



## Success Story CLAP Kuchi - Making Butter

The CLAP-Kuchi project, contracted by MAIL (Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock) and funded by IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development), was awarded to DCA in 2014. The aim of this DCA project is to provide animal health related services and home-based business opportunities to the pastoralist and agro-pastoralist Kuchi in the three central provinces of Kabul, Logar and Parwan. This aim contributes to the overall goal of the Community Livestock and Agriculture Project (CLAP) to reduce poverty in rural Afghanistan. More specifically, the project objective is to improve food security of 50,000 rural households in selected districts in the provinces of Kabul, Parwan, Logar as an existing and Baghlan, Balkh, Herat, Nangarhar, Khost, Pakteya and Laghman as additional provinces by increasing agriculture and livestock productivity.

Payenda, a 40 years old woman, lives with her five children. She is a DCA/CLAP Extension Group member in Chaman village, Bagrami district of Kabul province. She felt that her family's financial situation was fluctuating, and her husband could not afford meeting all their needs. She tells her story as follows:

"Making butter was very difficult before I joined the extension group. It took me 4 hours to make that, using a plastic pot, leaving me very tired at the end such that I had no more energy to do other house chores. Also, half of the butter I made kept stuck at the bottom of the pot and I could only achieve half at the end – out of 7 kilos of milk, I produced only half a kilo. This made me deeply sad and sometimes frustrated of myself I wondered what reason is behind such high efforts and less achievement, while I saw my neighbor produce more than me with less efforts. One day, I reached out to her and she introduced me to CLAP staff and later I took membership of the Extension Group."



*Tool use for producing Yogurt before benefiting project*



*Tool use after benefiting CLAP-Kuchi project for producing Yogurt*

She adds "after participating in several extension sessions, I learned correct methods of milking and milk hygiene. Later on, I was donated a churning machine to milk more effectively and productively. Working out with the machine was a bit difficult at the beginning but once my hands get wet it was no longer a hardship. Now I am familiar with the whole process of milking and how to keep the stable, my hands and the animal healthier. It only took me almost an hour to make the butter and I can save time to take care of other home chores. I produce even more than 1 kilo butter out of each 7 kilos of milk. Also, less waste leaves from the butter because it does not stick at the bottom of the pot anymore."



Payenda thanks DCA/CLAP for teaching her new skills that has enormously transformed her life. She is now interested to be a permanent member of the extension group in order to learn more about livestock keeping and help her family financially.