



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**AFGHANISTAN**

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Office: +93 (0)700 11 4015  
E-mail: [kabulUSAIDinformation@usaid.gov](mailto:kabulUSAIDinformation@usaid.gov)  
Website: <http://www.usaid.gov/afghanistan>

# FACT SHEET

## Regional Agricultural Development Program-South (RADP-S)

October 2013 – October 2018  
\$125 million off budget

### OVERVIEW

As the country's economic backbone, agriculture plays a critical role in the lives of many Afghans, employing more than 75 percent of the population and contributing one third of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). In spite of its importance, current agricultural productivity levels lag significantly behind those in the neighboring countries and those historically achieved in Afghanistan. The Regional Agricultural Development Program-South (RADP-S) is paving the way to more inclusive and sustainable economic growth for rural Afghans by working with farmers and agribusinesses to overcome obstacles hindering production, processing, sales of commodities, and overall development of agricultural value chains.

### ACTIVITIES PLANNED

- **Food and economic security:** Train farmers in improved productivity and production practices in the wheat, high value crop, and livestock value chains to enable them to better respond to market demand, boost income generation, and meet their household nutritional needs.
- **Post-harvest storage capacity:** Increase volume of products available for off-season sales and consumption by improving post-harvest techniques and technology.
- **Market-led agricultural growth:** Address problems or obstacles impeding market efficiency and identify leading firms to champion reforms for agricultural market growth and expansion.
- **Women in agricultural value chains:** Establish a Gender Advisory Group to work with the Afghan Government, agribusinesses, and women's associations to implement capacity-building initiatives and market-based solutions which enhance women's income, food security, and productivity at the household, community, and market levels.
- **Enabling policy and regulatory environment:** Support a stronger policy formulation process by facilitating dialogue and providing relevant technical assistance; and support development of advocacy action plans between the private sector, civil society, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock (MAIL), and provincial Directorates of Agricultural, Irrigation, and Livestock (DAIL).

### EXPECTED RESULTS

- Increased number of farmers demonstrating higher wheat, high-value crop, and livestock productivity due to improved practices and technology adopted after USAID assistance.
- Improved income generation among farmers by building capacity in improved post-harvest techniques which enable profitable off-season sales.
- Fostered greater participation of women in agricultural value chains by increasing and strengthening women's agribusinesses and organizations.
- Improved the number of firms operating more competitively and profitably due to enhanced quality and volume of agricultural products, and because of new technologies and management practices adopted as a result of USAID support.
- Improved analytical capacity for policy formulation and advocacy among private and public sectors.