



## Afghanistan National Nursery Growers Organization (ANNGO)

### Bi-Monthly Report



October- November 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
- HPS-SO1; Horticulture Private Sector-Sub objective one
- MTs Mother Trees
- DHD Directorate of Horticulture Development
- FMs Field Managers
- TA Technical assistance
- CPNs; Certified Production Nurseries
- NHLP National Horticulture and livestock project
- HPS-RI; Horticulture Private Sector-Relief International
- BoDs Board of Directors
- PHDCs Perennial Horticulture Development Centres
- NC National Collection
- CA Certification Authority
- CPGM Citrus promotion Group Meeting
- BG Babur Garden
- ARIA Agriculture Research Institute of Afghanistan
- AAEP Afghanistan Agriculture Extension Project

## 1. Description

1.1.	Name of beneficiary of grant contract:	<b>Afghanistan National Nursery Grower Organization</b>
1.2.	Name and title of the Contact person:	<b>Zainulabudin Noor, General Manager</b>
1.3.	Name of partners in the Action:	<b>N/A</b>
1.4.	Title of the Action:	<b>Nursery Industry Development Transition Project</b>
1.5.	Contract number:	<b>DCI-ASIE/2012/295-861</b>
1.6.	Start date and end date of the reporting:	<b>Oct- Nov2016</b>
1.7.	Target country:	<b>Afghanistan</b>
1.8.	Final beneficiaries &/or target groups:	<b>Nursery Growers / Orchard and vineyard growers (about 600,000 persons and family units)</b>
1.9.	Country(ies) in which the activities take place (if different from 1.7):	<b>Afghanistan.</b>

## 2. Assessment of implementation of Action activities

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### 2.1. Executive summary of the Action

ANNGO aims to provide disease free, true to type, vigorous and marketable fruits, nuts and high value variety crops for orchard owners and farmers so during the reporting month, ANNGO field inspectors have been completed the inspection of most certified nurseries and

All the collected data from the field are inserted in ANNGO database & the website is improved & inserted the pictures of fruits.

This year inspection programs were coordinated with SPCD and in all the inspection of the central and provincial staff of SPCD directorate were involved.

ANNGO database section has started label printing for both autumn and spring plantation seasons and it will be completed in mid of December. The total labels for this year of certified saplings will be around 1,500,000 which is more than previous years.

ANNGO take part in the annual AG-FAIR which held in Badam Bagh and the banners, brochures, pictures with logo of EU were printed. During the three days of AG-FAIR, lots of official and non-official visitor had meeting with ANNGO team in this AG-FAIR and visit the booth which were designed with ANNGO certified saplings, flowers, different fresh and dried fruits.

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 different locations for MAIL/PHDC & ANNGO during the month.

The sale of bud woods from MSNs is completed in all NGAs. The NGA members have bought bud woods from their own MSNs as well as from MSNs of other NGAs. In case of more need for bud woods, ANNGO has also provided bud woods from national collections of PHDCs. As per decision of ANNGO NGA members, the price of a bud is Afs. 1.00 for a member nursery growers and Afs. 2.00 for NGOs and other nursery growers who are not NGA members.

During the month of October, BoDs meeting are held for 3 days. The BoDs had general discussion on management & organizational issues of ANNGO.

Regular meetings have held with all the partners of ANNGO. Meetings held with HPS, HVP, GIZ, NCA, TLO, SPCD and MAIL. The main point for all the meetings were the cooperation and coordination between ANNGO and its partners.

### 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 BoDs have conducted 3rd meeting at the last weeks of current month.
- Being an independent organization has coordinated its meeting with SPCD and ARIA

- 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 (ARIA, HED and SPCD), GIZ related with nursery industry support programmes.
- Being an independent organization has participated in annual AG-FAIR in Badam Bagh.
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ANNGO Head of regulatory Services and inspectors were reviewing the certification ANNEXES of certified production nurseries which were filled by Field Managers.

- Inspection of certified nurseries is under process, Over 98% of the CPNs are inspected and approved for distribution.
- The remained 2% inspection of certified nurseries will be completed before autumn sales starts in the country. ANNGO will issue labels for approved CPNs by inspector.

Table # 1. Inspected certified nurseries in current month

No	NGA	No. of nurseries inspected	Responsible Inspectors
1	Sayed Khail	23	Nazifullah
2	Kapisa	16	Nazifullah, Abdul Khabir
3	Maidan	8	Nazifullah
4	Dr. Wakil	9	Nazifullah
5	Imam Qutaiba	13	Nazifullah
6	Andarab	12	Nazifullah
7	Chonghar	7	Nazifullah
8	Herat	25	Nazifullah, Najibullah (Kunar NGA chairman)
9	Hariva	4	Nazifullah, Najibullah (Kunar NGA chairman)
10	Logar	7	Noorajan, Abdul Khabir
11	Pakita	7	Noorajan, Abdul Khabir
12	Hakim Sanayee	14	Noorajan
13	Kunduz	21	Noorajan
14	Um-ul-Bilad	6	Abdul Khabir
15	Aybak	6	Abdul Khabir
16	Khulm	5	Abdul Khabir

Table # 2. List of inspected certified saplings

No.	Name of NGAs	No. of Certified Saplings	Remarks
1	Andrab	19075	
2	Badakhsahn	45216	
3	Bagram	15988	
4	Chonghar	66854	
5	Dr.Wakil	125438	
6	Ghazni	60965	
7	Hariva	20179	
8	Herat	113812	
9	Imami Qutiba	76851	
10	Kandarhar	27381	
11	Kapisa	47649	
12	Khulm	5050	
13	Kunar	93472	
14	Kunduz	141117	
15	Laghman	71965	
16	Logar	176685	
17	Maidan	33026	
18	Nangarhar	33154	
19	Paghman	57483	
20	Paktia	29410	
21	Said Khil	69563	
22	Shakardara	39016	
23	Takhar	138909	
24	Umulibilad	25600	
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,533,858</b>	

During the inspection of all the certified nurseries, around 336620 saplings rejected and the rest which was according to the standards of ANNGO, accepted. The above table shows the number of certified saplings after final inspection of the field inspectors.

According to the field inspectors observations, the skills of nursery growers improved then before and they are well organized and well managed nursery owners. They are following all the instructions of the field managers on the standards of ANNGO for production of certified saplings and the field managers and field inspectors are strictly inspecting all the nurseries and rejecting those nurseries which not following the instructions of the project team. Based on the criteria of certification scheme, each nursery should have the map and documents of bud collection for budding process, signage for each clones etc..which during the last inspections, all the nursery growers had the necessary documents in their nurseries.

**Outcome 2: The technical level of the fruit tree and 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 the mother tree production plan in the PHDCs
- ANNGO staff has sorted Plum national collections in Kabul PHDC & commented on each accession in Badam bagh newly planted plums.
- ANNGO technical staff complete the inspection of the nurseries in the country and data have been updated in the database of ANNGO.

**Outcome 3: The technical level of ornamentals nurseries in Afghanistan is 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 under process by ANNGO Technical Committee and will be ready for publishing.
- The training manual for associations is revised with HPS/SO1 staff and necessary changes are brought in the manual.
- ANNGO staff regularly providing technical assistance to ornamental nursery in Babour Garden.
- The budding of MTs in PHDCs were monitored by ANNGO staff during the month.

**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 October.
- Inspection of MSNs of most of the provinces are completed.
- Seedlings in PHDCs are inspected before budding of MTs.
- Final list of MTs distributed during current year are developed after completion of inspection of MSNs
- ANNGO Head of Regularity Services has revised the appendixes of MSNs filled by FMs of NGAs
- The budwood sale from MSNs are completed & the certified nurseries are being budded according the ANNGO standards.
- The metal label request data provided by NGAs are under process and will prepared soon.
- A survey is completed for the missing, dead & dry saplings of MSNs.
- Annual election of different NGAs has been completed and different positions changed
- Bud wood data of different NGAs checked with the label request.



### **3. Workshops, Fieldday, Field trip, Exhibitions, trainings and coordination meetings:**

#### **Meeting with ANNHDO/SO1 Organizational Development consultant**

Detailed coordination Meeting was held with Mr. Yama Turabi ANHDO/SO1 Organizational Development Consultant below points has been discussed for better management and how to make ANNGO sustainable and how to work for ANNGO self-sufficiency.

- How Nursery Growers Associations (NGAs) have been established.
- Explained ANNGO certification scheme (main source of certified planting materials National Collections, MSNs and CPNs).
- MAIL / SPCD rule in ANNGO certification scheme.
- Reasonable ways of ANNGO incomes (membership fees, internal fees, sale taxes fee, inspections fees, specific training fees, label fees, other services fees etc.)

#### **Meeting and Workshop with Business Development consultants of ANHDO/HPS/SO1**

During the month, the Business Development Consultant (Mr. Gerard) also had several meetings and discussion with the ANNGO team to study the business and marketing of ANNGO/NGAs. At the last days, he had few days of workshops for the ANNGO and NGA members in order to explain his finding and give some assignments for the team for the coming months till his return.

#### **Kabul Provincial Development Committee coordination meeting:**

The General manager and head of regulatory service of ANNGO take part in the Kabul PDC meeting which held in Kabul Governor house meeting hall. At the beginning the few verses of holy Quran recited and later, the honourable governor of Kabul welcomed the participant for the monthly PDC meeting. After introduction of the participants, the different projects explained their project activities and achievements. In this meeting all the Kabul province different projects, MAIL directorates, Government directorates, UN agencies and different national and international organizations were participated. ANNGO technical team members also were participated in this meeting and the overall project activities with support of EU delegation explained to the participants which finally the Governor impressed to the activities of ANNGO and ask the committee to get a chance in the coming meetings to explain all the project activities

#### **Participated Kabul Agriculture directorate coordination meeting**

ANNGO technical team take part in the PDC meeting that held in Kabul Governor house. At the beginning the Holy Quran recited and later on the Kabul Agriculture director Mr. Omar Jan Mangal had speech about rule and regulation of the NGOs and called to all NGOs for close relationship.

He also advised all participants focus on the priority activities as soon as they can.

#### **Meeting with PHDC Coordinator:**

ANNGO inspectors had a meeting PHDC coordinator Mr. Ahmad Reza Dehqan about mother plants which currently available and ready for distribution in spring season for MSNs establishment and improvement. During the meeting the below points have been discussed:

- Certified planting material should be produced according to the NGAs demand.
- Certified planting material which comes from PHDC centers should be labeled.
- Certified planting material should be properly packed.
- Certified planting material which coming from NCs only has to distribute to NGAs and use as mother stock not for other business.

### Meeting with Kabul Governor:

ANNGO general manager arranged a meeting with Kabul governor for the University of Florence professors (Dr. Alberto Giuntoli and Prof. Francesco Ferrini) ANHDO/HPS team leader (Pablo Degl'Innocenti) and ANHDO general manager (Najibullah Enayet). Meeting was in the governor house meeting hall and the governor welcomed the guests to Afghanistan specially to Kabul. The objectives of the program explained to the Kabul governor and his team and they were very keen to support the delegation in Afghanistan. As the delegation had a short period of visits, so they promised to visit different locations of ornamentals in Kabul and other provinces as well as support the farmers in the production and propagation of flowers in the future.



*Photo # 1 Meetings of ANNGO/ANHDO team and consultants with Kabul Governor*

### VISITS:

During the reporting period, ANNGO Team visit Bagram and Shakardara NGAs ornamentals nurseries with the delegation of Florence university of Italy. The NGA members who had different plots of ornamentals, provide necessary information about their planting material and management of ornamental.

### Field visit

ANNGO head of regulatory services had a visit to Bagh Babur fruit trees nurseries and ornamental together with Mr. Ahmadzai SO1 project manager and Naeemi SO1 nursery/ornamental specialist. All fruit nurseries and ornamental plots have good conditions ( good growth, no weeds, proper irrigation, no pest and diseases). Due to the demand of Bagh Babur, a green house(10x4x2.5) in 40 square meter established by a private company (Shin Zar) in order to keep the flowers survive during the cold weather of winter season.





*Photo # 2. Senior field inspector of ANNGO during the inspection of MSNs*

As usual ANNGO field managers are working very close with nursery growers on regular basis and giving them the necessary information and technical advices. During these months the below nurseries were visited:

Table # 3 List of nurseries visited during the reporting months

No	Name of NGAs	Province	No. of nurseries visited
1	Shakardara	Kabul	11
2	Bamyan	Bamyan	17
3	Kandahar	Kandahar	10
4	Sayed Khail	Parwan	15
5	Kapisa	Kapisa	9
6	Herat	Herat	13
7	Kunar	Kunar	20
8	Chonghar	Baghlan	7
9	Paktia	Paktia	10
10	Logar	Logar	15
11	Maidan	Maidan Wardak	9
12	Laghman	Laghman	13
13	Takhar	Takhar	12
14	Badakhshan	Badakhshan	8

### ANNGO BoD meetings:

ANNGO Board of directors conduct the 3rd board meeting at 22nd of October that in this meeting beside the 7 board members, 3 supervision board members also attend the meeting. During the meeting the following points discussed:

- Requesting NHLP to purchase the saplings from the NGAs instead of individual members
- The price of certified saplings should be according to the procurement manual of NHLP
- Study tour to neighbouring country should be arrange by GM and BoD voice chairman
- Before Label printing and distribution, the previous dues of the NGAs should be checked. If the NGAs are not completely paid their previous years payments, the label should not be print to them.
- The low quality and unmarketable varieties in the MSNs should be remove and the new and high quality marketable varieties should be plant.
- Those members who are not producing the certified saplings, should exclude from the NGAs.

The general manager present all 3 months achievements to the board members and answered to their questions.

The board members also meet the SPCD director Mr. Mahboobullah Nang for the following issues:

- Close collaboration and coordination of SPCD team with ANNGO members for inspection of the nurseries and MSNs.
- Production of mother trees under responsibilities of ANNGO in the research stations according to the signed MoU with the ministry.
- To support ANNGO in finalization of the manual of procedures

Board of directors and project management had a meeting with HE MAIL minister (Mr. Assadullah Zameer). In the meeting with HE MAIL minister these points discussed.

- Brief introduction of ANNGO production
- Support of NHLP for purchasing of ANNGO certified saplings in the country
- Land allocation in Badam Bagh Farm of Kabul and Farm Jadid in Nengarhar for production of mother trees (based on the signed MoU)
- Lands allocation for ANNGO to establish the commercial high quality and marketable varieties orchard
- Need for the tissue culture laboratory
- Export of certified saplings to other neighboring countries

HE MAIL minister promised to consider all request of ANNGO after discussion with relevant MAIL directorates. HE MAIL minister also insist that ANNGO should increase the number of certified saplings in order to link ANNGO with neighbouring countries like Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan.



*Photo # 3. Meeting of ANNGO team with HE MAIL minister*



*Photo # 4. Meeting of ANNGO team with HE MAIL minister*



ANNGO BoD members and project management members also had meeting with NHLP director for better coordination and following of the procedure of procurement of NHLP/WB/MAIL. The main issue of the discussion was the fall campaign tree plantation of NHLP and the procedure of the procurement under the policy of MAIL and World Bank. As ANNGO is a certification body, so ANNGO will not be involve in the process of fixing the price. It was agreed that the price should be fixed based on the quality and variety of the saplings. NHLP will consider the ANNGO labels and the certified saplings (See picture # 5)



*Photo # 5 ANNGO BoD and management team meeting with NHLP director and team*

ANNGO head of regulatory services participate in Almond Technical Group Coordination Meeting.

The participants of this meeting was:

1. Mr. Greg Cullen (ANHDO/HPS Advisor)
2. Sharafuddin Sharaf (ANNGO HRS)
3. Ahmad Shah Zarghon (ANHDO/HPS/SO3)
4. ANHDO SO1 and SO2 representative
5. Landel Mills representatives
6. AAIDO representatives

First Ahmad Shah Zarghon explained the pollination trail of almond and apricots. The purpose of almond trials explained as below:

- ✚ To get thin shell of almond
- ✚ To get high yield
- ✚ Good test

During research on the mentioned trails, they obtained a good result from their pollination trails. The Head of regulatory services asked the ANHDO/HPS colleagues to share the result of all the research with the stakeholders and also to introduce to ANNGO the best marketable varieties in order to propagate as mother trees.

#### **4. Mother stock nurseries improvement**

Mother stock nurseries which originated from national collection which are main source of certified planting material so it need to be improved each year so the next pruning season will issue all metallic labels for all mother stock nurseries in the provinces.

All 28 NGAs 6388 metallic labels have been requested sooner will issue these mentioned metallic labels for them.

#### **5. Manual**

It has been worked on draft of manual of the Afghanistan National fruit certification scheme prepared by ANNGO staffs and PHDP/II technical advisor before establishment of Directorate of Certification Authority in MAIL on 2010 and submitted to MAIL, but in 2014 Seed and Planting Material Certification Directorate (SPCD) established in framework of MAIL and several time ANNGO General Manager with his technical staff had meeting and discussions with Mr. Mahboobullah Nang Director of SPC regarding ANNGO certification scheme and implementation of this manual by ANNGO for production of certified saplings, also SPCD staff monitored the inspection of MSNs and CPNs which is writing in this manual, but SPC Director has reviewed this manual and suggested to ANNGO for making comprehensive and complete manual, ANNGO has to review and check all chapters of manual. After review all stakeholders together should have meeting and discussion for 3 or 4 days to completion of the manual. Once manual approved the committee, it will submit for approval of seed board and after approving the manual by seed board, they will include it to the seed law.

#### **6. Ag Fair**

Each year ANNGO is participating International Ag Fair in Badam bagh with supporting by MAIL. ANNGO actively have been participated in this Ag-Fair with opening two booths to exhibit different fruits, certified saplings, flowers, ornamental trees and publications. The booth were designed very well by different project photos, banners and poster which in all banners and publication, the logo of EU delegation were clearly visible.

HE MAIL minister and the honourable Kabul governor and other MAIL directors visited the ANNGO booths and the technical team and board of directors members explained the project activities to the visitors and distributed the catalogues, calendars and other publications to the visitors.



*Photo # 6 Visit of Kabul governor and DAIL director from ANNGO Booth*

During three days groups of people were visiting ANNGO booth and ANNGO technical staff has given technical information such as nurseries, certified sapling, NGAs, Marketable varieties, rootstocks, ornamentals...etc to the visitors.



*Photo # 7 Visit of HE MAIL minister and Kabul Governor from ANNGO booths*

That was an opportunity for orchard and nursery owners to visit ANNGO booth in mentioned Ag fair.

## **7. Agro-Fest:**

After the Ag-Fair, another show was organized by Agha Khan Foundation (AKF) in Serina Hotel on 22 October. In this exhibition, different fruits produced in Afghanistan by projects and national/international organization with support of MAIL were collected for show. In the beginning the AKF country director welcomed the participants thanked the MAIL and HE MAIL minister for arranging this exhibition, later HE MAIL minister explained the objectives of the show and introduced fruits of Afghanistan from different regions of Afghanistan. The exhibition was planned



from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. ANNGO team also present the catalogues of ANNGO with different fruits that were collected from provinces.



*Photo # 8 Speech of HE MAIL minister during Agro-Fest in Serina Hotel*

Name of the contact person for the Action: Zainulabudin Noor

Signature: 

Location: MAIL Cooperative Building, Badam Bagh, Kabul Afghanistan

Date report due: Oct-Nov 2016

Date report sent: Nov 2016