

ANNEX E: QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT



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QUARTERLY REPORT

**Regional Agricultural Development Program (RADP) –
West**

Agreement No. 306-C-14-00007

FY2015 Quarter 4, July – September 2015

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Quarterly Progress Report serves to meet the reporting requirement for the Annual Report under the Contract (Section F.5 Reports and Deliverables) for a “discrete component that is clearly marked and distinguishable as the Quarterly Progress Report.”¹⁴ As the collated information for the entirety of Year One (inclusive of Quarter Four) is included above, this update provides a brief synopsis of major activities and achievements from July 1 – September 30, 2015.

I.1 Summary of Results for the Reporting Period and Key Achievements

Implementation of activities continued throughout the fourth quarter. Technical teams designed and implemented trainings, distributed demonstration seeds and toolkits, and assisted farmer groups, impacting hundreds of lives and staging interventions that will provide farmers with means for increased household incomes. In addition to programmatic activities, RADP-West commenced preparation of the Year Two Work Plan, in consultation with its KIPs, USAID, and MAIL/DAIL.

CLIN 1: Wheat Value Chain Activities

- RADP-West trained 269 farmers from ten villages in Karukh, Koshk, and Guzara districts in Herat province in post-harvest handling techniques.
- RADP-West also distributed mung bean, white bean, and clover seeds for demonstration purposes to 150 lead farmers in Injil and Guzara districts, performing inspections and providing advice to farmers over the course of the quarter.

CLIN 2: High Value Crops (HVC) Value Chain Activities

- RADP-West selected 100 farmers from Herat and provided on-farm training and demonstrations of proper post-harvest handling techniques.
- Distributed agriculture toolkits for 63 vegetable growers in Injil, Guzara, and Karukh
- RADP-West demonstrated the use of wooden stakes to pistachio farmers in Herat province to protect budding pistachio saplings from strong seasonal winds.
- In Badghis, AREA trained 29 lead farmers in Qadis, Qala-I-Naw, and Muqur districts in pistachio budding.

CLIN 3: Livestock Value Chain Activities

- DCA held two five-day trainings on livestock diseases in July and August for 19 LFEWs, who will in turn train other female livestock farmers.
- During the month of September, a five-day refresher training course on pharmacology was conducted for 10 VFU paravets from Herat and Badghis.
- DCA conducted a five-day extension training course for 10 Herat DAIL extension workers.

¹⁴ RADP-West Contract, Page 26.

CLIN 4: Enabling Environment Activities

- The team completed the list of 35 constraints and hosted two group discussions to further discuss these constraints during the month of September—one with Herat DAIL, HCCI, DoWA, and lead farmers, and the other with financial institutions, agribusinesses and other relevant USAID-funded agriculture projects. The final list of 30 constraints was submitted to USAID on October 1.
- To facilitate linkages and potential business deals, a meeting was facilitated between beneficiary vegetable growers and a food processing company to facilitate potential purchase/supply contracts.¹⁵

Crosscutting Component: Gender and Nutrition Activities

- RADP-West monitored the Women’s Training Center in Ghaizun Sanger village, Herat province throughout the quarter and provided training on nutrition and food safety/safe handling.
- RADP-West established three new on-farm Women’s Training Centers in three districts of Herat province and distributed 11 varieties of vegetable seeds and agriculture tools for selected women farmers.
- In Badghis, AREA held training sessions for 86 women on jam and pickle-making.

1.2 Constraints and Critical Issues

Quarter Four marked a significant turning point for the program in terms of management and plans for Year Two. During the months of August and September, the project’s COP and DCOP for Operations departed Herat, and a new management team joined the project in Herat on October 13, 2015. This new leadership team is tasked with addressing the challenges and constraints to date and identifying a way forward for the project in collaboration with USAID.

¹⁵ This meeting resulted in a contract signing during the month of October between 14 farmers and the food processing company for the supply of 12 MT of carrots over the next few months.