



QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

Rebuilding Agricultural Markets Program (RAMP) Afghanistan

For the Period: January 1 to March 31, 2004



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Table of Acronyms

BRAC	Bangladesh Rural Assistance Committee
CLIN	Cost Line Item Number
COP	Chief of Party
CPFF	Cost Plus Fixed Fee (contract)
CTO	Cognizant Technical Officer
DCA	Dutch Committee on Afghanistan
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GIS	Geographic Information System
GPS	Geographic Positioning System
Ha	Hectare
IALC	International Arid Lands Consortium
ICARDA	International Center for Agricultural Development in the Dry Areas
IFDC	International Fertilizer Development Center
EIPG	Embassy Interagency Planning Group
IQC	Indefinite Quantity Contract
IR	Intermediate Result
Km	Kilometer
LOE	Level of Effort
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAAH	Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry
MISFA	Microfinance Investment Support Facility – Afghanistan
MIWRE	Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources
MLIF	Ministry of Light Industries and Foodstuffs
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MPW	Ministry of Public Works
MRRD	Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
Mt	Metric Ton
NBFI	Non-Bank Financial Institution
NDF	National Development Framework
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NWFP-AU	Northwest Frontier Province - Agriculture University
PRA	Participatory Rural Assessment
PRT	Provincial Reconstruction Team
RAMP	Rebuilding Agricultural Markets Program
RFP	Request for Proposals
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
SO1	Strategic Objective 1
SPS	Sanitary, Phyto-Sanitary
TISA	Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan
TOT	Training of Trainers
UN	United Nations
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOPS	United Nations Office of Project Services
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VBSE	Village-Based Seed Enterprise
WFP	World Food Program
WOCCU	World Council of Credit Unions

1.0 Executive Summary

This third quarter has seen a major expansion in RAMP activities. During this quarter, RAMP began shifting its focus from activity identification to project submission and implementation. Twenty job orders worth \$38 million were submitted and approved by USAID, compared to 12 job orders worth \$23 million during the first two quarters. Implementation also increased markedly for most of our activities, with actual work on the ground either initiated or significantly expanded. This is not surprising nor was it unanticipated. Management procedures were established and additional staff members were recruited to monitor project implementation.

RAMP was organizationally restructured to more effectively manage a rapidly expanding program. The new organization created four units which reported directly to the Chief of Party: two operating divisions headed by a Deputy Chief of Party for Infrastructure and a Deputy Chief of Party for Agriculture, and two support offices headed by an Assistant Chief of Party for Development Programs and an Assistant Chief of Party for Program Support. New staff for three of these positions were recruited and brought on board during this quarter. Project and financial tracking systems were also designed and put into effect.

Infrastructure

Infrastructure activities were selected based on their economic return and their complementarity with our agricultural activities. This was reinforced by concentrating infrastructure projects in the five regional areas where we also had focused our agricultural activities. Many of our NGO implementing partners required additional training to meet the stricter standards set by RAMP. A series of seminars were conducted for implementing partners – also attended by representatives from the Ministry of Public Works, MIWRE, and MRRD - to ensure that recognized engineering norms and standards were used during infrastructure rehabilitation. In addition to establishing guidelines for the rehabilitation of infrastructure, RAMP staff worked closely with the NGOs to design survey instruments to calculate economic benefits for improving roads and irrigation systems. Increases in farmer income from infrastructure improvements are now estimated prior to initiating construction.

In the irrigation sector, 24 individual activities were approved and construction was initiated at 18 of the sites. Irrigation activities include water diversion dams, water intakes, irrigation turn-outs, repair or replacement of irrigation gates, cleaning and repair of irrigation and drainage canals. During this reporting period 135 kilometers of irrigation canals were cleaned and more than 50 irrigation structures repaired. The total number of hectares receiving a reliable source of water for irrigation within the command area of the irrigation systems rehabilitated under RAMP exceeded 150,000 hectares of prime agriculture land.

A few setbacks occurred because the early spring thaw resulted in the Ministry of Irrigation opening irrigation gates a month earlier than normal. This meant that much of the canal cleaning and repair of structures, such as the concrete turn outs and protection walls, had to be discontinued. Except for emergency repairs, where the Ministry of Irrigation will temporarily shut off the flow of water, a significant portion of the canal cleaning originally scheduled to be performed with manual labor must now be deferred until October when the flow of water is reduced. Nevertheless, canal cleaning will continue for the major drains and irrigation canals with draglines.

Road construction also accelerated during this quarter with the approval of 19 separate roads totaling approximately 400 kilometers. Of these, 52 kilometers were completed and more than 200 additional kilometers were in various stages of construction. These all-weather gravel roads are constructed to high engineering standards. The roads are well-drained, compacted, and crowned with a slope of 4 - 6% so that rain water and melting snow can drain without penetrating the road surface. Adequate drainage and cross drainage is installed the length of the road. The use of manual labor is combined with equipment to ensure adequate compaction.

Agriculture

Agriculture focused on improving crop productivity and developing domestic and international

markets for those crops, in order to increase rural incomes and to enhance food security. Over 320 crop demonstrations extending best practices for key crops were conducted in five priority areas – Kunduz, Parwan, Nangahar, Ghazni and Helmand. Farmers and extension agents were trained at these demonstration sites in the production of disease-free potato seeds, seed production for wheat, other grains and legumes, product storage post-harvest handling, and poultry production. Training and extension coverage will significantly increase in the next quarter as more of these demonstrations come on line, and begin to apply new technologies in the field and demonstrate results. Over 100,000 farmers and village leaders have been exposed to these demonstrations through project sponsored field days and other sources of communications.

With the signing and initiating of 20 job orders, agricultural work has surged forward. Chemical control of locusts has been conducted in the northern provinces, under the direction of the FAO. Veterinary Field Units, under the direction of the Dutch Community Action team has vaccinated over 350,000 livestock, and provided preventative treatment for parasites. Work has been initiated with specific Job Orders to address the grape raisin value chain (Roots of Peace), 14 different crops in the Kandahar/Helmand area (CADG), dried fruit and vegetables (DWC), wheat, fruit and vegetable demonstrations (ACTED), wheat and other grains and legumes (ICARDA), and several others that described in the text of this report. All of this work will provide us with the tools by which we will be able to significantly expand crop and livestock production.

Once production begins to increase, marketing and value-added processing become more important. The RAMP project has dedicated significant effort to expanding our analyses of how markets work, conducting studies and assessments in the financial sector, the horticulture sector, fresh fruits and vegetables, dried fruit and nuts, and poultry. In the next quarter, projects will be initiated to intervene in these marketing activities in order to provide higher prices for farmers by improving the quality of the product sold, and by adding value to the raw material through packaging and first stage processing. As the volume of production increases, further processing will be introduced in the chain, so as to capture as much of the final consumer value as is possible here in Afghanistan. RAMP will be working with the contacts that have been made with private processors, farmer producer groups, commodity associations, exporters and traders. The project will provide access to improved inputs, agro-business financing, market analysis, technical assistance and competitiveness guidance on all points along the selected commodity value chains.

2.0 Implementation Contractor

On July 3, 2003, Chemonics International was awarded a three year contract by the U.S. Agency for International Development to implement the Rebuilding Agricultural Markets in Afghanistan Program (RAMP). Two subcontractors, the International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC) and ShoreBank Advisory Services, are providing technical assistance and long-term consultants, to the Chemonics/RAMP Team.

2.1 Statement of Work

Chemonics implements RAMP under a contract that includes a cost plus fixed fee/level of effort (CPFF/LOE) core management component and three Indefinite Quantity Contract (IQC)-type components for job orders to be implemented by qualified local and international firms and managed by a long-term Core Team, based at the Chemonics/RAMP office in Kabul. The Core Team and the IQC components are funded under separate Cost Line Item Numbers (CLINs), according to USAID financial management guidelines. The objective of RAMP is to increase rural income and improve food security. The project is national in scope, with emphasis on strengthening market linkages within the commodity groups that have the greatest potential for increased competitiveness.

2.2 The RAMP Core Team: CLIN 0001

The RAMP Core Team conducts assessments of key subsectors that demonstrate the highest potential for increasing rural income and improving food security. In addition to describing the production levels and market structure in each of these subsectors, the assessments identify critical infrastructure rehabilitation, rural financial services and agricultural technology and market development assistance that will significantly improve the competitive advantage of each priority subsector. The assessments are used to design and implement job orders that directly improve subsector competitive advantage by lowering production and marketing costs and expanding entry into new markets.

2.3 Infrastructure Rehabilitation: CLIN 0002

The infrastructure rehabilitation component collaborates with the market development component to identify critical rural infrastructure rehabilitation services that will maximize productivity of existing irrigation systems, rural roads and rural market facilities. Job orders are designed and competed among qualified firms to rehabilitate rural infrastructure in the priority regions being assisted by market development interventions. Each job order is managed to expedite rehabilitation services that increase irrigated cropland and crop productivity and reduce marketing costs associated with transport over rural roads and the collection, storage, processing and distribution of agricultural products. Irrigation rehabilitation activities are coordinated with the Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources (MIWR). Rural road rehabilitation activities are coordinated with MIWR (within irrigation systems), Public Works (MPW) and MAAH. Rural market facilities rehabilitation is coordinated with the MAAH and local authorities.

2.4 Rural Financial Services: CLIN 0003

The rural financial services component collaborates with the market development component to identify critical rural financial services that will maximize productivity of rural labor, land, water and infrastructure resources. Rural financial services are expanding lending to farmers and microprocessors, as well as providing lending alternatives for small, medium and larger agribusinesses. RAMP provides capital to qualified financial institutions for lending to the agricultural sector along the value chains of each priority RAMP subsector. Women-owned and operated enterprises are being given special consideration for lending. These loans are expanding market volumes by allowing agribusinesses to acquire and maintain larger inventories, expand inter-regional trade (to reduce temporary supply-demand imbalances) and invest in additional and improved marketing handling, processing, storage, and transport equipment. Again, the market effects of expanded agribusiness credit are increasing the quantities of agricultural products marketed, at lower average prices, to the benefit of both consumers and producers. Rural financial services activities are coordinated with the Ministries of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) and Finance (MOF).

2.5 Agricultural Technology and Market Development: CLIN 0004

The agricultural technology and market development component identifies critical technology and best practices gaps that result in reduced crop and livestock productivity and reduced input and product marketing efficiency. Job orders are designed and competed among qualified firms to implement demonstrations and introductions of appropriate production and marketing technologies and best practices. Crop and livestock productivity are raised toward international standards for appropriate technologies. The resulting reduction in costs of production constitutes the initial reduction in market price and expansion of marketed volumes in priority subsectors. Further reductions in market price and increases in marketed volumes are being achieved by introducing best practices for reducing off-farm marketing and transactions costs in the transportation, storage, processing, distribution and merchandising of agricultural inputs and products. These market effects are being further enhanced by ongoing rehabilitation of rural infrastructure and expanded rural financial services. The overall goal of these interventions is to increase the competitiveness of priority subsectors, such that the returns to farmers' labor are doubled over the life of RAMP. Food security is being improved by increasing food grain farmers' productivity, while increasing the incomes of all other food consumers to increase access to either domestic or imported food supplies. Agricultural technology and market development activities are coordinated with MAAH and the Ministry of Light Industries and Foodstuffs (MLIF).

3.0 The Conceptual Framework

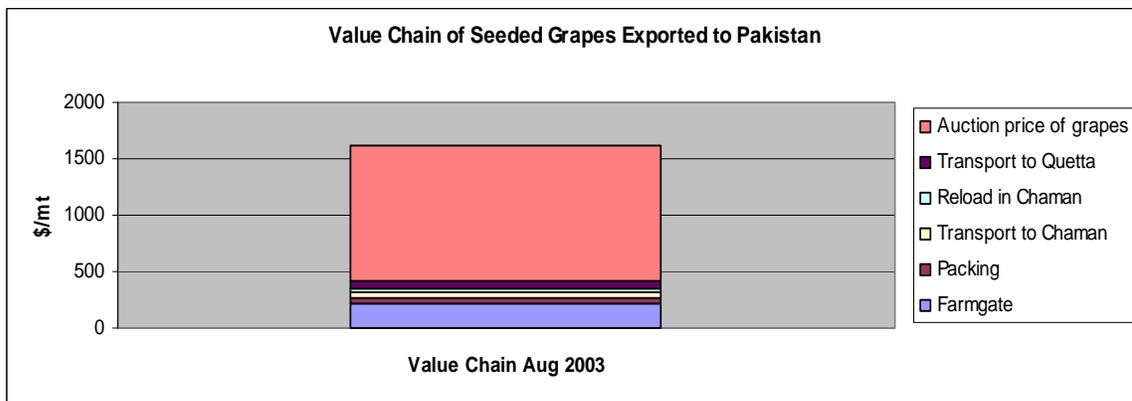
Addressing the Value Chain

In collaboration with the USAID Mission in Kabul, the RAMP programmatic strategy is being refined for a more intense focus on developing the value chain for Afghanistan agricultural products that hold the greatest potential for increasing product value, sales and incomes. The subsectors that have been identified are listed below, along with a brief description. The value chains identified include: **grapes, raisins, almonds, dried apricots, cotton, dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep, goats, and poultry.**

Grapes and Raisins

The analysis of the grape and raisin value chain (which can also apply to other fresh fruits and vegetables produced in Afghanistan) indicates opportunities for adding value for fresh products marketed domestically and exported internationally. Farmers get the best prices for their grape production from sales of fresh table grapes. The grape exports from Afghanistan in 2003 were 19,278 tons to Pakistan and 1 ton to India. The principle constraints to better production and marketing include:

- grape producers not using trellises, this allows vines to grow over the ground and leads to contamination and damage;
- lack of credit availability forces the farmer to accept forward contracts from buyers;
- lack of market information and;
- lack of cold storage.



The primary areas for grape production in Afghanistan are: Shomali Plains, Kandahar, Ghazni, Mazar, Herat, and Faryab.

The RAMP team has identified a timely market opportunity, that is, highly discounted rates for air shipping agricultural produce from Kabul to Dubai. As a result, RAMP has organized an assessment of the "Fresh Produce and Market Potential in the United Arab Emirates".

The assessment will analyze the potential of establishing reliable market contacts between Afghan exporters and potential fruit buyers in the United Arab Emirates. The Assessment will examine all legal and procedural requirements to air freight fresh produce from Kabul to Dubai, determine the logistical mechanisms (including cold storage capacity requirements), and identify key buyers and brokers who might be interested in importing experimental lots of Afghan produce.



Most grape growers in Afghanistan don't use trellises

RAMP also has two subcontractors, the Roots of Peace and the Central Asia Development Group, working on identifying buyers for fresh grapes and raisins and improving husbandry techniques for grape growers.

The work with value chains of raisins, almonds, and dried apricots included agri-business consultancies, field assessments by RAMP Agricultural Staff, coordination meetings with members and officials of the Raisin and Dried Fruit Export Institute, and meetings with the Executive officers and members of the Kabul Chamber of Commerce. The analytical results indicated major constraints and opportunities for processed red raisins, the largest horticultural export product from Afghanistan.

Major constraints included low quality of raw raisins (berries too dry, small, and dirty), antiquated and dirty processing equipment, lack of adequate analytical laboratory facilities and quality control, relatively poor access to high-valued raisin markets. Russia is the largest importer of Afghan raisins (over \$4 million in each of the past two years), which are used primarily as food ingredients. In the EC and Russia, Afghan raisin exporters may be able to take advantage of the rising trend among consumers of more naturally-produced products. Other varieties of raisins, including kishmish or green sultana, show increased market potential in traditional markets, including Russia, India, and Pakistan.

Current export markets include:

- Pakistan – grapes & raisins
- India – grapes & raisins
- Russia – raisins
- Germany - raisins

Markets targeted for development include:

- UAE – grapes & raisins
- Middle East – grapes & raisins
- Far East – grapes & raisins
- Europe – raisins
- Canada - raisins

The Raisin and Dried Fruit Export Institute, an institution of the Ministry of Commerce, has a potential role in assisting the raisin processors in certifying the raisin quality, thereby assuring the international buyers of the quality of raisin they

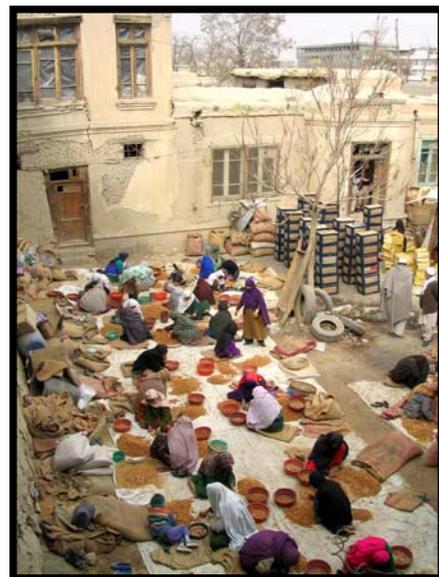
are demanding. RAMP is working closely with the members and officials of the Export Institute and the Kabul Chamber of Commerce in order to prepare the processors and investors for their involvement in the revitalization of the raisin industry through the efforts of RoP, ACTED, and CADG.

Almonds

Afghan almonds provide not only a good return on investment to farmers but also one of the most promising Afghan products for the higher-value export market. The Kabul processors' shelling, grading, and cleaning equipment is rudimentary, with most shelling done manually by women. Bitter almonds and broken almonds are sorted out in an efficient way. Almond warehousing and business operations are carried out under crowded and unsanitary conditions. Regional markets, India and Pakistan, for almonds buy both shelled and unshelled almonds. Afghan almond processors could add significant value to the almonds if the almonds were processed (diced, etc.) further. Before shipping, Afghan almond products will need to



Women sorting raisins in a sanitary facility developed by implementing partner, CADG, in Kandahar



Women sorting almonds for a Kabul trader

be certified, that is, tested for microbiology or toxic content.

Samples of almonds were sent to Russian and European importers for opinions and evaluations. Initial steps were taken to have a laboratory in Holland analyze almonds to determine microbiology and toxin content in order to facilitate market entry for this commodity. Growth in the Russian confectionary industry, the second largest in the world, is steady and predicted to continue growing for many years. This represents an opportunity for Afghanistan to enter at a high-quality end.

Dried Apricots

Export market opportunities also exist for Afghan dried apricots. Numerous interventions along the value chain are needed in order to add value to dried apricots to be able to penetrate export markets. Preliminary market testing in European countries indicates that improved sulphuring, processing, and packaging techniques are needed, in addition to improved harvesting, handling, sorting, and quality control. RAMP projects include technical assistance and training to processors and exporters involved in exporting dried apricot and other fruit. Once the quality of dried apricots is improved, the market for differentiated dried apricot products (including diced apricots) will need to be assessed.

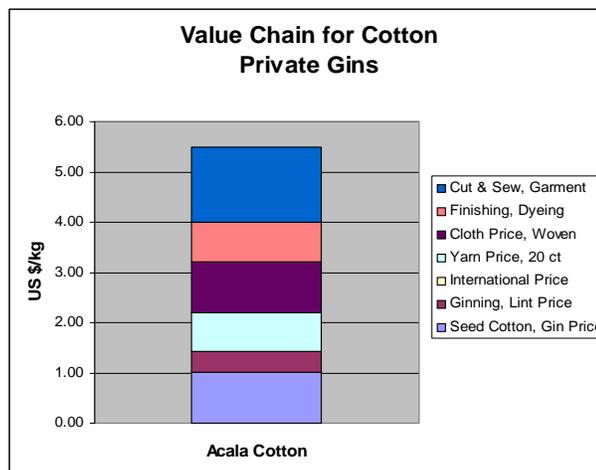


A RAMP agri-business consultant discusses international markets with Kabul almond and raisin traders.

The High Potential for Textile Production

Given policy reforms, namely, lifting the ban on private ginning of cotton, Afghanistan could become a major supplier of cotton textiles. Total exports of cotton from Afghanistan in 2003 amounted to 30,000 tons. Improved cotton seed is needed to reach the productivity potential. A cotton assessment by RAMP will be needed to determine how competitive Afghanistan is in exporting lint cotton and in cotton textile manufacturing.

The years of conflict have brought the long history of silk production in Afghanistan to a virtual halt. Despite the destruction, there is still enough mulberry trees and technical expertise in the country to restart the sericulture industry. The old silk production facility at Darul Aman will be rebuilt and with it, another possibility for rejuvenation of textile production.



Dairy, Beef, Sheep/Goats

It's estimated the 20,000 animals are killed each day in Afghanistan. The hides are sold, unprocessed to local tanneries. Leather coats are produced locally as a small cottage industry. Despite the high value of cashmere, there is very little production in Afghanistan. There is a need for wool scouring plants to facility the processing of wool and cashmere.

Other targets of opportunity have been identified and projects have been designed that will be under contract by June, 2004. These include saffron and cumin.

4.0 Assessments

The RAMP Core Team completed assessments of key agricultural subsectors with high potential for increasing rural income and improving food security. In addition to describing the production levels and market structure in each of these sub sectors, the assessments identified critical infrastructure rehabilitation projects, rural financial services, agricultural technology and market development assistance needed to significantly improve the competitive advantage of each priority sub sector. The assessments are being used for the design and implementation of job orders that directly improve sub sector competitive advantage by lowering production and marketing costs, increasing value-added and expanding markets for Afghan agricultural products.

By utilizing this integrated approach, RAMP interventions will increase incomes and food security through the rise in agricultural productivity and the development of effective linkages between producers, processors and markets. In addition, food will become more affordable as production costs decrease and expanded agricultural sales in both domestic and international markets raise incomes and strengthen the economy.

4.1 Market Support Facility Assessment

4.2 Sericulture Assessment for Balkh Province

4.3 Middle Helmand Irrigation System Assessment

4.4 Agricultural Association Assessment for Microfinance Capacity

4.5 Dried Fruit and Nut Assessment

4.6 Poultry Assessment

4.7 Assessment of Agricultural Associations to Facilitate Development of Storage Facilities

4.1 Market Support Facility Assessment

An assessment of the market demand for storage and/or processing facilities by agricultural associations in Parwan and Nangarhar Provinces was made in late December and early January. This assessment fits into the RAMP strategy for developing demand-driven, value-added post-harvest, processing, and marketing projects. Preliminary findings in the assessment:

- There is an indigenous fruit processing/exporting industry in Afghanistan currently exporting to India, Pakistan, and Russia.
- There are fears among existing processors in Afghanistan that NGO-funded processing/exporting interventions will create artificial competition and distort the market or crowd out indigenous businesses.
- A Raisin Board exists in Kabul, but is not fully developed. There are policy issues such as land rights and taxes that need to be addressed on a national/government scale.
- Dried fruit from Afghanistan is not ready for meeting the grades and standards required for shipping to the EU. However, Russia is the best high-end market that already has linkages with the Afghan market

4.2 Sericulture Assessment for Balkh

General Agricultural Conditions in Balkh

USAID/RAMP agricultural specialists conducted visits with village leaders and the agricultural cooperatives in the region. The cooperatives were well-run and active but having difficulties obtaining small and medium loans needed for seed, fertilizer, machinery and other inputs. They had share capital held in the Agricultural Bank, but were unable to access credit because the bank does not have money to lend.

Discussions with farmers centered on the price of wheat (around \$70 per tonne). Farmers complained about the World Food Program (WFP) distribution of wheat in the area driving down costs. There were considerable amounts of wheat being held in storage due to the difficulty and cost of transporting it to other markets. While in storage, the wheat is deteriorating and postharvest losses are rising. Many of the farmers expressed frustration and burgeoning interest in poppy production.

Primarily due to the evident poverty in Balkh, the livestock situation is poor. There is almost no conserved feed. Cattle, sheep and goats are malnourished and forced to subsist on wheat straw and wild fodder. The livestock owners are unable to afford supplementary feed.

Sericulture Development

The RAMP team is considering concept papers on reviving silk production in Afghanistan. As part of the assessment and review process, RAMP agricultural specialists made a site visit to Mazar-e-Sharif in Balkh Province to review the possibilities and opportunities for reviving the sericulture industry.

Currently, there is a demand for silk for making carpets, however, due to lack of supply silk is being imported from Uzbekistan. In 2003, the GOAL organization, with funding from USAID, undertook a pilot sericulture project in Balkh which produced 4 tonnes of raw silk. The Afghanistan Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry (MAAH) is also attempting to register a 10 hectare farm for the production of mulberry leaves for feeding silkworms. The Ministry intends to distribute silkworm eggs (150 boxes of 12 grams per box).

4.3 Middle Helmand Irrigation System Assessment

An assessment is ongoing in the Helmand Valley to identify projects that will rejuvenate the Middle Helmand irrigation system. The Middle Helmand Irrigation System was constructed to irrigate over 100,000 hectares but due to war and neglect only 70,000 hectares are currently receiving water. While the farmers have been maintaining the irrigation systems in an effort to receive the minimum water requirements for irrigation, the same importance has not been applied to maintaining the drainage systems. Failure to adequately maintain the drainage system is resulting in an ever increasing number of hectares being seriously affected by salinity. The assessment currently in process will identify interventions for reclaiming agricultural land affected by salinity in addition to prioritizing activities to increase agriculture productivity by rehabilitating the main irrigation and drainage canals.

The intermediate rehabilitation needs assessment for the Middle Helmand Irrigated Agriculture System (MHIAS) has been completed. The MHIAS was brought under irrigation after the construction of the Kajakai Dam. The Kajakai reservoir provides water to three main irrigation canals, the Boghra, Shamalan and the Darweshan which combine to irrigate 94,000 hectares of land.

The assessment divides the required rehabilitation needs into six categories:

- major structural work;
- repairs to small concrete structures;
- repairs or replacement of steel gates;



The Shamalan canal of the Kajakai reservoir

- repairs to irrigation canal banks;
- de-silting major irrigation canals and drains;
- and rehabilitation of roads.

The total estimated cost of completely rehabilitating the MHIAS is \$27,000,000, applied as follows:

Major Structural Work

This includes re-building water diversion dams, water intakes, installation of irrigation gates, re-construction of major drop structures, re-building several sections of the irrigation canal banks. Estimated costs \$5,000,000.

Repair/Replacement of Smaller Concrete Structures

This consists of repairing culverts, flumes, drop structures, retaining walls, protection walls and intakes for 92 different sites. Estimated costs \$ 230,000.

Repair of Steel Irrigation Gates

The assessment identified 130 irrigation gates which need replacing or repairs. Estimated costs \$ 100,000.

Protection and Repairs to Eroded Irrigation Canal Banks

Long sections of the banks for many of the canals and drains have been severely eroded. Many of the canal banks are so badly eroded that they have either been breached or are in imminent danger of being breached. The assessment identifies 443 sections of canal bank that need to be repaired. The combined length of these sections is over 40 kilometers. Estimated cost \$6,500,000.

De-silting

The assessment has identified 446 sections of canals and drains that require de-silting. The combined length of these sections is 630 kilometers. A combination of heavy equipment to clean deep wide canals and manual labor for shallower, narrower channels. Estimated cost \$6,500,000.

Road rehabilitation

Approximately 1,000 kilometers of rural roads were surveyed. It's estimated that approximately \$3,000,000 will be needed to repair the cross country roads, \$2,400,000 to rehabilitate the main canal roads, and \$3,000,000 to rehabilitate the main canal and drain roads. The total cost for road repair is estimated at \$8,400,000.

4.4 Assessment of Agricultural Associations for Micro-finance Capacity

The RAMP rural finance component is assessing agricultural associations/cooperatives to determine whether they represent a possible infrastructure for extending credit services to Afghan farmers with appropriate technical assistance or support. Afghan farmers have traditionally grouped together to form cooperatives and associations to facilitate marketing and for bulk purchases of inputs. Typically, they utilize a legal framework and are registered with appropriate ministries, such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry and the Ministry of Commerce (for custom duty preference). Many of these associations typically have a core activity or focus that is representational of some agricultural sub-sector, such as seed multiplication or irrigation water users). These existing cooperatives present a potential resource for targeting credit opportunities for Afghan farmers.

Any of these organizations can become the vehicle for accessing credit by farmers, and ideally the simplest form which serves the needs should be used — a cooperative is not necessarily the preferred organization. The benefit of cooperatives is the guarantee provided in their bylaws. The extent of this guarantee provided by other forms of organization is unknown at this time.

General Findings on Agricultural Associations

- The possible liquidation of the Agricultural Bank will necessitate another financial



Agricultural association meeting in Nangahar

institution to receive the deposits of cooperative shares.

- The level of capacity among the cooperatives varied between provinces.
- Herat cooperatives have received credit from input traders and are highly indebted as a result. It was often reported that their entire crop goes to either repay loans or to the landowner, for whom they sharecrop.
- Mazar Associations appear very entrepreneurial. They have several ideas about how to improve their livelihoods. These ideas included a market center, cold storage, exporting directly instead of working through traders or the Department of Cooperatives.
- Associations are similar to cooperatives in that they have bylaws and are registered in compliance with the legislation. A chicken producer association called Ariana Association of 64 members was encountered in Mazar.
- Associations are not well suited to being a lending mechanism; although they could be a potential SME borrower. Cooperatives are a ready and identified market for loans; however they are more appropriate as a loan client than a lending mechanism, and focus primarily on producer rather than processing activities. Many of the associations that are forming and/or being reactivated are demonstrating that they have the capacity and potential to obtain loans as an organization that they can then either, use as an organization or to share among the members.
- Agricultural associations operate similar to a group lending methodology in that the members of an association guarantee loan repayment in case of a default. The members guarantee a multiple of their deposited share capital with the agricultural association as repayment towards delinquent loans.

4.5 Dried Fruit and Nut Assessment

A market assessment of selected dried fruits (raisins, dried apricots) and nuts (almonds) was completed in January by Theodore White, a short-term consultant. The assessment identified regional and local businesses that have the capacity to export these selected dried fruits and nuts and defined the product specifications that are presently being shipped and the destinations of these products. The assessment also:

- determined the present penetration of existing Afghan products in regional markets;
- identified the processing/packaging opportunities that would allow Afghan products to enter existing markets, but at improved prices;
- defined new market opportunities that exist for the present dried fruit and nut output;
- investigated new markets for improved Afghan products;
- identified the possible market chains that would be used to assess the new market opportunities, and
- suggested mechanisms, such as improved harvesting and/or post-harvest techniques that would allow agribusinesses to pay better prices to producers.

For the dried fruit and nut industry in Afghanistan to expand into more lucrative markets, it was recommended that training in microbiological laboratory analysis, metal detection, and administrative procedures be provided to industrial participants (private and government) for downstream product quality control and certification, and shipping.

Other recommendations included:

- Training farmers in improved production methods (e.g., trellising, improved drying methods) that keep the grapes clean and allow the farmers to stop the drying process at the correct moisture/sugar content.
- Training operations managers and personnel in all aspects of product sorting, handling, storage, processing, packaging, and marketing.
- Develop a basic commodity tracking system among the exporters that lists the source and the production lot number of the exported product.
- Initiate standardization in bag size/material, weight and measuring systems along with cleanliness, handling, and sanitation.

Afghan traders, commercial agents, and exporters, who deal with regional markets (India and Pakistan) for the selected commodities, should coordinate with Afghan raisin processors, the Export Promotion Board, and RAMP to share market contacts in order to market aggressively a wider range of products in Russia.

4.6 Poultry Assessment

A poultry subsector assessment was done in February and March by Dr. Thomas Fattori, Senior Livestock Specialist. The purpose of the assessment was to develop an understanding of how to best support the sustainable development of the poultry subsector in Afghanistan. The assessment included trips to major cities throughout Afghanistan and extensive interviews with existing poultry producers, producer associations, poultry product marketing agents and groups, importers, and potential investors in the poultry sector. The assessment examined the chicken meat and egg value chain, including price and margin analysis, provided an overview of the subsector including number and size of hatcheries, feed mills, brooder/grower farms, and layer farms, estimated the quantity demanded of poultry meat and eggs in Afghanistan, and made recommendations on the necessary interventions for supporting the sustainable development of the poultry subsector.

4.7 Assessment of Agricultural Associations to Facilitate Market Structure Development

The main purpose and objectives of the mission were as follows:

- To determine the feasibility of construction or repairing various types of market infrastructure structures.
- To identify optimal locations for the various types of infrastructure structures.
- To find out the optimal ownership mechanism (public or private) for each type of structure.
- To determine the fee structure and willingness of producers and traders to pay for or rent different types of structures.
- To identify and assess construction alternative, i.e. type of structure, size, location, etc.
- To assess the potential market impact of the various type of structures.
- To study the possibility of the increasing farmers incomes through effective linkages between producers (agricultural associations), processors, and consumers.

In both Provinces (Parwan and Nangarhar), there are well established Agricultural cooperative departments managed by a technical staff that includes directors from the MAAH. Each district has active agricultural associations managed by farmer/members and the managerial committee, elected by vote of the members. It is worth mentioning that the present agricultural association system is a democratic system and completely different from the Farmer Unions, which were established through the Soviet influence.

The accounting and financial systems of these associations are controlled by the members. They maintain bank accounts in the Da Afghanistan Bank branches at the provincial level. There is a real opportunity for RAMP to work with these associations. The associations stand in need of a credit system to facilitate their activities.

5.0 Monitoring and Evaluation

5.1 The RAMP Geographic Information System (GIS)

Overview:

During the first quarter of 2004, RAMP's GIS has evolved from a conceptual framework to a robust, functional system, contributing significantly to RAMP's strategic planning needs, monitoring and evaluation strategy, and leveraging impact through project communications. The most significant progress in RAMP GIS has been in the following areas:

- personnel hiring and training;
- equipment procurement
- coordination with external GIS partners
- development of a GPS locational coordinate system
- mapping of project activities.

Personnel Hiring and Training

The RAMP M&E unit has put together a qualified team of individuals to take the lead in ongoing development and maintenance of a sustainable, project relevant, GIS. Five RAMP staff including two local staff members participated in Arc View/GIS training to leverage existing GIS capacity and advance RAMP project needs. In February, Jenny Bledsoe joined the RAMP M&E team to build on the work begun by GIS expert Mohamed Khatouri, hire needed GIS team staff, and coordinate with other in country GIS partners in system development. Local GIS Specialist Mohammad Kabir Haseeb joined the GIS team as a long term hire and arrangements were finalized to bring out two overlapping GIS experts, Mohamed Khatouri from Chemonics' home office, and Stephen Menard from Development Alternatives Incorporated. These experts will oversee the continued development of an increasingly complex and relevant GIS and assess future personnel and system needs to ensure system sustainability and continued project utility.

Equipment Procurement

As part of the GIS roll-out, necessary GIS equipment was procured in the first quarter of 2004. This included five ArcView 8.3 software licenses for use by the project team, eight GPS units for use by project managers and implementing partners to collect locational data, and a color printer to be used for GIS and other RAMP project needs. The viability of purchasing a plotter for printing maps will be determined in Q2 of 2004.

Coordination with External GIS Partners

In March of 2004, Andy Hale and Jenny Bledsoe conducted meetings with in country GIS partners to initiate collaborative relationships, identify areas for cooperation, and to ensure that there would be no duplication of effort in GIS database development. Key partnerships established included cooperative relationships between RAMP and the following agencies: Afghanistan Information Management Systems (AIMS); Development Alternatives International; the Embassy Interagency Planning Group (EIPG); and The US Army Corps of Engineers.

Development of a Locational Coordinate Collection System

Key to developing and maintaining a fully operational GIS is the collection of locational data for each activity under all job orders being conducted under RAMP. A system is being developed for tracking and gathering needed locational coordinates and converting these into a format compatible with ArcView software. Thus far, locational coordinates have been gathered for multiple activities in Helmand, Parwan, and Kabul provinces.

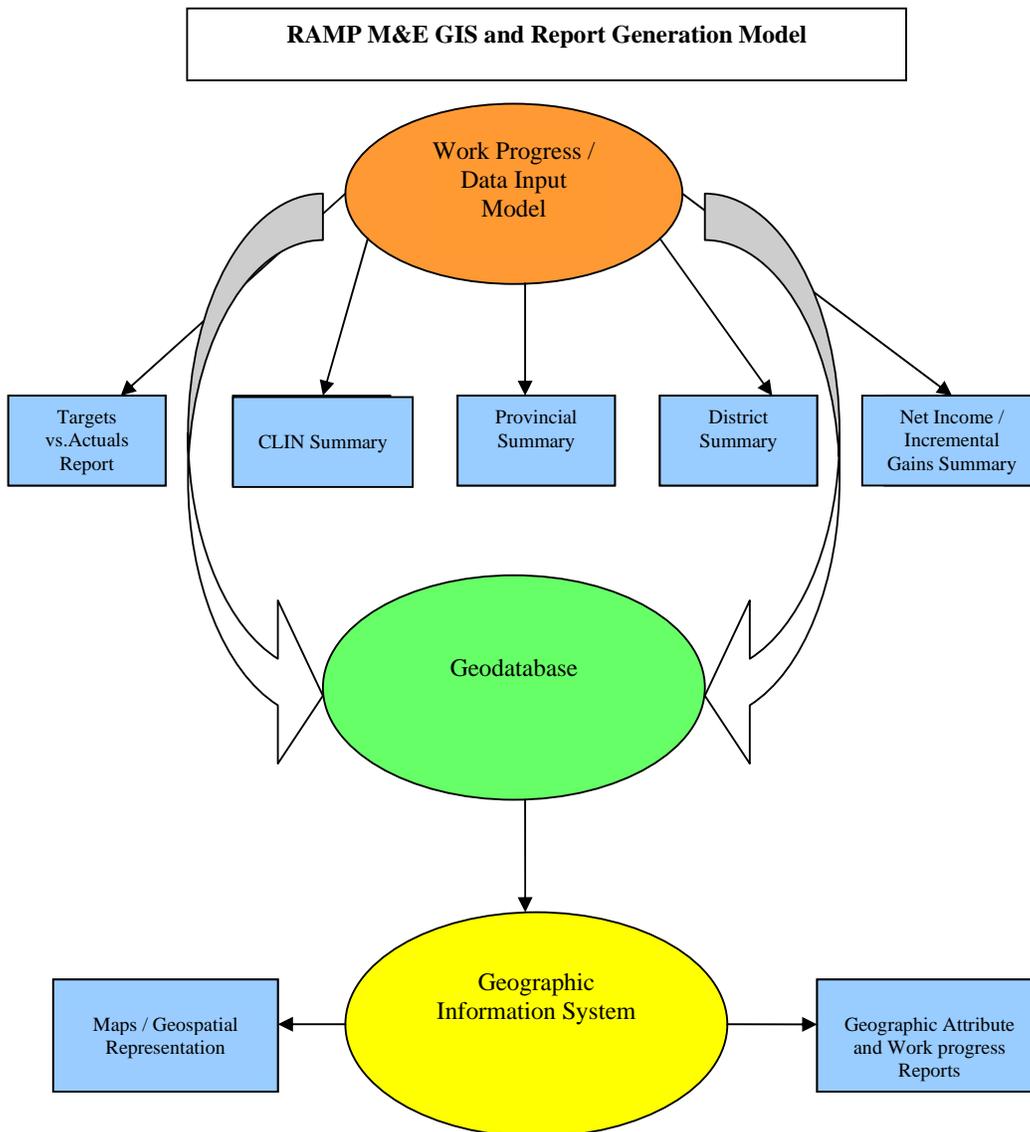
Mapping of Project Activities

The RAMP GIS team has begun generating maps to support RAMP/USAID reporting needs. Maps produced to date include both provincial activity maps to show all RAMP activity in a particular province and sectoral maps to show national activity in a particular RAMP sectoral focus. Maps are produced according to a GIS strategic work plan and also at the request of individual project managers or USAID on an as requested basis. The team is currently in the process of analyzing each RAMP job order to identify potential GIS applications.

Looking Ahead

With a strong base and high technical capacity, the RAMP GIS team is well positioned to move forward into aggressive and sustainable GIS data base development and maintenance. Over the next quarter the GIS will be coordinated with other monitoring and evaluation (M&E) activities to completely integrate and link the GIS and M&E databases. Other quarterly goals include the preliminary development of an interactive GIS library for use by project managers and implementing partners; the collection of the of all remaining locational data; the regular contribution of GIS products to the RAMP website; the identification of long term GIS team staffing needs; and initial planning of GIS capacity building within the Ministry of Agriculture to ensure continued GIS relevance after RAMP project closeout. In cooperation with other in country GIS partners, GIS will make a significant contribution to the development objectives of the RAMP project and of the country of Afghanistan.

The diagram below details the types of reports to be auto-generated from the data input model, as well as the geo-database from which the GIS will detail progress and results automatically.



5.2 Data Input – Result Simulation Model

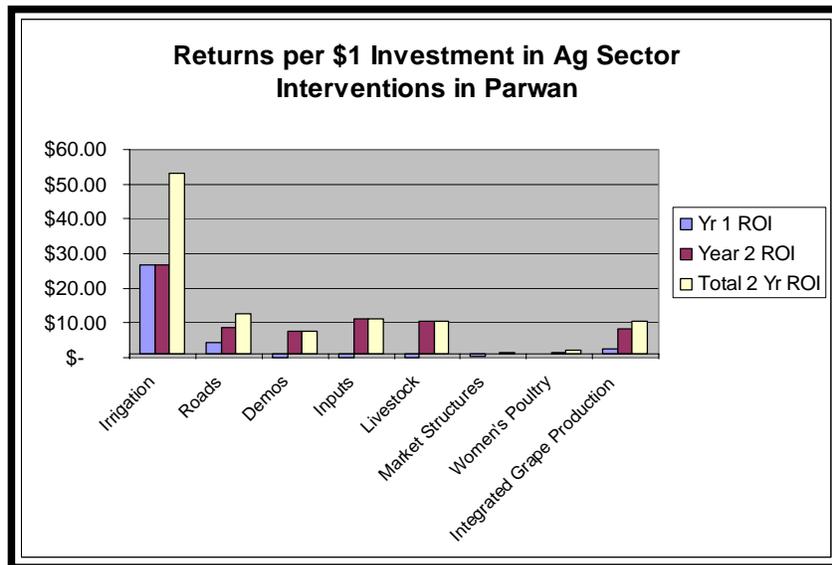
As monthly work progress reports were submitted for irrigation activities, the data were entered into a database that aggregates work progress to the district, provincial and national levels. The model also takes agricultural production and market data collected in Fall of 2003 through Participatory Rural Assessments (PRAs), and simulates the projected increases in agricultural productivity for the respective command areas.

The model is almost completely developed for irrigation activities, and is under development for roads and agricultural activities. During the next quarter, the model will be further developed to feed into the GIS database automatically.

5.3 Predicting Project Impact and Return on USAID Investment

In order to illustrate and predict returns on USAID investment in an integrated, value-chain approach to agricultural development, the Province of Parwan was selected and developed as an economic model. The summary chart, shown at right, combines irrigation, roads, on-farm demonstrations, increased access to inputs and how to use them, livestock health services, women's village poultry production, integrated grape production and marketing and improved roads.

The returns are based on incremental agricultural productivity, and the data are based on actual market data collected by the RAMP team last year, and the size and composition of command areas as reported by implementing partners.



As shown, the returns on investment (ROIs) are clearly highest on irrigation rehabilitation activities, with a return of about \$27 for each dollar spent in the first year. Road rehabilitation in Parwan has an ROI of about \$4.25 in the first year, and returns are expected to double in the second year due to increased access to production inputs, greater access to markets for producers, and greater competition among traders vying for product where transport costs are decreased.

Other activities have comparable returns. Some of the agricultural interventions, such as on-farm demonstrations, input dealer training and the veterinary services/livestock vaccination program are not expected to yield returns until year two. Others, like market/storage structure construction and the women's poultry program, will show impacts in year one, but are not expected have positive ROIs until year two. The integrated grape production program will yield \$2.45 per dollar invested in year one, and \$8.17 per dollar in year two, through integrated pruning and vine training, pest and disease management, soil replenishment, post-harvest handling practices, irrigation and vine

replacement.

Overall, expected expenditures in Parwan total \$13.4 million, with returns per dollar invested of \$2.74 in year one, and \$7.32 in year two.

5.4 A Complete RAMP Project Implementation Schedule is attached as Annex A

6.0 Provincial Project Summary

6.1 RAMP Geographic Targeting Criteria

- Total population of Afghanistan estimated between 21 and 25 million.

Regions: Provinces (13)	Districts	Population
#1. Kabul, Kapisa, Parwan	32	4,030,215
#2. Wardak, Logar, Ghazni	29	2,602,969
#3. Paktya, Nangarhar, Laghman	37	1,809,962
#4. Baghlan, Kunduz	19	1,573,349
#5. Helmand, Kandahar	26	1,607,231
Totals:	143	11,623,726

The table shown above illustrates the RAMP geographic targeting criteria. Some RAMP projects highlight national coverage, such as livestock health para-veterinary services and agricultural credit. By focusing project activities along the value chain in these five regions, RAMP will be focusing on approximately 1/2 of the of the population of Afghanistan as well as regions with the highest potential for increasing agricultural production. Projects below are listed according to job order number and province of implementation activities. Those highlighted in red have already been completed.

6.2 Nationwide Projects

Rural Finance

Microfinance Investment and Support Facility Afghanistan (MISFA).

MISFA will finance a mix of organizations that implement a diverse range of microfinance approaches in order to test their applicability to Afghanistan and support the development of a diverse and competitive microfinance sector. This is a World Bank supported activity.

Village Women's Poultry Production and Market Development United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

FAO is introducing new knowledge and practical methods for improving poultry productivity to enable over 25,000 women to participate in poultry income generating activities (eggs production, and commercialization of eggs and chicken). New markets will be opened in urban centers bringing additional revenue into the participating village.

Livestock Health, Production and Marketing Improvement Dutch Committee for Afghanistan

The contractor will create a national network of private veterinary field units (VFU) capable of providing livestock health services in all 380 districts of Afghanistan. They will also train sufficient

numbers of para-veterinarians (paravets) required to staff and service the national network, and create a livestock health, production, and marketing information system that links this private network with government departments on such issues as disease surveillance, livestock inventories, and trans-border issues.

6.3 Badakshan

Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production – N. Afghanistan United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization

The subcontractor will implement a follow-up emergency locust control in northern Afghanistan and renovate the laboratory of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) in the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry. The subcontractor will monitor and control locust outbreaks, integrating ecologically-sound Integrated Pest Management (IPM) measures into the control strategy, and build the capacity of the PPQD to assume its plant protection functions. The subcontractor will contribute to the food security of Afghanistan.

Locust Control Program, Northern Afghanistan

GOAL

The subcontractor will implement a program to mitigate the impact of locusts on rural livelihoods in Northern Afghanistan. Its key activities will include direct assistance to the chemical control of locusts with the provision of technical support, plastic sheeting, nets, barrels for water, ploughs and tents; mobilization of the rural population to areas of locust infestation, through the provision of transportation; full logistical support to the FAO and MAAH for the chemical control intervention; and monitoring of locust infested sites and program advances, through constant feedback using site and monthly reports, crop damage assessments, locust egg-bed surveys, final evaluation and providing data for the locust database, and for the FAO and AIMS.

6.4 Baghlan

Kunduz/Baghlan Irrigation Rehabilitation Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI) – Project Completed

DAI shall perform desilting and widening of more than 90 kilometers of irrigation canals to enable farmers to receive a reliable source of water to irrigate over 35,000 hectares of prime agricultural land. The Rehabilitation of both Char Dara and Bala Doorri irrigation canal system include the repair or replacement of damaged or destroyed irrigation structure such as water intakes, canal banks, protection walls, turn-outs and sluice gates.

Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production – N. Afghanistan United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization

The subcontractor will implement a follow-up emergency locust control in northern Afghanistan and renovate the laboratory of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) in the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry. The subcontractor will monitor and control locust outbreaks, integrating ecologically-sound Integrated Pest Management (IPM) measures into the control strategy, and build the capacity of the PPQD to assume its plant protection functions. The subcontractor will contribute to the food security of Afghanistan.

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6.5 Balkh

Road Rehabilitation in Balkh Province

Agency for Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation in Afghanistan (AREA)

The contractor shall rehabilitate 100 km of road in the Balkh province, including the construction of culverts, drainages, and other necessary road structures. The road construction shall provide agricultural recovery support by improving main transportation routes leading to the main Bazar and market.

Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production – N. Afghanistan

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization

The subcontractor will implement a follow-up emergency locust control in northern Afghanistan and renovate the laboratory of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) in the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry. The subcontractor will monitor and control locust outbreaks, integrating ecologically-sound Integrated Pest Management (IPM) measures into the control strategy, and build the capacity of the PPQD to assume its plant protection functions. The subcontractor will contribute to the food security of Afghanistan.

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6.6 Faryab

Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production – N. Afghanistan

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization

The subcontractor will implement a follow-up emergency locust control in northern Afghanistan and renovate the laboratory of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) in the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry. The subcontractor will monitor and control locust outbreaks, integrating ecologically-sound Integrated Pest Management (IPM) measures into the control strategy, and build the capacity of the PPQD to assume its plant protection functions. The subcontractor will contribute to the food security of Afghanistan.

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6.7 Ghazni

Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and the Center for Improvement of Potatoes in Lima Peru (CIP)

ICARDA/CIP shall provide technical assistance to the project in terms of technical guidance for operational efficiency, needs assessments, order of start-up machinery and equipment, purchase

of start-up inputs, and provision of relevant training for clean seed production, multiplication and marketing for increasing potato production in Afghanistan.

Village-Based Seed Enterprises

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

They shall provide assistance to the project in terms of technical guidance for operational efficiency of village-based seed enterprise development in Afghanistan. The project will carry out the required market survey, needs assessments, monitoring and evaluation. Other essential services and assistance will include providing information and advice on appropriate machinery, equipment, storage facilities and start-up inputs and provision of relevant training (business management, marketing, accounting and seed technology).

On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

They shall provide assistance to the project in terms of technical guidance in demonstrating new technologies in farmers' fields to facilitate rapid adoption and diffusion. The overall aim of the project is to contribute to RAMP's objectives of increasing agricultural productivity and rural incomes by demonstrating available improved technologies in farmers' fields, focusing on improved varieties of field and vegetable crops that are adapted to local conditions, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management practices. The demonstration fields are designed to show farmers the advantages of improved varieties and crop management practices, compared with their traditional practices.

Protected Agriculture

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

They shall provide assistance to the project in terms of introducing protected agriculture for cash crop production in marginal and water deficit areas of Afghanistan. The project will promote the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently, by establishing a central demonstration and training site within Kabul and by installing simple greenhouse structures at selected pilot sites with participating farmers.

Repair of Ghazni-Meray Access Road

Engineering Services for Afghanistan Reconstruction (ESAR)

Repair a critical market access road in Ghazni province implemented by the Afghan NGO. The contractor will repair 26km of road connecting Andar district center of Meray to the main Kabul – Kandahar Highway. The road repair will facilitate market access to the provincial capital of Ghazni for village farmers.

Road Rehabilitation in Malistan and Jaghori Districts In Ghazni Province

Ghazni Rural Support Program (GRSP)

To rehabilitate roads in Malistan and Jaghori Districts in Ghazni Province. The subcontractor shall upgrade and rehabilitate two roads in the Malistan and Jaghuri Districts. The roads will be 60 km long and provided with 30 culverts, 2500 meter retaining walls and 205 meter concrete pipes where water is crossing the road. The road rehabilitation will improve main transportation routes leading to critical provincial bazars and markets.

Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development

International Fertilizer Development Company (IFDC)

The Subcontractor shall train 2,000 agri-input dealers, improve market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, develop business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs and establish five private sector associations of agri-input dealers.

Grain Post Harvest Storage and Milling Development, Postharvest Processing and Market Development

The Grain Industry Alliance (GIA)

To develop a series of demonstration clusters (sites) for proper cleaning, storage and handling of grain, combined with a training program at selected locations in each of the five RAMP priority Provinces. The subcontractor will also develop 25 community level storage sites, 25 full scale farm

demonstration units, and 25 small farm demonstration units. The subcontractor will provide a complete range of grain storage handling, grading sites in several locations and will allow for a targeted training program to be planned and delivered at various key times during the growing and harvesting season. Demonstration units and training will result in farmers replicating this storage capability throughout the training regions.

Grape Production Improvement, Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development

The Roots of Peace Consortium

The subcontractor shall develop and disseminate technical courseware and materials to Afghan farmers; establish a trainer-to-trainer program to train Afghan extensionists; select and develop 10 model farms to demonstrate implementation and results of best practices; build new local centers or refurbish existing buildings to create market/collection centers; improve vine propagation through nursery development and rejuvenation to ensure sufficient numbers of healthy vine and rootstock available; establish 3 Farmer Owned Businesses (FOBs) to organize farmers into a legal private enterprise that provides the ability for them to secure credit from multi-lateral financial institutions; promote commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets; and explore methods of external communication to convey pertinent information about grapes to all links in the supply chain.

6.8 Helmand

Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and the Center for Improvement of Potatoes in Lima, Peru (CIP)

ICARDA/CIP shall provide technical assistance to the project in terms of technical guidance for operational efficiency, needs assessments, order of start-up machinery and equipment, purchase of start-up inputs, and provision of relevant training for clean seed production, multiplication and marketing for increasing potato production in Afghanistan.

Village-Based Seed Enterprises

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

They shall provide assistance to the project in terms of technical guidance for operational efficiency of village-based seed enterprise development in Afghanistan. The project will carry out the required market survey, needs assessments, monitoring and evaluation. Other essential services and assistance will include providing information and advice on appropriate machinery, equipment, storage facilities and start-up inputs and provision of relevant training (business management, marketing, accounting and seed technology).

On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

They shall provide assistance to the project in terms of technical guidance in demonstrating new technologies in farmers' fields to facilitate rapid adoption and diffusion. The overall aim of the project is to contribute to RAMP's objectives of increasing agricultural productivity and rural incomes by demonstrating available improved technologies in farmers' fields, focusing on improved varieties of field and vegetable crops that are adapted to local conditions, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management practices. The demonstration fields are designed to show farmers the advantages of improved varieties and crop management practices, compared with their traditional practices.

Protected Agriculture

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

They shall provide assistance to the project in terms of introducing protected agriculture for cash crop production in marginal and water deficit areas of Afghanistan. The project will promote the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently, by establishing a central demonstration and training site within Kabul and by installing simple greenhouse structures at selected pilot sites with participating farmers.

Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development

Central Asia Development Group (CADG)

The subcontractor shall stimulate the expansion and supervision of agricultural activity, establish demonstration farms, contract growing of selected crops, and provide technical assistance and expertise in the areas of agriculture, processing and marketing, application of technologies to crop development, and implementation of drip irrigation plots.

Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development

International Fertilizer Development Company (IFDC)

The Subcontractor shall train 2,000 agri-input dealers, improve market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, develop business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs and establish five private sector associations of agri-input dealers.

Grain Post Harvest Storage and Milling Development, Postharvest Processing and Market Development

The Grain Industry Alliance (GIA)

To develop a series of demonstration clusters (sites) for proper cleaning, storage and handling of grain, combined with a training program at selected locations in each of the five RAMP priority Provinces. The subcontractor will also develop 25 community level storage sites, 25 full scale farm demonstration units, and 25 small farm demonstration units. The subcontractor will provide a complete range of grain storage handling, grading sites in several locations and will allow for a targeted training program to be planned and delivered at various key times during the growing and harvesting season. Demonstration units and training will result in farmers replicating this storage capability throughout the training regions.

Grape Production Improvement, Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development

The Roots of Peace Consortium

The subcontractor shall develop and disseminate technical courseware and materials to Afghan farmers; establish a trainer-to-trainer program to train Afghan extensionists; select and develop 10 model farms to demonstrate implementation and results of best practices; build new local centers or refurbish existing buildings to create market/collection centers; improve vine propagation through nursery development and rejuvenation to ensure sufficient numbers of healthy vine and rootstock available; establish 3 Farmer Owned Businesses (FOBs) to organize farmers into a legal private enterprise that provides the ability for them to secure credit from multi-lateral financial institutions; promote commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets; and explore methods of external communication to convey pertinent information about grapes to all links in the supply chain.

6.9 Herat

Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project and Agribusiness Program Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

The subcontractor will rehabilitate irrigation systems in Herat Province which will stimulate market-led agricultural development in western Afghanistan by improving key components of the agricultural infrastructure and strengthening supply chains for key crops produced. The subcontractor will create market opportunities for three high-value crops and provide support services to producers and other supply chain actors to ensure long-term impacts.

6.10 Jawzjan

Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production – N. Afghanistan United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization

The subcontractor will implement a follow-up emergency locust control in northern Afghanistan and renovate the laboratory of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) in the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry. The subcontractor will monitor and control locust outbreaks, integrating ecologically-sound Integrated Pest Management (IPM) measures into the control

strategy, and build the capacity of the PPQD to assume its plant protection functions. The subcontractor will contribute to the food security of Afghanistan.

Locust Control Program, Northern Afghanistan

GOAL

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6.11 Kabul

Increasing Agricultural Production in Parwan, Kapisa and Kabul Provinces

Agence d'aide a la Cooperation et au Developpement (ACTED)

ACTED shall work with farmers in the Shamali Plain to improve agricultural productivity through rehabilitating destroyed and exhausted orchards and vineyards, establishing nurseries, developing fruit processing by constructing innovative low-tech facilities (greenhouses, solar dryers and storage warehouses) focused on income-generating activities in priority for women.

Training in Efficient Use of Resources for Arid Lands, Agricultural Production Job International Arid Lands Consortium (IALC)

The subcontractor will support the sustainable development, management, and restoration of arid and semi-arid lands in Afghanistan; thereby ensuring food security, increased productivity, and increased income. The subcontractor will also improve efficient use of water and soil resources at the farm, community and regional levels; support human and institutional capacity development, especially in agricultural education, research and water resource management institutions, and in arid lands conservation, management and development; apply appropriate technology in agriculture and livestock development; and support human capacity development needed backward and forward linkages in the food and fiber sector of Afghanistan.

Green Kabul Program, Reforestation

United Nations Office of Project Services (UNOPS)

The subcontractor will procure and distribute approximately 1 million trees throughout Kabul. Its key activities will include: planting fruit and forestry trees in various public locations throughout Kabul, including schools, government buildings, parks, roadsides, and the Kabul Green Belt; organizing Kabul Green Week activities, including public events, children's activities, receptions, entertainment, and education; coordinating an ongoing public information campaign to raise public awareness of environmental issues in Afghanistan.

6.12 Kandahar

Kandahar Check Dams, Irrigation and Agricultural Production

Central Asia Development Group (CADG)

CADG shall construct check dams to form community reservoirs to store rain water and prevent erosion in Kandahar and Helmand provinces. The construction of strategically placed check dams will enable farmers to harvest rainwater and divert stored water to underground aquifers and recharging karezes.

Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development

Central Asia Development Group (CADG)

The subcontractor shall stimulate the expansion and supervision of agricultural activity, establish demonstration farms, contract growing of selected crops, and provide technical assistance and expertise in the areas of agriculture, processing and marketing, application of technologies to crop development, and implementation of drip irrigation plots.

Grape Production Improvement, Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development

The Roots of Peace Consortium

The subcontractor shall develop and disseminate technical courseware and materials to Afghan farmers; establish a trainer-to-trainer program to train Afghan extensionists; select and develop 10 model farms to demonstrate implementation and results of best practices; build new local centers or refurbish existing buildings to create market/collection centers; improve vine propagation through nursery development and rejuvenation to ensure sufficient numbers of healthy vine and rootstock available; establish 3 Farmer Owned Businesses (FOBs) to organize farmers into a legal private enterprise that provides the ability for them to secure credit from multi-lateral financial institutions; promote commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets; and explore methods of external communication to convey pertinent information about grapes to all links in the supply chain.

6.13 Kapisa

Increasing Agricultural Production in Parwan, Kapisa and Kabul Provinces

Agence d'aide a la Cooperation et au Developpement (ACTED)

ACTED shall work with farmers in the Shamali Plain to improve agricultural productivity through rehabilitating destroyed and exhausted orchards and vineyards, establishing nurseries, developing fruit processing by constructing innovative low-tech facilities (greenhouses, solar dryers and storage warehouses) focused on income-generating activities in priority for women.

6.14 Kunar

Kanday Road Rehabilitation, Transportation

Mission d'Aide au Développement des Economies Rurales (MADERA)

The Subcontractor shall rehabilitate a 300 meter section of the road between Jalalabad and Assadabad, and construct a protection wall and a gabion dyke to reduce erosion during periods of flooding. The Subcontractor shall also dig a diversion canal.

6.15 Kunduz

Irrigation Rehabilitation – Project Completed

Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI) – Project Completed

DAI shall perform desilting and widening of more than 90 kilometers of irrigation canals to enable farmers to receive a reliable source of water to irrigate over 35,000 hectares of prime agricultural land. The Rehabilitation of both Char Dara and Bala Doori irrigation canal system include the repair or replacement of damaged or destroyed irrigation structure such as water intakes, canal banks, protection walls, turnouts and sluice gates.

Khanabad Dam Irrigation Rehabilitation and Road Repair

Kunduz Rehabilitation Agency (KRA)

KRA shall upgrade approximately 25 kilometers of secondary roads enabling the farmers in Khanabad to more effectively sell their agriculture produce. Additionally, KRA shall construct four water intakes that collectively will provide valuable source of water to over 50,000 hectares of land for the production of wheat, cotton, and rice.

Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and the Center for Improvement of Potatoes in Lima Peru (CIP)

ICARDA/CIP shall provide technical assistance to the project in terms of technical guidance for operational efficiency, needs assessments, order of start-up machinery and equipment, purchase of start-up inputs, and provision of relevant training for clean seed production, multiplication and marketing for increasing potato production in Afghanistan.

Village-Based Seed Enterprises

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

They shall provide assistance to the project in terms of technical guidance for operational efficiency of village-based seed enterprise development in Afghanistan. The project will carry out the required market survey, needs assessments, monitoring and evaluation. Other essential services and assistance will include providing information and advice on appropriate machinery, equipment, storage facilities and start-up inputs and provision of relevant training (business management, marketing, accounting and seed technology).

On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

They shall provide assistance to the project in terms of technical guidance in demonstrating new technologies in farmers' fields to facilitate rapid adoption and diffusion. The overall aim of the project is to contribute to RAMP's objectives of increasing agricultural productivity and rural incomes by demonstrating available improved technologies in farmers' fields, focusing on improved varieties of field and vegetable crops that are adapted to local conditions, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management practices. The demonstration fields are designed to show farmers the advantages of improved varieties and crop management practices, compared with their traditional practices.

Protected Agriculture

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

They shall provide assistance to the project in terms of introducing protected agriculture for cash crop production in marginal and water deficit areas of Afghanistan. The project will promote the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently, by establishing a central demonstration and training site within Kabul and by installing simple greenhouse structures at selected pilot sites with participating farmers.

Reconstruction of Road Infrastructure in Kunduz Province

Partners in Revitalization and Building (PRB).

The contractor will upgrade and rehabilitate 73.6 kilometers of secondary roads in Kunduz province, Imam Sahib district. Rehabilitation of these roads across the province will facilitate agricultural market access.

Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development

International Fertilizer Development Company (IFDC)

The Subcontractor shall train 2,000 agri-input dealers, improve market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, develop business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs and establish five private sector associations of agri-input dealers.

Grain Post Harvest Storage and Milling Development, Postharvest Processing and Market Development

The Grain Industry Alliance (GIA)

To develop a series of demonstration clusters (sites) for proper cleaning, storage and handling of grain, combined with a training program at selected locations in each of the five RAMP priority Provinces. The subcontractor will also develop 25 community level storage sites, 25 full scale farm demonstration units, and 25 small farm demonstration units. The subcontractor will provide a complete range of grain storage handling, grading sites in several locations and will allow for a targeted training program to be planned and delivered at various key times during the growing and harvesting season. Demonstration units and training will result in farmers replicating this storage capability throughout the training regions.

6.16 Nangahar

Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and the Center for Improvement of Potatoes in Lima Peru (CIP)

ICARDA/CIP shall provide technical assistance to the project in terms of technical guidance for operational efficiency, needs assessments, order of start-up machinery and equipment, purchase of start-up inputs, and provision of relevant training for clean seed production, multiplication and marketing for increasing potato production in Afghanistan.

Village-Based Seed Enterprises

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

They shall provide assistance to the project in terms of technical guidance for operational efficiency of village-based seed enterprise development in Afghanistan. The project will carry out the required market survey, needs assessments, monitoring and evaluation. Other essential services and assistance will include providing information and advice on appropriate machinery, equipment, storage facilities and start-up inputs and provision of relevant training (business management, marketing, accounting and seed technology).

On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

They shall provide assistance to the project in terms of technical guidance in demonstrating new technologies in farmers' fields to facilitate rapid adoption and diffusion. The overall aim of the project is to contribute to RAMP's objectives of increasing agricultural productivity and rural incomes by demonstrating available improved technologies in farmers' fields, focusing on improved varieties of field and vegetable crops that are adapted to local conditions, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management practices. The demonstration fields are designed to show farmers the advantages of improved varieties and crop management practices, compared with their traditional practices.

Protected Agriculture

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

They shall provide assistance to the project in terms of introducing protected agriculture for cash crop production in marginal and water deficit areas of Afghanistan. The project will promote the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently, by establishing a central demonstration and training site within Kabul and by installing simple greenhouse structures at selected pilot sites with participating farmers.

Irrigation Rehabilitation in Khewa District of Nangarhar

Social and Technical Association for Afghanistan Rehabilitation (STAAR)

The subcontractor shall construct 110 m of the Shegee main canal intake, rehabilitate 100m retaining wall, construct 19 culverts along the Shegee main canal, and construct spillways for the Shegee, Koti-Taran, Kachara canals, as well as construction of 325 m of the Koti-Taran intake, and rehabilitation of 325 m of the Kachara intake.

Improving Rural Agricultural Productivity through Enhanced Irrigation Systems & Water Management

Reconstruction and Social Services for Afghanistan (RSSA)

The contractor shall rehabilitate the hydro technical, protection and division structures at the end point of Nangarhar canal and sub canals covering 6,000 hectares of irrigable land.

Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development

International Fertilizer Development Company (IFDC)

The Subcontractor shall train 2,000 agri-input dealers, improve market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, develop business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs and establish five private sector associations of agri-input dealers.

Grain Post Harvest Storage and Milling Development, Postharvest Processing and Market Development

The Grain Industry Alliance (GIA)

To develop a series of demonstration clusters (sites) for proper cleaning, storage and handling of grain, combined with a training program at selected locations in each of the five RAMP priority Provinces. The subcontractor will also develop 25 community level storage sites, 25 full scale farm

demonstration units, and 25 small farm demonstration units. The subcontractor will provide a complete range of grain storage handling, grading sites in several locations and will allow for a targeted training program to be planned and delivered at various key times during the growing and harvesting season. Demonstration units and training will result in farmers replicating this storage capability throughout the training regions.

Grape Production Improvement, Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development

The Roots of Peace Consortium

The subcontractor shall develop and disseminate technical courseware and materials to Afghan farmers; establish a trainer-to-trainer program to train Afghan extensionists; select and develop 10 model farms to demonstrate implementation and results of best practices; build new local centers or refurbish existing buildings to create market/collection centers; improve vine propagation through nursery development and rejuvenation to ensure sufficient numbers of healthy vine and rootstock available; establish 3 Farmer Owned Businesses (FOBs) to organize farmers into a legal private enterprise that provides the ability for them to secure credit from multi-lateral financial institutions; promote commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets; and explore methods of external communication to convey pertinent information about grapes to all links in the supply chain.

6.17 Parwan

Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and the Center for Improvement of Potatoes in Lima Peru (CIP)

ICARDA/CIP shall provide technical assistance to the project in terms of technical guidance for operational efficiency, needs assessments, order of start-up machinery and equipment, purchase of start-up inputs, and provision of relevant training for clean seed production, multiplication and marketing for increasing potato production in Afghanistan.

Village-Based Seed Enterprises

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

They shall provide assistance to the project in terms of technical guidance for operational efficiency of village-based seed enterprise development in Afghanistan. The project will carry out the required market survey, needs assessments, monitoring and evaluation. Other essential services and assistance will include providing information and advice on appropriate machinery, equipment, storage facilities and start-up inputs and provision of relevant training (business management, marketing, accounting and seed technology).

On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

They shall provide assistance to the project in terms of technical guidance in demonstrating new technologies in farmers' fields to facilitate rapid adoption and diffusion. The overall aim of the project is to contribute to RAMP's objectives of increasing agricultural productivity and rural incomes by demonstrating available improved technologies in farmers' fields, focusing on improved varieties of field and vegetable crops that are adapted to local conditions, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management practices. The demonstration fields are designed to show farmers the advantages of improved varieties and crop management practices, compared with their traditional practices.

Protected Agriculture

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

They shall provide assistance to the project in terms of introducing protected agriculture for cash crop production in marginal and water deficit areas of Afghanistan. The project will promote the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently, by establishing a central demonstration and training site within Kabul and by installing simple greenhouse structures at selected pilot sites with participating farmers.

Shamali Plains Roads Upgrade

Agence d'aide a la Cooperation et au Developpement (ACTED)

ACTED shall rehabilitate 28 kilometers of tertiary roads in the Shamali Plain, including an estimated 100 culverts. The rehabilitation of rural infrastructure will increase agricultural output in the Shamali Plain, and complementary will improve the quality of input and production technology, streamline marketing techniques, provide access to markets, and create producer organizations.

Increasing Agricultural Production in Parwan, Kapisa and Kabul Provinces

Agence d'aide a la Cooperation et au Developpement (ACTED)

ACTED shall work with farmers in the Shamali Plain to improve agricultural productivity through rehabilitating destroyed and exhausted orchards and vineyards, establishing nurseries, developing fruit processing by constructing innovative low-tech facilities (greenhouses, solar dryers and storage warehouses) focused on income-generating activities in priority for women.

Completion of Three Dams in Shamali Plains

Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan (RAFA) – Project Completed

The grantee will reconstruct three water diversion dams along the Ghorband River (Charikar, Khwaja/Matak, Mahigeer) irrigate approximately 18,000 hectares of land. Over 40 villages are irrigated by the canals from these dams.

Rehabilitation of Irrigation Canals in Parwan

Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan (RAFA).

The subcontractor shall rehabilitate and construct six new water diversion dams over the Salang and Ghurband river to provide water to six canals. These six canals provide water for most of the agricultural land in Parwan Province.

Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development

International Fertilizer Development Company (IFDC)

The Subcontractor shall train 2,000 agri-input dealers, improve market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, develop business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs and establish five private sector associations of agri-input dealers.

Grain Post Harvest Storage and Milling Development, Postharvest Processing and Market Development

The Grain Industry Alliance (GIA)

To develop a series of demonstration clusters (sites) for proper cleaning, storage and handling of grain, combined with a training program at selected locations in each of the five RAMP priority Provinces. The subcontractor will also develop 25 community level storage sites, 25 full scale farm demonstration units, and 25 small farm demonstration units. The subcontractor will provide a complete range of grain storage handling, grading sites in several locations and will allow for a targeted training program to be planned and delivered at various key times during the growing and harvesting season. Demonstration units and training will result in farmers replicating this storage capability throughout the training regions.

Grape Production Improvement, Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development

The Roots of Peace Consortium

The subcontractor shall develop and disseminate technical courseware and materials to Afghan farmers; establish a trainer-to-trainer program to train Afghan extensionists; select and develop 10 model farms to demonstrate implementation and results of best practices; build new local centers or refurbish existing buildings to create market/collection centers; improve vine propagation through nursery development and rejuvenation to ensure sufficient numbers of healthy vine and rootstock available; establish 3 Farmer Owned Businesses (FOBs) to organize farmers into a legal private enterprise that provides the ability for them to secure credit from multi-lateral financial institutions; promote commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets; and explore methods of external communication to convey pertinent information about grapes to all links in the supply chain.

Dried Vegetable Production, Processing and Market Development, Development Works Canada (DWC)

The subcontractor shall construct a dehydration factory consisting two stories (6,200 square foot) production facility which will house most of the workers and the cleaning, dicing, and drying machinery, a warehouse, a small test laboratory to ensure quality control and gain customer confidence, a classroom for the research farm and frequent lessons, and a 70 meter borehole to provide clean water to wash the produce and irrigate the research farm.

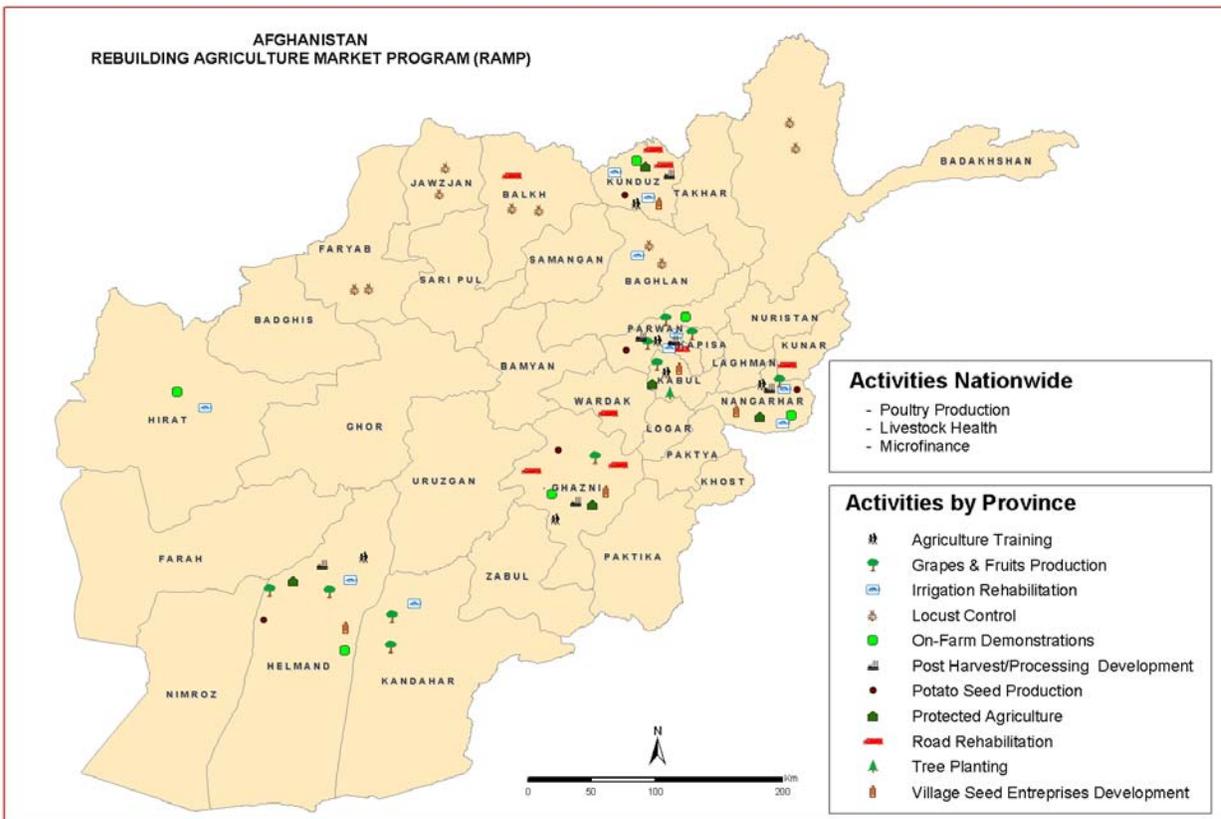
6.18 Wardak

Bridge Construction in Aga Khil

Agency for Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation in Afghanistan (AREA)

Reconstruct the bridge near Aga Khil, in Wardak province. The existing bridge spans a seasonal river, which floods during the spring and late summer, vehicle traffic is rendered impossible, and disrupts both local and Ghazni-Hazarajat transportation routes. After construction, farmers will be able to transport agricultural goods to Ghazni and Hazarajat.

6.19 Map of RAMP Activities Nationwide



7.0 Key Accomplishments this Quarter

Project Indicators	Cum. Total to March 31, 2004	June 2004 Target
1. Km. of canal rehabilitated	135	250
2. Irrigation structures rehabilitated	46	210
3. Hectares receiving improved irrigation	150,104	300,000
4. Km of farm to market roads rehabilitated	52	100
5. Loan officers trained	800	1150
6. Loans disbursed	0	1,000
7. Livestock vaccinated/treated	0	2,000,000
8. Chickens disbursed	0	5000
9. Farmers served by extension	32,000	300,000

The above table contains project performance indicators as of March 31, 2004. These indicators were requested by USAID in Washington, DC. They represent a small, cross-section of the development progress under RAMP and are updated with each memo to USAID. Numbers 6, 7 and 8 are projects which had either not yet begun that particular phase of implementation, or had not submitted their first monthly report. For example, the MISFA program, which oversees rural finance, is training loan officers (indicator #5), but had not yet received the first reports from implementing partners on loans disbursed (indicator #6). While no chickens are recorded as being disbursed (indicator #8), the process of training women to in the care and management of poultry is in process.

What follows is a more complete accounting of the key accomplishments in each RAMP sector, Infrastructure, Agricultural Technology and Market Development, and Rural Finance for this quarter.

8.0 Infrastructure Rehabilitation – Key Accomplishments

Total 3 year infrastructure investment targeted by RAMP – US \$67 million

Infrastructure Indicators	Cum. Total to March 31, 2004	June 2004 Target
1. Km. of canal rehabilitated	135	250
2. Irrigation structures rehabilitated	46	210
3. Hectares receiving improved irrigation	150,104	300,000

Without water, farmers can't grow crops. Without roads, farmers can't move their crops to markets. The rehabilitation of infrastructure, irrigation and roads is a vital step in restoring agricultural production and enabling the value chain approach in development.

8.1 Farmers in Kunduz and Baghlan Applaud Rapid Completion of Irrigation Rehabilitation

Project 100% Complete

- Afghan farmers employed by Char Dara, Bala Doori and Darqad - 4,400
- Total investment in Char Dara, Bala Doori and Darqad – \$1,335, 804 and the total amt spent was \$1,287,036.
- Kilometers of canal rehabilitated by these three projects – 111

- **Implementing Partner: Development Alternatives, Inc., (DAI)**

Major irrigation rehabilitation projects in Baghlan and Kunduz have created communities that are excited about their prospects for the future. In Baghlan, Mirab Gul Hassan, exclaims that “for the first time in 25 years, we’ll have the water necessary to improve our crops. With the wages farmers are earning [by working on the canals], we can buy bicycles, pay off our debts and provide better lives for our families.”

In Kunduz and Baghlan provinces, USAID/RAMP implementing partner, Development Alternatives Inc., has rehabilitated three rural irrigation systems and returned more than 300,000 hectares of cultivated land to full irrigated production. This includes de-silting and widening irrigation canals, repairing and replacing water intakes, canal banks, protection walls, turnouts, and sluice gates. In general, providing a reliable source of water for irrigation has the effect of doubling crop yields.



Mirab Gul Hassan of Baghlan, surrounded by community members at the Darqad irrigation project site

The **Char Dara Irrigation Project** in Kunduz employed 2700 Afghan farmers in removing silt from 60 kilometers of irrigation canals. This system dates back to 1891 but lack of proper maintenance resulted in canal and irrigation structures that were no longer capable of delivering the volumes of water for which the system was designed.

Of the 36,000 hectares of land served by the system, 10,800 (30%) were totally unproductive because they received no water and 60% were only partially productive because water was only available sporadically and only 10% received the quantity of water needed. Sixty kilometers of canal were de-silted and repaired.



Local farmers working to de-silt the Darqad canal

The **Bala Doori Irrigation System** runs through Pul-e-Khumri in Baghlan Province. DAI employed 1,000 Afghan workers to de-silt and clean out 30 kilometers of canal. This system was built in the 1930’s and served the community well, irrigating 3,000 hectares in the past, but had deteriorated to serving just 2,000 hectares.

Due to illegal intakes and water theft upstream, the **Darqad Irrigation System** had been unable to provide an adequate water supply to the region for 25 years. Seven hundred Afghan farmers worked to clean 21 kilometers of canal, commencing at the intake on the Kunduz River.



Village children in front of the canal at Char Dara while work was in progress

The Governor of Baghlan, Engineer Omar, commented that “I have been on field visits to areas with no water and now there will be plenty of water. When the people see me, they are very happy. I am proud of the support that I

have given this project. If I balance these activities with those of other NGO's and the aid community, these projects are more important than all of them put together....I hope that this is the not the end of your work in Baghlan, but just the start."

The Char Dara, Bala Doori and Darqad irrigation projects were completed in March 2004, in time for the spring planting season. The rehabilitation of these irrigation systems has been a community building endeavor. Thousands of local farmers were employed on the projects.

The local Irrigation Departments and Mirabs (irrigation water oversight and leadership) were involved in each step of the planning and implementation process. As a result, the community learned what is necessary to maintain their irrigation systems, the employment opportunities injected cash into the local economies and farmers get the water they need to improve their yields and income.



Digging out the Bala Doori as it passes under a road

The Bala Doori Irrigation System

- 30 km of canal desilted and widened
- 74,000 days of paid wages for Afghan workers
- 37 community members trained in canal management
- 1,000 hectares of land receiving new water for irrigation
- 2,000 hectares of land gaining an additional cropping cycle



Engineers measure a stump indicating the level of silt that has been removed from Bala Doori

The Bala Doori Canal rehabilitation activity had two major components: de-silting and widening the canal and building 300 meters of protective wall to prevent the banks of the canal being eroded by the Kunduz River. From its intake to the south of Pul-e-Khumri, the Bala Doori flows through the middle of the town until it eventually reaches its command area to the north of town. The canal branches to form two loops. The two loops and the main canal are a total of 30km long.

Significant portions of the Bala Doori run right through the heart of the Pul-e-Khumri. This caused two problems. First, people living in the city dump trash and sewage directly into the canal because it is the only real option they have. Sediment from natural sources compounded the problem so that the Bala Doori Canal was virtually full of solid material leaving very little room for it to carry water. Second, a number of Pul-e-Khumri residents who live adjacent to the canal extended their properties up to and, in some cases, over the canal. The result is that the small volume of water that passes over the silt and through the city is terribly polluted by the time it reaches the farmers the canal had been designed and built to serve. For want of an alternative, farm families have for many years been forced to use the filthy water not only for irrigation but also for bathing and, in many cases, for drinking as well. Urban encroachment made removing sediment from the Bala Doori difficult.



The canal in the heart of Pul-e-Khumri

Excellent relationships with city officials and the Governor of Baghlan Province provided the support needed to negotiate with the encroachers. Because the residents of the city of Pul-e-

Khumri depend almost entirely on agricultural produce irrigated by water from canals like the Bala Doori, it is their incomes and those of the farm communities downstream that make this a potentially prosperous economy.

Repairing and rehabilitating irrigation systems has tight seasonal limitations. The availability of large numbers of farmers to do this labor-intensive work is confined to the winter months. Most cleaning and structural work on irrigation and drainage systems must be completed by early Spring when *mirabs* open the canal gates to provide water for irrigating the crops and to handle flooding from the spring run-off.

The Darqad Irrigation System

- 12 km of canal desilted and widened
- 37,775 paid labor days for Afghan workers
- 80 community members trained in canal management
- 1,000 hectares of land receiving new water for irrigation
- 600 hectares gain a additional cropping cycle



15 August 2003 – before work began



6 January 2004 – during intake construction

The Darqad project is providing new irrigation to 1,000 hectares of land and an additional cropping cycle to 600 hectares in Baghlan, at the northern end of Pul-e-Khumri. The Darqad intake is located on the Kunduz River. The canal rehabilitation activities have two major components - de-silting 12 km of canal, widening 12 km of canal and re-constructing its primary diversion weir and intake structures. The intake structure is now 50% complete and 4km of canal have been desilted and widened. The Darqad project employs a daily average of 620 workers and has injected \$31,350 dollars into the community in wages paid to date.

Whereas laborers did all the de-silting work, RAMP implementing partner, Development Alternatives Inc. (DAI), is using a combination of manual labor and heavy equipment on the diversion weir and intake. Heavy equipment is used to excavate, prepare foundations, deliver construction materials to the site and divert the Kunduz River, and laborers were employed to mix concrete and lay stone masonry. To ensure sustainability at the project's completion, 80 members of the community have received training in canal management.

The Char Dara Irrigation System

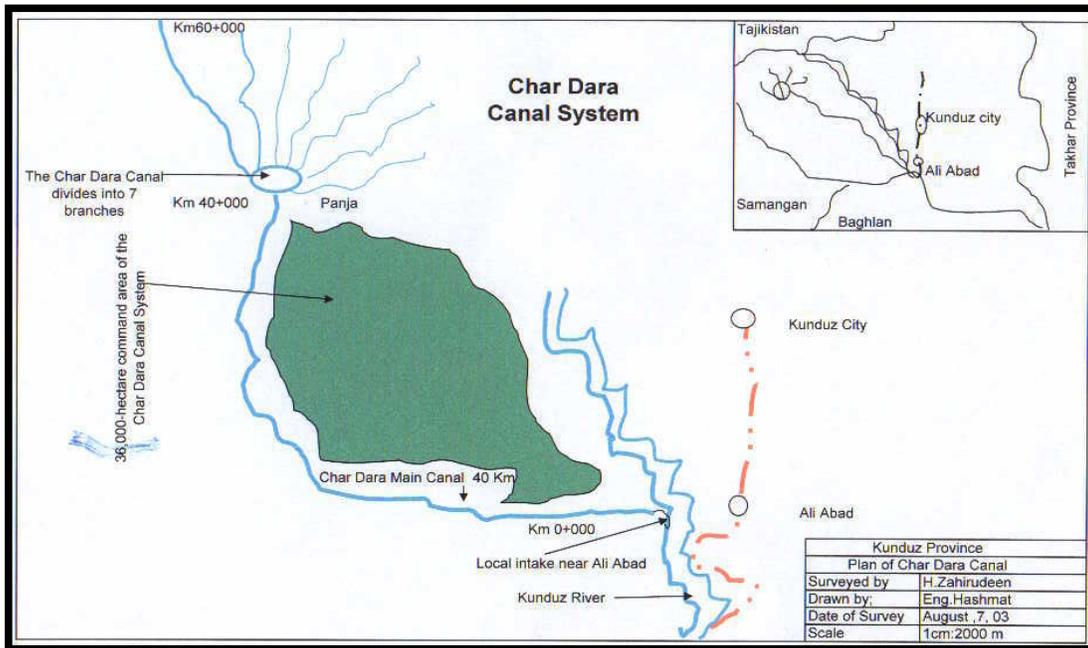
Impact and Beneficiaries

- 60 km of canals de-silted, repaired and widened
- 56 water diversions repaired and constructed
- 35,400 hectares of agricultural land benefit from reliable source of water
- 10,800 hectares receive an additional cropping cycle
- 241,000 days of paid work for 1,100 Afghan workers

The years of war, drought, local conflicts, flash floods and landslides have led to irrigation canals on the Kunduz River being silted with some parts totally destroyed. This particular irrigation

system dates back to 1891. Maintenance of the system has been neglected either because it has been too dangerous or because human and financial resources have not been available.

As a result, the canal itself and the irrigation structures on it no longer functioned properly and were no longer capable of delivering the volumes of water for which the system was designed. Of the 36,000 hectares of land served by the Char Dara system, 10,800 hectares (30%) were totally unproductive because they received no water, 21,600 hectares (60%) were only partially productive because water was only available sporadically, and only 3,600 hectares (10%) received the quantity of water needed to maintain full productivity.



This highly productive region provides high value crops to the nation including: wheat, cotton, rice, melons, watermelons and potatoes. Rehabilitation of the Char Dara Canal restores the system to its full carrying capacity and returns the entire 36,000-hectare command area to full agricultural productivity.

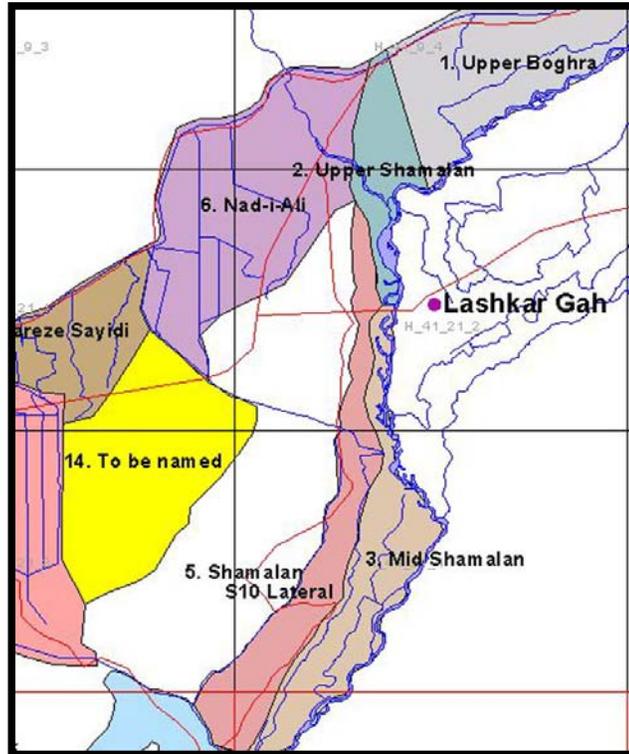


A few of the project beneficiaries gathered to celebrate the rehabilitation of the Char Dara

Still in Progress Under This Job Order – The Middle Helmand, S10 Lateral and Marga Canal Irrigation Rehabilitation

Project 15% Complete

The Helmand Valley Authority (HAVA) of the Ministry of Irrigation requested assistance from USAID/RAMP to repair the Shamalan S10 Lateral Irrigation Canal which is being seriously eroded threatening the collapse of the main water intake. The most urgent need identified for repair is to strengthen several eroded sections of the canal's bank prior to the increased demand for irrigation water in June. Implementing partner, Development Alternatives, Incorporated (DAI), will be taking on the project under an amended subcontract. DAI is currently repairing the damaged sections of the canal banks with rip rap (bank reinforcement) and backfilling. Draglines have been rented from the Helmand Construction Company to insert the materials into place and excavate approximately 35,000 cubic meters of fill and 3,600 cubic meters of stone for rip rap. The fill material consists of 20% gravel and 80% clay. DAI has rented more than 100 farm tractors to transport the material from the barrow pits to the construction sites. The gravel and clay is being mixed on site, placed in position and compacted to obtain the proscribed 45 degree slope. This emergency procedure should take about one month for completion. The protection of the S10 Lateral Irrigation canal will assure that 5,000 farm families continue to receive a reliable source of water for 6,200 hectares of prime farmland.



8.2 Parwan Province Irrigation System Completed for Increased Yields in the Shamali Plains

Project 100% Complete

- **Total Budget: \$2,746**
- **Implementing Partner: Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan (RAFA)**

Impact:

- **6,000 hectares of additional arable land brought back to cultivation**
- **1,760 refugee families returned to their homes as a result of infrastructure rehabilitation**
- **23,543 person days of employment**

injected US\$78,279 in wages into the local economy

- **18,900 families benefit from improved irrigation**



Five of the 23,543 workers employed by the Ghorband Project

Three water diversion dams on the Ghorband River, the Mahigir, Achtachi, and Matak were initiated under the Afghanistan Quick Impact Project (AQIPS) but passed on to RAMP for completion in February. The Mahigir and Matak dams are each in excess of 100 meters in length and the implementing partner, Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan (RAFA) accelerated their work in order to assure that the dams would be completed in time for the 2004 spring planting season.



Over view of the Ghorband River and the work in progress

Since the three dams are contiguously situated along the river, work started simultaneously on the Mahigir and Matak dams while work started on the Achtachi dam after the initiation of RAMP in July 2004. Prior to initiating construction the river had to be diverted through a series of temporary dams to divert the river away from the actual construction. In order to secure the foundation into the river bed, excavation for the foundation exceeded five meters. Huge boulders required blasting and water pumps were used 24 hours daily to prevent losing the foundation trench to seepage. RAFA took advantage of the low water level during the winter months and completed the excavation and most of the stone masonry work prior to mid-January. The dams were tied into the wing walls by early February and by late February the irrigation control gates were installed completing the construction phase. As part of the community contribution the recipient farmers cleaned in excess of 30 kilometers of irrigation distribution canals.

Although the water level in the river is at its lowest level during the winter months which facilitates excavation, it's the most difficult period to work with concrete due to freezing weather. RAFA overcame this constraint by mixing Sikament –NN (a high-range-water reducing mixture) to prevent freezing of the cement during the curing phase. Rather than decreasing construction during the winter, RAFA increased the amount of laborers and worked seven days a week in order to meet their commitment to provide water for irrigation for approximately 19,000 farm families by spring.

The three water diversion dams combined will provide water to irrigate over 18,000 hectares of prime agriculture land. Of these 18,000 hectares, 6,000 are comprised of land not receiving any water prior to the construction of these dams. Conflicts and feuds between community members related to water use have already decreased as farmers are now receiving adequate water to increase irrigation from 2 to 3 watering a crop cycle to 6 to 8 watering per crop cycle. Increases in yields will be obtained this crop cycle, coupled with increased cropping will improve the economic potential of the recipient farmers. During the construction phase more than 23,550 person days were used, with an average daily wage of \$3.00 per person per day. Farmers in the region have planted wheat, onions, carrots and are preparing the land for potatoes.

8.3 Kunduz Irrigation and Road Rehabilitation Making Rapid Progress

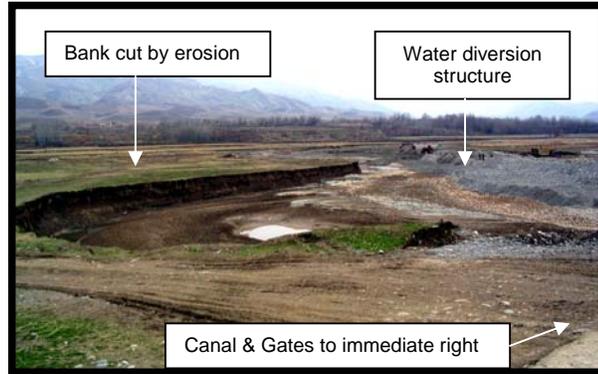
Project 80% Complete

- **Total budget: \$544,831**
- **Implementing Partner: Kunduz Rehabilitation Agency (KRA)**
- **Project Location: Khanabad District of Kunduz Province**
- **Project Duration: November 2003 to May 2004**

Impact and Beneficiaries

- **88,731 regional farmers, traders and transporters**
- **20% increase in commodity production income**

The rainfall of the previous season brought mixed blessings for the Khanabad District of Kunduz Province, known as a “breadbasket” of Afghanistan. The ensuing floods washed out much of what was left of makeshift water intakes feeding irrigation systems. Farmers building temporary intakes cut down precious remaining trees, thus perpetuating a cycle of rain, flood and erosion. The lack of proper roads forced farmers to pay more for inputs and accept lower rates for their production. The rehabilitation of the Khanabad irrigation system will collectively will provide valuable source of water to over 50,000 hectares of land for the production of wheat, cotton, and rice. The rehabilitation of approximately 25 kilometers of secondary roads is enabling the farmers in Khanabad to more effectively sell their increased agricultural produce.

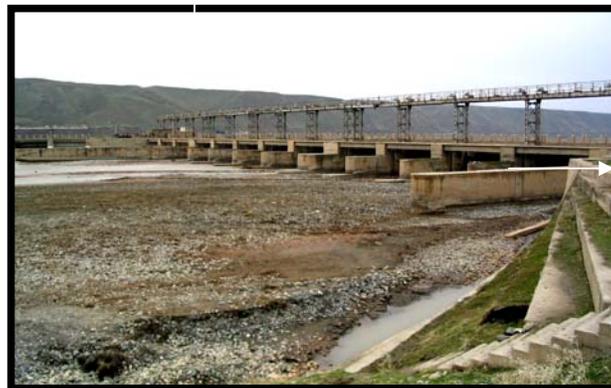


Khanabad Irrigation System , endangered by erosion cutting around the dam

The Khanabad Dam

Building permanent, low maintenance water intakes to feed irrigation systems will prevent the rebuilding of temporary intakes and negative environmental impacts.

The cleaning of 95 kilometers of canals and rebuilding of 4 intakes will provide water for farmers growing wheat, cotton, rice, maize, mung bean and the famous Kunduz melons. The water intakes will provide 50,200 people with a reliable source of irrigation and bring approximately 1300 jeribs of new land into production. Livestock herds will also benefit from access to fresh water.



The Khanabad Dam in winter when water levels are low

Additionally, KRA is constructing four water intakes that collectively will provide valuable source of water to over 50,000 hectares of land for the production of wheat, cotton, and rice.

The protection of the Khanabad Irrigation Canal is approximately 70 percent complete. The most difficult work, the diversion of the Khanabad River and the excavation of 400 meters for the foundation of the retaining wall have been completed and accepted by USAID/RAMP engineers. The placing and filling of gabion baskets is in full swing and over 60 employees are on site either collecting the stones or placing the stones into the gabion baskets. As the gabion wall is being constructed, The Kunduz Rehabilitation Agency (KRA) is filling the washed out area behind the protection wall with sand and gravel. While this activity is small in scale it will have a huge impact by protecting over 34,000 hectares of prime agriculture land and strengthening the levee of the Khanabad canal.

Road Building in Kunduz Progresses Despite the Cold Weather

The rebuilding of 24 kilometers of secondary roads with 93 culverts and 6 fords will enable lower costs for inputs like fertilizer and pesticide as well as reducing damage and spoiling when produce is transported to distant markets.

Approximately 25 kilometers of secondary roads are being upgraded to allow farmers to more effectively sell their agriculture produce.

More than 175 concrete slabs for culverts have been poured. Since pouring concrete during the cold weather of winter can be difficult, KRA constructed several temporary, plastic greenhouses and poured the concrete slabs within these structures. While the sun warmed the greenhouse during the day, the protected area was heated at night with small kerosene or wood heaters. The culvert slabs are completed and the installation of culverts is in process. Once the culverts are installed, road building can progress rapidly.



Poured concrete slabs for culverts

It is the RAMP policy that prior to initiating any road construction, the implementing partner must receive adequate training to achieve quality engineering norms and standards. KRA has agreed to train engineers for a number of NGOs interested in rehabilitating roads with USAID/RAMP funding. KRA engineers have already participated in the RAMP six week road construction training course and have demonstrated high standards in their road construction work. Providing training to other implementing agencies would provide further dissemination of important road building skills and raise the capacity of Afghan engineers for sustainability.

8.4 The Darwanta Irrigation System Rehabilitation Kicks Off in Nangarhar

Project 5% Complete

- **Total Budget: \$1,853,549**
- **Implementing Partners: Reconstruction and Social Services for Afghanistan (RSSA)**
- **Project Duration March 2004 - March 2005**

Project activities include:

- Rehabilitate and desilt the 6 km long Nangarhar Valley Development Authority (NVDA) irrigation system and provide water to a command area of 6,000 hectares.
- Involve local communities in the identification, planning, implementation and canal maintenance process.
- Construct the main siphon and rehabilitate a second siphon which feeds secondary canals.
- Reconstruct a 6km long protection wall and a 500 meter retaining wall.



Canals in need of desilting

Background on the Nangarhar Valley Development Authority

The Darwanta Canal is overseen by the Nangarhar Valley Development Authority, located in the eastern portion of Nangarhar province. The oversight of this irrigation system is critical to the development of agriculture in this region.

The Objectives of the NVDA are to:

- Establish olive and orange orchards suited to the tropical climate and soil conditions of the region;



The canal is an important part of the community

- Introduce new agricultural methodologies and technologies made possible by the provision of a reliable water supply;
- Bring new lands into cultivation;
- Ensure fair and equitable distribution of scarce water resources;
- The protection and preservation of the environment;
- Create on-farm employment opportunities in the region.

The Darwanta canal system was initially surveyed by Russian and Afghan engineers in the 1960s and was constructed with technical assistance from Russia and financial assistance from the Afghan Government in 1961.

The NVDA irrigation system takes water from the Kabul river at Darunta, and moves it 70 km across the Surkrud, Jalalabad, Batikot and Mohmandara districts until ending at Basawal. The water discharge is 50 cubic meters of water per hour. This provides sufficient water for 6,000 hectares of land. The main canal has 16 large siphons and several smaller sub-siphons. The canal crosses 9 km of tunnels in the Samarkhil Surkh Dewal area before ending in the Lachapoor area. The system was designed to deliver water to a large area with minimal water loss. To prevent flooding and damage by erosion, the canal was protected by the 6 km protection wall, which is in need of repair.

8.5 Kanday Road Protected by Diversion Channel

Project 90% Complete

- **Total Budget: \$448,131**
- **Implementing Partner: Mission d'Aide au Développement des Economies Rurales (MADERA), an international NGO**



The Kunar Road (right) in danger of being washed out



Diversion wall in process with protection gabions

The construction of a 775 meter diversion channel to decrease the flow of water from the north bank of the Kunar River has been completed. This channel will redirect a significant portion of river back to its original channel which was disrupted several years ago through the construction of the Kunar North Bank Irrigation system. Since the construction of the North Bank Irrigation system the Kunar River has been scouring the river bank resulting in serious erosion which cut the Kunar road (see photo above - left) and was threatening to collapse of the main water intake of the North Bank Irrigation system. Diverting part of the river is enabled the construction of a 300 meter protection wall utilizing a combination of gabions and strengthening the embankment with large boulders.

MADERA is backfilling the eroded area between the river embankment and the protection wall. Approximately 12,000 mt of the estimated 18,000 mt of material has been dumped into the space between the protection wall and where the road will be constructed. Approximately 600 meters of road will be constructed to replace the portion of the road which was washed out resulting from the aforementioned erosion.

In addition to protecting the road, diverting flood water from the North Bank Irrigation Canal will protect more than 104 hectares of irrigated prime agriculture land and 100 family residential homes.

8.6 Kandahar Check Dams - Report Pending

Project 10% Complete

- **Total budget: \$706,915**
- **Implementing Partner: Central Asia Development Group (CADG).**

CADG shall construct check dams to form community reservoirs to store rain water and prevent erosion in Kandahar and Helmand provinces. The construction of strategically placed check dams will enable farmers to harvest rainwater and divert stored water to underground aquifers and recharging karezes.

8.7 Shamali Plains Roads Upgrade – Report Pending

Project 20% Complete

- **Total budget: \$729,255**
- **Implementing Partner by the French NGO Agence d'aide a la Cooperation et au Developpement (ACTED)**

ACTED shall rehabilitate 28 kilometers of tertiary roads in the Shamali Plain, including an estimated 100 culverts. The rehabilitation of rural infrastructure will increase agricultural output in the Shamali Plain, and complementary will improve the quality of input and production technology, streamline marketing techniques, provide access to markets, and create producer organizations.

8.8 Bridge Construction in Aga Khil – Report Pending

Project 100% Complete

- **Total Budget: \$2,454**
- **Implementing Partner: Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation in Afghanistan (AREA), an Afghan NGO**

to construct a bridge in Aga Khil implemented by the Afghan NGO Agency for The grantee will reconstruct the bridge near Aga Khil, in Wardak province. The existing bridge spans a seasonal river, which floods during the spring and late summer, vehicle traffic is rendered impossible, and disrupts both local and Ghazni-Hazarajat transportation routes. After construction, farmers will be able to transport agricultural goods to Ghazni and Hazarajat.

8.9 Road Rehabilitation in Balkh Province – Report Pending

Project 25% Complete

- **Total Budget: \$1,242,867**
- **Implementing Partner: Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation in Afghanistan (AREA), an Afghan NGO.**

The contractor shall rehabilitate 100 km of road in the Balkh province, including the construction of culverts, drainages, and other necessary road structures. The road construction shall provide agricultural recovery support by improving main transportation routes leading to the main bazaar and market.

8.10 Repair of Ghazni-Meray Access Road- Report Pending

Project 0% Complete

- **Total Budget: \$328,380**
- **Implementing Partner: Engineering Services for Afghanistan Reconstruction (ESAR) and Afghan NGO.**

The contractor will repair 26km of road connecting Andar district center of Meray to the main Kabul – Kandahar Highway. The road repair will facilitate market access to the provincial capital of

Ghazni for village farmers.

8.11 Reconstruction of Infrastructure in Kunduz Province – Report Pending

Project 3% Complete

- **Total Budget: \$857,291**
- **Implementing partner: Partners in Revitalization and Building (PRB), an Afghan NGO.**

The contractor will upgrade and rehabilitate 73.6 kilometers of secondary roads in Kunduz province, Imam Sahib district. Rehabilitation of these roads across the province will facilitate agricultural market access.

8.12 Irrigation Rehabilitation in Khewa District of Nangarhar – Report Pending

Project Project 10% Complete

- **Total Budget: \$336,488**
- **Implementing Partner: Technical Association for Afghanistan Rehabilitation (STAAR) an Afghan NGO.**

The subcontractor shall construct 110 m of the Shegee main canal intake, rehabilitate 100m retaining wall, construct 19 culverts along the Shegee main canal, and construct spillways for the Shegee, Koti-Taran, Kachara canals, as well as construction of 325 m of the Koti-Taran intake, and rehabilitation of 325 m of the Kachara intake.

8.13 Road Rehabilitation in Malistan and Jaghori Districts In Ghazni Province – Report Pending

Project 3% Complete

- **Total Budget: \$478,422**
- **Implementing Partner: Ghazni Rural Support Program.**

The subcontractor shall upgrade and rehabilitate two roads in the Malistan and Jaghuri Districts. The roads will be 60 km long and provided with 30 culverts, 2500 meter retaining walls and 205 meter concrete pipes where water is crossing the road. The road rehabilitation will improve main transportation routes leading to critical provincial bazars and markets.

8.14 Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project and Agribusiness Program - Report Pending

Project 0% Complete

- **Total Budget: \$3,499,767**
- **Implementing partner: Catholic Relief Services (CRS)**

The subcontractor will rehabilitate irrigation systems in Herat Province which will stimulate market-led agricultural development in western Afghanistan by improving key components of the agricultural infrastructure and strengthening supply chains for key crops produced. The subcontractor will create market opportunities for three high-value crops and provide support services to producers and other supply chain actors to ensure long-term impacts.

9.0 Agricultural Technology and Market Development – Key Accomplishments

Total Agricultural Technology and Market Development investment targeted by RAMP – US\$40 million

Project Indicators	Cum. Total to March 31, 2004	June 2004 Target
7. Livestock vaccinated/treated	0	2,000,000
8. Chickens disbursed	0	5000
9. Farmers served by extension	32,000	300,000

9.1 On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices

Project 30% Completed

- Total budget: \$1,899,058
- Implementing Partner: ICARDA and the Future Harvest Consortium to Rebuild Agriculture in Afghanistan.

ICARDA is providing demonstrations of new technologies in farmers' fields to facilitate rapid adoption and diffusion. The overall aim of the project is to contribute to RAMP's objectives of increasing agricultural productivity and rural incomes by demonstrating available improved technologies in farmers' fields, focusing on improved varieties of field and vegetable crops that are adapted to local conditions, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management practices. The demonstration fields are designed to show farmers the advantages of improved varieties and crop management practices, compared with their traditional practices.

Report Submitted by ICARDA

1. Selected Sites of Demonstration Plots for Wheat in Nangrahar

Kama District

11th Nov.2003

No	Name	S/O	Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Date of sowing
1	M. Jafar	Mozefer	1	Nwaba Abad	Varietal	2/12/03
2	A.Qadir	A.Ahmad	1	Nwab abad	Seed rate	3/12/03
3	Sabaz Ali	A.Sattar	1	De Ghazi	Varietal	18/11/03
4	Shah Jan	Mir Rehman	1	Mast Ali	Varietal	19/11/03
5	Awrang	M.Jan	1	Qala-e-Akhwand	Varietal	20/11/03
6	Siada Jan	Mira Jan	1	Chona Guch	Varietal	18/11/03
Total			6			

Behsud District

No	Name	S/O	Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Date of sowing
1	Haji A. Wasi	M.Alam	1	Khushgunbad	Varietal	21/11/03
2	Qasem	M.Laiq	1	Joi-10	Varietal	24/11/03
3	Malang	Siaf ud Din	1	Narmasi	Varietal	28/11/03
4	M.Naeem	Mast Alam	1	Qasim Abad	Seed rate	23/11/03
5	M.Naeem	Mast Alam	1	Banda Qazia	Varietal	5/12/03
6	Haji Speen	Lal Siad	1	Dobilla	Varietal	11/11/03
7	A. Rehman	Habibi ur Rehman	1	Near AirPort	Seed rate	2/12/03
8	Siada Jan	M. Jan	1	Abdian	Varietal	16/11/03

9	Ihsanuulah	Gulab	1	Khushgunbad	Varietal	11/12/03
Total			9			

Sorkhrod District

#	Name	S/O	Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Date of sowing
1	M.Akhter (Sir Maleem)	Baz Mohd	1	Zulam abad	Varietal	19/11/03
2	Faqir Mohd	Ghulam Jan	1	Qala-e-Modeer	Varietal	27/11/03
3	Juma Gul	M.Akber	1	Qala-e-Per Sahib	Varietal	10/12/03
4	Hashmat ullah	A.Ahad	1	Moy Mubarak	Varietal	22/11/03
5	Hashmat ullah	A.Ahad	1	Moy Mubarak	Seed Rate	22/11/03
6	Dawud	Ilyas Khan	1	Qala-e-Bakhtan	Varietal	24/11/03
7	Karim ullah	M.Faqir	1	Nazar Abad	Varietal	5/12/03
8	Shaqib	Haya Mohd	1	Zainano	Varietal	20/11/03
Total			8			

Bati Kot District

#	Name	S/O	Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Dates of Planting
1	Siad Rahim	Lal Ganj	1	Shabdiany	Varietal	1/12/03
2	H. Shamandroz	Manjawer	1	See Pai	Varietal	19/11/03
3	H.Nakhter		1	Lawarty	Varietal	21/11/03
4	Safatullah	Hamidullah	1	Jooi- 20	Varietal	21/11/03
5	Amin Gul	M.Islam	1	Jooi-20	Seed rate	22/11/03
6	Sahra Gul	Rahm Dil	1	See pai Daman	Varietal	17/11/03
7	Siad Ahmad		1	Lwarty	Varietal	2/12/03
8	Mulazai	Gulab	1	Qatar Qala	Varietal	29/11/03
Total			8			

Khogiani District

#	Name	S/O	Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Date of sowing
1	Sharifullah	Shafiqullah	1	Qialagho	Variety	17/11/03
2	Rahamatullah	Atiqullah	1	Wazir	Seed rate	28/11/03
3	Ghulam Mahuddin	M.Yaseen	1	Lokhi	Variety	12/11/03
4	Shafiqullah	Ghulam Hiader	1	Hakim Abad	Variety	17/11/03
5	S. Agha	M. Jan	1	Khiair mina	Variety	15/11/03
6	Lias Khan	Shato Khan	1	Abeed khieel	Variety	15/11/03
Total			6			

<p>The variety was Roshan-96 in all districts. :</p> <p>Extension agents names: 1-Humayoon extension worker in Kama district 2-Sayed Anam extension worker in Behsud district 3-Israrullah extension worker in Surkh Rud district 4-Rahmatullah extension worker in Barikot district 5-Hazrat Khan extension worker in Khogyani district 6-Supervisor is Mr. Mahsel</p>	
	<p>Farmer is weeding his wheat Demonstration Plot in Behsud district Nangrahar</p>

2. Ghazni province Wheat Demonstration Plots

No	Farmer,s Name	Father,s Name	Village	District	Date of Sowing
1	Sakhi Dad	Ali Shafa	Qamber	Jaghori	
2	M.Shakar	M.Sadiq	Aphkor	Jaghori	
3	Solaiman Ali	Ishaq Ali	Kosha	Jaghori	
4	Ali Madad	Ishaq Ali	Sang Sorakh	Jaghori	
5	Jan Ali	Abdul Razeq	Regag	Jaghori	
6	Mohammad Aman	Ramazan Ali	Dokhlak	Jaghori	
7	Saduddin	Khairuddin	Gadol Jeeb	Ander	
8	Banosi	Fateh Mohd	Baraho	Ander	
9	Fazluddin	Juma Din	Khadukhail Sufla	Ander	
10	H.Faizullah	Abdul Mohd	Laghal	Ander	
11	Mabubullah	Naik Mohd	Ass	Ander	
12	Noor Ahmad	Ghulam Jan	Ulya Surkhi	Ander	
13	H.Sayed Khan	Feroz Khan	Esokhail	Qarabagh	
14	Akhter. Mohammad	Nazar Mohammad	Khonyan	Qarabagh	
15	M.Amin	Haji Khodaidad	Qaracha	Qarabagh	
16	M.Raza	Abdul Haq	Mirak	Qarabagh	
17	Heda Mohammad	Khan Mohd	Qala-e-Baran	Qarabagh	
18	Abdul Jamil	Mowlawi Shamsul Haq	Haroon Khail	Qarabagh	
19	Sayed Akbar	Said Ahmad	Qaraya-e-Pirzadah	Center	
20	Ghulam Hazrat	Raz Mohammad	Aspandah	Center	
21	Haji Sher Agha	Baz Gul	Bahlol	Center	
22	M.Zaher	Mohd Gul	Qali-e-Akram	Center	
23	Ghulam Sanaee	Ghulam Haider	Q.N.Khoja Roshnaee	Center	
24	Abdullah	Abdul Fatah	Khoja Hakim	Center	
25	Ghulam Haider	Haji Ramol Dad	Shotor Morda Jorghhi	Nawur	
26	Abdul Khaliq	Nasir Khadim	Qash imran Qorma	Nawur	
27	Mohammad Ali	Sultan Ali	Jeska Jerghi	Nawur	
28	Ahmad khan	Sakhidad	Mirbach Khowat	Nawur	
29	Abdul Hakim	Abdullah	Shufna Allowuddin	Nawur	
30	Khadim Hussain	Mir Hussain	Khowat	Nawur	

The variety planted was **Gul-96** in all districts and the source of seed was SCA in Ghazni province and purchased by ICARDA. The demonstration plot seeds and fertilizers were distributed from 25-28 of October 2003 to different district extension workers.

The lists of the extension workers are as follows:

- 1- Chaman (mellati) s/o Abdul Husain center of Ghazni
- 2- Omaruddin s/o Pir Mohammad Qarabagh
- 3- Mohammad Sharif s/o Naik Mohammad Ander
- 4- Sayed Abdul Hussain Mohammad Naeem Jaghori
- 5- Sultan Hussain s/o Abdul Husain Nawar

3. Kunduz Wheat demonstration plots

No	Farmer,s Name	Father,s Name	Village	District	Date of planting	Variety
1	H.Imamuddin	Imam Ali	Qaramqoli	Ali Abad	9/1/04	Lalmi-2
2	Abdul Rahman	Aina Beik	Gul Din	Ali Abad	29/11/03	Amu-99
3	Bashir Ahmad	Mohd Shah	Madrasa	Ali Abad	2/12/03	Lalmi-2
4	Abdullah	Usta Noor	Pulikheshtee	Ali Abad	2/12/03	Amu-99
5	Juma Khan	Ismatullah	Center Ali abad	Ali Abad	19/11/03	Amu-99
6	Ghulam Nabi	H.Gul Haider	Ispandikamer	Ali Abad	30/11/03	Amu-99
7	Rahman Gul	H.Ghazi	Laqae ulya center	Ali Abad	20/11/03	Lalmi-2
8	Jhon Mohammad	H.Sultan Mohd	Shourqul	Imamsahib	21/11/03	Amu-99
9	Mohammadullah	Abdul Hakim	Achghan	Imamsahib	29/11/03	Lalmi-2
10	Sayed Azim	Sayed Bahram	Quturbulagjon	Imamsahib	21/11/03	Amu-99
11	Mohammad Halim	H.Buta Khan	Gunbad	Imamsahib	6/12/03	Amu-99
12	Safdar	Qurban	Dehqan Qishlaq	Imamsahib	21/11/03	Amu-99
13	Shukrullah	Kairullah	Sayed Hassan	Imamsahib		Amu-99
14	Kamaluddin	Mir Wali	Coterma-Sarak Shir khan Bander	Imamsahib	10/1/04	Lalmi-2
15	Qari Amir Mohammad	Khan Mahmood	Qarlug Chargi	Archi	5/12/03	Amu99
16	Jumakhan	Kamal Khan	Khalili Center	Archi	6/12/03	Amu-99
17	Abdul Ghafar	Mohd Yusuf	Khalili Kaltarash	Archi	22/11/03	Amu-99
18	Mohammad Shah	Khan Mahmud	Nazar M.Teemori	Archi	6/12/03	Lalmi-2
19	Qalander	Mohd Azam	Durahi Shahrawan	Archi	8/12/03	Amu-99
20	Mohd Ayub	H.A.Hanan	Tapa S Zaino	Archi		Lalmi-2
21	Asadullah	H.A.Hanan	Tapa S Zaino	Archi		Lalmi-2
22	Mohd Tahir	Qurban	Safqoruq	Archi	18/12/03	Lalmi-2
23	Qurban Ali	Turah Khan	Safqoruq	Archi	22/12/03	Lalmi-2
24	Mod Yusuf	Bigmurad	Tajik Qishlaq	Archi	25/12/03	Amu-99
25	Sayed Mukhtar	Sayed Ahmad	Dorahihazrat Sultan	Centre	22/11/03	Amu-99
26	Akhtar ohammad	Dean Mohd	Nasiri	Center	3/12/03	Amu-99
27	Abdul Rasheed	Tash.Mohd	Alchin	Center	3/12/03	Lalmi-2
28	Shahwali	Mirhamza	Zakhail	Center	5/12/03	Amu-99
29	Saleh Mohd	Shir Mohammad	Saydarak	Center	10/1/04	Lalmi-2 RF
30	Abdul Raof	Jumakhan	Galatepa	Center	8/1/04	Lalmi-2 RF
31	Abdul Manaf	Abdul Hanan	Saydarak	Center	24/1/04	Amu-99
32	Abdul Hadi	Juma Bya	Baghmehree	Center	22/1/04	Amu-99
33	Haji Noorullah	Haji Mod Naeem	Angoor bagh	center	29/11/03	Amu-99
34	Amanulla	Haji.Mod	Deshkuprok	Center	21/1/04	Amu-99

		Nazar				
35	Abdul Ahmad	Mir Ahmad	Khalazai	Chardarah	4/12/03	Amu-99
36	Mohammad Wali	Rahmat	Hazrats	Chardarah	3/12/03	Amu-99
37	Abdul Rahim	Solaiman	Durarabat	Chardarah	5/12/03	Lalmi-2
38	Hayatullah	Abdullah Khan	District Center	Chardarah	4/12/03	Amu-99
39	Sayed Nabi	Eashan Sayed Azam	Ghrow Qashlaq	Chardarah	11/12/03	Amu-99
40	Sarajuddin	Mahyuddin	Dobandi Arab	Chardarah	25/1/04	Amu-99
41	Sofi Imamudin	Qayamuddin	Mulah Fateh	Khanabad	2/12/03	Amu-99
42	H.Habur Rahman	H.Gul Sayed	Saraki Now	Khanabad	5/12/03	Amu-99
43	Ghulum Sakhi	Aminullah	Char Toot	Khanabad	1/12/03	Amu-99
44	Gul Alam	Sayed Akbar	Maidan dagar	Khanabad	4/12/03	Lalmi-2
45	Mohammad Amin	Mohd Husain	Maidan dagar	Khanabad	4/12/03	Lalmi-2
46	Abdul Ghani	Shah Mohammad	Lalmi Dehwairan	Khanabad	4/12/03	Lalmi-2
47	Mohammad Naeem	Abdul Ghani	Sari Durah	Khanabad	4/12/03	Lalmi-2
48	Mulah Ibrahim	Dean Mohd	Sarke-e -Naikpai	Khanabad	4/12/03	Amu-99
49	Rahmuddin	Wali Mod	Chogha	Khanabad	22/1/04	Amu-99
50	Haji Mod Ibrahim	H.Mod Karim	SarakJangalbashi	Khanabad	28/1/04	Amu-99

List of extension workers

- 1-Ramazani extension worker Kunduz Center
- 2-Abdul Basir extension worker Kunduz Center
- 3-Ghulam Ali extension worker Kunduz Center
- 4-Abdul Shukur extension worker Kunduz Center
- 5-Hafizulla extension worker Kunduz Center
- 6-Mohammad Ibrahim extension worker Kunduz Center

4. List of the wheat demonstration plots planted in 5 districts of Helmand province during 2003-2004.

No	Farmer,s Name	Father,s name	Village	District	Date of planting	Variety
1	Abdullah	Salo	Mukhtar	Centre	11/12/03	Amu-99
2	Shah Noor	Abdul Rahman	Lashkary Bazar	Centre	9/12/03	Roshan-96
3	Abdul Wahid	Abdul Majid	Karez	Centre	14/12/03	Roshan-96
4	Sardar Mohd	Mohammad Omar	Babaji	Centre	13/12/03	Amu-99
5	Shah Pasand	Mohammad Amin	Bolan	Centre	9/12/03	Amu-99
6	Ziaul Haq	Abdul Wahid	Sarkar	Centre	15/12/03	Roshan-96
7	Haji Sher Mohd	Easa Mohammad	Loybagh	Nad Ali	9/12/03	Roshan-96
8	Lala Gul	Mohammad Gul	Qalae Hazara	Nad Ali	10/12/03	Amu-99
9	Mirwais	Safar Khan	Center	Nad Ali	15/12/03	Roshan-96
10	Murad Khan	Sahib Khan	Shin Kali	Nad Ali	14/12/03	Roshan-96
11	Sailani	Jalat Khan	Khushal Kali	Nad Ali	9/12/03	Amu-99
12	Haji Ghowsuddin	Haji Momin	Chah Mirza	Nad Ali	10/12/03	Amu-99

13	Lal Mod	Abdul Halim	Shamalan	Garmser	9/12/03	Amu-99
14	Taj Mod	Mohammad Khan	Husain Abad	Garmser	10/12/03	Amu-99
15	Alah Yar	Faqir Mohammad	Hazar Juft Ulya	Garmser	11/12/03	Amu-99
16	Karimullah	Faqir Mohammad	Kharakoh	Garmser	14/12/03	Amu-99
17	Nazar Mod	Mohammad Ayub	Hazar Juft Sofla	Garmser	16/12/03	Amu-99
18	Gul Ahmad	Gul Mohammad	Darwasha ulya	Garmser	16/12/03	Amu-99
19	Baridar	Khan Mohammad	Malgir (shimzae)	Nahre Saraj	16/12/03	Amu-99
20	Abdul Hakim	Habibullah	Malgir (Baghoonah)	Nahre Saraj	16/12/03	Amu-99
22	Abdul Wahid	Nazar Mohammad	Malgir (Anizae)	Nahre Saraj	16/12/03	Roshan-96
23	Hayatullah	Abdullah	Malgir (Anizae)	Nahre Saraj	16/12/03	Amu-99
24	Ghulam Hassan	Haji Khair Mohd	Bazar	Nahre Saraj	13/12/03	Roshan-96
25	Juma Qul	Sher Mohammad	Ainak	Nawa	19/12/03	Amu-99
26	Miza Khan	Haji.M.Omar	Khesrow Abad	Nawa	7/12/03	Amu-99
27	Shahzada	Gul Faqir	Kharaba	Nawa	21/12/03	Amu-99
28	Zarin	Shaghasi	Ghaibzai	Nawa	22/12/03	Roshan-99
29	Daud Shah	Aghagul	Khalaj	Nawa	26/12/03	Amu-99
30	Khodai Nazar	Baridad	Khari	Nawa	25/12/03	Roshan-96

List of extension workers

- 1-Abdullah extension worker Nahre Saraj
- 2-Taza Gul extension worker Nawa
- 3-Abdul Raof extension worker Garmser
- 4-Ataur Rahman extension worker Nadi Ali
- 5-Shir Mohammad extension worker Lashkargah

6. List of the wheat demonstration plots planted in 5 districts of Parwan Province during 2003-2004.

No	Farmer 's Name	Father 's name	Village	District	Date of planting	Variety
1	Abdul Ghafoor	Abdul Rasool	Mula khail	Charikar	8/11/2003	Gul-96 Variety
2	M. Musa	M.Hussain	Qala-e-Khojaha	Charikar	10/11/03	Gul-96 Variety
3	Khalid	Khoja Azim	Laghmani	Charikar	16/11/03	Gul-96 Variety
4	Abdul Nabi	M.Jan	Toghberdi	Charikar	13/11/03	Gul-96 Variety
5	Hayat Khan	Rajab Khan	Gozar Dehqana	Charikar	7/11/03	Gul-96 Variety
6	Enayatullah	M.Amin	Qala-e-Zaman	Charikar	11/11/03	Gul-96 Seed rate
7	M.Asif	Khan Baba	Talgar	Jabalsaraj	18/11/03	Gul-96 Variety
8	Shir Dil	Abdul Karim	Gozar Bayan	Jabalsaraj	18/11/03	Gul-96 Variety

9	M.Ibrahim	Miza Mohammad	Deh Bala	Jabalsaraj	19/11/03	Gul-96 Variety
10	Fazil Rahman	Khalilur Rahman	Gulbahar	Jabalsaraj	6/12/03	Gul-96 Variety
11	Noor Agha	Khudadad	Gulbahar	Jabalsaraj	19/11/03	Gul-96 Variety
12	M.Sadiq	M.Yaqoob	Modat Khail	Jabalsaraj	28/11/03	Gul-96 seed rate
13	M.Ajan	Hazrat Jan	Qim Chaq	Siagerd	10/11/03	Gul-96 Variety
14	Ghulam Skhakhhi	Juma Khan	Qim Chaq	Siagerd	13/11/03	Gul-96 Variety
15	Bismillah	Abdullah	Farah Gird	Siagerd	11/11/03	Gul-96 Variety
16	Malang	Faiz Mohammad	Dand Ab	Siagerd	21/11/03	Gul-96 Seed rate
17	Abdul Ghafar	Yaqoob	Angab	Siagerd	5/12/03	Gul-96 Variety
18	Shirbad Shah	M.Aziz	Fandaqistan	Siagerd	6/12/03	Gul-96 Variety
19	M.Asif	M.Hussain	Ghulam Ali	Bagram	20/11/03	Gul-96 Variety
20	Abdul Ghaiyas	Haji Abdul	Sehdukan	Bagram	12/11/03	Gul-96 Variety
21	Sayed Ali	Ghulam Bahauddin	Khanaqa	Bagram	1/12/03	Gul-96 Variety
22	Ghulam Mustafa	Abdul Qadir	Now deh	Bagram	6/12/03	Gul-96 Variety
23	Abdul Wali	Faqir Mohammad	Dowlat Shahi	Bagram	1/1/04	Gul-96 Variety
24	Asadullah	Ahmad Jan	Tokh Ji	Bagram	21/11/03	Gul-96 seed rate
25	M.Taher	M.Omar	Sourkh	Sourkh Parsa	20/11/03	Gul-96 Variety
26	M.Awaz	Khan Ali	Loling	Sourkh Parsa	21/11/03	Gul-96 Variety
27	Fazil Ahmad	Shkhidad	Turkman	Sourkh Parsa	19/11/03	Gul-96 Variety
28	Ghulm Siddiq	Abdul Karim	Parsa	Sourkh Parsa	21/11/03	Gul-96 Variety
29	Lajmir	Mir Haidar	Sourkh	Sourkh Parsa	21/11/03	Gul-96 Variety
30	Abdul Munir	Abdul Qadir	Sourkh	Sourkh Parsa	22/11/03	Gul-96 Seed rate

List of extension workers:

- 1-Abdul Raqib extension agent of Charikar District
- 2-Mir Abdul Qayum extension agent of Jabalusraraj District
- 3-Gul Khan extension agent of Siaya Gird District
- 4-Sayed Jamaluddin extension agent of Bagram District
- 5- Asadullah extension agent of Sourkh Parsa District

Selected Sites of Demonstration Plots for Onion in Nangrahar

Kama District

11th Nov.2003

#	Name	S/o	Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Transplanting Date
1	Affser Khan	Hakim	1	Qala-e-	Variety	8/2/04

				Akhwand		
S	Sabaz Ali	Abdul satar	½	Deghazi	Variety	8/2/04

Behsud District

#	Name	S/o	Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Transplanting Date
1	M.Tahir	M.Hassan	1	Qala-e-Janan	Variety	11/2/04
2	Kako	Kajkol	1	Lajgar	Variety	13/2/04
3	M.Sayed	Abdul Ghafur	1	Qala-e-janan	Variety	13/3/04

Surkhrod District

#	Name	S/o	Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Transplanting Date
1	Shinkai	S. Omar	0.6	Qala-e-Bakhtan	Variety	15/2/04
2	Hashmat	A.Ahad	1	Moi Mubarak	Variety	16/2/04
3	Askar Khan	M.Rafiq	0.8	Zulm Abad	Variety	13/3/04

Bati Kot District

#	Name	S/o	Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Transplanting Date
1	Rahmatullah	Gul Zada	1	Katar	Variety	17/2/04
2	Fazal Karim	Shan Mhd	1	Daman	Variety	19/2/04

Khogiani District

#	Name	S/o	Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Transplanting Date
1	Amir Mohd	G.Nabi	1	Surmaie	Variety	8/3/04
2	Qias Khan	Faqir Khan	1	Saqawa	Variety	8/3/04

Fertilizer (Urea and DAP) and fungicide (Mancosab and Confidor) were also distributed in the month of march 2004.
Weeding was done mechanically by hand.
Urea top dressing after transplanting was applied



Onion Transplanted in Surkhrod District Nangrahar

Selected Sites of 5 Demonstration Plots for Tomato in Nangarhar Province

Kama District

16 Dec.2003

No	Name	S/O	Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Transplanting Date
1	A.Ruaf	M.Yuosuf	0.3	Shekhan	Variety(Rio-Grand)	10/3/04
2	Ahmad Shah	Awal Khan	0.7	Qala-e-Akhund	Variety(Rio-Grand)	13/3/04

Behsud District

No	Name	S/O	Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Transplanting Date
1	A.Qayum	M.Hassan	1	Khushgunbd	Variety Rio-Grand	1/3/04

Surkhorud District

No	Name	S/O	Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Transplanting Date
1	M.Ishaq	Abdul Rahman	0.75	Qala-e-Bakhtan	Variety Rio-Grand	4/3/04

Bati Kot District

No	Name	S/o	Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Transplanting Date
1	Askar Khan	Toti Shah	0.5	Chowni	Variety Rio-Grand	11/3/04
2	Noor Salam	Sayed salam	0.5	Qalawal	Variety Rio-Grand	18/3/04

Khogyani District

No	Name	S/O	Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Transplanting Date
1	M.Dad	M.Baz	1	Arghech	Variety Roma-Grand	Not yet

The total of 7 demonstration plots in 5 districts according to the plan have been transplanted to the fields.



Tomato nursery ready for transplanting

Selected Sites of Demonstration Plots for Potato in Nangrahar

Kama District

16 Dec.2003

#	Name	S/O	Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Date of sowing
1	Mir Mohammad	Ahamad	1	Qala-e-Akhwand	Variety Kufri Chandramukhi	5/2/04
2	Zakir	Shahwali	1	Qala-e-Malak	Variety KCM	6/2/04

Behsud District

#	Name	S/O	Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Date of sowing
1	Amir Mohd	Lal Mohammad	1	Laj gar	Variety KCM	29/1/04
2	M.Tahir	M.Hassan	1	Qala-e-Janar	Variety KCM	15/1/04

Surkhrod District

#	Name	S/O	Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Date of sowing
1	Maleem Ishaq	A.Rahman	1	Qala-e-Bakhtan	Variety KCM	7/2/04
2	Maleem Akhter	Baz Mohammad	1	Zulm Abad	Variety KCM	5/2/04

Bati Kot District

#	Name	S/o	Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Date of Planting
1	Muhibullah	Mulla Jandol	1	Bari Kow-Qalawal	KCM	29/1/04
2	A.Wahab	A.Jalil	1	Bare Kaow-Shinwari	KCM	28/1/04

Khogiani District

#	Name		Area (Jerib)	Village	Demonstration Type	Date of Planting
1	M.Hussian	Mod. Yasin	1	Landi	Variety KCM	6/2/04
2	Shir Mohd	Sur Gul	1	Saqawa	Variety KCM	6/2/04

<p>Note: For control of cutworms, Furodan was used at the rate of 2 kg/jerib was used before planting. The rate of fertilizer use was 50 kg urea and 50 kg DAP /jerib. The seeding rate per jerib was 539-756 kg/jerib according to the seed weight.</p> <p>Also, Mancozab and Confidar were distributed for controlling diseases and insects. Earthing up and the second top dressing of urea has also been accomplished.</p>	
<p>Earthing up of Potato Demonstration Plot in Qala-e-Janar of Behsud Nangrahar</p>	

Potato Demonstration plots planted in Kunduz province 2003-2004.

No	Farmer,s Name	Father,s Name	Area (Jerib)	Village	Variety	District	Date of Planting
1	Bashir Ahmad	Mohd Hazrat	0.8	Hazrat	KCM	Chardarah	22/1/04
2	Haji Ialjan	Amir Mod.	0.5	Puli Chardarah	KCM	Chardarah	29/1/04
3	Mohd Amin	Mohd Hussain	0.5	Chartoot	KCM	Khanabad	27/1/04
4	Islamuddin	Mohd Sarwar	1	Urtabolaqi	Desiree	Central	24/1/04
5	Mohd Yasin	Abdee	0.5	Alcheen	KCM	Central	28/1/04
6	Guldin	Mhd Nadir	1	Guldin	KCM	Aliabad	21/1/04
7	Jahangir	A Wahab	1	Gumbad	KCM	Imamsahib	29/1/04
8	A.Hameed	A Wahid	0.5	Ismaelqeshlok	KCM	Imamsahib	27/1/04
9	Mohd Hanif	Khas Palah	0.5	Halqaqul	KCM	Imamsahib	29/1/04
10	Mohd Sadiq	Mohd Omar	0.5	Sarakmamorin	Desiree	Baghlan P	22/1/04
11	Khairullah	Haji A Khalil	0.5	4 th Street	KCM	Baghlan	28/1/04
12	Abdul Halim	Alladad	0.5	kakara	KCM	Archi	28/1/04
13	Abdul Qayum	Zafran	0.5	Tajek Qishlaq	KCM	Archi	28/1/04

List of demonstration plots of potato crop in Helmand province

No	Farmer,s Name	Father,s Name	Area (Jerib)	Village	Variety	District	Date of Planting
1	Shir Mohd	Nazar Mod	1700 m2	Hazar Juft	KCM	Garmsir	21/1/04
2	Asadullah	Mod Sarwar	1800 m2	Kharakoh	KCM	Garmsir	24/1/04
3	Ghulam Hasan	Haji Khair Mohd	2000 m2	Abazan	KCM	Gireshk	17/1/04
4	H.Alakai	Maqsood	2000 m2	Dakyan	KCM	Grishk	16/1/04
5	Mod Azam	Mod Ayub		Mukhtar	KCM	Lashkargah	23/1/04
6	Habibur Rahman	Mod Numan		Bolan	KCM	Lashkargah	27/1/04
7	H.Mod Amin	H.Mod Amin	2000 m2	Loybagh	KCM	Nadi Ali	
8	H.Ghulam Sarwar		2000 m2	Sheenkalai	KCM	Nadi Ali	
9	H.Sayed Nabi	Shaghasi	2000 m2	Ghaibzi	KCM	Nawa	15/1/04
10	Khodinazar	H.Khodinoor	2000 m2	Shakh Asekzaee	KCM	Nawa	16/1/04

Note: For the control of cut worm, Furodan at the rate of 2 kg/jerib, 500 kg of seed /jerib has been used.

List of demonstration plots of onion crop in Helmand province

No	Farmer,s Name	Father,s Name	Area (Jerib)	Village	Variety	District	Date of planting
1	H. Amin	Shir Zaman		Chilodo	Redcreole	Nawa	21/1/04
2	Bashar	Shaghasi		Ghaibzai	Redcreole	Nawa	22/1/04
3	Shir Mod	Nazar Mod		Hazar Juft	Redcreole	Garmsir	28/1/04
4	Asadullah	M.Sarwar		Kharakoh	Redcreole	Garmsir	31/1/04
5	H.Alakai	Maqsood		Dagyan	Redcreole	Gireshk	17/1/04

6	Abdul Samad	H.Alakai		Dagyan	Redcreole	Grishk	17/1/04
7	Bahloul	Ghulam Dastgir		Lashkari Bazar	Redcreole	Lashkargah	
8	Ghulam Hazrat	H. Mod Karim	½	Ainak	Redcreole	Lashkargah	25/1/04
9	Sultan Mod	Sahib Khan	½	Shinkalai	Redcreole	Nadi Ali	
10	Toor Jan	Nadohkan	½	Qalae Hazara	Redcreole	Nadi Ali	

Note: The onion seed is planted in the nursery and the amount of 800-1000 grams of seed were given to each district.

Onion and tomato nurseries are planted in all 5 provinces and seedlings will be transplanted in the selected farmers fields for implementation of demonstration plots.

Vegetable market information is taking place every week and send to Dubai for Dr Ahmad Moustafa for processing. This data is needed for collection of information to find out which vegetables are imported from Pakistan and what % is produced in Afghanistan. Also to find out the price of different vegetables weekly in Kabul market .

Personnel Recruiting:

For the implementation of the programs in the provinces of Helmand, Ghazni and Parwan after that the job vacancies were announced in ACBAR, the applications were collected and a short list was announced. After the interview three people for the following positions were recruited:

Field coordinators
Field technicians
Potato coordinators

Office Establishment: Offices were rented in the provinces of Helmand, Ghazni and Parwan. Guards were employed for office in each province. The offices are equipped with furniture and communications facilities such as Thuraya and mobiles phones.

Equipment purchase: Five motor cycles were purchased in Ghazni province for the extension workers which are working with USAID / RAMP and ICARDA demonstration programs.

Site Visit Report by RAMP Project Manager

In **Helmand province**, Twenty-nine wheat (Roshan-96, Amu-99) demonstrations, ten potato (disease-free potato seeds of Kupri Chander Mokhi - KCM) demonstrations, and ten onion (red) demonstrations in five districts in Helmand province were visited. Generally, the wheat growth was good, however, in some demos there was noticeable smut and sunn pest. Excessive weed growth and the need for rouging was observed in 16 of the demos. Oats and rye were found growing in two demos. The ten potato and the ten onion demonstrations, planted in January, generally exhibited good growth.

In **Kunduz province**, forty-nine improved wheat (Amu-96, Lalmi-2), ten potato (disease-free potato seeds of KCM), six onion (red variety), and five tomato demonstrations are in varying stages of development.

In **Nangahar province**, thirty-seven improved wheat (Gul-96), ten onion (red), nine potato (disease-free potato seeds of Desiree, KCM), three mung bean, and five tomato demonstrations were in varying stages of development. The growth of the Gul-96 wheat and the disease-free potatoes was observed to be better than the growth of the local varieties, however, rouging in the demonstration plots was needed.

In **Ghazni province**, the growth of the ½ improved wheat (Gul-96) in the thirty demonstrations was better than the growth of the local varieties grown by area farmers. Ten potato (disease-free potato seeds of KCM) demonstrations were planted in five districts of Ghazni. Plastic tunnels were established as seedling demonstrations in farmer's fields, and most of these farmers will be selling these seedlings in the marketplace at relatively high prices.

In **Parwan** province, the growth of the improved wheat (Gul 96) of the twenty-nine demonstrations was much better than the growth of the local wheat of the area farmers. Ten onion, ten potato (disease-free potato seeds of KCM), and ten tomato demonstrations were planted in March.

A baseline survey was carried out by ICARDA in each of the five RAMP priority provinces (Kunduz, Parwan, Ghazni, Nangahar, and Helmand). The main objective of the baseline survey was to provide a better understanding of the current status of improved crop varieties and improved crop management practices as a basis for assessing and measuring progress of achievements resulting from the project implementation activities. A training session was held for the ICARDA provincial coordinators to introduce the survey methodology and the strategy for conducting the survey with 27 enumerators. The survey was conducted in March.

9.4 Virus-Free Potato Seed Production

Project 5% Completed

- **Total Budget of \$662,891**
- **Implementing partner: International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and the Center for the Improvement of Potatoes (CIP)**

ICARDA/CIP is providing technical guidance for operational efficiency, needs assessments, order of start-up machinery and equipment, purchase of start-up inputs, and provision of relevant training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication and marketing for increasing potato production markets in Afghanistan.

Ten metric tons of the varieties Chandramukhi and Desiree were sent to Parwan from the store of Maidan Shar for the distribution to the selected farmers in Charikar, Jabal Saraj, Bagram, Seagird and Surkh Parsa districts of Parwan.

In addition, thirty metric tons of potato varieties (18.163 MT Kufri Chandramukhi and 11.837 MT Desiree) which were harvested from the autumn planting in Nanagarhar province were distributed to farmers in Charikar, Jabal Saraj, Bagram, Seagird and Surkh Parsa districts of Parwan.



<p>The seed potato was purchased from farmers and stored in Jalalabad. It was graded and treated with boric acid to prevent skin diseases and to prevent the breaking of dormancy. This seed was sent for demonstration plots and multiplication programs in Ghazni province.</p>	 <p>Transportation of Potato seed from Jalalabad to Ghazni</p>
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Six metric tons of Kufri chandramukhi, 11.25 metric tons of Desiree and 4.41 metric tons of Cardinal potato seed was distributed to farmers in Nangarhar province for spring planting

In Kunduz province 9.78 MT of K.Chandramukhi and Desiree was distributed to 15 farmers for further multiplications.

9.2 Village Women’s Poultry Production and Market Development – Report Pending

Project 2% Complete

- **Total Budget \$3,599,239**
- **Implementing Partner: The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**

FAO is introducing new knowledge and practical methods for improving poultry productivity and enable over 25,000 village women to participate in poultry income generating activities (eggs production, and commercialization of eggs and chicken). New markets will be opened in urban centers bringing additional revenue into the participating village.

The village women’s poultry project has begun implementation by training women in Kandahar who will go on to train women in the Helmand Province. Once completing their training, these woman-trainers will identify appropriate village women and train them in poultry production and management.



Poultry production is typically managed by women and children

The training process for village women begins with poultry management. Afterwards, the chicken coop is built and the necessary equipment is distributed along with 10 young hens. Training continues for 2 more months before the women are considered to be on their own.

The young hens that are distributed will take 21-23 weeks before they’re mature enough to start laying. In the course of the training, producer groups are forming to buy feed and input supplies in bulk as well as market the surplus eggs. By project’s end in three years, 25,000 women will have received training in poultry production as a result of this nation-wide project. Their families will benefit from increased household income and better nutrition.

The first three months of the first 6-month cycle of the project resulted in 14 trainers (4 teams)

trained in Helmand and 10 trainees (3 teams) trained in Kunduz. In addition, the Parwan trainers, already trained from the previous (before RAMP-funding) training program of FAO, have been training village women in all aspects of chicken husbandry, including feeding, breeding, disease and parasite control, housing, management, and marketing.

9.3 Dried Vegetable and Agricultural Production in Parwan, Kapisa and Kabul Provinces

Project 5% Completed

- **Total Budget: \$1,800,000**
- **Implementing partner: by the French NGO Agence d'aide a la Cooperation et au Developpement (ACTED).**

RAMP implementing partner, ACTED, has begun market based development in the Shamali Plains to enable agricultural producers to capitalize on the USAID/RAMP funded improvements in irrigation and road infrastructure. ACTED is implementing projects to increase agricultural productivity through improved access to efficient agricultural inputs and production technologies and by improving the marketing of agricultural products. Through the development of innovative low-tech facilities, the project also aims to boost income-generating activities for women.

The primary activities of this project include:

- Rehabilitation of destroyed and exhausted orchards and vineyards through the establishment of nurseries; Construction of innovative low-tech facilities (greenhouses, solar dryers and storage warehouses) focusing on income-generating activities for women;
- Provision of improved seeds and agricultural inputs;
- Facilitation of applied research activities, extension services and the transfer of technology;
- The development of linkages between producer organizations and marketing channels;
- Reactivate local agricultural associations
- Enhance institutional capacity of local organizations by providing training and technical and financial support
- Increase the involvement of women in the development process through mobilization and training.

The key accomplishments during this reporting period include hiring staff and procuring land suitable for greenhouse construction and agricultural demonstration plots. Some land has already been prepared for spring cultivation and pruning has been completed in selected demonstration gardens and orchards.

Assessments were made of local needs such as: access to quality agricultural inputs, the existing marketing system, gender inequities and the absence of agricultural organizations for producers. Farmers expressed concern about the need for extension education opportunities, the availability of quality inputs. Working with the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), the ACTED staff gathered data gained from previous international trials of wheat, durum, barley and triticale for application in this project.

A vegetable nursery demonstration plot within a plastic tunnel has been planted and lime sulfur was made and utilized in farmer demonstrations. The next calendar month will continue to be a busy month for cereal crop cultivation, pruning of vineyards and orchards; training on pest control and the establishment and maintenance of plastic tunnels for vegetable cultivation.

9.4 Agricultural Production, Processing & Marketing in Helmand and Kandahar

Project Project 5% Complete

- **Total budget: US\$4,265,208**
- **Implementing Partner: Central Asia Development Group (CADG)**

In Helmand and surrounding provinces, farmers with good growing conditions lack basic knowledge of current agricultural technology. They use traditional methods that limit yields and decrease the quality of crops. Seeds are planted by the broadcast method instead of in rows. Irrigation methods are rudimentary, resulting in overuse and mismanagement of precious water resources. Farmers wrongly believe that weeds are not considered detrimental to crop yields. Harvesting is done too early or too late, resulting in poor crops.

This agricultural extension and marketing program will assist in the management of production in ten districts of the Helmand Province, instructing farmers in yield-improving technologies, such as application of drip irrigation, proper use of pesticides, fertilizers, land preparation, weeding, and improved seed varieties (which are based on market demand).

Ten extension workers from the Provincial Ministry of Agriculture will be provided with vocational support and training. Farmers will benefit from information on the marketability of different crops so they will be aware of opportunities to grow more valuable products. This is followed by technical assistance with the actual marketing of products, and creation of small industries for private investors in the region.

The Central Asia Development Group is working in Kandahar and Helmand to establish demonstration farms, contract with local farmers to grow of selected crops, provide technical assistance and expertise in the areas of agriculture, processing and marketing, and transfer the knowledge necessary for improved crop development, and implementation of drip irrigation plots.

To date, 90 demonstration sites have been set up across the two regions, with 13 different types of crops being grown.

RAMP/CADG offices have been set up in Lashkar Gah and Kandahar, and staff teams with suitable agricultural experience have been hired. Equipment for the offices has been purchased in the form of computers, phones, furniture, stationary etc.

'Extension' workers with excellent local knowledge have been assigned to the thirteen districts which the project currently covers; these will be joined by thirteen more Government extension workers over the next month, to assist in the effective monitoring and support of the demo farms. The Governor of Helmand province has expressed his support to this USAID/RAMP endeavor.



On-farm demonstration plot



CADG staff extension workers, in the field



Farmer standing on his demonstration plot

In each of the ten Helmand and three Kandahar districts, extension workers take a proactive approach to their work, actively seeking out well-respected farmers to support the 'demo-farms' by allowing an area of their land to be used. Signage is in the process of being designed which will allow the demo sites to be clearly advertised to passers-by.



Drip irrigation demonstration

The extension workers then regularly re-visit the sites to give support to the farmers for land preparation, sowing, crop-health during the growth period, and ultimately, harvesting. On each visit, the extension workers gather statistics relating to the crops, and other information such as the level of interest and number of visits to the demo-farm by other farmers in the locality. All this information is fed back to through the network of CADG district offices to the respective central office in either Kandahar or Lashkar Gah, in Helmand.

To encourage the use of best practices, extension worker meetings are held every two weeks in Lashkar Gah. These are attended by workers from both districts, together with senior CADG agricultural management. These meetings have proved invaluable in the swapping of information, and allow management the opportunity to find out first-hand the effectiveness of the program.

CADG has worked closely with the irrigation specialist company, Netafim, a firm with extensive experience in developing countries. They will be providing drip irrigation expertise to the project, and will be the main supplier of drip systems and equipment. Their systems are already in place on many of the demo farms, and more are due to arrive in Afghanistan soon.

9.5 Virus-Free Potato Seed Production – Report Pending

Project 5% Completed

- **Total Budget of \$662,891**
- **Implementing partner: International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and the Center for the Improvement of Potatoes (CIP)**

ICARDA/CIP shall provide technical assistance to the project in terms of technical guidance for operational efficiency, needs assessments, order of start-up machinery and equipment, purchase of start-up inputs, and provision of relevant training for clean seed production, multiplication and marketing for increasing Potato Production in Afghanistan.

9.6 Village-Based Seed Enterprises – Report Pending

Project 5% Completed

- **Total Budget: \$1,928,063**
- **Implementing partner: ICARDA and the Future Harvest Consortium to Rebuild Agriculture in Afghanistan.**

They shall provide assistance to the project in terms of technical guidance for operational efficiency of village-based seed enterprise development in Afghanistan. The project will carry out the required market survey, needs assessments, monitoring and evaluation. Other essential services and assistance will include providing information and advice on appropriate machinery, equipment, storage facilities and start-up inputs and provision of relevant training (business management, marketing, accounting and seed technology).

9.7 Protected Agriculture – Report Pending

Project 5% Completed

- **Total Budget: \$1,624,845**

- **Implementing partner: ICARDA.**

They shall provide assistance to the project in terms of introducing protected agriculture for cash crop production in marginal and water deficit areas of Afghanistan. The project will promote the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently, by establishing a central demonstration and training site within Kabul and by installing simple greenhouse structures at selected pilot sites with participating farmers.

9.8 Livestock Health, Production, and Marketing Improvement Program – Report Pending

Project 2% Completed

- **Total Budget: US\$7,673,062**
- **Implementing Partner: Dutch Committee for Afghanistan (DCA)**

The implementing partner will create a national network of private veterinary field units (VFU) capable of providing livestock health services in all 380 districts of Afghanistan. They will also train sufficient numbers of para-veterinarians (paravets) required to staff and service the national network, and create a livestock health, production, and marketing information system that links this private network with government departments on such issues as disease surveillance, livestock inventories, and trans-border issues.

RAMP project managers have determined that in the first quarter, DCA provided approximately 222,250 vaccinations and 139,867 parasitic preventative treatments have been administered by private field veterinary units. More complete information will be available when DCA submits their reports.

9.9 Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development – Report Pending

Project Project 5% Complete

- **Total budget: US\$2,970,300**
- **Implementing Partner: International Fertilizer Development Company (IFDC)**

The Subcontractor shall train 2,000 agri-input dealers, improve market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, develop business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs and establish five private sector associations of agri-input dealers.

Work has been started on planning field activities. The agronomists selected for the position of regional coordinators in the field have undergone a few days of orientation in the Kabul office. A half day training program for the regional coordinators and the Kabul staff was held in Kabul office in marketing in open, competitive markets and in the marketing of agricultural inputs.

Designing of training programs is in hand as well as the training material that would be required for the different subjects. A detailed schedule is being prepared for the first two months of field activities – May and June. Work has been started on the preparation of technical material that will be use in crop leaflets, fertilizer-seed and CPP recommendation charts, and posters.

A detailed questionnaire was developed to survey the existing network of dealers. This will build on the surveys carried out in 2002 and 2003 by IFDC and will also provide baseline data about the dealer network and agri-input use by the farmers. Fifty questionnaires each have been given to the two regional coordinators who have been posted out in the field to do this work for the Ghazni and Helmand areas. The training coordinator from the Kabul office has completed this work in the Parwan and Kapisa provinces – where there was also an opportunity to test the questionnaire.

9.10 Arid Lands Resource Management Training – Report Pending

Project 0% Complete

- **Total budget: \$400,000**

- **Implementing Partner: International Arid Lands Consortium (IALC)**

The subcontractor will support the sustainable development, management, and restoration of arid and semi-arid lands in Afghanistan; thereby ensuring food security, increased productivity, and increased income. The subcontractor will also improve efficient use of water and soil resources at the farm, community and regional levels; support human and institutional capacity development, especially in agricultural education, research and water resource management institutions, and in arid lands conservation, management and development; apply appropriate technology in agriculture and livestock development; and support human capacity development needed backward and forward linkages in the food and fiber sector of Afghanistan.

9.11 Dried Vegetable Production and Marketing Program – Report Pending

Project 0% Complete

Total budget: US\$417,125

Implementing partner: Development Works Canada (DWC)

The subcontractor shall construct a dehydration factory consisting two stories (6,200 square foot) production facility which will house most of the workers and the cleaning, dicing, and drying machinery, a warehouse, a small test laboratory to ensure quality control and gain customer confidence, a classroom for the research farm and frequent lessons, and a 70 meter borehole to provide clean water to wash the produce and irrigate the research farm.

DWC is in close contact with European buyers in UK, Germany, and Holland, who have expressed serious interest in buying dried vegetables produced from this program. DWC is establishing a vegetable cultivation network and processing facility in Parwan. A site for the processing facility was identified, the design for the processing facility was completed and reviewed by RAMP, and the processing equipment ordered. RAMP Agriculture Team members accompanied the DWC in discussions about the program with over 150 farmers from 25 agricultural associations and cooperatives and provincial government leaders. These and other farmers in Parwan province are growing the vegetables that DWC will be drying.

9.12 Grape Revitalization for Afghanistan Productivity and Market Development – Report Pending

Project 0% Complete

- **Total budget: US\$5,998,252**

- **Implementing Partner: The Roots of Peace Consortium**

The subcontractor shall develop and disseminate technical courseware and materials to Afghan farmers; establish a trainer-to-trainer program to train Afghan extensionists; select and develop 10 model farms to demonstrate implementation and results of best practices; build new local centers or refurbish existing buildings to create market/collection centers; improve vine propagation through nursery development and rejuvenation to ensure sufficient numbers of healthy vine and rootstock available; establish 3 Farmer Owned Businesses (FOBs) to organize farmers into a legal private enterprise that provides the ability for them to secure credit from multi-lateral financial institutions; promote commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets; and explore methods of external communication to convey pertinent information about grapes to all links in the supply chain.

The Roots of Peace Consortium met in California at the end of March to develop their work and the required coordination among partners. Project activities will be in full swing starting in April.

9.13 Locust Control for Northern Afghanistan – Report Pending

Project 0% Complete

- **Total budget: US\$606,651**

- **Implementing partner: The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**

The subcontractor will implement a follow-up emergency locust control in northern Afghanistan and renovate the laboratory of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) in the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry. The subcontractor will monitor and control locust outbreaks, integrating ecologically-sound Integrated Pest Management (IPM) measures into the control strategy, and build the capacity of the PPQD to assume its plant protection functions. The subcontractor will contribute to the food security of Afghanistan.

The FAO locust control team assembled in March, identified organizers, and made arrangements, along with GOAL, for training the GOAL organizers and supervisors in Balkh, Baghlan, Kunduz, and Samargan provinces. The two chemicals, supplied by FAO, to be used for controlling the locusts are delamethrin (a pyrethroid) and dimilin (an IGR barrier).

9.14 Locust Control for Northern Afghanistan – Report Pending

Project 0% Complete

- **Total budget: \$US\$627,072**
- **Implementing Partner: GOAL**

This is an eight-month fixed amount reimbursement agreement (FARA) for \$627,072 to be implemented by (GOAL). The subcontractor will implement a program to mitigate the impact of locusts on rural livelihoods in Northern Afghanistan. Its key activities will include direct assistance to the chemical control of locusts with the provision of technical support, plastic sheeting, nets, barrels for water, ploughs and tents; mobilization of the rural population to areas of locust infestation, through the provision of transportation; full logistical support to the FAO and MAAH for the chemical control intervention; and monitoring of locust infested sites and program advances, through constant feedback using site and monthly reports, crop damage assessments, locust egg-bed surveys, final evaluation and providing data for the locust database, and for the FAO and AIMS.

9.15 Green Kabul Program – Report Pending

- **Total budget: US\$1,050,048**
- **Implementing Partner: United Nations Office of Project Services**

The project key activities will include: planting fruit and forestry trees in various public locations throughout Kabul, including schools, government buildings, parks, roadsides, and the Kabul Green Belt; organizing Kabul Green Week activities, including public events, children's activities, receptions, entertainment, and education; coordinating an ongoing public information campaign to raise public awareness of environmental issues in Afghanistan.

In preparation for the "Greening of Kabul" on the Afghan New year's Day, UNOPS purchased 484,580 fruit, conifer, and other saplings from 13 local nurseries in Kabul province and 150,000 conifer saplings from Permanente Corporation. The former were distributed and planted in public areas throughout Kabul and the Paghman Nursery and the latter were distributed to Paghman Nursery.

9.16 Grain Post-harvest Training, Storage, and Milling in Afghanistan – Report Pending

Project Project 0% Complete

- **Total Budget: \$2,811,820**
- **Implementing partner: The Grain Industry Alliance**

The subcontractor develop a series of demonstration clusters (sites) for proper cleaning, storage and handling of grain, combined with a training program at selected locations in each of the five RAMP priority Provinces. The subcontractor will also develop 25 community level storage sites, 25 full scale farm demonstration units, and 25 small farm demonstration units. The subcontractor will provide a complete range of grain storage handling, grading sites in several locations and will

allow for a targeted training program to be planned and delivered at various key times during the growing and harvesting season. Demonstration units and training will result in farmers replicating this storage capability throughout the training regions.

10.0 Rural Finance – Key Accomplishments

Total Investment in Rural Finance targeted by RAMP - \$25 million

Project Indicators	Cum. Total to March 31, 2004	June 2004 Target
5. Loan officers trained	800	1150
6. Loans disbursed	0	1,000

Rural financial services for Afghanistan are being developed as an 18-month grant of \$5,000,000 to the Ministry of Reconstruction and Rural Development to channel funds to the Microfinance Investment and Support Facility Afghanistan (MISFA). MISFA will finance a variety of organizations that implement a diverse range of microfinance approaches in order to test their applicability to Afghanistan and support the development of a diverse and competitive microfinance sector. This is a World Bank supported activity.

The number of Loan Officers trained under MISFA referred to in the table above is 800. This figure includes training conducted: internally within the microfinance institutions, by MISFA technical team for the microfinance institutions, and externally by microfinance experts from the Microfinance Center of NIS and Central Asia. Based on feedback both from the microfinance institutions (MFIs) and the MISFA technical team, the MFIs will continue to need a tremendous amount of training to build the capacity of their staff. Also, as the MFIs grow and expand to other regions, the number of staff will increase and they will need to be trained.

The amount of loans disbursed is on track for the June target of 1000. Beginning in April, the targeted number of loans is anticipated to total approximately 500 loans representing half of the June target with an approximate value of \$45,000.

One MFI, the Bangladesh Rural Assistance Committee (BRAC), has been actively working in the rural areas and generating agricultural loans. BRAC is setting the pace for the other MFIs under MISFA with an outstanding portfolio of approximately \$1M¹. It is anticipated the other MFIs will start delivering agricultural based loans aggressively starting in the second quarter. With additional activity from other MFIs, the actual disbursements for agricultural loans will be steadily increasing over the next few months.

During the Quarter, MISFA hired an Agricultural Specialist with the technical assistance funds made available through RAMP. The Specialist made great strides during the Quarter to develop loan products appropriate for the agricultural sector. To assist in product development, the Specialist initiated contact with other RAMP implementing partners to consider their beneficiaries' needs for credit and design loan products accordingly. These new loan products should result in accelerated disbursement of RAMP funds allocated to MISFA for micro-lending.

10.1 Access to Finance for Small, Medium, and Large Sized Agribusinesses

A follow-up assessment was conducted during mid-January to early February to compliment the partial review made in December 2003 of the demand for small and medium enterprise (SME) loans by agro-processors and agricultural cooperatives. The initial assessment also included a

¹ This includes their entire portfolio and does not represent the agricultural sector only.

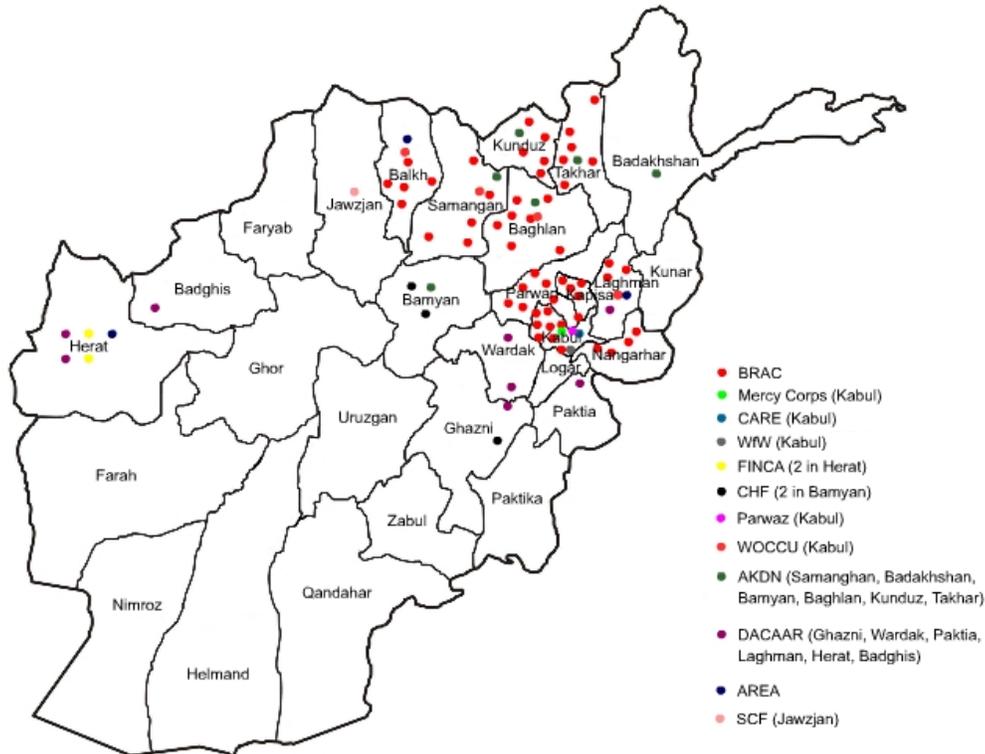
cursory review of the delivery agents and mechanisms which could be utilized to deliver financial services to the agricultural sector. The assessment conducted in this Quarter concentrated on reviewing potential concepts which could be considered for loan delivery agent(s) to deliver financial services to agribusinesses. In addition, the assessment was to determine the lending mechanism to be utilized for providing loan funds to the financial intermediary.

To stimulate lending for agribusinesses, the review concluded that:

- Rural finance lending should coordinate and be consistent with RAMP's other core activities – agricultural technology and market development, and rural infrastructure rehabilitation. Beneficiaries of these core activities should be targeted for access to credit.
- The financial institutions need to inculcate sound and prudent lending principles with their staff. The institutions should rely on the viability of the agricultural enterprise when making loan decisions and not the underlying collateral.
- Various credit delivery mechanisms should be utilized to allow for a flexible approach in providing access to financial services for agricultural businesses. Also, a diversity of lending products should be developed to meet the needs for both working capital and fixed assets of an agricultural enterprise.
- Resources from other institutions, such as other USAID contractors, locally based institutions, bi-lateral, and multi-lateral institutions, can be leveraged to build a stronger financial industry serving the agricultural sector. Coordinating and planning with these institutions should be emphasized before implementing any strategy for agricultural lending.
- Agricultural borrowers must be supported through business consulting and technical assistance to mitigate the risk of business failure.
- A strong credit culture must be developed to ensure the borrowers understand the importance of on-time repayment. The borrowers must be aware that a credit is an obligation with certain responsibilities and not a grant.

To accelerate and broaden the financing of machinery, equipment, and inputs available to the agricultural sector, RAMP recommended the start-up of a lending entity jointly through Chemonics and ShoreBank Advisory Services. The entity would develop an agricultural loan portfolio which could be reassigned to a commercial bank/financial institution prior to project completion. This plan was rejected by USAID and a Request for Proposal (RFP) was drafted at the very end of the quarter to identify a retail finance/leasing institution geared toward providing financial services to the Afghan agribusiness sector by extending loans, credit services (including possibly leasing), and possible equity investments. The institution would target SME entrepreneurs, investors, associations, business cooperatives in the agribusiness and processing sector primarily in the five most populous regions of Afghanistan. The selection of the institution will take place early in the following quarter.

Map of MISFA Targeted Activities for 2004



10.2 Project Integration to Maximize Impact

MISFA's Agricultural Specialist is working closely with United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to determine how microfinance loans could be tailored to the Village Women's Poultry Project. There is a real potential for developing synergy between microcredit and poultry rearing and production. Since the project focuses on developing women's enterprises, it provides an effective interface for microfinance providers seeking outreach to women.

Also, the Specialist coordinated with Madera and Development Alternatives Inc., (DAI) to integrating micro credit into their RAMP funded infrastructure projects. Both subcontractors are working on irrigation projects which should have positive impact on agricultural enterprises.

10.3 The Dobrianski Women's Delegation Hears Women's Microfinance Success Stories

One of the microfinance implementing partners under MISFA, the Foundation for International Community Assistance (FINCA), had a very productive meeting in late February with Paula Dobrianski, the Undersecretary of State for Global Affairs and the highest ranking woman in the US state department. The Undersecretary was joined by the US-Afghan Women's Council, Ms. Karen Hughes, and Mrs. Donald Rumsfeld and other Presidential and State Department assistants. Muslime, a FINCA's borrower told the group her poignant story of learning how to tailor by watching television and developing her own business. Enjila, a FINCA Loan Officer, explained her ambition to assist women by directly providing them with micro credits. The presentations raised awareness of the many challenges faced by women in Afghanistan and how a small group of hardworking microfinance officers can make a difference. The overall goals for the meeting were met by explaining the need for access to microfinance and the impact of the financial services on the ultimate borrowers in a very challenging environment.

10.4 Microfinance Trainings

There were various trainings during the quarter for the microfinance sector. The trainings are described below.

Loan Review: Microfinance Loan Officer training was conducted in early March under the auspices of the International Labour Organization (ILO). The Microfinance Center of the Newly Independent States and Central Asia facilitated the workshop. The main topics of the training were loan risk assessment, financial analysis, and loan officer responsibilities. Twenty-four participants representing six organizations including MISFA, DACAAR, IAM, Parwaz, Madera, and ACTED attended the fee-based training. All of these institutions are in the process of building their microfinance capacities to become MISFA partners. [Both Madera and ACTED are implementing partners of RAMP infrastructure projects.] Each participant received a manual in Dari of the tools and materials used during the training. This training will be replicated for other microfinance institution staff members.

Training the Trainers: The MISFA Agricultural Specialist conducted a training of trainers in the facilitation of agricultural lending practices, how to conduct focus group discussions, and collecting market research with the local staff of MISFA in mid-March. This training was repeated with microfinance institutions the following week.

Ministry Training: MISFA trained more than 80 field staff of the Ministry for Rehabilitation and Rural Development in the area of microfinance in mid-March. The participants in the course have been tasked with overseeing microfinance activities in the field being carried out by NGOs. However, most of the field staff have little to no training in microfinance. MISFA has designed a three-day course aimed at providing the participants with a basic understanding of microfinance methodologies and best practices. The course also involves a field visit to a microfinance institution in Kabul.

10.5 Assessing Finance Needs and Capacity in the South-Southeast

The active MFIs are providing financial services to primarily the northern, eastern and western provinces. The provinces presently being covered or have approved proposals to MISFA for outreach are: Badakhshan, Baghlan, Balkh, Bamyan, Ghazni, Herat, Kabul, Kapisa, Kunduz, Laghman, Logar, Nangarhar, Parwan, Samangan, Takhar and Wardak. This represents 50% of the provinces in Afghanistan. The apparent provinces missing are key centers in the south: Helmand and Kandahar. These provinces are primary agricultural centers and are included as strategic areas for RAMP activities.

A feasibility study was initiated in late March and will be conducted in early April to study the need for micro-credit in the southern provinces of Kandahar and Helmand. Based on input from the MFIs, the most important issues for selecting areas for outreach are: demand for credit; population density to ensure a sustainable branch network, well-organized infrastructure, and stable security. A strong credit culture must prevail in these provinces so that MFIs are assured of high repayment of their loans.

According to discussions with the MFIs, the main constraints for lending in the southern provinces are the security issues, the competition for credit from the opium dealers, and the political overtones of providing credit in the area. These constraints will be further examined to determine if and how they can be overcome to make microfinance available to targeted agricultural entrepreneurs in the south and southeast.

10.6 Agribusiness Development Projects Approved

The Ministry of Commerce approved the project plans for the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) to provide technical assistance for credit-worthy agricultural enterprises in early March. RAMP will coordinate with UNDP to stimulate private sector development of agricultural producers and processors through their project.

According to the results of an ILO assessment to review the current availability and breadth of technical services to Afghan enterprises, the primary providers of these services are non-governmental organizations. The private sector is not yet engaged in offering many technical services for businesses. RAMP will collaborate with the following organizations to provide business services to agribusinesses receiving credit through RAMP funded financial intermediaries: Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE), UNDP, Altai Consulting, SwissPeace, and the Afghan-American Chamber of Commerce.

11.0 Working with the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan

11.1 Policy Reform

Cotton – A cotton policy brief completed by the RAMP Agricultural Unit was disseminated to and discussed with stakeholders in the TISA Government and donors. Despite efforts to convince the relevant Government ministries of the need for lifting the ban on private ginning of cotton, the Government has not modified their policy. RAMP assisted the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Representative and an ADB Consultant in putting together a policy for advancing the second ADB tranche contingent on the Government lifting the ban on operating private gins.

Flour Milling – The RAMP Chief Agricultural Economist participated in the Kabul silo and mill privatization and rehabilitation meetings. The need to privatize or contract out the private management of the silo and the mill was emphasized. This should be done before there is any money spent on rehabilitation.

Table of Policy Constraints and Dialogue Collaborators

Policy Issue/Constraint	Collaborators (Ministerial)	Collaborators (Other)
Inputs		
Seed (property rights, certification, inspection)	Agriculture	ICARDA, CIMMYT, NGOs, seed companies
Fertilizer (packaging/labeling)	Commerce	IFDC, Fertilizer dealers
Agric chemicals (packaging/labeling)	Commerce	Ag. Chemical dealers
Water use (surface and subsurface water rights)	Irrigation, Mines and Minerals	WB, Louis Berger, DAI
Animal health	Agriculture	FAO, Dutch Development Committee
Leasing agreements (tax treatment)	Finance	WB (MISFA)
Rural infrastructure (irrigation, roads, rural market facilities)	Irrigation, Public Works, Agriculture, MRRD	UNOPS, WB, Louis Berger, ADB, NGOs
Investment Incentives (tax holiday, repatriation of earnings, one-stop shopping)	Finance, Commerce	Provincial Governors, Chambers of Commerce, AISA
Community land use (related to desertification, natural forests)	Agriculture, Natural Resources	Provincial Governors, ADB
Warehouse receipt system (legal, bonding, and contractual)	Agriculture, Finance	Commercial banks
Weights and Measures	Bureau of Standards	
Grades and Standards	Bureau of Standards	Private sector (grain traders)
Inspection services (phytosanitary, plant protection/quarantine, product quality)	Agriculture, Commerce	USDA, Donors
Transport customs and fees	Transport, Commerce, Finance	Local government, private sector (trucking)
Trade policies		
Customs and import duties	Finance, Commerce	Bearing Pt., Adam Smith

Table of Policy Constraints and Dialogue Collaborators		
Policy Issue/Constraint	Collaborators (Ministerial)	Collaborators (Other)
(agricultural inputs and commodities)		Institute, Donors
Export tariffs	Finance, Commerce	Bearing Pt., Donors
Duty drawback	Finance, Commerce	Bearing Pt., Donors
Export promotion	Finance, Commerce, Foreign Affairs	Bearing Pt., GTZ, Donors
Regional policy harmonization	Finance, Commerce, Foreign Affairs	WTO, Int'l Trade Associations
Cooperative laws (bank and non-bank); Association Laws, NGO Laws	Finance, MRRD, MoJ, Commerce, Agriculture	Commercial banks, WB, NGOs
Commercialization laws (bankruptcy, liquidation)	Finance, MRRD, MoJ, Commerce	Commercial banks, Bearing Pt.
Licensing for any agribusinesses, NGOs, others	Commerce	Chambers of Commerce, NGO Associations
Inter-ministerial policy harmonization	Ag, Irrigation, Commerce, Finance, MRRD	Donors
Government obstructive policies to private sector development	Ag, Commerce	Chambers of Commerce, private sector associations, GTZ, donors

11.2 Kabul Green Week

In cooperation with the Embassy of the United States of America in Afghanistan and the Afghan Conservation Corps (ACC), the Ministry of Irrigation, Water Resources and Environment (MIWRE), Ministry of Information and Culture (MIC), Kabul Municipality, and the Ministry of Education and the United States Agency for International Development, RAMP purchased trees through UNOPS to contribute to "Kabul Green Week 22-27 March 2004. The launch of Kabul Green Week coincided with the Afghan New Year (Nawroz) with additional events to be scheduled throughout the year.

The organizers of Kabul Green Week distributed a tree for each family in Kabul, for a total of almost 1 million trees. Fruit and forest trees were planted in public locations throughout the city, including schools, government buildings, parks, and roadsides. Kabul residents who received trees were asked to take their trees home as a symbol of Nawruz and prosperity. Furthermore, ACC and the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry (MAAH) will continue to restore the Kabul Green Belt by planting 200,000 conifer trees this year.

11.3 Working with the Appropriate Ministries

RAMP has coordinated with the Extension Department in the Central Ministry office in developing an agricultural communications strategy involving fact sheets and other dissemination methods. Implementing partners coordinate with the provincial offices to work with MAAH extension agents assigned to subcontractor projects.

Assessments of the potential role of agricultural associations in RAMP's market development program were made in collaboration with the Ministry of Cooperatives. Agricultural specialists work with the MAAH Research Department to gain a better understanding of the research progress in terms of seed development in the various government research farms. RAMP's livestock specialist works closely with the Head of the Veterinary Department in coordinating animal health and livestock production programs.

During the bi-weekly meeting with USAID/RAMP implementing partners in infrastructure development, procedures were discussed to accelerate construction progress. Each of the organizations provided a presentation of their implementation status and procedures which can be taken to enable the continuation of work during the winter months. During the meeting

constructions designs and plans were discussed, and the RAMP engineers provided guidance for strengthening the plans prior to submitting them to the Ministry of Irrigation for formal approval. While obtaining the approval of the construction plans from the Ministry of Irrigation may delay initiating work, it does provide the added protection that the final plan coincides with the technical requirements of the Ministry of Irrigation.

11.4 Advising on Bird Flu Outbreak in Karachi, Pakistan

It was widely reported that outbreaks of Bird Flu have been found in Karachi, Pakistan. Bird Flu manifests itself in a variety of strains, some harmful to humans and some not. The disease is spread through contact with live chickens or by consuming undercooked chicken meat and/or eggs. The outbreak in Karachi has just been determined to be a weak strain of Bird Flu that is not harmful to humans. However, because of uncontrolled imports of chicken meat, live chickens and eggs from Pakistan, the RAMP agricultural specialist met with the Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry to advise them of the vulnerability of Afghanistan to an uncontrolled outbreak. The Deputy Minister appreciated the information and indicated that the MAAH would take appropriate action.

12.0 Management Systems

The management systems for RAMP are in a continual process of being reviewed and improved including: the proposal development process, subcontractor management, budget monitoring, job order management, security, operations, and personnel. In developing these management tools, we will be able to better respond to questions from USAID, as well as better manage activities. In some areas, staff members are building on current practices to systematize our work.

12.1 Proposal Development Meetings

As part of the comprehensive review process utilized by RAMP to assess all incoming proposals, a proposal development meeting is held between appropriate RAMP specialists and the implementing agency.

- The Cooperative Housing Foundation on construction of storage and processing infrastructure. CHF will be adjusting their proposal to accommodate the demand-driven market opportunities identified by RAMP and its Job Order subcontractors.
- FAO, GOAL, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry on locust and sun pest control. A joint and revised proposal from FAO and GOAL will be submitted and reviewed.

12.2 Team Restructuring

On February 10, senior management formally announced the restructuring of the RAMP field office based on the organization chart in appendix X(Susan I suggest that org chart either become an entire page or is included in an appendix). Key attributes of this reorganization:

- RAMP structure is now divided into four units: Agriculture, Infrastructure, Program Support, and Program Development.
- The Deputy Chiefs of Party in Agriculture, and Infrastructure, are tasked with project solicitation, implementation, and monitoring in accordance to RAMP strategy. Project Managers with specific sector-specific and functional skill set monitor project implementation.
- The Program Support Unit, led by the Assistant Chief of Party, includes financial reporting and monitoring and contract/subcontracts/grants. Program Support is also responsible for logistics, security, office IT, and personnel.

- The Program Development Unit, led by the Assistant Chief of Party, is responsible for programmatic strategy, communications and reporting, monitoring and evaluation/GIS, and training. The Program Development Unit helps guide RAMP strategy through timely information gathering and reporting procedures.
- Ministry advisor/liaison and regional office heads report directly to the Chief of Party.

The new organizational structure facilitates the strategic shift underway at RAMP: project management and implementation according to specific value chains. Project planning and monitoring, now shared among the Program Development, Agriculture, and Infrastructure units, is communicated throughout the structure, creating synergies and ensuring maximum contribution to specific agriculture production processes. Finally, the new structure provides greater clarity on responsibilities, increases department collaboration, and institutionalizes internal management processes.

RAMP-wide procedures are still evolving under this new structure. With senior field-based management firmly in place for next quarter, significant progress is expected in the next two to three months.

12.3 Optimizing Short-Term Consultants

Dates	Name	Assignment
12/03/03 – 02/15/04	Peter Siu	Program Review Specialist / Interim COP. Reviewed the current RAMP Work Plan, program scope and implementation strategy and assist the COP to correlate it with the ongoing Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry sector strategy development process and current USAID Mission program concerns.
12/08/03 – 02/17/04	John Ames	Interim Operations Manager. Worked with the local Supervisory Office Manager to ensure smooth and consistent operations of all aspects of field administration
12/15/03 - 03/03/04	Mikael Hook	Project Management Specialist / Interim D-COP, Program Development. Assisted the Contracts Manager to prepare Job Orders and subcontracts.
01/09/04 – 02/13/04	Larry Hendricks (Subcontract: Hendricks & Associates)	Rural Finance Assessment. Completed November rural finance assessment (cut short due to security concerns), produced report and recommendations on RAMP finance strategy.
01/12/04 – 02/19/04	Robert Flick	Project Supervisor Assisted the in-country team to continue processing Job Orders, manage the concept paper to proposal process, and work with select

		development partners to improve their proposals and resulting sub-agreements.
01/16/04 – 04/01/04	Tanjila Islam	Program Development Assistant. Worked closely with A-COP Program Development and Contracting Officer to coordinate the development of ideas, research, assessments, concept papers, proposals and other new project activities and initiatives.
01/16/04 – 02/12/04	Kenneth Peoples (Subcontract: Prime International)	Rural finance assessment. Completed November rural finance assessment (cut short due to security concerns), produced report and recommendations on RAMP finance strategy.
01/19/04 – 03/06/04	Carol Yee	Project Management Specialist. Reviewed existing RAMP project development systems including concept paper and proposal formulation, submission and review, and job order submission and review procedures; recommended improvements.
01/30/04 – 03/03/04	Daniel Hilleman	Demonstration Plot Specialist. Worked with ICARDA demonstration plot job order and identified their successes and problems so this experience can be shared with other job order contractors.
01/30/04 – 03/03/04	Tooryalai Wesa	Fact Sheet Production Specialist. Advised and trained the job order contractor staff in how to produce best practices agricultural fact sheets, and assisted in the selection of the fact sheet production team—writer, technical specialist and artists.
02/02/04 – 03/21/04	Kelly McKenna	Project Finance Specialist. Reviewed existing RAMP financial policies and procedures, including accounting, cash management, accounting filing, and recordkeeping systems to ensure that the project is consistent with Chemonics' and USAID's policy and practice.
02/04/04 – 02/14/04	James Carney	Retreat Facilitator. Plan and facilitate 3 day teambuilding

		workshop in consultation with all RAMP field staff to discuss staff perceptions of their role in the RAMP project.
02/16/04 – 05/15/04	Johannes Oosterkamp	Irrigation Rehabilitation Advisor. Conducted irrigation rehabilitation assessments to identify new projects and Reviewed all Job Order and Task Order proposals related to irrigation rehabilitation.
02/08/04 – 02/21/04	Ronald Ivey	Senior Vice President. Consulted with USAID regarding the achievement of overall project objectives, the impending budget amendment, and the processing of job orders.
02/13/04 – 03/08/04	Richard Scott	Rural Development Specialist. Accompanied the RAMP COP on an assessment visit to Helmand and Kandahar provinces, in anticipation of the establishment of a RAMP Regional Office covering those provinces
02/15/04 – 04/10/04	Thomas Fattori	Livestock and Agribusiness Consultant. Worked with/assisted the RAMP Livestock Advisor and consortium members on the implementation livestock health, poultry/egg production, and marketing job orders.
02/27/04 – 04/25/04	Jenny Bledsoe	Program Development Assistant. Established and formalized systems for operation and maintenance of RAMP GIS system, and developed maps of Agriculture, Infrastructure, and Micro-finance activities as required by RAMP team, USAID and other relevant parties.
02/29/04 – 03/06/04	Frank Kenefick	Alternative Development Specialist. Field assignment in Peru: Examined alternative development projects, focusing on private sector linkages, investment and market-related activities.
02/29/04 – 03/06/04	Roberto Toso	Alternative Development Specialist. Field assignment in Peru: Examined alternative development projects, focusing on private sector linkages, investment and market-related activities.

03/01/04 – 04/13/04	Zulaikha Aziz	Women in Development Integration Advisor. Developed a network of supportive partners through conversations with Afghan women's groups and groups interested in gender, and planned strategically with both RAMP and USAID staff on recommended steps for integrating gender into their work.
03/10/04 – 03/30/04	Peter Siu	Program Review Specialist. Assisted with the transition of the new ACOP-Program Development. Reviewed and finalized security plans, vehicle plan, operations manual, personnel manual. Met with key USAID mission personnel to incorporate their views into proposed program improvements.
03/12/04 – 06/13/04	Teshome Lemma	Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist. Reviewed job orders and developed indicators which contribute to measurable incremental productivity in Afghanistan, and prepared monthly reporting templates and baseline surveys for inclusion in job order contracts.
03/15/04 – 04/07/04	Mary Hill Rojas	Women in Development Integration Advisor. Developed a network of supportive partners through conversations with Afghan women's groups and groups interested in gender, and planned strategically with both RAMP and USAID staff on recommended steps for integrating gender into their work.
03/19/04 – 04/01/04	John Priest	Senior Engineering Advisor. Outlined work plan activities related to infrastructure rehabilitation; reviewed technical aspects of infrastructure job orders.
03/28/04 – 04/23/04	Edward Guerrero (Subcontract: Shorebank)	Rural Finance Advisor

12.4 Subcontractor Orientation and Welcome Kits

Recently RAMP has developed and designed 32 Job Orders with over 20 implementing entities. In order to make sure that the Implementing Partners (IPs) understand their roles and

responsibilities, project management best practices, reporting requirements, and financial management, the RAMP Program Development Unit took the initiative and brought together the following material in Subcontractors Welcome kit:

- Subcontractors Types & Roles and responsibilities
- Project Management Guidelines and Best Practices
- Work Planning Guidelines
- Financial Management Guidelines and Best Practices
- Report Writing Guidelines and Templates
- Public Awareness and Branding
- RAMP Services and Resources
- Good Irrigation Construction Practices
- Quality Road Construction for Non-Paved Roads
- Introducing Drip Irrigation
- Guidelines for Establishing Farmer Demonstration Plots
- Guidelines for Producing Fact Sheets

The Welcome Kit has been a useful tool for RAMP Project Managers and RAMP Subcontractors enabling both to manage projects more efficiently. The Welcome Kits have been customized for each of the RAMP Job Orders and include a performance indicator template specifically designed for that project by the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit. Orientation sessions are held for the distribution of the welcome kits and instruction on how to use them. Our partners become better acquainted with the RAMP staff and the many resources available to assist them with the successful completion of their project.

Currently, the Program Development Unit is in the process of developing Grantee Welcome Kits for those partners who have grants with RAMP.

13.0 Leveraging Project Results

13.1 Training

The objectives of the RAMP Training program are to provide professional support in human resource and institutional capacity development for the RAMP team, Ministry counterparts, implementing partners, and the private sector. The training activities that have been accomplished this quarter are as follows:

- Two Training Courses on River Engineering from 3-5 January, 2004 in Kabul and from 23-25 January, 2004 in Jalalabad were organized and sponsored by UNOPS. RAMP sponsored 6 engineers from AREA, GRSP, ASSA, OMEAD, ACD and ACTED to attend in Kabul and 4 engineers from ACTED, VARA, WADAN, MADERA AND IRC to attend the Jalalabad training course. They were active participants and requested more training opportunities in subjects such as management, survey and data collection, assessments and finance.
- A five day Training Course on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) from 25-29 January 2004 organized, coordinated and sponsored by RAMP at the Intercontinental Hotel Kabul. The USDA trainers traveled to Kabul to facilitate this course.

The objectives for the Sanitary and Phytosanitary course were to increase the knowledge and understanding of international standards as a scientific basis for developing and implementing systems to safeguard plant and animal health and to support the international trade of agricultural products in Afghanistan. Twenty-three participants from the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Commerce, FAO as well as the private sector attended the course. All the participants received the certificates on 29 January upon course completion.

- Two staff from the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Irrigation were sent to Thailand and attended NETAFIM Drip Irrigation and water/farm management training course from 1-13 February 2004.

- Two Training Courses on Orchard and Nursery Management and Training of Trainers (TOT) in Sustainable use of Water Resources were conducted by the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign Field Office NWFP Agricultural University, Peshawar from 9 February to March 8, 2004. This course was funded by USAID and coordinated by RAMP.

The purpose of these trainings was to support the sustainable development, management, and restoration of arid and semi-arid lands in Afghanistan. A related goal was strengthening the capacity of institutions which support agriculture in Afghanistan. To achieve this goal, the project is pursuing four training related objectives: (1) improve efficient use of water and soil resources at the farm, community and regional levels; (2) support human and institutional capacity development, especially in agricultural education, research and water resource management institutions, and in arid lands conservation, management and development; (3) apply appropriate technology in agriculture and livestock development; and (4) support human capacity development needed backward and forward linkages in the food and fiber sector of Afghanistan.

Coordination of RAMP Teambuilding

A three day Teambuilding workshop from February 10-12, 04 was held for RAMP staff in Kabul. The objectives of the workshop were:

- To explore the vision and strategy for the coming year.
- To review and understand the new organizational structure.
- To build teams and clarify roles, responsibilities and authorities
- To identify our strengths, our challenges and our needs in implementing RAMP in the coming year.
- To introduce the logical framework (logframe) as a management tool.
- To look at the expectations and needs of both managers and staff in order to manage the new organization successfully.
- To develop an action plan.

Requests for Training Opportunities

In addition to building the capacity of RAMP staff members, and implementing partner staff, training opportunities have been requested by various Ministries working with RAMP. Some of their training requests include:

- Participatory rural and urban assessments
- Survey and data collection
- Management as a whole and office management
- Finance and accounting
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Various subjects related to irrigation and engineering

These requests are being taken into consideration in the overall RAMP training strategy.

13.2 Agricultural Support Communications

Providing Information Resources for Ministry of Agriculture Extensionists

Afghanistan Extension Officers from the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry (MAAH) representing 5 Provinces and 27 Districts endorsed the fact sheet concept for the diffusion of agricultural communications after reviewing draft messages on Sunn pest control and poultry diseases. The extensionists served as a pre-test audience for the agricultural information as part of an Agricultural Communication Training Workshop in Kabul February 24-25. These initial publications were developed by RAMP agricultural communication specialists in cooperation with FAO poultry and ICARDA wheat specialists. The extension field workers



Extension workers practicing with fact sheets

practiced using the fact sheets as materials for group presentations and field demonstrations for local farmers as pictured above.

13.3 Working with Provincial Reconstruction Teams

On Thursday, January 29, an orientation meeting was held to acquaint implementing partners of USAID/RAMP and the agencies involved in the Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs) in Afghanistan. The staffing components of the PRTs were discussed along with the development of a working relationship between the PRTs and NGOs working in the same region. A complete list of PRTs and contact information for key staff members is being provided to all RAMP implementing partners as part of the orientation process and in the subcontractor welcome kits.

14.0 Vision for the Next Quarter

14.1 Market Support Facility Projects Begin Implementation

Budget Commitment to Market Structures under USAID/RAMP: US\$6-7 million

Afghanistan's markets and marketing facilities have suffered the same devastation as the rest of the agricultural infrastructure. Wholesale markets facilities lack running water, electricity, adequate drainage, and proper protection of goods. There is little or no cleaning, sorting, or processing equipment for post-harvest activities. Rental storage facilities are available at the provincial level, but they lack security and adequate environmental and temperature controls to maintain product quality. District market centers are just as inadequate and smaller. On-farm storage facilities are common, but usually made to serve as temporary storage of wheat for household consumption.



Grain market in Kunduz

USAID/RAMP has developed a Market Center Strategy with the goal of expanding and upgrading postharvest and market facilities in order to lower marketing costs, add value to marketable products and expand new and existing markets. The types of storage structures included in the RAMP market strategy are generally steel or brick warehouse structures with a garage door and raised concrete floor. These would be used for seed and grain storage and as processing facilities.

Over 130 market centers have been programmed to be constructed before the end of June, 2004. The market centers, including grain storage facilities, collection centers, wholesale markets, and cold storage facilities, are to be built by RAMP subcontractors. The construction of market centers fit into RAMP's objectives of enhancing food security and increasing rural incomes. The grain storage facilities provide farmers improved technologies for maintaining their grain, while the collection centers, rehabilitated wholesale markets, and cold storage facilities add value along the value chain for crop production.

Processing facilities would include:

- Mung bean cleaning, dehusking, separating, and packaging
- Cumin cleaning and packaging
- Almond cleaning, grading, sorting and packaging
- Dried apricot sulphuring, drying, sorting, and packaging
- Raisin cleaning, sorting, washing and packaging
- Wheat cleaning, grading, milling and sacking

USAID/RAMP Response to Market Center Needs

Based on assessments conducted by RAMP agricultural specialists, a total of 100 market centers/structures are to be constructed by June 2004 in five target provinces, Kunduz, Nangahar, Kandahar, Helmand and Kabul.

- On-farm grain storage efforts will be concentrated initially in Kunduz, Helmand, and the Kabul area.
- Village and district grain storage will be constructed in, but not limited to, the primary grain growing areas, Kunduz and Helmand.
- Collection centers are needed in all provinces.
- Existing municipal, wholesale market centers (in all provinces listed) for grains/legumes and fruits/vegetables lack basic facilities, including, water, electricity, sanitation, easy entry, efficient loading and unloading facilities, secure storage areas, cleaning, grading, and efficient weighing mechanisms. The need for improved market centers exists in all provinces listed.
- Cold storage is needed in all provinces to maintain high produce quality and to take advantage of seasonal gluts and shortages of fruits and vegetables.

Next Steps under RAMP:

Market center revitalization will begin in April in the provinces of Kunduz, Nangarhar, and Kabul with Kandahar and Helmand following in May. This will be done through indefinite quantity contracts (IQC) with implementing partners. Job orders are currently under review for approval with GAI and CHF. Specific locations have been identified at the farm, village, and district level by RAMP specialists. Construction on the centers will not begin until the springtime due to freezing temperatures.

14.2 Next Steps for the RAMP Infrastructure Team

- Review the interim Middle Helmand Irrigation System Assessment
- Identify sub-contractors to renovate the Parwan Siphon
- Identify NGOs and commercial contractors to implement rehabilitation activities within Helmand and Kandahar Provinces.

14.3 New Irrigation Project Coming Online

- The Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project in Herat.

15.0 Overall Program Issues

15.1 Gender

USAID/RAMP Outreach to Women

Agricultural production in Afghanistan is largely a household activity, with women and children as well as men having important roles in the rearing of livestock, horticulture, and crop production. Before the years of conflict, the country was at or near self-sufficiency in wheat, its primary staple, and was a significant exporter of fruits, nuts and other agricultural products. Some 75% of the population lived in rural areas and approximately 85% depended upon agriculture for their livelihood. Large numbers of rural women have been widowed, left to assume their men's responsibilities and have lived at the mercy of other family members as they have struggled to continue subsistence production.

Populations have been displaced from rural to urban areas. Therefore, today a growing, less vulnerable, more diverse rural economy that provides opportunities for rural women and men is essential to improve rural livelihoods. The following projects being implemented by USAID/RAMP



Poultry production is typically the realm of women

have components that target outreach to women.

Village Women's Poultry Production

Targeted impact by project's end, Oct. 2006:

- 25,000 village women trained and supported in poultry production
- 25,000 village families benefit from augmented income and improved nutrition

Implementing Partner: United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Malnutrition plagues the children of Afghanistan, which continues to have one of the highest maternal death rates as well as infant mortality rates in the world. Family-style, village-level production is still the predominant poultry system in Afghanistan, with women almost exclusively dealing with poultry production. The contribution of rural poultry production to the Afghan economy is significant and exceeds more than 98% of national output of poultry products. However, the indigenous breeds have very low production potential with annual mortality of chickens often reaching more than 50% of the population under the traditional system.

The village poultry program funded by USAID/RAMP is implemented by female trainers for village women. It includes intensive training, supply of improved chickens, regular vaccination against Newcastle Disease, improvement of chicken houses, preparation of mixed feed and marketing of eggs. The project will increase poultry productivity by introducing improved breeds of layers and ensuring that these are available to a wide range of women at village-level in the RAMP priority areas.



Woman sorting almonds at a Kabul facility

The Rich Potential of Horticulture in Afghanistan

Horticultural products have traditionally accounted for a large share of Afghanistan's export markets. Horticultural improvement is particularly appropriate for women in Afghanistan for many reasons:

- According to FAO, 11% of horticultural farms were headed by women in 1999
- Fruit and nuts provide essential nutrients for women and children
- Intercropping vegetables with fruit trees provides optimal use of scarce water
- High-value yields make best use of small landholdings
- Added-value products like dried fruits create additional markets
- Dried fruit and nuts are relatively easy to transport

Currently, nuts, raisins and dried apricots are purchased at the farm-gate from traders who bring the produce to market centers where the product is sorted, largely by women.

Implementing Partner: ACTED

Horticultural rehabilitation, orchard and vineyard re-establishment, develop fruit processing through greenhouses, solar dryers and storage facilities and improved productivity of field crops and vegetables.

Targeted impact by project's end, June 2006

- 430 women participating in the establishment of district cooperative centers
- 65-85 female headed households with enhanced income
- 10 women trained in cooperative administration and management
- 30 women trained in fruit processing, kitchen vegetable gardens and greenhouses in each district
- 30 women trained in small business management in each district



Dried tomato production

Implementing Partner: Development Works Canada

Development of a farm network producing a variety of vegetables and the launching of a sun-dried tomato industry. A corporation will be established to manage the industry and the products will be marketed locally and overseas.

Targeted impact by project's end, Oct. 2006

- Direct employment of 1,200 vegetable farmers who will collectively employ 4,500 workers
- The cultivation/reclamation of 800 acres of under-utilized land
- Direct employment of 400 mostly female farmers in sun dried tomato projects

**Rural Finance and Credit Services
The Microfinance Investment and Support
Facility Afghanistan (MISFA)**

Targeted impact by project's end, Dec. 2004:

- **Within 18 months, outreach will increase to 9,000 clients**
- **A total of US\$4 million for disbursal as loans**
- **Average loan amount - US\$200**

Implementing Partner: Shorebank Advisory Services

The demand for financial services in Afghanistan is huge and the lack of capital is a key constraint to small business growth. Currently, there are few formal financial institutions. With a total population of over 20 million, the potential market demand for finance services is estimated to be at least 1 million households. The provision of credit is an integral part of RAMP's program to develop agribusiness opportunities.

At the lowest end of the spectrum are the chronic poor – people with very low asset levels, little income earning opportunities. In the middle are the economically active poor. These include vulnerable groups, such as low-income women and female headed households who earn a living for their family through small-scale activities such as poultry raising and carpet weaving. In some rural areas, poppy growing provides the primary income source, and households need access to credit and savings – as part of a range of interventions – to develop viable alternative sources of income.

At the top end of the spectrum are micro and small enterprises, which require capital to develop and grow their businesses, whether to purchase raw materials, new equipment or renovate workspace.

Assessment for Women in Development (WID)

In March 2004, an assessment was conducted under USAID/RAMP to determine the role of women in the rural economy in Afghanistan, inform and strengthen USAID/Afghanistan's gender goals in the agriculture sector and strengthen RAMP's approach to gender analysis and issues of concern to women.

The gender assessment was conducted in selected areas of the five priority regions where the Rebuilding Agricultural Markets in Afghanistan Project (RAMP) is working – Kandahar-Helmand; Shomali Plain; Kunduz-Baghlan; Nangahar-Laghman-Paktia; Wardak-Logar-Ghazni. These regions have been identified as the key agriculturally productive areas of the country. The assessment will contribute to the further development of a coordinated/integrated USAID gender component within the rural development strategy for Afghanistan.

17.0 Table of Project Work Progress

RAMP Project Work Progress (as of March 31, 2004)				
Job Order Number	Job Order Title	Province	Period of Performance	% Completed
JO#1-0003-MISFA	Microfinance Investment and Support Facility Afghanistan (MISFA)	Afghanistan	December 18, 2003 - December 31, 2004	10%
JO#2-0002-CADG	Construction of Water Harvesting Structures - 19 Check Dams	Kandahar & Helmand	October 15, 2003 - August 15, 2004	10%
JO#3a-0002-DAI	Rehabilitation works on the Char Dara, Bala Doori, and Darqad Irrigation Systems	Kunduz, Baghlan	October 21, 2003 - April 30, 2004	100%
JO#3b-0002-DAI	S-10 Lateral and Marga Canals	Helmand		15%
JO#4-0002-KRA	Rehabilitation of Roads and Construction of Dam Protection Wall in Khanabad District	Kunduz	October 10, 2003 - April 10, 2004	80%
JO#5-0004-FAO	Development of Rural Poultry Production Activity	Afghanistan	October 19, 2003 - June 30, 2006	2%
JO#6-0004-ICARDA	Clean Seed Production, Multiplication and Marketing for Increased Potato Production	Nangarhar, Kunduz, Helmand, Parwan & Ghazni	November 10, 2003 - June 30, 2006	5%
JO#7-0004-ICARDA	Village Seed Enterprise Program	Nangarhar, Kunduz, Helmand, Parwan & Ghazni	November 10, 2003 - June 30, 2006	5%
JO#8-0004-ICARDA	Demonstrating New Technologies in Farmers Fields to Facilitate Rapid Adoption and Diffusion	Nangarhar, Kunduz, Helmand, Parwan & Ghazni	November 10, 2003 - June 30, 2006	30%
JO#9-0004-ICARDA	Introducing Protected Agriculture for Cash Crop Production in Marginal and Water Deficient Areas of Afghanistan	Nangarhar, Kunduz, Helmand, Parwan & Ghazni	November 10, 2003 - June 30, 2006	5%

JO#10-0002-ACTED	Upgrading Roads in Shamali Plains	Parwan	December 1, 2003 - March 15, 2005	20%
JO#11-0002-MADERA	Kanday Road Protection Project	Kunar	December 15, 2003 - April 30, 2004	90%
JO#12-0004-ACTED	Based Production in Parwan, Kapisa and Kabul Provinces of Afghanistan	Shamali Plains	December 1, 2003 - June 30, 2006	5%
JO#13-0004-DCA	Livestock Health, Production, and Marketing Improvement Program	Afghanistan	January 6, 2004 - June 30, 2006	2%
JO#14-0002-AREA	Construction of Bridge in Aga Khil	Wardak	January 1, 2003 - February 15, 2004	100%
JO#15-0002-RAFA	Completion of Three Dams in Shamali Plains	Parwan	December 31, 2003 - January 31, 2004	100%
JO#16-0002-RAFA	Rehabilitation of Irrigation Canals in Parwan	Parwan	February 2004 - December 2004	10%
JO#17-0002-AREA	Road Rehabilitation in Balkh District	Balkh	January 1, 2004 - December 31, 2004	25%
JO#18-0002-RSSA	Improving Rural Agricultural Productivity through Enhanced Irrigation Systems & Water Management	Nangarhar	February 17, 2004 - August 17, 2005	5%
JO#19-0002-ESAR	Repair of Ghazni-Meray Access Road	Ghazni	March 01, 2004 - November 30, 2004	0%
JO#20-0002-PRB	Reconstruction of Infrastructure in Kunduz Province	Kunduz	February 18, 2004 - August 18, 2004	3%
JO#21-0002-STAAR	Irrigation Rehabilitation in Khewa District of Nangarhar	Nangarhar	February 18, 2004 - July 18, 2004	10%

JO#22-0002-GRSP	Road Rehabilitation in Malistan and Jaghori Districts In Ghazni Province	Ghazni	February 17, 2004- July 17, 2004	3%
JO#23-0004-CADG	Agricultural Production, Processing & Marketing in Helmand and Kandahar provinces of Afghanistan	Kandahar & Helmand	February 17, 2004 - June 30, 2006	5%
JO#24-0004-IFDC	Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development	Ghazni, Helmand, Kunduz, Nangarhar, Parwan	February 17, 2004 - June 30, 2006	5%
JO#24-0004-IFDC	Agriculture Sector Training in Afghanistan	Kabul, Peshawar	1 year	0%
JO#26-0004-DWC	Dried Vegetable Program	Parwan	February 29, 2004 - February 28, 2005	0%
JO#27-0004-CRS	Western Afghanistan Irrigation rehabilitation projects and Agro-Business program	Heart	Feb 1, 2004 Jan 31, 2005	0%
JO#28-0004-GIA	Grain Post-harvest storage and milling in Afghanistan	Kunduz, Helmand, Parwan, Nangarhar, Ghazni	March, 2004- July, 2006	0%
JO#29-0004-RoP	Grape Revitalization for Afghanistan productivity and Empowerment	Shamali plains, Nangarhar, ghazni, Helmand and Kandahar	March 2004 - March 2006	0%
JO#30-0004-FAO	Locust Control program	Badakhshan, Baghlan, Balkh Faryab, Jawzjan	April 15, 2004- Oct, 2004	0%
JO#31-0004-GOAL	Locust Control program	Badakhshan, Baghlan, Balkh Faryab, Jawzjan	April 15, 2004- Dec, 2005	0%
JO#32-0004-UNOPS	Green Kabul program	Kabul	April 15, 2004- Nov, 2004	60%
JO#34-RI	Agriculture Produce Market Centers	Nangarhar	April 15, 2004- April 30, 2005	0%