

**DAI**   
Development Alternatives, Inc.

**AGRICULTURAL SECTOR SUPPORT PROJECT  
PRIVATE SECTOR AGRIBUSINESS**

**Monitoring  
Report  
Wardak and  
Parwan  
Provinces**

**Agricultural Sector Support Project  
Private Sector Agribusiness**

**Prepared by Development Alternatives, Inc., for the office of the  
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Peshawar, Pakistan

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AGRICULTURAL SECTOR SUPPORT PROJECT  
PRIVATE SECTOR AGRIBUSINESS COMPONENT

MONITORING REPORT  
WARDAK AND PARWAN PROVINCES

PREPARED BY  
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PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

This monitoring trip was performed at the same time a survey team proceeded to Bamyan and Parwan Provinces to survey several new bazaars. This team of experienced Afghan monitors was accompanied by an expatriate responsible for monitoring field operations. During the trip, this team went through Paktika, Ghazni, Wardak, Bamyan and Parwan Provinces.

The following report gives field data concerning Development Alternatives, Inc.'s (DAI) employees in Afghanistan and DAI activities in Afghanistan (in two provinces). A map detailing the area monitored is attached to this report as Annex A. A Travel Log is attached to this report as Annex B.

### A. MONITORING DAI EMPLOYEES IN AFGHANISTAN

DAI has nine persons working in Wardak and two in Parwan Province. Their distribution, both geographically and between the Agricultural Development and Training (ADT) component, the Private Sector Agribusiness (PSA) component, and the Programming, Policy and Analysis (PPA) component, is as follows:

Province	Bazaar	Component	No. of Employees
Wardak	Chak Sheikhabad	ADT	3
		ADT	4
		PSA	2
		PPA	1
Parwan	Ghorband	ADT	2

The monitors were able to check the following :

Province	Bazaar	Component	No. Checked
Wardak	Chak Sheikhabad	ADT	2
		ADT	1
		PSA	2
		PPA	1
Parwan	Ghorband	ADT	2
		Total	8

Personnel reports for the eight persons monitored are attached to this report as Annex C.

Field workers that the team were unable to monitor are as follows:

Province	Bazaar	Component	No.	Reason
Wardak	Sheikhabad	ADT	3	In Peshawar
	Chak	ADT	1	In Peshawar

Most of the field extension workers or bazaar representatives are living away from the bazaars where they work. This is justified by the fact that some bazaars are quite new (Sheikhabad) and nobody currently lives in the bazaar itself. This is not important for ADT field workers but should be considered for PSA bazaar representatives who necessarily conduct activities in the PSA bazaar.

Name	Comp.	Living In	Working In	Distance
Naseer Ahmad Mirweiss*	PSA	Sheikhabad	Sheikhabad	15 km
	PSA	Chak	Sheikhabad	35 km
Hayatullah	PPA	Seidabad	Sheikhabad	15 km
Suleman Shah	ADT	Seidabad	Sheikhabad	15 km
Safeullah		Seidabad	Sheikhabad	15 km
Habib-ur-Rehman		Seidabad	Sheikhabad	15 km
Ghulam Dastager		Seidabad	Sheikhabad	15 km
M. Kabir*		Jaghota	Chak	50 km
M. Naseer		Chak	Chak	0 km
Abdul Habid		Chak	Chak	0 km
M. Anwar		Siagad	Chardi Ghorband	10 km
Ghulam Nabi		Siagad	Chardi Ghorband	10 km

\* Discussed Below.

In Parwan we were told that Mohd. Anwar had gone to Pakistan in order to collect one motorcycle from DAI. The following ADT field workers have received motorcycles:

One in Chak with Naseer  
One in Sheikhabad with Habib-ur-Rehman

When possible we spoke with each individual to determine problems and difficulties. The main problems are:

- o Lack of inputs for agriculture demonstrations (sprayers, insecticides, fungicides, etc.) for ADT.

- o Difficulty or impossibility of collecting wheat for ADT.
- o Explaining to whom the VITA material in Wardak belongs.
- o Cost of transport from house to bazaar for PSA.
- o Need of a proper office in Wardak for PSA.
- o Salaries.
- o Lack of communication with Peshawar.
- o Incomprehensive component programs.

The monitoring team explained to these employees their functions and place within the DAI program for Afghanistan and we think they are now aware of their position.

Mirweiss and Naseer choose an office for PSA activities in Sheikhabad in a place called Dasht-e-Top, seven km from Sheikhabad. This office is away from the bazaar, but it was impossible to find a place in the bazaar itself although offices may be available in a few months. For the moment Dasht-e-Top is safe for security reasons. It has a good location at the junction of the roads leading to Chak and Kabul/Sheikhabad. It is also adjacent to a tea shop where truckers stop on the way to or from Sheikhabad. The building needs some repair for which the two PSA representatives seek assistance. It will consist of three rooms (15 m<sup>2</sup> each). The work was performed in June at a cost of 20,000 Afghanis.

DAI employees strongly requested a DAI employees' office where they could work and hold meetings with farmers and traders.

Six ADT employees (Abdullah, Abdulhabib, Ghulam Azerat, Anar Gul and two others) claimed they were working on nurseries for DAI but had not received any salary since leaving VITA three months ago. They said Noori was their supervisor. They are not on the list ADT gave to the monitoring unit.

To be certain that the nurseries existed we visited the Dawlan Khel nursery in Chak. It is clear that the first three persons are doing some work on the five jerib nursery. We were unable to visit the other nursery because of difficulties in transport. According to the ADT director in Chak it has the same level of quality and is located in Dar-e-Mida on the road to Tisak. Information concerning these nurseries is in the Trees Program section, below.

## B. MONITORING ACTIVITIES

There are three programs whose activities we monitored and each is discussed in some detail. These are the:

- o Trees Program;
- o Thresher Program; and
- o DAP Program.

### 1. Trees Program

With Mohd. Naseer Nabiyan, agronomist and Acting Director for ADT in Wardak, we visited seven orchards where apple trees had been planted in April 1990. Of a total of 43,000 trees sent to Wardak Province:

14,000 apple trees were distributed to 123 farmers in Chak;

350 pear trees were distributed to 50 farmers; and

29,000 apple trees were distributed in Seidabad, Daemisbad, Darearaban and Ghoda.

According to Naseer and our monitoring, less than five percent of the trees died after planting. The orchards we saw were healthy, clean and well oriented. (Pictures are available.)

The people of Wardak had experience with fruit production before the war and now everybody is involved in orchard production with one, two and three year old trees (apples, apricots and almonds). In the previous year farmers bought trees from Bagh-e-Charsi in the alaqadari of Nakh. All the DAI trees were sold for a symbolic price 20 Afghanis per tree. This area of Chak in Wardak is expected to be an important area for fruit production in a few years.

It appears that the distribution in Seidabad was done by Suleman Shah and the trees were distributed only among HIA members. The density of the orchard was about 130 trees per jerib. He distributed 12,000 apple trees to 37 farmers.

Total planted in Wardak:

5,500 apple trees  
350 pear trees

After the orchards we saw a nursery in Chak. There are supposed to be two more orchards in Chak District but we did not visit them. The nursery we visited had 2.5 jeribs and we measured it since the people told us it was ten jeribs. They had sown apricots in April. The apricots are healthy and green. The apples, however, had only a five to ten percent germination rate.

Three men are permanently working in this nursery; three others are working on the other two nurseries in Dar-e-Mirda.

## 2. Thresher Program

PSA implemented the sale of threshers in Wardak Province. We met with Naseer and Mirweiss who are both bazaar representatives in Sheikabad. They are now renting a place for 10,500 Afghanis per month in Dasht-e-Top, seven km from the bazaar. It consists of three rooms attached to a tea shop where truckers often stop or stay on their way to or from Kabul. The two men have their families in Chak and Seidabad and alternate staying on a weekly basis. Truckers coming from Pakistan are supposed to make their deliveries of PSA commodities to this location where it is turned over to the bazaar representatives. The representatives, in turn, deliver the commodities to traders.

The mujahideen check point in Sheikhabad informs truckers of the DAI office location. When we arrived in Dasht-e-Top with Naseer, we found Mirweiss in the tea shop with some truckers who were waiting for their trucks to come back from Kabul. It appears that of the 134 threshers DAI sent to Sheikhabad, 100 percent were shipped mostly on the same trucks and on the same day (there is sometimes a shortage of drivers going to Kabul).

Since the beginning of June, the two bazaar representatives certified the delivery in Sheikhabad of:

6 Threshers	30-5-90
16 Threshers	31-5-90
24 Threshers	1-6-90
12 Threshers	2-6-90
22 Threshers	3-6-90
18 Threshers	10-6-90
2 Threshers	16-6-90
24 Threshers	23-6-90
<u>10 Threshers</u>	<u>23-6-90</u>
Total :	134 Threshers

According to Mirweiss' receipts (which we saw), it took six to eight days for the trip from Faizabad to Sheikhabad. However, Mirweiss says that there is a problem with the delivery receipts since anybody can come with a photocopy of the original. Therefore, DAI should have special forms rather than blank ones.

One trucker present in the Dasht-e-Top tea shop said that he had encountered a problem in Jehandu, Pakistan but after speaking by phone with Major Sediq, this was resolved (Dixit Zafar Khan who owns 21 trucks).

On the way to Chak, I saw one Batala thresher near a Qala but Mirweiss certified that 100 percent of the threshers he received went to Kunduz via Kabul.

No training was given by DAI employees to traders on thresher use.

Some local commanders are a little angry that everything is going to Kabul. A local Mahaz commander mentioned stopping future commodities if he is not involved in the business. The monitors told the bazaar representative to send him to Peshawar.

### 3. DAP Program

The PSA representative in Sheikhabad received:

1,140 bags of DAP 13-6-90 in five trucks; and  
1,760 bags of DAP 16-6-90 in eight trucks.

The DAP was delivered to Sarwar in Sheikhabad. Sarwar is from Kunduz Province. He is stocking the DAP in Wardak in the house of Din Mohammad who has a truck. According to transport availability he is shipping it to Kunduz via Kabul.

### C. COMMON CONCERNS OF PEOPLE IN WARDAK

Many people mentioned issues of common concern in Wardak Province. These can be summarized as follows:

- o Information regarding the price of materials and fertilizer sold by DAI.
- o Demand for agrochemical treatments and reapers.
- o Since DAI changed its policy in seeking the return of ten seer, rather than seven seer, people believe DAI is trying to increase its benefit.
- o People are opposed to farmers paying for products.
- o People do not believe in harvesting corn or wheat in line.
- o Abdul Habid from Chak should work in Jeghatu.

## II. RECOMMENDATIONS

### A. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PRIVATE SECTOR AGRIBUSINESS (PSA)

- o Improve the bazaar office in Sheikhabad.
- o Have more connections with local traders.
- o Increase activities in the PSA bazaar and not use it solely as a trans-shipment point towards Kabul and the northern Provinces.
- o Install signs for PSA offices.
- o Improve delivery receipt forms.
- o Provide public notice of prices and commodities.

### B. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING (ADT)

- o Hold periodic meetings of DAI field extension workers working in the same province to enable them to share their experiences.
- o Beware of people working with only one group or political party.
- o Revise the procedures of wheat collection as it appears difficult to achieve.
- o Clarify with VITA the status of two tractors and one thresher which are supposed to be with Engg. Mayat who has already sold the thresher.
- o Check about the six unlisted persons working on the nurseries who claim past due salaries.
- o Contact VITA to increase repair of irrigation in Parwan Province since agriculture is dependent on it.
- o Communicate as frequently as possible with field workers; communications and visits help motivate employees.

### C. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROGRAMMING, POLICY AND ANALYSIS (PPA)

- o Have Opiani install a radio network in Sheikhabad and train Hayatullah as the official operator for Wardak Province. This radio could be used extensively by DAI employees in

Wardak and even Logar Provinces.

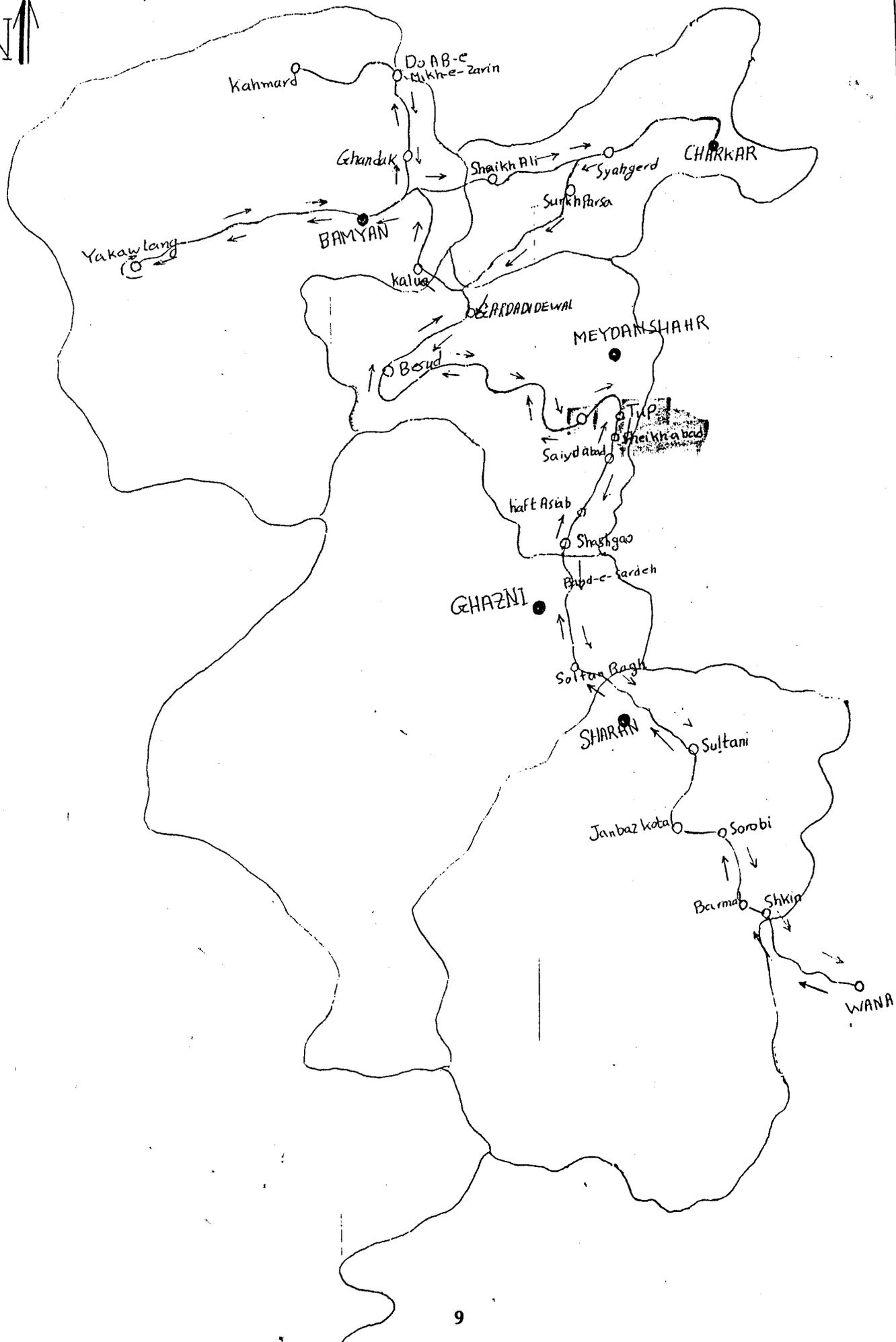
- o Have Hayatullah act as a messenger and logistics person between the components in the field and in Pakistan.
- o Provide a DAI car for the monitors (2 official USAID cars were seen by the team in Afghanistan).

### III. CONCLUSIONS

While work has been completed and DAI employees are acting on behalf of the program, everyone is complaining about the lack of communication between Pakistan and Afghanistan. This could be resolved through regular visits by Peshawar personnel from the Monitoring Unit, ADT or PSA to the field. In addition, it will assist in motivating field workers since they need to be confident that they are not alone as soon as they cross the border.

Emphasis should be placed on sending more commodities to PSA bazaars and not have them act solely as a trans-shipment point to the northern Provinces.

It is not possible to efficiently monitor without monitoring teams having their own transport.



**ANNEX B  
TRAVEL LOG**

Date	Location	Time of Travel	Purpose/Activity
Fri 8 June	Peshawar/Wana	10 hours	Crossing point Afg/Pak
Sat 9 June	Wana/Hangarada/Sulkani	10 hours	
Sun 10 June	Sulkani/Sheikhabad	10 hours	
Mon 11 June	Sheikhabad/Chak		Monitoring threshers
Tue 12 June	Chak		Monitoring trees distribution
Wed 13 June	Chak/Tisak	3 hours	Meet with Operation Salam/UN
Thu 14 June	Tisak/Abe Nokrah	10 hours	Only 60 km achieved
Fri 15 June	Abe Nokrah/Bamyan	7 hours	
Sat 16 June	Bamyan		Survey
Sun 17 June	Bamyan		Meeting with Shura - Survey
Mon 18 June	Bamyan/Yakoolang	5 hours	
Tue 19 June	Yakoolang		Meeting with Shura - Survey
Wed 20 June	Yakoolang/Bamyan	5 hours	
Thu 21 June	Bamyan		No transport - Market day
Fri 22 June	Bamyan/Doab	7 hours	Meeting with the Jamiat
Sat 23 June	Doab/Shobar	3 hours	Survey
Sun 24 June	Shobar/Ghorban	6 hours	
Mon 25 June	Ghorban Siagerd		Writing of report
Tue 26 June	Ghorban Siagerd		No Transport - Visit to GAF and Dutch Veterinary Clinics
Wed 27 June	Ghorban Siagerd/Shouspasa/Chardi	6 hours	Survey
Thu 28 June	Ghorban Siagerd		Monitoring field extension workers
Fri 29 June	Ghorban Siagerd		Survey
Sat 30 June	Ghorban Siagerd		Writing report - no car
Sun 1 July	Ghorban Siagerd		Writing report - no car
Mon 2 July	Ghorban Siagerd		
Tue 3 July	Ghorban Siagerd		
Wed 4 July	Ghorban/Chardi	2 hours	Waiting - no car
Thu 5 July	Chardi/Shouspasa	2 hours	Waiting - no car
Fri 6 July			Waiting - no car
Sat 7 July	Shouspasa/Beshud	10 hours	Trip back
Sun 8 July	Beshud/Chak	6 hours	Monitoring field worker
Mon 9 July	Chak/Mahmahkhel	7 hours	Trip back
Tue 10 July	Mahmahkhel/Wana	15 hours	Trip back
Wed 11 July	Wana/Peshawar	10 hours	Trip back

## Field Extension Worker : Data base

STATIC DATAName: Naseer ID no.: \_\_\_\_\_ASSP Component: PSAPermanent Address: Islamabad. Zaman Khel in Wardak

Permanent Contact No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Origin : Wardak, Seidabad

Date of Birth : \_\_\_\_\_

Education : Engineer Agriculturist

Work Experience : \_\_\_\_\_

References : \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title : PSA bazaar representativeJob Description : PSA bazaar representative in SheikabadSupervisor : KohistaniTenzeem : NIFAFIELD DATALocation of Work : SheikabadPrevious Work : 138 threshers and 3000bags of fertilizerCurrent Work : Present in PSA officeFuture Plan : As assignedLast visit to Peshawar : June 10, 1990Next visit to Peshawar : End of September, 1990