

Improvement of livelihoods and living conditions through support to agriculture and livestock activities, energy-saving solutions, and the natural resource management.
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New endeavors of Vincent and Caroline



In May, two of our colleagues finished their mission in Bamyan. Caroline Dehais, R&D Manager, and Vincent Vergnon, Community Transfer Manager, both from France, joined **GERES** Afghanistan in April 2015. Caroline designed and validated Improved Digdan, Metal Kit Veranda and Tandoor Cap. Vincent contributed to the design and implementation of the training, quality assurance and dissemination strategy of these Energy Saving Solutions throughout all the districts. Thanks to their dedication and hard work, we were able to disseminate over 1400 technologies in less than six months! After over one year, they have now left the team to their next adventure. The CHP Team wishes them the best of luck in their future endeavors and hopes to see them in Afghanistan very soon.

AFD Mission to Bamyan



Two employees from AFD Kabul visited projects of Central Highlands Programme during their mission to Bamyan province in between March 29th and April 04th.

CHP Partners Newsfeed



Demo farms cultivated

Recently, the cultivation started on four agriculture demo farms of Madera. On each farm is cultivated 16 different varieties of vegetables and one variety of fodder crop.

Three of these demo farms located in Behsud II and one demonstration farm is located Behsud I. Madera's agriculture team will use these demonstration sites to give technical advice about cultivation, irrigation, fertilizing, composting and harvesting methodologies to Farmer Field School members and also to farmers living in surroundings of the demonstration farms.



Trainings for CPCs

Through its support to 31 Community Pasture Councils (CPCs) in Saighan and Kahmard, SI conducts a range of trainings on various topics related to use of available natural resources, especially those related to the pasture management.

Indeed, the natural resources management is primordial in the area to sustain livelihoods, especially livestock and wood. Thus, pasture management, soil conservation, bush cutting and conflict resolution will be tackled since beginning of the season up to November 2016.



Promotional Campaign launched!

At the end of May, Promotional Campaigns to promote Energy Saving Solutions were launched throughout all of the districts! Each event informs community members and leaders about the benefits of Energy Saving Solutions, while also connecting them with GERES trained craftsmen in their districts.

For upcoming months, common promotional campaigns with partners will take place in CHP districts in order to further promote the synergies of Energy Saving Solutions and pasture management or soil conservation.

Number of the month

35

years of work celebrates **Solidarites International** in Afghanistan just this year. This country is also center point of SI's activities, because just here in 1980 the organization started its work and implemented first international project. Congratulations to all SI colleagues!

Briefs and notes

GERES team expect new members of the team to arrive in June to Bamyan province.

MADERA prepared in May vegetable cultivation methodologies and continues in trainings focused on livestock and veterinary topics.

SOLIDARITES launches construction of eight new greenhouses in Bamyan province from June.

CHP Success Stories & Good News

Happiness of Sabzdarakht villagers

In 2014, **MADERA** rehabilitated 150 meters canal in Sabzdarakht village, Behsud 1. A year later, 170 meters extension was built. Jan Ali (villager) said: *"We involved with lots of problems two years ago, like absorption of water, over fallow and slicing of parts of canal every spring, now it is rehabilitated by MADERA, water can follow without any waste and our irrigated land will increase from 62 Jeribs to 98 Jeribs."*



A water reservoir in Dewar-e-Naw

In 2015, **SI** built a water reservoir in Dewar-e-Naw (Yakawlang) aiming at increasing the surface of irrigated lands of 48 families. Mohammad Sarwar, a villager, said *"I am very happy because this project supported the most vulnerable people. Thanks to the reservoir, we doubled the size of our irrigated lands. This year, we have planted 220 fruits trees in the village and it will have a significant impact on our livelihood."*



Our People in the field

Mohammad Zaki Nabizada - helping in Behsud

Started to work with **GERES** two months ago as the Field Supervisor in Behsud 1. *"I like to have work related to environment and fuel saving and like Behsud, however the work is difficult, places where we work are distant from center and from each other. With bad roads we spend lots of time travelling. However, I plan to stay in the organization, because I'm from Afghanistan and need to work for the country - even if it is difficult."*



Abdul Khalid Rahmany joins the team!

Abdul Khalid Rahmany joined the Energy Saving Solutions team in April as Senior Business Assistant. Prior to joining **GERES**, he managed a USAID funded project (FAIDA - Electricity Bill Payment Using Mobile Money Services), worked as a Sales Consultant for Lafarge and as the Sales Manager with Roshan Telecom. He hopes to use "his skills to make a difference and contribute to the success of the Programme."



Upcoming events

Development of CPCs

During 2 months starting from 1th of June, **MADERA** will apply steps of community mobilization and PRA methodologies at least in 18 CPCs (community pasture council), specification of pasture areas and selection of boundary will implement with these programs.

Irrigation of 32.000 saplings

From June 2016 and during next three months, **SI** team, in collaboration with 11 CPCs, will irrigate the 32,000 saplings planted in 2014 and 2015 in Dasht-e-Gazak area. The objective is to increase the vegetal cover and to regenerate pasture areas on long-term.

New Awareness Campaign

CHP's Energy Saving Solutions Project will launch its Environmentally Friendly Best Practices Awareness Campaign in 27 schools throughout the Central Highlands, with the objective of educating children about the issues of waste management and biodiversity in the area.

Events Calendar JUNE

05 JUNE - MADERA

Team Leader of animal health will organize one week technical training about artificial insemination for 5 Paravets.

10 JUNE - GERES

The Energy Savings Solutions will launch its Environmentally Friendly Best Practices Awareness Campaign in 27 Schools.

12 JUNE - MADERA

We will send two AHSPs (animal health service provider) to eastern provinces for one week exchange visit.

30 JUNE - MADERA

Irrigation team will finish survey, estimation, and designing of 3 irrigation and 4 anti-erosion projects.

EVERY WEEK - SI

We will carry out 24 FFS sessions with farmers and breeders in Saighan, Kahmard and Yakawlang districts.

JUNE - SI

SI will start the construction of 8 additional greenhouses in Saighan and Yakawlang districts.

Director's Corner

I have the honor since September last year to work for and within such efficient and friendly team. I also have the opportunity to meet the authorities of Bamyán province and to realize the challenges they are facing.

For more than a decade the three organizations are present and implement activities in Central highland provinces, the tight links we succeeded to establish with the population is one of our main

achievement. Territories we are covering within CHP are diverse in term of geography, population size, societal level, needs and expectations. That is why our colleagues are everyday on the field to insure we deliver the most appropriate response. The CHP by its set up makes it exceptional, empowering people and bringing changing in their life's. As per the last year of the project starts, we definitely look forward to bring a future to this project.

Matthieu Barbary, GERES Country Director