



“Support to the Development of Agriculture Private Sector: Perennial Horticulture” (HPS) Project

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10TH QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT, 01 APRIL - 30 JUNE 2016



SO4 Capacity Building Workshop for Kunar University Undergraduates in PHDC-JAL, 25MAY16



**AFGHANISTAN
NATIONAL
HORTICULTURE
DEVELOPMENT
ORGANIZATION**

In consortium with



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A. Key acronyms:

AAIDO	Afghan Almond Industry Development Organization
ANHDO	Afghan National Horticulture Development Organization
ANNGO	Afghan National Nursery Grower Organization
BoD	Board of Directors
CC	Coordination Committee
CGG	Citrus Growers Group
CGA	Citrus Growers Association
CHAMP	Commercial Horticulture and Agricultural Marketing Program
CPN	Certified Production Nursery
CPG	Citrus Promotion Group
CTV	Citrus Tristeza Virus
FFS	Farmer Field School
FH	PHDC Field Horticulturist
FM	SO1 Field Manager
GA	General Assembly
IDEA-NEW	Incentives Driving Economic Alternatives for North, East, and West
MAIL	Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock
MSN	Mother Stock Nursery
NC	National Collection
NGA	Nursery Growers Association
NHLP	National Horticulture and Livestock Program
NNGA	Nangarhar Nursery Growers Association
NVAC	Nangarhar Valley Agricultural Company (ex-NVDA)
NVDA	Nangarhar Valley Development Association
PBTL	Plant Bio Technology Laboratory (Badam Bagh)
PHDP II	Perennial Horticulture Development Program
PHDC	Perennial Horticulture Development Center
PPP	Public Private Partnership project agreement
RI	Relief International
SAGAL	Strengthening Afghan Governance and Livelihoods
SO	Specific Objective
TA	Technical Assistance
TL	Team Leader
ToT	Training of Trainers
VC	Value Chain



B. List of Annexes:

ANNEX-A:	HPS Organization Chart
ANNEX-B:	5 th Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
ANNEX-C:	SO1 Governance & Organizational Development Specialist (Yama Torabi) REPORT M#1
ANNEX-D:	SO1 Business Development Expert (Gerard Bruijl) REPORT M#1
ANNEX-E:	SO1 Nursery Association & Certification Specialist (Pablo Degl' Innocenti) REPORT M#1
ANNEX-F:	SO1 PUBLICATIONS - IPM Two Spotted Long Horn Beetle Brochure (Dari)
ANNEX-G:	SO1 PUBLICATIONS - IPM Citrus Psylla Brochure (Pashtu)
ANNEX-H:	SO2 Horticultural Research Specialist (Gregory Cullen) REPORT M#6
ANNEX-I:	SO3 Marketing Specialist (Gerrit Booyens) REPORT M#2
ANNEX-J:	SO3 Post-Harvest & QC Int'l Consultant (Federico Valori) REPORT #6
ANNEX-K:	SO4 Establishment of Commercial Citrus Orchards (RFA#1.2), 15May16 ENG
ANNEX-L:	SO4 PUBLICATIONS - Citrus Crop Calendar, Poster
ANNEX-M:	VISIBILITY - SO4 The Citrus Facebook Page
ANNEX-N:	Photograph Archive (Quarterly Update), 30Jun16



1. Executive Summary of the Quarterly Activities:

SO1 continues to provide technical support to ANNGO, in close coordination with PHDP/II. Twenty five (25) SO1 Field Managers (seconded to ANNGO and positioned in the NGAs) continue to support the NGAs in the implementation of the certification scheme. This includes the provision of technical trainings and other support to MSNs and production nurseries. ANNGO has been supported to conduct the seventh (7th) Technical Capacity Building training in Jalalabad PHDP during 24-27APR16 including 25XFM (funded by HPS), 2XFM (funded by HVP) and 1 PM TLO. The ANNGO 2015/16 Annual Catalogue was printed (4000pcs) and is ready for distribution. The construction of the Baboor Gardens ornamentals demo nursery has been successfully completed.

During May, the PBTL submitted a request (estimated cost USD 5,000) including the list of laboratory equipment required to support ANNGO to conduct regular (yearly) virus indexing testing for mother stock nurseries and potential mother stock material with sample testing. Procurement is on-going. The SO1 Plant Protection Specialist undertook inspections to address IPM problems in CPNs, MSNs, and the NCs in cooperation with ANNGO in Shakardara, Paghman, Sayed Khil, Bagram and Herat. Two more IPM technical brochures on two spotted long horn beetle and citrus psylla were printed (1500 Dari & 1000 Pashtu copies each) to be used as a training aid for the nurserymen. In coordination with ANNGO; the procurement to provide to its NGAs members with IPM kits and establish modern pest management techniques is on-going.

The SO1 Governance & Organizational Development Specialist (Yama Torabi - 22WDs) and the SO1 Business Development Expert (Gerard Bruijl - 25WDs) and SO1 Nursery Association Certification Specialist (Pablo Degl' Innocenti) International Consultants have successfully completed their first missions to Kabul to support ANNGO to continue to develop as an independent and self-sustainable organization driving forward progress in the fruit tree and ornamental nursery production.

Description of the National Collection and the adaptive research activities continued in the PHDCs (under the MAIL Directorate of Research authority and PHDP/II TA supervision) with the continuous support of the SO2 team. RI participation in the mid year planning and coordination of the field horticulturists and other staff of the six PHD Centers at Badam Bagh (ARIA) building during 29-31MAY16. In coordination with ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project staff, we were conducting a joint data analysis/screening for the Peach, Apple and Plum NC Registers. The Cherry NC Register English document translation is completed. Translation into Dari and Pashto is under process.

Five varieties of Cherries and five varieties of Plum were characterized for maturity index. Also, five varieties of Plum were stored for future shelf life trials. The database was updated with maturity index and shelf life information of five major species (cherry, apple, plum, grape, and peach) in coordination with EU-MAIL transition project. On 30MAY16, HPS completed the new office partition in ARIA Building and handed it over to EU-MAIL transition project. Also, in MAY16 the newly procured KBL Reefer Container was installed in PHDC-KBL to provide cooling storage capacity for the shelf life trials. The selection of the Apricot reference varieties was completed.

The "Afghan Orchard Management Manual" in Dari (1000 copies) has been printed and it is ready to be distributed. The Pashtu document is under final review. The maintenance activities for the almond and apricot breeding programs were carried out by the ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project field staff alongside regular HPS staff and Int'l Consultant's supervision.

Under SO3, capacity building activities based on the FFS model to introduce best harvest and post-harvest practices to the grape and raisin beneficiaries are scheduled for August. The two remaining beneficiaries for the establishment of improved Kishmish Khanas to demonstrate production of Green raisin have been identified and construction works started during June in Dasht-e-Rubat village of Bagram, Parwan. Another five beneficiaries (three in Dasht-e-Rubat village of Bagram, Parwan and two in Mahmood Raqi, Kapisa) were identified for establishment of protected (fenced) drying areas for reducing contamination and improving red raisin hygiene. The GRPG operational manual draft was developed by the SO3 Marketing Specialist (Gerrit Booyens) and is under review by the GRPG members.

On 09APR16, we established a partnership agreement with Kunduz Almond Cooperative (106 members with 140ha orchards). Capacity building activities based on the FFS model to introduce best harvest & post harvest practices to the almond beneficiaries are anticipated to take place during the third quarter 2016. The procurement process has started for almond harvesting inputs including one 4m aluminum ladder, two plastic harvesting baskets, six cotton bags 50 Kg and one tarpaulin 5x5m meters per



beneficiary.

We conducted the second annual capacity building activities for the Cherry beneficiaries based on the FFS model to introduce best harvest and post harvest practices to the beneficiaries. Also, a Field Day was arranged for 50 people (36 sweet cherry growers, 4 DAIL reps and 10 local traders) aiming to improve their technical knowledge on harvest and post harvest new techniques. The procurement process of the harvesting inputs for the 84 apple growers has started. A partnership agreement was signed with Mujtaba Sajaad Refat and Zemaray Rasooli Co. Ltd (including 18 dry apricot producers working as contract growers in Banaq Bala and Banaq Payan villages of Kahmard district of Bamyan province). Harvesting tools and drying equipment were procured and distributed to them accordingly.

The SO3 Post-Harvest and Quality Control Int'l Consultant (Federico Valori) supported the SO2 team and the Pomology Laboratory staff to revise trial plans and protocols. On 31MAY16, he conducted a full day training for Tabasom Laboratory staff. In the same occasion, two set of ELISA kits were donated to Tabasom for their QC tests on Mycotoxins.

In the eastern Afghanistan region, on 13APR16, we conducted a capacity building workshop for Laghman University Agriculture faculty 45 students. Also, on 25MAY16 a similar training was organized for 56 students of Kunar University in PHDC-JAL training hall. With regards to the repeat of the #1 Call of Interest for the establishment of commercial size citrus orchards during the autumn planting season; on 15MAY16 the announcement took place on ACBAR website, Nangarhar newspaper, and Facebook (Khateez Citrus). Closing date is Sunday, August 15, 2016.

The backbone of the CGG is under formation and during the reporting period the founding members have been identified. On 10Apr16, we conducted the #1 Capacity Building Workshop for CGG members for 23 CGG members and PHDC-JAL staff. The list of the necessary quality control (QC) laboratory instruments and equipment is finalized. Procurement is on-going with the quotations already collected. The #6 CPG meeting was organized on 11MAY16 in Kabul attracting 14 participants from 'ANHDO, ANNGO, PHDC-JAL, MAIL/DAIL, NVDA, PBTL, NHLP, and RI.



2. Project Implementation Progress and Analysis:

During the reporting period, after the successful revision in the project logframe; implementation momentum was increased due to better understanding among the implementation team on the project anticipated results. Although, the winter months are not the optimal implementation period for a horticulture project, the progress achieved was significant. This is indicative that although the overall progress indicator maybe currently lagging; during the next harvesting period considerable progress is anticipated.

Staff Recruitment

The new ANHDO SO3 Project Manager (Naseer Ahmad Omarkhil) has been successfully mobilized with starting date 16APR16. Moreover, the new RI Travel Agent / Logistics Officer (Mohammad Ismail Hafizi) has been successfully mobilized with starting date 12JUL16.

The HPS Organization Chart at the end of the reporting period is presented as **Annex-A**.

Consultants Mobilization

During the reporting period, we continued with the international consultants' mobilization plan for 2016 that we prepared in close coordination with PHDP TA.

The following consultants were mobilized in this quarter and/or currently anticipated to be mobilized in the next:

Int'l Consultant Mobilization	Name	Mission Duration	WDs	Status
SO1 Nursery Association & Certification Specialist	Pablo Degl'Innocenti	25FEB16 to 25APR16	52	Completed
SO1 Governance & Organizational Development Specialist	Yama Torabi	26MAR16 to 19APR16	22	Completed
SO1 Business Development Expert	Gerard Bruijl	24MAR16 to 21APR16	25	Completed
SO3 Marketing Specialist	Gerrit Booyens	30APR16 to 13MAY16	13	Completed
SO3 Post Harvest Specialist	Federico Valori	20MAY16 to 15JUN16	24	Completed
SO2 Horticultural Research Specialist	Gregory Cullen	24MAY16 to 22JUN16	26	Completed
SO3 Laboratory Specialist	Federico Valori	20JUL16 to 19AUG16	28	<i>Anticipated</i>
SO4 Citrus Value Chain Expert	Gerrit Booyens	23JUL16 to 24AUG16	29	<i>Anticipated</i>
SO1 Governance & Organizational Development Specialist	Yama Torabi	17SEP16 to 20OCT16 13NOV16 to 29NOV16	45	<i>Anticipated</i>
SO1 Business Development Expert	Gerard Bruijl	18SEP16 to 08NOV16	45	<i>Anticipated</i>
SO2 Horticultural Research Specialist	Gregory Cullen	01NOV16 to 30NOV16	26	<i>Anticipated</i>

Regarding the mobilization of National Consultants:

Nat'l Consultant Mobilization	Name	Mission Duration	WDs	Status
n/a currently				

Coordination

Close coordination between implementation partners and key stakeholders ensured a good team spirit. Key decisions have been taken jointly with all relevant actors and extra care was taken to avoid surprises and maintain the crucial level of trust and cooperation that has been successfully established between the implementing partners and different key stakeholders.

The following Coordination Committee meetings have been conducted as per requirements:

a	21 st Coordination Committee meeting	Monday 18 th April 2016
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b	22 nd Coordination Committee meeting	Sunday 22 nd May 2016
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During June there was no CC meeting due to Ramadan.

The 5th Steering Committee meeting took place as scheduled on Sunday 17APR16 at 09:00AM in the Conference Room located in the 2nd floor of the Policy & Planning Department, MAIL. The minutes of the meeting are presented as **Annex-B**.

Quarterly Narrative Progress Report Matrix

Based on the activities that took place during the reporting period; **Table-A** below summarizes the main related progress information per Overall Objective and Specific Objective:

Progress Indicators	Progress Achieved (in 10 th Qtr.)	Overall Progress (by 30Jun16)
Overall Objective: Contribute to the uplifting of horticulture (yields, quality standards, market value) and enhancement of capabilities of the private sector, through specific pilot actions in target areas.	5%	45%
Specific Objective One: The Afghan private sector nursery industry and its associated organizations and institutions meet the demand, nation-wide, of Afghan farmers for certified perennial plant material for increased planting of modern orchards and vineyards.	3.1%	35.3%
Specific Objective Two: Adaptive research and technical development programmes are successfully providing the technical solutions to increase orchard and vineyard productivity and value to the consumer at household, and national level	7.8%	58.1%
Specific Objective Three: Pilot demonstration of enhanced post-harvest management systems and market driven value chain development for key perennial horticulture crops within target areas and target groups	4.1%	43.8%
Specific Objective Four: A soundly based and profitable citrus industry in eastern Afghanistan is developed	4.1%	41.9%

Table-A: Overall and Quarterly Progress information per Specific Objective

Moreover, the tenth (10th) Quarterly Narrative Progress Report Matrix presented below summarizes the main related progress information per Specific Objective, Result, Indicator and Activity.



PROGRESS REPORT MATRIX #10 Quarterly Report (01 April to 30 June 2016)		Progress Achieved by 31Mar16	Quarterly Narrative Progress	Progress Achieved in current reporting period	Overall Progress Achieved	Overall Progress by 30Jun16
Overall Objective: Contribute to the uplifting of horticulture (yields, quality standards, market value) and enhancement of capabilities of the private sector, through specific pilot actions in target areas.		40%		5%		45%
Specific Objective One: The Afghan private sector nursery industry and its associated organizations and institutions meet the demand, nation-wide, of Afghan farmers for certified perennial plant material for increased planting of modern orchards and vineyards.		32.3%		3.1%		35.3%
SO1 R-1	All large scale and small scale nursery producers join in building up ANNGO as an independent organization driving forward progress in the fruit tree and general nursery production.	32.1%		3.5%		35.6%
IND-1.1	Consolidation of ANNGO's functions as the umbrella organization of the private nursery sector, with HPS support.	100%		0%	ANNGO revised by-laws document	100%
Act-1.1.1	Support (TA) ANNGO to conduct regular training of ANNGO board members on legal responsibilities according to their bylaw.	100%	Completed 100%	0%	Supported ANNGO to review its bylaw (Legal Advisor Nat'l Consultant - 28WDs)	100%
Act-1.1.2	Support (TA) ANNGO to review its by-laws and adjusts its membership criteria to become a fully inclusive organization open to all nursery growers in Afghanistan that follows the regulatory system.	100%	Completed 100%	0%	The new revised ANNGO bylaw was endorsed in the ANNGO GA in early Feb-15.	100%
IND-1.2	Improved ANNGO's self-governance capacity, with HPS support.	2%		7%		9%
Act-1.2.1	Support (TA) ANNGO to conduct regular capacity building of ANNGO board members on key institutional development and governance topics to improve ANNGO's self-governance capacities.	6%	The SO1 Governance & Organizational Development Specialist (Yama Torabi - 22WDs) and the SO1 Business Development Expert (Gerard Bruijl - 25WDs) and SO1 Nursery Association Certification Specialist (Pablo Degl' Innocenti) International Consultants have successfully completed their 1st missions to Kabul. Reports are attached as ANNEXES C, D & E .	20%	Preliminary Business and Marketing capacity building trainings for the 25 NGAs BoDs members to improve their business skills including 142 participants in total. The SO1 Governance & Organizational Development Specialist conducted 22WDs (out of 120) and the SO1 Business Development Expert conducted 25WDs (out of 120). Total 47 WDs out of 240.	26%
Act-1.2.2	Support (TA) ANNGO to develop its Vision, Mission and long-term Objectives (to be endorsed by ANNGO General Assembly).	0%	Participated in the 2 days long ANNGO GA where we promoted the concept of establishing the Board of Compliance (BoC). Prepared for ANNGO a set of formal rules for electing the Boards of Directors and Compliance as well as the ToR for the ANNGO BoC.	10%	Preliminary review of all relevant ANNGO documentation and establishment of working relationships with ANNGO staff and BoDs. Participation in the ANNGO GA. Promoted and supported the establishment of the ANNGO Board of Compliance.	10%



Act-1.2.3	Support (TA) ANNGO to review and revise the ANNGO Organizational Structure Plan.	0%		0%	New activity as per revised logframe. Starting in 2016.	0%
Act-1.2.4	Support (TA) ANNGO to review and revise the Job Descriptions of its key departments and staff.	0%		0%	New activity as per revised logframe. Starting in 2016.	0%
IND-1.3	ANNGO's long term strategy developed to 65% self-financing level within 10 years, with HPS support.	5%		5%		10%
Act-1.3.1	"Support (TA) ANNGO to develop a prioritized list of Development Goals and a timeline including but not limited to: (i) Promote the membership of approx. 10 of the best-organized and commercially viable nurseries outside ANNGO. (ii) Review and gradually revise membership fees. (iii) Develop at least (4) specialized services available to third parties (public and private). and set fees."	10%	The SO1 Business Development Expert (Gerard Bruijl) prepared for ANNGO a business plan framework document to facilitate the ANNGO development strategy process and the business plan reform.	10%	Certified Sapling Cost Production Survey, and 4 Marketing Surveys concluded in 2015. A business plan framework document is created.	20%
Act-1.3.2	Support (TA) ANNGO to review and revise its business plan aiming to reach 65% self-financing level within the next 10 years.	0%	Preliminary review of the existing long-term financial forecasts presented by ANNGO.	0%	New activity as per revised logframe. Starting in 2016.	0%
IND-1.4	Ornamentals and forestry trees propagation promoted among ANNGO members, with HPS support.	13%		0%		13%
Act-1.4.1	Support ANNGO to produce an Ornamental's Documentary	0%		0%	New activity as per revised logframe. Starting in 2016.	0%
Act-1.4.2	Support ANNGO to conduct three (3) nationwide radio announcements aiming to promote the development of ornamentals within its NGAs members.	0%		0%	One (1) nationwide radio announcement for 2016 ornamentals promotion paid by HPS. (jointly with the sapling sales promotion)	33%
Act-1.4.3	Support ANNGO to take part in six (6) national Agfair events to promote the development of ornamentals within its NGAs members.	0%		0%	One (1) time supported ANNGO's participation in the Kabul Agfair (20–23MAR16) incl. NGAs to promote the development of ornamentals by covering the booth cost.	17%
Act-1.4.4	Support ANNGO to publish at least two (2) brochures/leaflets aiming to promote the development of ornamentals within its NGAs members.	0%	Two (2) Ornamental Leaflets for Rose and Geranium have been prepared and are ready for printout.	0%	New activity as per revised logframe. Starting in 2016.	0%
IND-1.5	ANNGO conducted (no. 10) awareness campaigns to promote sales of certified saplings among its members, with HPS support	42%		5%		47%
Act-1.5.1	Support ANNGO to publish the ANNGO (annual) Catalogue of certified fruit trees species and varieties.	25%	The ANNGO catalogue 2015/16 was printed (4000pcs) and it is ready for distribution by ANNGO.	25%	ANNGO (annual) Catalogue publication cost for 2014/15 and 2015/16 was covered by HPS.	50%
Act-1.5.2	Support ANNGO to conduct three (3) nationwide radio announcements during the sapling sales (spring) seasons.	67%		0%	Two (2) nationwide radio announcements for 2015 and 2016 sapling sales paid by HPS. (jointly with the ornamentals promotion campaign)	67%



Act-1.5.3	Support ANNGO to take part in three (3) national Agfair events to promote the advantages of planting certified trees and vines and stimulate sales of certified saplings among its members.	67%		0%	Two (2) times supported ANNGO's participation in the Kabul Agfairs (24–26SEP14, 20–23MAR16) incl. NGAs to stimulate sapling sales by covering the booth cost.	67%
Act-1.5.4	Support ANNGO to publish one (1) Training Manual for the NGAs aiming to promote modern nursery production "best practices" among its NGAs members.	0%	ANNGO training manual is under review and will be finished and finalized during the month of August.	0%	ANNGO (with the support of PHDP) developed the ANNGO Training Manual. ANNGO currently reviews the manual and pending their request, HPS can publish it by covering the printing costs in the future.	0%
Act-1.5.5	Support ANNGO to publish the Manual of Procedures for ANNGO regulatory system (attachment to seed & planting material regulations).	50%		0%	ANNGO revised its regulatory system in Summer 2014 in cooperation with PHDP/II and HPS/SO1 team. It remains under MAIL review.	50%
SO1: R-2	The technical level of the fruit tree nursery industry in Afghanistan is raised to standards appropriate to the development of a modern orchard industry	45.0%		5.1%		50.1%
IND-2.1	ANNGO incorporated technical support functions to local nursery grower associations previously run by the two NGO consortia, with HPS support.	41%		5%		46%
Act-2.1.1	Recruit and second to ANNGO X25 Field Managers located in its NGA members to support the NGAs with the application of the certification scheme rules and improve the technical skills & practices among the nursery growers.	56%	X25 FMs are seconded to ANNGO located in the NGAs. During reporting period their annual performance review has been successfully done and completed.	6%	Recruited and seconded X25 FMs to ANNGO located in the NGAs. Procured no. 18 new Motorbikes and covered O&M expences for X25 motorbikes to date	63%
Act-2.1.2	Support ANNGO to conduct 12 regular (quarterly) technical capacity building activities for FM, interns and other technical staff supporting the NGAs and the local nursery growers.	50%	Supported ANNGO to conduct a Technical Capacity Building training in Jalalabad PHDP during 24-27APR16 including 25XFMs by HPS, 2XFMs by HVP and 1 PM TLO.	8%	No. 7 quarterly Technical Capacity Building activities to date. Since the recruitment of new 2XFMs by HVP; they participate in the trainings, too. Relevant HVP Field Manager costs are covered by HVP budget.	58%
Act-2.1.3	Support ANNGO to conduct regular (yearly) Virus indexing testing for mother stock nurseries and potential mother stock material with sample testing at Plant Biotechnology Laboratory.	17%	During May 2016, the PBTL submitted a request including the list of laboratory equipment needed. (estimated USD 5,000). Procurement is on-going.	0%	Only (no. 1) request from PBTL to support them with Laboratory Inputs in 2014. (1/6 estimated in total to date).	17%
IND-2.2	Standards adopted by ANNGO members for producing, labelling and packing fruit trees, with HPS support.	67%		0%		67%
Act-2.2.1	In coordination with ANNGO; provide to its three (3) eastern Afghanistan (citrus) NGAs members with equipment and consumables to enhance their produce quality of the citrus certified saplings for the recommended new varieties.	0%		33%	The first (out of total 3) portion of the total nursery inputs to the three (3) eastern Afghanistan citrus NGAs members was distributed in February 2016.	33%
Act-2.2.2	In coordination with NVDA; establish one (1) pilot modern nursery to enhance NVDA's nursery production capacity for the new citrus recommended varieties and utilize the demo nursery as a training	100%		0%	New NVDA citrus nursery (1 jerib) completed in summer 2015 equipped with net house, well with solar powered pump and manual shower	100%



	site to be used for capacity building activities for both NVDA and NGAs staff.				irrigation system to produce citrus saplings (25,000/year) in plastic bags for establishing own NVDA citrus orchards in 2017.	
IND-2.3	Enhanced pest & diseases monitoring and control within ANNGO's NGAs members, with HPS support.	22%		11%		33%
Act-2.3.1	Support ANNGO (TA) to develop a IPM strategy and work plan to introduce enhanced pests & diseases monitoring and control within its NGAs members, MSNs and CPNs.	33%	During the reporting period, IPM specialist visited and monitored Shakardara, Paghman, Sayed Khil, Bagram and Herat NGAs.	0%	In cooperation with ANNGO and PBTL; we jointly developed and agreed upon an IPM Strategy and Work Plan (2015/16) in summer 2015. The SO1 Plant Protection Specialist (nat'l staff) is recruited since 21Jun15 and provides technical support to the Field Managers and nursery growers on a day to day basis.	33%
Act-2.3.2	Provision of support to ANNGO to publish at least six (6) brochures/leaflets aiming to enhance IPM awareness and capacity within its NGAs members.	33%	Two (2) IPM technical brochures on Two Spotted Long Horn Beetle and Citrus Psylla were printed for 1500 Dari & 1000 Pashtu copies each presented as ANNEXES-F & G .	33%	"No 4 (out of 6) IPM Technical Brochures printed to date:	67%
Act-2.3.3	In coordination with ANNGO; provide to its NGAs members with X25 IPM kits to establish modern pest management techniques among its members.	0%	The IPM Kits are under procurement.	0%		0%
IND-2.4	ANNGO's human technical capacity developed to increase tissue culture rootstock commercial production, with HPS support.	50%		4%		54%
Act-2.4.1	ANNGO gradually develops - with HPS support - the necessary technical human capacity and knowhow to increase the tissue culture rootstock commercial production in cooperation with NHLP.	50%	Clonal rootstocks produced with tissue culture technique during the reporting period: 872 of various rootstock types (GF677, Pyrold dwarf, Gisela 5, etc.). HPS mobilized two (2) Interns for ANNGO since mid FEB16 to receive "on the job training.	4%	SO1 Micro Propagation Technician (located in PBDP) is developing capacities to enable ANNGO commercially produce in the future various clonal rootstock types (GF677, Pyrold dwarf, Gisela 5, etc.) with tissue culture technique; 10,896 produced to date. Two (2) Interns are also seconded to ANNGO to receive "on the job" training since mid FEB16.	54%
SO1: R-3	The technical level of ornamentals nurseries in Afghanistan is raised to standards appropriate to the development of a modern ornamental nursery industry	19.6%		0.7%		20.3%
IND-3.1	A set of ANNGO's phyto-sanitary standards developed for ornamental plants, with HPS support.	50%		0%		50%
Act-3.1.1	Support (TA) ANNGO to develop an ornamental development long term strategy.	50%		0%	Mobilized a Ornamentals Nursery Expert - Int'l Consultant Cosimo Frati) to assess the ornamentals' sector and provide ANNGO recommendations for the promotion of the ornamentals industry within the private businesses (outside ANNGO) and also the NGAs	50%



					members. Initial recommendations are included in the revised logframe	
Act-3.1.2	Support (TA) ANNGO to develop a set of phyto-sanitary standards for the ornamental plants.	50%		0%	During 19Aug to 03Sep15 the Nursery Expert - Ornamentals Int'l Consultant conducted a mission in Afghanistan to support ANNGO start developing the ornamental phyto-sanitary standards.	50%
IND-3.2	ANNGO developed own capacities to provide ornamental technical services to its members, with HPS support.	0%		0%		0%
Act-3.2.1	Support ANNGO to conduct a Study Tour - technical capacity building activity - in Italy for six (6) relevant participants in order to establish the technical capacity level for providing support to its members.	0%	An appointment has been taken with Italy Embassy on 28AUG16 to apply for the relevant VISAS.	0%	New activity as per revised logframe. Starting in 2016.	0%
IND-3.3	Standards adopted by ANNGO members to produce ornamentals, with HPS support.	0%		2%		11%
Act-3.3.1	Support ANNGO to promote the establishment of at least three (3) demo ornamental nurseries among its NGAs members and/or other private/public commercial businesses in Afghanistan.	27%	Construction of the Baboor Gardens ornamentals demo nursery has 100% completed.	6%	HPS supported ANNGO's member (Bagh e Baboor Foundation) to establish a (no.1) demo ornamentals nursery completed in Apr15.	33%
Act-3.3.2	Support ANNGO to publish at least two (2) brochures/leaflets aiming to promote ornamentals nursery production "best" practices among its NGAs members.	0%	Ornamental Technical leaflets will be published after Italy study tour.	0%		0%
Act-3.3.3	Support ANNGO to conduct technical capacity building (for at least 5X NGAs) to production nursery members interested in establishing an ornamental production.	0%		0%	New activity as per revised logframe. Starting in 2016.	0%
Specific Objective Two: Adaptive research and technical development programmes are successfully providing the technical solutions to increase orchard and vineyard productivity and value to the consumer at household, and national level		50.3%		7.8%		58.1%
SO-2: R-1	Obj.2: Result 1: The available Afghanistan fruit tree germplasm is fully described as regards Distinctness and Uniformity, and its Value in Cultivation and Use is established for market leading varieties, to the benefit of orchard growers in Afghanistan.	44.3%		9.4%		53.7%
IND-1.1	Enhanced ARIA's technical capacities to manage the PHDCs (including Pomology Laboratories) and continue the Adaptive Research activities with HPS support.	80%		10%		90%
Act-1.1.1	Support ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project staff with coaching and "on the job" training in relation to the overall adaptive research and breeding activities.	56%	The SO2 Horticultural Research Specialist Int'l Consultant (Gregory Cullen) was mobilized and together with the rest of the team engaged in the spring/summer activities in cooperation with the EU/MAIL transition project staff. The Consultant report is presented as ANNEX-H . During the reporting period N. 3 Technical Coordination meetings	6%	Description of the National Collection and the adaptive research activities continued in the PHDCs under the MAIL Directorate of Research authority with the continuous support of the SO2 team. Regular consultant	63%



			were conducted with the EU/MAIL transition project staff.		missions are supported on a quarterly basis. HPS/SO2 team is located in Kabul PHDC and cooperates actively with EU/MAIL transition project staff.	
Act-1.1.2	Engage approx. 40 undergraduates and fresh graduates as horticulture-interns in field and laboratory research activities; (estimated 20% females involved).	98%	No. 4 Interns were mobilized in Kabul PHDC in 2016. they were hired from 09APR to 08JUL and extended for three more months, due to continue of field activities	1%	No. 27 Interns were mobilized in Kabul, Herat and Kandahar PHDCs in 2014. No. 12 Interns mobilized in Kabul, Herat and Mazar PHDCs in 2015. No. 4 Interns mobilized in Kabul PHDC in 2016. Total 43 Interns mobilized to date. No.7 female interns involved 18%.	99%
Act-1.1.3	Support ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project by providing them with office furniture and equipment	67%	On 30MAY16, HPS completed the new office partition in ARIA Building and handed it over to EU-MAIL transition project. Also, in MAY16 the KBL Reefer Container was installed in PHDC-KBL.	33%	Support ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project by providing them with office furniture and equipment for the PHDC-KUN in January 2016. No. 2 (out of 2) Refer Containers were installed in the PHDC-JAL & KBL.	100%
Act-1.1.4	Organize study tours including in total 5 members of the research team.	100%	Completed 100%	0%	Conducted two (2) Study Tours to Italy: Rome, Faenza and Florence four (4) participants and Bolzano and Trento for two (2) participants	100%
IND-1.2	Six main fruit species (Plums, Pomegranate, Cherry, Peach, Apricot, and Apple) characterized by ARIA, with HPS support.	44%		8%		52%
Act-1.2.1	Support ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project staff to develop yearly work plans for the National Collection activities.	50%	Participation in the mid year planning and coordination meeting of the field horticulturists and other staff of the six PHD Centers at Badam Bagh ARIA building during 29-31MAY16.	25%	Participated in No. 3 Annual Work Plan Workshops organized by ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project staff to develop work plans for 2014, 2015 and 2016.	75%
Act-1.2.2	Support ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project staff to conduct Pomology Laboratory activities in relation to fruit characterization.	65%	The fruit characterization missing data of 4 cherry accessions were carried during this reporting period in Kabul PHDC.	1%	No. 65 Plum (of 77), no. 78 Pomegranate (of 79), no. 28 Cherry (of 28), no. 0 Peach (of 116), no. 93 Apricot (of 129) and no. 0 Apple (of 81) accessions fully characterized. Total no. 334 of 510 to date.	65%
Act-1.2.3	Support ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project staff to compile characterization data of the accessions and verify / screen the date to identify any gaps.	56%	In coordination with ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project staff, we are conducting a joint data analysis/screening for the Peach, Apple and Plum NC Registers.	6%	Jointly conducted verification / screening successfully resulting to the compilation of data for Apricot, Pomegranate and Cherry Registers	63%
Act-1.2.4	Support ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project staff to publish the Registers of National Collection for 4 main species (Plums, Cherry, Peach, and Apple).	0%	Cherry NC Register English document translation is completed. Translation into Dari and Pashto is under process.	0%		0%
Act-1.2.5	Support ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project staff to develop a set of descriptors lists with reference varieties specifically for Afghanistan.	50%	The selection of the Apricot reference varieties is completed.	8%	Descriptor Lists for all no.6 main species concluded. Reference varieties for no.1 main species selected.	58%
IND-1.3	Technical information (at least 25 best fruit and nut varieties) is delivered to nursery/fruit growers for the development of a modern Afghan high value perennial horticulture.	11%		17%		28%



Act-1.3.1	Identify suitable pollinizers and combinations for compatible varieties of 3 major fruit species. Sufficient information to be obtained on at least 10 varieties of almond, apricot and plum.	33%	A leaflet including 32 identified Almond pollinizers is under development	0%	No 1 pollination leaflet for Apricot published.	33%
Act-1.3.2	Continue relevant research trials that started under PHDP to potentially identify suitable rootstock / variety combinations for each of 4 major fruit species. Sufficient information to be obtained on at least 20 varieties of citrus, peach, apple and almond.	0%	Data collection for rootstock trials of apple and citrus are on-going.	0%		0%
Act-1.3.3	Complete the work that started under PHDP and publish the "Afghan Orchard Management Manual". This will be shared with MoAIL (ARIA, Directorate of Horticulture) and other horticultural research and education entities. An estimated number of 1,000 MAIL extension staff, orchard growers and 10 Agricultural Universities/Institutes (including 1,000 undergraduate students) will be the recipients.	0%	The "Afghan Orchard Management Manual" in Dari (1000 copies) has been printed and it is ready to be distributed. The Pashtu document is under final review.	50%	The "Afghan Orchard Management Manual" in Dari (1000 copies) has been printed and it is ready to be distributed. The Pashtu document is under final review.	50%
IND-1.4	Maturity and shelf life indexes are identified for 60 commercial and highly marketable varieties of major fruit species. In regards to SO3 activities	42%		3%		45%
Act-1.4.1	Review and adapt the manual of pomology laboratory protocols and procedures already issued by PHDP, as per need.	50%		0%	In accordance with PHDP; the publication cost for the pomology lab manual will be finally covered by PHDP. Continues revisions and additions are taking place as per research activities requirements.	50%
Act-1.4.2	Perform Pomology Laboratory work on intrinsic fruit quality parameters of 60 commercial and highly marketable fruit varieties	70%	Quality parameters lab tests for cherry and plum has been performed during this reporting period	6%	At least 3 years' data (2014-17) is required before an average value regarding quality parameters can be obtained. About 85% of the necessary lab work is completed to date for defining quality parameters for the selected 60 accessions. In total 128 accessions are under trials.	76%
Act-1.4.3	Perform Pomology Laboratory work on maturity index, and shelf life parameters of 60 commercial and highly marketable fruit varieties	33%	During this reporting period, No. 5 varieties of Cherries and No. 5 varieties of Plum were characterized for maturity index. Also, No. 5 varieties of Plum were stored for shelf life trial in the reefer container.	2%	At least 3 years' data is required before an average value regarding maturity indices can be obtained. 65% of the necessary lab work is completed to date for defining maturity indices for selected 60 accessions. In total 123 accessions are under trials. No work was undertake so far on shelf life trials due to lack of refrigeration capacity and other facilities. The bulk of the shelf life trials work is planned during 2016-17.	35%
Act-1.4.4	Support ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project staff to establish a Pomology Laboratory data base to include (among other relevant information) maturity and shelf life indexes of the 60 commercial and highly marketable fruit varieties.	56%	The Database was updated with maturity index and shelf life of 5 major species (cherry, apple, plum, grape, and peach) in coordination with EU-MAIL transition project.	6%	The Database is developed and periodically updated with the relevant trial data in cooperation with ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project staff.	63%



Act-1.4.5	Support ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project staff to develop annual reports on Pomology Laboratory work progress.	0%	In cooperation with ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project staff; the drafting of the 2015 Annual Pomology Laboratory Report is on-going.	0%		0%
SO-2: R-2	Breeding programmes for improved apricot and almond varieties based on the best combinations of Afghan and imported germplasm have produced varieties for production testing and as a basis for further long term development.	56.3%		6.3%		62.5%
IND-2.1	ARIA maintained and developed further the breeding programmes to rectify deficiencies in Afghan almond germplasm, with HPS support.	56%		6%		63%
Act-2.1.1	Continuation of the breeding program initiated under PHDP, by conducting field testing of 8 selected breeding lines of almond from crosses of Afghan germplasm made in 2008-9 with a potential release of 6-8 new superior Afghan type varieties to nursery growers by 2017-8.	56%	The maintenance activities were carried out normally by the ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project staff with regular HPS staff and Int'l Consultant's supervision. Distribution of almond trees for field testing of the new varieties continued in early 2016. Further saplings of these lines were budded in 2015, and these budded saplings will be available for distribution in 2017. A leaflet promoting the testing of these lines by growers was prepared.	6%	No. 8 almond breeding lines have been multiplied for field testing ahead of planned commercial release and for addition to the National Collection. Budded saplings will be available for distribution to Mother Stock Nurseries from 2017. These lines are also included as potential parents for the crossing programme for new releases	63%
Act-2.1.2	Continuation of the focused breeding program initiated under PHDP for inclusion of late flowering and high yield characteristics into the unique range of Afghan almond germplasm by the use of selected foreign varieties. Field testing of 1,000 lines from targeted crosses between Afghan and foreign varieties made since 2012-3 with an anticipated 20 crosses and back crosses in 2016 and 50 crosses and back crosses in 2017; resulting to planting 2,000 new lines by 2018 with an anticipated evaluation process leading to the release to nursery growers of a number of new superior varieties by 2025	56%	So far in 2016, growth of the 2014 and 2015 transplants has been good with more material expected to be available for backcrossing in 2017. However, flowering date data is still unavailable for any lines of the 2015 transplanting. No. 8 breeding lines included in the back cross pollination for further breeding. The fruit set on the crossed breeding lines have been collected.	6%	Selected 2013 crosses will flower in 2016 for back cross programme. 2014 crosses grown strongly in nursery for transplanting into assessment plots in 2015 after selection procedure. 2015 crosses were sown in December 2015. Assessment of new almond accessions indicates 2 of them can be used as breeding parents for the first time in 2016. After 2016, breeding will continue only with advanced hybrid material from previous crosses.	63%
IND-2.2	ARIA maintained and developed further the breeding programmes to rectify deficiencies in Afghan apricot germplasm, with HPS support.	56%		6%		63%
Act-2.2.1	Continuation of the focused breeding program initiated under PHDP for inclusion of stable production characteristics into the unique range of Afghan apricot germplasm by the use of selected foreign varieties. Field testing of 450 lines from targeted crosses between the unique Afghan Amiri types and foreign varieties made since 2012-3 with an anticipated 15 crosses and back crosses in 2016 and 25 crosses and back crosses in 2017; resulting to planting 500 new lines by 2018 with an anticipated evaluation process leading to the release to nursery growers of a number of superior varieties by 2025.	56%	No 4 new crosses between Amiri Apricot and Plum varieties conducted aiming to identify low chilling early ripening and high quality fruit varieties. No 67 Seeds from 10 back crossed lines were collected during this report period, out of 280 lines, 140 lines were screened. No. 12 lines have been selected for back crossing program in 2017.	6%	From 280 lines of the 2011 and 2012 crosses, 6 lines have been selected for backcrossing and 2 lines selected for multiplication for field testing ahead of possible release. Further selection from the 2011/2012 crosses will be made in 2016, together with the first selections (70 lines) from the 2013 crosses. Total no. 350 lines under assessment to date. After 2016, all the breeding will continue only with advanced hybrid materials from previous crosses, unless the programme is expanded to include other than Amiri apricot types.	63%



Act-2.2.2	Conduct the initial evaluation of the 2012 crosses in 2015-16 (and 2013 crosses in 2016-17) aiming to select 10 superior lines for large scale field evaluation starting in 2018.	56%	The maintenance activities were carried out normally by the ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project field staff with regular HPS staff and Int'l Consultant's supervision. The field evaluation activity has been carried out during this reporting period. Data collection includes tree and flower characteristics. No. 7 line will be selected as possible new varieties	6%	Two selections made from among the 16 lines of the 2012 crosses which bore fruit in 2015 have been multiplied and will be available for large scale field evaluation from 2017 onwards. It is expected that at least a further 8 lines will be selected from among the 2012 crosses that will bear fruit in 2016, thus reaching the target of 10 superior lines selected for large scale field evaluation.	63%
Specific Objective three: Pilot demonstration of enhanced post-harvest management systems and market driven value chain development for key perennial horticulture crops within target areas and target groups		39.7%		4.1%		43.8%
SO-3:	Grape & raisin value chain improved with enhanced harvest and post harvest systems for exports and home market	47.0%		2.5%		49.5%
R-1						
IND-1.1	Enhanced harvest and post-harvest capacities adopted by at least 350 grape/raisin producers over an approx. 200ha vineyard area.	79%		0%		79%
Act-1.1.1	Select pilot project partners producers and mobilize to form Grape & Raisin producers' groups (at least 8 groups established).	100%	100% Completed	0%	Established (5X) Grape Growers Groups including 223 farmers (683 jeribs vineyards) and (3X) Raisin Producers Groups including 150 farmers (414 jeribs vineyards). No. 373 producers and no. 207 ha of vineyard involved.	100%
Act-1.1.2	Conduct capacity building activities based on the FFS model to introduce best harvest & post harvest practices to the beneficiaries.	50%	One training round is scheduled for the next quarter (end of AUG16)	0%	We have completed 2 annual training rounds for our beneficiaries (No. 8 trainers in 2014 and No. 8 trainers in 2015) based on the FFS model to introduce best harvest & post harvest practices to the beneficiaries.	50%
Act-1.1.3	Enhance producers harvesting / processing capacities with appropriate inputs to reduce PH losses.	100%	100% Completed	0%	Harvesting inputs for the raisin and grape groups' beneficiaries have been successfully delivered by Sep15.	100%
Act-1.1.4	Value chain analyzed and described in detail including harvest, suitable packaging, cold chain and distribution.	67%		0%	A Grapes and Raisins Value Chain baseline analysis was conducted in mid 2014 by the SO3 Raisin Processing & Marketing Nat'l Consultant (Prof. Samadi). Further work is anticipated in the future with a follow up activity before publication.	67%
IND-1.2	Improved drying techniques demonstrate enhanced quantity and quality production levels.	11%		4%		15%



Act-1.2.1	Design and establish improved Kishmish Khanas (no. 3) to demonstrate enhanced production volumes of Green raisins.(7.5MT capacity annually)	33%	The 2 remaining beneficiaries have been identified; the MoU was signed for one beneficiary (Dasht-e-Rubat village of Bagram, Parwan) and physical work started in JUN16	3%	No. 1 Kishmish Khana constructed (2.5MT Green Raisin capacity annually) in Bagh e Zaghan, Qarabgh, Kabul in AUG15.	36%
Act-1.2.2	Demonstrate the use of chemical treatments to reduce drying cycle and produce Golden type raisins.	0%	The Cost Benefit Analysis work sheet was developed the SO3 Marketing Specialist (Gerrit Booyens) during his short mission in APR16. The full report is attached as ANNEX-I, Part 1.	3%	The Cost Benefit worksheet has been developed.	3%
Act-1.2.3	Promote the establishment of protected (fenced) drying areas (no. 10) for reducing contamination and improving red raisin hygiene. (60MT capacity annually)	0%	5 beneficiaries (3 in Dasht-e-Rubat village of Bagram, Parwan and 2 in Mahmood Raqi, Kapisa) were identified for establishment of protected (fenced) drying areas; the MoUs are signed.	5%	Five beneficiaries have been selected and MoUs signed.	5%
IND-1.3	At least 500MT of grape and raisin marketed with improved packaging by ANHDO in partnership with growers & traders.	63%		0%		63%
Act-1.3.1	Marketing initiatives in domestic markets with traceability, enhanced product quality and improved packaging (250MT in total).	100%	100% Completed	0%	No. 258MT produce (32.55MT fresh grapes and 225MT red raisin) marketed in domestic market in 2014.	100%
Act-1.3.2	Marketing initiatives in regional markets (i.e. India, Pakistan, Central Asia, Russia) and international high value markets (i.e. EU and USA) with traceability, enhanced product quality improved packaging (250MT in total).	26%		0%	No. 64 MT produce (48.78MT fresh grapes and 14.82MT red raisin) exported to regional (Pakistan) and international high value markets (Portugal).	26%
IND-1.4	Producer organizations supported with organizational development to establish a Grape & Raising Promotion Group (GRPG) forum.	35%		6%		41%
Act-1.4.1	Promote the establishment of the Grape & Raising Promotion Group (GRPG) including as founding members the grape & raisin producers (no 15) committed to comply with best practices.	50%	The GRPG operational manual draft was developed by the SO3 Marketing Specialist (Gerrit Booyens) and is presented as ANNEX-I, Part 3.	25%	GRPG established and operating since JUL15, with the founding agreement and members' list (and leadership) concluded by 21NOV15. The GRPG operational manual is drafted.	75%
Act-1.4.2	Facilitate the quarterly (at least no.10) GRPG meetings.	30%		10%	No. 4 GRPG meetings have been conducted to date.	40%
Act-1.4.3	Conduct capacity building Workshops (no 2) on institutional building and marketing issues including GRPG members (and others) for at least 30 participants in total.	50%		0%	No. 1 Workshop conducted in DEC15 with 32 participants on marketing issues.	50%
Act-1.4.4	Develop a brand name (approach) within GRPG.	0%		0%		0%
SO3: R-2	Almond Industry value chain supported and enhanced	22%		9%		31%



IND-2.1	Enhanced harvest and post-harvest capacities adopted by at least 200 almond producers over an approx. 100ha orchard area in northern Afghanistan.	13%		10%		24%
Act-2.1.1	Partner with established and reputable Almond associations and/or cooperatives in northern Afghanistan (at least no. 1 partnership).	51%	Partnership agreement with Kunduz Almond Producers Cooperative (106 members with 140ha orchards) signed on 09APR16.	49%	No 2 Partnership Agreements signed with (i) Samangan Dry Fruits & Nuts Association (102 members with 91ha orchards) signed on 03FEB16 and (ii) Kunduz Almond Producers Cooperative (106 members with 140ha orchards) signed on 09APR16. 208 almond producers with 197ha	100%
Act-2.1.2	Conduct capacity building activities based on the FFS model to introduce best harvest & post harvest practices to the beneficiaries.	0%	Capacity building activities have been planned for the 3rd QTR 2016.	0%		0%
Act-2.1.3	Enhance producers harvesting / processing capacities with appropriate inputs to reduce PH losses.	0%	The procurement process has started for almond harvesting inputs including one 4m aluminum ladder, 2 plastic harvesting baskets, 6 cotton bags 50 Kg and one tarpaulin 5x5m meters per beneficiary.	0%		0%
Act-2.1.4	Conduct capacity building Workshops (no 2) on institutional building and marketing issues for at least 100 participants in total.	0%		0%		0%
Act-2.1.5	Almond value chain analyzed and described in details.	67%		0%	An Almond (and Prune) Value Chain baseline analysis conducted in early 2015 by the SO3 Horticulture Value Chain Specialist - Nat'l Consultant (Prof. Samadi). Further work is anticipated in the future before publication.	67%
IND-2.2	AAIDO produced survey on almond production and marketing trends including produce specifications, agricultural practices and prices, with HPS support.	21%		8%		28%
Act-2.2.1	Support AAIDO in conducting production survey and re-survey; analysis of data, and extrapolations.	0%	A meeting conducted with J. Hamidzada head of AAIDO on 22JUN16 aiming to strengthen the coordination and cooperation between both organizations.	15%	Initial coordination with AAIDO established.	15%
Act-2.2.2	Support AAIDO in conducting market survey and re-survey; analysis of data, and extrapolations.	42%	ANHDO and AAIDO agreed to share their survey forms agree on a single jointly developed form which should be used by both organizations in future.	8%		50%
Act-2.2.3	Conduct nationwide awareness campaigns (no. 5) through distribution of brochures (no 10,000) to promote recommended almond varieties, IPM issues, bee pollination, best harvest practices and late frost mitigation measures among almond growers.	20%	The Almond Post Harvest and Almond IPM brochures has been prepared and are ready for printing.	0%	No 2 campaigns conducted on Almond Orchard Management and Almond Varieties / Late Frost Mitigation including the publication and distribution of 2,000 leaflets.	20%
SO3: R-3	Pilot fresh fruit (sweet cherry and apples) value chains established and improved with enhanced harvest and post-harvest systems to raise standards for exports and home market.	26.2%		1.7%		27.8%



IND-3.1	Enhanced harvest and post-harvest capacities adopted by at least 120 apple and cherry producers over an approx. 60ha orchard area.	54%		5%		59%
Act-3.1.1	Select pilot project partner growers and mobilize them to form growers' groups (no. 2 groups).	100%	Completed 100%	0%	Established (1X) Sweet Cherry Grower Group including 36 farmers (55 jeribs of orchards) and (X1) Apple Grower Group including 84 farmers (299 jeribs of orchards). No. 120 producers and no. 70ha of vineyard involved.	100%
Act-3.1.2	Conduct capacity building activities based on the FFS model to introduce best harvest & post harvest practices to the beneficiaries.	20%	Conducted the 2nd annual training for Cherry beneficiaries (No. 2 trainers in 2016) based on the FFS model to introduce best harvest & post harvest practices to the beneficiaries. Also, a Field Day was arranged for 50 people (36 sweet cherry growers, 4 DAIL reps and 10 local traders) aiming to improve their technical knowledge on harvest and post harvest new techniques.	20%	We have completed No. 2 annual training rounds for Cherry beneficiaries (2015 & 2016) based on the FFS model to introduce best harvest & post harvest practices to the beneficiaries. (No.2 completed out of anticipated 3 S Cherry and 2 Apple)	40%
Act-3.1.3	Enhance growers' harvesting capacities with appropriate inputs to reduce PH losses.	30%	The procurement process has started for the apple harvesting inputs for 84 apple growers.	0%	Harvesting inputs for the Sweet Cherry Growers Group beneficiaries (no. 36) have been successfully distributed in MAY15.	30%
Act-3.1.4	Value chains analysed and described in detail including harvest, suitable packaging, cold chain and distribution	67%		0%	A Sweet Cherry (and Apricot fresh & dried) Value Chain baseline analysis was conducted in spring 2015 by the SO3 Horticulture Value Chain Nat'l Consultant (Prof. Samadi). Further work is anticipated in the future before publication.	67%
IND-3.2	No. 10 apple cold storage structures constructed to demonstrate prolonged shelf life and seek out of season marketability benefits.	20%		0%		20%
Act-3.2.1	Design and establish apple cold storage structures (no. 10) aiming to prolong fresh fruit shelf life. (80MT capacity annually).	20%	The Cost Benefit Analysis work sheet was developed the SO3 Marketing Specialist (Gerrit Booyens) during his short mission in APR16. Initial meetings were held with apple beneficiaries and DAIL aiming to construct 2 apple cold storage structures during this season.	0%	No. 2 Apple Cold Storage structures constructed (16.8 MT capacity annually) in Paghman District, Kabul Province.	20%
IND-3.3	At least 150MT of fresh fruits marketed with improved packaging by ANHDO in partnership with private sector traders.	4%		0%		4%
Act-3.3.1	Marketing initiatives in domestic markets with traceability, and improved packaging (70MT).	3%		0%	No. 1.84 MT Sweet Cherries marketed in domestic market (Finest Super Market) in 2015 with improved packaging.	3%
Act-3.3.2	Marketing initiatives in regional markets (i.e. India, Pakistan, Central Asia, and Russia) and international high value markets (i.e. EU and USA) with traceability, and improved (80MT).	6%	A Sweet cherry exporter was selected and packaging procured aiming to support 12 MT exports to regional markets.	0%	No. 4.64 MT Sweet Cherries marketed in regional markets (4MT to India and 0.64MT to Dubai) in 2015 with improved packaging.	6%



SO3: R-4	Standards of quality for fresh, dried and processed fruit are raised and capability of quality control structures enhanced	63.4%		3.6%		67.0%
IND-4.1	Enhanced quality standards for fresh, dried and processed fruit adopted by at least 100 (dry plum and apricot) producers and 2 raisin processing factories.	88%		3%		90%
Act-4.1.1	Set minimum quality standards (parameters) to meet domestic market requirements and allow for potential exports.	100%	Completed 100%	0%	The Minimum Quality Standards for Fresh and Dried Fruits for Afghanistan draft document includes minimum quality standards for fresh fruit (apple, grape, sweet cherry, plum, citrus) and dried fruits & nuts (raisin, dried apricot and almond).	100%
Act-4.1.2	Support SO2 team and the PHDCs Pomology Laboratories to conduct maturity and shelf life index trials for highly marketable varieties.	75%	The SO3 Post-Harvest & Quality Control Int'l Consultant (Federico Valori) supported the SO2 team and the Pomology Laboratory staff to revise trial plans and protocols. His Mission #6 report is presented as ANNEX-J .	5%	Required instruments and consumable are procured as per need. Laboratory technicians receive trainings and necessary updates by the SO3 Post Harvest & Quality Control Specialist (Federico Valori) during his regular missions.	80%
IND-4.2	Established Quality Control laboratory capacities to enhance the private sector access to regional and international markets.	88%		8%		96%
Act-4.2.1	Survey of existing public and private quality control laboratories.	100%	Completed 100%	0%	Conducted a preliminary extended survey (SO3 Quality Control - Int'l Consultant Federico) of the existing public and private QC labs in summer 2014. Reexamining at least on a semester basis to monitor sector developments.	100%
Act-4.2.2	Develop QC laboratory protocols to monitor food safety levels of fresh & dried fruits, and nuts produce.	100%	Completed 100% The publication is pending final revision and translation. It is anticipated to take place at the end of the project.	0%	The following relevant QC lab manuals were developed by the SO3 Quality Control - Int'l Consultant (Federico Valori): (a) QC Laboratory Manual (Dried Fruit Tests) and (b) QC Laboratory Manual (ELISA)	100%
Act-4.2.3	Partner with a selected group of growers and entrepreneurs and support them to improve drying / processing procedures and apply QC monitoring tools.	73%	A partnership agreement was signed with Mujtaba Sajaad Refat and Zemaray Rasooli Co. Ltd (including 18 dry apricot producers working as contract growers in Banaq Bala and Banaq Payan villages of Kahmard district of Bamyan province). Harvesting tools and drying equipment were procured and distributed to them accordingly.	27%	Established (1X) Prune Processors Group including 60 producers (63 jeribs of orchards) and (X1) Dry Apricot Processors Group including 13 producers (16 jeribs of orchards) . No. 73 producers and no. 16ha of orchards involved. Partnered with dry apricot traders (including 18 dry apricot processors).	100%
Act-4.2.4	Capacity building actions for private quality control laboratory technicians.	65%	On 31MAY16, we conducted a full day training for Tabasom QC Laboratory staff. In the same occasion, two set of ELISA kits were donated to Tabasom for their QC tests on Mycotoxins.	15%	"Tabasom raisin processing factory lab technician trained in Italy in spring 2014. A follow up training was conducted on 31MAY16 in Tabasom Lab.	80%



Act-4.2.5	Procure QC laboratory instruments (ELISA kits).	100%	100% Completed	0%	One (X1) ELISA kit was procured for TABASOM in May14. Additionally, six (X6) ELISA kits were imported from Italy in Jul15. Consumables were locally procured in Nov-Dec15 to establish QC laboratory capacity to monitor Mycotoxin (Aflatoxin & Ochratoxin).	100%
IND-4.3	Project staff and stakeholders participated in two study tours and three international trade events to become familiar with regional/international standards, practices and market requirements.	15%		0%		15%
Act-4.3.1	Study tours (no 2) organized for 10 stakeholders.	10%		0%	Conducted a Study Tour to Italy, Trieste for one (X1) Tabasom lab technicians. Total participants: no. 1 to date	10%
Act-4.3.2	Participation to (no 2) regional and international event/s is organized for 15 stakeholders.	20%		0%	During Jun14, we facilitated the participation of Ahmad Tamim Co.Ltd (Mr. Haji Bashir) in Halal Exhibition in Moscow. Additionally, in Nov15 we facilitated the participation of 2 ANHDO staff to India's International Trade Fair in New Delhi. Total participants: no. 3 to date	20%
Specific Objective Four: A soundly based and profitable citrus industry in eastern Afghanistan is developed		37.8%		4.1%		41.9%
SO4: R-1	The newly reborn citrus industry in the eastern region of Afghanistan reaches significant levels of production and quality standards and provides increased regional economic opportunities	39.7%		10.4%		50.1%
IND-1.1	In cooperation with HVP, Citrus value chain is analyzed, focusing on current industry commercial production capacity and its potential; (Citrus VC final report).	64%		0%		64%
Act-1.1.1	Conduct annual field surveys of growers, nurseries, traders, etc. to collect relevant data. Approx. 1,000 interviews conducted as a baseline and at least 250 interviews as sampled updates annually.	71%		0%	Field baseline survey of 1,036 interviewed in NOV-DEC14 and 7 workshops including 301 sampled interviews in OCT-NOV15.	71%
Act-1.1.2	Review annually the collected data and provide stakeholders with updated industry information through the CPG meetings.	71%		0%	Presented the findings of the annual citrus survey review in the CPG meeting on 25NOV15.	71%
Act-1.1.3	One (final) value chain analysis is published by 2017.	50%		0%	Citrus Value Chain baseline study conducted in spring 2015 (1,036 citrus growers assessed in winter 2014) by the SO4 Citrus Value Chain Int'l Consultant (Gerrit Booyens). Further field assessments with final analysis by 2017.	50%



IND-1.2	Commercial size citrus orchards (at least no. 12) established with certified saplings of marketable varieties (70 ha planted by 2017).	11%		0%		11%
Act-1.2.1	Conduct 3 calls of interest to select commercially oriented farmers (and influential industry stakeholders like NVDA) committed to comply with a set of minimum Afghan citrus industry standards.	33%	A "Call of Interest" announcement (15MAY16) took place on ACBAR website, Nangarhar newspaper, and Facebook (Khateez Citrus). Closing date is Sunday, August 15, 2016, at 16:00. Presented as ANNEX-K .	0%	No.1 Call of Interest announced on 16NOV15. A re-Call of Interest was made on 15MAY16 since the 1st call was not successful due to the shortage of time until the suitable planting period in MAR16.	33%
Act-1.2.2	Support the establishment of commercial size (min. 1 ha each) citrus orchards leading to a consolidated 70 ha new orchards planted by 2017.	0%		0%		0%
Act-1.2.3	Conduct (no. 3) capacity building Workshops on citrus orchard management including related beneficiaries and NVDA, CGG members etc. for at least 200 participants in total.	0%		0%		0%
IND-1.3	ANNGO and its citrus related NGAs members met the Afghan citrus industry needs for certified citrus saplings, with HPS support. (200,000 certified saplings produced annually by 2017).	44%		31%		75%
Act-1.3.1	Compile a shortlist including the highly recommended marketable citrus varieties (no 10) for further propagation to meet market demand.	100%	100% completed	0%	Recommended to ANNGO and the citrus NGAs the shortlist including the (no 11) highly recommended marketable citrus varieties for further propagation to meet market demand.	100%
Act-1.3.2	Conduct (no. 1) capacity building Workshop on citrus nursery management including ANNGO and its citrus related NGAs' members (among others) for at least 50 participants in total.	100%	100% completed	0%	No 1 Workshop conducted on citrus nursery management for 51 participants in total.	100%
Act-1.3.3	In cooperation with SO1; support (TA) the operation of the NVDA pilot modern nursery and provide NVDA staff with daily mentoring on citrus nursery management best practices.	100%	100% completed	0%	One Skilled Labor assigned in NVDA pilot modern nursery from 01APR15 until 29FEB16 (11months)	100%
Act-1.3.4	Assist HVP (SO4/R1) and the PBTL to conduct; the study on "CTV strain and rootstock tolerance / resistance" to provide the industry with clear strategic decision making tools (the CTV study report).	0%	ANHDO HVP project (funded by AFD) conducts a detailed study on "CTV strain and rootstock tolerance / resistance" in cooperation with PBTL and Italian Universities. HPS/SO4 team will support the activities with the provision of laboratory inputs.	0%	Until to date there has been no HVP request for providing laboratory inputs.	0%
SO4: R2	The citrus value chains and market-links are developed in order to gradually move towards citrus import substitution while at the same time adopt basic quality standards that could lead to future international exports.	41.3%		11.4%		52.7%
IND-2.1	Awareness campaigns promoted best industry practices covering the broader citrus industry related stakeholders.	53%		5%		58%
Act-2.1.1	Distribution of brochures (no 4,000) to promote (3 awareness campaigns) the highly recommended marketable citrus varieties among citrus producers.	67%	A poster "Citrus Crop Calendar" has been developed and it is ready for printing. It is presented as ANNEX-L .	0%	Conducted No. 2 main Awareness Campaigns (Nov-Dec14 and Oct-Nov15) and distributed 2,759 (out of 4,000) brochures promoting the highly recommended marketable citrus	67%



					varieties among citrus producers.	
Act-2.1.2	Establish an Information Booth during planting seasons (3 awareness campaigns) to promote certified sapling sales of the recommended varieties and the application of best orchard management practices among citrus producers (no 1,500 reached).	43%		0%	Established Info Booths and conducted No. 2 awareness campaigns (Feb-Mar15 and '16) formally registering 639 in the visitors' books but actually reaching an excess of 1,600 visitors.	43%
Act-2.1.3	Promote citrus industry best technical practices to a broader audience through radio broadcast, TV shows and documentaries. (20 radio & TV broadcast)	85%	The established Citrus Facebook Page (https://www.facebook.com/khateez.citrus) is a good indicator to monitor the awareness developed. Initial findings are presented as ANNEX-M .	0%	Participated into no.12 TV (mainly Nangarhar TV) and no. 5 Radio (mainly Islah Ghaq Radio) broadcasts. Total no.17 broadcasts to date.	85%
Act-2.1.4	In cooperation with PHDC-JAL, conduct (no. 3) fruit test campaigns to develop market awareness for the recommended (at least 5) varieties in domestic market including at least 20 citrus traders/wholesalers.	33%		0%	Conducted No. 1 Fruit Taste Campaign on 06DEC15.	33%
Act-2.1.5	In cooperation with the PHDC-JAL, conduct (no. 8) capacity building Workshops on citrus related issues for Agricultural Institutes & Universities for at least 400 undergraduates in total.	38%	On 13APR16, we conducted a capacity building workshop for Laghman University Agriculture faculty 45 students. Also, on 25MAY16 a similar training was organized for 56 students of Kunar University in PHDC-JAL training hall.	25%	Conducted No. 5 capacity building Workshops for 327 Agricultural Institutes & Universities undergraduates to date.	63%
IND-2.2	Citrus Grower Group established and supported with long term organizational arrangements potentially leading to the establishment of a Citrus Growers Association.	4%		21%		25%
Act-2.2.1	Promote the establishment of a Citrus Growers Group including as founding members the citrus growers (no 15) committed to comply with best practices.	0%	The backbone of the CGG is under formation and during the reporting period the founding members have been identified and their capacity building is under process	50%	No 15 citrus farmers/traders have been identified to form the CGG.	50%
Act-2.2.2	Facilitate market linkages (at least no. 3) between CGG members and fresh fruit wholesalers / processors. CGG produced citrus (40 MT) meeting domestic market demand annually by 2017.	13%		0%	Facilitated No.1 Market Linkage (July15) involving 5 potential members of the CGG for 5MT Lemons for juice processing.	13%
Act-2.2.3	Conduct capacity building Workshops (no 8) on institutional building issues including CGG members (and others) for at least 30 participants in total aiming to potentially evolve into a Citrus Growers Association	0%	On 10Apr16, we conducted the #1 Capacity Building Workshop for CGG members for 23 CGG members and PHDC-JAL staff.	13%	No. 1 Capacity building workshops conducted for CGG members and others (out of no. 8 in total)	13%
IND-2.3	Citrus fruit QC capacity established to meet the industry's QC monitoring needs. (QC citrus protocols and lab instruments established)	67%		8%		75%
Act-2.3.1	Set the minimum citrus fruit Quality Control parameters to meet domestic market requirements allowing for potential regional exports.	100%	100% completed	0%	The Citrus minimum fruit Quality Control parameters are set inside the Minimum Quality Standards for Fresh and Dried Fruits for Afghanistan doc.	100%
Act-2.3.2	Develop QC laboratory protocols for conducting QC trials.	100%	100% completed	0%	The SO3 Post Harvest & Quality Control Expert (Federico Valori) finalized the QC lab protocols for citrus in his missions #4 (May15) and #5 (Feb-Mar16).	100%



Act-2.3.3	Purchase the necessary QC laboratory instruments and equipment to conduct QC laboratory tests.	0%	The list of the necessary QC lab instruments and equipment is finalized. Procurement is on-going with the quotations collected.	25%	QC lab instruments BoQ finalized. Procurement is on-going.	25%
SO4: R-3	Private & public stakeholders strengthen their partnership around the agreed strategy for the Citrus industry.	21.9%		1.0%		22.9%
IND-3.1	Permanent coordination between private & public stakeholders is assured by consolidation and support of the Citrus Promotion Group (CPG).	16%		3%		19%
Act-3.1.1	Facilitate the (at least) quarterly CPG meetings	31%	The #6 CPG meeting was organized on 11MAY16 in Kabul attracting 14 participants from 'ANHDO, ANNGO, PHDC-JAL, MAIL/DAIL, NVDA, PBTL, NHLP, and RI.	6%	No. 6 CPG meetings conducted to date. CPG is active (quarterly) attracting the participation of all citrus stakeholders including GoA (DAIL, PHDC-JAL), NVDA, ANHDO, ANNGO (and NGAs), PBTL, NHLP etc.	38%
Act-3.1.2	Promote CPG's long term institutional arrangements to expand and include a representative share from the wider citrus industry stakeholders.	0%	new activity	0%		0%
IND-3.2	Private & public stakeholders engaged to develop and agree upon a long term Afghan Citrus strategy, with HPS support.	0%		0%		0%
Act-3.2.1	Review the Afghan Citrus Strategy framework under the CPG structure to include the best industry practices possible under the current Afghan context.	0%	new activity	0%		0%
Act-3.2.2	Conduct a 4 days' long Conference for the development of the draft Afghan Citrus strategy including core CPG members and relevant GoA officials for at least 15 participants in total.	0%	new activity	0%		0%
Act-3.2.3	Lobby and promote the GoA review process potentially leading to the final endorsement of the Afghan Citrus strategy by end 2017. (Afghan Citrus strategy final draft).	0%	new activity	0%		0%
IND-3.3	Project staff and stakeholders participated in two study tours and one international trade event to become familiar with regional/international citrus industry standards, practices and market requirements.	50%		0%		50%
Act-3.3.1	Study tours (no 2) organized for 10 stakeholders.	100%	100% completed	0%	Conducted a Study tour to Pakistan (12-18JUN14) for 4 participants to support PBTL's study of the Afghan CTV serotype strains and another Study tour to Pakistan (07-12MAR15) for 5 participants to investigate citrus processing facilities as well as visit metal factories that fabricate the relevant machinery.	100%
Act-3.3.2	Participation to regional and international event/s is organized for 6 stakeholders.	0%		0%		0%



Photograph Archive

Photos with quarterly implementation activities are presented as **Annex-M**.

3. Strengths, Successes & New Opportunities:

Coordination between the implementing partners (ANHDO, RI) was maintained ensuring that all relevant actors remained aligned to the Action Plan. A high team spirit is maintained by through encouraging “healthy” internal competition between the different SO teams to ensure sufficient motivation. We are confident that we have already achieved a good level of implementation capacity and productivity rate.

During the reporting period, the following successes were achieved:

- ✓ **SO1:** In cooperation with ANNGO; we have successfully completed the establishment of the demo ornamentals’ nursery in Baboor Gardens (Bagh e Baboor Foundation). The nursery also includes the capacity to produce certified fruit saplings (as ANNGO member) which will enhance Bagh e Baboor Foundation’s self-sustainability. Its location in central Kabul provides an excellent opportunity for future visibility events that could enhance donor and implementing partners’ image in the future. A high level visibility event could be organized at the time of inauguration.
- ✓ **SO2:** The Dari version of the “Afghan Orchard Management Manual” has been successfully printed in 1,000 copies. The Pashtu version is under review and will be printed in another 1,000 copies. The manual will be shared with MoAIL (ARIA, Directorate of Horticulture) and other horticultural research and education entities. An estimated number of 1,000 MAIL extension staff, orchard growers and ten Agricultural Universities/Institutes (including 1,000 undergraduate students) will be the recipient of this publication providing a unique opportunity for high level visibility events in the coming months.
- ✓ **SO3:** The selection of the beneficiaries (Almond producers) under Result-2 that has been delayed for the initial 2 years has been successfully concluded after a Partnership Agreement was signed in 09APR16 with Kunduz Almond Producers Cooperative (106 members with 140ha orchards). The total number of the Almond producers involved is 208 including 197ha orchards. This includes the Samangan Dry Fruits & Nuts Association 102 members (91ha orchards) that joint us in 03FEB16.
- ✓ **SO4:** Maintained our position as the main focal point on technical issues in the citrus industry in eastern Afghanistan. After the success of the Info Booth during the sapling sales season (Feb-Mar16); we have developed further the Citrus Facebook Page which provides us with the opportunity to address questions while at the same time deliver an extended range of very important citrus related messages to a broad audience. Moreover, it is a very good indicator to monitor the developed awareness. (<https://www.facebook.com/khateez.citrus>)

During the reporting period, the following new opportunities started to arise:

- **SO1:** ANNGO is exploring the possibility of establishing a commercial MSN to produce and sell to the NGAs mother stock material. They began discussing the possibility of HPS/SO1 support to this initiative.
- **SO3:** Initial coordination with ACCI (Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries) for ANHDO to establish QC services for their members. This coincides with the establishment of the ELISA kits QC lab capacity. Planning will begin in the coming quarter.
- **SO3:** On 18FEB16, AAIDO was awarded a new 3 years EU funded project on Almond & Other Nuts VCs. Although slowly in this initial 6 months, coordination with AAIDO has started and it is anticipated to provide ANHDO AND AAIDO with cooperation opportunities under the revised Result-2 in the logframe.

4. Problems/Challenges Found in Project Implementation and Suitable Solutions:

SO2: Since early 2016, the responsiveness and timely implementation of the jointly activities with ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project staff, have been considerably slowed down. The main reasons are the lack of PHDCs leadership and the recent loss of some of the key staff (i.e. the Kabul PHDC farm manager). The initial concerns regarding the successful and well-timed transition of the PHDCs and PBTL to MAIL ARIA and MAIL SPDC respectively, was already extensively discussed and reported in PHDP II final reports,



and now have started to materialize. Potential problems in regards to the sustainable operation of the PHDCs hosting the National Collection farms and the PBTL have started to negatively influencing the implementation success not only to the EU-MAIL transition project but also to other EU funded projects including (but not limited to) HPS, ANNGO (newly awarded), potentially AAIDO (newly awarded), and HVP (AFD funded). EUD and/or the MAIL/ARIA need to engage into high level coordination to ensure that referred issues will be successfully resolved in the coming months.

5. Conclusion: Lessons Learned and Recommendations

Overall, HPS activities lost implementation momentum in comparison to the previous reporting period (7.2%). The quarterly progress achieved (5%) in this reporting period is slightly less than the initially expected ($100\% / 48\text{months} = 6\%$) average quarterly progress. This fallback was mainly due the preparation on new activities (as per revised logframe) that are necessary to start within summer 2016 and the implementation momentum is expected to rise again during the last semester. Practically, with only 6 more quarters left until the anticipated end of the project in December 2017; it is required to achieve an average 9% (55% remaining over 6 quarters left) progress per quarter. The required increase from an average 4.5% quarterly progress to date to the required (double) 9% is considered substantial. Depending on the actual progress after the second semester 2016; we may find out that a potential NCE (minimum 6 months) may be required to allow for the anticipated project deliverables to be met.

Disclaimer:

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