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Fully Work Authorized • No Visa Sponsorship Required

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

I am an administrator/manager with 15 years of experience in program management, higher education, agriculture, and government. As the Afghan Deputy Minister of Agriculture, I managed a national program for extension, research and development. In addition, I oversaw 15 departments with a 4000 staff and \$200 million budget. I have experience in management, curriculum development and teaching—for undergraduate programs as well as faculty and staff in-service training. I have served as a liaison between Afghan ministries, and between the Afghan Ministry of Agriculture and the USA-USAID, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and various other donor organizations.

KEY SKILLS

- Farm Management and agriculture development
- Ag Market research and extension
- Curriculum development and teaching
- Microsoft Office
- Statistical software (SAS, STATA, Tableau)
- Multilingual (English, Persian, Pashto, Hindi)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Program Director

02/15/2022 - 01/26/2023

Zamir Foundation, Kabul, Afghanistan

International organization with focus on humanitarian and development.

- Managed and implemented \$3.2 million fund to support Afghan businesses affected by COVID19, political instability, and economic slowdowns.
- Trained and managed staff of five professionals on loan and microcredit management.
- Managed humanitarian assistance programs for ultra-poor and poor Afghan households
- Secured \$4 million in funding for business recovery initiatives such as a zero-interest loan to SMEs, food aid to poor families, agriculture training, and provision of ag inputs.
- Managed communications, reporting with donors/stakeholders.

Deputy Minister –Research and Outreach

02/21/2021 - 08/15/2021

Ministry of Agriculture, Kabul, Afghanistan

National entity with mandate of development of agriculture across country.

- Managed Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) national research, extension and development portfolio
- Managed professional 15 departments with 4000 employees nationwide.
- Developed long-range plan for MAIL
- Liaison between MAIL and the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, USAID, JICA and other donor agencies for development programs
- Developed and monitored annual MAIL program of work
- Chaired Afghan Agriculture Development Fund committee, a \$100 million fund to provide loans and credits to agribusinesses, cooperatives, and farmers
- Developed long-term strategic plan for the agriculture development

Director of General of Urbank Parks & Greenery

05/06/2019 - 02/20/2021

Kabul Municipality, Kabul-Afghanistan

Kabul city municipal with mandate to develop city infrastructure including housing development, city sanitation and urban park development.

- Managed 22 departments/870 staff on day-to-day operations, including procurement, recruitment and financial management

- Liaison with government departments and donors on urban park and expansion of green coverage programs in Kabul City
- Developed annual citywide plan for development/management of parks, green areas, sustainable practices, and efficient irrigation systems
- Prepared concept notes, guidelines, code of conducts and laws for urban forests
- Established tree nursery to support department activity throughout city

Agribusiness Consultant

04/01/2019 - 05/05//2019

Purdue Univeristy, Kabul-Afghanistan

US based university with the funding from department of state to develop new BS degree in agribusiness management and food technology.

- Developed teaching materials for university agribusiness degree curriculum.
- Taught courses on agribusiness management and farm management to faculty members and students.
- Developed course syllabi, teaching plan, teaching materials for two courses.
- Collaborated with agribusiness faculty members on course content.

Agribusiness Program Manager

02/16/2016 - 03/30//2019

Purdue Univeristy, Kabul-Afghanistan

US based university with the funding from department of state to develop new BS degree in agribusiness management and food technology.

- Managed, design and implementation of an agribusiness bachelor degree program at 5 universities.
- Coordinated efforts with Purdue University professors, Afghan faculty and project staff on teaching and trainings of professionals and students.
- Selected and utilized appropriate learning materials and resources to improve agribusiness management education.
- Surveyed agriculture industry professionals for insight into agribusiness curriculum needs.
- Assisted college steering committees with development, implementation and evaluation of industry assessments for curriculum development.
- Coordinated and delivered training for agribusiness department faculty and created industry-university link for curriculum development and internship opportunities for junior and senior students.
- Prepared annual program plan, monthly, quarterly and yearly project progress reports.

Ministerial Liaison and Business Advisor

11/01/2012 - 01/30//2014

CENTOCM – Joint Theater Support Contracting Command (C-JTSCC)

U.S. Army

CENTCOM, C-JTSCC was a US Army contracting department in Afghanistan to provide range of services including reconstruction programs, logistical services to US Army and Afghanistan Security Forces.

- Prepared necessary documentation including technical reports, in-depth analysis and specialized graphics of agricultural industries for the US government to solicit contract with Afghan businesses.
- Screened and vetted local businesses to solicit contract with US government.
- Served as a liaison between ministry of agriculture to coordinate C-JTSCC business development programs.
- Developed and initiated agricultural fairs to connect international buyers with Afghan businesses.
- Provided business support and assessment on local business performance.
- Developed – delivered vendor training on best business practices.

Event Manager**09/01/2012 - 11/30/2012****Ministry of Agriculture, Kabul Afghanistan***National entity with mandate of development of agriculture across country.*

- Developed ministry of agriculture Agfair plan, operational activities, management and action plan for the agricultural fair.
- Managed staff of 25 professionals for the event management.
- Provided technical support services, and overall event management plan execution.
- Recruited vendors to provide in-kinds and monetary support for sponsoring the event.
- Supported procurement, recruitment, and management for overall event.
- Coordinated promotional ads, business directory, video clips and event report.

Research Farm Director and Student Farm Manager**04/10/2009 - 08/30/2012****Purdue University, a USAID funded Strengthening Afghan Agriculture Faculties****Kabul University, Kabul Afghanistan***US based university with the funding from department of state to modernize agriculture curriculum, develop teaching labs and training faculties.*

- Managed, designed and developed student farm at Kabul University
- Managed day to day farm operations including procurement, budget execution and support to the program.
- Managed 7 professional staff and 22 farm workers.
- Collaborated with agriculture faculty members to conduct research trials.
- Coordinated training programs by Purdue University faculty for Afghan faculty and students at Kabul University.
- Developed student field projects to teach student hands-on experience with best agronomic practices.
- Coordinated farm day, a career day to connect students and potential employers
- Coordinated the graduate study program with relevant stakeholders.
- Worked with international organizations to develop internship programs.

Farm Manager**05/01/2008 - 003/30/2009****Chemonics Int, a USAID Accelerating Sustainable Agriculture Program****Kabul, Afghanistan***International organization with focus on working in developing country to improve livelihood and combat poverty.*

- Managed day to day operation at Badam Bagh Agriculture Research Farm and set up weekly visits for farmers on demonstrating modern agriculture technologies.
- Managed 50 farm labors on preparation of land for planting, conducting research trials.
- Coordinated research trials for international research organizations in Badam Research Farm and prepared annual crop sowing plan and market strategy to sell fruits and vegetables in high value markets.
- Consulted with team leader on appropriate agronomic practices while planting crops, irrigation and harvesting schedules for 100 acres of demonstration and research plots.

EDUCATION

M.S., Agricultural Economics. December - 2015.
Department of Agriculture Economics,
Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA.
Fulbright Scholar—U.S. State Department

B.S., Agricultural Economics. December - 2008.
Department of Agriculture Economics & Extension,
Agriculture College, Kabul University, Kabul – Afghanistan

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/AFFILIATIONS

- Civic Engagement on Sustainable Environment, Los Angeles, 2015, Fulbright Program.
- Fulbright Afghanistan enrichment seminar, Washington, D.C, 2014.
- Six-month intensive English research writing and composition course, Washington State University, 2014.
- Three-week intensive workshop on best practices of agricultural farms and student farm in Indiana, July 2012. Purdue University, Indiana, USA.
- Three Month Basic Experimental Design by A4/Purdue University
- Three Month Advanced Experimental Design by A4/Purdue University

Award & Recognition

- Awarded US department of State Fulbright scholarship for the MS studies, 2014
- Received Balkh University Outstanding Service Award, 2018.
- Received Award of Excellence from Kandahar University, 2019.

Publications

Papers: (published)

The Economic Benefits of Small-Holder Use of Hermetic Storage for Wheat in Afghanistan, S. Ameri, A. J. Deering, K.T. McNamara, International Journal of Food and Agricultural Economics. ISSN 2147-8988, E-ISSN:2149-3766 Vol. 6, 3, 2018, pp.33-46

<https://www.foodandagriculturejournal.com/page28.html>

Staff Papers

Agribusiness “Bridge Training” Program for Students Kandahar University, S. Ameri, H. Faisal, S. M Kabir, M. I Hashimi, 2016.

Applied Agribusiness Skills program for Balkh University, S. Ameri, H. Faisal, A Seddiqi, M. R Shamsi, S. Sahbzada, A.K Parsa, 2017.

Agribusiness Curriculum and Teaching Methodology, Bangalore, India, S. Ameri,2018.

Agriculture Industry Needs Assessment for Nangarhar Province, S Ameri, 2018.

References:

References are available upon request.