



## Sustainable Livelihoods and Social Development (SLSD)

2018

<i>SLSD total budget</i>	<i>CHF 14 mio, 2012-2022</i>
<i>SLSD phase budget</i>	<i>CHF 4.1 mio, 2016-2019</i>
<i>Partner</i>	<i>The Liaison Office (TLO)</i>
<i>Geographic focus</i>	<i>Khost and Paktya Provinces</i>



### What does SLSD do?

SLSD coordinates community-based initiatives in close cooperation with formal and informal actors, and beneficiaries towards improved agricultural practices and natural resource management. As a result, new income and livelihood opportunities are created, benefitting both men and women while strengthening capacities of local communities and institutions for better services delivery.

### What has SLSD achieved so far?

2,000 families in six districts of Paktya and Khost Provinces were targeted to improve and diversify agricultural and livestock production. Out of them, 3,000 families were targeted to directly benefit from improved water related infrastructures for farming and gain access to clean water. Out of them,

- 53% (1580 families) reported improved access to safe drinking water;
- 82% (2449 families) reported more effective use of agricultural land as a result of improved irrigation infrastructure.

In its second phase, SLSD has extended its geographic to eight districts of Paktya and Khost Provinces, and could reach following main achievements:

- 2526 families have increased income from agriculture production by 15% whereas nearly 50 hectare of barren land is converted to irrigated agricultural land, creating 5000 man-days of work.
- So far 2000 families have received access to clean drinking water and hygiene education
- Around 2700 community members are trained in DRR, NRM and advance agricultural practices.
- 10 Social audits have been conducted and the average in-kind contribution of the community in sub-project implementations has reached 36%.

### Context

Although the south-eastern region of Afghanistan has a poverty level significantly higher than the national average of 35.8%, namely 47.9% in Khost and 60.6% in Paktya, it was particularly deprived of development efforts of the last years.

Livelihoods options are limited and consist mainly of subsistence agriculture, animal husbandry and local trade. Agricultural productivity is low due to insufficient irrigation systems, lack of quality agricultural inputs, and affected by recurring floods and droughts. Disputes around land and water are a main source of conflicts, due to unclear legal frameworks and weak conflict resolution mechanisms. Access to basic services such as electricity, health, education and fundamental resources such as water is very limited.



Women with cattle, Shekh Amir Bazar, Gurbuz District Center, Khost Province, © SDC.