation and an increase in the irrigation interval. The hours per irrigation was reduced by 51.7%: from 2.6 hr jerib⁻¹ before leveling and 1.3 hr jerib⁻¹ after leveling.

Impact of LLL on Irrigation Timing		
Irrigation duration before	Irrigation duration after leveling	% Reduction in irrigation

leveling hr/jerib	hr/jerib	time
2.6	1.3	51.7

In addition, the time required between irrigations increased due to leveling. Farmer reported an average 87.4% increase in the irrigation interval, from 7.8 days to 13.8 days after leveling.

Impact of LLL on Irrigation Interval Days		
Irrigation interval before leveling /days	Irrigation interval after leveling/days	% Saving/days
7.8	13.8	87.4

The survey was conducted a year after leveling. The process moves fertile soil around the field which can create a yield penalty in the first year, yet farmers reported yield increases. This should encourage greater LLL technology adoption.

High Value Crop Value Chains:

Sub IR 1.2.1. Productivity of Key Agriculture Crops Increased⁶

Outcome 1: Increased Agriculture Sector Productivity and Profitability in Target Region

Activity 1: Cold Storage and Improved Handling of Fresh Grapes

RADP-N HVC team assisted Meeran Guzarga Cold Storage Services Company (MGCSSC) to harvest, pack, and store 37.4 tons of Taifi grapes to increase the storage time at its cold storage facility in Mazar-e-Sharif this year. The objective is to capture rising prices after the large volume at harvest period is sold off. MGCSSC attempted in 2016 to store 210 tons of grapes from Feroz Nakhcheer district of Samangan province. However, due to the lack of cold chain experience by the owner, the exercise failed. The company had managed to hold fresh grapes for three weeks only before deterioration forced them to dump the grapes on the Pakistani market.

RADP-N supported a partnership between MGCSSC and Feroz Nakhcheer Gardeners Association by providing technical advice, grape storage crates, and refrigerated transportation from the field to the cold storage facility. Before harvesting time, the team trained 30 labors on proper harvesting methods, ten labors on processing fresh grapes at the cold storage, and transportation of grapes from vineyard to the cold store via refrigerated trucks. Following the shipments of grapes from Feroz Nakhcheer vineyards to the cold storage, the team developed a quality control check and conducted 27 site



Sorting grape at the MGCSSC pre-cooling store, Mazar-e Sharif, Balkh province. October 6, 2017

⁶ After conducting a ground-truth exercise in 2017, it was determined that the baseline farmers for the fruit/nut value chain largely misled the project as to their possession of the necessary orchard crops to qualify as beneficiaries, especially in regards to almonds. As a result of this, all farmer-level indicators (productivity, income, etc.) for this value chain would always be negative as the misleading figures in the baseline could not be overcome given accurate and realistic later results. Following this revelation, a decision was made in the summer of 2017 to focus the project's HVC resources exclusively in grapes and melons; value chains with reliable baseline data in which regular progress could be tracked from year to year against the baseline.

visits to monitor the condition of the stored grapes.

The transportation of grapes from the field to the cold storage was completed within four shipments. The first and second shipments (20 tons), were packed in crates with sulfur pads, whereas the second two shipments were stored without sulfur pads due to late supply of the pads by an input supplier from Kabul.⁷ In mid quarter, the third and fourth shipments had begun to deteriorate while those packed with sulfur pads were still in very good condition with insignificant deterioration. The HVC team advised MGCSSC to sell the deteriorating grapes local, and on November 13, the company started selling grapes while some late harvest grapes were still available in the market. By December 5, the company completed selling the entire 17.4 tons of the degraded grapes at prices ranging from \$0.29 to \$0.58 per kg wholesale. These prices were comparable with prices paid to farmers supplying direct from the field.

On December 6, the supply of fresh Taifi grapes from local growers to the market came to an end. MGCSSC started selling the remaining 20 tons of the grapes as these grapes had started showing signs of deterioration. The Company supplied at a steady rate of approximately 1,200 kg per day for six days of the week to customers at two local wholesale markets. During this time, prices varied between \$0.84 and \$0.98 per kg. With the experience attained this year, compared to the 2016 season, the owner of MGCSSC is determined to invest more in order to store more grapes in the coming season. The trial is the first of its kind in the Northern provinces, and RADP-N will continue to build on this year's achievements in the 2018 season.

Activity 2: Improving Links between Input Suppliers and Farmers

RADP-N intends to improve linkages between input suppliers and farmers. Early in the quarter, a questionnaire was developed to assess 90 input suppliers in the RADP-N districts. The purpose of the assessment was to identify challenges and needs of the input suppliers for the development of their businesses.

In mid-quarter, the assessment was completed by selecting 60 input suppliers to be included in a program to link them to farmers using a "Farmers' Guide"⁸ booklet being developed by the project. Permission was obtained from the businesses to include their names and contact details in the booklets. These booklets will be distributed to farmers during the training sessions planned for the 2018 growing season.



RADP-N's technical staff surveying input supplier, Aybak, Samangan province. November 21, 2017.

A short-term consultant worked remotely to develop the booklets for grape and melon farmers that will be used as a tool to strengthen sustainable links between farmers and input suppliers. The booklets include details of input suppliers and buyers of fresh grapes and melons. These booklets, which will be distributed by input suppliers, will help build relationships between the

⁷ MGCSSC signed a purchase order with a local company in Kabul to provide sulfur pads. However, due to delays in importation of sulfur pads from India by the company, MGCSSC was not able to use sulfur pads in the last two shipments during the storage of these grapes.

⁸ The Farmers' Guide contains good agriculture practice information including a directory of the input suppliers and potential buyers, which will be distributed to the farmers through the input suppliers.

input suppliers and farmers. Translation and printing of these booklets is expected to commence in January 2018.

Activity 3: Grapevine Trellising and Production Management II

During the reporting period, the HVC team completed selection of 6,300 beneficiaries, of which 675 (10.71%) are women including 140 lead farmers from 15 districts of five provinces. The selection was coordinated with DAIL extension staff. In mid quarter, the HVC team conducted a verification process to ensure that the selected lead farmers meet the activity's criteria.⁹ This verification process determined that 21 did not meet criteria for selection.

Refer to the table below for the list of lead farmers and basic farmers disaggregated by province, district, and gender:



Lead farmer verification, Balkh district, Balkh province, December 10, 2017.

Grapevine Trellising and Production Management II Beneficiary Breakdown						
#	Province	District	Male Lead Farmers	Female Lead Farmers	Male Basic Farmers	Female Basic Farmers
1	Baghlan	Baghlan-e-Jadeed	4	0	176	0
		Pul-e-Khumri	3	0	132	0
2	Balkh	Balkh	5	0	220	0
		Chimtal	5	0	220	0
		Dawlatabad	3	2	132	88
		Dehdadi	3	2	132	88
		Nahr-e-Shahi	5	0	220	0
		Sholgara	5	0	220	0
3	Jawzjan	Aqcha	10	0	440	0
		Faizabad	10	0	440	0
		Sheberghan	15	5	660	220
4	Kunduz	Aliabad	10	0	440	0
		Kunduz	13	0	572	0
5	Samangan	Feroz Nakhcheer	17	3	748	132
		Hazrat-e-Sultan	17	3	748	132
Total			125	15	5,500	660

The team received vetting approval for the two shortlisted activity grant applicants, Afghanistan Almond Industry Development Organization (AAIDO) and ADWSO, and is waiting for CO consent to grant, expected in early January.

Activity 4: Melon Production Upgrades III

⁹ Each lead farmer should have a minimum of 2.5 jerib of grape vineyard, provide a minimum of 150 kg GI wire, employ at least ten seasonal labors in his/her farm, provide mentorship to at least ten basic neighboring farmers, has established links to regional markets, and has not received trellising equipment from RADP-N in previous years.

In early quarter, the HVC team received approval to implement the third phase of the melon production upgrades activity. The team circulated official letters to DAIL directorates in the six target provinces requesting their cooperation in selecting beneficiaries and activity sites. The team announced a Request For Application (RFA) for this activity and conducted a pre-application conference, at which nine participants from seven agribusinesses attended.

The RADP-N evaluation committee selected two companies based on their technical approaches to implementation: ADWSO was selected for the provinces of Balkh, Jawzjan, and Samangan (region 1), and NAASC¹⁰ was selected for Badakhshan, Baghlan, and Kunduz (region 2). During November, HVC staff and the procurement team carried out quality checks on the activity inputs.



Subsequently, the team completed beneficiary selection of 5,520 farmers, of which 1,380 (25%) are women, including 92 lead farmers from 20 districts of the six target provinces. The selection process was coordinated with DAIL extension staff. The team verified the lead farmers to make sure that they met the criteria¹¹. This verification process has been completed in Baghlan, Balkh, Faizabad district of Jawzjan, Kunduz, and Samangan provinces. Verification is still underway in Badakhshan province, and Aqcha and Sheberghan districts in Jawzjan province. Refer to the table below for a list of the beneficiaries prior to the verification process:

Melon Production Upgrade III Beneficiaries					
#	Province	District	Lead Farmers	Male Basic Farmers	Female Basic Farmers
1	Badakhshan	Baharak	4	176	60
		Faizabad	6	264	90
		Kishem	4	176	60
2	Baghlan	Pol-e-Khumri	6	264	90
		Baghlan-e-Jadeed	7	308	105
3	Balkh	Balkh	4	176	60
		Dawlatabad	3	132	45
		Nahr-e-Shahi	3	132	45
		Chimtal	4	176	60
		Dehdadi	4	176	60
		Sholgara	3	132	45
4	Jawzjan	Sheberghan	6	264	90
		Faizabad	6	264	90
		Aqcha	6	264	90
5	Kunduz	Ali Abad	4	176	60

¹⁰ Nasir Azizi Agricultural Services Company

¹¹ Each lead farmer should have a minimum of 5 jerib planted to melon every year in the previous five years, employ at least 10 seasonal labors on his/her farm, provide mentorship to at least 10 basic neighboring farmers, has established link to regional markets, and has not served as a lead farmer in previous RADP-N activities.

		Kunduz center	4	176	60
		Khanabad	4	176	60
		Chahar Dara	4	176	60
6	Samangan	Hazrat-e-Sultan	8	352	120
		Aybak	2	88	30
Total			92	4,048	1,380

The team developed printing materials which include melon Post-Harvest Handling (PHH) and melon seedling flipcharts and brochures, and melon fly Integrated Pest Management (IPM) brochures. The team received vetting approval for ADWSO but is waiting for approval for Nasir Azizi Agriculture Services Company (NAASC).

Sub IR 1.2.2. Commercial Viability of Agribusinesses Increased

Outcome 2: Increased Profitability of Small, Medium, and Large Agribusinesses

Activity 1: Market Linkages: Trade Show Sales

In the quarter, the RADP-N HVC team supported ten agribusiness companies to participate in two international trade shows, Afghan/India Trade and Investment Conference (AITIC) and World Food India 2017. The participating companies exhibited their products, attended B2B meetings, and signed contracts during and after the World Food India event. RADP-N participants did not exhibit at the AITIC. HVC team has focused on the participating companies that have signed contracts after the trade shows. These companies have exported 45.5 tons of dried fruits and nuts, valued \$836,801. Refer to the table below for details of the shipments:

Deal Tracker					
#	Company	Product	Quantity (Ton)	Total Value (\$)	
1	Mohammad Hashim Hussain Zada Ltd.	Asafetida (hing)	5.8	295,800	
2			8.3	427,450	
3	Abdullah Zemari Balkhi Ltd.	Black Raisin	5.4	18,795	
4		Almond Kernel	0.3	4,056	
5	Asef Ghafoor Ltd.	Almond in shell	4.7	23,500	
6			6.0	22,200	
7		Black Raisin	15.0	45,000	
Total			45.5	836,801	

Activity 2: Kabul International Ag-Fair

RADP-N sponsored six HVC agribusinesses to attend the Kabul International Ag-Fair at Badam Bagh, Kabul from October 18 to 20. The trade show provided the companies an opportunity to exhibit, sell their products, and conduct ten meetings with other businesses including financial institutions, international organizations, and local companies. The agribusinesses generated \$2,820 in sales. Samarat Ltd. signed a contract with Sheer Ahmad Ag-Retailer, based in Faryab, for agricultural chemicals worth \$6,426. Mumtaz Agricultural Cooperative signed two separate agreements with two Afghan traders for joint



Kabul International Ag-Fair, Badam Bagh, Kabul. October 18, 2017.

export of grapes to India next year. See the table below for HVC sales by the agribusinesses:

Kabul Ag-Fair 2017 by End of First Quarter										
#	Agribusiness	Product	Quantity	Unit Price (USD)	Total Sales (USD)	Potential Deal (USD)	Actual Deal Value (USD)	Date Deal Cleared	Destination	Type of Product
1	Samarat Ltd.	Alzole 1 ltr.	120 bottle	2.90	349		349	23-Oct-17	Faryab	Veterinary medicine
		Alzole 0.5 ltr.	240 bottle	1.74	418.9		418.9	23-Oct-17		Veterinary medicine
		Evacloze 1 ltr.	120 bottle	5.9	715.63		715.63	23-Oct-17		Veterinary medicine
		Evacloze 0.5 ltr.	240 bottle	3.4	820.36		820.36	23-Oct-17		Veterinary medicine
2	Bradaran Babor Ltd.	Walnut	30.5 kg	7.25	221		221	20-Oct-17	Kabul	Nuts
		Almond	8.3 kg	9.46	78.54		77.55	18-Oct-17		Nuts
		Black raisin	35 kg	2.90	101.81		101.81	19-Oct-17		Dried fruit
3	Abdullah Zemari Balkhi Ltd.	Almond	500 kg	13.38	6690.90		6690.9	12-Nov-17	Faryab	Nuts
		Cumin	700 kg	14.54	10181	10181.81				Seed
		Almond	42.6 kg	9.47	403.63		403.64	19-Oct-17		Nuts
		Red raisin	7 kg	1.6	11.2		11.2	19-Oct-17		Dried fruit
		Black raisin	14 kg	2.90	40.72		40.73	19-Oct-17		Dried fruit
		Green raisin	14 kg	2.90	40.72		40.73	19-Oct-17		Dried fruit
		Cumin	14 kg	24.72	346.18		346.18	20-Oct-17		Seed
		Almond kernel	22.6 kg	11.68	264		264	18-Oct-17		Nuts
		Pistachio	31.6 kg	11.63	367.70		367.7	20-Oct-17		Nuts
		Pistachio kernel	16 kg	21.81	349		349	20-Oct-17		Nuts
		Walnut	21 kg	7.23	152		152	20-Oct-17		Nuts
		Apricot nut	7 kg	5	35.63		35.64	18-Oct-17		Nuts
		Dried apricot	5 kg	2.18	10.90		10.9	18-Oct-17		Dried fruit
		Black seed	14 kg	2.90	40.72		40.73	18-Oct-17		Seed
		Black raisins	15 kg	2.90	43.63		43.64	18-Oct-17		Dried fruit
4	Fazlan Shirzad Samangani Ltd	Pistachio kernel	3.48 kg	21.81	80.29		75.92	20-Oct-17		Nuts
		Almond kernel	3.475 kg	11.63	40.43		40.43	19-Oct-17		Nuts
		Taifi grape	92 kg	0.72	66.90		66.90	20-Oct-17		Fresh fruit
5	Mumtaz Agricultural Cooperative	Taifi grape	5.5 ton	462.82	2545.45	2545.46			India	Fresh fruit
		Melon and Water Melon Producing Association	Arkani melon	87 pc	1.45	126.55		126.55		Fresh fruit
Total				24539.64	12727.28	11812.34				

Activity 3: World Food India 2017

From 3 to 5 November, RADP-N co-sponsored nine agribusinesses to participate in the three-day World Food India 2017 trade show held in New Delhi, India. Four agribusinesses displayed their products and the other five attended as visitors and conducted B2B meetings and informative conference events. The participating companies had an excellent view of the Indian domestic and global food industries, and six of the nine businesses attending generated confirmed sales of \$1,614,200. The show was packed with seminars, information conferences on product innovations and contracting systems, and a platform for establishing networks with Indian and international companies.



Local RADP-N agribusiness owner discusses his product with a potential Indian buyer, World Food India. November 5, 2017

Prior to the departure to India, the HVC team provided the agribusinesses with a briefing on Indian and international markets and potential contracting opportunities at the show. The team facilitated over 40 B2B meetings between Afghan companies and Indian, Chinese, and South Korean dried fruit and nut processing companies. The table below lists agribusinesses and their sales:

World Food India 2017 Participants and Sales Record					
#	Agribusiness	Type of Product	Quantity (Ton)	Unit Price (\$)	Total (\$)
1	TAK Dry Fruit Company	Pistachio	20	20,000	400,000
		Apricot	24	2,200	52,800
2	Hashim Hussainzada Ltd.	Pistachio	3	21,500	64,500
		Almond (Khairudini)	6	15,200	91,200
		Liquorice	170	1,470	249,900
3	Asif Ghafoor Ltd.	Pistachio	25	18,000	450,000
		Black Raisin	20	2,800	56,000
		Dried Mulberry	5	5,600	28,000
4	Abdullah Zemarai Balkhi Ltd.	Almond (ordinary)	6	4,200	25,200
		Pistachio	5	21,000	105,000
		Black Raisin	7	3,200	22,400
5	Naseer Fallah Ltd.	Almond in shell	4	4,050	16,200
6	Jaweed Shukori Ltd.	Cumin	10	5,300	53,000
Total			305	124,520	1,614,200

Activity 4: Food Safety Management and ISO Auditing

RADP-N announced an RFP early in October, requesting companies to provide International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 22000:2005 audit and certification for two Mazar-based dried fruit processing companies, TAK Dried Fruit Company, and Jamshid Ramin Dry Fruits

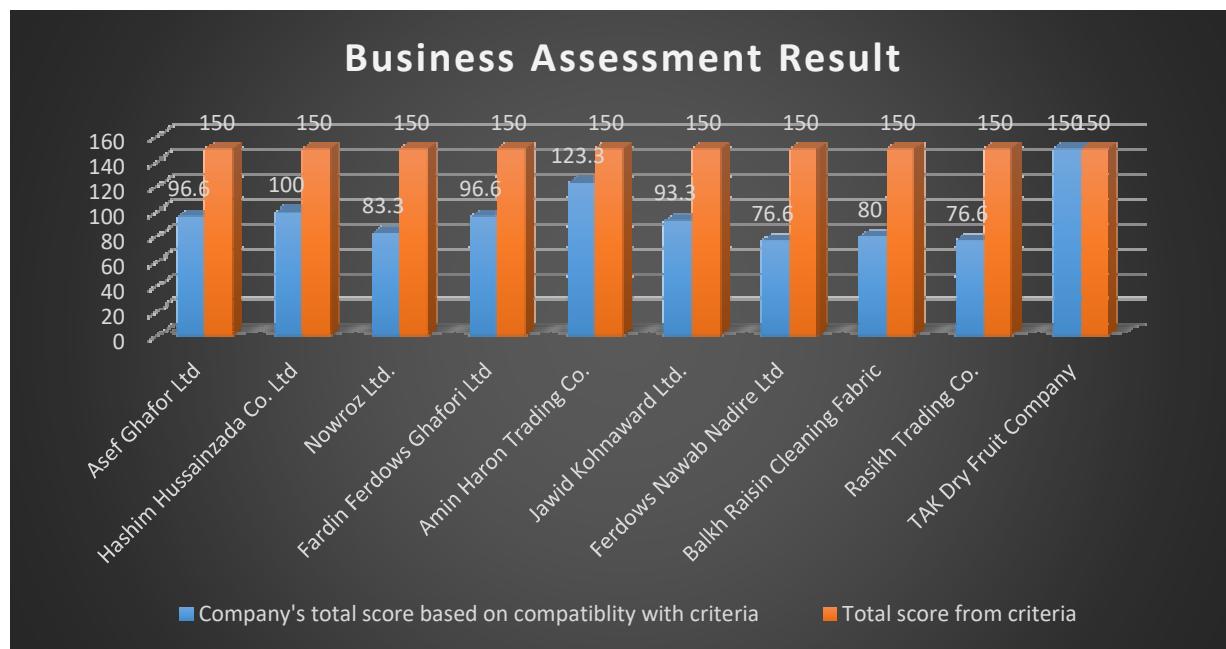
Processing and Packaging Company. In November, Kia Research and Development (KRD) was awarded a grant to carry out two ISO 22000:2005 audits on TAK and Jamshid Ramin in January 2018. The procurement procedures were completed in December, and KRD met with the companies on December 27 in preparation for the start of their audits.

Disposal of X-ray Sorting Machine

In mid-quarter, RADP-N terminated the grant awarded to Jamshid Ramin for an X-ray sorting machine because of the company's non-conformity to its commitments made in the grant agreement. Late in the quarter, the HVC team conducted an assessment of ten northern dried fruit processing companies to identify a processing company to qualify for the grant. As a result of the assessment, RADP-N selected TAK Dry Fruit Company as the new grant recipient of the sorting machine. Completion of the requisite procurement and vetting procedures are due in January followed by installation in TAK's production line. The table below shows results of the surveyed companies:

#	Company	Representative	Address
1	Nowroz Ltd.	Kasim Rahimi	Sinafar Market
2	Asef Ghafor Ltd.	Haji Asef	Dry Fruit market
3	Fardin Ferdows Ghafori Ltd.	Haji Arif	Mandawi, Yakhdan street
4	Amin Haroon Trading Co.	Sardar	Omar Jan Market
5	Jawid Kohnaward Ltd.	Latif	
6	Ferdows Nawab Nadire Ltd.	Fida Mohammad	Dry Fruit Market
7	Mohammad Hashim Hussain Zada Ltd.	Jawid Haqjo	
8	Balkh Raisin Cleaning Fabric	Mh. Wahiz	Nasaji
9	Rasikh Trading Company	Abdullah	Dry Fruit market
10	TAK Dry Fruit Company	Frozan Hashimi	Shadyan Industrial parks

Also, please see the below pivot chart depicting the results of assessment:



Livestock Value Chain:

Sub IR 1.2.1. Productivity of Key Agribusinesses Increased

Outcome 1: Increased Agriculture Sector Productivity and Profitability in Target Region

Activity 1: Train 15 Paravets to Establish VFUs

Early in the quarter, the livestock team started the second round of a five-day refresher training on livestock extension and animal husbandry in Mazar-e-Sharif. The training was attended by 14¹² paravets (10 male and 4 female). The refresher training consisted of theoretical and group work sessions. The theoretical part included livestock extension definitions, animal husbandry, livestock nutrition, and necessary precautions during animal pregnancy. The technical team reported that all 15 Veterinary Field Units (VFUs) are fully functional and are providing accessible, timely, and high-quality veterinary services.



Refresher Training For Recently Graduated Paravets

#	Training subject/Topic	Month	Status
1	Viral and bacterial diseases	First	Conducted in July 2017
2	Extension	Second	Conducted in October 2017
3	Internal diseases	Third	Scheduled for January 2018
4	Pharmacology	Fourth	TBD
5	Pregnancy test	Fifth	
6	Parasitic diseases	Sixth	
7	Diagnosis and treatment	Seventh	
8	Breeding	Eighth	

Training of 20 Paravets to Establish VFUs

RADP-N started the second round of six-month paravet training. Early quarter, the team completed logistics preparations, and recruited three ICA trainers. In mid quarter, RADP-N held an official opening ceremony in Balkh province attended by Balkh DAIL director, RADP-N staff, trainees, and trainers. After the ceremony, 19¹³ of 20 trainees started the course. The trainees were selected in consultation with the provincial DAILs, Community Development Councils, and community leaders.

RADP-N signed an agreement with Sadiqi Livestock Farm located in Balkh province, allowing the technical team to use the farm for practical training. The agreement spans November 2017 to April 2018. The theoretical part of the training covers animal health topics such as herd management, yearly planning, selective breeding, nutrition practices and supplementary feeding, livestock handling practices, and livestock services as a profitable business. Under direct supervision of the three trainers, several practical training sessions have occurred on the livestock farm. The practical training of the 19 paravets and one doctor of veterinary medicine

¹² One female paravet could not participate due to personal problems.

¹³ One of the 20 trainees is already a vet graduate from Balkh University, and does not need to participate in this basic paravet training, but she will participate on occasions for practical work.

included familiarization of surgical instruments, livestock reproductive systems, animal weight estimation, and autopsy on sheep. The trainees are actively following their lessons.

Activity 2: VFU Capacity Building and Training of Farmers

This 12-month activity is designed to improve knowledge and skills of the 15 recently graduated paravets with a livestock husbandry and production package. The activity also aims to improve farmer awareness of quality animal health services offered by VFUs. Improving farmer awareness also increases demand for services to support VFU sustainability.

In quarter one, RADP-N conducted three rounds of training for 600 (400 males and 200 females) farmers in five provinces (Balkh 160, Baghlan 40, Jawzjan 160, Badakhshan 80, and Samangan 160). One training session was held each month. The October training topics included additive livestock feed, prevention of hypocalcaemia, and use of Di-Calcium Phosphate (DCP) powder. All 600 beneficiaries received five packs of DCP powder as an input. The second session took place in November and focused on animal health management, timely vaccination, and importance of feeding colostrum to new-born animals. The third training session in

December covered animal feeding, hay making for the winter season, and proper storing of livestock feed. Each of the 600 beneficiaries received one bottle of tincture/Piodin and a role of gauze pad/bandage as inputs. Each of the 15 paravets will train 40 beneficiaries in groups of 20. Preparation is underway to conduct the ninth round of training in January on animal feeding quality using feed blocks.



Paravets and Beneficiaries by Province						
#	Paravets	Province	District	Male Beneficiaries	Female Beneficiaries	Total Beneficiaries
1	Noornisa	Badakhshan	Faizabad		40	40
2	Naqebullah		Yaftal-e-Payen	40		40
3	Hamidullah	Baghlan	Borka	40		40
4	Samira	Balkh	Dehdadi		40	40
5	Fatema		Nahr-e-Shahi		40	40
6	Shamshir		Chaharbola k	40		40
7	Ahmad Farhad		Nahr-e-Shahi	40		40
8	Nadershah		Faizabad	40		40
9	Mohamma d Asif	Jawzjan	Aqcha	40		40
10	Rahima		Sheberghan		40	40
11	Atifa				40	40

12	Abdul Wali		Roye Doaab	40		40
13	Muhammad Iqbal			40		40
14	Borhanodin			40		40
15	Abdul Halim			40		40
Total				400	200	600

Activity 3: Silage Making Training

This activity targets 78 cooperatives (three in each RADP-N district) to demonstrate to cooperative members how to prepare land, cultivate forage seed, irrigate, harvest, and finally ferment silage for a digestible feed for small ruminants.

Early in the reporting quarter, the technical team completed the second round of farmer training and demonstration sessions. The team conducted theoretical and practical training for the remaining 19 of 78 lead and 475 (375 male and 100 female) basic farmers. Training covered proper cutting and chopping of maize, preparing of silage, proper use and maintenance of chopper machines, benefits of feeding silage to livestock, and proper feeding methods.

By the end of the reporting period, the number of basic farmers making silage reached 1,219 (97 female and 1,122 male) of 1,950 targeted beneficiaries (Balkh 353, Baghlan 172, Badakhshan 246, Jawzjan 52, Kunduz 247, and Samangan 149). Also, 257 basic farmers uncovered their silos or trenches after 45 days of fermentation. The observed silage is of good quality as indicated by consumption by sheep and goats. During follow up visits, advice was offered on how to open the silos, silage feeding, and proper maintenance of silos. This feeding technology will enable farmers to store the silage for at least four months. This improved feeding technique has drawn attention of other farmers. The field team reported that 17 non-beneficiary farmers (11 in Badakhshan, 4 in Samangan, and 2 in Balkh) replicated the activity by preparing their own silage with support of their cooperatives.

Late in the quarter, RADP-N conducted the final activity evaluation through a sampling method to determine the initial impact of the activity. In the evaluation, 12% of 2,028 (1,819 male and 209 female) beneficiaries (78 lead and 1,950 basic farmers) were interviewed in the six provinces, which led to the following main findings:

- Knowledge of the silage making process increased among the 78 lead and 1,950 basic farmers.



RADP-N's technical team conducted the second round of silage making in maize demo plot in Samangan province. October 3, 2017.



Feeding silage to livestock in Dawlatabad district of Balkh province. November 19, 2017.

- All lead farmers cultivated maize and prepared silage.
- Ninety-seven percent (1,902 out of 1,950) basic farmers cultivated the maize seed.
- The remaining 48 basic farmers were not able to cultivate forage due to lack of irrigation water. This was not an issue during beneficiary selection; the problem arose later.
- Fourteen non-beneficiary farmers prepared silage of their own with the support of their cooperatives.
- The beneficiaries reported weight gain, improved health, and increased productivity in response to feeding silage.
- The field team visited during implementation and conducted regular follow-up visits to the cooperatives and demo plots learning that demand for silage increased in winter season as word of the benefits spread. One lead farmer in Baghlan produced more silage than needed for his livestock and sold the surplus to dairy farmers.
- Optimism among beneficiaries to continue the activity next year is high.
- All 78 distributed chopper machines are in a good condition, and ready for use next year.

By end of the reporting period, the livestock team completed the silage making activity.

Activity 4: Urea Treatment

Urea treatment increases crude protein and energy content of cereal straw resulting in increased straw intake, weight gain, growth rate, and milk yield. It is a cost-effective and proven technology. Feeding low-quality straw to livestock causes a decline in milk and meat production, as straw does not supply sufficient nutrients.

RADP-N is implementing a pilot urea treatment activity in Balkh, Jawzjan, and Samangan provinces. Early in the quarter, the technical team in coordination with three DAILs, conducted one-day ToT for 20 paravets and three DAIL representatives. Trainers addressed the theory of feeding technology and the urea treatment process. This was followed by applying the urea to the feed material in the three DAIL compounds.

Each paravet was mentored by the livestock team to replicate the training to farmers. The paravets conducted 40 training sessions for groups of 25 basic farmers each and trained 1,000 individuals (800 male and 200 female) in three provinces (Balkh 400, Jawzjan 300, and Samangan 300). These training sessions addressed the benefits and efficiency of enriching straw with urea, followed by preparing urea treated straw. Following the training, each farmer was provided with inputs.¹⁴ The livestock team conducted follow-up visits to the VFUs and to basic farmers to encourage technology adoption. Through the end of reporting period, the number of basic farmers implementing this technology reached 766¹⁵ (606 male and 160 female) of 1,000 targeted. Silos are uncovered after 21 days and the treated straw is ready to be fed.



Urea treatment practical session in Samangan DAIL compound, Samangan province. October 15, 2017.

¹⁴ One pair of rubber boots, 5 meters of plastic sheet, 4 kg of urea, one face mask and a pair of gloves.

¹⁵ 234 In Balkh, 280 in Jawzjan, and 252 in Samangan.

The field team observed that farmers were satisfied with the treated straw and many have continued the process on their own. Beneficiary feedback indicates that traditional feeding includes a mixture of straw with wheat bran or flax cake in winter. However, they found out that the urea-treated straw is more efficient and economical due to increased crude protein. The field team findings revealed that participation of females in the activity is visible, and because women are commonly involved in tending livestock, this should encourage more women in farming households to replicate the process.

Activity 5: Promote Adoption of Sainfoin as a High Yield Forage Crop

The activity aims to introduce sainfoin (*Onobrychis viciifolia*) a perennial legume forage, which is more drought tolerant than alfalfa and requires less frequent irrigation. Unlike alfalfa, sainfoin is bloat free, making it an excellent protein-rich fodder for young animals. It is a superb forage for grazing animals as well, being highly palatable and more digestible than alfalfa. The voluntary intake of it by cattle and sheep is about 20% higher than other grasses.

In November, the livestock team started this activity by preparing training materials. The team conducted a germination test of the sainfoin seed to ensure positive outcomes. The team checked samples of the required inputs, and began the procurement process. In December, the team coordinated with DAILs. Practical commencement will begin early in the second quarter with selection of 25 lead farmers (Balkh 7, Samangan 5, Baghlan 2, Kunduz 4, and Badakhshan 7) and 375¹⁶ basic farmers.

Activity 6: Use of Feed Blocks

Early in the quarter, the livestock team delivered the remaining feed block raw materials¹⁷ for 23 feed suppliers. With support of the three grantees,¹⁸ the feed suppliers continued feed block production. The team conducted the remaining 15 demonstration and distribution events for the 375 male beneficiaries. At the end of the demonstrations, each beneficiary was provided with 60 kg of promotional feed blocks. The number of beneficiaries that participated in these events reached the targeted 3,000. The demonstrations consisted of hands-on block production, benefits, proper feeding, and distribution of promotional feed blocks. Six radio stations aired promotional messages in Dari and Pashto. Based on the MoU, the coverage period was two months (August 24 to October 24) within which the stations aired 540 promotional messages.

The three grantees conducted the final evaluation to complete their final milestone by interviewing 600 beneficiaries (542 male and 58 female) of 3,000 targeted and 23 feed suppliers. The key evaluation findings are as follows:



RADP-N team conducting feed block demo and distribution in Badakhshan province. November 22, 2017.

¹⁶ 105 Balkh, 75 in Samangan, 30 in Baghlan, 60 in Kunduz and 105 in Badakhshan.

¹⁷ Urea 12,900 kg, Salt 1,800 kg, Dry mulberry 8,400 kg, Molasses 3,600 kg and Cement 9,300 kg.

¹⁸ Naseer Azizi Agriculture Services Company (NAASC) for Samangan and Baghlan, Social Development & Better Future for Afghanistan Organization (SDBFAO) for Balkh and Jawzjan, and New Way Social and Development Organization (NSDO) for Kunduz and Badakhshan.

- Minimum number of beneficiaries per feed supplier is 200, while the maximum is above 5,000.
- All of the feed suppliers responded that there is demand for feed blocks in their communities, and they plan to address this demand.
- All of the feed suppliers responded that they provide their required raw materials from the local markets, and are willing to be linked with raw material producers.
- Twenty-two (96%) of the feed suppliers said that the feed block radio advertisements are useful, while the other supplier did not notice any changes.

Main findings of the end-line survey of the 600 beneficiaries:

- The main business of 90% of the respondents is agriculture and livestock husbandry, while the remaining 10% had an additional profession.
- Lack of resources to feed livestock in winter is a challenge for 93%, while the remaining 7% had enough feed in winter.
- All respondents were familiar with feed block efficiency, the donor, and the implementer, and confirmed receiving promotional feed blocks.
- Radio promotions were heard by 91% of the respondents, while the remaining 9% have not had the chance to listen.
- All respondents said that they found feed blocks useful, resulting in animal weight gain and improved productivity.

Efforts are being made to find customers for the 23 feed suppliers. RADP-N will purchase 10,800 kg of promotional feed blocks for the 15 paravets under the VFU capacity building and farmer training activity. The feed blocks will be distributed to farmers who attend training sessions held by VFUs. This will encourage the use of feed blocks by raising farmer awareness of the benefits and will enhance the visibility of the VFUs as service providers. RADP-N intends to procure the feed blocks from the feed suppliers listed below:

Selected Feed Block Feed Suppliers				
#	Province	Feed Supplier	Required Feed Blocks (Kg)	Status
1	Balkh	Jafar Abad Agro Cooperative	2,880	Ongoing
2	Jawzjan	Suhail Nazar agro cooperative	2,880	
3	Samangan	Dara-e-zhuwandon agro cooperative	2,880	
4	Baghlan	Omid Afghan agro cooperative	720	
5	Badakhshan	Baghi Mubarak cooperative	1,440	
Total			10,800	

This activity was successfully completed as outlined in the concept note.

CROSSCUTTING OUTCOMES

Enabling Environment

Sub IR 1.2.2. Commercial Viability of Agribusinesses Increased
Outcome 3: Increased Women Participation in Agriculture Value Chain Activities

Activity 1: Kitchen Gardening

Early in the quarter, RADP-N trained 2,048 women on harvesting and storage of vegetables (session six), seed saving (session seven). The sessions covered proper harvesting and storing of vegetables and saving seeds for subsequent planting. In mid-quarter, the same number of women were trained on the benefits of crop rotation (session 8) in Baghlan, Balkh, Jawzjan, and Samangan provinces. Each female beneficiary then received six cm plastic and 25 meters of wire for making plastic tunnels for growing vegetables during winter.

The RADP-N kitchen gardening team successful completed the crop season two (total eight sessions) and started beneficiary selection survey in the four targeted provinces.

Kitchen Garden Beneficiaries Trained on Crop Season Two			
Province	Groups	Beneficiaries	Dates
Baghlan	32	512	July to December, 2017
Balkh	32	512	
Jawzjan	32	512	
Samangan	32	512	
Total	128	2,048	

Since the beginning of the kitchen gardening activity in July 2016, 5,675 women received kitchen garden training in three crop seasons in the four provinces and reached 70% of the life of project target which is 8,000 women beneficiaries. All these women continue to maintain kitchen gardens.

Activity 2: Women Noodle Producers

RADP-N is supporting 30 women to operate a noodle producton facility at Shekhabad village, Dehdadi district of Balkh province and one retail sales outlet in Mazar-e-Sharif. At the beginning of the quarter, the gender team invited the 30 women to the office for the activity kick-off where RADP-N DCOP briefed the women about the importance of women's engagement in agriculture. The team discussed the project assistance, the women's cost share contributions, and the commitment needed to sustain the activity. The team designed a commercial brand name, Khosha, and a package for the product.

Mid-quarter, the team conducted training for two days on food safety, one day on wheat varieties, and five days on business skills for two groups of 15 women. The food safety training enabled them to learn important hygienic measures needed for the production process. The wheat variety training helped them understand the importance of selecting suitable varieties for noodles. The training assisted women to develop their production system, select their board of directors¹⁹, and set up a financial system.



Women noodle producers opening event on October 12, 2017.

¹⁹ Focal point, Admin officer, Finance officer, Marketing officer, Shopkeepers, Store keeper.

The below table indicates number of women trained on each topic:

Women Noodle Producers Training				
#	Topic	Date	Women Trained	Conducted by
1	Food safety training	October 24 – 25	30	Gender team
2	Wheat variety training	October 26	30	Wheat team
3	Business training	October 29 – November 9	30	Gender team

The team and beneficiaries set up the production area²⁰, and received all equipment except dough mixer and roller. The team also developed the scope of work (SoW) for the master trainer and selected one candidate out of five shortlisted. The team designed a package for the noodles that contains a list of ingredients, date of production and expiration. USAID approved the designed package with a list of basic ingredients.

Noodle Raw Materials - First Round			
#	Item Description	Unit	Actual Quantity
1	Flour	Bag	80
2	Egg	Number	1,000
3	Purified salt	Bag	20
4	Oil (Each bottle 5 litter)	Liter	40
5	Carton pack for noodles package	Number	0
6	Carton box for noodles carriage (large and small)	Number	0

Later in the reporting period, the dryer, dough mixing machine and roller was installed in the bakery. The first round of raw materials was delivered and the women started producing noodles on December 31. The Master trainer who joined the team on December 26 will support the women on administrative and financial matters. The team assisted in tagging machine and equipment inventory.

Activity 3: Samangan Women's Bakery

In October, the women's bakery activity in Aybak city was approved. The activity supports 15 women to establish a small commercial bakery and a retail shop. The gender team met with Directorate of Women Affairs (DoWA), Home Economics Department of Samangan DAIL, and Samangan businesswomen to present the activity, discuss beneficiary selection criteria, and request suggestions of eligible beneficiaries. The team collected a list of 115 potential beneficiaries, interviewed 44 that met the criteria, and selected 15 as beneficiaries.

In November, the gender team met with the beneficiaries in Samangan to brief them on the activity and expected cost share contributions. The team provided contract, commitment, and emergency contact forms for their perusal and signature. The team interviewed five candidates for master trainer and selected one.



Women producers drying noodled. December 31, 2017.

²⁰ Production room, packaging room, admin room, storage room.

The women bakers preferred to set up the sales outlet at the site of the production center in Aybak family park. The team met with Aybak municipality officials, helped complete documents²¹ for the beneficiaries, and met with head of Aybak family park to discuss terms of the contract.

In December, RADP-N's team²² in a meeting with women bakers and municipal officials in Samangan signed the lease agreement of the shops in family park. Four copies of the agreement were signed.²³ RADP-N procurement staff travelled to Kabul with the master trainer to check the bakery equipment and contracted with the vendor.

Activity 4: Gender Training for Recently Hired Staff

A project obligation is to increase knowledge of RADP-N's staff to integrate gender in project activities, bring positive changes in their attitudes and behaviors, and promote gender equality in the work environment. RADP-N's gender team conducted a half day of gender training for 40 of RADP-N's recently recruited staff. The interactive training emphasized gender programming and integration in project activities. The topics covered are listed in the table below:



Topics	Areas of Discussion
1. Basic gender concepts and terminologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sex and gender - Gender equality and gender equity - Gender integration and women's empowerment
2. USAID gender policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USAID Gender Equality and Female Empowerment Policy
3. RADP-N's gender obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Percent of total beneficiaries that are women - Gender indicators and status
4. Gender integration in activity programming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning, concept design and development - Implementation and management - Monitoring and evaluation
5. Gender integration framework and tips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USAID/Office of Agriculture gender integration framework - RADP-N's interventions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase access to and use of technologies • Increase human capital • Improve time use/ decrease time poverty • Increase social capital and leadership in the community • Increase control over the use of income • Increase control over productive resources • Decision-making power in agricultural - Group Work

²¹ Contract, commitment letter, and emergency contact forms

²² Government Relation Director, Business Enabling Environment Advisor, and Gender team.

²³ Each party (municipal official, head of family park, head of the bakery, and RADP-N) has an original signed copy.

Activity 5: Hygiene and Nutrition Training

Throughout the first quarter, the H&N team trained 750 women in 30 groups (25 participants per group) in 18 villages of Baghlan, Balkh, Jawzjan, and Samangan provinces. The team started the third round of year three nutrition training in the four project provinces for 500 women.

Completed H&N Training in First Quarter							
Province	Districts	Villages	Group	Beneficiary/Group	Start Date	End Date	
Balkh	4	6	12	25	October 2017	December 2017	
Jawzjan	1	4	6				
Samangan	2	5	6				
Baghlan	1	3	6				
Total	8	18	30	750			

During the quarter, the team continued coordination meetings with community stakeholders, provincial teams, and influential women in all target districts to explain H&N activity objectives. The team discussed new group selection, preparation of training locations, and security for upcoming trainings.

Outcome 5: Increased Women Participation in Agriculture Value Chain Activities

Activity 1: Live Radio Show Phase II

During this reporting period, RADP-N grantees aired 128 live radio programs in the six provinces. Topics included storage systems for fresh fruits, grape marketing, benefits of composting, role of soil micro-organisms, orchard establishment, orchard irrigation, and the role of women in HVC production.

During the shows, 702 farmers (74 women) called during the broadcasts with questions and comments. Refer to the following table for details of the live-radio shows:

Live Radio Program				
Province	Radio Show	Male Callers	Female Callers	
Badakhshan	18	48	39	
Baghlan	22	112	1	
Balkh	22	115	2	
Jawzjan	22	133	0	
Kunduz	22	85	30	
Samangan	22	135	2	
Total	128	628	74	

RADP-N grantee, Radio Azad, conducted nine field days in Balkh and Samangan provinces in which 303 male farmers attended. Field day topics included the role of radios shows in providing agricultural information, promotion of the shows (topics, date, time, and frequency of broadcast), and introduction of local input suppliers through distribution of brochures and business cards. The following table lists the location details of the field days:

Number of Field Days and Participants by Province			
Province	District	Field Days	Participants

Balkh	Balkh	1	35
	Dawlatabad	1	36
	Dehdadi	1	33
	Khulm	1	28
	Nahr-e-Shahi	1	36
	Sholgara	1	36
Samangan	Aybak	1	34
	Feroz Nakhcheer	1	34
	Hazrat-e-Sultan	1	31
	Total	9	303

Activity 2: Kabul International Ag-Fair

RADP-N sponsored 13 agribusinesses from Baghlan, Balkh, Jawzjan, and Samangan provinces to participate in the 19th Kabul Ag-Fair, October 18 to 20 at Badam Bagh. The RADP-N technical team also staffed one project informational booth. Each of the companies displayed their products in their own booth. Most of the companies had direct sales during the three-day event, and some negotiated contracts with new customers. The participating businesses were also introduced to new technologies such as processing machines, seed varieties, animal feed, and inputs like sprayers with the twin nozzles.

The table below lists the participating agribusinesses and their sales:



RADP-N's technical staff is introducing exhibition goals to visitors at Kabul International Ag-Fair, October 18, 2017.

Kabul Ag-Fair October 2017

#	Agribusiness	Product	Quantity	Unit Price (USD)	Total Sales (USD)	Potential Deal (USD)	Actual Deal (USD)	Date Deal Cleared	Destination	Quantity and Type of Product
1	Baghlan Markazi Livestock and Dairy Cooperative	Feed block	1015 blocks(1.5 Kg)	0.873	885.82	407.128	116.37	19 and 20 Nov 2017	Potential deal in Baghlan . Actual deal in Kabul	Potential deal (molasses, concentrate, feed block, molasses block and mineral block).

								Actual deal (silage, feed block, molasses block)
	Molasses block	516 blocks(2.5 Kg)	1.46	750.55				
	Mineral block	125 blocks(3.5 Kg)	2.33	290.9				
	Concent rate	5,000 Kg	0.35	1745.46				
	Molasses	2,000 Kg	0.214	472 .64				
	Silage	100 Kg	0.88	87.28				
2	Dawlatabad Markazi Livestock Cooperative	Feed block	515 blocks	1.33	681.68	659 .86	21. 82	Potential deal (feed block). Actual deal in Balkh. Actual deal in Kabul
		Concent rate	0	0	0			
		Poultry feed	0	0	0			
		Fish feed	0	0	0			
3	Delaram Cookies Company	Cookies and cake	270 kg	1.46	392.73	0	0	0
4	Ruslan Barez Biscuit	Biscuits and Cake	503 kg	1.18	586.19	0	0	0
5	Aryana Rahman Habib	Flour	500 kg	0.352	176	0	0	0
6	Sultan Dawood Seed Company	Improved Seed	170 kg	0.29	49.46	0	0	0

7	Nasir Azizi Agriculture Services Company	Agriculture inputs as 1 backpack sprayer, 2 bottles of 2, 4D herbicide	2 different items	43.64 for backpack sprayer and 14.55 for 2 bottles of herbicides	58.19	0	0	0	0
Total				8951.50					

Activity 3: Improve Capacity of Local Organizations

RADP-N signed a sub-contract with Kanava International to develop the capacity of eight local organizations, preparing them to pass a USAID pre-award assessment necessary to qualify for a grant directly from USAID or another donor. The resulting capacity-building program will align closely with the Non-US Pre-Award Survey (NUPAS) assessment criteria at the end of the RADP-N contract.

Following training conducted by Kanava on procurement, accounting, and internal controls to representatives from the eight organizations in September 2017, Kanava submitted their activity report and prepared for the next round of training on human resources management and project performance management. RADP-N staff followed up with the eight organizations to develop or update their procurement and financial management policies that were submitted to Kanava for review. The technical team mentored the eight organizations and provided comments on their procurement, travel, and HR policies for review by Kanava consultant Zachary Hubbell. Below are list of the organizations mentored in the quarter:

Local Organizations Mentored in First Quarter		
#	Organization	Province
1	Afghanistan Development and Welfare Service Organization (ADWSO)	Balkh
2	Karwan Sabz Agricultural Company (KSAC)	
3	Social Development and Better Future for Afghanistan Organization (SDBFAO)	
4	Nasir Azizi Agriculture Services Company (NAASC)	
5	New Way Social Development Organization (NSDO)	Kunduz
6	Afghanistan Almond Industry Development Organization (AAIDO)	Kabul
7	Asia Silk Road Agriculture Services Company (ASRLC)	Balkh
8	Stanikzay Seed Multiplication, Livestock and Agricultural Services Company (SSMLASC)	

The enabling environment team coordinated with Kanava to arrange for the second training to be conducted by Zachary Hubbell in January 2018. That training will cover Human Resources Management (HRM), and Project Performance Management (PPM). Like the previous training, RADP-N distributed a questionnaire to the eight organizations to guide the focus of the training topics.

Activity 4: Changes in Local and Regional Enabling Environment

In addition to the 20 completed national constraint documents, RADP-N is responsible for reporting on ten additional regional and local value chain constraints analyses that will support the rollout of new or improved policies, regulations, and administrative procedures at the regional and local level. This process will involve interaction and activities like focus groups or semi structured interviews to better define constraints that affect local economies in the RADP-N provinces.

In mid quarter, RADP-N recruited two Afghan short-term value chain consultants to work on four of ten identified constraints: lack of extension staff in provincial and district levels, markets for agriculture and livestock products, lack of effective mechanism for using agriculture equipment, and quality control of agriculture pesticides and livestock medicines. The technical team met with Baghlan, Balkh, Jawzjan, and Samangan DAIL officials to share our prioritized constraints and requested DAIL feedback. The consultants completed their reports on the four constraints for review and further action by a short-term technical consultant.

Science, Technology, Innovation and Partnerships (STIP)

RADP-N Quarterly Report - Alcis

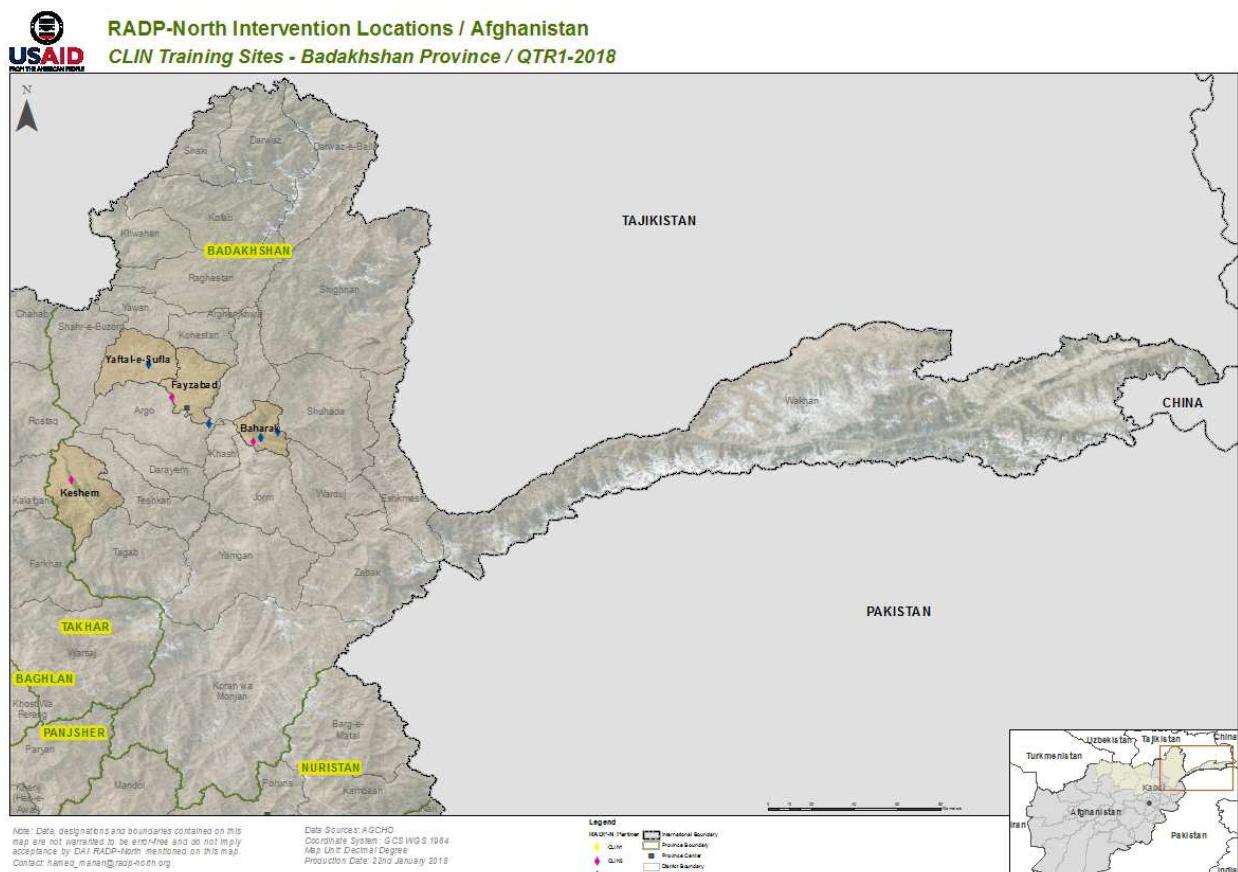
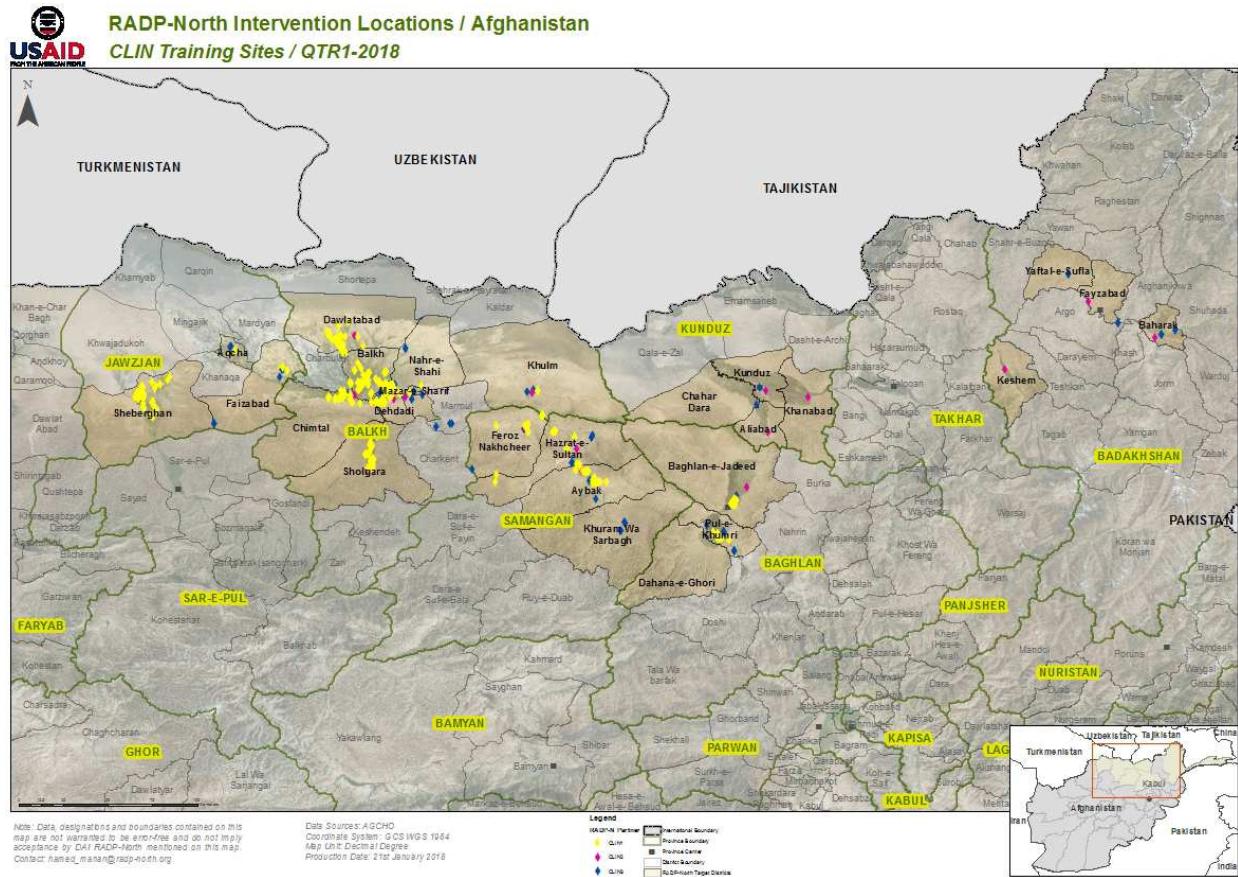
Activity Implementation

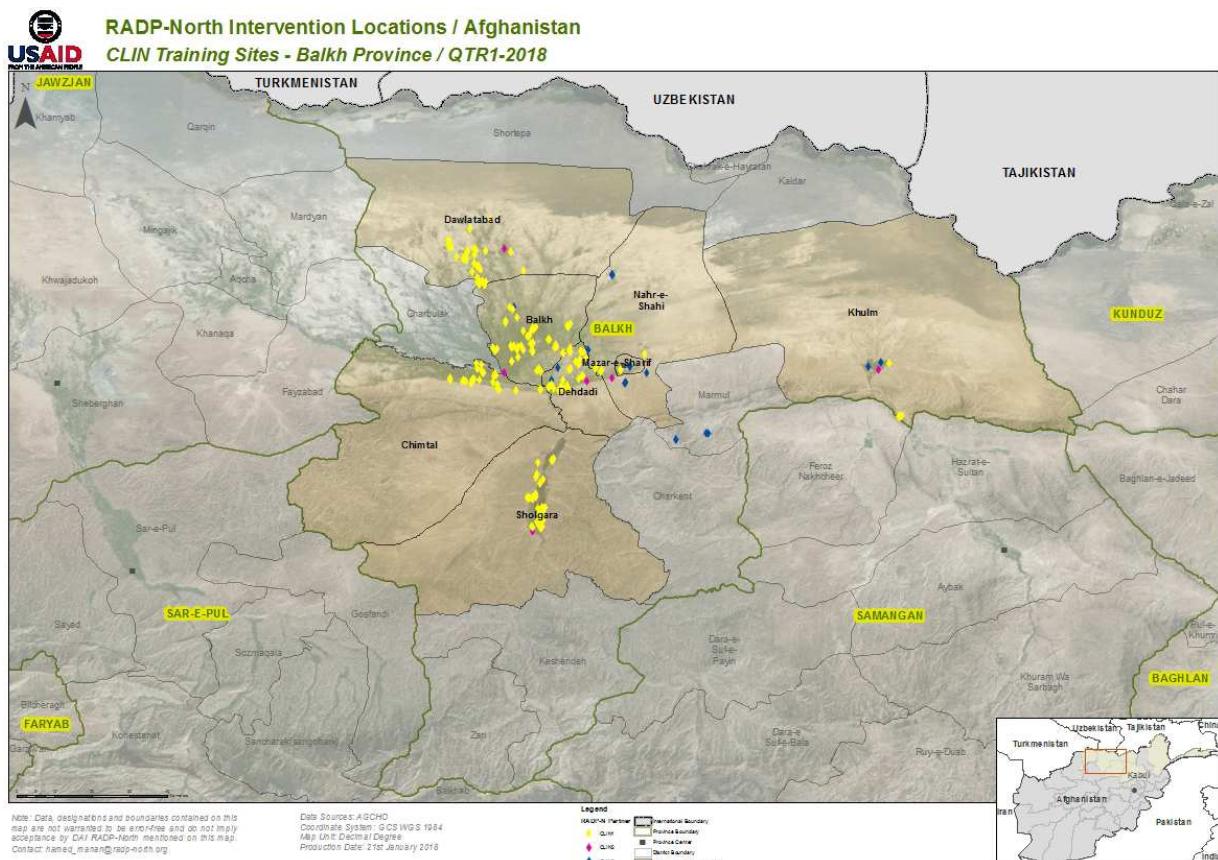
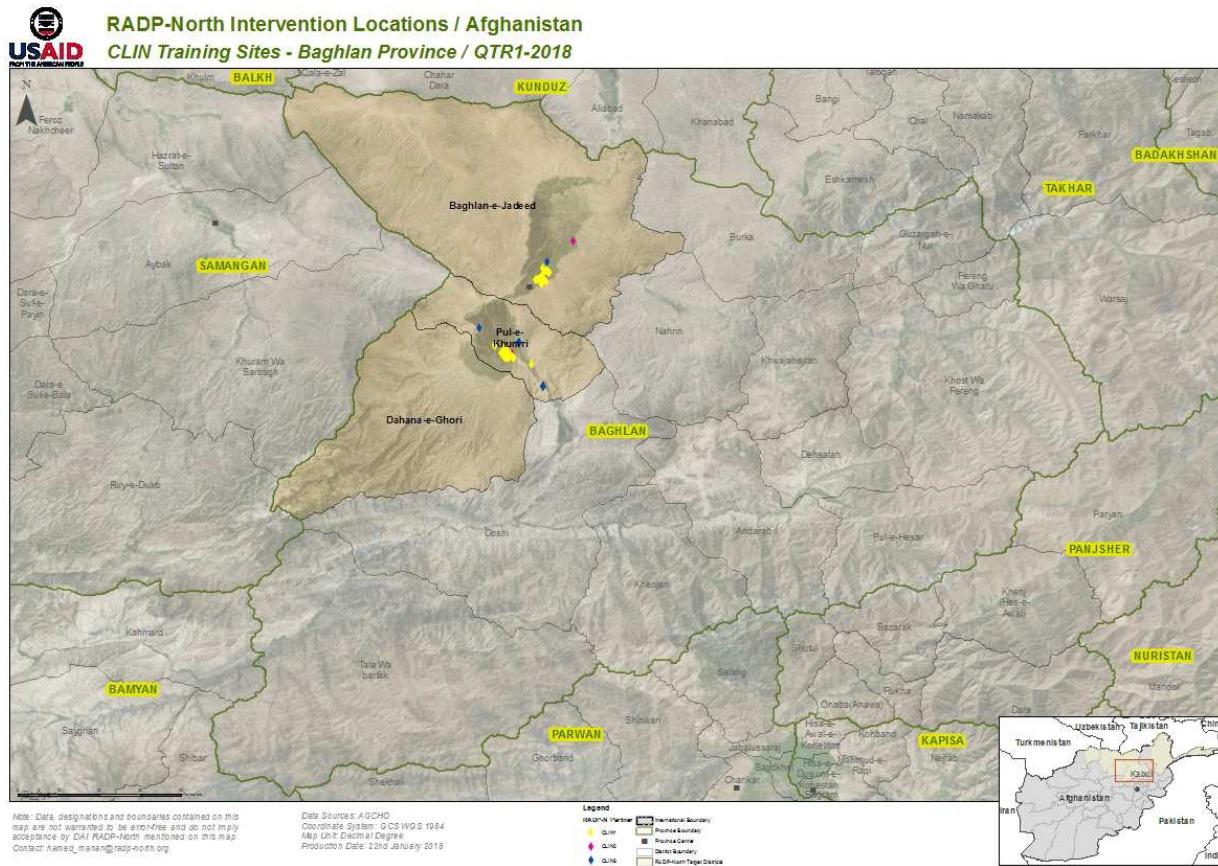
Preliminary Work to Allow Alcis to Analyze Annual Household Survey

Alcis discussed support for the annual survey and report with RADP-N Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) team. The outcome is to provide maps and infographics based on the 11 key indicators to show change between baseline survey and newly collected data from the 2017 annual survey. Alcis is waiting delivery of household data for analysis which will be available early in the next reporting period.

RADP-N Activity Map

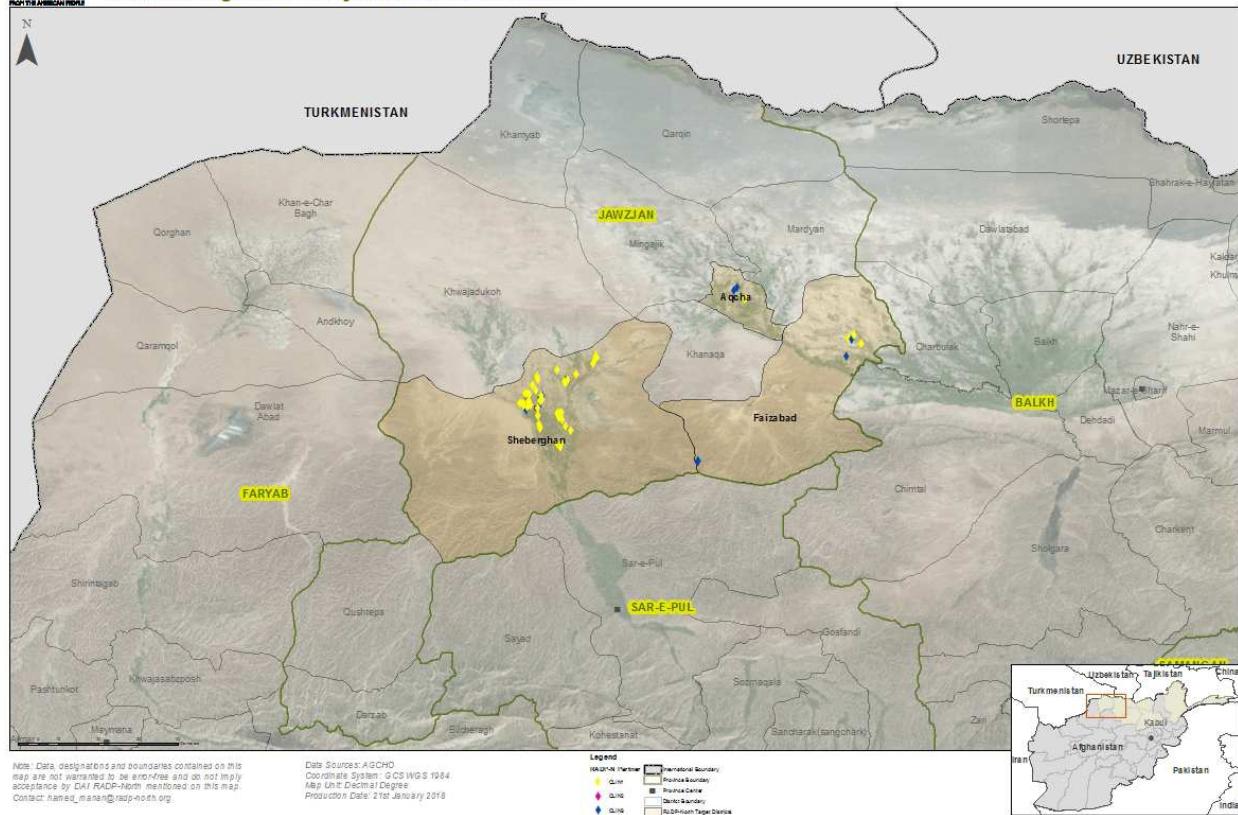
The following maps reflect RADP-N's activities by province, implemented during the first quarter of FY 2018 in RADP-N's target provinces.



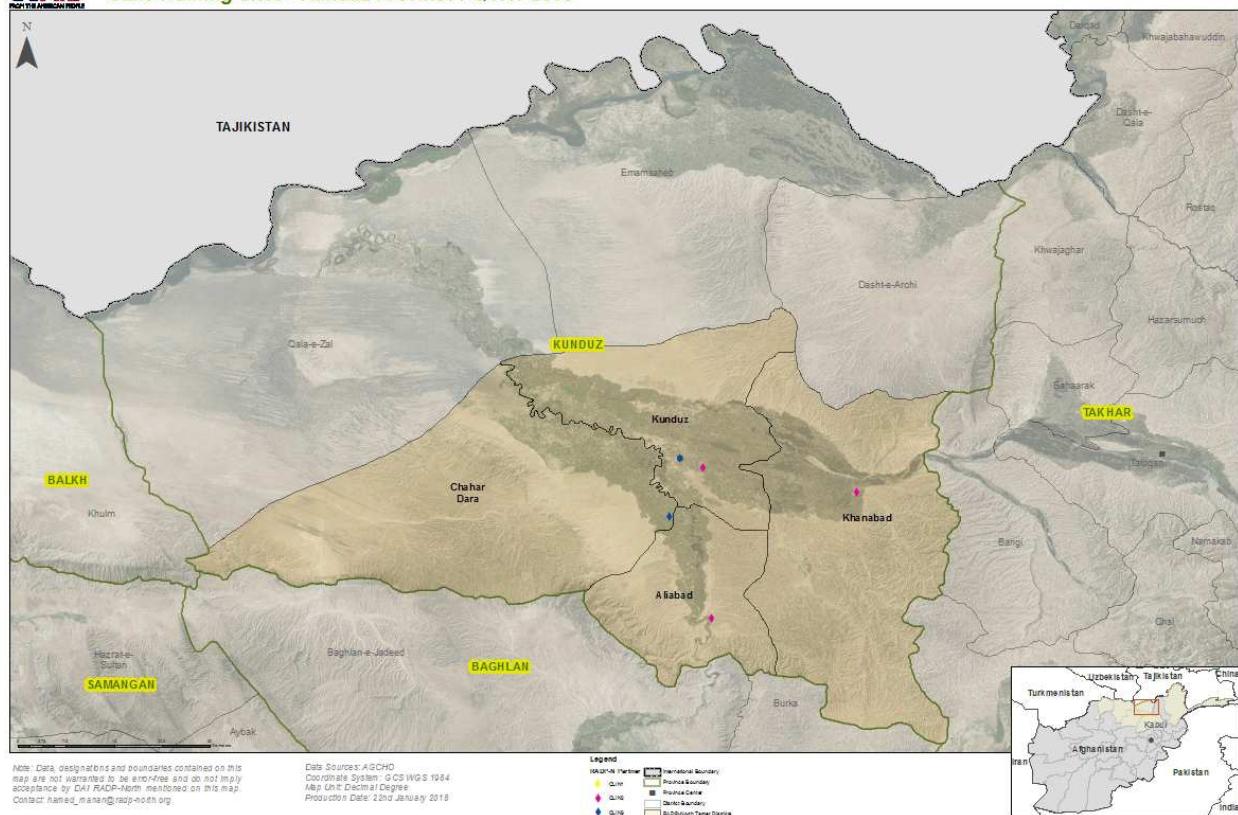




RADP-North Intervention Locations / Afghanistan CLIN Training Sites - Jawzjan Province / QTR1-2018

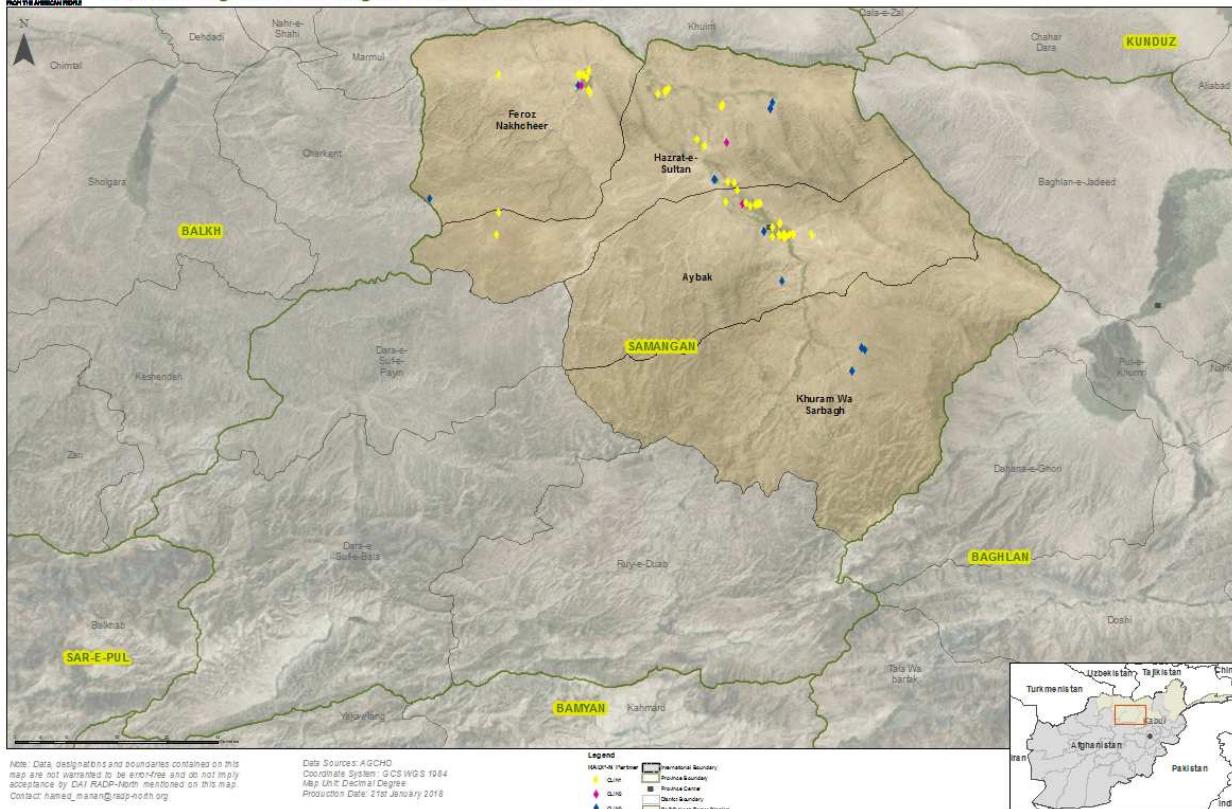


RADP-North Intervention Locations / Afghanistan CLIN Training Sites - Kunduz Province / QTR1-2018





RADP-North Intervention Locations / Afghanistan CLIN Training Sites - Samangan Province / QTR1-2018



PROGRAM APPRAISAL

Evaluations, Assessments, or Audits

During the period, RSI conducted the annual farmers' survey. RSI teams interviewed RADP-N beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries for comparisons. The annual survey was conducted in RADP-N's six provinces. RSI teams interviewed farmers in 33 districts of Jawzjan, Balkh, Samangan, Badakhshan, Kunduz, and Baghlan provinces. Farmers were randomly sampled across villages.

A data quality team of six was deployed to review the incoming data for quality assurance. Results of the survey were analysed by RSI to gauge effectiveness, outcomes, and sustainability of the RADP-N project to measure production, income, and sales increase or decrease resulting from RADP-N activities, and other information that directly informs RADP-N performance indicators. The report of the annual farmers' survey was submitted to USAID at the end of December 2017.



RSI field enumerators interview farmers in annual survey

Monitoring

RADP-N conducts routine activity monitoring, considered Tier 2 in the USAID Afghanistan monitoring structure. Monitors provide evidence-based feedback and recommendations to project management to improve activity performance. All monitoring visits include a report which is reviewed by managers of the value chain teams.

Throughout the quarter, the monitoring teams conducted 87 individual field monitoring missions, representing 12 different activity types across 21 districts of the six provinces. Of the 87 field missions, 46 were conducted for wheat team activities, 15 for HVC activities, and 26 for livestock. These were proportional to the number of activities available for monitoring in the quarter.

Monitoring Missions by Province, October-December 2017				
Province	Wheat	HVC	Livestock	Grand Total
Badakhshan		5	6	11
Baghlan	6	3	1	10
Balkh	20	2	7	29
Jawzjan	11	1	7	19
Kunduz		4		4
Samangan	9		5	14
Grand Total	46	15	26	87

Monitoring Missions by Project Type, October-December 2017	
Wheat Team	
Farmer-led CA Sowing Field Day	7
Hygiene & Nutrition Training	6
Kitchen Garden Development Training	5
Weed Control ToT	9
Laser Land Leveling Demonstration Field day	11
SBD Third Field Day (Heading Stage)	7

Training of Farmers by Master Trainer (Weed Control)	1
Sub-total	46
HVC Team	
Live Radio Show	15
Sub-total	15
Livestock Team	
Feed Block ToT	4
VFU Capacity Building & Farmer Training-Health Management	5
VFU Capacity Building & Farmer Training-Feeding (hay making in winter)	5
VFU Capacity Building and Farmer Training-Additive Feed For Livestock	7
Silage Making ToT	1
Upgrading of Straw with Urea(Urea Treatment)	4
Sub-total	26
Grand Total	87

The following tables summarize monitoring missions, major findings and actions to be taken. Each field mission also has its own report that is available for further review as requested.

ACTIVITY LOCATIONS	MAJOR FINDINGS/OBSERVATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	ACTIONS TAKEN/PLANNED TO BE TAKEN AND COMMENTS
October 2017		
Famer-led CA Sowing Field Day (4 Missions)		
Baghlan: Central Baghlan Pul-e-Khumri Jawzjan: Faizabad Balkh: Dawlatabad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Twenty farmers participated in each of the three sessions while 19 participants took part in one session as one trainee was absent. Three training sessions lasted for more than two hours, while one of the sessions lasted for one hour. All four training sessions contained on-site brief theoretical topics followed by thorough wheat sowing practical exercise. Farmers were trained on sowing wheat through modern techniques and technology. RADP-N indicator forms, attendance sheets, and financial forms were available on site in all four sessions. Each participant received AFN 200 as lunch incentive. In terms of environmental monitoring, the training was classified under moderate or unknown risk in Environmental Review Form (ERF) of the activity with specified mitigation measures. On-site, the field monitor confirmed the type of classification defined and the mitigation measures were followed in the three of the activities. However, proper safety equipment was not utilized during practical session in one of the four activities. 	Response: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is always considered and farmers will be re-briefed.

	<p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All proposed mitigation measures should be followed during the activity. 	
Kitchen Gardening Training (3 Missions)		
Balkh: Chimtal Nahr-e-Shahi Samangan: Aybak	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All three Kitchen Gardening training sessions for women were successfully conducted. • All three sessions lasted for almost two hours each. • A total of 48 women were trained in all three sessions with 16 trainees in each activity. • This session was arranged to deliver lesson six of regarding harvesting and storage of vegetables. • The trainers discussed appropriate methods of vegetable harvesting and storage. • The training venues in each location were appropriate. • The indicator data collection sheets and sign-in sheets were available at all three training sites, which were signed by all participants. • Learning posters were provided to all trainees of each training session. • Trainer and participants followed environmental mitigation measures. No adverse environmental effects were seen. <p>Recommendation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The activity was well organized and according to the concept note and plan. 	No response required
Feed Block Demonstration and Distribution (2 Missions)		
Baghlan: Pule-e-Khumri Balkh Chimtal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both training sessions were arranged by livestock team. • A total of 49 participants were trained in both sessions with 25 and 24 participants present in the two sessions. One trainee was absent in Baghlan. • Both training sessions were mainly theoretical. • The topic of sessions was benefits of feed blocks, and trainers explained feed block ingredients. • Trainers distributed learning posters to all participants in both sessions. • Sign-in sheets, indicator data collection sheets, and transportation incentives payment lists were available on site. However, in one session the M&E tools were not properly filled. • All participants were provided refreshments and 250 AFN as transportation incentives. • Each participant received feed blocks at the end of session. Each participant was supposed to receive 60kg feed blocks. The field monitor in Chimtal found that the weight of the feed blocks were less than proposed. The field monitor randomly weighed three 	<p>Response:</p> <p>The technical team and the grantee weighed the feed blocks and took an average to determine the number of feed blocks to be distributed to each beneficiary. The average feed block weight was determined to be 2.4 kg, and the feed supplier was asked to provide each beneficiary with 25 feed blocks to achieve 60 kg. The weight of 25 feed blocks placed in the</p>

	<p>feed blocks which weighed 1.99kg, 1.4kg and 1.97kg. The field monitor confirmed that each participant of the Chimtal session received an average of 45kg of feed blocks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In terms of environmental aspects, the activity was classified as under moderate or unknown risk with specified mitigation measures. On-site, the field monitors confirmed the type of classification. However, in Chimtal the trainer didn't wear gloves to follow the mitigation measures proposed for the activity. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All the mitigation measures are to be followed at the site. The feed block supplier trainer did not use gloves while making feed blocks. The livestock team should instruct the trainer on properly completing the M&E form. The livestock team should ensure that trainees receive 60 kg feed block as stated in the concept note. 	<p>bag was 55 kg. The decrease in weight was due to exposure to sun and air for several weeks so they lost water weight. The technical team and the grantee ordered the feed supplier to add feed blocks to achieve the required 60 kg. The grantee and the feed supplier were advised again to follow mitigation measures and properly fill in the M&E forms.</p>
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Live Radio Show (1 Mission)

Kunduz: Kunduz City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The live radio broadcast was successfully conducted. The topic of discussion was “Marketing of Grapes”. A Project Manager and an Agriculture Specialist from KSAC discussed the topic on the show. Host of the show reportedly shared a phone number with listeners. Six listeners called in during the show and asked questions which were all responded to in detail. The host mentioned that USAID was sponsor of the show five times. The Live Radio Show fell under categorical exclusion with no environmental impacts—the proposed classification for activity was confirmed by the Field Monitor on site. <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The activity was well organized and according to the concept note and plan. 	No response required
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Seed Business Development (SBD) Varietal Specification ToT (1 Mission)

Balkh: Balkh	<p>The SBD training session started at 9:00 am and ended at 3:30 pm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 33 people took part in the training session. Four ICAs and six DAIL extension workers from Balkh, Jawzjan, Samangan, and Baghlan provinces and 23 individuals from five seed companies participated in the activity. The main topics covered were sampler packs, mobile marketing, and participatory varietal selection. 	No response required
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The USAID logo was available on site. The RADP-N indicator sheets were available in the training venue. The M&E data collection form was properly completed and attendance sheet was utilized. The monitoring mission confirmed that all applicable mitigation measures were followed in the training. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The training was well organized and according to the Concept Note and Plan. No recommendations at this stage. 	
VFU Capacity Building and Farmer Training - Additive Feed For Livestock (7 Missions)		
<p>Balkh: Nahr-e-Shahi Dehdadi</p> <p>Jawzjan: Sheberghan (2) Aqcha</p> <p>Badakhshan: Yaftal-e-Sufla</p> <p>Samangan: Khuram Wa Sarbagh</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All seven training sessions were delivered successfully. In total, 124 participants were trained in seven different activities. However, 14 participants were reported absent with eight in Aqcha activity and six in Khuram Wa Sarbagh activity. Three trainings lasted for less than two hours while the remaining four sessions lasted for two hours or more. The main topics covered in the training included additive feed for livestock and hypocalcaemia, benefits of DCP powder for animals, and ingredients of DCP powder. The topics of each session were delivered in local languages. The trainers introduced the donor of the activity in four of the seven activities. The M&E data collection forms were properly completed in all seven sessions. However, Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates were not recorded in one activity. USAID branding was not available in one of the activities. Refreshments were provided to all participants of each activity. All participants received 5kg Di-Calcium Phosphate at the end of each activity. In environmental terms, the training was classified as under moderate or unknown risk in environmental documents of the activity with specified mitigation measures. On-site, the field monitor confirmed that classification. However, no mitigation measures were needed to be carried out since the training consisted of theoretical session only. <p>Recommendations</p>	<p>Response: The paravet conducts three training sessions for farmers each month; 20 in one group, 12 in another group and 8 in the third group. The paravet was confused and conducted training of the group of 12 instead of 20. However, the technical team confirms that all three sessions were conducted. The paravet has been advised about conducting separate training sessions for the remaining six participants in presence of the livestock technical team. The GPS issue has been corrected by the technical team.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed number of participants should take part in the training session. GPS coordinates need to be recorded in each activity in the M&E documents. 	
Silage Making Training Demonstration for Ordinary Farmers (1 Mission)		
Balkh: Balkh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The silage making farmer training session was conducted by livestock team. The training lasted for more than two hours. A total of 25 local herders participated. Purpose of the training was to guide participants on silage making. The training had theoretical and practical components, as participants were guided by the trainer on how to make silage. Overall, the training was organized and managed well. The participants took active part in the session, asked questions which were all responded professionally by the trainer. The training venue was appropriate. M&E data collection forms were properly completed on site. In terms of environmental monitoring, all applicable mitigation measures were followed during the activity. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If budget permits, the implementing partner should extend the duration of such trainings in future 	No response required
Laser Land Leveling Demonstration Field day (3 Missions)		
Balkh: Balkh Chimtal Jawzjan: Sheberghan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All three activities were successfully conducted in the four locations. The three activities lasted for two hours. Eighty-eight participants were trained in all three activities. However, two participants were reported absent in Sheberghan. Purpose of the three field day sessions was to guide farmers on performing laser land leveling and its benefits and introduction of modern technologies by leveling land. The theoretical session covered contents related to LLL. The practical session started right after the theoretical session. An plot of 4,000 m² land was selected for the practical session. The trainer showed farmers how to perform land leveling with a laser on the tractor and another laser installed on the land. In all three sessions, trainees received AFN 300 each as transportation incentives. The M&E data collection forms and sign-in sheets 	

	<p>were properly filled.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The field day sessions were classified under moderate or unknown risk in ERF with specified mitigation measures. On-site, the field teams confirmed the type of classifications, which were mostly followed as well. However, the field team found that the person responsible for operating the tractor did not wear safety clothing. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Environmental mitigation plan should be followed properly. 	<p>Response: The LLL operator was instructed to wear his PPE.</p>
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Hygiene & Nutrition Training (1 Mission)

Balkh: Khulm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The H&N training was successfully conducted in Sayad village of Khulm district of Balkh province. Twenty-one local females attended the training session. The session covered lesson six, food groups. Purpose of the training was to guide local women to adopt best hygiene practices for daily food use. The training consisted of both theoretical and practical sessions. The training was delivered in local language for better understanding of participants. The field team confirmed that USAID approved training materials were used in the training. According to the ERF, this session fell under categorical exclusion, therefore did not need any environmental monitoring and the field monitor confirmed the type of classification. 	No response required
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November 2017

Farmer-led CA Sowing Field Day (3 Missions)

Baghlan: Pul-e-Khumri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The farmer-led CA sowing field day activities were completed across targeted locations. In total, 20 farmers participated in each of the three sessions. The three training sessions lasted for almost two hours. All three sessions contained brief theoretical sessions followed by extensive practical sessions. The trainer in theoretical session explained benefits of seeder and 2WT and benefit of sowing with 2WT. Farmers were trained on sowing wheat through modern techniques. RADP-N indicator forms, attendance sheets, and financial forms were available on site in all sessions. Each participant received AFN 200 as lunch incentive. The field day sessions were classified under moderate or unknown risk in ERF with specified mitigation measures. In Pul-e-Khumri session, the person responsible for operating tractor did not wear proper 	<p>Response: Due to high security risks, the team cancelled several sowing field days in the mentioned areas. Therefore, the seeder operator was excused for not wearing the PPE to avoid being more visible.</p>
Jawzjan: Sheberghan		
Samangan: Aybak		

	<p>safety equipment.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All proposed mitigation measures should be followed during the activity. 	
Kitchen Gardening Training (2 Missions)		
Balkh: Dehdadi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both kitchen gardening training sessions for women were successfully conducted. • Both sessions lasted for two hours. • Thirty women were trained, 16 and 14 trainees in the two sessions. • The practical portion covered methods of making plastic tunnels during cold weather. • The training venues in each location were appropriate. • USAID approved training materials were used in this training. • M&E data collection forms were properly completed and attendance sheets were used. 	No response required
Samangan: Aybak	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning posters were provided to all the trainees of each training session. • Trainer and participants followed environmental mitigation measures. No adverse environmental effects were seen. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The activity was well organized and according to the concept note and plan. 	
Feed Block Demonstration and Distribution (2 Missions)		
Badakhshan: Faizabad Baharak	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both training sessions were arranged by NSDO, a livestock grantee. • Sixty-seven participants were trained, 35 and 32 participants, in the two sessions. • The training material in both sessions was mainly theoretical. • The topics of sessions were benefits in usage of feed blocks. • The trainer distributed learning posters among all participants in both sessions. • Sign-in sheets, indicator data collection sheets, and transportation incentives payment lists were available on site. • All the participants were provided with AFN 300 as transportation and refreshment incentives. • Each farmer received 60 kg of feed blocks. • In terms of environmental aspect of training, the activity was classified as under moderate or unknown risk with specified mitigation measures. On-site, the field monitors confirmed type of classification and found that 	No response required

	<p>all proposed mitigation measures were followed.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None. 	
Live Radio Show (5 Missions)		
Baghlan: Pul-e-Khumri Badakhshan: Faizabad Balkh: Balkh Kunduz: Kunduz city	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All the five live radio broadcasts were successfully conducted by HVC team. Topics of discussion were introduction of orchard irrigation in different methods including surface irrigation, deep irrigation, drip irrigation, sprinkler irrigation, and establishment of orchards. The live broadcasts lasted between 54 and 60 minutes. A Project Manager and an Agriculture Specialist were invited to each of the five shows to discuss the topics. In each of the five shows, the host shared contact number to the audiences for call-in questions. Five, eight, and seven listeners called in on three of the shows and asked questions which were responded to in detail. The host multiple times announced USAID as sponsor in each show. Although most of the live shows were aired with quality, while Badakhshan based live show was not rated as satisfactory since neither the host nor agricultural specialist were properly prepared. Project Manager and Agricultural Specialist reportedly received AFN 38,000 and AFN 25,000, respectively as monthly salaries from the grantees for each live radio show. The live radio shows fell under categorical exclusion with no environmental impacts—the proposed classification for activity was confirmed by the Field Monitor on site. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The activities were well organized and according to the concept note and plan. 	<p>Response: HVC team met with the Grantee, KSAC to discuss this issue it was agreed that the Host and Agricultural Specialist be replaced. This was done and the show was re-aired. </p>
Upgrading of Straw with Urea (Urea Treatment) (4 Missions)		
Balkh: Dehdadi Jawzjan: Aqcha Samangan: Hazrat-e-Sultan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All four sessions were completed successfully. Overall, 91 trainees were trained in all four activities. Twenty-five participants were trained in each of the three activities while 16 trainees were found present in one of the activity where nine others were reported absent. The training sessions were delivered by qualified trainers. Three sessions lasted for more than 2 hours while one session lasted 1 hour and 30 minutes. In each of the four sessions, the trainer discussed side 	<p>Response: An unexpected social conflict happened in the village which caused some villagers including the trainees to visit the district governor's office on the same day. Therefore, they </p>

	<p>effects of feeding low quality straw to livestock.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> During practical sessions, the trainer showed participants the procedure of upgrading straw with urea treatment. Sign-in sheets, Indicator data collection sheets and transportation incentives payment lists were available on site in each session. Each participant received four kg urea, a pair of gloves, a pair of boots, and five meters of plastic to perform straw upgrading for their livestock at the end of each activity. In terms of environmental section, the training was classified under moderate or unknown risk in ERF with specified mitigation measures. On site, the field monitor confirmed type of classification and approved that the mitigation measures were followed by trainers and participants. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All proposed number of participants should take part in the activity. 	<p>could not attend the training. However, the paravet conducted a separate training session for the nine absent trainees on Sunday, November 19. The technical team confirmed this with both the trainer and the trainees.</p>
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VFU Capacity Building and Farmer Training - Health Management (5 Missions)		
<p>Badakhshan: Yaftal-e-Sufla (2)</p> <p>Jawzjan: Sheberghan (2)</p> <p>Samangan: Khuram Wa Sarbagh</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All five missions were implemented without any noteworthy deviations. One trainee was reported absent in one activity while ten trainees were reported absent in another. Eighty-nine participants were trained in all five activities. Three trainings lasted for two hours while one of the remaining two sessions lasted for less than two hours. The main topics covered in these sessions included, “Health management of livestock and how to look after the baby lamb”. The training sessions proved helpful in providing knowledge to the participants to keep their livestock from being vulnerable to different viral diseases. The topics of each session were delivered in local languages. The trainers introduced the donor of the activity in four of the five activities. The M&E data collection forms were properly completed in all five sessions. USAID branding was not available in three sessions. Refreshments were provided to all participants of each activity. In environmental terms, the training was classified as under moderate or unknown risk in environmental documents of the activity with specified mitigation measures. On-site, the field monitor confirmed that classification. However, no mitigation measures were needed to be carried out since the training consisted of 	<p>Response: There was a wedding ceremony in the village, which was supposed to take place in the same room where the farmers were to be trained. At the request of villagers, the trainer started the training earlier and ended at 10:00. Every one confirmed that a one and half-hour training was conducted for 20 target farmers.</p>

	<p>theoretical session only.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed number of participants should take part in the training session. If security permits, the USAID branding should be placed on site. 	
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SBD First Field Day (Varietal Specification) (6 Missions)

<p>Balkh: Balkh Dawlatabad</p> <p>Samangan: Aybak Feroz Nakhcheer</p> <p>Baghlan: Pul-e-Khumri</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SBD training sessions were successfully completed in each of the targeted locations. All the six SBD activities lasted for two hours. In total, 16 farmers participated in five activities. However, in one session, 15 farmers participated. All six activities consisted of both theoretical and practical sessions. Although the theoretical sessions were brief while in practical session in each activity, the trainer showed participants the cultivation of all 20 varieties of seeds with appropriate pesticides for each variety. The trainer explained cultivation of all 20 varieties with specifications of each type of wheat variety in each of the six activities. The USAID logo was not available in four sites, however, in two the USAID brochures were distributed among participants. In Balkh, the donor was not properly introduced to participants. RADP-N data collection sheets were available in the training venue, which were all signed by each participant. In terms of environmental monitoring, the training was classified as moderate or unknown risk with specific mitigation measures. On site, the Field Monitor confirmed the classification and no adverse environmental effects were observed on site. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is recommended to introduce the donor of the activity to the participants. 	<p>Response: In some villages, due to high security risks, trainers avoid saying the name of the donor.</p>
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Laser Land Leveling Demonstration Field day (1 Mission)

<p>Balkh: Dawlatabad</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LLL field day was successfully completed. The field day lasted for two hours. Twenty-nine farmers were trained in the session. The purpose of the field day session was to guide farmers regarding LLL and its benefits and introduce technology of leveling land through laser. The theoretical session covered explaining the contents related to LLL. The practical session started right after the theoretical session. A plot of 4,000 m² land was selected for 	No response required
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	<p>practical session. The trainer showed farmers how to perform land leveling via tractor which had laser installed, while another laser was installed nearby on the ground.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The trainees received AFN 300 each as transportation incentives. • The M&E data collection forms and sign-in sheets were properly filled. • No USAID branding was available at the site. However, the donor of the activity was introduced to the participants. • All applicable mitigation measures were followed by both trainer and trainees. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. 	
Hygiene & Nutrition Training (2 Missions)		
Jawzjan: Sheberghan Samangan: Aybak	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The H&N training sessions were successfully conducted. • Twenty women were trained in each of the two activities. • The purpose of the training was to guide local women to adopt best hygiene practices for food used in daily routine. • The training consisted of both theoretical and practical sessions. • In the practical part, the trainer instructed the trainees on how to prepare healthy food. • The interviewed trainees in both the sessions mentioned that since they have attended this course, they have witnessed positive changes in their daily life. • Both the training sessions were delivered in local language for better understanding of participants. • The field team confirmed that USAID approved training materials were used in the training. • According to the ERF, this session fell under categorical exclusion, therefore did not need any environmental monitoring and the field monitor confirmed the type of classification. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	No response required
Weed Control ToT (1 Mission)		
Baghlan: Pul-e-Khumri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The weed control ToT was successfully implemented by RADP-N wheat team. • The activity was completed in three days where each day a separate session was conducted. • The monitoring teams visited the activity on second and third day of the activity. 	No response required

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Twenty-five participants were trained in the ToT, among them 22 participants were trainers, one government employee (DAIL Extension Worker) and two others were wheat team field staff. The training was well organized, while the training was mostly discussion based. The ToT consisted of both theoretical and practical sessions. During the theoretical session, the trainer discussed weed control in detail. During practical session, the trainer showed adjusting of backpack sprayer, usage of backpack sprayer for weed control, and using PPE. Projector, white board, and flip charts were used during training. USAID branding was available on site. Refreshments were provided to all participants. The available documents on site were RADP-N indicator forms, attendance sheets and transportation payment forms signed by all the participants. In terms of environmental monitoring, the field mission found that the activity in the ERF provided by what team was placed in “very low risk” and moderate or unknown risk category, as significant adverse impacts are very unlikely with specified mitigation, significant adverse impacts are very unlikely. However, the field monitor reported that during practical session, PPE such as face mask, gloves, rubber boots, safety suit, eye glasses and backpack sprayer were used on site which were actually needed. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proper environmental assessment needs to be performed in planning phase of the activity and documentation needs to be done accordingly. 	
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December 2017

Weed Control ToT (Missions)

Jawzjan: Faizabad (3) Sheberghan (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In all 114 farmers participated in all eight sessions as each activity was attended by 12 to 20 farmers. Three training sessions were arranged by ZAO and the other five were delivered by JDA. The participants were all from the local communities in each of the eight activities. Each of the eight activities lasted for more than 2 hours. Apart from one session, the rest contained theoretical sessions only, while one contained both theoretical and practical sessions. During the sessions, topics related to weed control were explained in detail such as mechanical weed control, 	No response required
Baghlan: Pul-e-Khumri		
Samangan: Aybak		

	<p>factors of transferring weed seeds, and appropriate time of weed control.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The trainers in each of the eight activities were experienced and knowledgeable related to the topic. • RADP-N indicator forms, participant's attendance sheets and financial forms were available on site in all four sessions. • Each participant of the training sessions received refreshments and lunch. • In one of the Sheberghan based activity, the venue was not big enough to accommodate all the trainees. • In one of the missions, environmental monitoring, the field mission observed that the activities in the ERF provided by wheat team the screening result were "very low risk" and moderate or unknown risk category, as significant adverse impacts are very unlikely with specified mitigation, significant adverse impacts are very unlikely. However, the field monitor reported that during practical session, PPE such as face mask, gloves, rubber boots, safety suit, eye glasses and backpack sprayers used on site. Although, the rest seven mission were appropriate. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	
Training of Farmers by Master Trainer (Weed Control) (1 Mission)		
Jawzjan: Faizabad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Training on Weed Control (Lesson 1) was successfully conducted by ZOA the grantee. • The RSI Field Monitor visited the event and confirmed activity was successfully conducted. • A total of 12 farmers and five trainers from ZOA participated in the ToF. • The training started by 08:45 am and ended by 12:30 pm. • The training consisted of theoretical session only. • During the session, the trainer discussed on how to control weeds and best time to apply weed control. The trainer explained various techniques of mechanical weed control and factors of transferring weeds seeds. • The teaching materials were highly pertinent to the topics of discussion. • The USAID logo was visible on all flip charts. • The training venue was appropriate with proper facilities. • Participants were very active during the discussion and continued with asking questions relevant to discussions which were all responded by trainer. • The RADP-N indicator data collection sheets were 	No response required

	<p>available in the training venue and were signed by all participants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The participants did not receive any incentives except refreshments and lunch. The trainer was reportedly a full time employee of JDA. In terms of environmental section, the training was classified as under moderate or unknown risk in environmental documents of the activity with specified mitigation measures. On-site, the field monitor confirmed type of classification; however, no mitigation measures were supposed to be carried out, as training contained only theoretical session. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	
Live Radio Show (9 Missions)		
Kunduz: Kunduz city	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The live radio broadcasts were successfully conducted. The live broadcasts in all nine activities lasted between 57 and 60 minutes. The topics of discussion were introduction of how to use agricultural machinery, introduction of urea spray with 5% concentration, role of honey bees in pollination, effect of cold on fruit trees, importance of cold storage, and trellising system for vineyards (Traditional, I and T System). A Project Manager and an Agriculture Specialist from KSAC were invited to each show to discuss the topics. Host in each of the show reportedly shared a phone number with listeners in order to record their questions. Overall, 39 listeners called in during the nine shows to ask relevant questions which were all responded in detail. 	
Badakhshan: Faizabad		
Baghlan: Pul-e-Khumri		
Balkh: Mazar-e-Sharif		
Jawzjan: Sheberghan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The host several times announced that USAID is sponsor of the show in each broadcast. Project Manager and Agricultural Specialist reportedly received 38,000 AFN and 25,000 respectively as monthly salaries from the respective Grantees in each show. The live radio show fell under categorical exclusion with no environmental impacts—the proposed classification for activity was confirmed by the Field Monitor on site. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All the activities were well organized and according to the Concept Note and Plan. 	No response required
VFU Capacity Building and Farmer Training - Feeding (Hay Making in Winter) (5 Missions)		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All five training sessions were delivered successfully. 	Response:

<p>Balkh: Nahr-e-Shahi</p> <p>Jawzjan: Aqcha</p> <p>Badakhshan: Yaftal-e-Sufla</p> <p>Samangan: Khuram Wa Sarbagh</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In combination, 87 participants were trained in five different activities. However, five participants were reported absent in one event with eight in Nahr-e-Shahi based activity. Four trainings lasted for more than two hours while the remaining one session lasted for less than two hours. The main topics covered in these training included hay making for winter season. The topics of each session were delivered in local languages. The trainers introduced the donor of the activity in four among the five activities. The M&E data collection forms were properly completed in all five sessions. All participants were satisfied with training quality. However, in Aqcha based activity participants complained that in last training they were promised by the organizers to provide DCP powder about two months ago although participants didn't receive it. In Khuram Sarbagh based activity, the participants were promised to be provided with five feed blocks which were not currently available. In Yaftal-e-Sufla based activity, due to lack of necessary training materials related to topic, the trainer was not well-prepared, so Dr. Ainuddin (Livestock Extension Officer in Badakhshan) also added his complementary points relevant to the topics of discussion. Refreshments were provided to all participants of each activity. In terms of environmental section, the training was classified as under moderate or unknown risk in environmental documents of the activity with specified mitigation measures. On-site, the field monitor confirmed type of classification. However, no mitigation measures were needed to be carried out as training contained theoretical session only. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Implementing Partner (IP) should ensure provision of all proposed materials to participants. Any incentives/materials that are supposed to be provided to participants for their participation in the training must be prepared and made available before the start of training. To make the trainings effective in the future, it is recommended that the trainer to be provided with enough training materials on the topics. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The paravet made a mistake by promising DCP powder. We did not offer inputs for December training of farmers. The feed blocks will be distributed to farmers in January. Since these paravets are newly trained, the livestock team asked provincial extension officers to support the paravets in their farmers training. This is why we send at least one technical staff member to help the paravets with the training of farmers. The training materials are provided to the paravets during the six months intensive course.
Laser Land Leveling Demonstration Field day (7 Missions)		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All seven activities were successfully conducted in all 	Response:

Balkh: Sholgara Chimtal Dehdadi	<p>four locations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apart from one activity, the rest six were lasted for more than two hours. In all, 189 people were trained in all seven activities. However, 22 trainees were reported absent among five of the seven activities. Purpose of all seven field day sessions was to guide farmers regarding performing laser land leveling and its benefits. In addition, introduction of technology to level land through laser. The theoretical session covered all contents related to laser land leveling. The practical session started right after the theoretical session. A plot of 4,000 m² land was selected for practical session. The trainer showed farmers on how to perform land leveling via tractor which had laser installed on it. Another laser was installed on the nearby ground. In all seven sessions, trainees received AFN 300 each as transportation incentives. The M&E data collection forms and sign-in sheets were mostly properly filled. However, in Sholgara based activity, the GPS coordinates of the location were not recorded. The field day was classified under moderate or unknown risk in ERF with specified mitigation measures. On site, the field monitor confirmed type of classification, and approved that all the proposed mitigation measures were followed. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is recommended that the GPS coordinates of the training location to be recorded in the M&E form at the site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed number of participants are mostly taking part in the LLL field days, except when they have personal problems. We cannot force the farmers to be present. The GPS coordinate in some of the LLL field days are recorded at the end of the training. Because of security issues our team avoids recording GPS in front of farmers.
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Hygiene & Nutrition Training of Women (3 field mission)

Balkh: Dehdadi Balkh Samangan Aybak	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Hygiene and Nutrition training were successfully conducted. 75 local females attended the training sessions with 25 in each activity. The session covered lesson six on food groups. Purpose of the training was to guide local women to adopt best hygiene practices for food used in daily routine, and wheat seed selection. Each training session lasted for more than two hours. Each training session was delivered in local language for better understanding of participants. The field team confirmed that USAID approved training materials were used in each of the three sessions. According to the ERF, this session fell under 	No response required
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	categorical exclusion, therefore did not need any environmental monitoring and the field monitor confirmed the type of classification.	
	Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	

Lessons Learned

N/A for this period.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

Personnel

The following table lists the permanent personnel changes that occurred between October 1 and December 31, 2017.

NAME	IP	STTA/ LTTA	POSITION	ARRIVAL DATE	DEPARTUR E DATE
Expatriate Staff					
Andrew Philip	ACDI/VOCA	STTA	International Market Development Specialist	08/21/2017	10/18/2017
National Staff					
Rahmatullah Mohammad Zahir Khan	DAI	LTTA	Finance Assistant Administrative	10/02/2017	
Hasibullah Abid	ACDI/VOCA	LTTA	Provincial Coordinator	10/2/2017	
Sayed Samim Hashimi	ACDI/VOCA	LTTA	Business Development Specialist	10/2/2017	
Zubair Ahmad Samiz	ACDI/VOCA	LTTA	Business Development Specialist	10/5/2017	
Abdul Ahmad	DAI/JDA	STTA	Field Trainer of 2WT Seeder Operator	10/22/2017	
Ahmad Jawid	DAI/JDA	STTA	Field Trainer of 2WT Seeder Operator	10/22/2017	
Hameedullah Abdul Rahim	DAI	STTA	Gender Outreach Intern	06/18/2017	10/17/2017
Safiya Sultan Hussain	DAI	STTA	Gender Outreach Intern	06/18/2017	10/17/2017
Sayed Abbas	DAI	LTTA	Grants Administration Assistant	11/19/2017	
Mohammad Kabir	DAI	LTTA	Value Chain Specialist	03/07/2017	10/22/2017
Abdul Salam	DAI	LTTA	Finance Clerk	10/23/2017	
Gulalay Mohammad Zahir	DAI	STTA	Cleaner	11/01/2017	
Mohammad Asghar	DAI	STTA	Trainer	11/01/2017	
Mohammad Zaker	DAI	STTA	Trainer	11/01/2017	
Sayed Rahmatullah	DAI	STTA	Trainer	11/01/2017	
Fayaz Bazwan	DAI	STTA	Field Coordinator	06/08/2017	11/05/2017
Bilal Mohammad Yaseen	DAI	STTA	Field Coordinator	06/08/2017	11/05/2017
Habib Rahman	DAI	STTA	Field Coordinator	06/08/2017	11/05/2017
Abdul Khair	DAI	STTA	Field Coordinator	06/08/2017	11/05/2017
Amanullah Aziz Khan	DAI	STTA	Field Coordinator	06/18/2017	11/05/2017

NAME	IP	STTA/ LTTA	POSITION	ARRIVAL DATE	DEPARTUR E DATE
Mohammad Atif	DAI	STTA	Field Coordinator	08/06/2017	11/05/2017
Abdul Matin	DAI	STTA	Finance Clerk	08/06/2017	11/05/2017
Shamsuddin Nooruddin	DAI	STTA	Finance Clerk	08/06/2017	11/05/2017
Sayed Mohammad	DAI	LTTA	B6 Driver	04/03/2017	11/13/2017
Masoom Mohammad Nasir	DAI	STTA	Inventory Intern	07/16/2017	11/15/2017
Tawfiqullah Abdul Mohammad	DAI/JDA	STTA	Extension Field Worker	04/06/2017	11/20/2017
Noorullah Amir Jan	DAI/JDA	STTA	Extension Field Worker	05/21/2017	11/20/2017
Zabihullah Faiz Mohammad	DAI/JDA	STTA	Extension Field Worker	05/21/2017	11/20/2017
Navidullah Payenda Mohammad	DAI	LTTA	Operations Director	07/14/2014	11/21/2017
Ahmad Ali	DAI	LTTA	Grants Technical Manager	11/18/2015	11/21/2017
Abdul Karim	DAI	LTTA	Operations Director	11/22/2017	
Ahmaduddin Gheyasuddin	DAI	STTA	Value Chain Constraints Analysis Specialist	11/22/2017	
Mujeeburrahman Habiburrahman	DAI	LTTA	Value Chain Specialist	11/26/2017	
Maiwand Abdul Hakim	DAI	LTTA	Senior Grants Assistant	12/05/2017	
Mohammad Ibrahim	DAI	STTA	Bakery Master Trainer	12/05/2017	
Matiullah Haji Abdul Khaliq	DAI	STTA	Value Chain Constraints Analysis Specialist	11/22/2017	12/07/2017
Hazrat Mohammad	DAI	LTTA	Senior Inventory Administration Officer	12/10/2017	
Abdul Bari Arab	ACDI/VOCA	LTTA	Provincial Coordinator	09/17/2017	12/17/2017
Ahmad Jamshid	DAI	LTTA	Senior Communications Officer	12/17/2017	
Mina Khodabakhsh	DAI	STTA	Noodle Master Trainer	12/26/2017	

Adaption of the Activity

Not applicable for this reporting period

Modifications and Amendments

Not applicable for this reporting period

ANNEX I: PERFORMANCE INDICATOR TABLE

Please see the attached Excel document to view RADP-N's actual achievements versus targets for its performance indicators.

ANNEX II: ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION AND MONITORING REPORT

Please see the attached Excel document.

ANNEX III: GRANTS REPORT

Please see the attached Excel document.

ANNEX IV: COLLABORATION MEETINGS WITH GIROA...

Please see the attached Word document.