



Updates from NEI

Eradicating malnutrition in Afghanistan.

Dear Friends,

With over 100 tons of soybean seed distributed in the month of June, NEI continues to plow the lands of Afghanistan. Despite hot weather conditions, germination tests proved positive and planting throughout the whole country has been completed. Currently, farmers in all 34 provinces are participating in our summer planting season, and our soymilk and soy cookie distribution efforts with local underprivileged groups are still going strong.

At the end of 2010, we concluded that more effective ways to train farmers was needed. Consequently, NEI set aside extra time and money to hire additional Afghan professionals. As a result, six agronomist teams traveled throughout the country to personally give seminars and hold demonstrations for planting. By the end of the 2011 summer season, twenty-eight provinces received direct assistance from NEI.

In light of recent violence, NEI is closely monitoring the situation and is highly sensitive to the political climate. In response, trainers from less secure provinces were transported and trained in safer ones. While the immediate future of the country is uncertain, NEI has full confidence in its personnel to deliver high-caliber instruction to equip farmers in their efforts.

In June, Ms. Estefania Belen Cho of Los Angeles and Afghan-American, Ms. Setara Royan joined the NEI team. Together the two will be working to create a greater awareness of soy foods in the country.

A special acknowledgement must be made to a private donor in Korea who purchased two sets of tofu-making machines and a soy cookie machine. Separately, the Kentucky Agriculture Development Team sponsored the development of a soybean processing facility in Parwan province, and six thresher machines for Parwan and Kapisa provinces. NEI has already conducted tests and is underway with operations. We are extremely grateful for these two donations.

Without a doubt, we at NEI are thankful for each and every one of you who have faithfully partnered with us. There is much work to be done and we invite you to join us once more: whether in time, financial resources, or talent, please consider continuing your support. With one mind and heart, let us stand behind the simple idea that we can help give life back to the people of Afghanistan.

Thank you so much. Let us work together for a brighter Afghan future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Steven Kwon, Ph.D
President of NEI



New Soy Farmers Training



Soybean Planting Demonstration



Estefania with Ministry of Women's Affairs Officials



Donated Tofu-Making Machine in First Use