



NAME: Rahela Kaveer

COUNTRY: Afghanistan

AGE: 40

BUSINESS: Afghan Women Empowerment Organization

Bio information

Rahela took on a big risk early in life when she left her home in Mazar to help distribute medical and educational materials to Bamyan, which was under strict economic and military control by the Taliban.

After successfully re-establishing the collapsed health system in this province, Rahela began to focus on how she could help women through literacy and vocational training, including animal husbandry, housekeeping and quilt-making. All projects were aimed to generate income for women.

Business information

Rahela started AWEO two years ago after some basic planning and strategizing. After she registered the company with the Ministry of Economics, she prepared proposals and put together a business plan.

With 10 employees, AWEO focuses on empowering rural women in aqua culture and animal husbandry. The company also implements fish farming and has introduced improved breeds of sheep and cattle which has resulted in higher incomes for the women. Over the next five years, Rahela's business goals include increasing the women's incomes and continuing to provide alternative opportunities for women in rural areas instead of growing poppy.

Rahela is a 2010 graduate of the PEACE THROUGH BUSINESS program.