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## JDA Demonstrates Tractors at AgFair '07

### AgFair Brings Afghanistan One Step Closer to Secure Future

**KABUL, AFGHANISTAN**– AgFair '07, the first international agricultural trade show of its kind in post-war Afghanistan, attracted between 45 and 60 thousand people over two days (April 22-23). The fair catalyzed much needed investment in the agriculture sector, facilitated trade, and introduced new technologies to Afghanistan. AgFair was made possible with the support of the American people through USAID and organized in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock and the Afghan International Chamber of Commerce.

"We sold every piece of equipment we brought to the AgFair and we made

connections for additional work in Helmand and Mazar", said Mark Henning of JDA, a US-

based company selling two-wheel tractors for Afghan farms. JDA was one of the 150 participating exhibitors, alongside equipment manufacturers, suppliers, service providers, freight forwarders and agricultural processors.

From USAID Press Release May 1, 2007. The full article can be found at:

<http://afghanistan.usaid.gov/en/Article.154.aspx>.



## Osyo Hamkorlik (OH)

In Uzbekistan and Afghanistan, a business has been registered to operate parallel with JDA. It has advantages politically and logistically in the ever changing climate and laws of the region. With the closure of JDA in Uzbekistan, OH invested in the community of Karnop and employed a few of JDA's staff to implement a gypsum factory. This allowed a number of small businesses that had been started through JDA's micro credit program to consolidate and provides employees with advantages of working for a larger registered business.

In Afghanistan, OH is registered to allow us to sell farming equipment and do school construction—as business licenses are required to do these activities. Although OH has its own investors and is a separate entity from JDA, the two work alongside each other and in co-operation with JDA's partners to continue to bring development to Central Asia.

## Afghanistan In the Spring



**A**s quickly as opportunities to serve in Afghanistan appear—they disappear even faster in Uzbekistan. JDA in Uzbekistan has closed and no longer runs any programs. Some of our staff have not been able to find new jobs, many now have addresses in places like Russia and Italy, and others are thankful for new jobs with other organizations. All of us are grieving over the distance between friends and colleagues and the end of a common goal we shared to bring development to Uzbekistan under the name of JDA. However, I know that each of us continues to serve, bringing our own strengths, skills, talents and gifts to be a source of hope to others.

*It has been my privilege to serve with them and to be a part of their lives and to know that our friendship continues.*



*For the people of Central Asia,*

*Robert C. Hedlund, CEO and Founder*

## New Partnership for Afghanistan

**J**DA and Lifewater International have formed a partnership that will take advantage of the strengths of both organizations to implement new programs and expand current programs for rural villages in northern Afghanistan. Lifewater is dedicated to addressing the basic need for safe water, improved hygiene and adequate sanitation through the development of local communities. We will be working together with their on-site staff, training nationals with the education, skills and technology that will empower them to begin to break the cycle of poverty and disease.



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