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Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC)

FSAC is co-led by FAO & WFP in Afghanistan and co-chaired by Welthungerhilfe (WHH). The cluster includes a strong representation of government, national and international NGOs, donors, red cross/red crescent movement, UN agencies and research institutes. At current, FSAC has 174 members with electronic reach to almost 452 partners/members in the country.

FSAC achievements in 2019

FSAC partners provided food assistance to 3,468,463 (88%) people against a target of 3,943,416 and livelihoods assistance to 967,705 (53%) against a target of 1,817,500 people. FSAC partners received 145 million USD in 2019. Whereas, another 100 million USD raised in 2018 for drought response was used for 2019 drought response.

Projects funded by the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund

The Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund (AHF) has provided $12 million to FSAC to implement 8 projects that aimed to boost the resilience of farmers affected by conflict and natural disasters in 16 most food insecure provinces. Under these projects, each beneficiary family received inputs sufficient to plant around half a hectare wheat, allowing them to grow and harvest more than 700 kg of the staple grain.

This project will work to enhance the resilience against future shocks of over 701,351 people whose livelihoods have been affected by conflict and natural disasters. Provision of essential agriculture inputs such as seed, DAP, urea and training on improved agriculture practices will enable farmers to cope with shocks.

Upcoming Activities

- Finalizing FSAC strategic response plan for 2020
- Finalizing and publishing the Seasonal Food Security Assessment (SFSA) 2019 report
- Finalizing FSAC response packages guidelines for 2019
- Conducting regional FSAC meetings in all 6 regions
- Conducting the reporthub trainings at national and regional levels
While most of the women spend their time confined to their houses, tending to children and household chores, Kimya 64, is out in the fields, tending to her crops. She is out in the fields not by choice but because her farm is her only source of a livelihood. The 64-years-old widow and mother of four has no extended family left to support her, so 35 years ago, when her husband passed away, she decided to take matters into her own hands.

Over the years, Kimya was able to grow her own crops which included, cereal grains, onions, potatoes and tomatoes. Much of the harvest is used up by her family for their food security and nutritional needs, whilst the little surplus is sold in the nearby market contributing to the household income.

"When my husband passed away, I had to find means of raising an income inorder to fend for my children, I did a lot for them. It was a hard job, but it was the only way for my children to go to school," she explains.

Now all but one of her children are married. Kimya continues to support her family through her farming activities. Last year, a severe drought affected much of Afghanistan and Badghis province from where Kimya comes from was not left out. A significant number of farmers lost their crops and livestock. She lost almost all of her crops and the little that remained was quickly finished exposing them to hunger and increasing their vulnerability. As the breadwinner had no choice but to stop her farming activities and seek alternative coping mechanisms which included sending ot the family members to beg for cash and borrowing money from neighbors,

Before the start of this year’s planting season, World Vision Afghanistan provided 15.75 kilograms of different vegetable seeds to Kimya, including agriculture equipment and 35 kilograms of fertilizers. "No seed were left to cultivate this year. I was thinking to borrow some seeds from my neighbors, but I was worried about the weather and the drought of next year. I decided to stop agriculture and sell the land for ever, but WV changed everything with seed distribution," she says, while weeding the newly sprouted garlic. "I am so happy that my children are educated and won’t face a difficult life as mine," she says.

With no seeds left to plant in the coming season, Kimya was thankful to receive both seeds, training and equipment. Her crops are growing quickly in the current weather conditions, bringing hope to her and family.