



**Technical Assistance and Support to Fruit and Vegetable Growers
in the Swat Valley for Gender Empowerment under ADP Swat 2/
IAO - GECOHO Project**

**TRAINING NEED ASSESSMENT (TNA)
REPORT**

**Submitted by
The University of Agriculture, Peshawar**

June 2014

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	2
2. Training Need Assessment Process	2
3. Broader Training Areas Identified in the PC-I	3
4. Team Members	3
5. Major Findings	4
6. Conclusion	5
7. Picture Gallery of TNA Team	6

1. Introduction

As per requirement of the PC-I of the project titled “Technical Assistance and Support to fruit and vegetable growers in the Swat Valley for Gender Empowerment under ADP Swat 2/ GECHOHO Project”, the Training Need Assessment of the female focused group was carried out from 5th to 7th of May 2014 at different villages of the District Swat under the direct support of Istituto Agronomico per l’Oltremare (IAO) Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Italy and for which the people of Pakistan are thankful.

Since a total of 300 female participants will be trained in seven different training programmes through the female faculty of the University of Agriculture, Peshawar so a sample size of 150 plus female was interviewed through a semi structured questionnaire jointly prepared by IAO, UAP and IRM. The services of IRM were also present during the TNA process and a team of their experts regularly monitored the whole process. For this the UAP team is highly grateful for their support and guidance in the project area.

Nevertheless, the Agriculture Extension Department at District Swat was also kept on board about the TNA phase of the project. Both District Director Agriculture and Assistant Plant Protection Officer Swat were very instrumental in providing an effective coordination in providing an interface with the female focused groups. They facilitated both UAP and IRM in the successful completion of the TNA process.

2. Training Need Assessment Process

The TNA process was completed in five steps:

1. Finalization of the Questionnaire (which also included the component for baseline survey and which will be presented in a separate report)
2. Training of female faculty on the process of TNA supported by the IRM team from Islamabad
3. Field visit to the project area and first interaction with the female farmers
4. Consolidation of data collected during the TNA and splitting it in two parts i.e. TNA itself and the baseline survey
5. Preparation of TNA Report

The team on their way to Swat Valley was also joined by the IRM team from Islamabad. Both teams first met with the District Director Agriculture Extension Swat as well as the Assistant Plant Protection Officer Swat. They were informed about the social and cultural aspects of the rural livelihoods and also guided them about the selected female focused groups. The teams later on left to the field and visited seven villages of district Swat. Table-I show the names and number of females interviewed during the TNA:

Table-I: Names and Number of Females interviewed during the TNA

S#	Name of Villages	Number of Participants Interviewed
1	Badalay	29
2	Gulsha	10
3	Sambat	9
4	Mankar	35
5	Shoghdara	12
6	Sooray	28
7	Toha	33
Total		156

The TNA team personally met with the select female training participants and collected the information in their local language, which was acceptable and an easy way to communicate with highly diversified group. In some cases the team explained them questions in much detail and tried to get the maximum information with the help of examples and similar practices being carried out in different parts of the country.

3. Broader Training Areas Identified in the PC-I

In the instant project, skills of rural women at Swat would be enhanced in the following broader fields of agricultural technologies:

- a. Home Vegetable Gardening or Kitchen Gardening
- b. Backyard Poultry Farming
- c. Quails Farming
- d. Fruit/ Vegetable Preservation and Processing
- e. Livestock Management Skills Enhancement
- f. Processing of Non Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) &
- g. Agribusiness and Marketing Linkages

However, it was felt necessary to reach out to the training participants and get their input on any specific needs with respect to the already identified broader areas of intervention. The response was a mix of different ideas since the female focused groups were highly heterogeneous in nature in terms of age, education and experience. The TNA team was of the view that some female in a group were already knowing about some of these trainings but most of them were generally ignorant and needed to get trained even in the very basics of its contents. As a major outcome the trainings will be designed in a manner that needs of the whole group are met and they are capable to further use the knowledge for raising their income at the household level.

4. Team Members

The TNA team from UAP comprised of the following:

1. Mr. Abdus Salam, Additional Director P&D, UAP
2. Mr. Daud Nazim, Assistant Planning and Development Officer, UAP
3. Ms. Mahrukh Qasim, Assistant Director, Financial Aid Office, UAP
4. Dr. Saima Hashim, Assistant Professor, Weed Science Department, UAP
5. Dr. Bushra Shafi, Assistant Professor, Rural Sociology Department, UAP
6. Dr. Farzana, Lecturer, Horticulture Department, UAP
7. Dr. Saima Sarir, Lecturer, Rural Sociology Department, UAP
8. Ms. Ishbala, PhD Student Food Science and Technology Department, UAP
9. Mr. Uzair Khan, District Director, Agriculture Extension Department, Swat
10. Mr. Adalat Khan, Assistant Plant Protection Officer, Agriculture Extension Department, Swat
11. Mr. Yousaf Khan, Ex-ERALP Project Coordinator, Swat
12. Mr. Asghar Ali, Driver, P&D Vehicle

5. Major findings

The major findings of this TNA are summarized below with respect to the broader thematic areas of training already pointed out in the project PC-I:

Table-II: Major Findings of the TNA

S#	Title of Training	TNA Analysis
1	Home Vegetable Gardening or Kitchen Gardening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information about quality seeds • Land preparation and use of wooden crates • Compost making • Cultivating organic produce • Pesticides use and Integrated Pest Management • Tools and implements at household level • Harvesting of produce • Post-Harvest strategies
2	Backyard Poultry Farming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poultry housing • Quality breeds • Feeding management at household level • Disease and vaccination • Storage of eggs
3	Quails Farming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why quails and why they are important • Benefits associated with the technology • Where from they get the birds • Housing and management of chicks • Feeding guidelines - Homemade • Diseases and vaccination • Health benefits of quail eggs
4	Fruit/ Vegetable Preservation and Processing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spoiling of the processed products • Hygiene and cleanliness measures adopted during the preservation and processing • What safe chemical products can be used and where are they available • Enhancing the shelf life of the products developed • Proper kits are required for sustained activity
5	Livestock Management Skills Enhancement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livestock management techniques • Livestock health • Nutrition and Feeding practices

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livestock Housing • Reproduction cycles • Losses in sheep and goats herds regarding poor fertility, growth rate and health • Management of milk • Milk processing techniques • Preparation of dairy products • Types of dairy products • Pasteurization of milk • Types of preservatives and safety of preservatives.
6	Processing of Non Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) &	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why NTFPs are important • How we can get benefit from this resource • Medicinal plants and how they can be preserved • Difference between poisonous and non-poisonous plant species • Can we grow NTFPs in homes • Preservation and storage techniques • Enhancing shelf life
7	Agribusiness and Marketing Linkages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is benefit of Agribusiness • How marketing will be done • How FSCs can support in marketing • What are the ingredients of good packaging • Where from we get good packaging material • Cooperatives System of Marketing and its benefits to the community

6. Conclusion

The whole process of TNA remained very useful and provided an opportunity to the female faculty for its first direct interaction with training participants in the field. The data generated was found very useful for the development of training modules, which the experts have already started work on their development. The modules so developed will be delivered to the ten female focused groups in the Swat valley.

7. Picture Gallery of the TNA Team



