



Updates from NEI

Eradicating malnutrition in Afghanistan.

Dear Friends,

NEI's training and seed distribution for 10,000 farmers in 21 provinces just concluded and most farmers have already planted their first soybean seeds of the 2013 planting season. As soybean plants emerge from the soil, we will monitor their development to help ensure a bountiful harvest for each farmer in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL).

Over 300 of this year's farmers are also school teachers from 60 districts in 17 provinces and received training on the cultivation and health benefits of soybeans by NEI in collaboration with the Ministry of Education. NEI educates teachers so they will share the significance of growing soybeans with their students. The students, in turn, will go home and tell the news to their parents so that they can grow soybeans and enjoy both the economic and health benefits of the soybean.

NEI established the Soybean Seed Production Partnership Organization (SSPPO) to make the soy industry more sustainable in Afghanistan. The SSPPO will produce seeds for 2014 onward for the production link of the soybean value chain, making importing seeds from the United States unnecessary. Reputable seed growers from Afghanistan comprise the SSPPO and will join us in the fight to eradicate malnutrition among women and children.

NEI is partnering with the United Nations World Food Program (WFP) and MAIL to develop a self-sustainable soy industry in Afghanistan. The WFP monitoring team visited NEI's onsite training workshop in Parwan Province in June and were pleased with the success of NEI's training procedures. They also visited a factory working with NEI to produce soy flour for market development.

While NEI's development programs continue to expand and reach out to more people, our humanitarian efforts remain steadfast. NEI continues to serve soy milk to women and children at least three times a week and distributes soy flour to village women after a training workshop on how to cook soy at home. To empower women, NEI also launched an income-generation program for those interested in becoming saleswomen for soy products.

The fruit that we are now witnessing is possible thanks to the loyal support and hard work of our NEI family members over the past ten years. Together, with one mind and one heart, we are getting closer to achieving the mission we set out to accomplish.

~Thank you from the NEI Staff!

For more updates, please visit and like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/neifoundation.



West Region Farmers sign up to receive soy farmers' training from NEI.



Women farmers participate in soy farming training program.



NEI Staff welcome WFP partners to the Parwan Flour Factory.



Children at a Kabul refugee camp receive soy milk and soy cookies in May.