

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Volume 007

August 2025

Empowering Communities | Strengthening Livelihoods | Building Resilience

WFP Seasonal Food Assistance & Hotspot Response – Takhar Province

Delivering Lifesaving Aid to 588 Vulnerable Families in Dasht-e-Qala

NSDO, in partnership with WFP, provided emergency food assistance to 588 vulnerable households in Dasht-e-Qala, Takhar Province on 10 August 2025, distributing wheat flour, oil, pulses, and salt. The intervention addressed growing humanitarian needs and included a Complaint and Response Mechanism to ensure transparency and accountability.

Key Highlights – August 2025

- Monthly updates shared with FSAC Cluster
- Active coordination with WFP, DRRD, and local authorities
- Participation in provincial, regional, and national coordination meetings
- Awareness sessions held with CFACs, elders, mullahs, and market actors
- Messaging emphasized that food aid is free and not for resale
- CFACs restructured across six districts, reducing committees from 125 to 58
- Representation of women, persons with disabilities, minority groups, and marginalized communities increased by 50%
- 592 households registered via SCOPE
- 588 households received food on 10 August 2025
- 36,044 MT of food distributed
- Absent households' rations returned to WFP warehouse



Looking Ahead:

NSDO remains committed to strengthening emergency response mechanisms, promoting inclusive community engagement, and ensuring dignified service delivery across Takhar Province.

SCOPE Registration – Beneficiary Testimonial

“Since the SCOPE system has been used at the distribution points, receiving food has become easy and transparent for me. No one can take my ration on my behalf, and I can collect my entitlement with complete confidence every time. The NSDO staff always kindly help me carry the food to my vehicle, which makes me feel safe and satisfied.”

— Fatima, Beneficiary

EmpowerED Project – Vocational Training for Youth & Women

Building Skills, Expanding Opportunities

NSDO's EmpowerED Project continued strong in August, training 300 youth and women in Kabul, Herat, and Parwan. Despite challenges, the team advanced SME development, curriculum rollout, and coordination to reach 2,000 future trainees.

Key Highlights – August 2025

Training Expansion & SME Engagement

- Vocational training launched in bag making, tailoring, bed sheet sewing, and bead embroidery
- Make-up classes organized for female participants to ensure curriculum continuity
- Female SME selection completed in Herat and Parwan
- New activity added: training of 2,000 direct beneficiaries facilitated by 33 trainers

Trainer Development & Curriculum Progress

- Recruitment of a **TVET expert** to enhance training quality
- Ongoing **monitoring and standardization** of classes across all provinces
- Curriculum development advanced for new trades
- TOT seminars organized for Master Trainers

Survey & Enrollment

- **Parwan:** 215 females surveyed for tailoring and bead embroidery
- **Herat & Kabul:** 734 and 750 individuals surveyed respectively, including 80 orphanage members



Operational Updates

- Weekly catch-up meetings held to review progress and resolve challenges
- Awareness sessions conducted with sectoral departments to reinforce project objectives



Success Story

In Parwan, female participants in the tailoring class showcased their first batch of embroidered garments, receiving appreciation from local market actors and interest from women-led cooperatives for future collaboration.

Looking Ahead:

NSDO remains committed to empowering communities, strengthening livelihoods, and building resilience through inclusive vocational training and enterprise development.

Empowering Micro-Entrepreneurs Through Practical Training

Strengthening MSMEs Through Skills, Market Linkages & Inclusive Engagement

NSDO advanced MSME training in Takhar & Kunduz this August, completing 216 hours of vocational and enterprise development. 260 participants joined workshops, with strong engagement from women-led businesses and local stakeholders.

Key Highlights – August 2025

Vocational Training Progress

- 216 instructional hours completed across four technical fields: Tailoring, Bag-making, Shoemaking, and Bakery
- Training delivered to 150 apprentices (male and female), enhancing employability and entrepreneurial capacity

Enterprise Development & Online Sales

- 122 MSME members trained in business planning, financial literacy, and digital marketing
- Training combined theoretical and hands-on learning over a 12-week period

Consultation Workshops

- Held in Kunduz (30 August) and Takhar (31 August)
- 260 participants including MSMEs, apprentices, local business owners, and stakeholders
- Separate sessions for men and women ensured cultural sensitivity and inclusive participation
- Product exhibitions showcasing MSME outputs
- Q&A sessions capturing feedback and recommendations



Gender & Inclusion

- Family Wellbeing/Gender Training delivered in culturally sensitive formats
- Strengthening women's participation in vocational and entrepreneurial activities



Monitoring & Coordination

- Field visits by MEAL teams and NSDO leadership ensured quality control
- No major security incidents reported during the reporting period
- Effective coordination with TVET-A, provincial authorities, and private sector actors



Success Story

In Kunduz, a women-led shoemaking group produced 50 pairs of leather shoes and secured an advance order for another 50 pairs. Their success led to the formation of a cooperative, enhanced production capacity and market access.

Looking Ahead:

NSDO remains committed to empowering micro-entrepreneurs, building resilient livelihoods, and delivering inclusive, dignified support across Takhar and Kunduz.