





# **DOES YOUTH EMPLOYMENT BUILD STABILITY?**

## Lessons from Afghanistan

**Tara Noronha**

Senior Advisor  
Markets, Economic Recovery, and Growth  
Technical Support Unit







# Demand-driven vocational training in Afghanistan:

## The results

- › 14 centres (5 female)
- › 25,000 graduates (40% female)
- › 84% improved employment
- › Replicable private sector model
- › Helmand's first women's market





# Impact Evaluation of INVEST Vocational Training Program

## 3-6 month vocational training courses

Survey enumerators administered 1,129 surveys between February and April 2014

The survey respondents included graduated and incoming INVEST students

- **Treatment Group** = Those who had completed the 3-month program 12 months before the survey
- **Control Group** = Those who were about to begin the 3-month program

# INVEST Evaluation

Willingness to Engage in Political Violence:

*Would you use violence to fight against an unfair law or regime or decision of the State? [1 = would not use violence; 0 = would use violence]*

Support for Political Violence:

*If a citizen of your country uses violence to fight against an unfair law or regime or decision of the State, is it justified? [1 = it is never justified; 0 = it is sometimes justified]*

*I'm going to read you a list with the names of different groups and individuals on it. After I read the entire list, I'd like you to tell me how many of these groups and individuals you broadly support, meaning that you generally agree with the goals and policies of the group or individual. Please don't tell me which ones you generally agree with; only tell me how many groups or individuals you broadly support.*

Options:

- Karzai Government,
- National Solidarity Program and
- Local Farmers
- [Armed Opposition Groups]



*I did not join the Taliban because I was poor,” Nasir said. “I joined because I was angry. Because they (the West) wronged us.”*

*Nassir*



## **WHAT DID WE LEARN?**

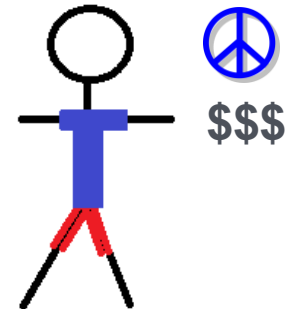
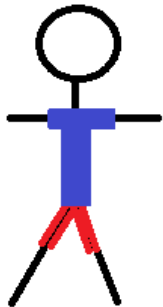
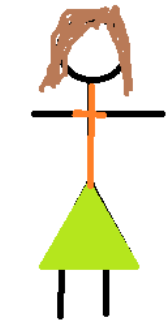
- **More than jobs**
- **Supply and demand**
- **Do no harm**
- **Design explicitly**
- **Youth-led**

**INVEST in Kandahar**



YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

# Keep It Real





**MERCY  
CORPS**

**TARA NORONHA**

[tnoronha@mercy Corps.org](mailto:tnoronha@mercy Corps.org)