

September 26, 2013

Balochistan Agriculture Project

The project helps communities and individual farmers to increase the production, sales, and revenues for crops and livestock. Activities include introduction of new technologies and practices, improved management approaches, new varieties of crops and livestock, as well as better water management techniques. To introduce these new approaches, the project helps set up and train community organizations, mutual marketing organizations, and farmers marketing collectives. To help communities increase the value of their products, the project trains farmers how to grade, package, pack, and market their products, helps to find better-paying markets, and trains farmers how to work with buyers and suppliers in order to increase sales revenues and profits. The project also seeks to increase the participation of women in income-earning activities, supports the development of provincial agricultural policies and legal and regulatory frameworks for market-led and communitydriven investments.

Turkmenistan Afghanistan Afghanistan Iran India Names and boundaries are not authoritative

OBJECTIVES

The project aims to increase incomes of 14,300 households (approximately 94,000 people) by 20% in more than 700 poorer communities in the districts of Killa Saifullah, Loralai, Mustang, Quetta, Zhob, Musakhel, Pishin and Sherani located within 100 miles of the Afghan border in Balochistan.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- Train more than 14,300 needy farmers in 700 communities to increase crop and livestock production as well as improve marketing.

Balochi wheat farmer benefitting from the Balochistan

Agriculture Project

- Develop market opportunities for 20,000 women who engage in manual embellishing of garments.
- Promote effective and durable partnerships between public and private sector actors to ensure sustainable impact of project interventions.
- Improve irrigation system through rehabilitation of karez systems, land leveling, and pipe irrigation.
- Introduce new crop varieties and better production technologies with emphasis on value addition and increase in incomes.
- Increase livestock production through training and advice, as well as provision of various production inputs such as feed supplements, de-worming medication, and similar on cost-sharing basis.

RESULTS TO DATE

- Incomes of more than 11,000 beneficiaries increased by 40%.
- Nearly 18,600 acres of land is now cultivated using improved agricultural practices.
- Formed 627 community organizations (including 227 female organizations).
- Conducted 38 value chain studies and established 11 farmer's marketing collectives.
- Rehabilitated 23 karez schemes, constructed 65 water diversion structures, and built 17 water reservoirs.
- Provided 4,346 poultry, 20 solar egg incubators, vaccines for 6,120 animals, and supplemental feed for 2,536 animals. Arranged 15 livestock markets to increase incomes of cattle farmers.
- Organized 17 farmer's field schools that shared new skills and practices with local farmers.