

# Road to Job Project

Promoting Jobs Protecting People

## Intervention profile

**Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB):** R2J collaborated SIYB training programme with RADP-North office and trained existed and potential entrepreneurs in SIYB programme in Northern provinces.

**Problem:** R2J project recognizes that in Afghanistan, the social, economic and cultural situation of women means that they find it more difficult to participate in economic development initiatives. In addition, the difference between education and experience level of men and women mean that specific and conscious outreach efforts are needed to bring women to an equal participation on par with men. In addition, women receive very less wage than men due to low level of skills and knowledge which is a huge disparity in working environment for women.

**Target groups/beneficiaries:** The beneficiaries for this intervention are existing and potential entrepreneurs women and men who can read and write whether work collectively (organized in groups and cooperatives), or work in individual businesses independently.

**Objectives:** The overall SIYB objective is to contribute to economic development and to the creation of new and better jobs and eradicate the poverty at all. The immediate objectives are:

- To enable local Business Development Service (BDS) organizations, and among them explicitly women's organizations, to effectively and independently implement business start-up and improvement training and related activities for potential and existing entrepreneurs.
- To enable potential and existing small entrepreneurs, both women and men, through these BDS organizations to start viable businesses and to increase the viability and profitability of existing enterprises, and to create quality employment for others in the process.

**Outcomes:** The outcomes of this intervention are as follows: by the end of 2017

- At least 500 existing and potential entrepreneurs women and men trained in SIYB programme
- At least 50% of the trained entrepreneurs started their business
- At least 50% of the trained entrepreneurs having sustainable businesses
- At least \$500 generated as additional income to already existing entrepreneurs
- At least 20% poverty eradicated by those started and improved their businesses



**Progress so far:** R2J contracted Mr. Ben Mwabela to conduct SIYB training in Balkh Province. From 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct to 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov 2016 a Training of Trainers (ToT) conducted by Mr. Mwabela for 10 days. In this ToT 13 people (9 trainers, 1 R2J employee, 3 RADAP-North employees) and 2 observers from MAIL have participated.



When the trainees received the first round of training, the second round of training (ToE) started which an observatory was round. During this round trainees needed to train group of 20 to 25 potential entrepreneurs on SIYB and then SIYB trainer Mr. Mwabela would provide them certificate based on their performance.

From 6<sup>th</sup> Nov to 17<sup>th</sup> Nov trainees started Training of Entrepreneurs in Balkh and Samangan Provinces. They conducted 6 training in Balkh and 3 training in Samangan and trained 175 female entrepreneurs and 37 male entrepreneurs during this period. After completion of observatory round the SIYB trainer Mr. Mwabela gave training certificates to trainees.



With the support of RADP-North the ToE seminars have been conducted by the trainees in other northern provinces as well. In total, 23 ToE seminars have been conducted for 515 entrepreneurs (324 women and 191 men) on SIYB programme in six Northern provinces (Balkh, Jawzjan, Samangan, Baghlan, Kunduz and Badakhshan). The SIYB programme has been appreciated in all provinces by the participants and they thanked the organizing organizations (ILO and RADP-North) for conducting and prompting such kind of important business management training workshops.

**Capacity building:** Capacity of 13 SIYB trainers (8 women and 5 men) and 515 entrepreneurs (324 women and 191 men) in generating concrete business ideas and developing comprehensive business plans has been developed.

**Scale up:** R2J, Balkh Chambers of Commerce and Industries (BCCI) and ILO-Youth Employment project have agreed to conduct another SIYB ToT in Mazar-e-Sharif.

15 SIYB trainers and 300 potential and existing entrepreneurs' women and men will be trained in SIYB programme. The trained trainers will use this programme as a business product and will promote for other interested entrepreneurs.

