

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



Colophon

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Lay-out and production Dutch edition

uNiek-Design
Almere, the Netherlands
www.uniek-design.nl

Production Afghan edition

Shabir Printing Co. Ltd
Kabul, Afghanistan
www.shabirprinting.com



DCA Livestock Programs

Active since 1988, officially registered in 1994,
Netherlands Chamber of Commerce, # 41246751

Registered in Afghanistan as international NGO
under the name DCA since 2005, # 119

Seat: Amersfoort, the Netherlands
Main office: Kabul, Afghanistan
Working area: Afghanistan
Focus: Livestock Health,
Production, and Welfare

Staff members: 137
Board: five members
Chairman of the Board: Theo Lam
Advisory Council: five advisors

**Mission: to reduce poverty and increase
food security for the people of Afghanistan
by improving the health and production of
their livestock**





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1. Preface



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, I have not been to Afghanistan for over 2 years now. Normally, I travel to Kabul and visit our projects in Afghanistan twice a year.

Fortunately, last October the Dutch Embassy in Islamabad issued visas for our Afghan core team in Kabul to travel to the Netherlands. Their arrival was of great importance to discuss how to proceed in the emerging situation with the change of the Afghan government. With the whole team present in the Netherlands we discussed many days on the future of DCA. On the 8th of November, the meeting of the DCA Board with the DCA Advisory Council (AC) took place along with the Afghan team. The members of the AC commented on the plans of the Afghan team and had many good suggestions. They were mainly based on the situation that had arisen and viewed from a donor's perspective. Following that we had management meetings to work on the details.

Together we decided to diversify the DCA scope of work and portfolio to be able to contribute to improve the poor humanitarian situation. Livestock is the core business of DCA, and animal production contributes significantly to food security as the main rural livelihoods. DCA aims to help rural people build resilience. Although gender balance is at risk right now, DCA will keep its female staff and continue to work on gender balance using its women-to-women approach. To address the current situation due to the lack of hygiene and zoonotic diseases being present which is leading to the spread of pandemics such as COVID-19, DCA will leverage its expertise using the One Health approach

to attain optimal health for animals, humans, and the environment.

2021 is also a very critical year financially for DCA. The project portfolio had already declined, and after the change of power, payments of invoices were delayed by our donors. It was very difficult and costly to get money to Kabul and we were quite drained of reserves. We have great admiration for our staff in Kabul who continue to fulfill their duties despite all the difficulties and changes. Many thanks to everyone!



Ab Emmerzaal, Secretary General

2. Afghanistan Today

Afghanistan witnessed very drastic events in 2021. The comeback of IEA to power as of 15th of August 2021 led to ex-government high ranking authorities to flee. Many countries evacuated Afghan scholars, specialists, experts, educated, technical and professional Afghans. Most of the embassies and political representative's offices closed.



AC-17 evacuating 823 passengers out of Kabul on 15 August 2021

During this evacuation, Afghans fell from the plane, infants were born midway, children got lost, and the worst was the suicide attack at the airport which killed around 200, and injured more than 200 Afghans and Americans on 26th of August 2021.



*Hundreds of people were seen running alongside the plane.
Credit: Twitter/ Ragip Soylu*

Over 24 million people (60% of the total population) need humanitarian support with 22% of them women, 54% children and 8.3% disabled. Gender restrictions are already deepening the crisis. The UN highlighted that more than 500,000 people lost their jobs and the forecast is grim with an increased loss expected of 700,000 up to a million. Those who have a job, they do not receive their salaries because of sanctions and assets blocked by the USA. The highest inflation is reflected through the reduced value of the Afghan currency which dropped by more than 30%. Donors seem to move their support from development to humanitarian responses.

Livestock and livelihood:

The current dynamics in the country has had a critical impact on the livestock sector. This sector that drives food security and livelihoods for 80% of the population and is the main source of transformation and inclusive growth, is critically compromised. Feed shortage, animal health and market failure are some of the urgent issues raised by herders/farmers. Farmers are selling their livestock for a cheaper price to buy food for their families.

The price of imported livestock inputs increased by more than 50%, while livestock products including meat decreased by 20%. Public veterinary services are not functioning regularly, and projects funded by international aid are faced with the problem of fund transfers due to the disruption of the banking system. Some of the farmers are internally displaced (IDPs) to bigger cities which is another uncompensated disaster for the livestock sector because when a farmer loses his animals it means that he is getting poorer, and he never gets back his livestock.



People surrounded the US plane to get evacuated



Dr Chalachew Agonafir at work in the field

3. The current position of DCA and its approaches

The year 2021 has been a very challenging year for the people of Afghanistan and DCA itself. We not only had to deal with the recurrent drought and the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, but now also a big change in the political environment resulting in a new Government from August. We are however committed to remain engaged and present in the country.

Our main objectives are:

- Improving the food security of vulnerable Afghans in hard-to-reach locations through protecting their livelihoods assets
- Creating more jobs and increasing income
- Enhancing the infrastructure for resilient livelihoods

Our community driven approach is built upon four pillars:

1. Food Security and Livelihood services
2. Extension
3. Value Chain development
4. Institutional Capacities and networking

These four pillars constitute a powerful mix to drive our mission forward. It is important to us to have some guiding principles, and these include Gender equality and One Health. We therefore are committed to empower women in all our projects, as well as to have a One Health approach. One Health, being the need to address together with other actors the health of humans, animals, and the environment. The current pandemic has really highlighted the need for all of us to work together.

We have achieved remarkable outcomes and impacts from the work we do which are highlighted in other parts of this annual report. The work and commitment to our beneficiaries is well recognised by donors and other stakeholders. We always strive to have a professional approach, and at the same time be very cost effective. Recent data indicates that for one dollar invested in the work, the yield is a 5 dollar return for the beneficiary.

Our network of Veterinary Field Units staffed mainly by Paravets established nationwide are providing the ideal platform not only for disease surveillance, and the provision of clinical services but also for education and distribution of much needed materials and equipment to remote rural communities that might otherwise not be reached through normal channels.

Finally, it is my pleasure to introduce and welcome our new Country Director, Dr Chalachew Agonafir.

Dr Chalachew previously worked for DCA from June 2010 to January 2014. We wish him well during these very challenging times.



Dr Raymond Briscoe



4. Pillars DCA

4a. Food and Nutrition Security

Female herders processing livestock feed using locally available items

Decades of persistent insecurity in Afghanistan left the country's infrastructure destroyed contributing further to the rate of poverty. According to the National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (NRVA) report, at least 36 percent of the total population live under the poverty line. This has led to food and nutrition insecurity of 30% of the population. The 2.5 million mobile rural Pastoralists/Kuchis have a unique socio-cultural system with their livestock and natural resources, being their key livelihood assets, impacted by food insecurity.

The IFAD funded CLAP and RPSF-1 projects supported Kuchis in the distribution of new technologies to increase food and nutrition security that bring eggs, qurot (traditional cheese), yogurt, ghee, etc. on their tables. The projects distributed animal feed to avoid/reduce selling of their animals and introduced new methods of lamb fattening which enabled Kuchis to earn more money in a short span of time and have more food security. Furthermore, the project established 4 new feed banks in addition to supporting the existing 15 ones, resulting in food security/nutrition for more than 9,500 Kuchi families. The established feed banks produce a very high-quality feed which is based on the standard formulas for dairy and fattening purposes.

Moreover, **1,048** most at risk pastoralists (**869** men and **179** women) received vouchers to get vaccines and medicines from their nearby VFU. Such initiatives also enhance food and nutrition security through improving the production and productivity of the livestock.



Kamalludin Asadullah resides in Khani Khwarr village of Khost Province, along with his family of **35** members.

"Since I have started working as a para-vet, I am getting wealthier and now on average on a daily basis I can earn Afs **20,100** per month which is **10 folds of my earning in my previous work**. Nowadays, in addition to my personal expenses, I pay Afs **10,000** for the families food expenses and save the remaining money."

"I am really pleased and thankful of the CLAP/Kuchi project team for their humble and tireless efforts of the food and nutrition security for myself and the rest of the Kuchis."

The IFAD funded CLAP project supports 174 VFUs like that of Assadullah serving 348,000 pastoralists per year throughout Afghanistan to improve their food and nutrition security.

A recent study carried out by DCA/Brooke and MAIL in Afghanistan established that no donkey means no food security. The “One Welfare” approach to working equines brings about a better food security to the family. The Brooke project of DCA provided a one welfare support to more than 75,000 working equines which adds value to the food and nutrition security of more than 50,000 people.

542 VFUs

(Veterinary Field Units)

Supported through IFAD/CLAP, The Brooke/Welfare, US Department of State/CCHF and PUR Projet/Oxfam/Cashmere Breeding. They serve 1,084,000 animals per year. (Double counting in some cases but serving different beneficiaries.)



Similarly, the US Department of State funded Crimean Congo Haemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) project has been implemented in 4 provinces to improve food and nutrition security. The project secures animal health for the purpose of high-quality animal production and provides high protein value of animal origin to maintain the food security in the rural farming communities.



More than 50% of rain-fed lands are located on high elevations, where donkeys play an instrumental role to cultivate!



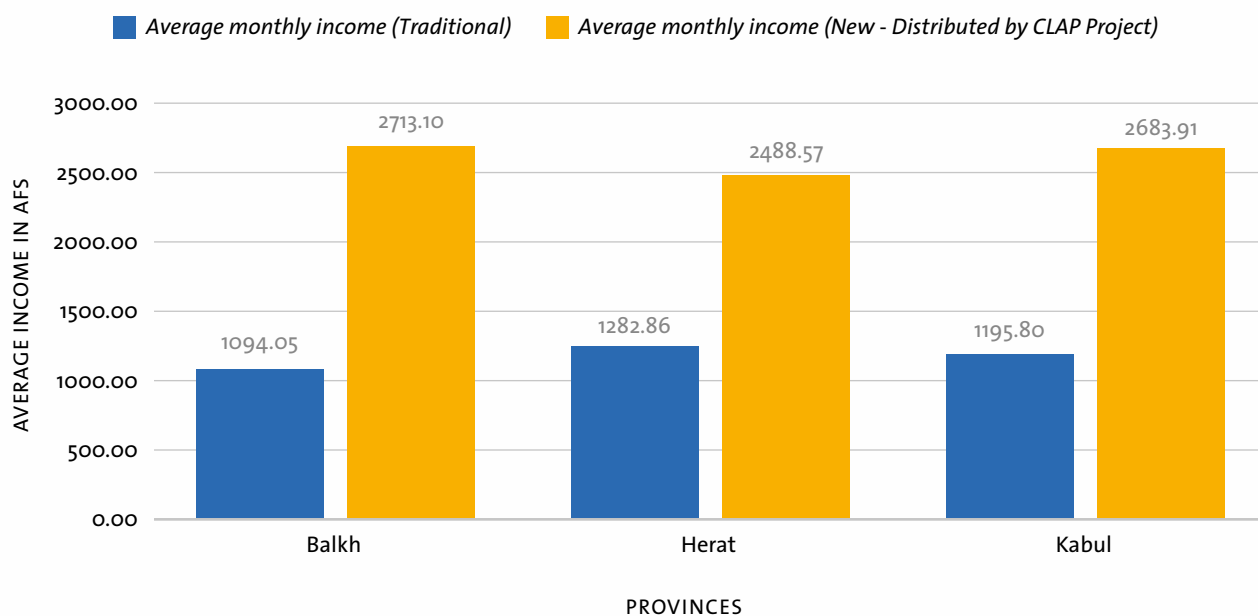
4b. Livelihoods and Employment

DCA's work mainly focuses in building the livelihoods, resilience and employment of farmers, pastoralists, and traders in Afghanistan. The IFAD funded Community Livestock and Agriculture Project among the pastoralist communities (CLAP/Kuchi) and RPSF-1 have been strengthening the livelihoods and resilience of 9,061 direct, and 63,427 indirect beneficiaries in 2021. The projects were implemented through the community-based network of Veterinary Field Units (VFUs) in 80 districts of 10 provinces.

The number of animals owned by households and their productivity has increased as compared to the baseline survey, indicating positive outcomes of the project in these provinces. Majority (79%) of these households sell their animals for 'trade' or to meet their 'family expenses' and earn considerable income.

The average monthly income increased by **41.55%** compared to the baseline due to the value chain interventions of dairy, wool, and lamb fattening by the pastoralists.

Average Monthly Income (Traditional vs New)



Permanent jobs were created for 174 paravets, 95 feed bank operators, 46 women through wool spinning, and 899 through female self-help groups. About 900 female pastoralists have access to technical and financial resources to improve their livelihoods because of the Self Help Group intervention model. Some **46** female pastoralists were provided with Wool spinning machines to add value to their yarn production and hence diversifying their means of livelihood opportunities.

Outreach to veterinary services among the pastoralists increased from 11% at the baseline to 82.5% today. The project has decreased animal mortality rates by 59% for adults, and 72% for young and new borne animals of the pastoralists.

Rural households normally keep one or more working equines for the purpose of income generation, fetching water, agriculture work, goods/human transport, house chores, physical comforts, and even taking children to schools. Through supporting **75,000** working equines under the Brooke Welfare Project, DCA improved the livelihoods and self-employment of around **50,000** people.

With funding from PUR Projet through Oxfam, DCA

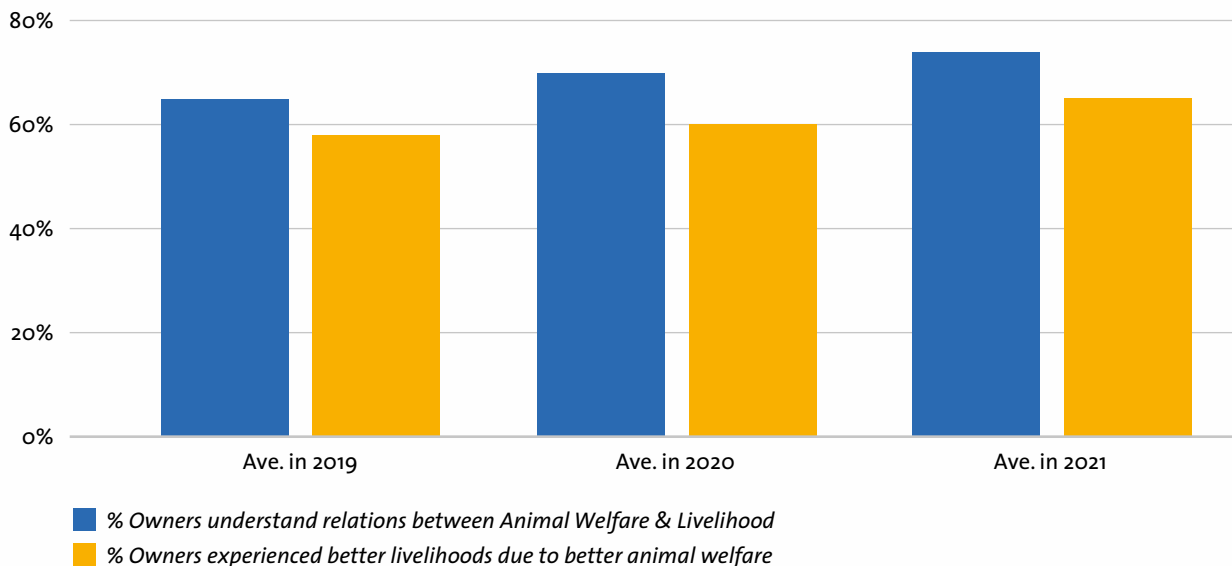
51,330 jobs created

Permanent and casual jobs created through the support of projects funded by IFAD, the Brooke and US Department of State

implemented a cashmere breeding project in Balkh and Herat Provinces that contributed to the cashmere value chain, and income generation. DCA distributed 398 improved breeds of cashmere goats to 90 herders in Balkh and Herat Provinces.

Through the CCHF Project, funded by US Department of State, a total of 35,038 animals and 13,110 stables were treated and 81 stables were improved for the purpose of prevention and control of ticks as they are a vector for CCHF disease. This played an important role in the improvement of livelihoods in the targeted 4 provinces of the project in terms of healthy animals, healthy people, high animal production, and productivity. Additionally, the project has created jobs for more than 116 people in the 4 provinces.

Animal Welfare vs Livelihoods





**Province: Balkh
Nanwaie Village, Charkent District**

“Involving the children in the family savings not only enables parents to save more money for emergencies, it has also improved the health of their children, reduced medication costs, and have made the children business oriented”, said Ms. Samana (the volunteer teacher).

Another donkey owner Nargis Jan says: “I never assumed 10 Afghani as a worth worthy amount to be saved. But I have 3,000 Afghani in my saving box and want to buy feed for the winter for my two donkeys as we could not store enough feed due to drought this year”.

Ghulam (a village shopkeeper) says: “Since the establishment of the saving box, the demand for the sweets and popcorn is being reduced, but I am selling more fruits and stationery”.

This situation has brought the donkeys in the centre of the households’ (HHs) attention and villagers are compassionate towards their animals. Ms. Samana is behind all these successes as she does all the community trainings and the clerical work for the saving schemes. She is committed to continue so that children and women in her village have better futures.

DCA’s Brooke project has 28 female volunteers that serve 450 women and 600 children to improve the livelihoods, income, and well-being in 7 Provinces of Afghanistan.

We are proud to present the following “THANK YOU” letter from our donor Burberry, and our implementing partners PUR-Projet and Oxfam on the completion of the PUR project:

*“Dear project partners,
While 2021 is coming to an end, it seemed appropriate to take some time to send a massive thank you to all of you for the incredible contributions and work accomplished during the last four and half years on the Afghan cashmere programme. We have been incredibly proud and humbled to work with all of you:*

- *For **DCA team**, thank you for successfully setting up a breeding farm from scratch, for your scientific rigour and carrying a long-term vision of cashmere quality improvement throughout the project lifetime.*
- *For **Oxfam in Afghanistan teams**, thank you for your incredible insights and always leveraging your knowledge of Afghanistan in the project’s best interest.*
- *For the **PRB team**, thank you for being an outstanding partner bridging between the program and the communities.*
- *For **OGB teams**, thank you for the outstanding and complementary partnership we have built over the project lifetime.*
- *For **The Burberry Foundation team**, thank you for your commitment to engage in a complex yet a passionate project and continuous support throughout the project lifetime.*

Although the project had to come to an early end, we have been proud to contribute to setting the first stone of an international Afghan cashmere supply chain with you all. Looking forward to hearing from you in the future. Wishing the best for you and your families,

On behalf of the PUR-Projet team: Andrew, Juliette, Nais, Christopher and Karim.”

4c. Education and Outreach

DCA has established 3 training centres in Charikar, Herat and Mazar Cities to train paravets, continuing education for vets, animal health assistants, extension workers etc. The centres have expanded out to Nangarhar and Kandahar to provide regional courses when the need arises. The training centres are equipped with sufficient teaching materials (overhead projector, LCD, videos etc.), libraries, labs, clinics, and other facilities to make them compatible to the current needs. The courses are in line with the standards set from OIE (World Animal Health Organization); training opportunities are developed based on a needs assessment; participatory approaches are used in the training, and hands-on practice is key for trainees.

To raise/improve the capacity of pastoralists, the IFAD funded CLAP/Kuchi project has developed pastoralist Herd Health Packages, Posters, Fact Sheets, Audio Messages, Field Days, exchanged visits, subsidized vaccination and de-worming campaigns to promote the outreach and extension services. Thirteen project staff and 65 paravets received courses that were then cascaded to 6,035 pastoralists in 2021. Distribution of 1,450 notebooks to pastoralists, paravets and staff also took place in 2021. DCA's extension packages include among other things, seasonal vaccination programs, hygiene and sanitation, knowledge on diseases that transmit between humans and animals, ecto- and endo-parasites, dairy, stable management, livestock feed management and so forth. Every package is disseminated seasonally from Jan to Dec based on their occurrence and epidemiology.

Furthermore, households' attitude towards observing hygiene measures while processing dairy products has witnessed a positive change compared with pre-project engagement. All households in the provinces explained that they consider 'washing dishes,' 'boiling milk,' and 'washing hands' while processing animal products to be important. At least 42% of the households also mentioned that they consider 'wearing gloves' as a hygiene protocol during handling dairy products to be necessary.

The Brooke's welfare project has also done a great job in creating awareness and outreach to the VFU network, equine owners, and community influencers. The project



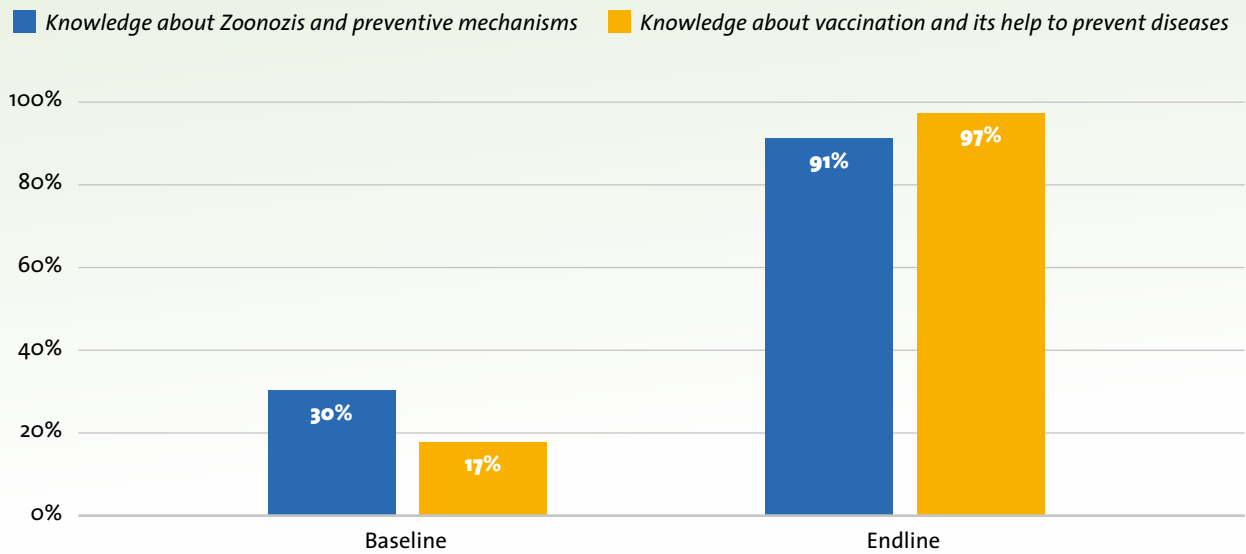
143,628 courses

Training, education and outreach
by all DCA projects in 2021

has trained 2,087 VFUs, farriers, harness makers, village group leaders, traditional animal health workers, volunteers, and elders/influencers. They in turn trained and supported 49,182 equine owners.

The US Department of State funded CCHF project carried out outreach and extension services through assigned groups such as the Veterinary Field Units (VFUs), Community Health Workers (CHWs), Local Female Extension Workers (LFEWs), and project staff through trainings and awareness sessions by using the designated training and extension materials. As a result, 210 VFUs, CHWs, LFEWs and butchers were trained on CCHF disease; 12,393 males and females were made aware of CCHF disease, 8,825 fact sheets and posters were distributed; 2,615 family hygiene kits and 100 butcher kits were dispensed; 12,301 face masks were distributed, and 2,574 tick and 153 blood samples were collected for research, and the scientific study of CCHF disease.

Changes in the knowledge of Kuchis on zoonosis and vaccination



An example of changes in the knowledge of pastoralists towards zoonosis and vaccination due to the extension services.

Changes in the husbandry practices - 2019 to 2021



The outcome and impact of the project interventions between 2019, 2020 and 2021



4d. Gender and Business Development

Local cheese production in Kabul Province with the support of IFAD funded CLAP Project

Afghan women are largely involved in agriculture in general, and animal husbandry particularly. Drought, war, landmines, and economic migration resulted in a high concentration of women-headed households, leaving women isolated in a traditional society. Like other Afghan women, Kuchi women lack ownership, control, and access to productive assets such as land, livestock, and cash. The lack of money reduces opportunities to start activities that require an initial investment. Recent studies and field observations indicate that improvements in the economic position of women directly affect overall household welfare including food security, children's education, and health care. The key areas of DCA's inputs in 2021 include backyard poultry production, milking, processing of milk into yogurt, cheese, sweets, and other milk products.

The IFAD/CLAP/Kuchi project discovered that money earned by Kuchi women is often used on children, and their own necessities. Kuchi women are 99% uneducated and have only one way of income generating sources, handling and processing the by-products of the livestock and selling them to earn income. The project supported them in improving their animal husbandry skills and knowledge and improving the processing and marketing of animal products such as wool, milk, and yogurts. The improved economic position of women corresponds with the increased status and decision-making power within the household and at community level.

For business development, 46 wool spinning machines were distributed to pastoralist women; 276 women were trained and mentored in sanitation, hygiene, and animal husbandry. Further to this, the CLAP/Kuchi project has

achieved significant inclusion of women in the food and nutrition security, livelihoods, income, and employment.

The US Department of State funding of the CCHF project has engaged women and girls in education, awareness, and distribution of family hygiene kits to maintain the hygienic measures during feeding, watering, and milking of their animals. The CCHF project also provided financial support to 30 VFUs and local female extension workers (LFEW) in the targeted areas of the project to improve and sustain the businesses of women.

Considering the local contexts, DCA/Brooke has been trying to consider proper gender balance among the project staff and beneficiaries. About 52% of the project staff were female. To eliminate the effects of the local and traditional restrictions on female beneficiaries, the Brooke project of DCA trained and equipped 28 female volunteer teachers in 2021 which makes a total of 51 female volunteers. They are actively involved in training village women and children in their residences. and in the neighboring villages.



LFEWs Training Session, Herat Province, Southwestern Afghanistan



4e. One Health and One Welfare

Training of school children on how to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and similar zoonotic diseases by the Brooke Project

The CCHF project, which is funded by the US Department of State (DoS), is the only One Health project of DCA that focuses on animals, humans, and environmental health issues in terms of prevention and control of the CCHF zoonotic disease.

The project contributed to reducing by 30% the mortality rate in humans through changing attitudes, prevention of transmission mechanisms and research analysis in the 4 targeted provinces.

A sample of the locally produced mask to prevent the spread of COVID-19



The Brooke project on the other hand, has been employing a one welfare project that includes animals, humans, and environmental health. The project has trained and mentored 119 paravets and veterinarians so they can provide animal health and welfare to 75,000 working equines. The project also supported the manufacturing of 18,000 face masks tailored locally by female groups, and hand sanitizers to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The project trained beneficiaries on how to wear the COVID-19 protective materials as well as the protocols such as hand washing and keeping social distances.

VFUs collecting blood samples through the US Department of State funding

4f. Public Private Partnership



Close coordination with other organisations and shared resources for mutual benefits. The tarpaulin or children training was provided by the UNHCR



DCA coordinates with the Ministry of Economy (MoEc), Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), Ministry of Women Affairs (MoWA), and Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA). Coordinating with these ministries and their counterparts in the provinces and districts contributes to a proper handover and sustainability of the projects.

Additionally, DCA coordinates with other stakeholders including the UN, NGOs, the private sector, and community influencers. The CLAP/IFAD and The Brooke projects of DCA are the centres of excellence in building public private partnership. MAIL/DAIL team members have actively been involved in monthly M&E visits of the projects in 14 provinces.

The projects also coordinated with other organisations such as the UNHCR in the prevention of the spread of COVID-19.

The US Department of State funded CCHF project was established and had a comprehensive coordination, collaboration, and partnership with MAIL and MoPH at national and provincial levels. At district level the project coordinates with the Veterinary Field Units (VFUs), Community Health Workers (CHWs) and Local Female Extension Workers (LFEWs) for the purposes of avoiding duplication and achieving the planned goals and objectives of the project in a sustainable manner. The research component of CCHF project also coordinates with the Central Veterinary Diagnostic and Research Laboratory (CVDRL) that belongs to the Department of Animal Health and Production in MAIL. Ticks that transmit CCHF and blood samples are identified and tested in this laboratory by the government veterinarians.



Representatives for MAIL/DAIL and Ministry of Economy from Balkh, Kabul and Nangarhar provinces were supported to make cross visits for their experience exchange and further coordination

5. Organisation

DCA Livestock Programs is a community driven organisation based in the Netherlands and Afghanistan, implementing different projects funded by several donors in Afghanistan since 1988. In 1994, the organisation was officially registered as DCA-VET at the Chamber of Commerce in the Netherlands. DCA's mission is built upon 4 pillars: food/nutrition security, livelihoods, and job creation; extension services; livestock products value chain development, and institutional capacities to engage the Public Private Partnership. This new profile asked for a new name: since 2017 DCA-VET is called DCA Livestock Programs. DCA Livestock Programs has a Board that outlines the DCA policy. An Advisory Council provides the Board (bi)annually with support and advice.

Afghanistan

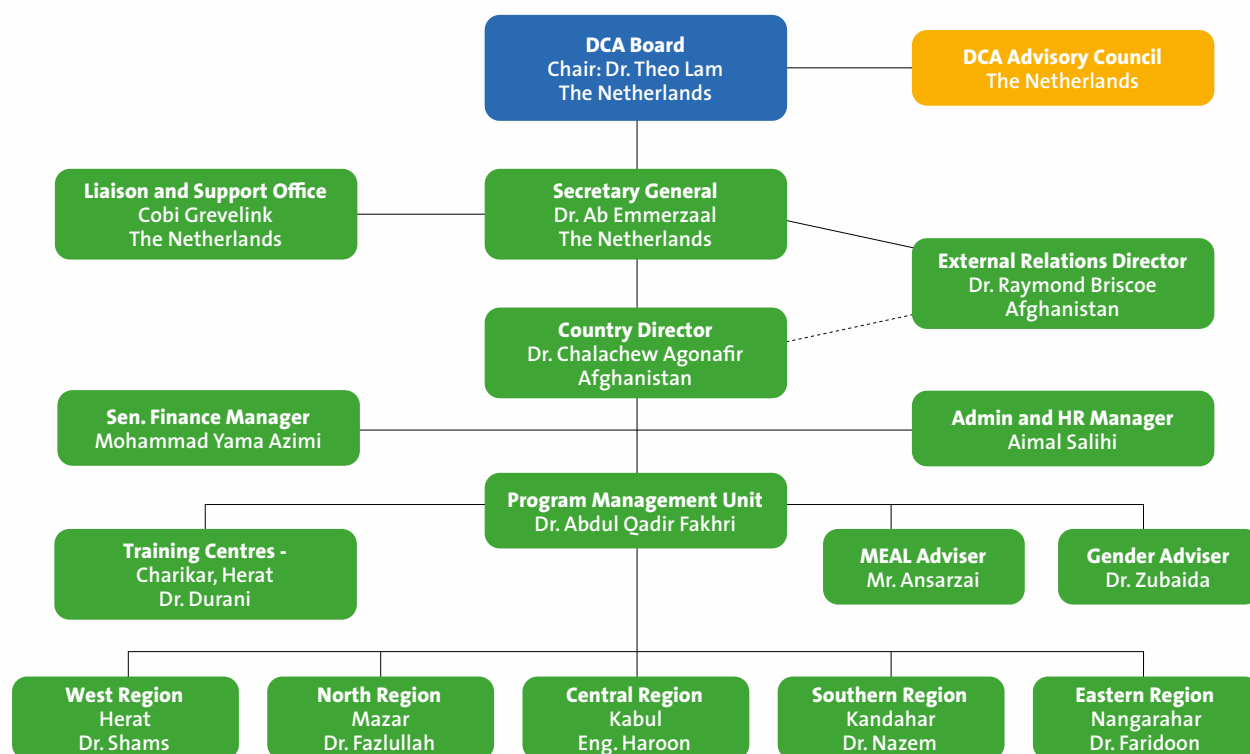
The DCA team in Afghanistan consists of around 137 staff, mainly Afghan nationals, with two expats. The national staff represent all different ethnic groups. About 25-30% of the staff are women. The staff work on the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of projects, financial affairs, administration, HRM, and facilitation of services.

The Executive Director, Raymond Briscoe, and the Country Director, Chalachew Agonafir who joined DCA in September 2021 are in charge of the strategic management, the acquisition of new projects, and communication with donors, Afghan government and stakeholders. The Program Director, Dr Abdul Qader Fakhri, manages all project implementation. A Decision Management Team (DMT) consisting of the ED, CD, PD and two senior project managers serve primarily as the final decision-making body in Kabul for the preparation and implementation of DCA projects in Afghanistan.

DCA offices are established in Kabul (HQ), Jalalabad, Herat, and Mazar-i-Sharif and the main training centre is situated in Charikar. Smaller provincial offices can be found in the capitals of fourteen provinces.

Netherlands

The Directors in Afghanistan work closely with the Board in Holland through the Secretary General, Ab Emmerzaal. In Holland, the Liaison & Support office takes care of monitoring, support to projects, finances, and facilitation of the regular Board meetings.



6. Board and Advisory Council

Members of the Board



Theo Lam, DVM PhD
Chairman



Gert-Jan Duives,
DVM
Secretary



Romke Steensma,
CA
Treasurer



Bram E.C. Schreuder,
DVM PhD
*Delegated Board
Member*



Kees van Maanen,
DVM PhD
Member

As in previous years, in 2021 DCA was governed by a Board with its seat in the Netherlands. The Board comprises of 5 committed volunteers who devote their expertise to the benefit of DCA. The Board met twelve times in 2021, including one meeting with the Advisory Council (AC).

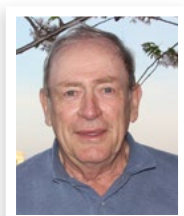
Advisory Council

In 2021, the DCA Board met once with the Advisory Council, discussing the current dynamics and the future of DCA's program, the strategy under the current circumstances in Afghanistan, and DCA's lobbying policy. Since 2019, the DCA Advisory Council consists of six members; Akke van der Zijpp, Cees de Haan, Henk Moll, Frauke de Weijer, Lucy Maarse and Peter de Leeuw, previous chairman of the DCA Board. Akke van der Zijpp resigned the advisory council at the end of 2021.

Members of the Advisory Council



Peter de Leeuw,
DVM PhD
Previous CVO of NL



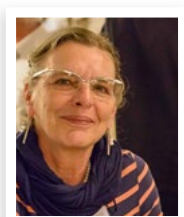
Cees de Haan, Jr.
*Senior Livestock
Advisor*



Henk A.J. Moll, PhD
*Agricult. Developm.
Economy*



Frauke de Weijer,
DVM BA MPA
Development policy



Lucy Maarse, MSc
*Livestock &
Livelihood*



Akke van der Zijpp,
Prof. PhD
*Animal Productions
Systems*

7. Partnerships

Partnership is an important aspect of DCA's operation because it allows an integrated, and multidisciplinary approach. Partnership stimulates communication, coordination, trust, avoids duplication, and fosters a sharing of knowledge. For partnerships to flourish we need funding, and an understanding of the roles each play.

Government

We work with and report to many Government Departments of different Ministries at Central, Regional, Provincial and District levels.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) is our principal partner, and we implement a large Pastoralist and farmers projects on their behalf. Our recent work has been with the Ministry of Public Health where we have collaborated on One Health bringing awareness to rural communities on animal, human and environmental health. Our training centre at Charikar is registered with the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MoLSA), and we report regularly to the Ministry of Economy. The Public Private Partnership is very important

for both sectors to work together towards a sustainable outcome to the benefit of both parties.

Donors

We would like to express our appreciation to the donors who fund our various projects because we rely exclusively on them for the work we do. We acknowledge our current donors: International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), The Brooke UK, FAO, UNODC, PUR, and the US Department of State.

NGOs, Other International Organisations and Clusters

The communication and coordination we have with other NGOs is very important to us. We acknowledge the support given by such organisations as Oxfam, Health Security Partners, Agha Khan Foundation (AKF), Relief International (RI), PRB, ICARDA, and MISFA to name but a few.

We are a member of the Afghanistan Food Security and Agriculture cluster (FSAC) of the FAO, and Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief and Development (ACBAR).



EUROPEAN UNION



HEALTH SECURITY PARTNERS



8. Finance

Expenditures in 2021

The expenditures of DCA Livestock Programs to keep the overall program and the individual projects running in 2021 amounted to USD 2,505,300.

DCA received for the larger part funds from:

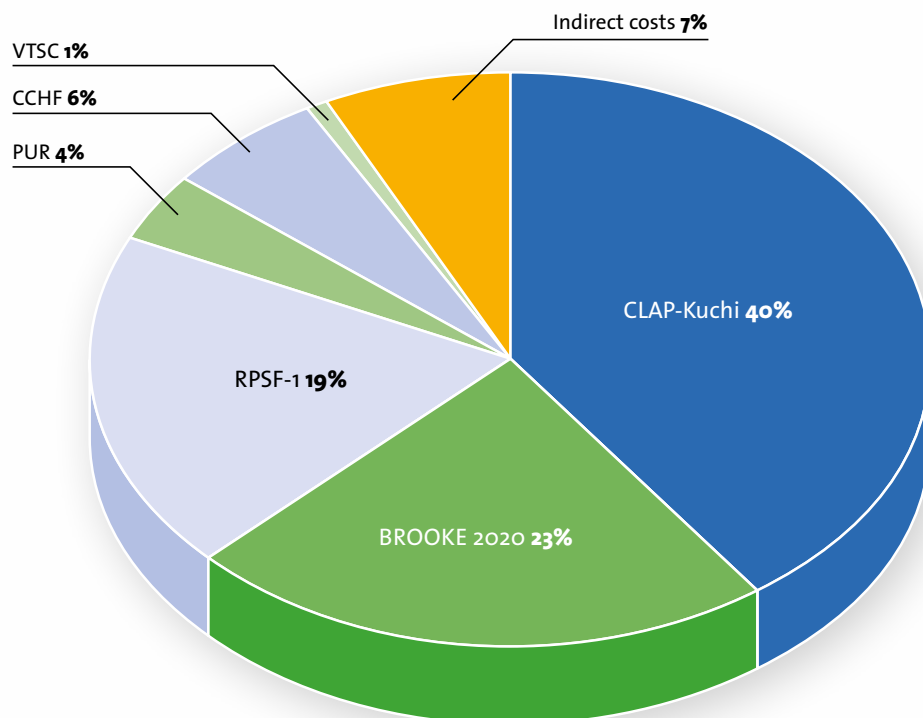
- IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development) that provided funds for the continuation and expansion of the CLAP/ Kuchi project and RPSF-1 project.
- Brooke (The Brooke Hospital for Animals), for continuation of the 3-year project on 'Sustainable equine welfare improvement' in Afghanistan that started in 2019.

Smaller projects, from:

- US Department of State, for increasing CCHF detection, mitigation and prevention in Afghanistan and Laboratory Diagnosis.
- PUR Development PTE. LTD, for management of a breeding program to improve cashmere quality, meat production, and reproduction of cashmere goats.

The below graph shows the expenditures per project expressed in percentages. DCA spent around USD 23,000 dollars on the Veterinary Training Centre in Charikar. From the graph, it can be concluded that 93% of all expenditures are used for project implementation and training.

Total Expenditures 2021





9. Looking forward

It's an honour for me to be part of the DCA team again after 8 years. I'm thrilled to join an organisation that helps protect and enhance the livelihoods assets, improve food security, empower women, and build resilience.

Our scope of work and portfolio has expanded to address the current dynamics due to government power change, collapse of the banks, drought and spread of COVID-19. DCA's approach sits at the nexus of humanitarian development and peacebuilding, focusing on building resilience in a conflict-setting. We have also broadened our partnership with more NGOs and funding agencies. The due diligence and checklists have already been completed to start humanitarian responses with AHF/ UNOCHA. This will contribute to accessing funds from ECHO and BHA. Funding from USAID and US Department of State coupled with membership to AHF means a lot for building on our strategic opportunities.

Gender equality and One Health (the interface between human, animal, and environmental health) will continue to be our fundamental guiding principles.

We won't turn the wheels but build on the existing achievements. Leveraging on previous accomplishments,

“We won't turn the wheels but build on the existing achievements”

DCA prioritizes the following 3 areas in 2022 -

- 1. Information and Communication:** A big emphasis will be given to effective communication and information sharing. We need to reframe our communication, emphasize why our approaches are effective, and stress our uniqueness of accessing the communities easily through the VFUs, Basic Veterinary Workers, Self-Help, and Extension Groups.
- 2. Action:** There is no smooth path, but I'm cautiously optimistic about the future as long as we create synergy across the team. As a year of Action - we will create new initiatives, be innovative, proactive, work as a team and even harder than before so it becomes rewarding, and we stand out as an organisation.
- 3. Special attention** will be given to the financial health of the organisation and implementing our operational manuals and policies.

With hard work, innovation, and high value for money, it will pay off; I'm confident that we will reemerge as the most competent organisation in 2022 and beyond.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone at DCA for all the assistance, some of them since 2010. All the best for the readers of this report.

Chalachew N. Agonafir
Country Director



Abbreviations

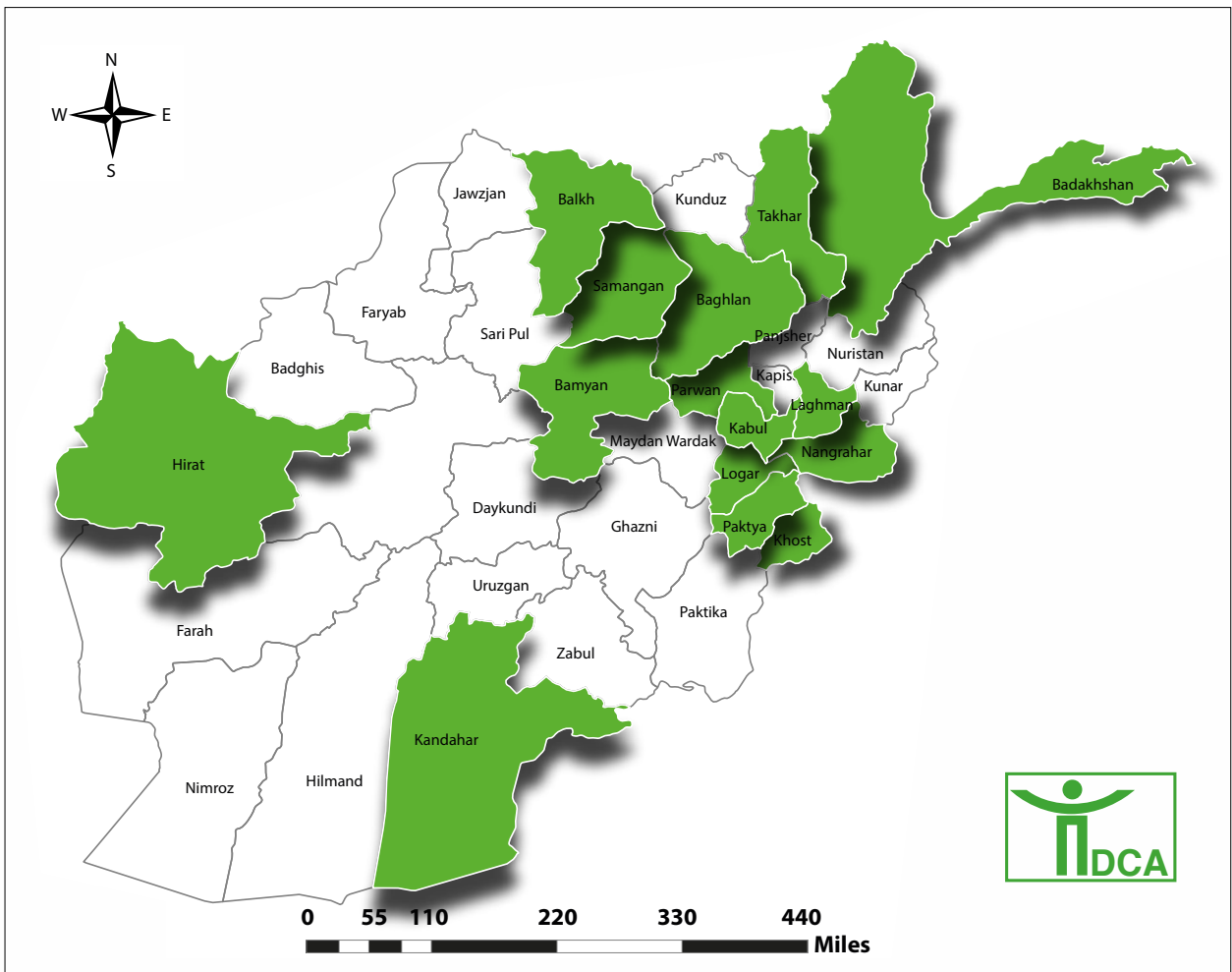


AC	Advisory Council	IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ACBAR	Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief and Development	LFEWs	Local Female Extension Workers
AHF	Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund	M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
AKF	Aga Khan Foundation	MAIL	Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock
BA	Bachelor of Arts	MEAL	Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning
BHA	Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance	MISFA	Microfinance Investment Support Facility for Afghanistan
CA	Chartered Accountant	MoEC	Ministry of Economy
CCHF(V)	Crimean Congo Haemorrhagic Fever (Virus)	MoLSA	Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs
CD	Country Director	MoPH	Ministry of Public Health
CHWs	Community Health Workers	MoWA	Ministry of Women Affairs
CLAP	Community Livestock and Agriculture Project	MPA	Master of Public Administration
CVDRL	Central Veterinary Diagnostic and Research Laboratory	MSc	Master of Science
DAIL	District Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock	NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
DCA	Dutch Committee for Afghanistan	NRVA	National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment
DMT	Decision Management Team	OIE	World Animal Health Organization
DVM	Doctor of Veterinary Medicine	PD	Program Director
ECHO	European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations	PRB	Partners in Revitalisation and Building
ED	Executive Director	PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	PPP	Public Private Partnership
FSAC	(Afghanistan) Food Security & Agriculture Cluster	PUR	PUR Projet
HHs	Households	RI	Relief International
HRM	Human Resource Management	SHG	Self-Help-Group
ICARDA	International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas	UN	United Nations
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons	UNHCR	UN High Commissioner for Refugees
IEA	Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan	UNOCHA	UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
		UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
		USA	United States of America
		USAID	US Agency for International Development
		US DoS	US Department of State
		VFU	Veterinary Field Unit

DCA on the map



Map of coverage of DCA livestock Programs in 2021



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