MDF supported BHB to enhance farmers’ access to markets and provide better access to inputs. By setting up processing machinery, BHB was able to increase its processing capacity and cater to growing demand. It is now able to process and pack dates of different varieties, and supplies to local markets and retailers across Balochistan.

Additionally, MDF provided BHB with plastic crates for storage. Farmers now get better prices for higher quality produce and have more dates to sell, increasing their incomes.

MDF and BHB also worked together to establish a women-only date processing facility, where women can come and work on date cleaning, processing and packing in a conducive environment. Female workers were trained by a supervisor on how to pit and clean dates.

My neighbours appreciated me when I started working. My duties include packing, cleaning and making a paste. I earn good money and can now buy school books for my children.

Najma, factory worker, BHB.