



Volume 02
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NEWSLETTER

**Women Inclusion in
National Economy (WIN)**

**Delivering Tangible
Results for Afghanistan's
Private Sector**



Mission Accomplished

All technical activities and objectives outlined in the project proposal have been successfully completed.

Business Stabilization

45 women-led Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are now fully equipped and operational.



Highlights of this Issue

Skilled Workforce

300 women have successfully completed the Job Readiness Training program and are ready to enter the labor market.

Advocacy Success

The Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE) National Group has been established as a permanent platform to support the business rights of entrepreneurs.

Realization of a Strategic Mission; Successful Finalization of All Project Phases From Vision to Execution

We are pleased to announce that the "Women Inclusion in the National Economy" (WIN) project has reached final completion after six months of continuous activity. The HARAKAT Agency proudly reports that all outputs, activities, and goals envisioned in the project's technical proposal have been successfully finalized and fulfilled in accordance with established criteria.

This issue of the newsletter serves as a testament to our real-world achievements. We have delivered sustainable and tangible results across four key pillars

1. Modernization and Equipping of 45 SMEs:

All 45 supported small and medium enterprises in target provinces received their full grant packages, including advanced industrial equipment and raw materials. This has led to the modernization of production lines and a significant growth in domestic production managed by women.

2. Building a Specialized Workforce (Job Readiness)

The specialized training program for 300 women entering the private sector was successfully concluded. These graduates are now a skilled and ready workforce, equipped with modern business knowledge to drive the country's economic engines, production lines and a significant growth in domestic production managed by women.

3. Institutionalizing Advocacy (Formation of the WEE Group)

The Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE) National Group was formed as a permanent and powerful platform to bridge the gap between the private sector and policymakers. Its mission is to identify real challenges and structural barriers faced by entrepreneurs in licensing, taxation, and banking systems, sharing them directly with national policymakers.

4. Sustainability and Formalization of Livelihoods

The finalization of this project promises a future where women play a key and decisive role in Afghanistan's economic prosperity and self-sufficiency, not just as beneficiaries, but as managers, entrepreneurs, and private sector leaders.

Operational Progress Report: Transitioning to Standardized Production and Supply Chain Transformation

Fulfilling the Mission in the Field

The WIN project has successfully moved beyond the distribution of equipment and raw materials, fulfilling all operational commitments to the 45 selected SMEs. This stage marks a milestone where HAKAT's strategic goals have translated into tangible results at the workshop and factory level. The equipping process was finalized simultaneously across three target provinces: Nangarhar, Balkh, and Kandahar.

Anatomy of Technical and Infrastructural Support

By precisely understanding the needs of the 45 SMEs, HAKAT designed and implemented specialized support packages in two main areas:

1. Modernization of Machinery and Energy Infrastructure

2. This included advanced industrial machines tailored to each business sector, such as high-speed industrial sewing machines, solar power systems for

stable electricity, chemical mixers for the detergent sector, industrial baking ovens, and vacuum packaging equipment to increase product shelf life.

Supply Chain Provisioning

Providing high-quality, standardized raw materials including premium wool, linen fabrics, silk threads, and essential materials for hygiene products.

Impact of Modern Tools on Production Capacity

Evidence from the field shows that the distributed equipment has transformed these 45 units from "manual and traditional labor" to "semi-industrial and mass production." Previously, many entrepreneurs were limited by worn-out tools and lack of power; now, technical barriers have been removed. Operational analysis indicates a 30% to 40% growth in production output.

Workforce Development: Building a New Generation of Private Sector Specialists Investing in Human Capacity

Beyond tools, sustainability depends on a skilled workforce. Under the WIN project, HAKAT implemented a comprehensive "Job Readiness" program for 300 talented women to bridge the gap between theoretical education and practical market needs.





Training Details

The 3-day intensive program focused on:

- Professional Communication and Work Ethics
- Financial and Digital Literacy
- Negotiation and Conflict Resolution Skills

Placement Strategy

Our goal is to directly place at least 150 of these trained women into professional positions within the private sector by mapping job opportunities and connecting employers with this skilled labor force.

Advocacy and Policy Reform:

A Solid Bridge Between Entrepreneurs and Policymakers The Importance of Advocacy

Growth requires a supportive legal environment. HAKARAT activated the "Advocacy and Policy" unit to document the challenges of women on the front lines of production.





Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE) Group

A major achievement is the creation of the WEE Group, consisting of influential figures, chamber of commerce representatives, and economic experts. This group operates within the "Private Sector Forum" to coordinate between economic actors.

Regional Dialogues

Strategic dialogues were held in Kabul, Balkh, Nangarhar, and Kandahar, allowing entrepreneurs to document their needs. Proposed reforms include:



Simplifying licensing for women-led businesses.



Improving access to banking services.



Removing transit barriers and strengthening marketing opportunities.

Entrepreneur Showcase: Leading Figures in Local Economic Revival



Kandahar Bakery and Confectionery Center (Kandahar):

Managed by Suraya Hamim, this center focuses on hygienic traditional bread production. Industrial ovens provided by HAKAKAT have significantly increased production speed.



Mahoor Handicrafts Company (Balkh):

Founded by Hakima Mohammadi (BBA graduate), this company manages the full value chain from wool processing to carpet weaving with a team of 45 women.



Najiba Jabarkhil Handicrafts (Nangarhar):

A 55-year-old entrepreneur managing 18 employees. With solar power and new machinery, her production of traditional embroidery increased by 30%.

Private Sector Commitment: Institutionalizing Global Standards

Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs)

HARAKAT promoted the UN Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) to influence corporate culture. We successfully secured commitments from 20 major leading companies in Afghanistan. By signing the WEPs, these companies voluntarily committed to:

1. Creating a safe and respectful work environment.
2. Ensuring equality in job opportunities.
3. Supporting an inclusive supply chain by prioritizing women-led SMEs.

Accountability and Future Outlook: Ensuring Transparency

Smart Monitoring

To ensure every dollar from UN Women was used effectively, HARAKAT implemented a multi-layered monitoring system using Kobo Toolbox. This digital approach provided:

- GPS Verification: Ensuring equipment is installed at target locations.
- Visual Documentation: Photo evidence of machinery and raw materials.
- Transparency: Electronic signatures from beneficiaries.

The system confirmed 100% successful distribution of grants totaling \$67,500 for the 45 SMEs.

Preview: "Business Week" Magazine HARAKAT is finalizing the first issue of "Business Week," a quarterly magazine that will serve as a platform to introduce women-led brands, analyze value chains, and share inspiring stories of resilience.



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