

Dear Friends:

Ten years ago, we began our work with a vision and just one packet of seeds. Today we have established four nurseries in eastern Afghanistan that are home to thousands of trees and young saplings. Each nursery has a well and vegetable garden, and provides access to clean drinking water and nutritious food to hundreds of families, including children who now have a good source of clean water for the first time in their lives.

Decades of instability in Afghanistan have resulted in serious environmental degradation. Areas that were once forest, orchards, and lush farmland have been decimated by decades of war. Even as progress is made in achieving political stability at a national level, local communities still must find ways to provide food and sustenance for themselves. The only way to achieve a lasting peace in Afghanistan in the long run is by working directly with local communities to restore the environment and revitalize local agriculture. Afghanistan once was largely self-sufficient in agriculture, but today has one of the highest rates of malnutrition in the world, particularly among children.



The key to our success is ensuring that our initiatives are identified and owned by the local community. We work closely with local farming communities to propagate trees, plant vegetable gardens, dig wells, and restore the natural environment. The nurseries provide sustenance and also serve as places of healing. Trees, flowers, and clean water are therapeutic for people who have suffered from decades of war. Our nurseries provide a safe and green haven for communities that otherwise completely lack green public spaces, and our poultry program helps provide an ongoing source of protein for families with children. Imagine the increased potential of a child who has a nutritious breakfast of fresh eggs before school every morning!

This local-based approach allows Afghanistan Samsortya to invest 99% of the funds we raise directly into projects on the ground. We have no overhead in the US and source all of our materials in Afghanistan, which benefits the local economy and allows us to take advantage of exchange rates to stretch our funds further. And rather than purchasing land ourselves, we work directly with local farmers to identify privately-owned land that offers the best opportunity for impacting the community.

Our goal is to raise \$30,000 by the end of 2017. While this is a rather modest sum compared to other non-profits, it is our most ambitious fundraising goal to date. In addition to continuing our work in rural areas in eastern Afghanistan, the funds we raise will allow us to embark on a new project in Kabul: building a small park in a neighborhood of Kabul that is home to over 3,000 people and completely lacks green space of any kind. With your help, we hope to begin construction of this park in January of 2018.

To continue making a lasting impact in Afghanistan, we need the help of our generous supporters around the world. A donation of any size helps. To understand how your tax-deductible donation affects the communities we serve, please refer to our charitable giving guide.

With greatest appreciation and respect,



Mariam Raqib

How charitable giving affects Afghan communities	
\$15	Provides one fruit-bearing tree
\$30	Provides two trees for an Afghan family
\$50	Provides four trees for a family and its children
\$100	Provides 10 trees to revitalize a neighborhood in Afghanistan
\$250	Provides 25 trees to give fuel, shade, and food to an Afghan community
\$500	Provides 50 trees of various species to sustain a community in Afghanistan
\$1000	Provides 100 trees to renew and heal the local ecosystem, as well as offer employment opportunities to local Afghans
\$1500-\$2000	Provides one well for a community in need of fresh, potable, and accessible sources of water
<p>If you would like to make a donation, please visit us online at www.afghanistansamsortya.org/donate. All donations made to Afghanistan Samsortya are 100% tax-deductible.</p>	