

**The European Union's Investment in Support to the Development of  
Agriculture Private Sector in Afghanistan**

**“Support to the Development of  
Agriculture Private Sector:  
Perennial Horticulture” (HPS)**  
Contract no. DCI-ASIE/2013/335-321

**Quarterly Report Q1-2017:Q#13**  
01 January - 31 March 2017



In consortium with:



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## List of Key Acronyms

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<b>AAIDO</b>	Afghan Almond Industry Development Organization
<b>ANHDO</b>	Afghan National Horticulture Development Organization
<b>ANNGO</b>	Afghan National Nursery Grower Organization
<b>ARIA</b>	Adaptive Research Institute of Afghanistan, MAIL
<b>BoD</b>	Board of Directors
<b>CC</b>	Coordination Committee
<b>CGA</b>	Citrus Growers' Association
<b>CGG</b>	Citrus Growers' Group
<b>CPN</b>	Certified Production Nursery
<b>CPG</b>	Citrus Promotion Group
<b>CTV</b>	Citrus Tristeza Virus
<b>EUD</b>	European Union Delegation to Afghanistan
<b>FFS</b>	Farmer Field School
<b>FH</b>	PHDC Field Horticulturist
<b>FM</b>	SO1 Field Manager
<b>HVP</b>	Horticulture Value Chain Development Project (AFD funded)
<b>HPS</b>	Support to the Development of Agriculture Private Sector: Perennial Horticulture ( <i>the Action</i> )
<b>GRPG</b>	Grape & Raisin Promotion Group
<b>MAIL</b>	Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock
<b>MSN</b>	Mother Stock Nursery
<b>MTE</b>	Mid Term Evaluation Report
<b>NC</b>	National Collection
<b>NGA</b>	Nursery Growers Association
<b>NHLP</b>	National Horticulture and Livestock Program
<b>NVDA</b>	Nangarhar Valley Development Association
<b>PBTL</b>	Plant Bio Technology Laboratory (Badam Bagh)
<b>PHDP</b>	Perennial Horticulture Development Program
<b>PHDC</b>	Perennial Horticulture Development Center
<b>PPP</b>	Public Private Partnership agreement
<b>RI</b>	Relief International
<b>SC</b>	Steering Committee
<b>SO</b>	Specific Objective
<b>SPCD</b>	Seed and Plant Certification Department
<b>TA</b>	Technical Assistance
<b>TL</b>	Team Leader

# **Support to the Development of Agriculture Private Sector: Perennial Horticulture” (HPS) Contract no. DCI-ASIE/2013/335-321**

## **1 Description**

### **1.1 Name of Coordinator of the grant contract**

Afghanistan National Horticulture Development Organization (ANHDO).

### **1.2 Name and title of the Contact person:**

Najibullah Enayat, ANHDO General Manager.

### **1.3 Name of the Beneficiary(ies) and affiliated entity(ies) in the Action:**

Relief International UK (RI) is the Co-applicant.

### **1.4 Title of the Action:**

“Support to the Development of Agriculture Private Sector: Perennial Horticulture”.

### **1.5 Contract number:**

DCI-ASIE/2013/335-321

### **1.6 Start date and end date of the reporting period:**

01<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017

### **1.7 Target country(ies) or region(s):**

Afghanistan

### **1.8 Final beneficiaries and/or target groups (including numbers of women and men):**

Nursery, orchard and vineyard growers nationwide, as well as the Afghan consumers, will be directly benefited by the action.

The action will meet the needs and deal with the constraints of the stakeholders and target groups to ensure improved horticultural production in Afghanistan; mainly (but not limited to) the Afghan nursery, fruit and ornamental plant industries and its associate organizations such as NGAs, growers and grower associations, processors, traders, input suppliers in the perennial horticulture industry and MAIL.

Direct beneficiaries with whom ANHDO/HPS can be identified in particularly the SO2 and SO1 Programs where formal arrangements and memoranda of understandings regulates the relationship.

### **Specific Objective 1: Support the Afghanistan National Nursery Grower Organisation (ANNGO) and Nursery Industry to meet the demand for certified planting material**

In SO1 the 25 ANNGO Field managers seconded to ANNGO (The Afghanistan Nursery Growers Association) and funded by HPS directly serves eight hundred and seventy-seven Nursery Grower Association members and three hundred and ninety-eight (398) Certified Production Nurseries.

The nurserymen are distributed across twenty-eight (28) districts in twenty (20) provinces across Afghanistan. The Field managers are equipped with motorcycles to reach the very remote nursery growers in even inaccessible locations.

No	NGA	Province	Districts	Members	CPNs
1	Abyak	Samangan	Abyak	34	6
2	Andarab	Baghlan	Deh Salah	19	8
3	Badakhshan	Badakhshan	Baharak	17	11
4	Bagram	Parwan	Bagram /Robot	14	6
5	Bamyan	Bamyan	Kahmard	16	8
6	Chonghar	Baghlan	Puli Khomri	21	17
7	Ghazni	Ghazni	Center	18	14
8	Helmand	Helmand	Center	18	7
9	Herat	Herat	Central	60	28
10	Imam Qutaiba	Baghlan	Baghlan Jadid	18	13
11	Kandahar	Kandahar	Central	22	13
12	Khulm	Balkh	Khulm	16	7
13	Kunar	Kunar	Assad Abad	66	33
14	Kundoz	Kunduz	Central Kundoz	53	44
15	Laghman	Laghman	Laghman Center	63	17
16	Logar	Logar	Puli Alam	22	16
17	Nangarhar	Nangarhar	Jalalabad	29	13
18	Paghman	Kabul	Paghman/Doda Mast	26	18
19	Pakteya	Pakteya	Gardiz	42	13
20	Sayed Khil	Parwan	Sayed Khil	40	13
21	Shakardara	Kabul	Shakardara/Quchan	40	25
22	Takhar	Takhar	Taloqan	31	19
23	Ummul Belad	Balkh	Mazar Sharif	26	5
24	Maidan	wardak	Maidan shar	85	21
25	Zabul	Zabul	Shaher Safa	12	6
26	Hariva	Herat	Center	20	5
27	Kapisa	Kapisa	Mahmood Raqi	27	12
28	Surobi	Kabul	Surobi	22	0
<b>Total</b>				<b>877</b>	<b>398</b>

### Specific Objective 2: Develop Technical Solutions, Support Services and establish Adaptive Research knowledge base.

The direct identifiable beneficiaries of the SO2 programme are primarily the:

- Research staff of the Adaptive Research Institute of Afghanistan (ARIA) within the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock and ARIAs six (6) Perennial Horticulture Development Centres in Kabul, Jalalabad, Mazar e Sharif, Kandahar, Herat and Kunduz. HPS' support is broadly defined and "in task training", laboratory establishment support, describing the germplasm base in the National Collection of Perennial Fruit, developing technical solutions to improve the quality and quantity of Afghanistan's fruit production by developing varieties with comparable competitive advantages.
- Specific Objectives 1, 3 and 4 within the HPS and HVP Projects; depending on SO2 for technical information and solutions required in their knowledge transfer to value

chain stakeholders in the industry including the true to type characterisation, maturity indexing, developing of quality assurance protocols, shelf life enhancement practices and breeding enhanced varieties.

The indirect beneficiaries of SO2 are almost impossible to calculate. The wider beneficiary target audience include all of the HPS beneficiaries and Farmer Field Schools, commodity promotion groups, growers and their associations, fruit processors, traders and wholesalers reached through the distribution of technical information by HPS and HVP programmes, DAIL field extension staff.

A recent initiative extended this information base to other development programmes in the Afghanistan horticultural development landscape. All technical publications will in future be made available to all horticultural development projects to optimise its impact. Forty-nine (49) previously published articles, leaflets, brochures, training videos and three ANNGO catalogues were submitted for wider distribution by associated horticultural projects within the MAIL supporting projects. Eight publications are under final revision and thirty-one (31) in progress of being developed. Although many of the publications are published under the auspices of the other three HPS Specific Objectives, the technical support is sourced from SO2.

**Specific Objective 3: Harvest and Post-Harvest Best Management (BMP) and Operating Practices (BOP) enhanced in pilot value chains.**

Although the SO3 focus is limited to enhancing harvest and post-harvest activities in pilot initiatives, its expanded fruit focus includes the Grape and Raisin, other Dried Fruit and Nuts in general and Dried Apricot and Almonds in particular, Apple and Sweet Cherry value chains. Fifteen grower groups, a trader and exporter group, and six fruit promotion groups are under development. A total of seven hundred and ninety individual growers, traders, wholesalers and exporters can be identified as direct participating beneficiaries. This number is growing as the value of participation is realised. Trainers from within the grower groups have been identified and their capacity was enhanced with Train the Trainer programmes. The trainers act as disseminators of information and technical knowledge as well as collectors of salient industry performance data.

SO3's market focus and exposure furthermore contributed to the team developing as the conduit through which beneficiaries' requests for commercial support is directed at ANHDO. It is evident that this interface with the fruit industry will lead to SO3 developing as the ANHDO market and marketing liaison department to present ANHDO's expanded portfolio of commercial and technical services to the private sector and government agencies across several ministries.

The table below outlines the beneficiaries directly affected by the SO3 initiatives:

Table 1: Specific Objective 3: Direct Beneficiaries

S/N		Group Name	Province	Districts	# of Beneficiaries	
1	Result 1	Grape	Kabul	Farza	30	
2				Qarabagh	28	
3				Mirbacha Kot	68	
4		Raisin		Parwan	Qarabagh	40
5		Grape			Bagram	42
6		Raisin		Kapisa	Mahmmod Raqi	64
7		Grape				55
8		Raisin				46
8	<b>Subtotal of Result One</b>				<b>373</b>	
10	Result 2	Almond	Kunduz	Kunduz	100	
11			Samangan	Aybak	100	
11	<b>Subtotal of Result Two</b>				<b>200</b>	
12	Result 3	Sweet Cherry	Kabul	Paghman	36	
13		Apple			84	
13		<b>Subtotal of Result Three</b>				<b>120</b>
14	Result 4	Dry Apricot	Kabul	Paghman	13	
15		Dry Apricot		Kabul city	18	
16		Prune		Farza	60	
16		<b>Subtotal of Result Four</b>				<b>91</b>
17		Sweet Cherry Exporter	Kabul	Kabul	1	
18		Grape exporters	Kabul & Parwan	Kabul & Parwan	2	
19		Raisin Exporter	Kabul	Kabul	1	
20		Dry Apricots exporters	Kabul	Kabul	2	
20	<b>Subtotal of traders</b>				<b>6</b>	
<b>Grand total</b>					<b>790</b>	



**Specific Objective 4: A Commercial, Profitable and Sustainable Afghanistan Citrus Industry**

The SO4 Program reached at least:

- one thousand three hundred and thirty-six 1336 growers in the citrus base line survey,
- three hundred and fifty two (352) growers in regional capacity building workshops,
- one thousand three hundred and thirty four (1334) registered and an estimated one thousand five hundred (1500) unregistered visitors to the Annual Infoboosts held at sapling markets and district bazaars.

SO4 developed a wider audience including

- two hundred and twenty-eight (228) individual growers who visited the combined Jalalabad PHDC/SO4 offices for technical advice and field demonstrations in the PHDC Jalalabad orchards and conference room,
- In excess of 600 students in practical demonstrations and lectures and
- have accrued 26 000 “Likes” on their citrus Facebook page and more than twelve thousand (12 000) views of their training material on YouTube.

Untraceable direct beneficiaries include those that receive training in Farmer Field Schools where the SO4 training material is distributed and projected by MAIL and DAIL extension staff.

**1.9 Country(ies) in which the activities take place: Afghanistan**

## 2 Assessment of implementation of Action activities during Reporting period: 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017

### Progress Indicators

Table-A below summarizes the main progress information per Specific Objective. The measurement is the result of evaluating level of completeness of the Action's objectively verifiable indicators as at March 2017. The detailed table analysing progress by activity is outline in Annexure A.

Progress Indicators	Progress As at Dec 15	Progress As at Dec 16	Progress During Q1 2017	Achievement Status as at 31 March 2017
<b>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.</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>74%</b>
<b>Specific Objective One:</b> 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.	26%	68%	6%	74%
<b>Specific Objective Two:</b> 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	43%	52%	9%	61%
<b>Specific Objective Three:</b> 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	34%	74%	4%	78%
<b>Specific Objective Four:</b> A soundly based and profitable citrus industry in eastern Afghanistan is developed	28%	75%	5%	80%

Table-A: Overall Progress information per Specific Objective (The percentages above are the result of a much stronger vertical logical intervention practice than was used in the original indicator definition and therefor more defensible as outlined in annexure A hereto)

## 2.1 Executive summary of the Action

### Extra-curricular (or log-frame) activities

Activities during the reporting period were dominated by two important events: the ANHDO Extraordinary General Assembly held on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of February 2017, and the extensive review of the planning and reporting process, clarifying objectively verifiable indicators and redefining the term “with HPS Support” into an initial ANHDO portfolio of services. The experienced international consultants’ Scope of Work was amended to support the Team Leader and Programme Management staff in this process.

### Implementation Overview

Despite the slow start to the year due to interruption by the abovementioned extracurricular activities the programmes made some preparatory headway to achieving the stated targets.

The major outstanding output that with certainty will not be achievable is the 70Ha commercial citrus orchard establishment under guidance of SO4, primarily due to:

- the lack of appropriate land tenure policies,
- inadequate saplings and
- the readiness of the growers to make the paradigm shift from subsistence and project dependent small growers to commercial growers with a long term self-sustaining orchard.

**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.**

SO-1’s effort to support ANNGO’s continued development as an independent and self-sustainable organization driving forward progress in the fruit tree and ornamental nursery production (Result 1) have been bolstered by development activities started in Q1 and which will continue in Q2 with no less than 5 International consultants’ missions over the two quarters to support the organisational, institutional compliance and long term business and sustainability planning capacity.



Figure 1: ANNGO Business Planning Session

In the reporting period the preparations for the ANNGO General Assembly was done which is scheduled for April 2017. The ANNGO training manual review was completed by both ANNGO and HPS/SO1 and will be printed in Q2. During March ANNGO’ certified fruit saplings and ornamental nurseries were supported to participate in the Spring AgFair and each division’s promotional radio broadcast was aired on Radio Ariana.

The 2017/18 ANNGO catalogue’s technical content was finalized and will be printed after the ANNGO

General Assembly on 29th April 2017 to accommodate any changes to the by-laws and members of the Board of Directors.

The manual of certification procedures were reviewed during a 6 day workshop organized by the MAIL Seed and Plant Certification Department (SPCD). HPS/SO1, SO4 and the ANNGO team participated. The procedure manual was submitted to the Ministry of MAIL for approval.

On the technical nursery support front SO1 delivered 3505 Kg Plastic bags for container grown citrus saplings to the NGAs in Laghman, Kunar and Nangarhar. The IPM specialist also visited and monitored the Laghman and Nangarhar NGAs. Two thousand five hundred (2500) IPM brochures in Dari (1500) and Pashto (1000) were printed and distributed to NGA offices and other project stakeholders.



Figure 2: Nurserymen in IPM demonstration

Four hundred and fifty (450) clonal rootstocks of various rootstock types were produced using tissue culture technique during the reporting period

HPS mobilized two (2) Interns for ANNGO since mid-February 2016 to receive "on the job training" and gain exposure to the tissue culture discipline.

The terms of reference for the Ornamental Plant study tour, the logistics planning and the comprehensive document and credential gathering exercise was conducted to ensure successful visa applications in April for the 14day tour planned in collaboration with the University of Florence to take place in May 2017.

**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**

SO2 focused on the relationship building with the ARIA team and a comprehensive sharing of planning activities. The result is that the SO2/ARIA team now share an integrated work plan. The conducting of a comprehensive ARIA skills audit is being planned in collaboration with ARIA and the Transition Project to customise the ARIA development programme. This initiative can bring some certainty to the options of either moving all adaptive research capacity out of SO2 into ARIA or retaining the adaptive research and laboratory best management practice training and development functions within ANHDO to ensure services to the

private and public sectors. The first draft of the ANHDO Research Team (ART) proposal is expected in early May.

SO2 provided research capacity to ARIA's PHDCs and Transition Project by engaging 5 interns to support research activities in Kunduz and Kabul PHDC's and one intern dedicated to the Transition Project in Kabul for research support and data entry. Quarter 1 also saw the beginning of a comprehensive intern training and monitoring and evaluation policy development which should be ready by the end of Quarter 2.

**Figure 3: Interns under the capable coaching of Wali**



The fruit characterization was conducted on the outstanding data of 96 Peach and 66 Apple accessions. The joint SO2/ ARIA / EU-MAIL Transition Project team is conducting a joint data analysis / screening for the cherry register. English, Dari and Pashto versions of the Cherry Register was completed are being proofread. Printing is scheduled for Q2.

The descriptors' lists of Almond and Apricot was developed, but Plum and Apple lists will only be ready in late 2017. A leaflet outlining 32 identified Almond pollinizers was drafted and sent for final proof reading before printing.

Rootstock trials of apple and citrus is on-going.

The Dari version of the Afghan Orchard Management Manual (1,000 copies) was distributed during the National Horticulture Strategy Workshop held at the MAIL during August 2016. The Pashto version was finalized in this reporting period and is ready to be published upon final MAIL approval.

Pomology laboratory protocols were completed and the draft version of Quality Control Manual is in progress and its completion will be supported by SO3 Quality Control Int'l Consultant (Federico Valori) during his June Mission.

The trials to determine the quality parameters for thirty three (33) varieties of plum, peach, apple and grape were conducted. Twenty-three (23) varieties of plum, peach, apple and grape were characterized for maturity index. Fruit from thirty (30) varieties of plum, apricot, peach and apple were stored in the refrigerated container for shelf life trials. The Database was updated with maturity index and



**Figure 4: Pollination Trial in Progress**

shelf life of 5 major species (cherry, apple, plum, grape, peach) in coordination with EU-MAIL Transition Project.

On the almond variety breeding result, maintenance activities were performed regularly by SO2 team and the ARIA / EU-MAIL transition project staff under Int'l Consultant's supervision. A field visit to the PHDC's in Kunduz, Mazar e Sharif and Herat was conducted by the SO2 Programme Manager and ARIA staff. The report and indication of damage by incursion or neglect is clear.

Eight (8) of the almond breeding lines were included in the back cross pollination programme for further breeding purposes. The fruit set on the crossed breeding lines have been collected, but the number of fruit was small.

In the Apricot breeding programme sixty-seven (67) seeds were collected from 10 back crossed lines. The seeds were sent to PBTl for embryo culture after which all plants will be transplanted to the field during 2017.

**Specific Objective Three (SO3): 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**

Four of the eight Grape and Raisin results were fully achieved in prior periods. During the reporting period an exposure for fifty (50) raisin producers and DAILs representatives of Kabul, Parwan and Kapisa provinces was arranged to the TABASOM Raisin Processing Factory. The visit was aimed at improving their capacity in and understanding of post-harvest best practices, market requirements and the revenue increase potential for enhanced quality raisins.



**Figure 5: Raisin producers visiting Tabasom Raisin Processor**

The first draft of a raisin drying brochure was completed and ready to be finalized for further planned training to the GRPG's target beneficiaries. Primary raisin marketing and production data was gathered for improved Kishmish Khana Cost Benefit Analysis and modelling. The data collection and analysis process is ongoing and will be concluded after the next production season in mid-2017.

Raisin marketing initiatives to assist Gold Star Sharq Ltd to reach the premium market in Canada was by providing standard packaging and shipment cost support for 15.89 MT red raisin and dried fruits.

An initial Branding workshop was attended by nineteen (19) participants from GRPGs, MAIL representatives, the Afghanistan Export Club, exporters and ANHDO technical staff to discuss the complexities of fresh produce branding concepts. It was decided that the group will meet at least quarterly to explore the value of collective, geographical indicator, quality hallmark, trade certification and in house branding. It became evident that prior projects were funded under the auspices of the Ministry of Economy and when the funding ceased the project died. More information is being collected on prior efforts, lessons learnt and legacy initiatives that may be resuscitated.

The almond value chain enhancement gained momentum with five (5) nationwide awareness campaigns with the distribution of ten thousand (10 000) brochures to promote recommended almond varieties, IPM issues, bee pollination, best harvest practices and late frost mitigation measures among almond growers.

Primary data for apple cold storage Cost Benefit Analysis and modelling is continuously gathered for further analysis of out of season price and volume variations.



Figure 6: ANHDO Delegates in Dubai: Gulfood

- Five (5) ANHDO delegates participated in the Gulfood exhibition which was held In Dubai City, United Arab Emirates. 2 out of 5 were HPS & HVP project staff and the rest were fresh and dry fruit exporters. The visit report is shown as Annexure B.

During the five days of the exhibition many traders and wholesalers from Dubai, India, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Malaysia, China and Bahrain visited Afghanistan pavilion and explored opportunities to initiate, increase and develop new business with new buyers.

Tabasom Raisin Processing Factory generated 36 MTs red raisin confirmed deals with Mr. Abdul Kareem purchase manager of ROCKAN MOGRAF Trading co. worth nearly \$68,400.

The table below outlines seven immediate market enquiries and opportunities being pursued after the Gulfood Exhibition:

NO	Name	Company	Contact No.	Email Add.	Website
1	George.J. Rodrigues	BARAKAT Veg. & Fruits Co.	+.971 4 333 5666	<a href="mailto:george@barakatuae.ae">george@barakatuae.ae</a>	<a href="http://www.barakatuae.ae">www.barakatuae.ae</a>
2	Yusuf MUMCU	SUNNIVA food and Agr. Co. Ltd	+.90 232 421 26 03	<a href="mailto:Sales@sunnivafruit.com">Sales@sunnivafruit.com</a>	<a href="http://www.sunnivafruit.com">www.sunnivafruit.com</a>
3	Bakir Tahsin Akdeniz	AKDAGLAR	+.90 422 381 04 28	<a href="mailto:bakir@akdaglarexport.com">bakir@akdaglarexport.com</a>	<a href="http://www.akdaglarexport.com">www.akdaglarexport.com</a>
4	Fresh Fruits Company	Fresh Fruits Company	+.971 4 302 0800	<a href="mailto:info@freshfruitscompany.com">info@freshfruitscompany.com</a>	<a href="http://www.freshfruitscompany.com">www.freshfruitscompany.com</a>
5	Bahareh Babaie	Grandor Co.	+.98 912 8 919 912	<a href="mailto:sales@grandorco.com">sales@grandorco.com</a>	<a href="http://www.grandorco.com">www.grandorco.com</a>
6	Aghalar Baloghlanov	Mars FK LTD	+.994 12 510 29 29	<a href="mailto:aghalar@pomegranate.com.az">aghalar@pomegranate.com.az</a>	<a href="http://www.pomegranate.com.az">www.pomegranate.com.az</a>
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**Specific Objective Four: A soundly based and profitable citrus industry in eastern Afghanistan is developed**

Some of the SO4 Team's successes will be hard to find or account for in the logical framework. The team has engineered the growers' industry leadership from total donor project dependence in 2015, to the point that individual and collective grower action is taken in 2017 on:

- quality issues in input and genetic material supplies,
- ensuring law enforcement being conducted on illegal chemicals,
- lobbying local government to effect land tenure policy change to activate economic development
- assisting to get universities and training institutes buy-in to using the collective SO4 and PHDC resources in Jalalabad to enrich the students' practical experience.

Due to popular demand for their services, the combined SO4/PHDC team have reacted to requests for services which supports the local fruit grower fraternity but are not part of the HPS SO4 Logical Framework. SO4 thus became a conduit of market requests and acted as an ANHDO service portfolio laboratory. The rapid turnaround time from request to producing a training video or video clip that is easily understood by the most illiterate grower earned the team trust and credence in the industry amongst growers, value chain partners and government officials alike. The topics and themes range from awareness of harmful chemicals to best operating practices, Integrated Pest Management and insect and pest identification across the fruit spectrum. The Khateez Citrus (Eastern Citrus) Facebook page have attracted no less than twenty-five thousand eight hundred and thirty-six (25836) "Likes" of which three thousand four hundred and forty-two (3442) were recorded in the reporting period.



**Figure 7: Info Booth Jalalabad Spring Sapling Sale Market Feb & March '17**

Seven video clips were produced during the reporting period with no less than 20 video clips to date. The 2017 material covered topics ranging from the value of orchard planning to the control of green peach aphids, citrus phytophthora gummosis, nectarine thrips, an invitation to visit the Citrus Information Centre and what information growers can

expect to find, and a guideline to citrus orchard establishment and sapling plantings.

In addition to the "extracurricular" work the team also managed the following logframe related successes this quarter.

The CTV project sour orange identification study was done and the report was shared in the CPG meetings. The next part of the CTV project is to identify the strain of Afghan CTV. The sample has been sent to Italy for study.



In several awareness campaigns conducted in the reporting period the last stock of the 4000 brochures target were distributed to the stakeholders. The third and final Info Booth was held at the sapling market for the full two months in February and March 2017. In addition to the log-frame requirement the booth was used in three other occasions at the Jamiat e Islah Agriculture and Industrial Fair, the Kama district weekly bazaar and the Kuz Kunar weekly bazaar.



**Figure 8: Growers visiting Infoboost at Kama District Bazaar March 2017**

Promotion of best practices was the topic of an interview on fruit growing and its major challenges with Mashal Radio on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2017. An interview with Nangarhar TV on planning before orchard establishment was broadcasted on the 12<sup>th</sup> February 2017.



**Figure 9: Grower BMP advice in action**

Two CPG meetings were held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of January 2017 and 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017 respectively. The March meeting was particularly important as the CPG as body attracting the participation of all citrus stakeholders including GoA (DAIL, PHDC-JAL FH), NVDA, ANHDO, ANNGO (and NGAs), PBTL, other projects (NHLP) etc. decided to advise a grower to sanction a development project for supplying infected and diseased genetic material, requesting ANNGO to impose a suspension of the nursery grower's participation in the

sapling certification scheme and claim damages for the wasted expenditure. This was the first illustration of a robust industry institutional framework taking shape on the road to commercial citrus production and can be seen as a major achievement.

### **Conclusions on extra-curricular activities:**

#### **ANHDO Extraordinary General Assembly**

Although the governance challenges that ANHDO experienced were outside the scope of the official HPS logical framework, the programme management team spent a significant amount of time to assist in preparing for the Extraordinary General Assembly. The results are very encouraging. By-law amendments were approved, membership increased from 35 to 81 members, and a new Board of Directors was elected in a governance compliant election. A roadmap to governance and organisational compliance was agreed and the event served as a tangible morale booster for staff and key stakeholders alike. The Steering Committee to be held in April 2017 will serve to endorse the roadmap and provide guidance on the way forward.

#### **Review of planning and reporting process and clarifying objectively verifiable indicators**

The mid-term evaluation (MTE) report, published in October 2015, reported on two major flaws in the logical framework i.e. firstly, the absence of overall purpose of the action and secondly the vague and often inadequate formulation of objectively verifiable indicators. Although a slight revision of the logical framework was approved by the donors, it still excluded the lack of overall purpose which the MTE defined as “enabling of ANHDO to develop as a professional project management and technical assistance provider and interlocuter between private and public sector horticultural stakeholders”. The evolving recognition of ANHDO’s technical and programme management competencies and value that it brings by external stakeholders in the fruit, ornamental plant and perishable product value chains, and the internal confidence of professional, technical and management staff will positively contribute to ANHDO’s sustainability and constructive contribution to the Afghanistan’s agricultural sector beyond HPS and HVP project life cycle.

The planning process during the reporting period attempted to clarify the “enabling of ANHDO” by using the Logical Framework as the platform to depart from rather as the end goal of the project. It is however proposed that it receives an increased level of attention in the remaining year, and to be specifically addressed in the proposed no cost amendment.

The planning process yielded a number of gains. It refocused the programme management teams’ attention on the objectively verifiable objectives or outputs rather than the activities and contributed to the definition of particular services to specific target markets in both the government and private sectors. What was previously seen as a “HPS Support Activity” now translated into marketable services.

AHNDO can with confidence present a portfolio of marketable services to current donor funded development projects, government departments and the private sector. This portfolio is currently under development within the “Service Development Laboratories” of the four programmes and include inter alia:

<b>Service</b>	<b>Target Market</b>	<b>Service Development “Laboratory”</b>
Institutional Capacity Building	Private sector grower associations	SO1: ANNDO SO3: GRPR et al SO4: CPG & CGG
	Public Sector Enterprises	SO2: ARIA: MAIL SO4: NVDA, SPCD
Business and Sustainability Plan Development	Private sector grower associations	SO1: ANNDO
	Public Sector Enterprises	SO4: NVDA as cornerstone of citrus industry
Laboratory design and best operating management practices	Public Sector	SO2: ARIA Adaptive research skills development SO2: Soil Analysis Laboratory Support
	Private Sector	SO2&3: Tabasom Raisin Lab SO3:
Proposal Development	Private Sector	World Bank Proposal Support Request
	Public Sector	SO4: NVDA Sustainable Water Fund
Training material development	Public Sector	SO1, 2, 3, 4: Technical literature to researchers and extension department
	Private sector	Training and skills development of lead farmers and “Train the Trainers” Awareness and training video production

<b>Service</b>	<b>Target Market</b>	<b>Service Development “Laboratory”</b>
Marketing, Packaging design and Logistics Advice	Private Sector	SO3: Sanitary and phytosanitary standard guidance and advice to exporters and Growers SO4: Export QA training to exporters and growers
	Public Sector	SO3: Inspection criteria to enforce standards
IPM Advice and Technical Assistance	Public Sector	SO1 & SO4: Training, Awareness, procurement guidelines to Extension Officers SO4: Chemical Registration Compliance Standards training of law enforcement and retailers
	Private Sector	SO1 & SO4: Training, Awareness, procurement guidelines to current beneficiaries SO4: Chemical Registration Compliance Standards training of growers.
Ornamental Garden Design	Public Sector	SO1: Embassy and Public venue beautification and greening project
	Private Sector	SO1: Support ANNGO to set up Nursery Equipment and Input “Franchise”

It is strongly suggested that the No Cost Extension request revolves around the further development of the ANHDO Portfolio of Services to ensure the sustenance of ANHDO as a provider of technical assistance (TA) and project management services to the Government and Private Sector.

29 April 2017

GJB