Afghanistan Water, Agriculture, and Technology Transfer Program (AWATT)

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Abstract. Afghanistan faces a significant shortage of the physical and human capital needed to optimize use of its water resources and manage its irrigated farms. The project’s objective is to bolster human capital and water resource management capabilities by surveying available resources, developing (with Afghani counterparts) water institutions that make best use of available resources, providing demonstration of irrigation and agriculture techniques/technologies, and delivering curricula to Afghani specialists who may then disseminate information in the field. Under the AWATT program of USAID, Colorado State University (CSU) is working closely with consortium partners; New Mexico State University (NMSU), University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign (UIUC), Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC) and the four Afghanistan Universities (Balkh, Nangarhar, Herat and Kabul), Afghanistan’s Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), Ministry of Water and Energy, and Afghanistan Ministry of Higher Education, international development organizations, Private sector and other local developmental organizations (NGO’s, PRT’s and ALP’s) for effective delivery of curricula and integrated water resource management (IWRM) techniques. The CSU activities include Integrated Water Resources Management, Demonstration of Sustainable Agricultural Practices and dissemination of adoptable agricultural technologies. The poster outlines the AWATT program objectives, explains the methods used to reach the objectives and provides preliminary results from initial efforts.