



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

AFGHANISTAN

ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM—EASTERN REGION **ADP/E**

Alternative Development Program—Eastern Region

Biweekly Report April 16-30, 2009



Strawberries from Darai Noor district of Nangarhar Province are ready to be sold in the market. ADP/E's Market Development Program supports hundreds of farmers to sell their fruits and vegetables for prices 25-30% higher than average.

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Highlights of ADP/E's activities during the reporting period

- The commercial demonstration farm program successfully completed distribution of sweet orange saplings to 230 farmers for establishment of commercial sweet orange orchards on 140 hectares of land.
- ADP/E trained 650 fruit growers in proper management techniques, compost preparation and control of insects and fungal disease.
- ADP/E-supported broiler producers sold 15,350 one-day old broiler chicks in local markets in Jalalabad. The sales generated an income of \$ 4,990 for participating poultry farmers. Farmers also sold 12,650 eggs for an income of more than \$1,000.
- ADP/E-supported women-owned cheese centers sold more than 385 kg cheese in the reporting period and generated an income of around \$890.
- Surkhrud Packing facility packed and processed more than 4.3 metric tons of vegetables and fruits high value markets.
- ADP/E hired three trainers from Pakistan to train twelve local employees of Green Globe Foods Factory in Jalalabad. The trainers will help the factory for 2 months. Green Globe Foods Factory has recently started operation with support from ADP/E to produce potato chips.
- ADP/E continued working on 12 active CFW projects, employing a total of 1,095 people and generating 12,330 person days during the reporting period. To date, ADP/E has employed 173,980 people and generated 6.11 million person days worth \$22.24 million in wages. ADP/E also completed Wadawoo Road Project located in Nurgram District of Nuristan Province in the reporting period.

ADP/E's Programmatic Structure

ADP/E's activities can be divided into two areas: economic development and infrastructure development.

Economic development activities focus on a range of annual and perennial horticulture projects, a livestock program with emphasis in poultry production and marketing, a market development program, gender and micro-enterprise activities, and a private sector development program that assists small- and medium-sized entrepreneurs to improve existing companies and establish new businesses.

Infrastructure development is divided into two areas: productive infrastructure projects (PIP) and cash for work (CFW) projects.

In many cases, programs overlap, capitalizing upon one another's strengths to create successful economic linkages in more efficient ways.

II. Sector Activities

A. Economic Development

I. Horticulture and Poultry Programs

Perennial Horticulture

The overarching vision of the perennial horticulture program is to enable rural households in eastern Afghanistan to become the suppliers of choice for local and regional fruit and nut traders and processors, derived from the consistent delivery of high-quality produce, while increasing farmer incomes based on cost-effective production and collective marketing.

Accomplishments in the reporting period include:

COMMERCIAL ORCHARDS: Roots of Peace (RoP) is ADP/E's implementing partner for its commercial orchards program. In this reporting period, RoP distributed sweet orange saplings to 230 farmers for establishment of commercial orchards on 140 hectares of land.

FRUIT MARKETING PROGRAM (FMP): FMP field technicians assisted fruit growers to harvest and sell their fruit. In the reporting period, FMP technicians supported 57 fruit growers in 31 villages of districts in harvest, post harvest and marketing activities. These farmers sold 2,880 kg of loquat and strawberry and generated revenue totaling \$1,073, a figure 23% higher than the average market price due to the added value garnered through improved grading and packaging. Field technicians also assisted 109 REVAMP participants from 48 villages of 18 districts to harvest and sell 178,913 Kg of their cauliflower, cabbage, carrot, potato and turnip products in district and provincial markets and earn

\$37,419. They received 24% higher income than the average market price due to harvesting at optimal times, as well as improved sorting and grading. A total of 649 fruit growers were also trained on proper management techniques, compost preparation and control of insects and fungal disease.

The marketing program also completed a survey of farmers interested in a "Grains for Feed Program". In total, 862 fruit growers from 114 villages of 12 districts in Nangarhar, 175 fruit growers from 30 villages of two districts in Laghman and 210 fruit growers from 30 villages of four districts in Kunar province showed their interest to participate in grain for feed program and intercrop yellow maize in their land under ADP/E technical assistance.

FORESTRY INNOVATIONS FOR LIVELIHOOD DIVERSIFICATION (FIELD) PHASE II: The FIELD program helps farmers reclaim marginal lands, protect their water resources, promote commercial woodlot production and establish windbreaker barriers for crop protection.

ADP/E field technicians supervised 147 young forestry plots in 43 villages of nine districts in the region and advised the program beneficiaries about preparing irrigation systems to the plots.

NURISTAN ORCHARD PROGRAM (NUROP): ADP/E continued to support Nuristani farmers in establishing fruit and nut orchards on 500 hectares of land. Field technicians checked old orchards in four villages of Kamdesh District.



Left: An ADP/E field technician assists a fruit grower in Nangarhar. Right: a commercial apricot orchard is intercropped with onions in Behsud District of Nangarhar Province.

Annual Horticulture

The annual horticulture program provides assistance to the region's vegetable industry. Recognizing the different levels of capacity, as well as the particular needs of subsistence, surplus and semi-commercial farmers, ADP/E has a series of programs that address the requirements of each of these groups as a way to bring them to the next level of the development continuum.

TIMER PROGRAM: The Technology Innovations for Market-Led Economic Rehabilitation (TIMER) Program addresses the needs of subsistence farmers in their efforts to increase productivity and produce marketable surpluses.

In the reporting period, ADP/E conducted 50 field days and trained 1,274 farmers in field layout, fertilization, transplanting and good agriculture practices. To date, ADP/E conducted 156 field days and trained 4,036 in the region under the Spring 2009 TIMER program.

COMMERCIAL DEMONSTRATION FARMS: The Commercial Demonstration Farms (CDF) Program works with a small number of commercial farmers with emphasis in the introduction of intensive agriculture techniques, introduction of high-value crops and linking these entrepreneurs to regional and international markets.

Training and sales activities continued in the demonstration farms established in the region during the fall of 2008. During this reporting period, 342 farmers were trained during 15 field days. To date, 11,028 farmers have been trained under this program. During the current period, 40,418 kg of different seasonal vegetables were sold in local markets in the region, generating an income of \$4,753 for farmers working on the demonstration farms.

POTATO PRODUCTION AND MARKETING: No update in this reporting period.

GRAINS FOR FEED: ADP/E will subsidize the planting of 300 Ha of yellow maize. The maize will be harvested under ADP/E's follow-on program, IDEA-NEW, and the farmers will sell maize through forwards contracts with a feed mill in Jalalabad. In the reporting period, an RFQ for 6 MT of yellow maize hybrid seed and 75 MT of DAP and 112.5 MT of Urea was sent to local and foreign vendors. ADP/E is currently selecting interested farmers to participate. The target is 1500 farmers.

Poultry Program

Since April 2008 ADP/E has been supporting the establishment of two breeder farms (Haji Zmarak farm and Barakat Farm) to reduce imports of day-old chicks and to improve the local industry in the eastern region. The main objective of the ADP/E program is to make the two broiler breeder farms successful in technical and financial operations.

During the reporting period, 15,350 one-day old broiler chicks were produced and sold to local broiler producers. The average sale price day-old chicks was 16.26 Afs. The sales generated incomes of more than \$ 4,990 for participants. Participants also sold 12,650 eggs for \$1,012.

For the new cycle beginning in May, each breeding farm will have a flock of 6,160 birds (5,500 hens and 660 cocks). For the broiler production the breeder Hubbard breed will be used.



Farmers learn how to transplant plug seedlings in Kot District, Nangarhar Province.

2. Market Development Program

The market development program works with entrepreneurs, trade associations and government institutions to identify local businesses and help them find new markets. The program provides technical assistance, information, training and advertising assistance to link eastern region industries with new markets in Afghanistan and internationally.

MARKET DEVELOPMENT:

ADP/E assisted wholesalers from the eastern region to ship their produce to international logistic companies supplying embassies and Kabul-based premium supermarkets through the brand *Pride of the Eastern Region*. During the reporting period wholesalers shipped 12,858 kg of mixed produce with a total income of \$ 24,893. Because of the best sorting, grading, packing and service, these traders earned an average \$ 1.9 per kg. ADP/E also continued providing market assistance to farmers and traders targeting different market segments. Sales report indicate that program participants sold more than 293.5 metric tons (293,579 kg) of fresh vegetable, fruits and herbs worth \$53,295 in Jalalabad local markets in the reporting period.

MDP is also working to draft an MOU, which will be signed between fruit and vegetable export companies and ADP/E to outline the conditions under which individual party will cooperate in upcoming onion and garlic exports to achieve a high degree of cooperation and success during the export season.

Products	Local Market		High Value Market		Export Market		Total weight & Value	
	Kg	\$	Kg	\$	Kg	\$	Kg	\$
Vegetables	282,446	47,669.2	9,468.5	13,805	0	0	291,914.5	61,474.2
Fruits	10,633	4,661.9	3,390	11,088	0	0	14,023	15,750
Herbs	114	75.3	0	0	0	0	114	75.3
Cheese	386.3	888.4	0	0	0	0	386.3	888.4
Total	293,579.3	53,294.8	12,858.5	24,893			306,437.8	78,187.9

Sales directly facilitated by the project since 2006 to April 30, 2009	4,963,466.2
--	--------------------

MARKET INFORMATION SYSTEMS (MIS):

Market Information System collects, analyzes and disseminates price data for 65 commodities in five markets, including Kabul, Asadabad, Jalalabad, Mehterlahm and Peshawar. These commodities include agricultural inputs, e.g. seeds, fertilizers and pesticides as well as outputs, e.g. fruits, vegetables and meats. During the reporting period, the program responded to 1,840 text messages and sent daily price reports (both wholesale and retail) to 1,140 TAMAS subscribers.

During the reporting period, six "Agriculture and Livestock" (*Karkeela aw Maldari* in Pashto) radio programs aired via Sharq Radio. The program received 45 calls from different districts of the eastern region. The callers asked questions about their gardens, vegetable plots and animals and ADP/E experts answered their questions and provided useful information to them. ADP/E has also aired six programs via the Mehterlahm station and six programs via Asadabad station. Currently, most of Nangarhar, Laghman, Kunar and some districts of Nuristan are covered by the program. ADP/E also continued prizes distributions to farmers who answers the question and who were selected on lucky draw.

3. Gender and Micro enterprise Unit

The GME Unit is charged with ensuring that Afghan women participate in and benefit from economic development. ADP/E provides direct support to women-owned businesses to improve their profitability and prospects for sustainability. It also works with business associations to include women in policy dialogue and with provincial Directorates of Women’s Affairs to enable them to effectively advocate on behalf of their constituencies.

BUSINESS MENTORSHIP PROGRAM: ADP/E continued its technical and financial support to help program participants effectively run their home-based micro-businesses. The project has also focused on marketing efforts for participant businesses.

CHEESE PROCESSING CENTERS: ADP/E continued supporting cheese centers for a sustainable supply of cheese. Milk production increased after providing animal feed in Kama district. Marketing efforts for the produce of all seven cheese centers was in progress. During the reporting period, a total of 386.3Kg of cheese worth \$888 was marketed.

SURKHRUD PACKING FACILITY: Surkhrud Packing facility packed and processed 4,331 kg of vegetables and fruits during the reporting period. The packed products were shifted to high value markets including Kabul-based markets, and RA International Logistics Company.

WOMEN-OWNED GREENHOUSES AND HERBS NURSERIES: ADP/E continued supporting women-owned greenhouses. The support includes trainings, on-site counseling and marketing efforts. In the reporting period, seventy eight farmers transplanted 159,800 seedlings from ten eastern region-based green houses and the greenhouse operators generated an income of more than \$ 2,500. These saplings include cucumber, okra, tomato, eggplant, pepper and watermelon.

SAMARKHIL FRUIT NURSERY: During the reporting period, ADP/E continued providing support to the fruit nursery. Tomato, eggplant and pepper were cultivated on 1.5 Jerib of land. Maize is also being cultivated on additional 2 Jeribs of land. Necessary animal manor was provided into the plot to ensure healthy crops.

NURISTAN MIDWIFRY PROGRAM: ADP/E continued supporting eighteen women from different remote communities of Nuristan province to become certified midwives. The project is implemented in close collaboration with the provincial Health Directorate and Directorate of Women Affairs. The program is working with the Nuristan Public Health Directorate and IMC, the regional implementing partner, to place them in Nuristani clinics.



Midwife trainees assisted the delivery of two healthy twin in the Jalalabad Public Health Hospital as part of their practical training.

PROJECT	Number	KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
Women Forestry and Fruit Nurseries	Over 100 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing marketing Regular monitoring
Women Small Dairy Production	202 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing sales to Kabul and local markets Regular Monitoring
Nuristan Community Midwifery Program	18 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing technical and ICT trainings. Additional after-hours tutoring Plantation of saplings in the clinic compound Daily clinical at Ghankhil and Public hospitals.
Women-owned Fish Farms	40 Fish farms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring of 40 fish farms
Women Business Mentorship Program	200 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing monitoring. Conducting business record keepings Linkage, marketing facilities Regular monitoring
Woman-owned vegetable nurseries	18 greenhouses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing marketing, linkage with local farmers Plantation for ADP/E commercial orchards

4. Private Sector Development

PSD assists entrepreneurs to start up new businesses and expand existing operations. PSD supports entrepreneurs to create bankable business plans, delivers technical and financial management training, builds the capacity of entrepreneurs, facilitates linkages with financial resources, helps establish market linkages for program participants and provides support to business associations in the region. Activities are designed and new projects selected based on considerations of long-term employment opportunities and domestic market product development to reduce reliance on imports.

- Ghaziabad Textile Project is moving forward well. In addition to the trainees working in the company, the project has also created jobs for local women. Thirty women are now working part-time for the four textile centers in Ghaziabad. Raw thread is delivered to women in their houses and they make it ready for the looms with small, hand-operating machines, and then send it back to the textile center. This number will increase to 62 in near future once the centers are fully operational.
- ADP/E provided monitoring for the two textile projects in Kama were also in progress during the reporting period; the training moved forward smoothly.
- ADP/E developed a business plan for fruit pulp production center in Surkhrud district of Nangarhar province. The center will produce quality fruit pulps (apple, apricot, plum, orange, pomegranate) available locally and will sell them to Masrouh Foods Processing Company initially and then extend its market share to other factories. This project will be implemented in coordination with ASMED. ASMED will grant machinery & equipment that costs \$15,000 and ADP/E will provide technical assistance including a practical training to make sure they are capable of producing hygienic fruit pulps and know the storage and proper packing techniques.
- ADP/E hired three trainers from Pakistan to train 12 local employees of Green Globe Foods Factory in Jalalabad. The trainers will help the factory for 2 months to install machinery and train staff. Green Globe Foods Factory has been established by two young Afghan entrepreneurs with support from ADP/E. They were sent to India, where they received practical training in potato chips factory. After returning, they started the business and invested around \$40,000 for the plant and machinery.



Green Globe Food Factory employees process potato chips. The factory was recently established by two young Afghan businessmen with support from ADP/E. Presently, the company produces potato chips and will produce a wide range of snacks in the future.

I. Productive Infrastructure Projects

LALPUR TO GULDAG DBST ROAD (12 km): 99.25%

Some small works remaining on the road are in progress. Work on the retaining wall at Guldag Village on a hillside and arranging material for traffic barriers was in progress during the reporting period. Extension of the culvert at Km 9 and removal of slides from the mountain at Km 8 was started in the reporting period.

II. Cash for Work (CFW) projects:

ADP/E continued working on 12 active CFW projects, employing a total of 1,095 people and generating 12,330 person days during the reporting period*. To date, ADP/E has employed 173,980 people and generated 6.11 million person days worth \$22.24 million in wages.

NEWLY COMPLETED PROJECTS:

WADAWOO ROAD IMPROVEMENT (CFW-300803): The project was designed to upgrade an existing locally narrow village road to a 5-meter wide road. The total length of the existing road from the Nangaraj Bazaar to the Nowcha and Mamo Villages in Wadawoo Valley is 3.7 km. This part of the road was constructed by local tribes. The road was partially washed away by floods due to nonexistence of necessary structures.

This road connects the villages of Wadawoo Valley to the existing Alingar to Norgram district road and Nangaraj Bazaar, which is the district center of Norgram. This road is passing through hills, mountains and villages mostly in hard rocks and plateaus at agricultural lands. In addition to a number of small settlements, there are four villages in the Wadawoo valley that benefit from this road project. Total population of the valley is around 6,000 people, and total agriculture land and orchards total 650 jeribs. The main crops are beans, wheat, corn, walnuts and peanuts.

The main work involved cutting of hard rock, widening of the road from three to five meters width, side drains, construction of additional structures such as retaining walls, culverts and causeways, surfacing work and watering and compaction. There are eight culverts, four causeways and six retaining walls with a total length of 470 meters. These structures are necessary to protect the road from future erosion.

SECURITY: The security situation remained conducive for work during the reporting period. The field engineers continued visiting all of the ongoing projects while security section closely monitored available information.



Before and after views of the Wadawoo Road in Nurgram District of Nuristan province. Now that the road is improved, people no longer face transportation problems as illustrated in the first picture.



Summary: Cash for Work Projects by Province

PROVINCE	TOTAL OF APPROVED PROJECTS	PREVIOUSLY COMPLETED PROJECTS	ACTIVE PROJECTS THIS PERIOD	STOPPED PROJECTS	OTHER PENDING APPROVED PROJECTS	PERSON DAYS OF EMPLOYMENT THIS PERIOD*
Nangarhar	138	132	5	2	1	6,253
Laghman	51	46	4	1	0	2,925
Kunar	28	25	0	0	2	0
Nuristan	6	2	3	1	0	3,152
TOTAL	223	205	12	4	3	12,330

Ongoing Cash for Work Projects April 15, 2009

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT CODE	IMPLEMENTED April 01-15, 2009	IMPLEMENTED April 16-30, 009	REMARKS
Nangarhar (Roads)				
Panakzi Road Improvement	CFW-080705	72%	77%	ACTIVE
Angor Bagh Road Improvement (Guest House to ALP-2)	CFW-080105	8%	35%	ACTIVE
Nangarhar (Non Road)				
Markikhill Micro-Hydro Power Plant	CFW-080409	99%	99%	ACTIVE
Mirkikhill Micro Hydro Power Project	CFW-080411	85%	96%	ACTIVE
Lawangapoor & Banda Canal Intake	CFW-080610	35%	50%	ACTIVE
Laghman (Road)				
Abezai Road Improvement	CFW-090124	82%	87%	ACTIVE
Laghman (Non Road)				
Laghman Whole Sale Market	CFW-090123	98%	98%	ACTIVE
Abezai Bridge Erosion Protection Works	CFW-090125	96%	99%	ACTIVE
Abezai Bridge Completion works	CFW-090126	93%	97%	ACTIVE
Kunar (Road) NIL				
Kunar (Non Road) NIL				
Nuristan (Road)				
Wadawoo Road Improvement	CFW-300803	99%	100%	COMPLETE
Dakor to Malil Road Repairing	CFW-300804	10%	30%	ACTIVE
Malil To Mishfa Road Improvement	CFW-300805	3%	6%	ACTIVE

III. Required Performance Data

ANNEX I. ADP/E ACTIVITY LEVEL INDICATORS¹

Indicator	Added (Biweekly)		Target (LOP)	Total LOP (To date)	Target (FY 08)	By province (To date)				By Gender (To date)	
						Nangarhar	Laghman	Kunar	Nuristan	Male	Female
Total Km irrigation and drainage canals and karezes ADP # km	Previous	0.03	2,631	2726	2,631	2,472.55	151.97	101.09	-		
	Current	0.07+				0.07	0.01	-	-		
	Total	0.11				2,472.62	151.97	101.09	-		
ADP Km. of rural roads repaired in poppy regions # km	Previous	2.00	548	684.0	548	567.52	40.00	56.83	17.13		
	Current	2.57+				1.53	-	-	1.04		
	Total	4.57				569.05	40.00	56.83	18.16		
ADP/E Hectares of improved irrigation as a result of ADP infrastructure works # hec	Previous	-	137,060	137368	137,060	123,741	8,207	5,420	-		
	Current	-				-	-	-			
	Total	-				123,741	8,207	5,420	-		
ADP/E Amount paid in CFW in ADP programs USD (\$)	Previous	47,667	20,592,363	22239267	20,592,363	17,368,073	3,137,807	1,203,814	470,691	20,264,114	1,916,271
	Current	58,881*				28,244	18,070	-	12,567	57,976	905
	Total	106,548				17,396,317	3,155,877	1,203,814	483,258	20,322,090	1,917,176
ADP/E Afghans paid through CFW salaries #	Previous	-	174,000	173980 ²	174,000	157,406	12,071	3,562	941	152,332	21,648
	Current	-				-	-	-	-	-	
	Total	-				157,406	12,071	3,562	941	152,332	21,648
ADP/E Total labor days for CFW #	Previous	11,566	5,767,708	6109032	5,767,708	4,803,213	882,497	289,352	121,640	5,541,500	555,202
	Current	12,330*				6,253	2,925	-	3,152	12,097	233
	Total	23,896				4,809,466	885,422	289,352	124,792	5,553,597	555,435
Afghans trained in business skills #	Previous	-	7,000	8568	7,000	6,286	1,518	742	22	3,969	4,599
	Current	-				-	-	-	-	-	
	Total	-				6,286	1,518	742	22	3,969	4,599
Farmers trained in agricultural practices in targeted poppy provinces under ADP #	Previous	2,332	120,000	149469	120,000	86,952	35,306	26,008	60	144,491	3,835
	Current	1,143				1,143	-	-	1,143	-	
	Total	3,475				88,095	35,306	26,008	60	145,634	3,835
Farmers receiving seed and fertilizer #	Previous	-	177,961	266645	177,961	155,597	56,306	50,665	4,077	266,645	-
	Current	-				-	-	-	-	-	
	Total	23,715				155,597	56,306	50,665	4,077	266,645	-

¹ The table shows aggregated figures of both ADP and AINP project

² This figure is a sum of "top number" of persons worked on all CFW projects

+This is an estimate based on percentage completed.

* For accounting purposes, this period is March 16-31, 2009

IV. PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION

ADP/E CONTACT INFORMATION

Organization: Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI)
Address: Jalalabad, Nangarhar, Afghanistan
COP: Jonathan Greenham
Afghanistan cell: 0795.553.716
jonathan_greenham@dai.com

Home Office: 7600 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 200,
Bethesda, MD 20814
Telephone: (301) 718-8699
Fax: (301) 718-7968
Web site : www.dai.com; www.alper-af.com