



JOINT DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATES

Catalyzing Transformational Development

USAID Regional Agriculture Development Program-North (RADP-N) Activities

PICS-Purdue Improved Crop Storage

The Purdue Improved Crop Storage (PICS) project aims to increase the income of farming families in northern Afghanistan through the use of plastic grain-storage bags. Our objective is also to improve food safety, retain crop's nutritional value and reduce post-harvest loss.

The training will be an effective marketing strategy and will develop the downstream distribution system needed to make the product accessible and affordable. The distributor of a local manufacturer will be engaged as a private sector partner to deliver the field trainings which will develop the upstream businesses relating to hermetic storage.

PICS storage bags are introduced to women in a one-day training. Each participant is given a sample bag in order to practice and assess the technology for themselves. Beneficiaries will be able to store 50 kg of grain or legumes with confidence of significantly reduced pest risk using a non-chemical, safe hermetic bag storage solution.



The Purdue Improved Crops Storage (PICS) bag is a simple and effective technology for reducing grain losses to insects during post harvest storage. The technology was initially developed for cowpea storage in West Africa but is currently being used to store many different cereal and legume crops including maize, beans, sorghum, mungbean, pigeon pea, wheat, and rice.