



Nursery Industry Development Transition Project



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List of acronyms used in the report

- ANNGO; Afghanistan National Nursery Growers Organization
- NGAs; Nursery Growers Associations
- MSNs; Mother Stock nurseries
- DAIL; Director Agriculture Irrigation & Livestock
- ANHDO; Afghanistan National Horticulture Development Organization
- NGAs; Nursery Growers Associations
- RI SO1; Relief International Sub-objective 1
- TA; Technical assistance
- MAIL; Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Livestock
- CPNs; Certified Production Nurseries
- NHLP National Horticulture and livestock project
- SO4 Sub Objective 4
- MTs Mother Trees
- BG Babur Garden
- KM Kabul Municipality
- BoD Board of Directors

1. Description

- 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: **Support to Afghanistan Fruit Tree Nursery Industry Transition Project**
- 1.5. Contract number: **DCI-ASIE/2012/295-861**
- 1.6. Start date and end date of the reporting period: **September 2014**
- 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

In the reporting month ANNGO has made improvement in all parts of their activities. The short description of each activity is given in this month's report.

The inspections of MSNs are completed in the country. All the MSNs are registered and checked according to ANNGO standards. The rejected MSNs are Guldara and Chemtal, Haji Ghani. Both the MSNs have no right to sell any budwood this year. The registered MSNs have sold over 4 millions budwood this year.

In the last round of inspection ANNGO inspectors have inspected the MSNs of Herat, Helmand, Kandahar and Zabul provinces. All the MSNs are according to ANNGO standards. For some minor issues the inspector has provided technical assistants to the MSN owners and FMs.

Regular meetings held with SO4 project manager, EU consultant NHLP, ANHDO, RI and BG. The main purposes of the meetings were coordination and cooperation in the joint venture activities. The mentioned will work with ANNGO to improve their activities.

Despite planting material available in the NGAs' mother stock nurseries. This year demand of some varieties was high, in that case some NGAs faced with lack of planting material by the time ANNGO and ANHDO with the permission from MAIL minister decided to distribute planting material from PHDCs' farms to the nursery growers so in this month of September have been distributed buds from Badam bagh from to the Ghazni, Herat, Shakardara, Paghman and Saidkhil NGAs' members.

As regular FMs are invited for 3 days training programme here in Badam bagh, Kabul. The FMs are instructed more for certification documents and commercial varieties. Field issues and problems are shared with ANNGO TA staff.

Visit of Ornamental nurseries in Balk Province. The purpose of the trip was to know about ornamental plants production in the northern zone of the country and ANNGO should take a step forward to support the production of ornamental plants. The participants of the trip were a consultant from MATI Company, Mr. Cosimo, SO1 Project Manager, nursery expert and ANNGO Head of Technical Services.

Work on translation of certification manual is in progress. The English manual is translated in Pashto and Dari languages. THE AFGHANISTAN NATIONAL FRUIT TREE CERTIFICATION SCHEME from English to Dari to providing official documents for ANNGO certification scheme and submit this document for approving of MAIL/ Certification Authority. The final version will be released as a law to NGA members.

Ag-fair 2014 was arranged by MAIL. ANNGO and its partners had participated in the fair. MAIL minister himself introduced ANNGO to participants around him. ANNGO GM provided copy of catalogue to some participants.

Results and Activities

Result 1: ANNGO is developed as an independent organisation for the development of the fruit tree nursery industry.

ANNGO is a non profit organization. Its main objective is development of nursery industry in the country. ANNGO represents 25 NGAs from 22 provinces of Afghanistan. Around 1,000 members are individual members registered with ANNGO. According to new by-law is open for membership to individuals and companies. All the certified producers can be members with ANNGO.

The individual members of ANNGO are increasing. ANNGO has started working with a historic Babur Garden. The garden is a legal body registered with ministry of economy as an NGO. An experimental nursery will be established where student from faculty of Agriculture, Kabul will also be involved. The nursery will generate income to BG.

Result 2: The technical level of the fruit tree nursery in Afghanistan is raised to standards appropriate to the development of a modern orchard industry

Summer budwood sale 2014 programme is in completed. Most of the NGA members are keen to purchase budwood from their MSNs. The shortage of budwoods of apples, peaches, pears, cherries and persimmons have been reported in the country. Under special cases the nursery growers are allowed to get budwoods from PHDCs Demos.

Ensuring that farmers have timely access to good quality planting material which is one of the most important and basic element for successful horticultural production and development.

Despite this reality planting material available in the NGAs' mother stock nurseries but this year demand of some varieties was high, in that case some NGAs faced with lack of planting material.

Results 3: A planting material registration and certification system is in operation

The important point of ANNGO certification Scheme is filling ANNGO certification forms for MSNs and CPNs by Field Managers of NGAs. All the Field Managers had to fill the forms and send to ANNGO and RI SO1 project manager.

The newly hired FM's were practically trained to fill the certification forms during FM's training programme.

This shows that the certification system is gradually improving and the production of NGAs are according to ANNGO standards and rules.

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3-Workshops, trainings and coordination meetings:

3.1-Meeting was held with RI/ SO1 key staff. The main points of the meeting are;

- Review and comments of ANNGO on certification Appendixes
- Managing ANNGO program in Ag Fair 2014
- Managing FMs training (new topics and materials which are need to trine field managers)

3.2-Coordination meeting was held with NHLP key staff. ANNGO chairman Haji Sattar, ANNGO General Manager and Head of regularity services participated in the meeting. The main points of the meeting were;

1. Visit of orchards established by NHLP of certified saplings
2. Purchase of certified saplings from NGAs
3. Survey of certified nurseries for autumn planting 2014
4. Training programme by ANNGO to NHLP extension staff
5. Improvement in NHLP system for selection of certified nurseries

3.3-Meeting with EU consultant, Mr. Massimo, RI, PHDP and ANNGO regarding implementation of ANNGO/HPS SO1 project. ANNGO staff explained different parts of development of nursery industry, implementation of certification scheme, providing certified planting materials and affecting this project for sustainability of ANNGO in the future and they also explained about ANNGO business plan and finding more way for making ANNGO sustainable.

3.4- ANNGO developed agenda for Field Managers training programme. The training programme was for 3 days. The main subjects of the training were;

1. Appendixes problems which field managers did in the field and solutions of these problems
2. ANNGO Certification Process
3. New outline appendixes information
4. Commercial varieties
5. MSNs management
6. Certified nurseries management and practical work

3.5- MAIL had arranged annual Ag-Fair to farmer, companies, associations, national and International NGOs. During Ag-Fair many students, farmers, companies, orchard growers, ministers and VIPs visited ANNGO booth. Detailed information was given to visitors and catalogue was distributed among farmers and students.

4-Trips Reports:

4.1-Visit of Ornamental nurseries in Balkh Province. The purpose of the trip was to know about ornamental plants production in the northern zone of the country and ANNGO should take a step forward to support the production of ornamental plants. The participants of the trip were a consultant from MATI Company, Mr. Cosimo, SO1 Project Manager, nursery expert and ANNGO Head of Technical Services.

4.2-ANNGO Regularity services went to Balkh Province to monitor Umulbelad NGA members activities and collect information regarding:

1. ANNGO Certification Scheme
2. Field Manager duties and responsibilities
3. Monitoring of Apple MSN and Haji Abdul Ghani MSN
4. Checking other files and data in NGA office.

4.3-The Head of Technical Services went to Nangarhar province to work with SO4 component of ANHDO Project on catalogue 2014-15
Specific Objective of SO4 is soundly based and profitable citrus industry in eastern Afghanistan. ANNGO is working very closely with all components of RI/ANHDO projects. As always the main purpose of trip was to revise the citrus portion of catalogue more in details and receive feedbacks from the SO4 for new catalogue which will be published at the end of this year.

About 64 accessions of mandarins, oranges, lemons and grapefruit are present in the National collections of citrus in Farm-i-Jadid research station. The evaluation of citrus National Collections in eastern zone is in progress. Based on the result of the evaluation the changes are brought in ANNGO catalogue each year.

Following is the outcome of the meeting;

1. Ripening time of citrus species was revised and corrections are made according to the data.
2. Fresh pictures of citrus was provided by SO4 to ANNGO catalogue
3. Recommended citrus species data forms were shared for new catalogue
4. SO4 Manager was agree that he will check the draft copy of catalogue (only citrus portion)
5. ANNGO has to share the citrus portion of catalogue with SO4 Manager before publishing the information on catalogue
6. SO4 in the future will publish a catalogue of citrus species which will help ANNGO to improve the citrus portion of ANNGO catalogue.

The Field Horticulturist also of Farm-i-jadid also helped ANNGO the Head of Technical Services for the following species data;

- Low chill peaches data
- Figs data
- Pomegranate data and pictures
- Related pictures with the data was also provided

4.4-ANNGO inspector along with 2 board members went to Herat, Kandahar, Helmand and Zabul provinces. The inspector has inspected the MSNs of the mentioned NGAs and the data is inserted in ANNGO database. The board members had to monitor NGAs activities and visited the certified nurseries of the NGAs.



H.E. MAIL Minister is briefing Mr.Wali Masood about ANNGO activities and catalogue



ANNGO General Manager is sharing info on certified labels with MAIL minister

Name of the contact person for the Action: Zainulabudin Noor

Signature: 

Location: Kabul, Badam Besh

Date report due: September... 2014

Date report sent: ... Oct... 11... 2014