

## The Central Highlands Program

Year 3 of Central Highlands Program (CHP) started with two days work shop in Bamyan. The Aim of the workshop was to review the activities implemented in the second year of the program and make (or adapt) planning for Year 3. The workshop held on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> April 2016. Sixteen managers or supervisors from CHP partner INGOs (GERES, Solidarities International and MADERA) participated. Generally, the activities implemented in Year 2 were evaluated as very positive, with highlighted impacts on people life. Reviewing indicators and results in detail and considering the feedback from beneficiaries and local authorities brought several changes on all NGO plans for Year 3. The partner NGOs are requested to improve, adapt or add some new technologies and approaches among their packages. Also, closer collaboration between CHP partners and partner institutions were as well massively recommended on the workshop.



### Farmer Field Schools



In order to improve agriculture and livestock management practices in a sustainable way through a learning-by-doing and learning-by-testing participatory approach, SI implements Farmer Field Schools (FFS) in Yakawlang, Saighan and Kahmard districts since the beginning of the project. In 2016, 24 FFSs on agriculture (four of them with women) and 8 on the livestock management (four of them with women) are to be implemented through regular sessions around the demo plots.



### Irrigation Management



MADERA provided refresher trainings and technical support to 22 AHSPs in the districts of (Behsod 1, Behsod 2 and Yakawlang) while five new paravets graduated from half-year training from DCA training centre. Through the artificial insemination, MADERA inseminated 45 cows, the result will be analysed in coming months. Awareness campaign in 24 villages on different livestock management issue have been also organized. Through the FFS, MADERA trained and exchanged technical knowledge with farmers.



### Energy Saving Solutions



In 2016, the Energy Saving Solutions project aims to launch three more technologies: the Tandoor Cup to reduce smoke emissions when the Tandoor is being used, the Metal Pipe Veranda Kit, a cheaper model of the traditional wooden veranda, and the Improved Digidan with Oven, an adaptation of our Improved Digidan, but with an oven to increase energy efficiency.

### Knowledge sharing and institutional dialogue



The MoU signed between CHP and Bamyan University (BU), 2015, under component 4 of CHP, GERES together with BU organized a two days training on mainstreaming climate change into development projects, climate change impact from globally to locally and environment friendly best practices for BU students in April 2016. 24 students from Agriculture faculty actively participated on this event. The training was held at BU conference hall.

# Our latest achievements in the Central Highlands!

**27** schools throughout the districts will welcome Environmentally Friendly Best Practices Awareness Campaigns, which will help to educate children how to reduce their impact on the environment and hazards of climate change. The respective MoU was just signed between GERES and Department of Education

**1443** households received energy saving solutions (ESS) in their houses under dissemination policy, based on market support mechanism encouraged by subsidies.

**14** barns will be improved by SI in 2016 in Yakawlang district.

**32** barns were constructed by MADERA for proper management of livestock.

**804** families in Behsod 1 and 2 benefited from seven irrigation infrastructure projects. A total of 1463 Jeribs of land came under irrigation and 450 Jeribs were protected from erosion. The project established 36 pasture groups and has already been brought under community based pasture management. CHP has succeed to re-seed 114.2 Ha of pasture land by sowing 2,609 kilograms of fodder seeds.

**94,000** saplings of poplar trees had been planted in March and April 2016 in both Yakawlang and Saighan districts through close collaboration with Community Pasture Councils (CPC) at village level.



**Mohammad Jawad** from **Gurab village** of Saighan district is using improved Digdan in his house since October 2015. He is saying this innovation bring a lot of facilities for us such as: saving one forth of cooking fuel, less smoke in kitchen, less sicknesses and less time for cooking .



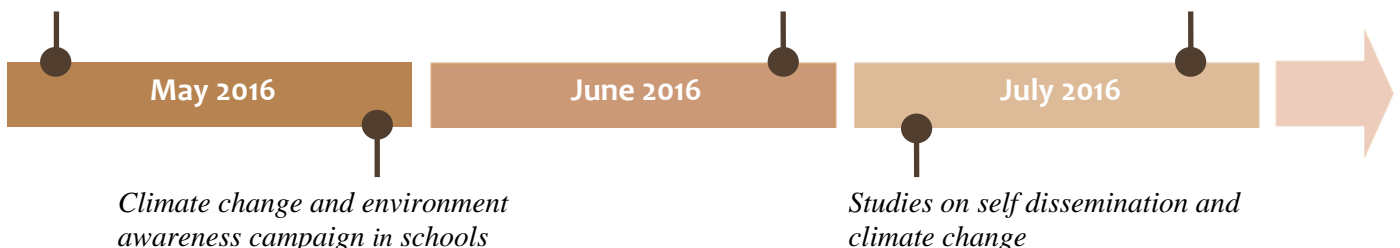
**Hafizullah Mohamadi** is working as field supervisor for GERES since 2013. "The technologies applying by GERES for fuel saving and thermal comfort are really useful and deeply appreciating by communities, as they are good for families economy and areas environment", said Hafizullah Mohamadi about the innovations brought by CHP organisation

## Next steps

*Launching of School Gardens activity in Yakawlang district*

*Launching of the construction of 8 new greenhouses*

*Support more communities on live-stock and irrigation projects*



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