

“Now I am the richest man in the village”

Success story of Mr Gadaa Mohammad, beneficiary of the RMLSP-project



“Now I’m the richest man and own the largest number of livestock in the village, my children are going to school every day, some people owe me money, and my family is happy, my herd increased to 100 goats, and I advise other livestock owners as professional farmer in my village.” These are the words of Mr. **Gadaa Mohammad**, resident of Formoragh village in Bahark district of Badakhshan province, and head of a huge family.

Mr. Gadaa Mohammad is beneficiary of the Rural Microfinance and Livestock Support Program (RMLSP) that Dutch Committee for Afghanistan is implementing in Badakhshan. This programme, which aims to raise the awareness of male and female livestock owners on best practices in animal rearing, covers animal health, animal production, and livestock extension. Gadaa Mohammad has reared goats and other domestic animals for many years, and until recently followed traditional methods in improving his livestock breed. Not being aware of the newer, more profitable methods in animal husbandry, he faced many challenges with respect to contagious animal diseases, nutrition and feeding, and he lost many of his goats and much of his wealth. But then Mr. Gadaa was chosen as member of one of the RMLSP extension groups, that were trained by a DCA extension trainer. The members of the group gathered twice a week to solve the problems they encountered and to share the new effective methods for better goat breeding. The RMLSP program facilitated them also with a VFU headed by a DCA trained paravet, taking care of animal health and production services and offering many other efficient services as well.



Through learning and participating in the extension programme of DCA/RMLSP, Mr. Gadaa obtained enough knowledge to solve many of his former challenges, moreover, he could build a hygienic stable for his goats, he now is aware of the animal vaccination season, and he knows how to prevent zoonotic diseases. Thanks to all these good animal husbandry practices he raised his income considerably and became advisor of the other farmers in his village.