

Success story Farmer Extension Group, RADP-South project

Mr. G. is a resident of Faqirzai village of Panjwai district of Kandahar province. He says: "I am 30 years of age, married and with 7 family members; my wife, a daughter, 4 sons and myself. Our family has been rearing livestock for many generations".

"In the spring season of 2014, I had 2 cows and 9 sheep, four of which were pregnant. The sheep gave birth normally, but in one or two months the lambs died due to dysentery and diarrhea. Both cows were pregnant and delivered normally, but after two months the cows and calves were affected by Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD). The cows became very emaciated, milk production declined, and both calves died from disease".

"At the end of 2014, I joined the Farmer Extension Group (FEG) in Panjwai district and followed the FEG trainings for 14 months. At this group, I learned a lot about cattle and sheep production and management, preparing feed (urea treatment and concentrate), feeding according to the cycle of production, feed storage, as well as seasonal vaccination and deworming. The most important thing I learned is that now I am aware of the difference between the quality of bazaar and VFU vaccines and medicines".

"The FEG trainer linked me with the nearest VFU paravet, so now I ask him for advice about vaccination and medication for my livestock. There is therefore no need to go to Kandahar city anymore for buying vaccines and medicines from the bazaar".

Mr. G. adds: "Currently, I have 5 dairy cows, 3 heifers, and 40 sheep. From my dairy farm I obtain around 70-80 liters of milk per day. I intend to sell 15-20 male sheep to buy a motorbike for my sons to ease their travel to school, and attend an English language course".



"Due to the high demand for butter milk at the village shopkeepers, I bought a churning machine for processing some milk and sell it to our village shop. I now have a good income from my small farm which is the main source of my livelihood".

"I would like to thank the RADP-S / DCA project for providing to me the opportunity to improve my skills in livestock production and to share my knowledge and experiences with other farmers".