

XI. ANNUAL VALIDATION OF RESULTS (FIELD VISIT) AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

Field Visit Report

Date of visit: November 19, 2018

Subject and venue of visit: Project #00081906-00091028,
 [Project number(s) and title(s), venue visited]

Purpose of the field visit:

Outcomes	Update on outcomes	Outputs	Update on outputs	Reasons if progress below target	Update on partnership strategies	Recommendations and proposed action
UNDAF outcome: 1. By 2020, Competitiveness is improved and population, including vulnerable groups, have greater access to sustainable economic opportunities.	As a result of the Project, the primary producers and members of the cooperatives established got increased access to various sustainable economic activities that significantly improved their livelihood. The Project took special attention to women, youth and other vulnerable layers of the local society for targeted assistance.	Output 1.1 Local capacities strengthened to develop and implement innovative and diversified income-generating practices that are sustainable and employment and livelihood intensive targeting most vulnerable groups	All the set outputs for the extension period were accomplished and were possible due to the savings UNDP had during project implementation which does not affect delivery of outputs.	N/A	The project closely worked with all relevant partners in the field	

PROJECT PERFORMANCE—IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

[If the person conducting the field visit observes problems that are generic and not related to any specific output, or that apply to all of them, he or she should address the 'top three' such challenges.]
 List the main challenges experienced during implementation and propose a way forward.

PROGRESS TOWARDS RESULTS

The project exceeded its targets and results as all were accomplished by 2017, and the project managed to save additional funds for the implementation of additional works beyond its targets.
 For 2018 the results are:

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- 1) SIB model designed for dairy production in Shirak Marz as example for Social Impact in Agriculture
 - 2) buckwheat factory Upgraded to ensure full functionality (including burners, gas connection and auger conveyor)
 - 3) Content of buckwheat in laboratory test analysed to proof its nutritional value in comparison to imported buckwheat and other foods thus strengthening a marketing campaign for homegrown buckwheat
 - 4) user manual developed with business models and recommended implementation steps for buckwheat production and processing including information on market prices, costs of production and levels of competitiveness
 - 5) levels of soil fertility analysed in farmers fields to document positive environmental effects of buckwheat production and establish levels of soil-fertility improvement
 - 6) participation of producer groups at 3 national expos and fairs enabling the groups to link to buyers and boost sales organized
 - 7) continued support provided to established primary producer groups in the area of high value field crops and non traditional vegetables and berries to ensure production, profitability and sales of products.
 - 8) closing event in Yerevan organized

LESSONS LEARNED

Major lessons learned was that initial set up of a buckwheat factory, mainly specifications for the equipment did not consider the whole cycle of the value chain as well as cost benefit analysis of operation. Therefore the project procured equipment was not found to be efficient enough and additional works were done to improve the situation- gasification of both factories which contributed to the decrease of costs of the product.

Participants in the field visit:

Prepared by (Project Coordinator):



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