



Chemonics International Rebuilding Agricultural Markets Program (RAMP)

Vegetable Dehydration and Processing Factory in
Afghanistan

Project Implemented by **Development Works Corp-Canada DWC**



Case Study: Vegetable Dehydration and Processing Factory in Afghanistan

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Project Description:

Demand-driven, competitive, sustainable, and profitable agribusiness
Over 1200 farmers and women contracted by DWC to supply the factory
Contracted farmers form Parwan Farmers Association
Farmers Association to own 40% of Parwan Dehydrates Company

Dehydrated vegetable products sold to European Food Distributors/Wholesalers

Linkages of Farmers to Markets



**Farmers instructed at factory by
DWC**



**Farmers visit research farm
for best practices**



**Women receive and use trays
and tools for sun-drying
tomatoes**



**Farmers who have received
seeds of selected vegetables
and other inputs**



**Farmers' vegetables to be weighed
and graded at the factory**

Linkages of Farmers to Markets



Women applying for employment at factory



90 Afghans employed including 47 women and widows



Vegetables processed with international standard equipment and machinery



Linkages of Farmers to Markets



Final product sorted before packaging



Products tested and quality assured



Final product packaged, labeled, and ready for shipment



Packaged dried vegetables exported in sea containers to Europe

Successful Practices

- **Located factory strategically**
- **Identified Company with investment capital, an identified market, and experience in establishing and operating dehydrates factory**
- **Invited and brought in farmers to factory, contracted with farmers, supplied inputs, provided crates and transport**
- **Established crop trials for convincing farmers to grow some crops they were not familiar with**
- **Established Parwan Dehydrates Company**
- **Supplied odd-lot, dried vegetables to ready international markets with duty-free exemption using int'l standard equipment and machinery**

Lessons Learned

- **Only 30% of contracted farmers supplied factory**
- **Need eligible farmers to establish the Farmers' Association**
- **Criteria for eligibility**
- **Incentives for farmers to associate and to invest in Company**
- **Increasing the volume of vegetables supplied**
- **Higher operating costs**
- **Sanitation in factory**
- **Shipment held in demurrage in UK until duty-free exemption documents presented**

Looking Forward

- **Meet with farmers to help them understand the binding nature of their contractual agreements**
- **Help farmers form a Farmers' Association with 200+ members**
- **Assist farmers in Association meet their obligations for obtaining the 40% share of the Parwan Dehydrates Co.**
- **Purchase bulk of vegetables from farmers in Association**
- **Increase volume of dried vegetables marketed to 25+ metric tons/month**
- **Expand number of factories to other areas of Afghanistan**