



**WEERDP/MRRD**

## MAKING VILLAGES PRODUCTIVE

### MINISTRY OF RURAL REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT (MRRD)

#### ABOUT WEERDP:

Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEERDP), under leadership of Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) and in view of National Unity Government (NUG) goals and WEE-NPP objectives, was initiated in 2018 in continuation of Afghanistan Rural Enterprise Development Program (AREDP) for the purpose of social and economic empowerment of women in rural areas of all 34 provinces of Afghanistan with the financial aid of World Bank.

Through this program Self Help Groups (SHG), Enterprise Groups (EG), Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA) and Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) will be established to develop local economy, and create income generation and job opportunities for program beneficiaries (80% female) in rural areas of Afghanistan.

#### INITIAL MEMBERSHIP TRAINING CONVENED FOR 520 SHG MEMBERS



Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) delivered a 2-day training on initial membership for 63 Self Help Groups (SHGs) in 13 villages of Mandozai Esmail Khail and center of Khost province.

In the training, topics such as Self Help Groups (SHGs) membership, program objective, and the importance of savings on the family's economic condition were discussed and explained to the participants.

The group members considered this kind of training sessions effective in improving their financial knowledge and asked for more such workshops in the future.

#### THE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED SHGs IN SAMANGAN PROVINCE



Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) established 92 Self Help Groups (SHGs) with 1094 members in 12 Community Development Councils (CDCs) in Hazrat Sultan and Aibak districts of Samangan province.

Moreover, a training workshop on the program objective and the significance of saving were delivered to newly established SHGs in the mentioned districts.

As well as, stationery packages and savings boxes were distributed to these groups recently.

#### WEERDP CONVENED VILLAGE BAZAR EXHIBITION IN HERAT PROVINCE



Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) organized an exhibition on local level titled "Village Bazar" in Herat province. The program convened the exhibition at a time everything was normal post COVID-19 outbreak in the country.

The exhibition was inaugurated in the presence of representatives of Provincial Rural Rehabilitation and Development Directorate (PRRD), Directorate of Women's Affairs, members of civil society, media and residents of Herat province in the Tarqi Park.

60 program's beneficiaries from Herat, Ghor, Badghis and Farah provinces participated in the exhibition. They displayed and sold handmade products.

It is worthwhile to mention that this is the first exhibition to be held after the first wave of COVID-19 in the country.

### NEWSLETTER ISSUE# 25

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## IN THIS ISSUE:

- WEERDP convened Village Bazar Exhibition in Herat province
- The program established SHGs in Samangan province
- WEE-RDP commemorated the 16 Days of Activism campaign against Gender-Based Violence
- Bamboo Common Facilitation Center in Nangarhar soon to be inaugurated
- The program convened a Village Bazar exhibition in Balkh province

More...



## VILLAGE CHAMPION

I have lived in difficulties and experienced many ups and downs in my life. However, I have never surrendered to poverty. Hence, I started tailoring business with the 1,000 AFN I borrowed from WEE-RDP, and now I earn 5,000 AFN monthly through the business. Thus, I'm planning to extend my business to pay my and my brother's university tuition cost.

**Nargis, Resident of Malik Faiz Mohammad Village, Istalif District, Kabul Province.**



Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) celebrated the 16 Days of Activism campaign against Gender-Based Violence in PMO Kabul.

Ms. Latifa Majidi, the program Executive Director, in her opening remarks spoke about the prominence of this campaign and asked the program staff to maintain the spirit of cooperation between each other, especially with female staff and program beneficiaries in the remote areas of the country.

Besides, participants recited a poem in the honor of women, discussed the role of women in shaping society, and how individuals could stop acts of violence against women in their communities & create a safe environment for the in the workplace. As well as, empower the culture of respect, value, and dignity.

It's noteworthy that the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence is an annual international campaign that kicks off on 25 November until 10 December to prevent and eliminate violence against women.



## WEERDP ACCELERATED ITS ACTIVITIES IN LAGHMAN PROVINCE

## TRAINING ON INITIAL MEMBERSHIP DELIVERED TO SHG MEMBERS

## THE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED VSLAS IN FARYAB PROVINCE

## INITIAL MEMBERSHIP TRAINING CONDUCTED TO 300 BENEFICIARIES OF WEE-RDP



Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development program (WEE-RDP) of Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) evaluated the book-keeping method and savings process of Self Help Groups (SHGs) in Mehtarlam district of Laghman province.

It is noteworthy that 856 SHGs have been established in 96 Community Development Councils (CDCs) in this province so far, majority of which have fulfilled the criteria of VSLAs and they will be promoted to 85 VSLAs very soon.

Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) conducted initial membership training for 42 Self Help Groups (SHGs) with 442 members in Gardiz and Ahmad Aba districts of Paktia province.

In the training session, topics such as the objective of the program, how to join SHGs, methods of savings, and the process of establishing small businesses were discussed with the participants.

The field staff of Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) monitored the bookkeeping, loan issuance process, and overall activities of 15 Self Help Groups (SHGs) in the Damqool and Luqman Hakim villages of Maimana city in Faryab province. The team ensured these SHGs have met all the eligibility criteria to be promoted to Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLAs), and as a result of the scrutiny, 2 VSLAs were formed in their respective villages.

It is noteworthy that to facilitate villagers have access to finance, the program aims to establish 92 VSLAs in 92 villages in the course of 5 years.

Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) conducted a 2-day training workshop on initial membership for the 300 members of 19 Self Help Groups (SHGs) in Yak Awlang district of Bamyan province.

The significance of savings, procedure of borrowing money, repayment of loans and how to start Small and Medium Enterprise (SMEs) were the topics discussed and elucidated in the training session.

It is noteworthy that WEE-RDP has covered 7500 beneficiaries, and established 635 SHGs, 42 Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) and 23 Enterprise Groups (EGs) since start of the program in the village.



Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) injected an amount of 8 million AFN as seed capital to 56 Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) in the center of Khost province.

It's worth mentioning that the injected amount will assist the beneficiaries in the villages to start up small businesses and contribute to the economy of the country especially of their communities.



Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) established 24 Self Help Groups (SHGs) in 2 Community Development Councils (CDCs) of Hazrat Sultan district of Samangan province.

Meanwhile, 20 SHGs with 140 members were also monitored by the program field personnel in this province.

### THE PROGRAM INJECTED SEED CAPITAL TO VSLAS IN PAKTIA



### WEERDP'S ACTIVITIES PROGRESS REPORT IN NORTHWEST REGION



### BENEFICIARIES IN BAMYAN RECEIVED INITIAL MEMBERSHIP TRAINING



### WEE-RDP SERVES THE RESIDENTS OF REMOTE/RURAL AREA OF THE COUNTRY



Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) injected an amount of 751,520 AFN as seed capital to 9 Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) that consists 93 Self Help Groups (SHGs) with 976 members in Gardiz and Ahmad Aba districts of Paktia province.

It's worthwhile to mention that the injected amount will assist the beneficiaries in the villages to start up small businesses and contribute to the economy of the country especially of their communities.

Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) established 78 Self Help Groups (SHGs) that consists 1100 beneficiaries in Balkh, Sar-e-Pul, Faryab and Samangan provinces.

Recently, the program has monitored the process of loan issuance, repayments of loans, formation of Enterprise Groups (EGs) and the distribution of saving boxes in the Northwest region.

Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) organized a one-day training on initial membership for 17 Self Help Groups (SHGs) with 250 members in 3 Community Development Councils (CDCs) in the center of Bamyan province.

Membership procedure, value of savings value, and process of SHG promotion to VSLAs were the topics discussed with the participants in this workshop.

Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) transferred 12 solar panels with a capacity of 300 watts of electricity to the provincial office of the program located in Balcheragh district of Faryab province to run their routine operations effectively.

This is happening at a time when Faryab province is still facing a shortage of electricity which has slowed down the affairs of many institutions.

However, in the other part of the country, the program distributed Complaint Boxes in Nuristan province to address grievances and their problems.



A team from Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) traveled to Kama district of Nangarhar province to oversee the construction progress of Common Facilitation Center (CFC), and overall activities of Promoting Integrated Bamboo Based Enterprise Development (PIBBED) project in the province.

The PIBBED Project Manager accompanying the team monitored Bamboo plants production, delivered a series of technical instruction to the field staff, and followed up the Bamboo nurseries in Kama and Khewa districts.

Moreover, the CFC is equipped with necessary and sophisticated Bamboo machines and a solar system with the capacity of 19 KW of electricity will be installed very soon. The CFC will be inaugurated in two months.

It's worthwhile to mention that the project is a joint initiative of (MRRD) and SAARC Development Fund (SDF) which aims to promote bamboo based enterprises for income generation and employment opportunities in the country.

## THE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED VSLAS IN NIMROZ



Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEERDP) of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) formed 9 Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLAs) and 28 Self Help Groups (SHGs) in Zaranj, and Chahar Burjak districts of Nimroz province.

In addition to VSLA and SHG formation, the program conducted training workshops for 234 members of SHGs and distributed 110 Savings boxes to these groups.

## WEERDP DELIVERED A TRAINING ON MIS TO FPs



WEE-RDP delivered a 1-day training workshop on Management Information System (MIS) to Facilitating Partners (FPs) representatives in PMO Kabul.

Ms. Latifa Majidi, the Executive Director of WEE-RDP emphasized on strengthening cooperation with FPs, and effective management of MIS data. Additionally, she spoke about the significant role MIS play in the program management and decision makings.

All 12 participants of the training presented brief information about their MIS activities in their areas of operation as well as shared their experiences in this regard.

## INITIAL MEMBERSHIP TRAINING CONVENED FOR 520 SHGs IN KHOST



Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) delivered a 2-day training on initial membership for 63 Self Help Groups (SHGs) in 13 villages of Mandozai Esmail Khail and center of Khost province.

In the training, topics such as Self Help Groups (SHGs) membership, program objective, and the importance of savings on the family's economic condition were discussed and explained to the participants.

The group members considered this kind of training sessions effective in improving their financial knowledge and asked for more such workshops in the future.

## WEERDP ESTABLISHED SHGs IN SAR-E-PUL PROVINCE



Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) established 278 Self Help Groups (SHGs) with 3530 participants in the Center and Gosfandi districts of Sar-e-Pul province.

These groups have saved more than 200,000 AFN through their regular weekly meetings so far, and they have processed 16 loan transactions of small businesses in their village.

The SHGs that are established in 81 Community Development Councils (CDCs) have received several training on various subjects by the field staff.



As part of local exhibitions, this time Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) convened a Village Bazar exhibition in Balkh province

The exhibition was inaugurated on 26<sup>th</sup> November in the presence of representatives of Provincial Rural Rehabilitation and Development Directorate (PRRD), Directorate of Women's Affairs, members of civil society, media, and residents of Herat province in the Rabia Balkhi Market of Mazar-e-Sharif city.

35 female beneficiaries from Chahar Kent, Naher Shahi, Balkh, and Dehdadi districts participated in this exhibition. They showcased and sold their handmade products.

It is worthwhile to mention that the exhibition will run for two days in the city of Mazar – e – Sharif.



## STATIONERY DISTRIBUTED TO SHGs IN SAR-E-PUL PROVINCE



Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) distributed stationery packages and savings boxes to 475 members of 40 Self Help Groups (SHGs) in the center of Sar – e – Pul province.

It is noteworthy that the program has established 13 SHGs with 178 members in this province.

## WEE-RDP INJECTED SEED CAPITAL IN KHOIST PROVINCE



Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) injected an amount of more than 1 million AFN as the first tranche of seed capital to 18 Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) in the center and Mandozai Esmail Khail districts of Khost province.

It is noteworthy that the transferred cash assistance will be distributed to the villagers to assist villagers' startup small business and alleviate poverty in their communities.

## WEERDP CONDUCTED INITIAL MEMBERSHIP TRAINING FOR SHGs IN HELMAND



Women Economic Empowerment Rural Development Program (WEE-RDP) of Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) delivered a 1 - day training workshop on Initial membership training for 398 members of Self Help Groups (SHGs) in Lashkar Gah city center of Helmand province.

Detailed information about the program objective, ways to save money and techniques to start a small business were some of the topics discussed with the participants in this workshop.

## CONTACT US:



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