

Roots of Peace 2015 Annual Report



Roots of Peace

Mission Statement

Roots of Peace (ROP) is dedicated to ridding the world of Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) and transforming the land affected by this legacy of conflict into thriving, productive agricultural land. ERW do not only kill and maim innocent people but also impede communities' ability to recover economically, develop and consolidate peace. ERW removal is the first step in ROP's mission to restore the livelihood of agricultural communities in affected countries. Since 1997, ROP has worked in eight countries: Afghanistan, Angola, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cambodia, Croatia, Iraq, the Kyrgyz Republic, Vietnam and the West Bank. In 2013, ROP had active programs in Afghanistan, Vietnam and West Bank.

Roots of Peace is incorporated in the State of California as a humanitarian, not for profit corporation under section 501c3. Its main office is located at 990 A Street, Suite 402, San Rafael, California, USA 94901. For more information about Roots of Peace, please visit our website at www.rootsofpeace.org.

Our Demine-Replant-Rebuild Model

The innovative Demine~Replant~Rebuild™ model of ROP offers a comprehensive approach to restoring rural agricultural communities to economic self-sufficiency. ROP focuses its efforts in post-conflict countries where agriculture is a fundamental industry and major source of employment. ROP programs partner with demining organizations to clear landmines and remnants of war from fertile

farmlands, and develop agricultural infrastructure and routes to markets so farmers can work their fields, process their crops, and sell their produce safely, thereby allowing them to support their families and educate their children. Further, ROP provides technical assistance to farmers and processors, helping them meet the demands of local, regional, and international markets in order to increase the size and quality of their yields maximize their

incomes. This benefits large numbers of smallholder farmers while stimulating service and supply industries such as trading, credit, processing, distribution, and agricultural input suppliers in the respective local and regional economies.



Afghanistan (CHAMP)

In 2015, CHAMP (Commercial Horticulture and Agriculture Marketing Program) continued to build on its success and meet the goals of the renewal Cooperative Agreement to extend activities into 2016. To maintain the growing potential of Afghan fruit and nut production CHAMP continued to support quality improvement of its current value chain commodities. This year also saw a significant increase in focus for high value marketing and agribusiness development to boost Afghan fruit and nut exports.

In efforts to continue to support Afghan farmers and producers, CHAMP worked with 289 producer groups throughout the program's area of operation. CHAMP arranged Farmer Field School programs for 4,043

apple, apricot, grape and pomegranate farmers (including 488 women) in six provinces. The courses covered a variety of topics such as integrated pest management (IPM), foliar urea spray, removing perished fruits and crop residues, pruning, animal manure application, cleaning and weed control, irrigation, intercrop planting, field preparation, thinning, winter



oil application and compost preparation and application. CHAMP built the capacity of its extension staff and government extension agents through trainings in harvest and post-harvest management, Hazard and Critical Control Points (HACCP) and food safety for 162 extension workers.

CHAMP's High Value Marketing and Agribusiness Development continued to focus on improving the potential for increasing the profits of Afghan farmers and marketing firms. In 2015, the CHAMP marketing team provided direct assistance in fruit processing, sorting, grading and packing, and introducing improved packaging that meets international market standards. They worked directly with 19 Afghan companies in exporting 10,485 MT of apples, pomegranates, raisins, fresh and dried apricots, almonds, grapes and melons to markets in Pakistan, the UAE and India. Although exports in 2015 were 37% lower than in 2014 owing to funding reductions in the export sector, CHAMP focused on building retail sales and was able to

exceed its 2015 target of 10,000 MT by 5%. CHAMP's trade offices in Dubai and New Delhi continued to cement productive linkages between Afghan exporters and local buyers, combining to facilitate nearly 600 MT in fruits and nuts imports from Afghanistan. CHAMP also participated in international trade fairs in Dubai, Kabul and New Delhi, enabling Afghan traders to bring their products to an international audience. At the Dubai Gulfood exhibition, CHAMP traders generated 605MT of confirmed deals totaling nearly \$4 million in contracts with international buyers. The CHAMP team's presence at the Central Asian Trade Forum (CATF) and Worldfood Kazakhstan, opened the opportunity for enhancing Afghan fresh and dried fruit exports in the region. At the India, International Trade Fair the traders met with Indian dry fruit dealers, retailers, and buyers from hypermarkets/supermarkets, resulting in the sale of 1.6 MT of walnuts and pine nuts and contracts for 500 MT of Ghorbandi almonds.



In 2015, CHAMP completed a set of five Farm to Market (FTM) Guides. Each guide focused on a particular product in CHAMP's target value chain (pomegranates, grapes, almonds, apples and apricots) and included both a short "quick start" guide as well as an in-depth handbook of 30-40 pages. The guides are intended to provide comprehensive information on cultivation, harvesting, post-harvest handling and marketing of fresh and dried fruits and nuts in Afghanistan to government extension agents, CHAMP trainers, other implementing partners, as well as exporters and investors interested in investing in the sector.

Throughout 2015, integration of women into the many areas of CHAMP

activities continued to grow. CHAMP provided training in sulfur apricot drying to 478 women. This technology will enable the beneficiaries to avoid the losses incurred with traditional drying techniques and to gain greater value over fresh apricots. Special FFS groups were arranged to train women farmers in advanced horticultural techniques. In 2015, a total of 488 women participated in FFS trainings. CHAMP also trained 305 female farmers and grape producers in Parwan and Kabul provinces in raisin drying techniques. The training covered basic food safety and drying methods

Vietnam (SHADE)

The Shade program continued to build on the successes and recovery from 2014, as the 2015 year saw a massive expansion of the SHADE provinces.

For 2015, the SHADE program in Quang Tri province froze its farmer recruitment as a result of the extra expenditures incurred by the Wutip and Haiyan typhoons. The amount of SHADE households stayed at 582, which translates to 2,213 SHADE beneficiaries in both the Vinh Linh and Cam Lo districts of Quang Tri. Under normal circumstances, the SHADE packages for the farmers decrease as their share of the contribution increases, however subsidy levels were frozen for 2015 to help farmers cope with the burden of the typhoon damage. SHADE collected and matched nearly \$50,000 in farmer contributions. Throughout 2015, SHADE supported the cultivation of nearly 1 million square meters (roughly 250 Acres), providing technical assistance and materials to support the development of 113,000 black pepper trees. The 2015 SHADE black pepper harvest totaled 5.3 MT.



In 2015, ROP officially began operations in the Quang Nam and Quang Binh provinces. The SHADE team recruited 58 farming household in Quang Binh and 47 farming households in Quang Nam, which translates to 525 SHADE beneficiaries.

As part of its Mines to Vines initiative, SHADE continued to work in coordination with MAG (Mines Advisory Group) to address the clearance in high-risk farms allowing farmers to till their soil in peace with technical inputs and training by ROP. In 2015, ROP and MAG collaborated to clear more than 230,000 square meters, removing explosive ordinance for 150 SHADE participating households.

The SHADE Marketing Initiative continued to grow, as the shipment of black pepper increased from 0.5 MT in 2014 to 11 MT in 2015. The SHADE team also began exploring the concept of late harvest (red) pepper, who's price on the world market triples black pepper.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of December 31, 2015

With comparative totals as of December 31, 2014

	2015	2014
Assets		
Cash	\$393,068	\$1,272,752
Accounts Receivable	670,056	1,523,581
Pledges Receivable	-	59,097
Prepaid Expenses	10,173	21,345
Inventory	221,129	124,160
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Total Assets	1,294,426	\$3,000,935
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Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$348,666	\$1,364,951
Accrued Liabilities	83,707	155,826
Deferred Revenue	106,288	455,768
Line of Credit	475,000	475,000
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Total Liabilities	1,013,661	\$2,451,545
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	280,765	549,390
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Total Net Assets	280,765	549,390
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Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$1,294,426	\$3,000,935
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STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the year ended December 31, 2015

With comparative totals for the year ended December 31, 2015

	2015	2014
Revenue		
Fees from Gov't Agencies	\$5,182,847	\$13,041,028
Cost Sharing	3,358,712	0
Contributions	430,172	466,626
Other Revenue	56,553	2,447
Interest	322	562
Currency Exchange (loss)	(8,075)	(3,363)
Total Revenue	\$9,020,531	\$13,507,300
Expenses		
Program Services	\$7,577,075	10,572,851
Management & General	1,536,085	2,688,933
Fundraising	175,996	164,640
Total Expenses	\$9,289,156	\$13,426,424
Change in Net Assets	(268,625)	80,876
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	549,390	468,514
Net Assets, End of Year	\$280,765	\$549,390