

Provision of Emergency *WASH Services (WASH)*

IN Bagh-e-Shirkat village in Kunduz district supported by NSDO WASH project, 73 percent of the village women adopted good hygiene practices, compared to only 39 percent in 2021.

Squad of Hygiene Promoters



Success Story

Gul Nisa seems middle-aged but her intentions are youthful, she is a force for hygiene promotion at her community, in Bagh-e-Shirkat village she along with her four children has become a squad of hygiene promoters who are passionate to promote health and hygiene awareness in the village. Once a week, the squad holds a hygiene session in their community, everyone at her village in district Kunduz knows that hygiene ensures health.

Before the formation of WASH committee at her village, Gul Nisa along with her community had no idea of personal and household hygiene. My children were suffering from water borne diseases like diarrhea and skin ailments especially in the summer sessions.

Gul Nisa, 60 years old widow, and mother of four children (2 sons, 2 daughters) live in village Bag e Shirkat in the Kunduz district. Hailing from a lower economic background she does not have any other means of earning except for subsistence agriculture to make a living by getting milk from it.

Bag-e-Shirkat is one of the worst-villages in terms of low health and hygiene indicators. The village faces severe water scarcity and economic challenges followed by low health and hygiene status. Water shortage not only made these people suffer, but Gul Nisa and other women of her village were also not familiar with basic health awareness, due to which the prevalence of water-borne diseases remained high in this village. A few kilometers away from the village was a basic health dispensary, which was always overcrowded by the diarrheal patient inflow.

Hygiene awareness has changed the destiny of our community, ” Says Gul Nisa.

Gul Nisa got an opportunity to participate in this great cause when she became a member of the village WASH committee. Her passion for this big change was so high she participated regularly in the hygiene session, learning how to treat water and methods to adopt better hygiene.

Gul Nisa’s passion about hygiene promotion spread beyond herself – she partnered her daughters in her campaign and conducted various sessions with other women of her village on how to maintain better hygiene. Says – Gul Nisa “ Whenever I used to go to the hospital, I used to feel a lot of pain especially seeing the children suffering from diarrhea and skin diseases.

I feel very satisfied that now women of my village have started adopting good health and hygiene habits. It is very important for women to be part of hygiene promotional activities because women have more responsibility for households’ hygiene.

