

What is TUP?

TUP stands for: Targeting the ultra-poor. A grant based program tailor made for the ultra-poor to facilitate their escape from poverty by providing them a 24-month package of inputs which includes productive livestock, monthly subsistence allowance, basic healthcare training, and linking with social welfare systems.

MISFA started the multi-province scale-up of its flagship program in mid-2015 in Takhar, Balkh, Laghman, Kunar and Herat provinces.

The TUP expansion is funded by the IDA/World Bank, while the expansion in Herat is supported by the Italian Agency For Development Cooperation.

MISFA piloted TUP project in Bamyan and Badakhshan provinces covering a total of 1760 ultra-poor female headed households.

The Program Objectives?

- To bring in economic, social and inspirational changes in the lives of ultra-poor families.
- To graduate the ultra-poor families to socio-economic mainstream within 24 months and link them to sustainable livelihoods.
- To enable the program participants, to access financial services.



All school-age children of Nazema are now enrolled again in school and are doing well; Nazema's eldest daughter is among the top students in her class.

When determination becomes the capital for success

THE STORY OF NAZEMA

Not too long ago, Nazema was among the poorest of the poor in her village in the Dasht Qala district of Takhar province. She was earning a meager income doing laundry and cleaning people's houses. She could not afford to pay for stationary and uniform, resulting in her children dropping out of school.

Nazema's life took a U-turn when she was identified as a beneficiary of the Targeting the Ultra-Poor (TUP) project of MISFA in 2015. TUP is a two-year intervention, which provides participants a comprehensive package of assistance including productive livestock, financial literacy, livestock and health training, social awareness and linkage to financial and non-financial institutions.

Since participating in TUP, Nazema and her family have experienced a dramatic improvement in their quality of life, and the mother of seven has transformed herself into a promising entrepreneur with a diverse set of income-generating activities.



“My husband wanted to partner with a neighbor and buy the mill. I asked him not to do so because it would turn to a dispute later. Instead, I contributed and purchased the machine.” Nazema

In partnership with her ailing husband, Nazema has recently purchased a flourmill machine through which she gets an average of around 30 kgs of wheat as commission for grinding the harvest of neighbors and other fellow villagers. This is in addition to her dairy production and livestock rearing micro-enterprise.

“My husband wanted to partner with a neighbor and buy the mill,” said Nazema. “I asked him not to do so because it would turn to a dispute later. Instead, I contributed and purchased the machine.”

On average, she makes AFN 150 by selling milk. Through these income sources, Nazema has been able to expand her asset base and now owns four cows, and two goats. In addition to rearing livestock, she also has a dozen of hens and is earning from selling their eggs.

Her multiple sources of income has also given Nazema confidence and joy. Nowadays, she can prioritize her household's health and wellbeing; Nazema is now able to cook at least twice a day in addition to her family consuming fresh dairy products.

All her school-age children are now enrolled again in school and are doing well; Nazema's eldest daughter is among the top students in her class.

Although the project had ended in mid 2017, Nazema has proven that she can stand on her own. “If you visit us in the future, you will find the stable and my yard full of livestock.” she promised with a sparkle in her eyes.