



Afghanistan National Nursery Growers Organization (ANNGO)

Monthly Report



ANNGO Senior Inspector inspecting apple certified nurseries in Kahmard district of Bamyan province



JULY 2016





Nursery Industry Development Transition Project



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List of acronyms used in the report

- *NGAs;* *Nursery Growers Associations*
- *MSNs;* *Mother Stock nurseries*
- *MAIL;* *Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Livestock*
- *NHLP* *National Horticulture and livestock project*
- *HPS-SO1;* *Horticulture Private Sector-Sub objective one*
- *MTs* *Mother Trees*
- *PHDCs* *Perennial Horticulture Development Centers*
- *DHD* *Directorate of Horticulture Development*
- *FMs* *Field Managers*
- *DAIL;* *Director Agriculture Irrigation & Livestock*
- *TA* *Technical assistance*
- *CPNs;* *Certified Production Nurseries*
- *HPS-RI;* *Horticulture Private Sector-Relief International*
- *TLO;* *A Swiss peace Pilot Project-Tribal Liaison office (Afghanistan)*
- *BoDs* *Board of Directors*
- *MoU* *Memorandum of understanding*
- *NC* *National Collection*
- *ARIA* *Agriculture Research Institute of Afghanistan*
- *SPCD* *Seed & Planting material Certification Directorate*

1. Description

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- 1.1. Name of beneficiary of grant contract: **Afghanistan National Nursery Grower Organization**
 - 1.2. Name and title of the Contact person: **Zainulabudin Noor, General Manager**
 - 1.3. Name of partners in the Action: **N/A**
 - 1.4. Title of the Action: **Nursery Industry Development Transition Project**
 - 1.5. Contract number: **DCI-ASIE/2015/362-881**
 - 1.6. Start date and end date of the reporting: **July 2016**
 - 1.7. Target country: **Afghanistan**
 - 1.8. Final beneficiaries &/or target groups: **Nursery Growers / Orchard and vineyard growers (about 600,000 persons and family units)**
 - 1.9. Country (ies) in which the activities take place (if different from 1.7): **Afghanistan.**

2. Assessment of implementation of Action activities

2.1. Executive summary of the Action

ANNGO has developed strong linkages with national & international organizations related with support to nursery industry in Afghanistan. Different donor organizations are contacted to get support for nursery growers producing key segment of fruit value chain. MC is one of the supporting organizations submitted concept notes to EU related with “Thematic Programme Support to Civil Society Organizations”. ANNGO expects more support through this project to Nursery Industry of Afghanistan.

ANNGO inspections of MSNs are in progress. Most of the MSNs are inspected and approved for summer season budwood sale. The same MSNs are eligible to sell budsticks for spring season grafting of certified saplings. During the reporting month ANNGO seniors inspectors have visited remote areas like, Kapisa, Khost & Bamyan provinces.

One of the Swiss organization supporting nursery growers in Khost province. According to MoU with TLO, ANNGO is providing TA to the nursery growers in Khost province which also includes certification of planting material in the targeted province. The data collected during inspections are entered & recorded in ANNGO database. The data of inspection is also shared with MAIL newly established Seed & Planting Material Certification Directorate. Table number 1, the updated result of inspections in month of July.

ANNGO has conducted regular meetings with SPCD regarding schedule of inspections, registration of new MSNs, involvement of SPCD staff & removal of infected MTs from MSNs. Similarly PBTL has also conducted trainings related with sample collections from in two different locations for MAIL/PHDC & ANNGO staff during the month.

ANNGO and HPS/SO1 technical staff has worked on training manual developed during PHDP 1. ANNGO & HPS/SO1 staff will revised the manual & will bring changes in different subjects. This manual will be used by trainers during training of farmers.

ANNGO staff has conducted meetings with TLO, HPS, PHDCs & MC staff related with common activities & cooperation on field level.

Two ANNGO staff have got visa of India to visit tissue culture production of clonal rootstocks & other facilities related with Micro propagation.

During the reporting month, the curator of national collections has shared the list of seedlings & budded saplings available in PHDCs. ANNGO staff has sorted the budded saplings in PHDCs. Based on the provided list, ANNGO staff has also developed budding plan of MTs in PHDCs. Attached find the detailed plan as **ANNEX 1**.

ANNGO staff attended fruit exhibition in Badam bagh & participated in EU Bazar. The fruit exhibition was arranged by MAIL/AREA. Kabul Governor was the chief guest of the programme.

ANNGO & HVP are agreed to have a MoU related with their activities in Kapisa & Surobi district of Kabul province. The MoU is finalized during a meeting held in ANNGO office between ANHDO & ANNGO key staff.

At the end of the month 2nd quarter BoDs meeting are held for 2 days. The BoDs had general discussion on management & organizational issues of ANNGO.

ANNGO staff also attended Kabul Governor Development Meeting. The governor had speech regarding improvement by different project made in Kabul 14 districts. ANNGO has 3 NGAs established in Paghman, Shakardara & Sorobi districts. Fruit trees & ornamentals are produced in all the 3 NGAs. ANNGO staff has reported the achievements made by the 3 NGAs in Kabul province.

Results and Activities

Outcome1: ANNGO is developed as an independent and self-sustainable organization for the development & improvement of Afghan Fruits, nuts and ornamentals nursery sectors.

- ANNGO signed the revised version of MoU between MAIL (Seed and Planting Material Certification Directorate "SPCD" and Horticulture Extension Directorates)
- ANNGO BoDs have conducted 2nd meeting at the end of the current month.
- ANNGO being an independent organization has revised the drafted MoU with ANHDO/HVP project.
- Being an independent organization has coordinated its meeting with SPCD
- ANNGO technical staff has attended Governor Development meeting & presented ANNGO activities in 3 districts of Kabul.
- ANNGO has conducted meetings with partner organizations, ANHDO/HPS, HVP,TLO, MAIL & MC related with nursery industry support programmes.
- Being an independent organization has participated in EU Bazar & Fruit Exhibition in Badam Bagh.

Outcome 2: The technical level of the fruit tree, nut nurseries in Afghanistan are raised to standards appropriate to the development of a modern nursery industry.

- ANNGO staff has revised the list of planting materials & seedlings available in PHDCs.
- ANNGO staff had developed budding plan for the production of MTs in PHDCs.
- The PHDCs budded saplings list is screened & sorted for quality & shared with Head of Regularity Services & ANNGO GM.
- ANNGO staff has sorted Plum national collections in Kabul PHDC & commented on each accession in Badam bagh newly planted plums.

Outcome 3: The technical level of ornamentals nurseries in Afghanistan are raised to standards appropriate to the development of a modern ornamental industry.

- ANNGO is regularly providing TA to Babour Garden for their ornamental & fruit tree nursery.
- The catalogue 2016-17 version is developed by ANNGO Technical Committee.
- The training manual for associations is revised with HPS/SO1 staff and necessary changes are brought in the manual.

Outcome.4 The current planting material registration and certification system is consolidated and improved.

- ANNGO Head of Regularity Services revised the inspection plan of inspectors for the month of July.
- Inspection of MSNs in Kapisa, Bamyan & Khost provinces are completed.
- Seedlings in PHDCs are inspected before budding of MTs.
- Grapes nursery of Laghman NGA is inspected for registration
- Final list of MTs distributed during current year are developed after completion of inspection of MSNs
- Infected MTs of cherries are removed from Hariva NGA MSNs.
- ANNGO Head of Regularity Services has revised the appendixes of MSNs

3. Workshops, Field day, Field trip, Exhibitions, trainings and coordination meetings

- **ANNGO Technical Staff Trip to India:**

USAID through NHLP has agreed to establish a tissue culture facility for private sector. Private companies and national NGOs are invited to know and show interest about tissue culture production of clonal rootstocks with its importance and market in the country. As per the USAID findings, ANNGO is the potential customer in this regard to get support from NHLP, MAIL & USAID for the establishment of the tissue culture laboratory. The capacity of the lab will be 1.5 million rootstocks per Annam. ANNGO will sell the produced clonal rootstocks to its members working in 26 provinces. This will help to establish intensive orchard in the country. To know more about tissue culture production of clonal rootstocks, a trip was arranged for the interested companies to get travel to India the tissue culture labs producing rootstocks. Two technical staff of ANNGO (Muzafar Athar and Nazifullah Hussaini) selected for the tour. All of the expenses were covered by USAID with a limited contribution of the project. The agenda for the travel to India are as below:

Visit schedule for Commercial Tissue Culture Labs

Day 1

Visit to Delhi

Airport to Hotel, (stay at India Habitat Center, Lodhi road New Delhi 110003)

Day 2

Travel from Hotel to MTP lab, Gual Pahari, Gurgaon

Day 3

Hotel to IGI Airport (no overnight stay at Bangalore)

Delhi - Bangalore

Bangalore to lab

Evening back from Bangalore - New Delhi

Day 4

Visit of other research Labs

Day 5

Travel Back to Kabul

- **Fruit Exhibition Badam Bagh:**

A fruit exhibition was arranged by MAIL/ARIA. The chief guest for the exhibition was Kabul governor, Mr. Hamid Akram and MAIL Extension Director Mr. Hamdullah Hamdard. Staff from ANNGO, ANHDO, MAIL, Kabul DAIL & national/international NGO participated in the exhibition. Over 60 accessions of apricot, peach, plum and apples were placed in the exhibition. In this exhibitions the ANNGO NGA's members were invited to observe the good and marketable varieties of the fruits for the production of mother trees of their MSNs.

In this exhibition, the ANNGO catalogues were distributed to the participants and also were placed in front of the chief gusts and others.



Photo # 1. fruit exhibition in Badam Bagh research station

- **EU Bazaar:**

As per plan of EU delegation for participation of partners in the EU Bazar, ANNGO planned to introduce the flowers and ornamentals producers to this event. Member of ANNGO NGAs organized to show the best flowers and ornamental trees to this event. Three members of the NGA were participated in this even together with the project general manager and marketing manager. Over 100 different species & varieties of flowers & indoor plants were placed for exhibition and sale.



Photo # 2. ANNGO Ornamental section representatives in EU Bazar

- **PBTL training in Kandahar & Balkh:**

According to the annual plan of PBTL, trainings are conducted related with plants diseases and sample collections from plants for fungal, bacterial & viral diseases in Balkh & Kandahar PHDCs. ANNGO field managers were also invited for the training. The trainings were conducted in PHDCs by PBTL experts.

- **Meetings with Mercy Corps:**

Meetings are held with MC related with new projects with ANNGO. MC has promised to support ANNGO NGAs in the north, north east, eastern zone and south for new project. Based on the discussion with the staff of MC, ANNGO technical team start working on the developing a concept paper for the new project.

- **Meetings with SPCD Director:**

Meetings are held with SPCD director at different intervals related with, inspections, MoU, monitoring of MSNs, field visits & PBTL involvement in the programme. It has been decided to involve the field staff of this directorate to the field inspections in order to be aware of the certification scheme all procedures and learn the steps of the certification for the certified saplings.

- **Visit of Kabul PHDC:**

ANNGO technical staff along with HPS staff & international consultant visited Plum national collection in Badam Bagh. The participants commented on each accession in the national collections and identified the accessions duplicated.

- **Meetings with HPS/SO1 staff:**

ANNGO staff had meetings related with training manual, field problems, inspections, NGAs performance & trip to Italy with HPS staff. As the training manuals are published in few years back, so ANNGO with financial support of ANHDO/HPS-SO1 planned to revise the old version of the manual with updated information and data released after research. During meetings, different parts of the manuals divided to the technical teams to check and update or enrich the information in the existing manuals. As ANNGO and ANHDO has regular coordination meetings, so the issue of field and its related problems discussed during the meetings.

ANNGO technical staff, ANHDO GM & HVP coordinator had meeting related to MoU between ANNGO and ANHDO/HVP project. The draft MoU was shared with ANNGO in the past and ANNGO team involved BoD on the issue to obtain their approval too. Under this MoU the ANHDO/HVP is supporting NGAs in Kapisa & Sorobi district of Kabul Province. According to MoU ANNGO will have the responsibility to provide TA to FMs & NGAs directly & monitor the activities of NGAs regularly.

- **Kabul Governor House Development Meeting;**

On July 19th, the head of regulatory services participated in the sectoral monthly meeting in Kabul Governor house. The meeting chaired by Kabul Governor Mr. Hamid Akram and the participants were the members of provincial committee, chairman of sectoral committee, 14 Districts governors of Kabul province, chairman of development committees of Kabul, representatives of National and international NGOs, representatives of UNs and different ministries representatives. All sectors directors and representatives presents their progress of activities during the month of July to the participants. ANNGO head of regulatory services also explained the activities of ANNGO in three district of Kabul and its impact on the improvement of the rural livelihoods and increasing the income of families in the Kabul and other provinces.

- **ANNGO Board of Directors Meetings;**

As per ANNGO by-law, the board of directors should meet quarterly in base of Kabul in order to be aware of the project progress, problems and other project related issues. The board members was invited for the meeting on Saturday July 23 but due to the security reason and blocking of the roads for the protests, they were not able to conduct their meeting on due date. The first day of the meeting was Sunday 24th of July at ANNGO Office. At the begining the ANNGO chairman opened the meeting and welcomed the participant to the meeting. Later on the secretary of the BoD start the review of the previous meeting and ask the progress of each points from general manager. ANNGO general manager starts the presentation of ANNGO activities progress since last meeting. The board members insist more on the issue of MSNs improvement in the country and repeatedly asked the general manager and the technical team to seriously consider the issue with MAIL. Most of the existing MSN trees are not good and marketable varities that will impact the reliability of ANNGO in the country. They request to arrange a meeting with HE MAIL Minister to discuss the issue of the certification scheme in order to obtain the support of MAIL as well to attract more funds for improvements of the ANNGO future and to discuss on the issue of tissue culture laboratory that is under the discussion to be build for the private sector. ANNGO is very keen to have the facility of production of clonal rootstock under the tissue culture and the BoD members and technical team are trying to discuss the issue with MAIL official in order to get the approval for the implementation of the tissue culture laboratory under ANNGO responsibilities. During the meeting the board members appreciate the proper implementation of the project by technical team. The meeting continued till 25th of July and then after the final decision for better management of the project and proper implementation of the certification scheme in the country, they closed the meeting and advised the project team to follow all their instructions and decisions till next board of directors meeting.



Photo # 3. Board of directors quarterly meeting in Kabul ANNGO Office

- **Field inspections:**

ANNGO inspector inspect the MSNs and the CPNs in several provinces. The plan of inspections have been shared with directorate of SPCD in order to involve their provincial team in the process of inspection. During the inspection Kapisa province, two staff of SPCD were introduced to take part in the inspection of the ANNGO certification process. All the process explained to them and also practically they observed the procedures and all the annexes for different stages of inspection have been described to them. They also asked to take part in the filling of the forms and asking questions from the farmers if

they have any. The below table shown the inspection of the MSNs and CPNs during the month of July 2016.

Table # 1. Inspection of the NGAs during the month of July 2016

S/N	NGA Name	Mother stocks inspected	No. of MSN	No. of stool beds	Certified nurseries
1	Kapisa	Stone fruit MSN and Stool bed	1	0	0
2	Maidan Wardak	Stone fruit and Pome fruit MSNs & stool bed	3	6	0
3	Hakim Sanayee	Stone fruit and Pome fruit MSNs & stool bed	2	3	0
4	Khost	Stone fruit and Pome fruit MSNs & stool bed	1	3	4
5	Sorobi	Pomegranate MSNs	1		0
6	Bamyan	Pome fruit, Grape vine & pomegranate MSN	3	3	5
Total number of inspection			11	15	9



Photo # 4. ANNGO inspector guiding a nursery grower in Khost province



Photo # 5. A certified production nursery in Kahmard district of Bamyan province

- **Field Managers Training Agenda:**

Agenda of the FMs training programme was developed. The training will be held in Kabul in mid August. The subjects for the training were also selected which are;

- Pollination in fruit trees
- Fertilizer & its uses at a proper time
- MSNs inspection overview
- Technical reporting by FMs
- Marketable varieties
- NGAs revenue
- Nursery establishment & management
- Tissue culture
- IPM
- Introduction of floriculture

4. Visibility

How is the visibility of the EU contribution being ensured in the Action?

1. ANNGO published the annual fruit/ornamental catalogues that will be use for marketing tools for certified sapling in the country as well as it will use for introduction of project to the different donors. In this catalogue, blue logo of EU has been published that shows the support of EU delegation for support of the nursery industry in the country.
2. ANNGO ornamental component take part in the EU bazaar and present different good and high quality flowers to this event. The site for ANNGO organization was arranged with a banner with logo of EU delegation that indicate the project is supporting by EU delegation.
3. The board meeting minutes and pictures published in facebook and website of ANNGO that in the main page of both sites EU blue flag logo are exist.

Name of the contact person for the Action: Zainulabudin Noor

Signature:



Location: MAIL Cooperative Building, BadamBagh, Kabul Afghanistan

Date report due: July 2016

Date report sent: August 2016