



Agricultural Services and Livelihood Improvement (ASLI)

2018

<i>ASLI total budget</i>	<i>CHF 23 mio, 2017-2029</i>
<i>ASLI phase budget</i>	<i>CHF 7 mio, 2017-2021</i>
<i>Partner</i>	<i>UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)</i>
<i>Geographic focus</i>	<i>Bamyan Province: Yakawlang I and II, Panjab, Bamyan Centre Districts</i>



Context

Agriculture is of crucial importance for Afghanistan's socioeconomic development and people's livelihoods. Despite high urbanization rates, the country remains essentially rural, with 70% of the population living in rural areas and 61% of households depending fully or partially on income derived from agricultural activities.

Low productivity and high vulnerability characterize farming households, many of who remain poor and food insecure. This is especially true in Afghanistan's mountainous Central Highlands and its main province Bamyan. With a poverty rate of 40.5% and food insecurity levels of over 70%, Bamyan is one of the poorest and most food

insecure Afghan provinces. Access is difficult and climatic and topographic factors limit agricultural productivity. The long winters allow a single yearly harvest while only a small portion of the land at the bottom of the valleys can be irrigated and cultivated.

What does ASLI do?

ASLI aims that poor and vulnerable farming families improve their livelihoods through demand-driven public agricultural service delivery.

The project supports government extension services to work with farmer groups to improve their agricultural practices and to provide them with new technologies and inputs. ASLI also promotes activities specifically linked to nutrition and will pilot a school-feeding model.

Project interventions are based on a comprehensive livelihood survey, which covers all rural households in the target districts.

What has ASLI achieved so far?

Following the launch of ASLI in September 2017, deployment and mobilization of resources are underway. Additionally 80% of the household level survey on agriculture and livelihoods has been conducted as an important endeavour to identify communities' needs for production improvement and formation of groups.



Potato storage, Bamyan Province, 2016, © SDC.

Planned interventions

Over the next four years, the project will benefit approximately 30'000 farmers directly. Extension workers will learn and transmit improved technical knowhow to households in target districts. Households will adopt improved agricultural production and processing technologies and practices. Households will also improve their nutrition, sanitation and childcare. Intensified involvement of relevant subnational institutions in implementation will improve capacities to better coordinate and implement development activities on their own.