

January 2017

## Purdue University Afghanistan Activities

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Dr. McNamara has been engaged in Afghanistan since March, 2002 when he was invited to Kabul by the then Ministry of Higher Education for the re-opening of Kabul University after the fall of the Taliban. Since the initial visit, Dr. McNamara has been the principal investigator for 12 Purdue University capacity building projects to build individual and institutional capacity for Afghanistan's food sector. These projects include seven university capacity building projects, four Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, Livestock (MAIL) capacity building projects, one Ministry of Public Health capacity building project, and one National Guard Agribusiness Development Team (ADT) training program.

Dr. McNamara has worked to leverage Purdue projects with other organizations and programs to increase the impact and sustainability of the programs, and to support Afghan institutional capacity building. Dr. McNamara developed on-going Afghan/US/Indian university partnerships for Afghan graduate training, short-term and graduate educational opportunities for university and ministry staff, partnerships with U.S. and Indian universities, managed facility development (university buildings, labs, classrooms, irrigation systems, and farms), and developed English language programs for agriculture staff and students along with and a number of other institutional capacity building efforts. The programs have improved university teaching facilities, strengthened MAIL staff technical skills and outreach programs, built public sector-government linkages, established collaboration between National Guard ADTs and Afghan universities, established direct engagement between universities and NGOs on the ground in Afghanistan, and created collaborative linkages between public Afghan agencies and farmers, private firms, and NGOs in the broader agriculture sector. Under Dr. McNamara's supervision the Purdue programs have provided graduate education for 29 MS and PhD students at Purdue University, 89 faculty for MS and PhD programs in India, and 128 Afghans for short-term training at Purdue,

A summary of Purdue programs follows below. An overview of Purdue Afghanistan program activities is available at: <https://ag.purdue.edu/ipia/Pages/afghanistan.aspx>

***University Support and Workforce Development Program***  
***2014 – 2018, USAID***

Purdue is partnering with the Herat University Faculty of Agriculture to develop a food technology department at Herat University, and with the agriculture faculties at Balkh, Kandahar, Khost, Kunduz and Nangarhar universities to establish agribusiness management programs under this project. Purdue is working with the Afghan universities to train faculty to staff these programs and work with the university agriculture programs to develop the programs and integrate them into the broader agricultural sector. The program effort includes MS scholarships for up to 9 junior Afghan faculty in India, semester long training at Purdue for 8 senior faculty members, and a number of 2 week trainings held in Afghanistan. Purdue has two long-term expat staff in Afghanistan to manage program development.

***Purdue-Herat University Agriculture College Partnership***  
***2013 – 2017, US Department of State***

The partnership is designed to help Herat University develop their College of Agriculture teaching and research programs through a variety of exchanges and training programs that will bring a large number of the Herat faculty to Purdue. The project includes semester long and 9 week faculty exchanges (Herat faculty to Purdue) and student exchanges (Herat students to Purdue). These efforts will help faculty members to improve their teaching programs and to build collaborative research projects with Purdue faculty. Programs for junior faculty members will provide intensive training on teaching and research methods and involve the faculty members in a variety of on-campus at Purdue activities that will strengthen their academic backgrounds, improve their teaching skills, and introduce them to modern agricultural technologies. The project will also host Herat students for an exchange program so they can gain insight into how Purdue links its teaching, extension and research programs to support the agriculture sector; visit American farms and businesses to gain insight into how education, research, and technology have impacted production and processing in the U.S.; and interact with Americans to learn about family life in Indiana and to share how it compares to life in Afghanistan.

***Afghan Agricultural Extension Program II (AAEP II)***  
***2014 – 2017, USAID***

The AAEP II is a three (3) year project funded by USAID to a consortium of five universities—University of California-Davis (lead), Washington State University, Texas A&M University, University of Maryland and Purdue University. This project is designed to continue and build upon the successes of the previously USDA funded AAEP project. The goal of this project is to continue extension capacity building to improve extension services provided to rural Afghans dependent on agriculture. Purdue and its partners are based in four provinces (Balkh, Herat, Kabul, and Nangarhar) and work in a total of 27 provinces to develop and implement extension programs. New technologies Purdue faculty are introducing country wide through AAEP II include postharvest hermetic storage (modeled after Purdue Improved Grain Storage-PICS) and integrated pest management. Purdue staff also support a variety of extension staff training efforts in Herat. Purdue has two long term staff in Afghanistan for this effort. Faculty will visit to conduct training related to grain storage, pest management and other relevant extension topics. Additionally, 8 Herat Ministry employees will travel to Purdue for training in hermetic ?



***Strengthening Afghan Agricultural Faculties (SAAF)***  
***2012 – 2017, USAID***

SAAF is a five (5) year project beginning March 2012, funded by USAID, intended to support the development of agriculture universities in Afghanistan. The objective is to strengthen the capacity of the faculties of agriculture and veterinary science at select Afghan universities, including the universities of Kabul, Balkh, Herat, Kandahar, and Nangarhar, to produce graduates in agriculture and related disciplines that have the technical knowledge, problem solving, and communication skills required by future employers. SAAF will also provide funding for forty-four (44) Afghan faculty members to receive their M.S. degrees and twenty-two (22) Afghan faculty members to receive their Ph.D. degrees from either the United States or India.

***Afghan Junior Faculty Development Program (AJFDP)***  
***2010 – 2015, US Department of State***

AJFDP was a State Department funded program to improve the teaching skills of young Afghan faculty members and expose them to American culture and education. The ten (10) week program took place on Purdue's main campus in West Lafayette, exposing the Afghans to academic life in the U.S. with a goal of helping them develop and improve their teaching skills through a series of classes in Purdue's Center for Instructional Excellence (CIE). The sixth class of AJFDP finished their program in March 2015.

***Afghan Agricultural Extension Program (AAEP)***  
***2012 – 2014, USDA***

The AAEP is a three (3) year project beginning October 2012, funded by USDA to a consortium of three universities—University of California-Davis (UC-Davis), Washington State University (WSU), and Purdue University. The goal of this project is extension capacity building to improve extension services provided to rural Afghans dependent on agriculture. Purdue and its partners are working in three provinces (Balkh, Herat, and Nangarhar) to develop and implement extension programs. Purdue program activities will focus on grain storage and integrated pest management, while supporting all AAEP extension program efforts in Herat. Purdue has two long term staff in Afghanistan for this effort. Faculty will visit to conduct training related to grain storage, pest management and other relevant extension topics.

***Afghanistan Agricultural Sanitary and Phytosanitary Project (SPS)***  
***2012 – 2014, USDA***

The SPS was a three (3) year USDA program beginning October 2012 designed to build Afghanistan's Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock (MAIL's) capacity to certify the safety of agricultural products bound for export, along with the ability to monitor plant, animal, and food systems for pests, diseases, and foodborne illnesses by providing training for Afghan professionals on strategies and techniques to monitor and evaluate animal, food and plant health. Purdue veterinary medicine, food science, plant pathology, economics, and entomology traveled to Afghanistan to conduct training for MAIL and Ministry of Public Health staff related food, plant and animal health and safety.

***MAIL Agricultural Data Collection and Utilization Project (ADCUS)***  
***2012 – 2014, USDA***

This project was a two (2) year USDA project beginning October 2012 to help MAIL develop the capacity to collect, analyze and use agriculture data in policy and program development. The project was to design and implement a process to collect baseline statistics on agriculture and agribusinesses for each province in Afghanistan. The effort utilized both secondary and primary data.



***Advancing Afghan Agriculture Alliance (A4)***  
***2007 – 2011, USAID***

The purpose of this USAID-funded project was to develop agriculture and veterinary programs at Afghan universities and create partnerships among the country's Ministry of Agriculture, local economic development organizations and universities. Partners in A4 included: UC-Davis, Kansas State University (KSU), International Foundation for Hope (IF Hope), Joint Development Associates (JD) and Mercy Corps, along with the Afghan universities of Herat, Balkh, Nangarhar, and Kandahar. A4 was implemented from 2007 to 2011.

***Faculty Exchange Program***  
***USDA***

Purdue has hosted five groups of visiting Afghan staff/faculty under the USDA Faculty Exchange program. This is an ongoing program that, to date, has hosted 15 mid-career Afghan staff/faculty for a semester at Purdue. Working with a Purdue faculty mentor, they identified key activities to improve teaching and scientific skills. They participated in courses, updated their knowledge and learned new teaching methods.

***Food for Progress Funding***  
***USDA***

Initiated prior to the A4, this program was managed by Purdue for USDA and the Afghan Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE), funded with \$4.2 million in USDA (PL480 funds) to provide graduate degree training in agriculture in India, along with campus building renovation and development of university farms. Twenty three (23) Afghan staff/faculty members have received M.S. degrees through this program and are back in classrooms in Afghanistan. Another twenty nine (29) students are studying in India. Purdue did not receive direct funding, but played a key role in identifying students and coordinating with Indian universities, as well as overseeing building renovations and farm development.

***Afghan Merit Scholar (AMS) Program***  
***Purdue--USAID***

Twelve (12) Afghan students (three of whom are women) received M.S. degrees at Purdue under this program. AMS was managed through World Learning, with USAID funding and Purdue resources. The twelve students graduated in 2010 and 2011 with M.S. degrees.

***Indiana and other National Guard Training***

Since 2008 Purdue has provided pre-deployment training to the National Guard ADT teams bound for Afghanistan. Purdue has provided agriculture training to over 175 soldiers from Arkansas, California, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Nevada, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas. The training is designed to help the Guard members learn about Afghan agriculture and gain insight into the realities of working on agricultural development in Afghanistan. When the troops are deployed, Purdue facilitates linkages with the Afghan agriculture faculties, and Purdue faculty members provide research support.

