



Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Ministry of Economy
Directorate of Economic Evaluations and Infrastructure Sharing

Report

**Economic Impact Evaluation of the
Targeting the Ultra-Poor Project (TUP) in
Bamyan Province**

Evaluated by

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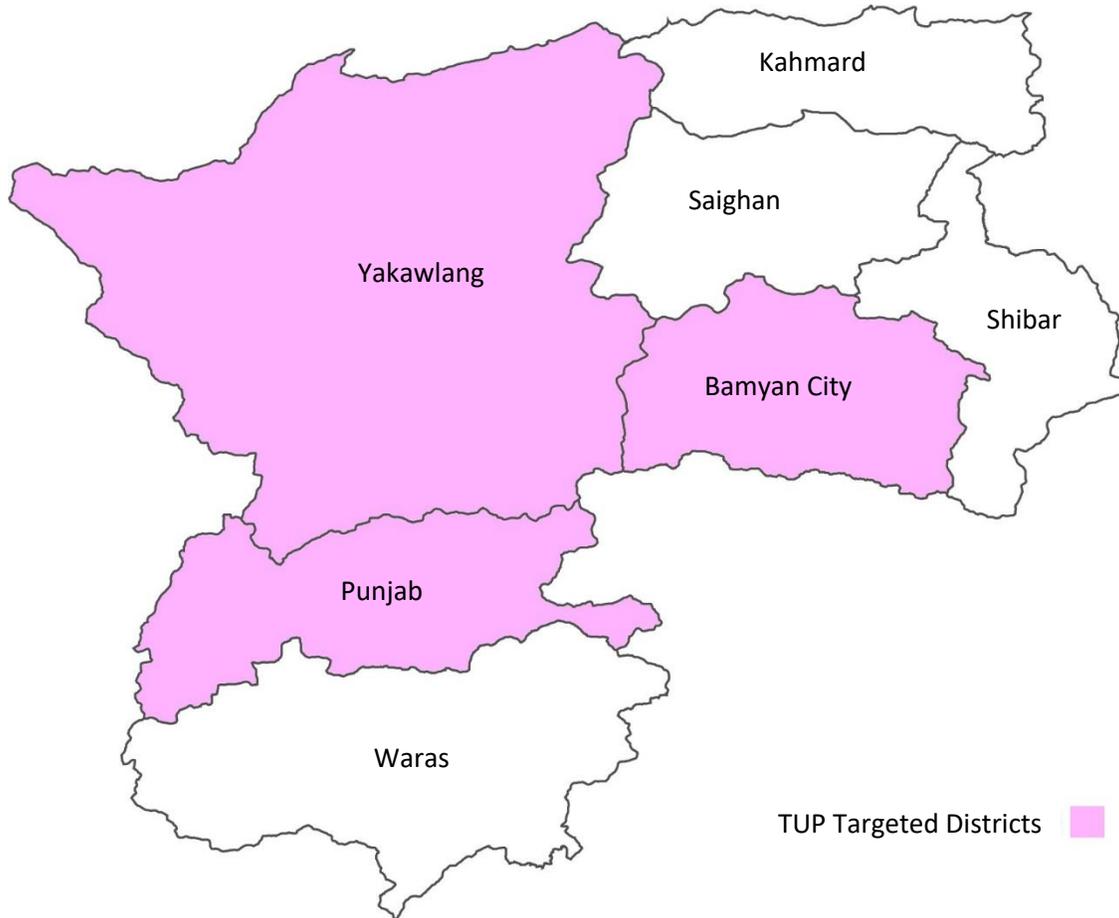


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Acknowledgments

Despite the challenges and constraints, this study of the TUP Project in Bamyan province attempts to measure the impact of the project on key indicators such as unemployment, poverty reduction, job creation, women empowerment, and finally social welfare.

The authors would like to thank the facilitating team of Microfinance Investment Support Facility for Afghanistan (MISFA), and key sections of the Ministry of Economy—the General Directorate of Planning and Consolidation, Directorate of Economy of Bamyan Province, Directorate of Admin and Finance—for their unparalleled and comprehensive cooperation in providing and facilitating the information collection and analysis.

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Keywords

- **Internal Rate of Return:** An indicator used to compare the percentage of annual project revenue with the interest rate of the bank.
- **Net Present Value:** Indicates increase/decrease in value of the capital amount over the life of the investment; indicates how much the amount invested has increased.
- **Cost-Benefit Ratio:** show much the worth of an *Afghani* has increased throughout the duration of the investment.
- **Cost Effectiveness:** Measures the ratio of the individual income versus expenditures.

Abbreviations

Moe: Ministry of Economy

MISFA: Microfinance Investment Support Facility for Afghanistan

BRAC: Bangladesh Rural Advance Committee

TUP: Targeting the Ultra Poor

IRR: Internal Rate of Return

NPV: Net Present Value

CB/R: Cost-Benefit Ratio

CE: Cost Effectiveness

Introduction

The Ministry of Economy, in accordance with its regulations and procedures, is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the development projects throughout the country. The Ministry of Economy is continually striving to analyze and evaluate development projects from pre-implementation, through implementation and post-implementation phases. This ensures that projects are on course to achieve their set objectives, and those opportunities to enhance programme design and decision-making are created. Hence, the post-implementation, economic impact evaluation of Targeting the Ultra-Poor Project is part of the above-mentioned program which has been evaluated economically.

The project was implemented from 2010 to 2013 to graduate the most vulnerable families in Yakawlang, Punjab, and Bamyan City from poverty.

The report consists of four sections. The first section introduces the evaluation and its objectives. The second chapter elaborates on the research methodology, data collection, and contextual constraints. The third chapter explains the findings of the evaluation and offers analysis. Finally, the fourth chapter presents conclusions, recommendations, and ongoing challenges. The annex section shares the questionnaire, the list of beneficiaries, and the feedback/suggestions of the targeted communities.

Executive Summary

The Targeting the Ultra-Poor (TUP) project was first launched as a pilot in Yakawlang and Punjab districts, and Bamyan City. A total of 400 rural families were identified to participate in TUP, a project designed to reduce poverty and achieve sustainable livelihoods, with the financial contribution of MISFA and the technical cooperation of the BRAC. The project was fully implemented in 2013.

The approved budget was AFN 52.48 million; however, the project was implemented with a cost of AFN 43.90 million and the remaining amount reallocated to another TUP project in Badakhshan province. Of the budget, an amount of AFN 8.90 million was used to purchase livestock and AFN 10.9 million was allocated for the monthly stipend for beneficiaries. Another AFN 24 million was spent to carry out workshops, provide veterinary and sanitation services, purchase forage for livestock for two years, and other administrative and operational expenses.

With the implementation of this project and considering the interest and ability of families and the availability of suitable conditions for livestock rearing; 192 cows, 73 goats, and 850 sheep were distributed to the beneficiaries.

- **Livestock Growth:** Over the period of five years following project completion, the number of distributed cows has increased from 192 to 794; the goats from 73 to 810; and the sheep from 850 to 5,147.
- **Increase in Revenue:** The average gross income that the project generated for 400 households is AFN 239.15 million through the production and sale of dairy and animal products over a period of five years (after project completion from 2013 to 2018). The project generates an annual net income of AFN 47.83 million compared to the total invested amount of AFN 43.90 million.
- **Job and income generation:** The project has created 873 jobs of eight hours work per day, in Bamyan province, especially in the Yakawlang, Punjab, and Bamyan City. The average net annual income of families in Bamyan has been increased from AFN 16,071 to AFN 119,461.
- **Poverty Reduction:** With jobs and income generated, the project has been able to graduate 735 people in Yakawlang, 734 people in Punjab and 492 people in Bamyan City among the poorest, reducing the percentage of poverty at the provincial level.
- **Food Security:** The project also led to food security for 2,800 direct beneficiaries, who benefited from regular access to fresh animal products (meat; milk, yogurt, cream, butter, and other dairy products) by participating in TUP.
- **Education:** The implementation of the aforementioned project has led to an increase in the number of students enrolled in the primary, secondary and tertiary levels in school year 1397:429 in the district of Yakawlang; 427 in Punjab; and 284 in Bamyan City.
- **Access to Electricity:** The 2,800 individuals who are the direct beneficiaries of the project, benefited from access to solar energy; representing an increase of 2.8 percent renewable energy usage in Bamyan province.
- **Durable Shelter:** Approximately 2.2 percent of the population in Yakawlang district, 1.9 percent in Punjab district, 1.1 percent in Bamyan City, and a total of 1 percent of the population

at the provincial level, have benefited from more durable shelter through the implementation of this project.

- **Mobile Phone:** Project implementation has increased usage of mobile phones by 0.5 percent in the Yakawlang district, 0.5 percent in the district of Punjab and 0.3percentin the center of Bamyan province.
- **Hygiene:** Findings suggest that the implementation of TUP has increased the usage of latrines in Yakawlang district by36 percent, 32 percent in Punjab district, and 17percentin Bamyan City, and a total of 13percentincrease in Bamyan province. Although the prevalence of diseases has been declined due to increase in use of latrines, it should be noted that most of the people in these areas still use stream and river water for drinking and other water need purposes.
- **Gender Impact:** TUP was piloted in Bamyan for ultra-poor women; all TUP participants are females. Around 59 percent of project beneficiaries are women and the remaining 41 percent are men. Based on the findings of this evaluation, women in the project are financially, economically, socially, and physically empowered.
- The distribution of livestock as a movable asset to eligible beneficiaries has raised their income level and the project activities improved the livelihood of the beneficiaries. This report does not consider the value chain businesses developed by the project through the purchase and sale of dairy products, animal products, and essential materials for livestock services.
- TUP has created jobs in localities and local markets and has provided a foreground for food security and malnutrition reduction for children and other family members. Moreover, it has provided poor households' furnishings and some asset/equipment for that improved their overall welfare and wellbeing. Women's participation in the project has increased their financial, social, and access to health facilities, effectively reducing their economic, psychological and social pressures.
- The total cost of the project was estimated to be AFN 52.48 million, but it was implemented with a total cost of AFN 43.90 million. The AFN 9 million savings indicates the effective management of resources. The other indicator of success was how TUP raised awareness and interest in life and economic skills and how efficient project staffs are throughout the process, including in recruitment, and training.
- Acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary for livestock rearing and animal husbandry, individual and environmental hygiene, receiving assets and earning an income has been effective for the sustainability of the economic and social activities after completion of the project. But some technical issues, such as the lack of veterinary services and lack of providing modern skills after the end of the project, may create challenges and problems for the beneficiaries.

Chapter One

1.1. Project introduction

Targeting the Ultra Poor (TUP) project was designed to empower poor people who lack livelihood, health, education, and social facilities.

This project was implemented with the financial assistance of the International Agriculture Development Fund and with the technical assistance of BRAC in Yakawlang, Punjab, and Bamyan City of Bamyan Province.

The project has been an effective project in reducing poverty, creating jobs, increasing income, empowering household economies, increasing education level, accessing health services, providing food security, and other socially concealed components.

In total, this project targeted 400 families considered to be ultra-poor. They received livestock, trainings on environmental and human hygiene, and other form of assistances in rearing livestock.

1.2. Project Description

Targeting the Ultra-Poor project is part of the widespread, comprehensive and long-term initiative of the Government of Afghanistan, which was implemented by MISFA, aimed at eradicating poverty and achieving sustainable livelihoods in Bamyan province.

The project contained a support package that included livestock, livelihood training, community awareness, health and linking the beneficiaries to local and national markets and, finally, to financial institutions.

Targeting the Ultra-Poor project was piloted in 2010 in the districts of Yakawlang, Punjab, and Bamyan City in Bamyan Province. It was completed in 2013.

In the pilot, the project was executed in a period of three years. In the first six months, the staff was recruited and trained. In the second six months, stakeholders and beneficiaries of the project were selected and sensitized to the project. Finally, in the remaining 24 months, target families were assisted holistically, receiving the following through the TUP project: productive livestock, regular trainings and workshops, monthly stipend, environmental and human hygiene and sanitation training, and the establishment of facilities for rearing the livestock in accordance with veterinary principles.

1.3. Evaluation objectives

The TUP impact evaluation aims to examine the project's value for money, cost efficiency and effectiveness, and its impact on the following below:

- Value for money (comparison of invested funds with the available assets post project)

- Job creation and unemployment rate
- Poverty reduction
- Household income
- Level of education
- Food security
- Social welfare

Chapter Two: Research Methodology in Evaluation

2.1. Evaluation range

Thirty percent of the 400 families in Bamyan City, Punjab and Yakawlang districts, which constitute the total population of this evaluation and were directly targeted by the project, were selected as samples and the impact of the project was studied accordingly.

This chapter describes the method of evaluation and reflects the socio-economic impact after the implementation of the TUP project. The current methodology describes the quantity and quality of the project design and implementation, and the findings of this assessment include a set of facts and financial/economic results of the project which reflect the reduction in poverty, unemployment, and the provision of socio-economic welfare to beneficiaries in their communities.

2.2. Key indicators

The project has been evaluated in light of the following indicators:

- Access of 80 percent of people to development services facilitated by the project
- Decrease in incidence of malnutrition of children in targeted families
- Diversified and strengthened capital through the distribution of livestock to the families
- Participation of 60 percent of women in ultra-poor families in the public awareness programs on accessing the social and civil rights
- Reduction of poverty in the target areas
- Increased job opportunities at district and provincial levels in Bamyan province
- Increased revenues of the project beneficiaries
- Improved social well-being of beneficiaries (better access to electricity, mobile phones, collective intelligence, food security, adequate shelter, linkage with government and non-governmental institutions, increased purchasing power and women empowerment).

All the indicators identified in this project have helped to measure and analyze the economic outcomes of the project and have contributed to the quantitative and qualitative study of project results.

2.3. Evaluation items

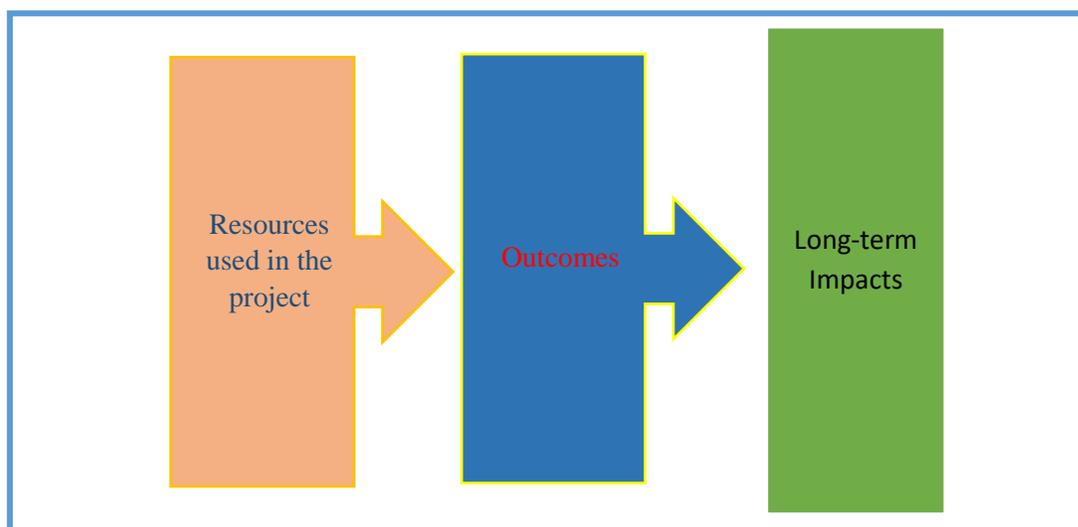
This assessment focuses on the socio-economic impact of the project and concentrates on changes in the lives of the project beneficiaries. In this evaluation, we have tried to meet and discuss with a group of beneficiaries targeted by the project in different localities, which has been selected as samples in this evaluation.

2.4. Statistics collection method

In this evaluation, efforts have been made to accurately collect statistics from samples. A survey tool with 30 questions was developed, most of which focused on financial and economic issues. In addition to the distribution of questionnaires, individual interviews were conducted with a number of beneficiaries and video clips to document evidence of the lives of TUP graduates.

2.5. Analysis methods

All the data and statistics were annotated in a database and a series of analysis using SPSS software were made. The data and statistics have been carefully evaluated by using some financial and economic formulas, such as the internal rate of return (IRR), Net Present Value (NPV), Cost Effectiveness (CE) and Cost-Benefit Ratio (C/BR) through Microsoft Excel.



The analysis of the long-term impacts of the project on the lives of the beneficiaries is based on a model shown in Figure 2.1 and is used to draw conclusions in the next chapters of this report. Economic and financial analysis has been carried out to better understand the relationship between resources, outcomes, and ultimately, long-term impacts of the project.

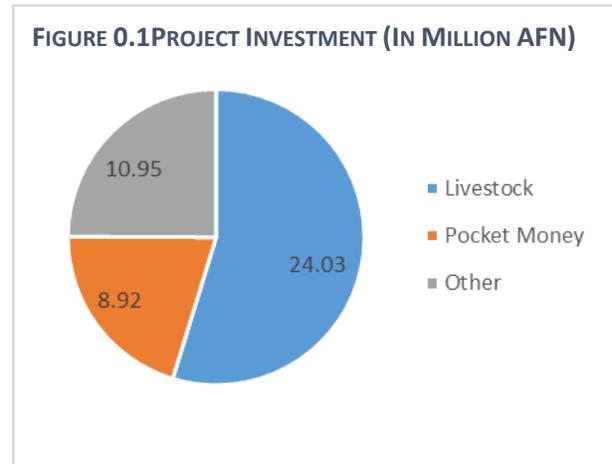
2.6. Socio-economic status

This evaluation was accomplished in order to obtain the socio-economic status of the project at the level of the communities targeted by the project and reflect the overall picture of the impact of the project on the lives of the beneficiaries.

Chapter Three: Findings of the Evaluation

3.1. Project expenditures

The project's budget was estimated to be AFN 52.48 million, with savings of AFN 8.9 million. An amount of AFN 43.90 million was spent on the project and the money saved was reallocated to another TUP project in Badakhshan province. Of the budget, an amount of AFN 8.90 million was used to purchase livestock and AFN 10.9 million to pay the monthly stipend of beneficiaries. Moreover, AFN 24 million was consumed to carryout workshops; provide veterinary and sanitation services, and purchase forage for the livestock for two years, and other administrative and operational expenses. This means that the cost per household was considered to be AFN 132,207 as per the proposal. However, an amount of AFN 109,750 per household was spent. In order to reduce and eliminate poverty in families, majority of the activities of the project were designed to develop the capacity of the beneficiaries in terms of decision-making in routine economic activities, the family system, hygiene, admission of family members to school. The remainder of the budget is spent on veterinary services, training workshops, management and operational costs of the activities.



As the implementing agency of the project, BRAC considered the following packages for the targeted families:

- An average grant amounting to AFN 21,000 for the procurement and rearing of productive assets(livestock)
- Paying a daily fee of AFN 50 for 1.5 years to reduce the vulnerability of the beneficiaries and make them focus on training and skills development
- Remaining budget was spent on operational costs of activities, accurate monitoring by project staff to a ratio of 1:40 (one employee for 40 beneficiaries)

Considering the potential sources and environmental conditions in the area, the project distributed 192 cows, 73 goats, and 850 sheep to the beneficiaries. Now, almost five years after the implementation of the project, the number of cows has increased to 794, the goats have increased to 810 and sheep have increased to 5,147. During this period, the beneficiaries used 387 cows, 307 goats, and 2,467 sheep to meet their needs. The beneficiaries now have 407 cows, 503 goats, and 2,680 sheep and they are rearing them for the purpose of reproduction, production of dairy products and animal dung (see Figure 3.2).

3.2. Impacts

The financial and socio-economic impacts of the project on the lives of the beneficiaries is measurable in terms of livelihood and poverty reduction, job creation, income generation, social development, women empowerment, life skills, and the role of economic productivity on enrolling school-age children, who are not going to school. Since the poverty reduction is at the forefront of the expected outcome of the project, it is further discussed in this evaluation report. The continuous training of the beneficiaries and the investment of the project on livestock and transferring them to the beneficiaries in order to create jobs and earn money are among the most important activities of the project. The long-term impacts of this project, considering the pre-established financial and economic objectives, are significant and are explicitly discussed under the following titles.

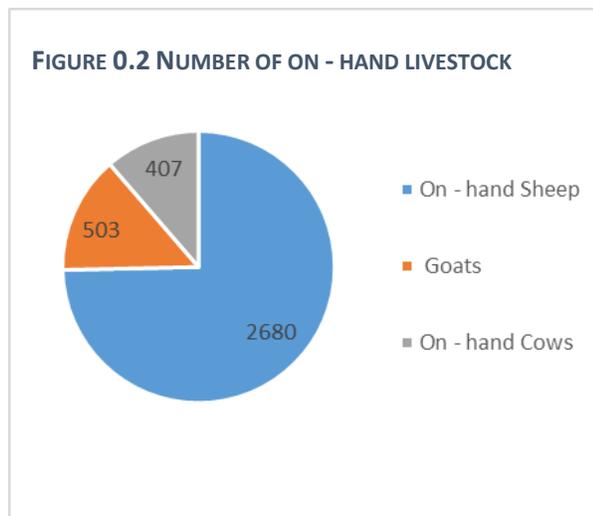


TABLE 0.1 PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

Expected Objectives	Outcomes	Success rate
Increase social welfare of targeted individuals up to 80 percent	Significant increase in the social welfare of individuals covered by the project	93.8%
Reducing Child Malnutrition in Targeted Families	Increased food safety in households covered by the project in terms of calories and protein	99.8%
Strengthening and diversifying capital through the distribution of livestock to families	All families who received livestock packages have been able to improve their welfare level and save a limited amount annually.	99.8%
Participation of 60 percent of women in ultra-poor families in the public awareness programs on accessing the social and civil rights	Generally, the packages were provided to female members of the family, but among the members of the family, the gender ratio is 59 percent of women and 41 percent of men.	98.3%

It should be noted that the table above reflects the indicators contained in the project's rational framework, as presented by MISFA in the project proposal, and their results are measured in the light of the findings of the evaluation. While other indicators such as income, unemployment, poverty reduction, food security, access to education, increased use of solar energy, increased use of suitable shelter, access to mobile phones, sanitation and the five main evaluation principles: Impact, Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency and Sustainability which are specified by the Ministry of Economy as the main indicators of the Afghanistan Living Condition Survey (ALCS-2016 & 2017) are measured.

3.2.1. Revenues

The average income earned in five years for each household is AFN 597,890 and the total income of 400 families is AFN 238.50million.

Each beneficiary family has dairy products on a seasonal basis, of which, 210 families supply their surplus milk and other dairy products to markets. The remainder of the beneficiaries spent their milk and dairy products as their own food needs. (See Table 3.1 and 3.4). In addition to producing and receiving income from dairy products, 393 beneficiaries use animal waste excrements (dung) for combustion purposes (cooking, heating) and sell their surplus. Also, a total of AFN 24.50 million cows, AFN 2.90 million goats, and AFN 26.70 million sheep have been sold which is included in the total revenue of the project.

FIGURE 0.3 VALUE OF THE SOLD AND ON - HAND LIVESTOCK (IN MILLION AFNS)

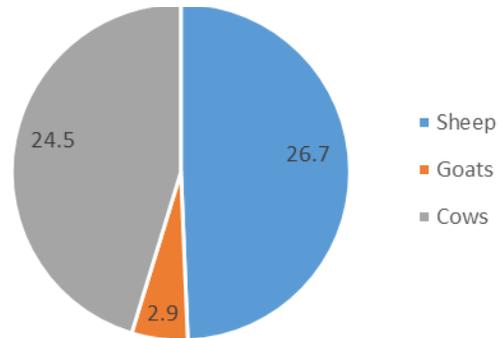


FIGURE 0.4 REVENUES OF PRODUCTS (IN MILLION AFNS)

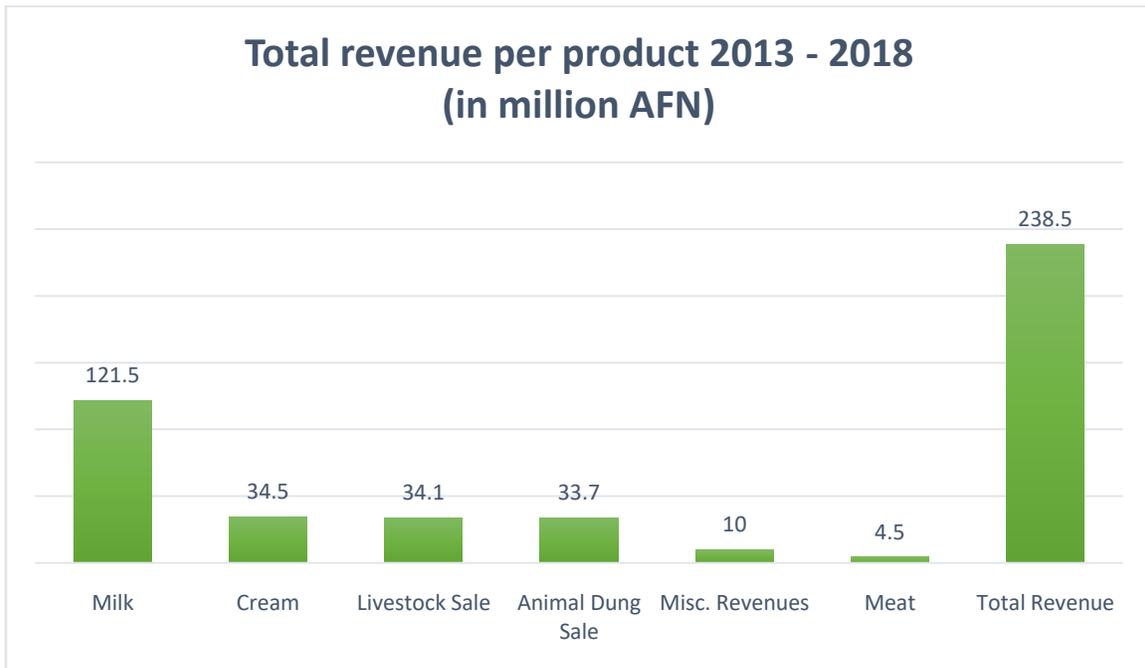


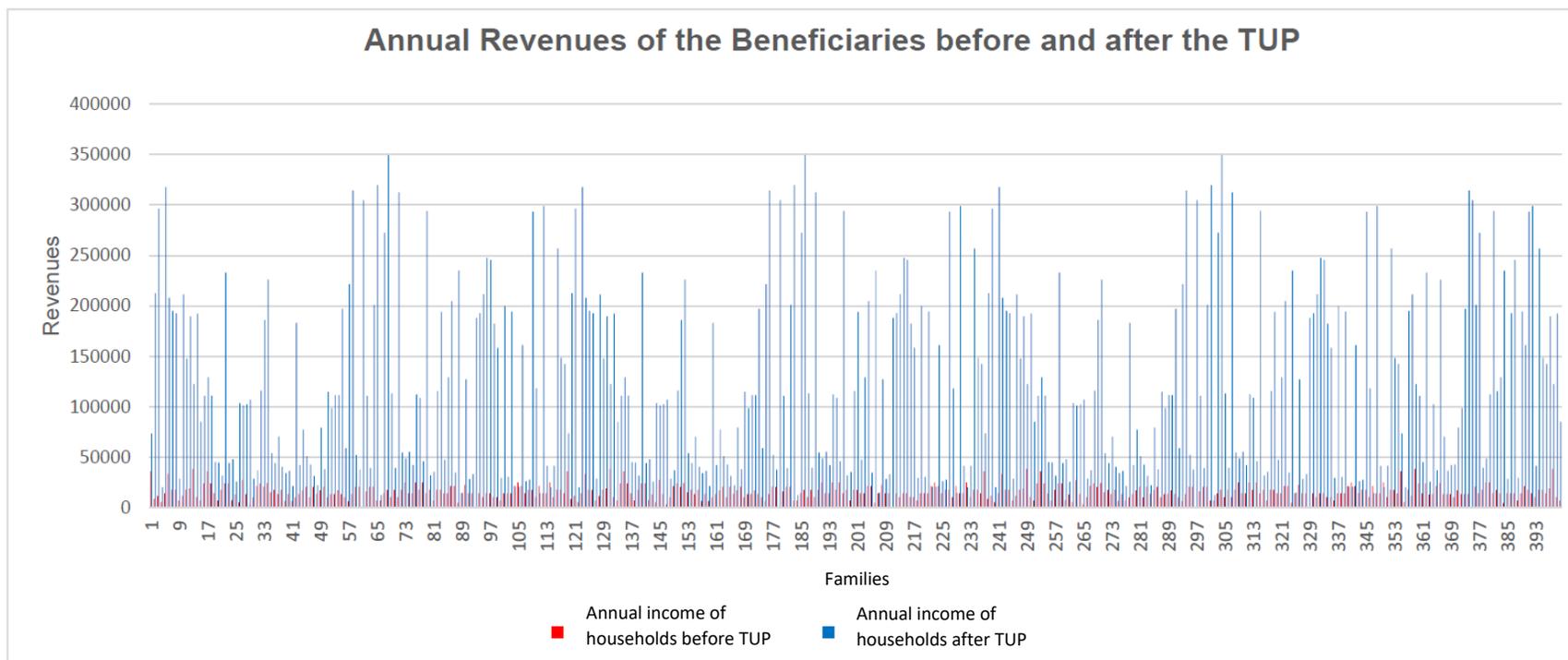
TABLE 0.2 ANNUAL REVENUES FOR 118 AND 400 FAMILIES (IN AFN)

Annual Revenues								
Total # of families	Milk Sale	Cream Sale	Livestock Sale	Dung Sale	Annual expenditure	Gross Annual Revenues	Net Annual Revenues	Total Annual Average Savings
118	7,174,200	2,048,171	2,318,019	1,989,899	309,057	14,419,258	14,099,289	236,000
400	24,319,322	6,908,757	7,857,612	6,745,420	1,047,650	48,878,841	47,831,191	786,667

The average gross annual income of families totaled AFN 48.87 million after project implementation, which is derived from the sale of dairy products, livestock and animal excrements (dung). After spending AFN 1.05 million in order to purchase forages, treat animals with vaccines, the net income received by the beneficiaries amounted to AFN 47.83 million.

Economically, the project generates good annual results for the beneficiaries, because all beneficiaries of this project are extremely poor families. Prior to the implementation of the project, their average annual revenue was AFN 16,071, which, after the implementation of the project, has increased to AFN 119,491. Figure 3.5 shows the increase in revenues of all beneficiaries compared to the pre-project implementation.

FIGURE 0.5 ANNUAL REVENUES OF THE BENEFICIARIES BEFORE AND AFTER THE TUP



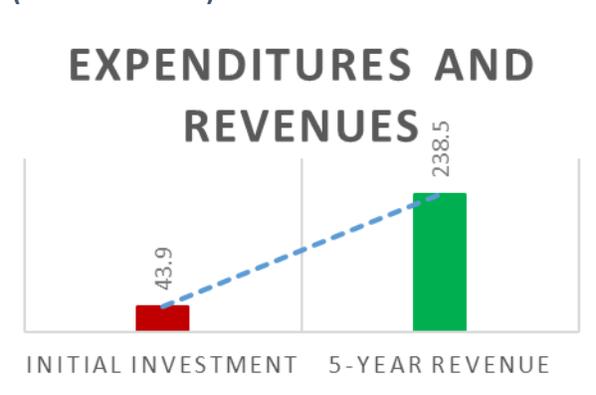
The total financial and economic revenue of the project is calculated to be 239.15 million Afghanis for a period of five years. The revenues come from an investment of AFN 43.90 million, which has covered 400 ultra-poor families, with a Return on Investment of AFN 47.83 million in a year. It should be noted that, on annual basis, these families save an average of 2,000 Afghanis after paying for their basic needs from their income, and the beneficiaries of the project have been linked with the financial and lending institutions. Thus, measuring the above indicators in terms of the effectiveness and efficiency of the project shows that the cumulative return of the project is five times the total amount invested on the project.

TABLE 0.3 MEASURING ECONOMIC INDICATORS FOR 118 AND 400 FAMILIES

Measuring Economic Indicators										
No. of Years	Duration of the Project (year)	Total Cost		Gross Annual Income		Annual Cost of Livestock rearing		Bank Interest Rate	Total Net Income	
		118 Families	400 Families	118 Families	400 Families	118 Families	400 Families		118 Families	400 Families
0	3	13170000	43900000	-	-	-	-	12%	(13170000)	(43900000)
1		-	-	14419258.2	48878841.3	309056.8	1047650	-	14110201	47831191.3
2		-	-	14419258.2	48878841.3	309056.8	1047650	-	14110201	47831191.3
3		-	-	14419258.2	48878841.3	309056.8	1047650	-	14110201	47831191.3
4		-	-	14419258.2	48878841.3	309056.8	1047650	-	14110201	47831191.3
5		-	-	14419258.2	48878841.3	309056.8	1047650	-	14110201	47831191.3
-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70551007	239155956
-		CE	CE	C/BR	C/BR	NPV	NPV		IRR	IRR
-		15678.6	15678.6	5.4	5.4	33655463	114750660.68		104%	106%

According to the economic and financial evaluations of the project, the NPV of the project is AFN 114.75 million, which provides a positive cash flow within 5 years, the IRR is obtained to be 106percent, which represents a significant figure for annual revenues compared to a bank interest rate of 12percent and reflects the effectiveness of the investment. In other words, if the invested amount was kept as a saving in commercial banks, and after five years, an annual amount of 12percent interest was payable by the bank as the profit while the project generates %106of the revenue annually.

FIGURE 0.6 FIVE - YEAR EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES (IN MILLION AFNs)



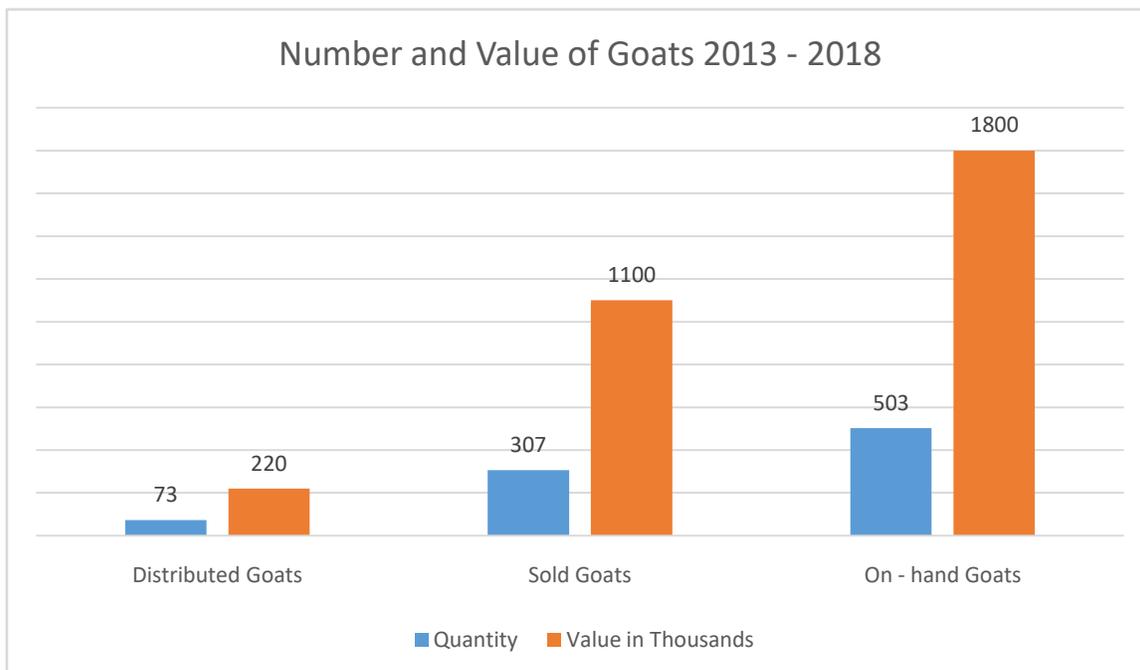
The CE of the project is calculated to be AFN 15,678.6 and the CB/R is measured to be 5.4. This means that during the five years, each Afghani has increased by 5.4 times.

Thus, measuring the above indicators in terms of effectiveness and affordability of the project shows that the revenues of the project are five times higher than the expenditures.

According to Fig. 3.7, the number of cows, compared to the number of distributed cows, has increased four times and the value of the sold cows is nine times bigger than the value of distributed cows.

As shown in figure 3.8, the number of existing goats has increased seven times compared to the number of distributed goats and the value of sold goats has increased eight times the value of distributed goats.

FIGURE 0.7 NUMBER AND VALUE OF GOATS (IN THOUSAND AFNs)



According to Figure 3.9, the number of sheep, in comparison to the number of distributed sheep, has increased threefold and the value of the sold sheep has increased twice as compared to the value of the distributed sheep. It should be noted that the project has been evaluated at the provincial level and at the districts where the project was implemented with taking into account the basic indicators presented in ALCS.

The increase in the number of distributed livestock, as well as the production of dairy products and animal excrements, are among the beneficial results of the project which generates average revenue of AFN 47.83 million. This amount is a significant figure compared to an investment of AFN 43.90 million and represents the success of the project after its implementation (see Figure 3.10).

The main reason for the efficiency and successful implementation of the project was the interest of the beneficiaries and the suitability of the environmental conditions in the targeted area.

FIGURE 0.8 NUMBER AND VALUE OF COWS (IN TEN THOUSAND AFNS)

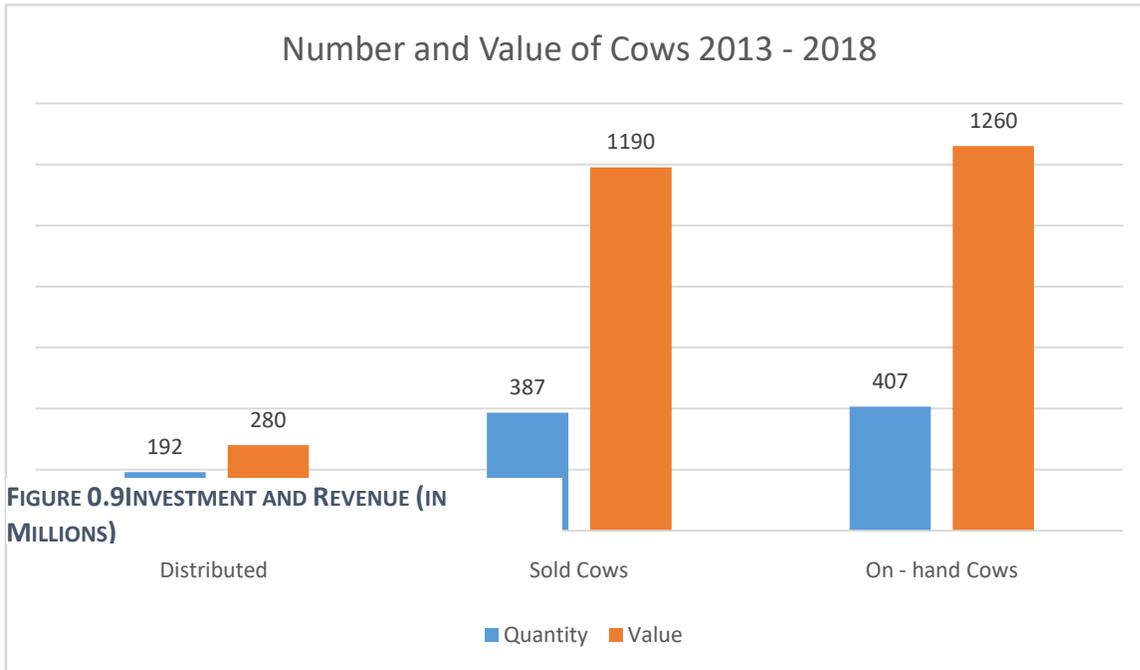
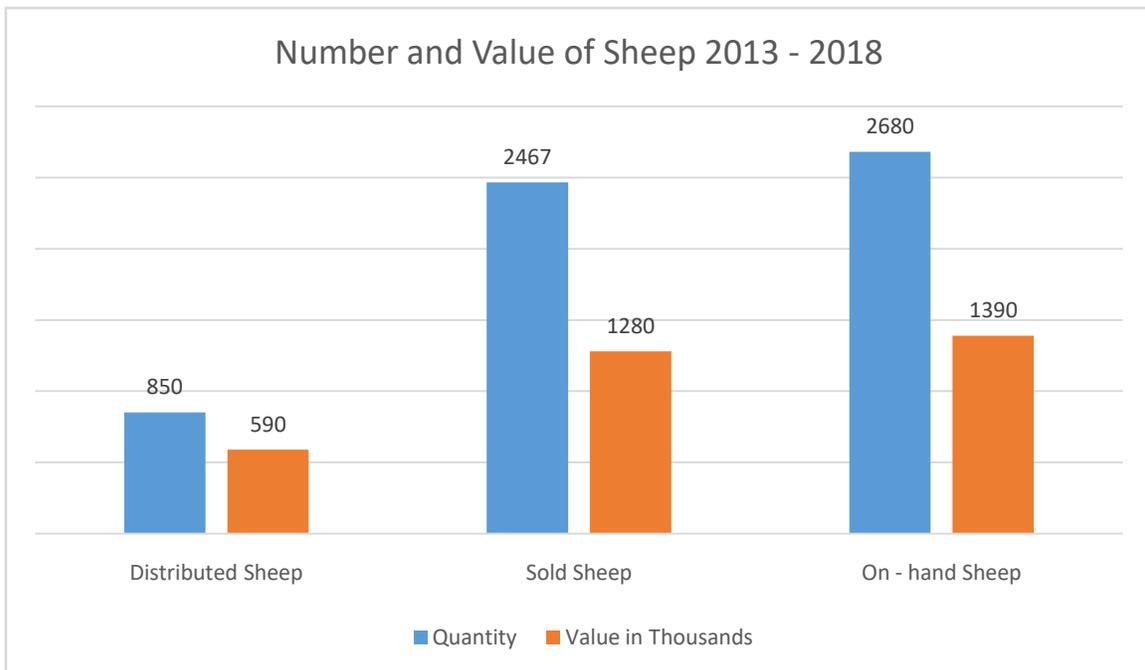
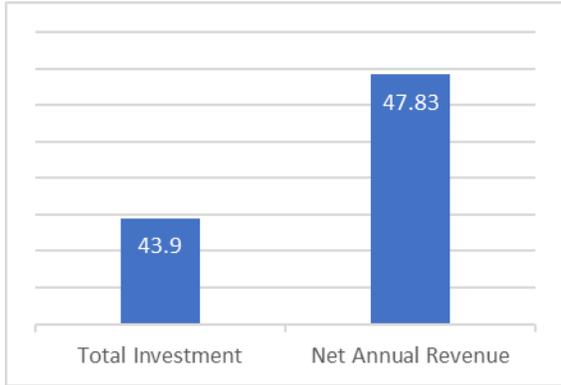


FIGURE 0.10 NUMBER AND VALUE OF SHEEP (IN THOUSAND AFNS)



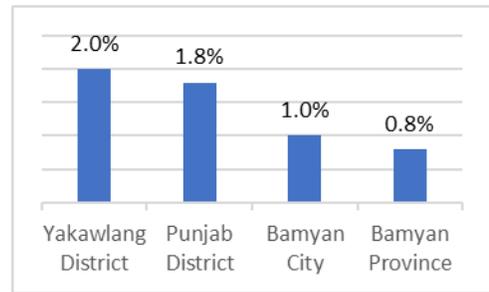
**FIGURE 0.12 INVESTMENT AND REVENUE
(IN MILLIONS FAN)**



3.2.2. Reducing unemployment

According to the findings of this evaluation, the implementation of this project in Bamyan province has resulted in 873 self-employment in rearing livestock and working around eight (8) hours per day. Similarly, if we measure the rate of self-employment at the level of the Yakawlang, Punjab, and Bamyan City; the project has generated 314, 351 and 209 self-employment opportunities respectively.

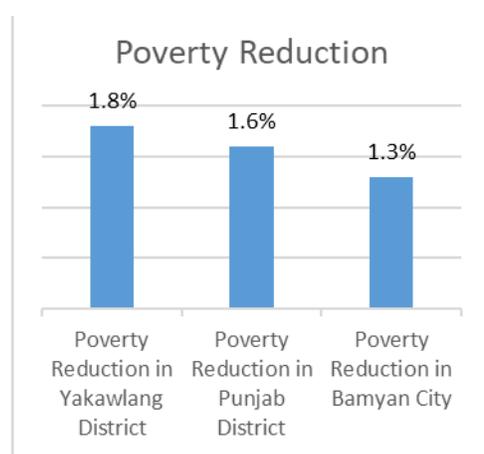
FIGURE 0.11 UNEMPLOYMENT REDUCTION RATE



3.2.3. Poverty reduction

According to the figures provided by the Central Statistics Organization (CSO), the percentage of poverty in SY 1395 in Bamyan¹ province was 61.34 percent. Considering the population of Bamyan province (78,424), the number of individuals living in poverty reached 293,465. The implementation of the project has reduced the poverty rate in Bamyan province by 1 percent. If we measure the poverty reduction level in the Yakawlang, Punjab, and Bamyan City; the project had resulted in 735, 734 and 492 people respectively (See Figure 3.12). Obviously, a monthly income of

FIGURE 0.13 POVERTY REDUCTION



¹ Major findings of the SY 1395 Afghanistan Living Condition Survey

less than AFN 2,064 per individual is putting him/her below the poverty line.

3.2.4. Food security

According to the data provided by the Central Statistics Organization², 44.6 percent of people in the country suffer from food insecurity, of which 213,377 of them reside in Bamyan province. Therefore, implementation of the project has improved food security for 2,800 beneficiaries of the project who directly consume livestock products (meat, milk, yogurt, cream, cheese, etc...). If we consider this figure at the level of the Yakawlang, Punjab, and Bamyan City, the project had led to food security for 1,050, 1,037, and 713 people, respectively (See Fig. 3.13).

(The daily minimum calorie and protein consumption is 2,100cl and 45 grams respectively.)

3.2.5. Level of access to education

According to the figures presented in the statistical yearbook of 1390 (2011), the attendance rate of the students in primary, secondary, and higher education across the country was 30. Percent. Based on that, the level of attendance of students in Bamyan province during the mentioned year was listed to be 146,252 people. The findings of this evaluation indicate that the implementation of this project in 1397 caused an increase of 0.8 percent in the attendance rate of students in Bamyan province (see Figure 14.3). Also, the number of students in Yakawlang, Punjab and Bamyan City increased by 429, 427 and 284 individuals respectively.

3.2.6. Increased use of solar energy

Using the revenues of economic activities of the project, a total of 2,800 people benefited from solar energy. According to the figures³; 100,469 people (representing 21 percent of the population of the province) were using solar energy in 1390 (2011). Based on the above figures, access to solar energy has increased by 2.8 percent in Bamyan province (see Figure 3.15). At the level of the district of Yakawlang, Punjab and Bamyan City; 1,050, 1,047 and 700 people gained access to solar energy, respectively.

FIGURE 0.16 INCREASE IN FOOD SECURITY

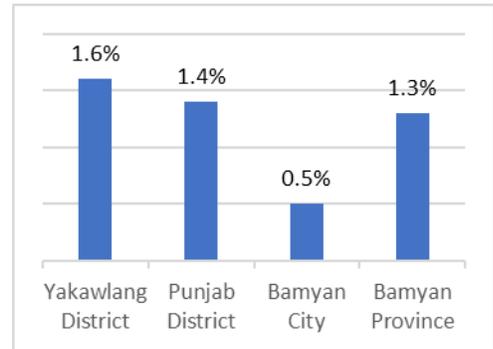


FIGURE 0.14 INCREASE IN THE ATTENDANCE OF STUDENTS IN PRIMARY, SECONDARY AND HIGHER EDUCATION

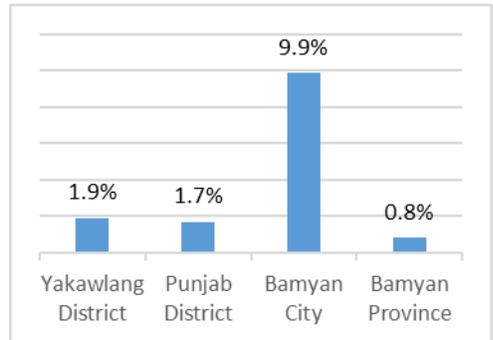
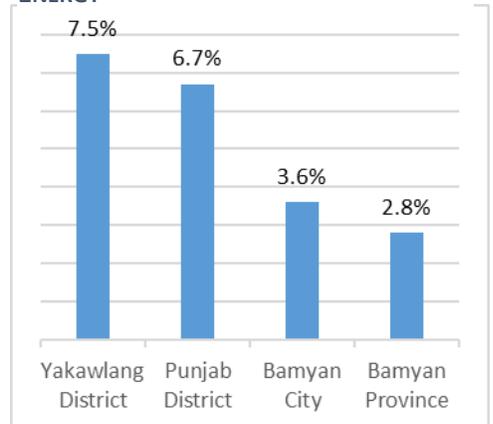


FIGURE 0.15 INCREASED USE OF SOLAR ENERGY



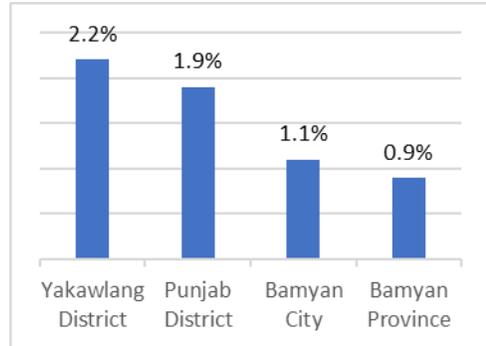
² Major findings of the SY 1395 Afghanistan Living Condition Survey, page 3

³ Bamyan Provincial Profile, SY 1390 (2011)

3.2.7. Increased use of suitable shelter

In Bamyan Province in 1390 (2011), about 65.5 percent of the total population (313,274 people) did not have access to suitable shelters. The implementation of the project has made it possible for 2.2 percent people in Yakawlang district, 1.9 percent in Punjab district, 1.1 percent in Bamyan City and for a total of 1 percent population at the provincial level to get proper shelter.

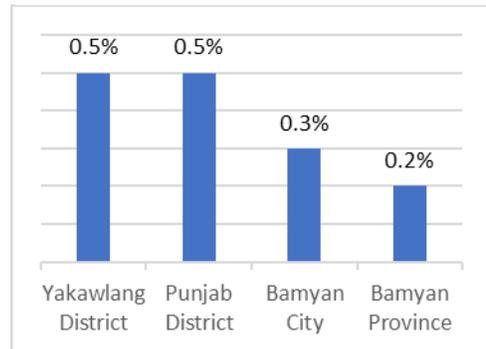
FIGURE 0.17 INCREASED USE OF SUITABLE SHELTER



3.2.8. Rate of access to mobile phones

39.2 percent of the total population of the country do not have access to mobile phones. According to the above figures, 187,359 people in Bamyan Province did not have mobile phones; however, the implementation of the project has increased the usage of mobile phones by 0.2 percent at the provincial level, 0.5 percent at the level of Yakawlang district, 0.5 percent in the district of Punjab and 0.3 percent in the city of Bamyan.

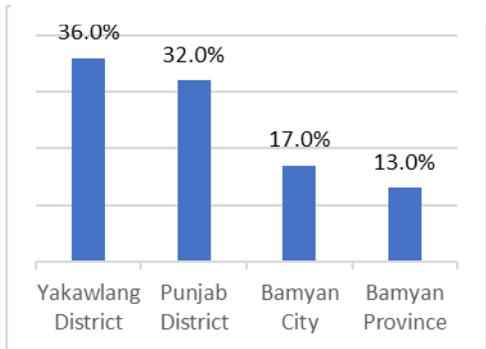
FIGURE 0.18 INCREASED USE OF MOBILE PHONES



3.2.9. Hygiene

One of the important activities of the project was conducting workshops and raising public awareness about human and environmental hygiene that has been effective in helping beneficiaries' health. A number of latrines were built in the targeted areas and the beneficiaries use them appropriately. Based on the figures⁴, the level of latrine utilization in the Bamyan province was 4.3 percent (2,060 people) and the implementation of the project has increased the level of toilet utilization to 13 percent at the provincial level and to 36, 32 percent, and 17 percent in Yakawlang, Punjab and Bamyan City level respectively (see Figure 3.18). This increase was due to the public's interest in family hygiene and it has reduced the rate of disease prevalence and illness in family members. In spite of being aware of hygiene, due to the lack of water supply networks and indoor wells, the beneficiaries still use stream and river water as the source of drinking water and other necessities.

FIGURE 0.19 INCREASED USE OF TOILETS



⁴Bamyan Provincial Profile, SY 1390 (2011)

3.2.10. Gender

The implementation of this project has benefited 59percent women (1,681 women) and 41percentmen (1,179 men). The beneficiaries of the project use distributed livestock to include cows, goats, and sheep coupled with the appendices for financial, economic, social and health empowerment.

3.3.Relevance

Targeting the Ultra-Poor project has direct relevance with the Afghanistan Sustainable Development Goals (A-SDGs).

3.3.1. The role of the TUP project in achieving Afghanistan Sustainable Development Goals

TABLE 0.4 COMPARING THE PROJECT FINDINGS AND ADAPTATION THEM TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Number	Afghanistan Sustainable Development Goals	Consistency of the evaluation findings with SDGs
1	Target 1.1: Eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere	The project has reduced poverty by 0.8percent in Bamyan province and at Yakawlang district, Punjab, and Bamyan City by %2, 1.8 percent, and 1 percent respectively.
2	Target 2.1: End hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular, the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round	The project has strengthened access to food safety by 1.3 percent in Bamyan province and at Yakawlang, Punjab, and Bamyan City by 3.5 percent, 3.2 percent, and 1.9percentrespectively.
3	Target 4.1: Provide all girls and boys with a high-quality education	The project has been able to increase access to education in the Yakawlang district by 1.9 percent, in the Punjab district by 1.7 percent, in the city by 9.9 percent and in general, access to education has increased by 0.8 percent, at the provincial level.
4	Target 6.2: Achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations	TUP Project has increased the level of access and utilization of Toilets at the provincial level by 13 percent, in the Yakawlang district by36 percent, in the Punjab district by32 percent, in the city by17percent.
5	Target 7.1: ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services	The project has been able to increase the use of renewable energy in Bamyan by 2.8 percent and in the Yakawlang, Punjab, and Bamyan City7.5, 6.7 percent, and 3.6 percent, respectively.
6	Target 11.1: ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and	The project was able to increase usage level of proper shelter by 0.9 percent in

	basic services and upgrade slums	Bamyan province, 2.2 percent in Yakawlang district, 1.9 in Punjab district and %0.9 in the Bamyan City.
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3.4. Effectiveness

The project has been able to distribute livestock based on the project plan, the suitability of the climatic and environmental conditions, and the identification of eligible people. This has led to economic prosperity and an increase in household income levels. The activities of the project not only played an important role in improving the lives of the beneficiaries, but also indirectly provided incidental benefits to other people outside the project through the sale of dairy and animal products, as well as food and forage, medications and vaccines, tending and rearing animals and animal butchering in local markets. In this way, development services act as a value chain and are passed from one person to another and generate income for a number of people in localities and local markets.

The beneficiaries of this project have been able to reduce malnutrition among children and other family members by obtaining enough food through the production of dairy and animal products and monetization of their sales. The daily production and consumption of dairy products such as milk, yogurt, cream, cheese, and butter, as well as the consumption of meat of slaughtered animals which are high in protein, minerals, vitamins, and calories, plays an important role in reducing malnutrition.

Distributed livestock – cows, goats, and sheep– is tended and reproduced according to the climatic and geographic conditions of localities and has economic advantages in meeting the social needs of the beneficiaries. The beneficiaries of the project have been able to purchase supplies and accessories for their needs through the sale of some animal babes. For instance, one of the beneficiaries of this project, Mr. Hassan Ali, from the village of Kata Khan Bala in Yakawlang district, states:

“In the first year, they distributed three sheep. The three sheep annually gave birth to one or two lambs. We build our house by selling them. We bought cabinets for dishes. We used their wool to make the mattress and we sold their oil, yogurt and other products. Now we have 12 lambs and sheep. So far we have sold 21 sheep and each year in the month of Muharram we slaughter one for the sake of Imam Hussein for God. Also, I slaughtered one sheep in my son's wedding which had 49 kg of meat. During this time, unfortunately, three sheep have died out of the effect of the disease called red intestines.”

In view of these remarks and some comments and suggestions from the public to extend the project in other areas of Bamyan, as included in the annexes to this report, it seems that the transferred assets had improved the lives of the beneficiaries in terms of providing them with economic and social facilities.

According to the project proposal document and the findings of this evaluation, the project has helped the poorest community members in pre-defined areas, with the majority of these beneficiaries being women.

Launching and conducting training workshops on human and environmental hygiene, life skills, the introduction of economic enterprises, the introduction of social welfare facilities such as health clinics, the introduction of legal and civil institutions, and the introduction of other local organs for women have

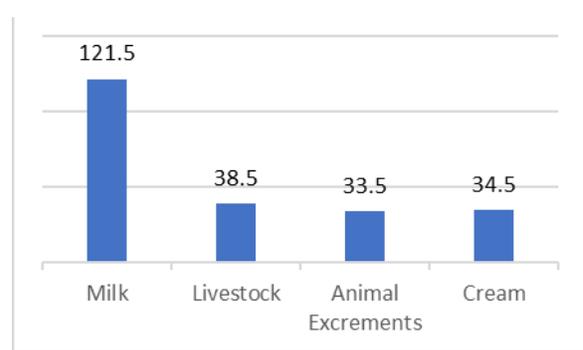
been advantageous. Thus, after the implementation of the project, the beneficiaries have reduced the pressure from their economic, psychological and social factors, and feel better and more capable in life.

It should be noted that the project has achieved about 97percent of targets for poverty reduction, women's empowerment and the economic growth of ultra-poor families. Given the results of the past five years and the rapid economic growth of the livestock activities and livestock reproduction, and based on the progressive principles, over the next few years, there will be significant economic growth and better empowerment of families, especially of women.

Conducting workshops to raise the awareness of families on health, social, environmental, livestock rearing, vaccination of humans and livestock, methods of obtaining financial and monetary resources from the lending institutions, the growth and prosperity of trades , ways of connecting families to local and national markets, livestock distribution, gardening and other implicit components are considered to be major positive and influential factors in meeting the goals and objectives of the project.

It should be noted that investing in such high-profile projects will empower families economically and socially. In order to ensure precise control over the process of project implementation and to ensure that the objectives are met, monitoring and evaluation are carried out. But the evaluation was not conducted in the middle and end of the project, so that, the stakeholders back then were aware of how the project was projected and expected.

FIGURE 0.20 5 – YEAR VALUE OF PROJECT PRODUCTS



3.5. Efficiency

In most cases, this project has been able to reduce the level of costs. Approximately AFN 9 million remaining from the funded budget is returned to the donor Agency (MISFA) after implementation. This suggests savings in the project expenditures. The project has been able to carry out its activities according to the planned schedule within three years. Recruitment and training of staff, the identification, and selection of beneficiaries, the training of beneficiaries and the distribution of livestock as movable assets to them and other previously mentioned activities, were conducted based on the schedule of the project. Transparency in the identification of ultra-poor people and financial assistance and the transfer of assets to them is considered to be the success of the project. It should be noted that distributing livestock in accordance with the suitability of geography and on-hand potential facilities in the district has yielded successful results.

3.6. Sustainability

After the implementation of this project, the beneficiaries have gained and used the knowledge and skills learned and the assets achieved to promote economic and social activities. These people have

received the necessary skills in livestock health care, nutrition, and family economics, and have benefited from their experience in livestock rearing, reproduction, and consumption of animal meat, and the usage and sale of animal dung for combustion purposes. By selling dairy products, dung, and some livestock, the beneficiaries have been able to purchase their other daily needs, such as food, supplies input and equipment for livestock rearing. In addition to the above, the below factors have contributed to the continuity and sustainability of the project:

- a. Suitable climatic conditions and availability of pastures for livestock
- b. People's interest in livestock
- c. The high level of motivation of the beneficiaries in tending the livestock and the equipment obtained
- d. Increased awareness of sanitation

The implementing agency had adequate ability and experience in providing services for poverty eradication and raising the family income of deprived people. However, in order to be able to manage the activities in a better way, it did not precisely follow up and livestock rearing. The number of animal clinics and providers of veterinary services in the localities and districts was low and, therefore, sometimes it did not allow the treatment of animal diseases which resulted in the loss of the livestock. These factors contribute to the transmission of animal diseases from one area to another, causing mortality among livestock. Such a situation for the beneficiaries of the project is threatening and fragile, leading to the loss of livestock and the loss of profitable assets due to the lack of sufficient veterinary services in the areas covered by the project.

3.7. Challenges and constraints of the evaluation

The project is a small project, but, from a socio-economic point of view, it is viable for future projects and programs. Some problems have emerged during the project evaluation process, which are listed as challenges and constraints of the evaluation:

- Absence of baseline survey and feasibility studies
- Lack of evaluation data and statistics since the evaluation was not carried out during and at the end of the project.
- Absence of the implementing agency (BRAC) in the country after the implementation of the project, which could have provided further information for this assessment.
- More than five years lapsed after the project implementation and lack of project awareness by third parties

Chapter Four: Conclusion and Recommendations

4.1. Conclusion

Despite being a pilot project to reduce poverty in the districts of Bamyan province, the project has had a tangible financial, economic and social effect on the beneficiaries and the beneficiaries have made the best use of it. Transfer of assets, ongoing workshops to create capacity for better economic activities, providing information on veterinary services, sanitation, as well as linking the beneficiaries to public and private institutions and health clinics have been extremely effective and had tremendous effects. The distribution of livestock and its appendices on the basis of the suitable climate, environment and individual interest of the beneficiaries made the project effective and consistent. The individual's interest and ability to earn additional income over the years after the project end is due to the increase in dairy and animal products and sales at localities and local markets. The successful returns of this project have resulted in improved lifestyles and economic activities of the beneficiaries.

The project has played a major role in the self-employment of beneficiaries in the three districts of Bamyan province, and such job opportunities have increased the family incomes and ultimately increased the purchasing power of the beneficiaries. Thus, having adequate income to provide adequate food for families plays an important role. Fortunately, the beneficiaries of this project, in addition to income, also used dairy products and livestock meat and reduced malnutrition among children and other family members.

Prior to the execution of the project, the beneficiaries were living in caves, tents, and unsuitable houses; however, after the implementation of the project, all the beneficiaries have been able to make and use suitable shelters.

The increase in psychosocial and economic abilities of the families has increased the inclusiveness and presence of children and adolescents in schools and has raised the number of admissions. Also, the project had a positive impact on increasing the presence of students in primary, secondary and higher education at the provincial level in Bamyan. The beneficiaries of this project, having received enough income, have been able to benefit from electricity by purchasing solar energy products. The use of the lanterns, cell phones, satellite TVs and antennas is possible by using solar energy in remote areas. Having appropriate revenues and electricity has paved the way for using electronic devices, especially mobile phones, and it is being used as an appropriate means of communicating with each other on social and economic issues in distant areas.

The project has been effective in hygiene and sanitation for the beneficiaries in the areas covered by the project through building toilets. This has prevented outdoor urination and improved family and environmental hygiene. It has reduced the prevalence of diseases, but unfortunately, in spite of being aware of hygiene, due to the lack of water supply networks and indoor wells, currently, the beneficiaries use stream and river water as the source of drinking water and other necessities.

The ability of women has increased financially, economically and socially, as women constitute the majority of beneficiaries of the project. Women have benefited from the facilities and assets that have been transferred to them and the project directly targeted them.

Job creation, relatively good income, poverty reduction, increased food security, access to primary, secondary and tertiary education, access to electricity and the use of electronic equipment such as the lanterns, radios, televisions and cell phones, sanitation and women empowerment and linking the beneficiaries to the important public and private institutions have helped the beneficiaries in achieving socioeconomic prosperity.

4.2. Recommendations

- In order to sustain the impacts of the project, the responsible institutions should cover the beneficiaries in the technical and modern fields and continue to review the progress and the results of the activities.
- The current evaluation has only been conducted to measure the impact of the project on its direct beneficiaries and has not focused on value chain businesses developed by the project. Subsequent evaluations could elaborate on the above-mentioned sections.
- Targeting the Ultra-Poor Project was fully implemented in 2013, and the assessment was carried out five years after its implementation. During this period, the project implementer, a Bangladesh origin company operating under a non-governmental organization (BRAC) also left Afghanistan.
- Government officials in charge of the province and districts at the time no longer assume those positions so we could not ask for their views on this project as key project partners. Therefore, the evaluation of such projects should take place at least two years after the implementation of the projects in order to provide a clear picture from different angles.
- The requests and suggestions of the people for extending the project to other districts and neighborhoods have been reviewed. If possible, it is best to implement the project in other areas where it is needed.

References

- TUP Project Documents, 2013.
- Statistical Yearbook of 1390 (2011).
- Afghanistan Living Condition Survey, 1395.
- Bamyan Provincial Profile, 1390 (2011).

Annexes

- Annex No. 1: Requests and suggestions of the public to extend the project to other parts of Bamyan province
- Annex No. 2: Data Collection Questionnaire

Attachment No. (1)

In the Name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful.

To: Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock and donor of the TUP project in Bamyan

Targeting the Ultra-Poor project is one of the effective projects for poor families. The project is being implemented by the BRAC in Yakawlang district and has targeted 150 families. The organization has distributed cows and sheep to the beneficiaries which have improved the lives of the beneficiaries.

Since the project has been very effective for the poor families, we request the Ministry and the Donor to extend the project so that they can re-start their activities and fulfill the desires of poor people.

Sincerely

//Signed//

Request letter of the Development Council of Bamyan City

To: Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock

Respectfully

The Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock has successfully implemented a successful project called Targeting the Ultra-Poor for three years, through the BRAC organization for 400 families in the Bamyan City, Yakawlang and Punjab districts. The project has achieved good results and the target families today have become self-sufficient and we are grateful for this contribution.

Since Bamyan is a cold weather province and has a long winter, and there are very fewer job opportunities in this province, the majority of its inhabitants are living under poor living conditions.

So, we, representatives of the Development Councils of Bamyan City, request the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock to extend the project for other families in this province and help us in this regard.

//Signed//

In the Name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful.

To: Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock and donor of the TUP project in Punjab District of Bamyan Province

Targeting the Ultra-Poor project is one of the successful projects of the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock. The project is being implemented by the BRAC in Punjab district and has targeted 150 families. The beneficiaries have received cows and sheep through the project and the project has helped them with human hygiene and livelihood. As a result, the beneficiaries have become self-sufficient and enjoy a better life. So we, representatives of the Development Councils representing the Punjab district people, request you to continue the project and help us in reducing the poverty.

Sincerely

//Signed//

Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock
Bamyan Province
Directorate of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock

No.: 288

Date: 1392/4/26

To: Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock (MAIL)
Subject: Extending the TUP project in other districts of Bamyan Province

The TUP project was started in 2010, with the direct cooperation of MAIL, by the MISFA in Punjab, Yakawlang and Bamyan City and was successfully ended in June of the ongoing year. The poor people and the provincial Officials of Bamyan are extremely satisfied with the effective results of the TUP Project which targeted 400 Ultra-Poor families using the well-known model of TUP.

Public requests and suggestions are included as annexes to this letter.

Since the project, implemented by MISFA, have brought positive changes in the living conditions of 400 poor families, the Governor of Bamyan kindly requests the leadership of MAIL to extend the project in other districts of this province.

It is hoped that extending the project will bring positive changes and will address the needs of other poor people.

In conclusion, we thank you once again for your constant cooperation.

Sincerely,
Dr. Habiba Sarabi
Bamyan Governor

Attachment No. 2: Questionnaire/Survey tool



Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Ministry of Economy

The Economic Analysis Questionnaire for the TUP Project

This questionnaire was used to collect information related to the economic analysis of the TUP project implemented by MISFA in Bamyan province and has 30 questions.

Name of the Project	Targeting the Ultra-Poor
Owner	MISFA
Analyst Department	Department of Economic Analysis and Infrastructure Sharing - Ministry of Economy
Project location	Bamyan province
Data collection site	Yakawlang, Punjab, and Bamyan City
Date of data collection	1397/6/31 – 1397/7/4
Type of questionnaire	Open-ended Question
Sampling size	120 households
Total Project Volume	400 households

If questions are increased during the collection of information, the number of questions cannot be changed and can only be used in alphabetical or subset numbers based on the question number.

Economic Impact Evaluation of the TUP Project - Bamyan Province - MoEc

Series number ()

Number	Questions	Answers
1	How many family members do you have?	
2	How many family members are men?	
3	How many family members are women?	
4	How many under-aged people are there in your family?	Up to 14 <input type="checkbox"/> Bigger than 60 <input type="checkbox"/>
5	How many people are working with livestock?	
6	How much is the monthly income of TUP households?	
7	How much was the monthly income of households before TUP?	
8	How much product do you daily get from livestock? (Milk, yogurt, cream, Lassi, cheese)	Milk <input type="checkbox"/> yogurt <input type="checkbox"/> cream <input type="checkbox"/> Lassi <input type="checkbox"/> Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>
9	What is the price per kilo of milk, yogurt, cream, Lassi, cheese?	Milk <input type="checkbox"/> yogurt <input type="checkbox"/> cream <input type="checkbox"/> Lassi <input type="checkbox"/> Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>
10	What is the net price per kilo of milk, yogurt, cream, Lassi, cheese?	Milk <input type="checkbox"/> yogurt <input type="checkbox"/> cream <input type="checkbox"/> Lassi <input type="checkbox"/> Cheese <input type="checkbox"/>
11	How many cows did you get through the TUP project?	
12	How many sheep did you get through the TUP project?	
13	How many goats did you get through the TUP project?	
14	How many cows have died since 2013?	
15	How many goats have died since 2013?	
16	How many sheep have died since 2013?	
17	How many cows do you have now?	
18	How many goats do you have now?	
19	How many sheep do you have now?	
20	What is the value of a cow now?	
21	What is the value of a sheep now?	
22	What is the value of a goat now?	
23	How much was the price of a cow in 2013?	
24	How much was the price of a sheep in 2013?	
25	How much was the price of a goat in 2013?	
26	How many cows have you sold so far?	
27	How many sheep have you sold so far?	
28	How many goats have you sold so far?	
29	How many family members are attending school?	
30	Other information	