

## **Presentation - DWHH/GAA - IDS Programme**

### **Summary Organisation:**

Originally founded within the framework of the FAO 'Freedom from Hunger Campaign', Deutsche Welthungerhilfe / German Agro Action – GAA – became quickly one of the main development and relief organisations in Germany. GAA works in about 50 countries in Latin America, Southeast Europe, Africa and Asia, mainly for and with rural communities in the sectors of infrastructure, agriculture, food security, irrigation and drinking water. Relief operations are also an important part of GAAs portfolio.

GAA and four other organisations – HIVOS, The Netherlands, IBIS, Denmark, CESVI, Italy, CONCERN, Ireland and PINF, Czech Republic – form together the Alliance 2015, in order to join hands to fight against hunger and poverty more efficiently.

GAA has been working in Afghanistan since 1993. Deutsche Welthungerhilfe / German Agro Action celebrated its 40th anniversary recently.

### **Summary Northern Area:**

Kunduz and Baghlan are provinces which were seriously affected by the drought of the past years, by the IDP movements during the war between the Northern Alliance and the Taleban Movement, and by some of the fiercest battles between Alliance troops (supported by allied bombing raids) and the retreating Taleban late 2001.

Traditionally the provinces north of the central mountain range of Afghanistan have some rain-fed agriculture (in difference to the south, where organized agricultural activities almost exclusively take place on artificially irrigated land). Before the drought farmers were able to produce approx. 40% of the overall regional wheat output on these rain-fed fields. In the past years, however, the output from rain-fed land dropped by 90% (from irrigated fields by 40%) due to drought and war.

GAA-IDS aims to mitigate this problem through the extension, construction and rehabilitation of irrigation structures, so that farmers have more land, and better security regarding the provision of irrigation water.

Drinking water supply is also a big problem. There are areas, where there are basically no water-points for the provision of safe drinking water. Communities might be able to dig wells, but have neither resources nor expertise to improve those wells in order to obtain safe water. In some areas the water table is so high, that this water is polluted from the surface, other areas in turn have water in depths, which are beyond the possibilities of any man-powered pumps.

GAA-IDS, through a range of interventions – lowering of rings into wells; sealing wells in order to prevent surface contamination; installation of hand-pumps; drilling of wells through aquifers, which are too close to the surface, down to clean water; building of gravity-fed pipe schemes in areas where there is no ground water; hygiene education, focussing on water – is aiming at providing communities with the possibility to have a reliable supply of safe, clean drinking water in acceptable quantities, and in distances close enough to the communities.

All these interventions are done in collaboration with the communities – at every step of the project – surveying, planning, designing and execution. Communities have to participate through the provision of labour and local materials, through the building of access roads to sites, and through the provision of houses for hygiene education.

## **Summary Project:**

The projects overall goal is to encourage and facilitate the socio-economic reintegration of returning families and to strengthen the capacity of the resident female and male population. Through supplying additional irrigated land, it will support the resident population, adding to the overall improvement in food security.

The target groups are returning families (drought and political crisis) and the resident female and male population in the target provinces. Taking into consideration women's and men's, girls' and boys' different vulnerabilities, needs and capabilities, the project design reflects both the need for emergency measures, and sustainable long-term development. A total of 90,000 people will be addressed

Main activities are focusing on the provision of hygienically safe drinking water, new construction and/or rehabilitation of irrigation systems, flood protection and the reduction of water borne diseases through creation of public awareness (hygiene and health education programme).

Pilot projects in the field of swamp drainage, ground water harvesting, improved irrigation methods and a socio economic survey in selected districts will provide important data for the planning of future activities.

This project is a successor of similar projects in the Eastern Region of Afghanistan, where about 600 wells and 32 irrigation structures have been completed during the past years.

## **Briefs:**

**Name:** Irrigation and Drinking Water Supply – IDS (GAA internal: AFG 1027)

**Donor:** EU (consortium project with DACAAR, Swedish Committee for Afghanistan, HealthNet MCP, AfghanAid)

**Locations:** Kunar, Laghman, Nangahar, Kunduz, Baghlan, Jowzjan and Sar-i-Pul Provinces in Eastern and Northern Afghanistan, with project offices in Jalalabad, Kunduz and Mazar-i-Sharif

**Duration:** July 2002 until June 2004

**Activities:** 260 dug wells, 160 tube wells, 4 pipe schemes, hygiene education in conjunction with drinking water supply, 18 irrigation structures, pilot projects, water testing laboratory

**Community provision of gravel for wells, provision of private homes for hygiene**

**Participation:** education, provision of 50 % unskilled labour for irrigation sites, building of access tracks for sites, digging of wells

## **Office Kunduz:**

**Address:** Kunduz, District 4, Sarak Maulawi Sararjuddin - from central roundabout into the road to Taloqan, after approx. 400 m turn left, approx. 200 m on the right side is a light brown gate: GAA-IDS

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