



Catalyzing Transformational Development

...equipping the nations

Joint Development Associates International

Before and After

A Fishy Business

Fishing has been an integral part of life for the people of Muynak, but the younger generation has little experience since the decimation of the Aral Sea.

Before

Balzada and his brother finished school and had no job or method of income. The elder of the two was able to become a member JDA's micro credit group lending program, and the two of



“JDA’s loan officer showing how the brothers hang the fish for drying before they are smoked.”

them started a business in commerce.

After

Working one and a half years in their commerce business the brothers decided that they needed to do something more productive to support their families. Hearing from a friend about fish smoking, challenged them to learn this ancient art which was once a stable income generation business for



hundreds of Muynak residents. Taking their sixth credit of \$350, they started their new venture by making the smoking facility. They purchase fresh caught fish from local fisherman, the fish are cleaned and placed in salted water, then rinsed in clean water then hung out to dry. When they are dry, they are placed in the smoker which uses special wood chips to create a superbly tasting fish. The smoked fish are sold before they have a chance to be placed in the local bazaar. They are in great demand!