

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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Visitors to the field

The Energy Saving Solutions team had the pleasure of welcoming representatives from the Governors office, Department of Economy, DRRD and DAIL to see our activities in mid July. Along with **GERES** staff they conducted a field visit on practical craftsmen training on improved Digdan, improved Digdan with oven, metal PSH- Polycarbonate and Tandoor Cap.

The CHP program and ESS team are happy to be able to provide affordable energy solutions and appreciated the support of the local authorities. The program to date has trained over 280 craftsmen in a range of different techniques, developed specifically to utilize locally available materials. These trainings allow for increased business opportunities for local craftsmen and direct energy, health and cost benefits for the Bamyán residents.



Mr. Nabi Shafayee, PGO advisor, Mr. Ghulam Nabi Rahnoward, DoEco officer, NGOs department, Mr. Aminulah Fazil, DRRD, community officer, Mr. Habibullah Roshan, DAIL Extension officer, household owner and representatives of GERES during their field visit in Bamyán Markaz.

CHP Partners Newsfeed



Canal Rehabilitation

In irrigation sector, **MADERA** accomplished the rehabilitation of construction project of 320 m irrigation canal in Sabzdarakht village, Behsud 1. First part, 150 m of this canal constructed was finished in 2014 and second part, 170 m, was finished recently in 2015. Total of 67 families are benefiting from this project, 62 Jeribs of land were in the area irrigated before rehabilitation of the canal and 98 Jeribs land are irrigated now. The increase of the capacity about 36 Jeribs help significantly to better utilize available agricultural land, which is, especially in Behsud, really scarce.



Hygiene promotion

Hygiene promotion campaign is a major activity for **SI** in Yakawlang district. Indeed, the sessions are implemented in parallel with the construction of both demonstration latrines and safe drinking water infrastructures.

At the end of July 2016, sessions on F-diagram and personal and food hygiene have been organized by SI HP team in 16 villages. In total, about 2,000 persons have attended these sessions. Two more modules on latrines and safe drinking water management are planned in the same villages up to the end of the year.



Environmental Best Practices

With the completion of initial pilot programs in seven schools across Nayak, Darah-e-Chost, Saighan, Kahmard, Markas-I Bamyán and Behsud **GERES** is continuing to roll out Environmentally Friendly Best Practices Awareness Campaigns in an additional 20 schools.

This campaign will see GERES field staff share information about waste management and bio-diversity of plants, animals and natural resources in the central highlands region.

Number of the month Briefs and notes

28

From 1988, **MADERA** is working in Afghanistan and promotes rural communities. These 28 years is active in regions of CHP, Bamyán and Wardak. **MADERA** supports NRM, community development activities and agriculture, especially the livestock: animal husbandry, or veterinary care.

GERES started its internship programme for Bamyán University students. Two interns assist to audiovisual component with translations and PR activities. More positions to be announced.

MADERA The physical works of irrigation canal L=500 m started in Obe Zafar village Behsud 1, and the physical works of 4 other infrastructure projects will start in the early future.

SI team is growing with Rhaman Rahmani as new WASH Activity Manager and Masoma Ahmadi as new Agriculture officer

CHP Success Stories & Good News

Kitchen Gardens to Empower Women

In 2016, SI supports 60 women in 10 villages of Saighan district in producing and using vegetables. Shokrea, 30 years old, native of Syeb Baba village, participates in practical sessions conducted by SI. *'Before the activity, I just cultivated onions in my garden, now, a lot of vegetables are available'* said the woman. *'We learn how to cultivate, but also how to wash and how to prepare the vegetables, this is a good for the children's health'*.



Producing vegetables at schools

Jawid, 13 years old, 6th grade, takes part every Sundays, like 40 of his classmates, to the school garden established by SI in Zarin high school in Yakawlang district. *'Before, I knew very little about vegetables' production'*, explained the student. *'Thanks to the school garden, I learnt about sowing methods and transplantation of seedlings from nursery to land. Thus, I can help my father in growing leafy vegetables at home'*, Jawid said.



Our People in the field

Abdul Nabeel Nudrat joins the team!

GERES has the honor to introduce Mr. Abdul Nabeel Nudrat to the team as Business & Marketing Manager. Mr. Nudrat undertook his Bachelor degree in Management sciences at KARDAN University and also holds a diploma of electronics engineering from Telecommunication Training Centre in Kabul. He has worked with NGOs including ACTED and AKF and companies including Roshan telecom, AWCC and Afghan Telecom.



Young staff in Saighan!

Dadekhuda Raihan, 26 years old is working as an Agriculture Officer with SI since September 2012. He is responsible of 4 FFSs in Saighan district, *'I'm interested by new challenges in the area of agriculture and FFS constitute a challenge for me'. Indeed, 'trainings should strengthen technical capacities of farmers and help them to produce better and increase their income at long term, it is a motivating goal.'*



Upcoming events

Craftsman Training

In the coming months GERES will be conducting a range of trainings with local masons, tinsmiths, welders and masons. These will occur across all 6 GERES working districts allowing these craftsmen to produce verandas, tendoor caps, Improved Digidans and solar cookers for local Central highland households.

New boreholes in schools

In the frame of its WASH activities, SOLIDARITES INTERNATIONAL plans to bring drinking water to 4 schools (Deh Sork, Rostam, Naitaq and Sachak) of Yakawlang district, thanks to boreholes. The works are planned to start at beginning of August. About 2,000 pupils will benefit from this installation.

Selection of new para vets

The MADERA have paravet assessment in Yakawlang district, based on the plan to the establishment of six paravet practices in Yakawlang district this year. The assessment will finalize at the beginning of August.

Events Calendar AUGUST

WHOLE AUGUST - GERES

The Energy Savings Solutions team will continue their Environmentally Friendly Best Practices Awareness Campaign across Bamyan and Wardak Province.

FIRST WEEK OF AUGUST - SI

SI will organize an internal workshop on Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Accountability with managers working in Bamyan.

SECOND WEEK OF AUGUST - SI

About 20 students of Bamyan University will spend one day with SI team to visit animal husbandry activities in Yakawlang district.

THIRD WEEK OF AUGUST - SI

SI will launch its Hygiene Promotion campaign at school and clinic level in Yakawlang district.

Afghanistan Center of Kabul University

Among many other activities, GERES cooperates with Afghanistan Center of Kabul University (ACKU) and supports its branch on Bamyan University, so called ACKU Corner. The centre promotes research and information sharing through the dissemination of knowledge, and enhancement of the capacity of Kabul University and other institutions. ACKU's major focus is facilitating research using its collection of over 100,000 documents in

Dari, Pashto, English and other European languages. ACKU is open to students of all universities in Afghanistan, policy makers and development planners, as well as researchers from abroad. In Bamyan, GERES helped to establish the branch allowing Bamyan students of (not only) history and humanistic studies to enjoy ACKU's wide resources for study and research purposes, but as well to contribute to this repository with their own work, articles and thesis.

Pavel Burian, CHP Coordinator GERES