

Boost Alternative Development Intervention through Licit Livelihood

BADILL PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS 2016-2020

UNODC's BADILL is a 4-years Alternative Development project, being implemented in 46 districts across 13 provinces of Afghanistan in partnership with INL. BADILL means "change" in Dari and Pashto and the overall aim of the project is to strengthen and diversify licit livelihoods of small and marginal farmers through alternative development interventions. The project supported selected value chains in production, processing, quality control, and market linkages.

The INL UNODC joint project built capacities of beneficiaries through training, exposure visits, exchange programmes; input distribution (tools and implements, quality seeds, fertilizer, improved technology installation); production planning; packaging; branding; and market support.

The projects are aimed at more than subsistence. They place special emphasis on women's economic empowerment, encouraging women to trigger positive change not just in their own lives, but for their families and community. In doing so, the project is contributing to peace and stability, which are significantly associated with the reduction of illicit crop cultivation. The BADILL project has also supported women to recover from drug addiction; build their income generation capacity; and enhance their leadership and community participation.

According to the 2020 World Drug Report, Afghanistan is the world's largest producer of opium, accounting for approximately 84 per cent of global opium production over the past five years. Opium poppy cultivation has continued over the last several decades, and has been a defining feature for Afghanistan's socio-economic landscape for over two decades*. Given the fact that a third of the combined legal and illegal Afghan economy is based on the illegal opium industry, counter-narcotics policy is currently one of the most important elements of domestic politics. Consequently, UNODC's INL-funded BADILL Project was designed in collaboration with the Government of Afghanistan to support and develop innovative community-based alternative development interventions in accordance with national strategies.

The UNODC experience and analysis shows that success in alternative development does not come quickly, as it is dependent on long-term investments that enhance human development, gender equality, and women's empowerment, land governance, security, the rule of law, institutional presence and sustainability.

Based on the project records and the end-line evaluations conducted by the implementing partner, the project has successfully increased farmers' production and income, and improved their living conditions.

*UNODC and the World Bank, Afghanistan's Drug Industry, November 2006)

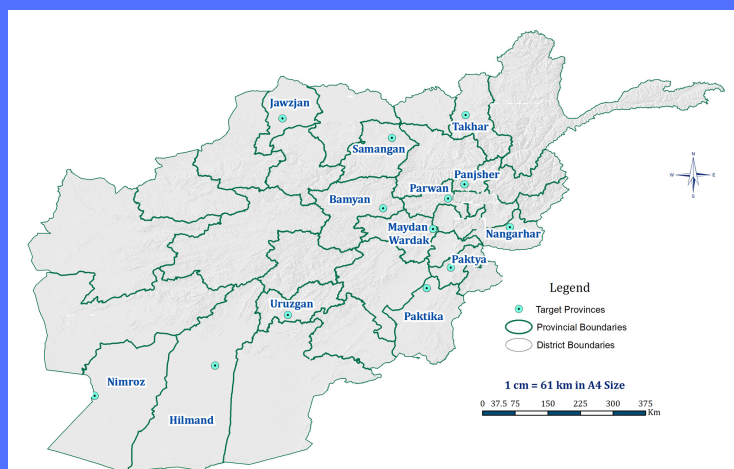
Project Overview

10
large scale
projects

60
small scale
projects

50,000
households
benefitted

21,000
(42%)
women
beneficiaries



BADILL Project Intervention Provinces

Large-scale projects:

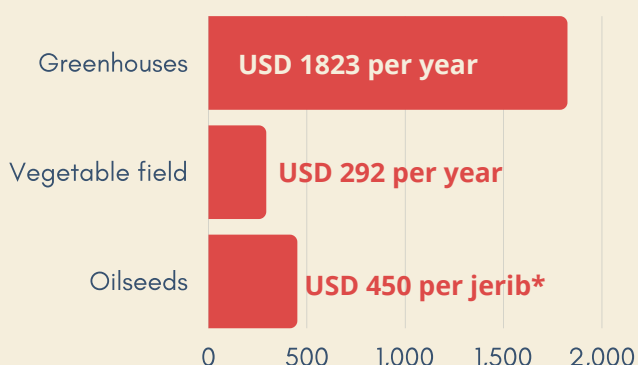
Horticulture value chain (pistachio, almond, grapes and walnut); Vegetable value chain (establishing large greenhouses and small greenhouses); Oilseed crops value chain; Watershed management; Construction and rehabilitation of small irrigation structures/canals; land protection and stabilisation.

Small-scale projects:

Income generation initiatives for women such as; vegetable cultivation, production and processing, backyard poultry farming, animal husbandry and dairy processing, vocational training, and handicraft making.

Project Impact at a Glance

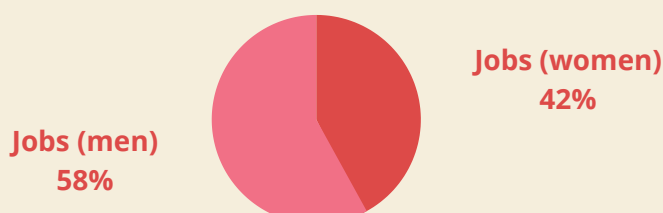
Snapshot of Income Earned



*This is 3 times more than cultivating wheat or barley on the same land

- Trellising in vineyards increased grape production by 62%.
- Modern grape drying houses enabled sale of grapes and raisins at 30% higher price as compared to raisins from traditional grape drying houses.
- Greenhouses enabled vegetable cultivation in off-seasons and sale of these vegetables at double the price
- Irrigation structures enabled conversion of 787 hectares of barren land into arable land.
- 563 hectares of poppy land converted to licit cultivation

Licit livelihood options increased for beneficiaries



INL supported BADILL Project beneficiaries generated a net income of USD 15.64 million through sale of produce from poultry, dairy, orchards/vineyards, and oilseed crops.

THIS UNODC AND INL JOINT PROJECT CONTRIBUTES TO SDG



Women's Economic Empowerment

In Afghanistan, opium poppy is cultivated in areas with a very strong culture of gender inequality and is more likely to occur in villages where girls have no access to schools (UNODC World Drug Report 2018). This is in line with the strong correlation observed between gender equality, the empowerment of women, and peaceful societies. The BADILL project aims to enhance women's awareness, strengthen their capacities, support their economic engagement, and promote their leadership development and participation in decision-making. Under the project, women beneficiaries could choose from a range of alternative livelihood options such as animal husbandry, poultry rearing, vocational training, vegetable production, entrepreneurship, and market linkages.

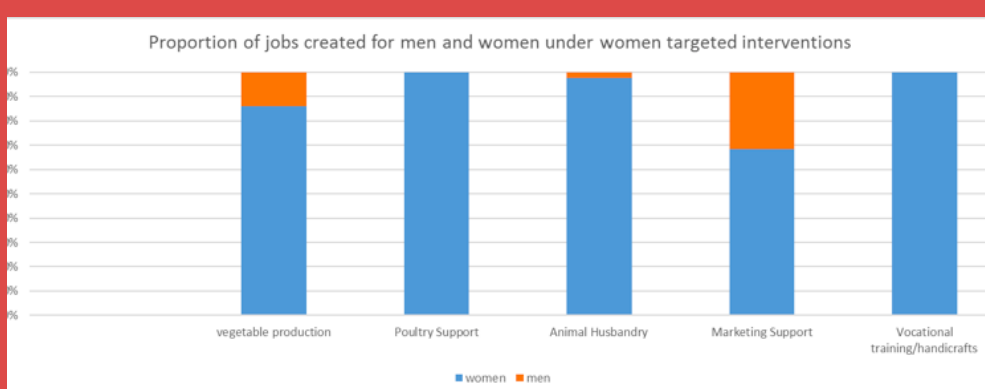
Per Month Earnings



BADILL project enabled women to generate USD 11.9 million and created 10,929 jobs.

USD 6.98 million generated from skills, knowledge, and tools distributed to produce high quality dairy products.

4400 women farmers received chicken and poultry management skills to established chicken broiler farms, each with the capacity of 500-1500 chickens.



"In two years, I earned AFN 40,000 (approx. USD 526) from the first rose harvest. With that income, I was able to invest in a cow and started selling milk and yogurt to the villagers worth AFN 10,000 (approx. USD 131) per month. I never thought I would have my own cow and farm. I'm no longer known as the widowed Gulpari, but the villages now refer to me as "the rich Gulpari."

- Gulpari, a rose and dairy entrepreneur from Nangarhar province

Animal Husbandary

Income from milk sales



- 4674 women trained on dairy processing and cowsheds improved/rehabilitated
- 233 dairy processing groups formed
- 32 milk collection centers (MCC) established
- 17 veterinary field unit established
- 629,208 animals treated and vaccinated
- 4770 jobs created for women

4,674 women generated net income of USD 6.98 million

"I benefited a lot from the equipment we got from the project, which included milk collecting utensils, hygiene kit, and churning machine. We are poor, and these inputs mean a lot for us. I have a lactating cow and I collect 2.5 litre milk from it per day. We use one liter for home consumption and sell 1.5 litre to a nearby MCC at a price of 30 AFN a litre. Before the project, there was no shop where we could sell the surplus milk and it would get spoiled".

- Basira from Malikan village of Panjshir province, a beneficiary of animal husbandry project

Poultry Production and Management

4,400 jobs created for women



USD 4.11 million net income earned

- 4,400 women trained in backyard poultry farming and provided with chicken coops
- 13 chicken broilers farms established
- 132,000 chicken pullets distributed

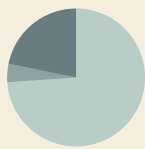
"Before I became part of the BADILL project, two of my sons were working in Turkey and one was working in Iran. But after the project constructed a broiler poultry farm for me, I asked my sons to return home and support me to further scale my poultry farms. I constructed a poultry farm from my savings with the capacity of 1000-day-old chicks. A new farm with the capacity of 10,000-day-old chicks is currently under construction".

- Mamagul, woman poultry entrepreneur from Takhar province

Vocational Training and Handicraft

Literacy course participation 21.7%

Beauty parlour services 4.3%



Tailoring training 73.9%

BADILL project findings reveal that women beneficiaries earned AFN 5000 on an average per month by selling handicrafts

Watershed and Land Stabilisation

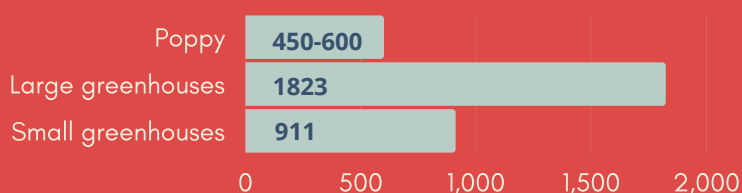
- 110 hectares projected from grazing and cutting
- 50 hectares planted with Atriplex and Halaxylon to protect from wind erosion
- 80 communities benefited
- 50% sand movement decreased
- 625 jobs created



Vegetable Cultivation and Production

Beneficiaries were provided inputs such as vegetable seeds to grow chili pepper, cucumber, eggplant, okra, and tomato; fertilizers; and training on processing vegetables to make pickles and tomato paste, and packaging and labelling of processed vegetables.

Annual farmer earning per jerib (USD)



- 73 large greenhouses established (39 for women)
- 150 small greenhouses established
- 1080 kitchen gardens established for women
- 1303 of jobs created (1119 for women)
- USD 0.82 million net income generated

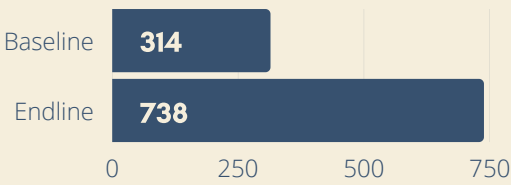
"We didn't have enough money to spend on food, clothes, medicines and basic day to day needs. And I was sad that I could not help my family financially. Now I am growing my own vegetables and it enables me to contribute to my family's income."

- Nimroz, woman vegetable farmer from Nimroz province

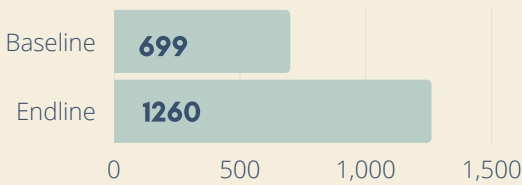
Orchards and Vineyards

The BADILL project provided farmers with improved saplings and disease and pest management kits; and trained them on orchard plantation and management, including pruning, disease and pest control, rehabilitation of vineyards and irrigation methods.

Per Farmer Annual Income (USD)



Total Yield Per Famer (KGs)



3035 jeribs
orchards & vineyards
established and
rehabilitated

3050
jobs
created
for farmers

- 1784 fruit orchards (apple, almond, pistachio, walnut) established
- 203 trellis vineyards established
- 62 fruit and non-fruit nurseries established
- 2049 farmers received extension services and trainings on orchard management
- Grape trellising increased production by 62%
- 0.61 net income generated from orchards and intercropping in 4 years
- 2 grape drying houses, or Modern Kishmish Khanna (MKK) established, that can process about 9 MT of grape and convert them to raisins in 20 days. These raisins can be sold at 10-30% higher price than traditionally dried raisins.

UNODC introduced an improved pistachio variety called Peter and Kerman to South Helmand, and Uruzgan; and established 545 jeribs (109 hectares)

Instead of flood irrigation, the project promoted furrow irrigation and drip irrigation methods, which decreases fuel used for water pumps to irrigate one hectare from 50 litres to 20 litres. Furrow irrigation reduces time to 6-7 hours, instead of the 20 hours it takes for flood irrigation.

500 citrus growing farmers, in total having 1068 jeribs of citrus orchards, were trained on Integrated Pest Management (IPM). The IPM tools provided to them helped them bring down the prevalence of diseases.

50 nurseries in Paktia, 10 nurseries in Nimroz, 2 nurseries in Takhar province and were linked to the Afghanistan National Nursery Growers Association (ANNNGO) for quality inputs, certification of saplings, and market access.

Training, inputs, and extension services on intercropping (with black cumin, alfa-alfa, vegetables) were provided. Intercropping is particularly important for apple, almond, walnut, and pistachio farmers as planting other crops with short harvest cycles allow them to earn sufficient income until their orchards bear fruit, which can take up to 24-48 months.

Farmers earned USD 1.17 million from vineyards and orchards intercropping between September 2016 to September 2020.

Constructing Irrigation Canal/Structure

The INL supported BADILL Project constructed several small irrigation canals, structures, water reservoirs, check dams, and watersheds to enhance crop irrigation and support alternative crop cultivation.

- 52 irrigation canals, reservoirs, dams, and structures established
- 787 hectares of barren land converted to irrigable land
- 3563 hectares of poppy land converted to licit cultivation
- 520 jobs created



Public Awareness

Several events were organised to disseminate messages on counter narcotics, under the UNODC and INL joint project

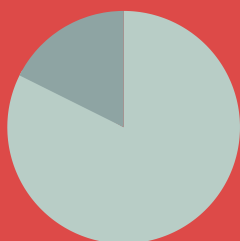
- Over 4,000 posters distributed to 310 communities across 13 provinces
- Video documentaries developed and broadcasted on 4 popular national TV channels reaching audiences across the country
- 15,665 social contracts signed by community elders and beneficiaries who pledged not to cultivate poppy
- Multiple awareness raising events conducted at schools on the dangers associated with poppy production and use.



Information Technology Support

17 jobs created

Jobs (women)
17.6%



Jobs (men)
82.4%

The BADILL project supported Farmer Call Centers (FCC) established at the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock (MAIL). Farmers can phone the centre to get information on quality seeds, crop diseases, market prices, and weather conditions in the local language. FCC is a low cost, sustainable facility that only requires a phone connection and technically competent staff to assist farmers across the country.

- 3000 calls received weekly
- 55,000 registered farmers receive advise regularly
- 200,000 calls received in 2020
- 818 farmers associations supported

Crop Seed Distribution

Oil seed crops are among the key industrial crops in wheat-based cropping system in the northern plains of Afghanistan. They provide diversification, nutrition, high-energy animal and poultry feed, and opportunities for value addition. Flax, safflower, sesame and sunflower are key rotational crop for wheat in northern Afghanistan.

- 271.9 tons of crops seeds (sesame, flax, pea, potato and wheat) distributed to 5439 farmers in 5 provinces
- 324 Community Based Organization (CBO) established
- 13 oil seed processing units established
- 78.5% yield increase
- USD 2.11 million net income generated
- 5452 jobs created



Market Support

UNODC provided capacity building, production assistance, and packaging and branding information through workshops and exposure visits. This enhanced the marketing skills of selected entrepreneurs who are committed to mainstreaming counter narcotics in their operations. They do this by incentivising cultivation of licit crops; employing ex-drug addicts; popularising counter narcotics messaging; and supporting community development activities.

- 13 national and 167 provincial agriculture exhibitions organised for linkages to local market
- Beneficiaries connected to national markets through agriculture fairs in Kabul
- Milk and egg collection centres made a net income of USD 3,700 per month from surplus products
- Community Based Organisations earned a net income of USD 4000 per month from sale of surplus products



"I sold most of the pickles that the women's group I work with produced. It makes me happy that foreigners like our products".

Bibi Hasina, from Kabul Province, a participant at the UNODC-AWCCI marketing event

Project Monitoring and Evaluation

3 levels of project monitoring



Impact of INL supported BADILL project is being evaluated through annual changes in beneficiaries' socio-economic conditions and opium poppy cultivation areas at baseline, mid-term and endline.

The impact assessment includes (1) remote sensing and (2) socio-economic survey. The 2 components will be implemented together during the 2021 opium poppy growing season.

UNODC experience shows that alternative development projects should go on from 6 to 10 years to trigger sustainable impact

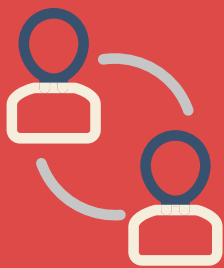
BADILL IMPACT ON WOMEN'S SOCIO-ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

The project had positive impact on changing gender roles, particularly through the dairy processing and poultry management interventions. Before the project, women were solely responsible for feeding; cleaning animals and their sheds; milking; and milk processing. All activities related to marketing and selling the products were managed by men. With the capacity building they have got, women have started to package, market, and sell their products themselves and are now managing the entire product lifecycle.

Changing traditional gender roles



Increased participation in livelihood activities



A shift in women's participation has also been seen in oil crop production. Although some women were traditionally involved sorting and grading fruits and oil sweetening, they did not have a role in managing these activities. With support from the project, women are currently managing all activities under orchard management - including land preparation, irrigation, weeding, thinning, grafting, and pruning. Similarly, women are now widely involved in oil processing and packaging.

Women beneficiaries are earning more income as a result of the BADILL Project. Owners of oil processing and dairy centres, and broiler poultry farm recruit them for day-to-day activities as daily wage workers. As part of backyard poultry activities, each woman sells eggs directly in the market to earn an income. In addition, the owners of the broiler farms often pay daily wages to 2 to 3 women for rearing, feeding, cleaning and vaccinating the chickens.

Increased income generation avenues



Overcoming traditional barriers to mobility



The project has contributed to reducing barriers to women's mobility. At the beginning of the project, women were unable to attend product exhibitions and agricultural fairs to promote their products and establish market linkages due to cultural barriers and long travel distances. The implementing partner provided transportation allowance for them and a guardian, enabling beneficiaries to attend different product exhibitions. This allowed women to market their products, establish business partnerships with local traders, and generate an income.

Endline evaluation shows recipients have largely moved away from narcotics cultivation, while their neighbors who were not project beneficiaries also reduced narcotics cultivation by 80%.

Report also showed 50% increase in monthly incomes of the target households through licit livelihoods, with 61% having at least two licit livelihoods options