

ANNUAL REPORT
2023



SIDE BY SIDE WITH AFGHAN PEOPLE

Table Of Contents

Get to Know DACAAR	1
Geographical Coverage during 2023	1
What DACAAR stands for	2
Message from the director	3
DACAAR interventions in brief	4
2023 in brief	5
Key achievements 2023	6
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)	7
A) Water Expertise and Training Center (WETC)	9
B) Groundwater Monitoring (GWM)	9
Natural Resource Management (NRM)	13
Small Scale Enterprise Development (SSED)	17
Women's Empowerment (WE)	19
Community Resilience and Livelihood Program (CRLP)	23
Social Behavior Change (SBC)	24
Organisation al development	25
DACAAR Challenges During 2023	26

GET TO KNOW **DACAAR**

Since its establishment in 1984, DACAAR has been a permanent name in the humanitarian and development sectors in Afghanistan. As an apolitical, non-governmental, and non-profit organization. It works to improve the lives of the Afghan people by addressing the acute needs of the most vulnerable and supporting early recovery and sustainable development for all.

DACAAR's emergency response interventions aim at life-saving in early stages of a crisis targeting internally displaced people, returning refugees, and communities affected by conflicts and natural disasters.

Over the past years, DACAAR has endeavored to be among the first responders to people affected by shocks across Afghanistan.

DACAAR's early recovery and developmental interventions are aimed at building resilience, enhancing capacity and improving livelihoods for protracted internally displaced people and returning refugees and their vulnerable host communities. We apply a holistic and integrated approach to our interventions with an emphasis on sustainability and real and positive changes for our beneficiaries. We consider our beneficiaries as the most important stakeholders and the main drivers of our interventions.

While maintaining our Danish roots, we are deeply embedded in the Afghan society and have access and long-term relationships with thousands of communities across all 34 provinces of Afghanistan.



DACAAR's Activity Coverage



East

Nangarhar
Laghman
Kunar
Nooristan

Central

Kabul
Kapisa
Parwan
Ghazni
Maidan Wardak
Daykundi
Khost
Logar
Paktia
Paktika

North

Balkh
Kunduz
Takhar
Badakhshan
Baghlan
Samangan

North-West

Jowzjan
Faryab
Sar-e-pul

West

Herat
Badghis

South

Kandahar
Helmand
Zabul

WHAT **DACAAR** STANDS FOR

Our Mission

DACAAR is a Danish non-governmental, developmental/humanitarian organisation that supports sustainable development in Afghanistan through the ability of local communities to decide upon and manage their own development process. Activities are implemented in cooperation with civil society organisations, the private sector and governmental institutions with a particular emphasis on poverty eradication and assistance towards the return and re-integration of returnees and internally displaced people.

Our Internal Vision

DACAAR is a well-known and respected NGO with a strong anchorage in the Afghan society. It is a transparent development organisation with clear and up to date policies and strategies and with committed and experienced female and male Afghan staff, increasingly in key management positions.

Our External Vision

Women and men in rural Afghan communities are in an effective and sustainable way managing local resources to improve their livelihoods. As part of a strong civil society and with support from governmental institutions, local community organisations and individual women and men have access to knowledge, education, training and social services and are able to effectively improve their quality of life and to withstand periods of calamity and stress.

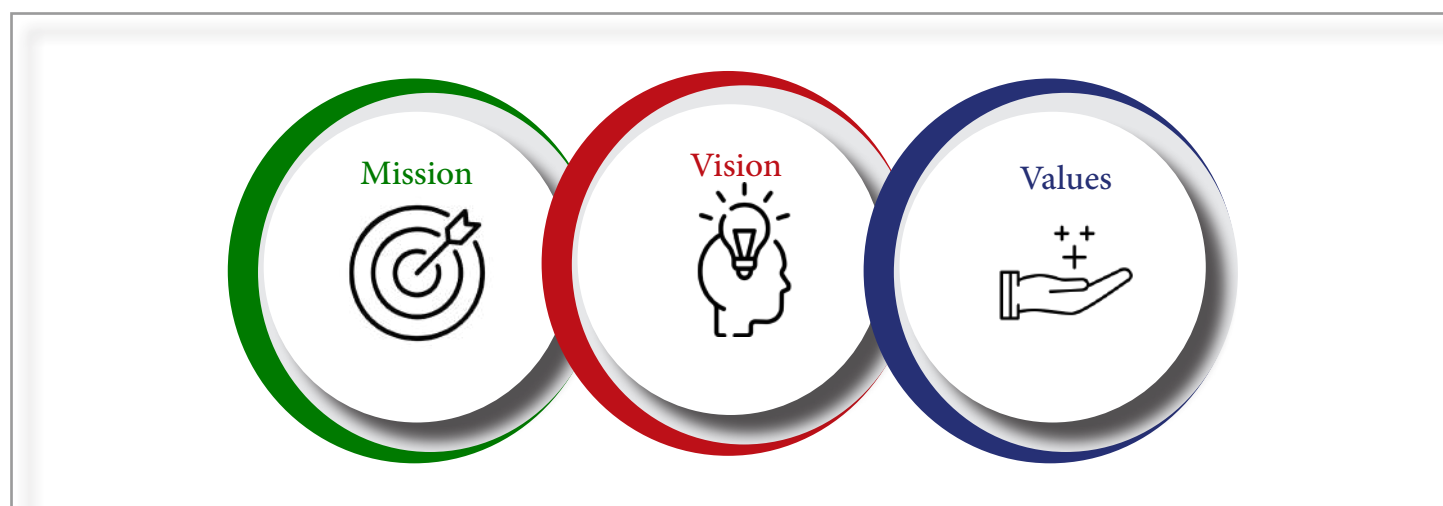
Our Values

Efficiency | Honesty | Participation | Equity | Quality | Transparency

Our Community Based Approach

DACAAR works directly with Afghan communities through Mosque/Masjid Committees, Community Development Councils, Village Shuras, District Development Assemblies and other relevant community structures. Together we mobilize, organise and support communities to take ownership and drive interventions, identify needs, set priorities and acquire skills and capacity in project planning and implementation.

DACAAR





MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

In this year 2023 and the 39th year for DACAAR, I am very sure we have never achieved more in DACAAR's Afghan history, with record funding, increased access to former insecure areas, two large humanitarian crises, and a funding pool that allowed us to construct more household pipe systems than before, this report reflects DACAAR reaching more beneficiaries than ever before.

The country's needs are growing, with greater access, still a gap in development funds, and climate change further taking a grip on the country's resources there is still a big challenge for Afghanistan and its people. At the beginning of the year, DACAAR had to face the challenge of the NGO female employee ban, we worked very hard to ensure our female staff were supported in the best way we could, confirming their future employment and working on ways to ensure female field activities continued and we reached or female beneficiaries as needed. This task has been a difficult year-long ongoing process. Our female staff have shown resilience and courage in this challenge standing for their basic right to work and their important role in supporting our interventions, we will carry on with this support, and advocacy, and stand as long as it is needed. Grass route interventions working closely with the community is still the main way DACAAR has remained safe and continued to meet the challenge in this new sometimes difficult working environment and as always I would like to thank all our staff for their hard work, courage, and dedication. A community approach, inclusion at all levels when and where possible, managing expectations, and achieving what is promised have always put DACAAR in a very positive position and I am sure this will continue in the challenges ahead.

In the latter part of the year, with the support of our HQ, DACAAR

staff went through an Inclusive review of our strategy with a vision to producing a guidance document for the year ahead and then a longer strategy at the end of 2024, this was achieved with the process highlighting the many challenges our staff deal with in this time when we can still say Afghanistan is still going through a transition, the guidance paper will help us to improve and support our staff, and I believe lead to the more longer-term strategy paper at the end of 2024, I would like to mention again the need to continue with open and honest dialogue with all parties at all levels and work on that inclusion to find the best path forward, we need to look at what we have and can achieve, this again has never been more important with the spotlight not as focused as before on the help needed for Afghanistan.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the partners and donors who have supported us, the contents of this report are a reflection of their support too and I am very grateful for their confidence in DACAAR and hard work in doing so.

I am as always very humbled to hold the position of Director of DACAAR, representing the strong Afghan DACAAR team standing side by side with the Afghan people.

DACAAR Country Director
John Paul Morse

DACAAR INTERVENTIONS IN BRIEF

We carry out a variety of emergency relief, early recovery and developmental interventions in Afghanistan. We tailor these to the needs and priorities of each targeted community, delivering activities in an integrated way ensuring best outcomes for our beneficiaries. We currently work in the following sectors:



WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE



With around four decades of experience, we are renowned as one of the largest Water, Sanitation and Hygiene providers in Afghanistan.



NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



Our Natural Resource Management interventions are primarily agriculture and livestock focused.



SMALL-SCALE ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT



Our interventions are aimed at promoting business development and employment opportunities among youth and farmers.



WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

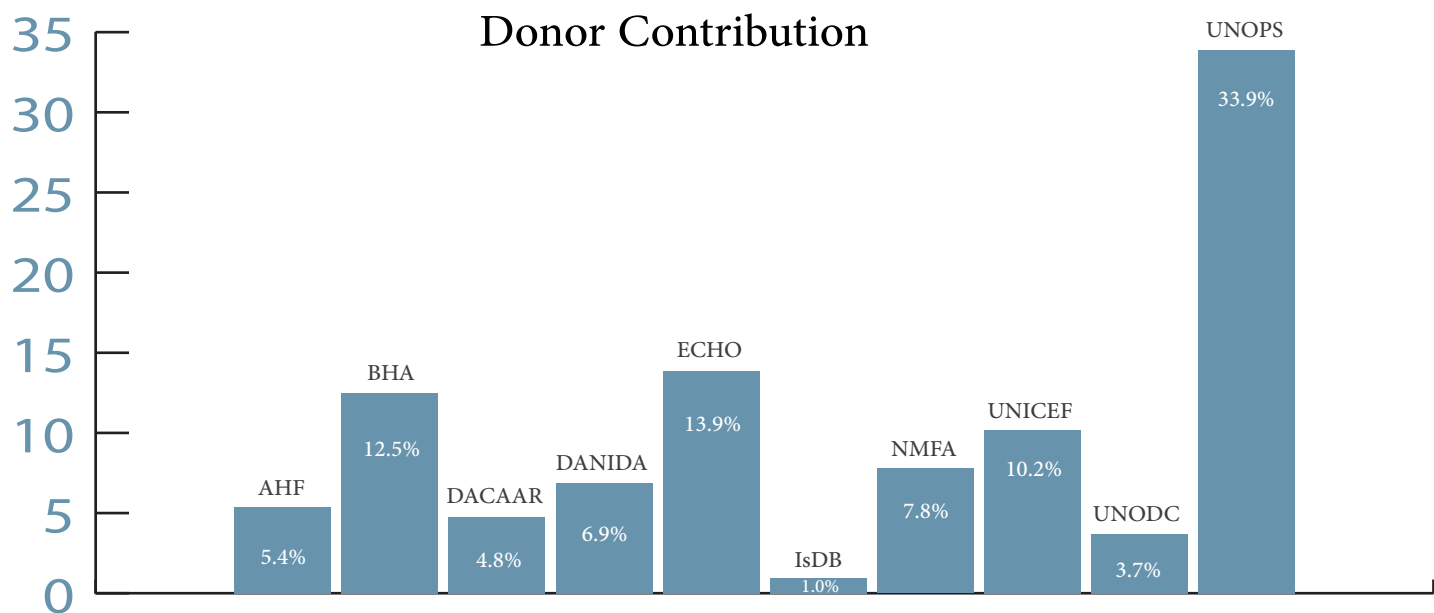


Our interventions are aimed at promoting business development and employment opportunities among female youth and farmers.

2023 IN BRIEF



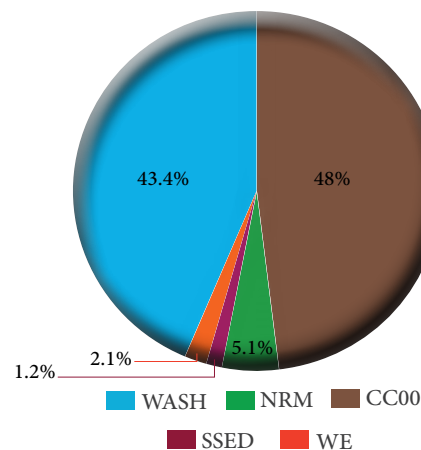
Direct Beneficiaries	Male Beneficiaries	Female Beneficiaries
1,504,297	714,064	790,233
IDPs	Returnees	Host Communities
647,385	182,086	674,825



- AHF: Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund
- BHA: Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance
- DACAAR: DACAAR Reserve Fund
- DANIDA: Danish International Development Agency
- ECHO: European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
- IsDB: Islamic Development Bank
- NMFA: Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- UNICEF: United Nation's International Children's Emergency Fund

- UNODC: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
- UNOPS: United Nations Office for Project Service

Funds Spent Per Sector





Access to safe drinking water has increased the happiness of Muhammadin's family and reduced the risk of water-borne illnesses

Thanks to DACAAR, Mohammad Hassan now owns an orchard and earns thousands of AFN during each harvest. His financial situation is stable, and he enjoys sharing his success with his family, especially his children



Nasrullah, a young man from Sheberghan, Jawzjan, benefited from DACAAR's VT initiative. He learned how to repair Zaranj and is now employed. He plans to start a workshop and is grateful to DACAAR

Restrictions on women's employment and education have made it hard for families to make ends meet. DACAAR's food processing training helped Naseera and her colleagues launch a small business





Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

DACAAR's WASH interventions aim at improving health and quality of life among Afghan communities. Limited access to safe water for drinking and household use, coupled with a lack of knowledge of good hygiene practices and unavailability of proper sanitation facilities are major causes of waterborne diseases in Afghan households, resulting in serious illnesses, and depletion of children and other at-risk groups.

Over the year 2023, we had to continually improve ourselves to meet the growing need for WASH services across the country economic crises, pocket area conflicts, an epidemic situation of Acute Watery Diarrheal (AWD) diseases with severe dehydration, natural disasters caused great suffering and displacement. We had to exponentially expand our emergency WASH services to cater to the immediate needs of large numbers of IDPs, returnees, and most vulnerable host communities affected by economic shock, conflicts, natural disasters, and disease outbreaks.

During this period, access to remote and hard-to-reach areas was a major challenge, however, with due commitment of our staff and firm support from our partner communities, the Emergency WASH team was able to reach beneficiaries in 13 provinces of the country.

The main emergency WASH project activity components were improving

water sources and installation of emergency baths and latrines during emergency situations. Besides, delivering hygiene messages and supplying kits door-to-door was also an important part of our WASH interventions to support improvements in the health and well-being of Afghan families, particularly women, children, persons with disability, and other at-risk persons. Following the takeover of the country by IEA, door-to-door interventions were banned in some areas affecting our ability to reach these groups, however, this problem was by-in-large resolved later.

Despite the above challenges, DACAAR remained the largest NGO provider of WASH services in the country, Likewise, we remained at the forefront of efforts to improve WASH interventions in the country, by continuing to co-lead the WASH cluster together with UNICEF, participating in other national and sub-national WASH working groups as well by conducting regular training seminars on sector best practices at our Water Expertise and Training Center (WETC).

Direct Beneficiaries

1,451,941

Male Beneficiaries

690,370

Female Beneficiaries

761,571

IDPs

638,854

Returnees

174,233

Host Communities

638,854

WASH Achievements During 2023:

- 9 Pipe Schemes are constructed with the installation of (1,385) household connections.
- 1,321 WPs are rehabilitated
- 3,214 BSF distributed.
- 2,818 WPs are chlorinated.
- 6,456 EBL are constructed.
- 49,723 Hygiene kits are distributed
- 16,779 consumable kits are distributed
- 54,468 families received the HE messages
- 107 individuals are provided training on solar-powered Water Supply, well construction, Drinking Water Quality Testing, CHP/AWD/Cholera/ COVID-19, and WASH Responses.
- 252 GWM wells are monitored by the groundwater monitoring program to observe changes in the groundwater levels and evaluate its physical properties
- 30,60,500 Liters of Water are provided through Tankers
- 45 New tube wells are constructed.
- Community-Led-Total-Sanitation (CLTS) Activities are carried out covering 3,194 families
- 1752 Meters of Retaining wall construction.

WASH SDGs



Provinces Covered

- | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|-------------|------------|
| • Kabul | • Kapisa | • Khost | • Takhar | • Jawzjan | • Kandahar |
| • Kunar | • Parwan | • Logar | • Badakhshan | • Faryab | • Helmand |
| • Nangarhar | • Ghazni | • Paktia | • Baghlan | • Sar-e-pul | • Zabul |
| • Laghman | • Wardak | • Paktika | • Samangan | • Herat | |
| • Nooristan | • Dykundi | • Kunduz | • Balkh | • Badghis | |



Mohammad Nabi provides his son with clean water. Despite living in poverty, his family is content and cherishes every moment because they are able to maintain good health by drinking clean water.

“We lacked access to clean water and were ignorant of the hygienic practices.” We may now easily obtain clean drinking water. My family attended the hygiene message sessions, as did my kids. After that, they began to wash their hands and brush their teeth before and after using the toilet or washroom, as well as before and after eating. We are now living a healthier life as a result of the decline in water-borne infections”



Water Expertise and Training Center

- The capacity of 269 employees of WASH service providers was built through 16 water supply, sanitation, and health promotion training workshops.
- A total of 2,273 physicals, 2,210 bacteriological, and 995 chemical water quality testing for DACAAR implemented drinking water points, DACAAR groundwater monitoring wells, and external WASH providers through the WET Centre's Drinking Water Quality Testing Laboratory.
- Ninety-nine (99) technical and consulting supports (via phone, email, meetings, and site visits) were provided to 36 organizations (INGOs, NGOs, UN, Government, and individuals/students) working in the WASH sector.
- The research study on Linear Performance Degradation of PV Modules of different Manufacturers in the selected DACAAR-implemented solar-powered water supply systems was completed and findings and recommendations were presented and shared.
- Seven (face-to-face) Water Technical Working Group (WTWG) monthly coordination meetings were organized and led by the WET Centre in which member organizations' lessons learned, findings and challenges of their WASH-related projects were discussed and shared. The WET Centre manager as chairperson of the group also discussed and shared new publications, researches, and studies on water-related technologies.

Groundwater Monitoring

The purpose of the groundwater monitoring system is to monitor the flow characteristics and or the quality of groundwater. Periodic water level measurements at various locations are essential for assessing the water quality and flow characteristics information on flow direction, flow velocity, and temporal water table fluctuation.

Groundwater is the most vital natural resource on planet Earth. Life cannot exist without it. It is a fundamental need, like air and food that enables us to survive and thrive. Therefore, it is crucial to protect the environment to ensure the continuation of life. The droughts have left a vast majority of our country's population without access to safe drinking water. Surface water is only available for a few months of the year in most parts of the country, and it is often contaminated. Consequently, groundwater has become the primary source of drinking water nationwide. To manage groundwater resources properly, a comprehensive understanding of the hydro geological characteristics of the region is necessary. This includes quantitative parameters like porosity, permeability, recharge, discharge, storage, water table, and yearly amplitude of groundwater table fluctuation, as well as qualitative characteristics like physical and chemical specifications of aquifers. This knowledge is critical in planning and implementing effective methods and appropriate technologies to ensure the sustainable use of groundwater.

In 2023, DACAAR has monitored 426 GWM wells, in 28 provinces (132 districts). This was done to track changes in groundwater levels and to test water's physical, chemical, and biological properties.

“The targeted areas of Balkh province have experienced a significant improvement in hygiene behavior among the beneficiaries due to the provision of hygiene messages. As a result, Anwar’s children now use soap while washing their hands and follow the hygiene practices taught to them. They even help each other during the process.”





Mohammadin's family is grateful to have convenient access to safe drinking water.

"Before the DACAAR initiative (Pipe Scheme Project) was implemented in our area, we had to travel far to collect safe drinking water. Now, we have easy access to safe drinking water, which we use for our daily needs."





Natural Resource Management (NRM)

In Afghanistan, most of the population is involved in subsistence farming. In many cases, they produce hardly enough to sustain their family needs let alone selling excess produce to make an income. The absence of enough irrigation water to sustain farming activities, recurrent droughts, climate change, and decades of conflict have dramatically reduced the capacities of farming families to be self-sufficient.

Our Natural Resources Management (NRM) interventions are aimed at providing sustainable solutions to farmers to increase production and productivity to enable them to not only meet the daily household needs but also to be able to make an income out of selling excess produce.

The above is achieved through a combination of interlinked activities as follows;

- Distribution of improved and certified inputs (seeds, Saplings, fertilizer, pullets, Chilli goats, medicine, vaccine, Artificial Insemination, equipment, tools and irrigation structures, etc.). Quality inputs increased the production and productivity of farmers and herders in the targeted communities.
- Capacity-building program changes the farmer's/herders' behavior via updated knowledge and skills development, to focus on high-value crops and livestock.
- Follow-up support to help farmers deal with farming challenges while they put their newly gained knowledge and skills into practice on their farms.
- Improving access to and community-based management of irrigation water resources for farming by constructing/ rehabilitating small-scale irrigation structures.
- DACAAR closely works with those communities that were changed from illicit to licit crops, the module has been changed from subsistence farming to semi-commercial farming and focused on high-value crops which are alternatives to poppy.
- Support communities on watershed management practices, especially in the upper catchment areas to protect the soil from erosion and make check dams and ponds to recharge the water table irrigate their fields, and water their livestock.

- Supporting farmers/herders in processing, packaging, branding, and finding sustainable markets (local, regional, national, and International) for their produce.

Given the recent consequences of climate change in an already fragile context, DACAAR pays extreme attention to the (climate-smart agriculture) environmental consequences of its projects, hence the preference given to those crops that are, drought-resistant, resistant to pests, and high-yielding. In this way, DACAAR can also provide much-needed aid and support to vulnerable women who might not be in a position to help their families (home-based kitchen gardening, small-scale farming, traditional grape-drying houses, and greenhouse for off-season).

Irrigation water is a crucial element in farming; as such we help rehabilitate or reconstruct small-scale irrigation structures and build the capacity of farmers in community-based operation and maintenance ensuring an improved and strong supply of water for farming.

In areas where irrigation water is not available, we support farmers in dry-land farming. The introduction of drip irrigation techniques is another method we have been promoting in regions where irrigation water is scarce.

We primarily employ a Farmer Field School approach to our interventions. These practical farm-based schools bring together a common interest group of farmers to engage in collective learning, skills development, and knowledge sharing over an entire agricultural season. They get updated knowledge and skills on farming best practices from our technical staff at the field level.

Upon graduation, farmers receive toolkits and equipment to replicate their learning on their farms while they receive follow-up technical advice and support from our specialists.

Farmer Field Schools are organized on a variety of Specialized high-value subjects (new and rehabilitation of existing orchards, Cereal crops, off-season vegetables, and livestock management based on market demand to ensure that farmers/herders increase their income and pay attention to their daily consumption balanced diet.

Direct Beneficiaries	Male Beneficiaries	Female Beneficiaries
38,801	17,926	20,875
IDPs	Returnees	Host Communities
5,820	5,820	27,161

NRM Achievements during 2023:

5,816 farmers received agriculture, livestock, and poultry training and inputs through:

- 240 farmers graduated from Vegetable, Orchards, Cereal crops, and livestock Farmer Field Schools (FFS).
- 935 farmers are provided training and inputs on cereal crop (Maize & Wheat) production and management.
- 720 Farmers are provided training and inputs on vegetable production and processing.
- 5 farmers are provided training and support on grape-drying houses.
- 115 farmers are provided training and inputs on pistachio cultivation, propagation/grafting, and post-harvesting management.
- 300 farmers are provided training and IPM kits for vegetable production.
- 22 farmers are provided training and support with the rehabilitation of citrus orchards, provision IPM kit, and equipped with drip irrigation systems.
- 13 farmers are provided training and support for the rehabilitation of traditional vineyards with a trellised system.
- 16 farmers are provided training and inputs for establishing fruit trees' nurseries and their management.
- 20 farmers are provided training and inputs for saffron processing and marketing.
- 14 farmers are provided training and support for greenhouse establishment and management.
- 180 farmers are provided training and inputs for fruit orchard establishment and management.
- 6 hectares of land were cultivated with pistachio and poplar cuttings for 27 farmers to promote agroforestry.
- 610 women are provided training and inputs for backyard poultry farming.
- 60 women are provided training and inputs for vegetable production and processing, and livestock management.
- 340 farmers are provided training and support for livestock stable improvement and management.
- 550 farmers are provided received training and support for goat farming management.
- 176 farmers are provided training and inputs for dairy processing.
- 1500 farmers are provided training, inputs, and support for the establishment of dairy farms, on improved health and nutrition, artificial insemination, and improved stable and good livestock farming.

NRM SDGs



Provinces Covered

- Helmand
- Nangarhar
- Laghman
- Jawzjan
- Kunduz
- Nooristan
- Faryab





Noor Uddin's family is glad to own a greenhouse built by DACAAR.

“Before the greenhouse was built, I was unable to harvest anything during the winter season. However, after the greenhouse construction by DACAAR, I learned from them and were inspired. I have now built three more greenhouses on my land and am grateful to DACAAR for their assistance.”





Small Scale Enterprise Development (SSED)

With a burgeoning young population, job creation stands as one of Afghanistan's most pressing challenges. The economic situation in the country has been further exacerbated by years of conflict, significant political changes post-August 2021, and subsequent international sanctions, all of which have added to the fragility of the existing context.

Over the years, DACAAR has been actively supporting the Afghan market by providing vocational skills training programs to the country's youth in various potential market-driven vocational skills and facilitating the establishment of small-scale enterprises.

DACAAR conducting a center-based approach vocational skills training program, aiming to optimize peer knowledge exchange and create a comfortable learning environment for the (VT) program trainees. The selection of vocational skills is based on a rapid market assessment to avoid redundancy and oversaturation of the local market.

Upon completion of the vocational skills training program at these centers, the young individuals are provided with business start-up toolkits and business start-up grants to either start their own small enterprises or join existing vocational skills shops in the local market.

Moreover, in addition to its support for youth through vocational training, DACAAR plays a pivotal role in promoting collaboration between Natural Resource Management (NRM) and Small Scale Enterprise Development (SSED) by facilitating the establishment of Producer and service Associations / Enterprise groups. These indicated groups empower farmers and producers by leveraging their collective strength, not only in terms of enhancing the quality and packaging of their products but also by facilitating advantageous negotiations for better market prices.

Direct Beneficiaries

3,143

Male Beneficiaries

1,603

Female Beneficiaries

1,540

IDPs

629

Returnees

471

Host Communities

2,043

SSED Achievements in 2023:

- 60 individuals graduated from three VTCs (Mobile repairing, Rikshaw repairing, and Salma Dozi “Fashion work”) consisting of (40 males, and 20 females).
- 140 unemployed youth are provided market-driven and center-based vocational training in 7 different vocational training centers.
- 140 supporting tool kits were distributed to 140 graduated vocational trainees.
- Development of business plans for 2 saffron producers’ associations were developed and saffron stigma was purchased for 130 members consisting of (119 males, and 11 females).
- 119 unemployed youth are provided market-driven and center-based vocational training in 6 different vocational training centers.
- 119 supporting tool kits were distributed to 119 graduated vocational trainees.

SSED SDGs



Provinces Covered

- Nangarhar
- Jawzjan
- Faryab



“Because of unemployment and poverty, I felt like I lost my sense of self in the village. However, when DACAAR initiated a vocational training project in our area, I joined as a trainee. Eventually, I became a trainer at the VTC and now have my own workshop where I earn sufficient money. I am grateful to DACAAR for launching such beneficial projects.”



Women's Empowerment

DACAAR has continued its support and commitment to rural Afghan women through the utilization of Women Resource Centers (WRCs), which served as a central point for empowering activities including income generation, education, and capacity-building programs. These centers facilitated a culturally appropriate space for rural women to collaborate, learn, enhance leadership skills, engage in small businesses, exchange knowledge, and provide mutual support for each other.

Whereas cultural and current political barriers hinder women's access to WRCs, however, DACAAR provides various skills training directly within their homes, such as kitchen gardening, installation of greenhouses, animal husbandry, tailoring, bag sewing, carpet weaving, home-based businesses, and other skills to boost their social and economic involvement and enhance their capacity for income-generating endeavors.

DACAAR supports women in the Vocational Training Program to enhance their employment prospects and income-generating activities. These programs aim to equip women with the knowledge, skills, inputs, and practical experience needed to excel in their chosen career paths and enter the workforce as skilled professionals.

Also, DACAAR emphasizes literacy training and plays a crucial role in improving the societal standing of women within their families and

communities, particularly in light of obstacles such as restrictions on girls' and women's education and restricted access to formal education as a result of political and cultural difficulties.

Moreover, DACAAR consistently integrates women's empowerment into its wide range of interventions and programs, ensuring their voices and needs are prioritized and met and addressing the specific requirements of women in emergencies and long-term development programs across all sectors. For instance, hygiene awareness sessions are delivered by female DACAAR employees through door-to-door visits, imparting crucial health and hygiene messages to women. Furthermore, hygiene kits distributed to households include items that support women's menstrual hygiene. Also, the female promoters have a vital role in implementing the CLTS approaches in the field, which lead to ODF in the communities. The DACAAR's WASH intervention aims at improving health and quality of life among Afghan communities.

Additionally, the organization also acknowledges women's significant contributions to natural resource management (NRM) activities, recognizing and reinforcing their roles within communities and families.

Direct Beneficiaries	Male Beneficiaries	Female Beneficiaries
10,412	4,165	6,247
IDPs	Returnees	Host Communities
2,082	1,562	6,768

WE Achievements in 2023:

A total of 2,038 vulnerable women received agriculture, livestock, and poultry training and were supported with skills, inputs, and business management as follows:

- Financial support was provided for operational costs to 5 existing Women Resource Centers in Faryab.
- 360 women are provided economic growth training to enable them to increase their income.
- 99 vulnerable young women are provided with market-driven and center-based vocational training programs.
- 219 vocational training women trainee graduates were supported with business inputs. 120/219 are the graduates from 2022 who received kits in 2023 and 99/219 are the graduates from 2023 who received kits in 2023.
- 200 women are provided training and input on backyard poultry farming.
- 270 vulnerable women were supported with dairy cows or goats.
- 30 farmers are provided training and inputs on saffron processing and marketing.
- 200 farmers are provided training and inputs on vegetable production.
- 20 greenhouses are established for 20 women farmers, and they are provided training on pre and post-harvesting and off season vegetable production.
- 60 farmers are provided training and graduated from Farmer Field School (3 FFS) off- and on-season vegetable production.
- 140 women are provided training and input on home-based food processing.
- Women Resource Centers' existing three buildings were repaired and handed over.
- 320 women are provided training on the effective management of milky, goats, and chickens.
- 120 women are provided a 9-month-long literacy and numeracy education.

WE SDGs



Provinces Covered

- Nangarhar
- Faryab
- Jawzjan



“The DACAAR Food Processing Project has been completed and I’m grateful for the knowledge I gained from the training sessions. Thanks to NMFA and DACAAR for launching this valuable project. I recently started a small food processing business and would like to request continued support from NMFA and DACAAR to help it grow.”



وزارت تعلیم و تربیت
سازمان آموزش و ترویج
آموزش و ترویج

آموزش قرآن کریم

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ



“I am the only bread winner for my family, and I used to worry about how to provide food to them. However, thanks to DACAAR’s Bag Sewing initiative, I am now a trainee at their Bag Sewing Center. This opportunity has given me hope and taught me many skills, allowing me to work part-time from home and provide food to my family. I am grateful to DACAAR and hope for their continued support in the future.”



Community Resilience and Livelihood Program (CRLP):

The primary objective of the Community Resilience and Livelihoods Project (CRLP) was to furnish essential basic services and possibilities for short-term livelihood in both rural and urban communities. Millions of Afghans were first given possibilities for short-term work and income generating through this immediate assistance, which also improved access to essential utilities like clean water and sanitary facilities. Particular assistance was provided to women and vulnerable groups including internally displaced people (IDPs) and those with disabilities (PWDs). Last but not the least, the project promoted inclusive growth, sustainability, and long-term resilience through community-level institutions and mechanisms.

CRLP project achievements:

- 444,919 Meters of Road-Rehabilitation/Construction.
- 1,095,544 Meters of Canal-Rehabilitation/Construction.
- 1,752 Meters of Retaining wall construction.



Social Behavior Change (SBC):

In order to achieve the desired impact of better practices around health, nutrition, WASH, education, and protection, the main goal of the DACAAR Social Behavior Change project was to implement integrated interventions at the community level that targeted social groups and made use of local capacities to drive behavioral change through collective engagement and participation among social community structures like teachers, faith-based organizations, religious leaders, health workers, youth, and women's groups.

SBC project achievements:

- 299,726 Individuals Engaged with communities and different social groups on lifesaving practices and community insights related to Health, Nutrition, WASH, Education, and Child protection.
- 1,038 Persons Engaged with communities' frontline groups and social structures such as CEFC, CHW, CHS, SMS, HS, NC, Religious Leaders, GMG, and Community Mobilizers on lifesaving practices and community insights related to Health, Nutrition, WASH, Education, and Child protection.



ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

DACAAR had a productive year in 2023, providing a variety of training to enhance the skills and knowledge of staff members. By offering trainings such as Water GEM, Marketing Management, Social Organization, Financial Management, Entrepreneurship, Supply Chain Management, and Business Plan Management, DACAAR has equipped its staff with the tools they need to perform their tasks effectively and deliver high-quality work. In total 746 staff members had been benefited from these trainings.

Although there were challenges regarding the female internship program due to the ban on female work, DACAAR was able to adapt and redesign the program in close coordination with concerned departments. This resulted in the successful hiring of newly graduated women into a six-month internship program across different regional offices. This initiative not only provides valuable work experience for the interns but also contributes to promoting gender equality and empowerment within the organization.

Furthermore, the completion of the year 2024 Program framework documents showcases DACAAR's commitment to planning ahead and ensuring a clear direction for its programs and projects in the coming year. This strategic approach will help DACAAR prioritize its efforts and make informed decisions to maximize its impact in the communities it serves.



DACAAR Challenges During 2023

Despite numerous challenges in 2023, DACAAR was able to accomplish its goals as intended.

The primary challenges encountered in 2023 were the cash transfers to Afghanistan from the head office and donors. In addition, until September 2023, restricted bank operations in Afghanistan made it difficult to complete payments. In addition, because banks were not giving them cash because of their bad liquidity situation, the majority of suppliers were unwilling to accept cheques.

Good quality equipment, tools, and supplies for our field operation were hard to come by. Numerous issues with the supplies and materials' varying quality and prices also existed.

The present government's ban on women working continues to be challenging since it made it difficult for DACAAR to easily connect with female beneficiaries and perform in-field end-line surveys.

The project execution schedule is being negatively impacted by the longer than anticipated/planned time it is taking to get an MoU from the sectorial government. Moreover, disruptions in the procurement, recruitment, and site and beneficiary selection procedures, as well as requests to modify the project's scope or change the nature of the project, continue to be difficult and typically cause delays in project completion.

The length of the project is being impacted by the sectorial ministries' deployment of new protocols, systems, and approval processes.

DACAAR

Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees



Established:

1984

Staff:

Around 1,000
national staff and 6
international staff

Director:

John Morse,
Kabul

Head of Secretariat:

Klaus Løkkegaard,
Copenhagen

Regional Offices:

Kabul, Herat, Jalalabad, Kandahar, Kunduz, Maimana

Secretariat in Denmark:

“Spaces”, Ny Carlsberg Vej 80,
1799 Copenhagen, Denmark

Tel: +45 20 55 79 98

E-mail: copenhagen@dacaar.org

Registration:

Ministry of Economy of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Reg # 24

National Danish Register of Companies (CVR), Reg # 29902488

Governing Board:

Peder Thorning, Danish People's Aid (DPA)

Elin Petersen, The Danish Afghanistan Committee (DAC)

Mads Bugge Madsen, The Danish Trade Union Development Agency
(DTDA)

Activities:

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Natural Resources Management, Small
Scale Enterprise Development and Women's Empowerment

Copyright © 2023

All rights reserved.

Reproduction:

Content of this publication may be reproduced
with prior permission.

Access full PDF downloads of this report on:

www.dacaar.org

Contact Us:



Golayee Wazir Abad, District 10,
P.O. Box 208,
Kabul, Afghanistan



+93 (0) 20 223 0752 / +93 (0) 20 223 0753

+93 (0) 700 288 232



dacaar@dacaar.org



Our Donors



Norwegian Ministry
of Foreign Affairs



Funded by
European Union



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



UNOPS



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime