



STABILITY IN KEY AREAS (SIKA) – EAST

QUARTERLY REPORT (Q4 FY 2013)

JULY – SEPTEMBER 2013



Photo: A SIKA-East resource coordination meeting held in Khost Province in August 2013 – part of the program stability-focused capacity building for subnational government in southeastern Afghanistan.

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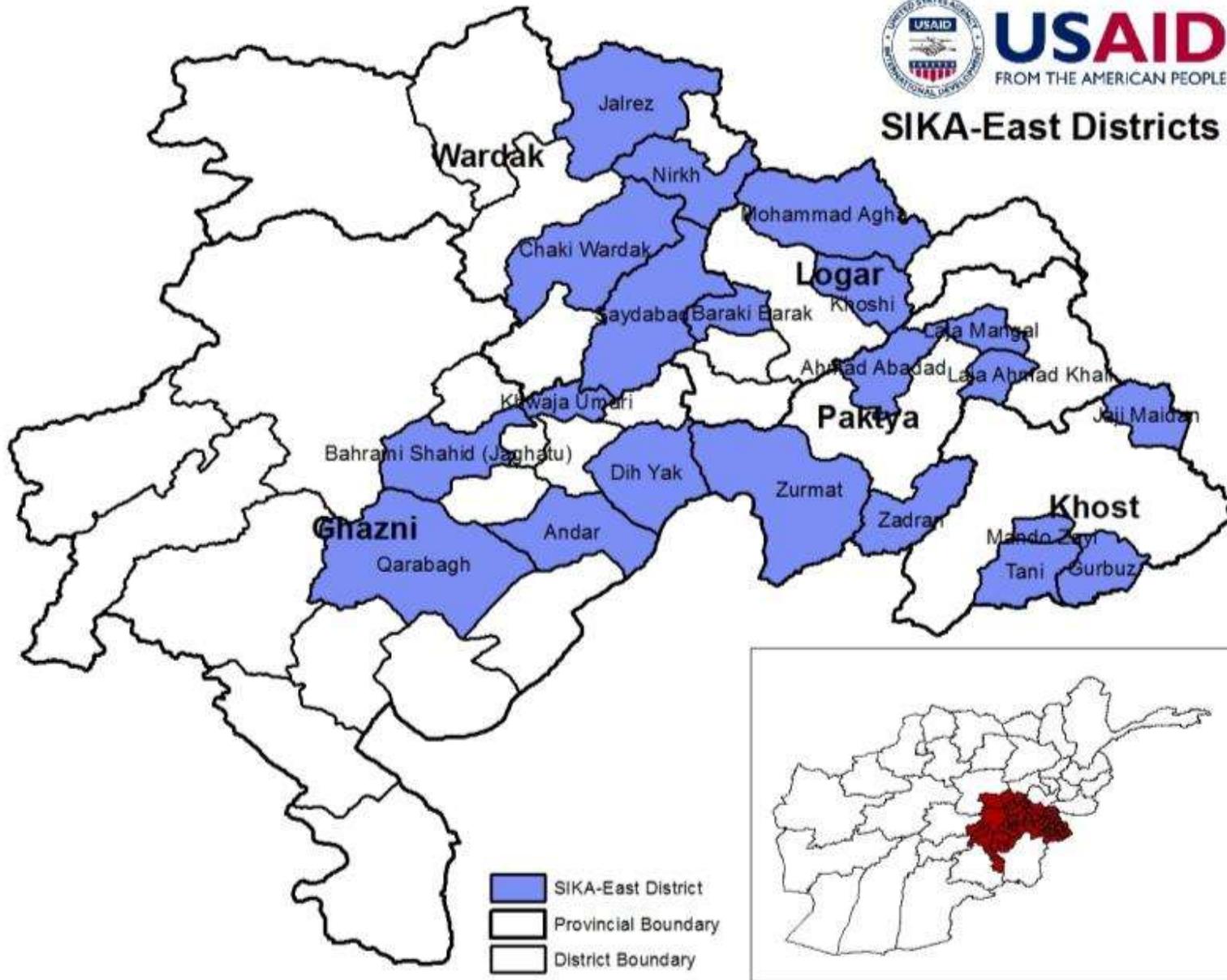
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ACRONYMS

ANA	Afghan National Army
AWEC	Afghan Women's Education Center
CDC	Community Development Council
CY	Calendar Year
DCC	District Community Council
DDA	District Development Assembly
DGO	District Governor Office
DIC	District Information Center
DAIL	Department of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock
DoWA	Department of Women Affairs
DE	District Entities
DPP	District Project Portfolio
DSW	District Social Worker
FY	Fiscal Year
GIRoA	Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
GRC	Grant Review Committee
HR	Human Resource
IDLG	Independent Directorate of Local Governance
IR	Intermediate Result
MRRD	Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
NABDP	National Area Based Development Program
NDS	National Directorate of Security
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NSP	National Solidarity Program
PDSP	Provincial Department Service Profile
PGO	Provincial Governor Office
PMP	Performance Management Plan
PRRD	Provincial Rural Rehabilitation Department
RFP	Request for Proposals
SIKA-East	Stability in Key Areas-East
SAM	Stability Analysis Methodology
SPC	Service Providers Catalogue
SPF	Service Providers Fair
SPP	Stability Planning Process
USAID	United States Agency for International Development



SIKA-East Districts





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Stability in Key Areas (SIKA) - East quarterly report provides an overview of achievements made between July and September 2013, the final quarter of the program's second fiscal year (FY) of implementation.

PROGRAM PROFILE SIKA-East, together with the Afghan Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) and the Independent Directorate of Local Governance (IDLG), is working on strengthening governance and service delivery to improve stability in conflict-affected districts of southeastern Afghanistan.

SIKA-East, originally envisioned as an 18-month program with a \$88,680,279 budget, started in December 2011. A no-cost extension was obtained in April 2013, extending the program until March 6, 2014, with a possibility of an additional 18-month option period.

As of September 30, the program was active in 20 districts in five provinces in southeastern Afghanistan: Ghazni, Khost, Logar, Maydan Wardak, and Paktya. The launch for the remaining 21st district, as per the SIKA-East Work Plan, was set for October.

Afghan Leadership Of SIKA-East's 564 staff members in total, 97% are Afghans, including 7% women. Over 70% of SIKA-East senior managers are Afghan nationals, serving as unit directors and department managers. Field staff are embedded within Provincial Rural Rehabilitation and Development (PRRD) and District Government offices at provincial and district levels, respectively.

OBJECTIVES The primary objective of the SIKA-East program is to promote good governance and service delivery in targeted districts with the intended effects of promoting stability and reducing the impact of the insurgency through capacity building with MRRD and IDLG in the areas of intervention. The program is focusing on three key areas:

Quarterly Achievements

- *SIKA-East launched in four new districts: Jaghatu and Qarabagh in Ghazni Province, Jalrez in Maydan Wardak Province, and Ahmad Abad in Paktya Province*
- *More than 120 capacity building sessions conducted across the districts, with some 4,900 individuals, of which nearly 24% are women, trained in stability, resource mobilization, and outreach skills*
- *38 new grants in line with the District Project Portfolios (DPPs) awarded, with a total value of \$1,693,010*
- *The first six SIKA-East grants completed in Mohammad Agha and Saydabad Districts*
- *New capacity building initiatives designed in cooperation with Afghan governmental officials and District Development Assemblies Plus (DDA+) representatives*

Cumulative Results

- *Program active in 20 of the 21 planned districts of southeastern Afghanistan*
- *16 DPPs prepared and eight DPPs approved and in implementation*
- *Some 300 stability-focused trainings conducted for approximately 8,400 men and 2,600 women, 516 of whom are governmental officials*
- *A total of 79 grants awarded, valued at \$3,422,395, providing 126,279 individual work days to local communities*

engagement and building relationships between provincial and district entities and constituencies; improved technical capacity for good governance; and enhanced service delivery in community requests for stabilizing interventions.

To reach these objectives, SIKA-East is working closely with expanded District Development Assemblies (DDA), or so-called DDA Plus (DDA+) – informal, voluntary, highly representative district bodies, consisting of DDA members, as well traditional and professional authorities, such as religious leaders and respected professionals. Women’s inclusion in these bodies is essential to the SIKA-East Gender Mainstreaming Strategy.

DDA+ Capacity Building The program is conducting a wide-ranging stability-focused capacity building program for DDA+ enabling them to:

- (i) Identify, analyze and monitor root causes of local instability;
- (ii) Develop and execute strategic plans to address the root causes of instability; and
- (iii) Forge alliances and generate public activism to raise awareness about, and advocate for, district stability.

Stability Grants Complementing capacity building to enable effective local governance, SIKA-East offers grants to district entities to enhance service delivery and assist implementation of stability-focused initiatives, predominantly small-scale infrastructure projects intended to mitigate the identified root causes of local instability. These projects serve the SIKA-East objectives both in terms of process and of product: a key systemic cause of instability throughout the districts is the lack of communities’ ability to collectively prioritize and / or reach out to available resources and offices to obtain government services. The SIKA-East grants program connects communities with their government, and represents the practical application of SIKA-East’s capacity building programs in resource mobilization and grant management.



“Building physical infrastructure is not considered development alone; but, educating communities that they are the owners of the same infrastructure is...”

“When we bring people together and increase their participation, this helps them understand that ... [stability] is equally their responsibility.”

***- Mohammad Tariq Ismati,
Deputy Minister of MRRD***

The overall SIKA-East result is a sound, local-level analysis of district instability dynamics, coupled with a ground-up plan of interventions to remedy it, local capacity to implement and manage it, and governmental ability to effectively communicate the challenges and the results to their constituents.

RESULTS In the final quarter of FY2013, SIKA-East significantly accelerated operations in terms of area expansion, government engagement, capacity building trainings, and grant implementation:

Area of Operation SIKA-East rolled out operations in four new districts in the current quarter, following the previous quarter’s



“If we can understand the roots of instability... we are already halfway to our goal... The government and the people support you [SIKA-East]... I would like to thank you for supporting us and working with us in such a difficult environment in the districts.”

***- Fared Mohmandzai,
Deputy Minister of IDLG for
Policy and Strategy***

launches in Gurbuz, Tani, Jaji Maidan, Khoshi, Khwaja Umari, Laja Ahmad Khail and Laja Mangal Districts. On September 1, the program was launched in Jaghatu and Qarabagh Districts in Ghazni Province and in Jalrez District in Maydan Wardak Province, while on September 22 SIKA-East was introduced in Ahmad Abad District in Paktya Province. Attending the four launch meetings were the PRRD Directors of the respective provinces, top government officials, and representatives of line departments, as well as community elders, tribal leaders, and other stakeholders with an interest in the districts' stability and development.

With the final district, Mando Zayi in Khost Province, set to launch at the beginning of

October, in the next quarter SIKA-East will be operational in all 21 districts as per its work plan. The following are the SIKA-East districts of operation:

- Andar, Barhrami Shahid (Jaghatu), Dih Yak, Khwaja Umari, and Qarabagh in Ghazni Province;
- Gurbuz, Jaji Maidan, Mando Zayi (ready to launch), and Tani in Khost Province;
- Baraki Barak, Khoshi, and Mohammad Agha in Logar Province;
- Chaki Wardak, Jalrez, Nirkh, and Saydabad in Maydan Wardak Province; and,
- Ahmad Abad, Laja Ahmad Khail, Laja Mangal, Zadran, and Zurmat in Paktya Province.

Government Engagement On September 18 and 19, SIKA-East held a two-day all staff conference in Kabul, led by Deputy Ministers from MRRD and IDLG, with active participation of PRRD Provincial Directors, and attended by nearly 500 program staff from Kabul and the five provinces and 21 districts where SIKA-East is active. The purpose of the conference was to provide a forum for participants to exchange experiences, discuss common challenges, and share best practices. The conference also provided an opportunity to discuss ways to strengthen SIKA-East's partnership with MRRD and IDLG and improve coordination in the field.

DDA+ Leadership Toward the end of the quarter, the DDA+s in the four new districts of operation met for the first time to consult with constituents and government authorities on root causes of local instability and solutions. Members of the 21st and last DDA+ in Mando Zayi district were nominated by local authorities and notables at the end of the reporting period, and the DDA+ is scheduled to meet for the first time early in the next quarter.

District Level Planning As part of SIKA-East institutional strengthening and capacity building efforts, all DDA+s undergo trainings

in stability analysis and develop DPPs for their respective areas.

The DPPs outline solutions to identified systemic causes of local instability and serve as a platform for DDA+s to strategically plan and manage interventions to enhance stability in the district. The DPPs are endorsed by local governmental officials and approved by USAID, enabling the program to move into the grants phase of implementation.

During the quarter, the DPPs for Zadran, Andar, and Zurmat were approved by USAID, bringing the number of approved DPP plans to eight. At the end of the quarter, the DPPs for Khoshi, Khwaja Umari, and Laja Ahmad Khail were being finalized for submission to USAID in early October, with the DPPs for Gurbuz, Jaji Maidan, Tani, and Laja Mangal ready to follow. In total, DDAs have created 16 DPPs since the beginning of the program. These are undergoing endorsement, review, approval, and implementation phases.

In addition, seven district communications plans have been developed by DDA+ communication committees and are in various stages of implementation. The communication plans provide a strategic framework and actionable points for the DDA+ to effectively speak to and promote district priorities, lead activities, and strengthen linkages with relevant provincial authorities. By the end of the program, all 21 districts will formulate, resource, and implement strategic communications plans.

Gender Mainstreaming SIKA-East is working on operationalizing its Gender Mainstreaming Strategy based on four overarching principles directly related to the expected program outcomes: (i) importance of raising awareness about rights, roles, and responsibilities in Afghanistan; (ii) engaging male allies and female role models for supporting cohesion; (iii) increased female participations, leading to better leadership and more representative decision-making in communities; and, (iv) improved access to



“SIKA-East operates... in more secure areas, so that the insecure districts would learn by example that development projects come with stability... [T]hese projects will bring people closer to us, to the international community, to the US government...”

- Eng. Mohammad Usman Mahidi, PRRD Director, Khost

economic opportunities, leading to greater stability.

As part of this approach, female perspectives are routinely integrated into the stability planning process in the development of DPPs. Despite the conservative social environment of many of the districts covered by SIKA-East, stability planning processes in 12 districts thus far have generated DPPs with both female and male input. In other areas, women from five districts identified the need for vocational training in skills in tailoring, embroidery, and vegetable and fruit processing, a request that SIKA-East will support in coordination with the respective DDA+s. The program continues to engage male allies, tribal elders, and female role models on the importance of women’s participation in locally driven initia-

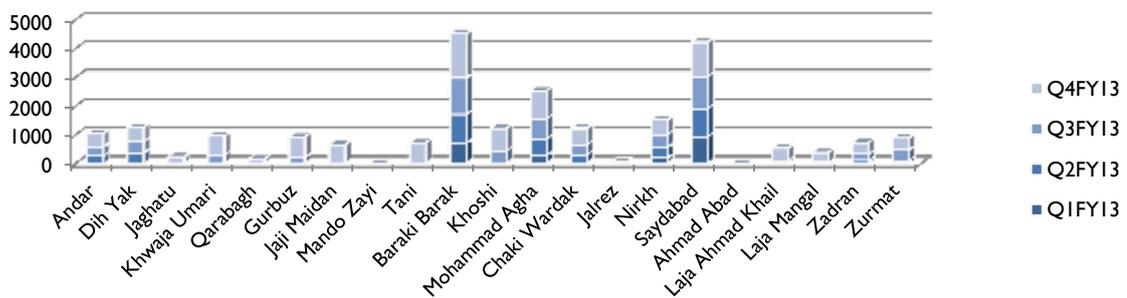
tives and issues that relate to their access to services.

Capacity Building During the quarter, 122 joint SIKA-East and PRRD training sessions were conducted across the SIKA-East districts, with 3,768 men and 1,162 women, or 4,930 individuals in total, trained in stability analysis, strategic planning, resource mobilization, and outreach skills. Of these, 87 sessions focused on stability and resource mobilization themes, with 3,002 men and 690 women attending. The remaining 1,238 trainees participated in 35 communications-oriented capacity building sessions, attracting 766 men and 472 women. The participants were primarily DDA and CDC members, as well as influential local leaders, in the newly launched districts of Jaghatu and Qarabagh in Ghazni Province, as well as Gurbuz, Tani, and Jaji Maydan in Khost Province and Laja Ahmad Khail and Laja Mangal in Paktya Province.

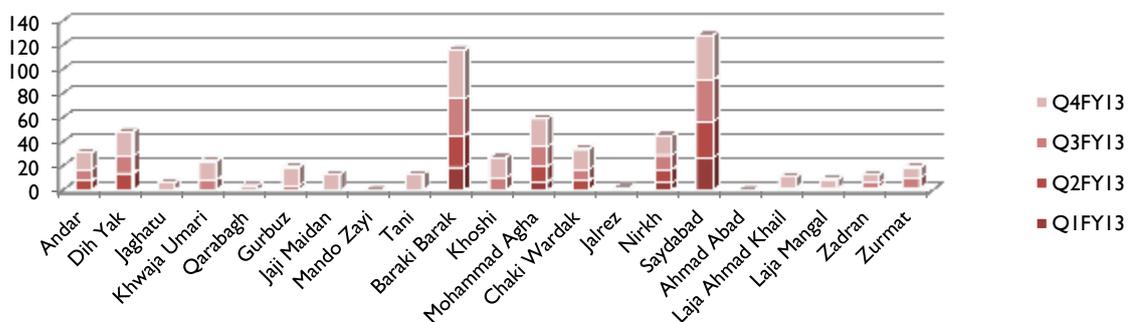
These workshops created opportunities for local leaders to discuss compelling stabilization and governance concerns and solutions with district and provincial authorities and jointly develop plans to address them. The model used by SIKA-East encourages district entities to make their own decisions, lead the planning process, and acquire the competencies to strategically plan, design, resource, and manage district-level interventions independently.

As of September 30, the program has conducted the cumulative total of some 300 stability-focused trainings for about 8,400 men and 2,600 women. Of these, 516 are governmental officials. A breakdown by districts is given in *Appendix A, SIKA-East Indicators*, and is graphically illustrated in the charts below.

SIKA-East Capacity Building Program Individual Trainees: Quarterly Progress Q4FY13



SIKA-East Capacity Building Program Training Sessions: Quarterly Progress Q4FY13



Transition Initiatives In support of the transition to stronger GIRoA-led stabilization planning and service delivery and in consul-

tations with DDA+s in districts of operation, SIKA-East initiated a series of new capacity building activities in the reporting period.

Complementing the existent core curriculum of trainings and grant assistance, capacity building activities target the institutional strengthening needs of PRRD, IDLG, and district entities to position them to play increasingly leading roles in SIKA-facilitated stabilization and associated public administrative processes, including addressing underlying systemic deficiencies that contribute to root causes of instability. Specific activities will develop the DDA+'s technical expertise to assume functional control over strategic planning and resourcing processes, in addition to contributing to the establishment and enhancement of communication, networking, and coordination channels, platforms, and practices.

The initial suite of activities includes: (i) transition activities: government, including IDLG and PRRD, and DDA+ capacity assessment and enhancement; embedded advisors and specialists; (ii) communication, networking, and coordination: stabilization entry point development for women; DDA+ provincial conference; radio call-in shows; radio play broadcasts; bulk text messaging; print media; cross-district DDA+ exchanges and exposure visits; establishment of District Information Centers (DICs); (iii) service provider competencies: service provider, project, and grant technical trainings; technical assistance for women- owned businesses; and emergency responders or First Aid training.

Grants The SIKA-East grants program follows the DPP as created by the DDA+ and a-

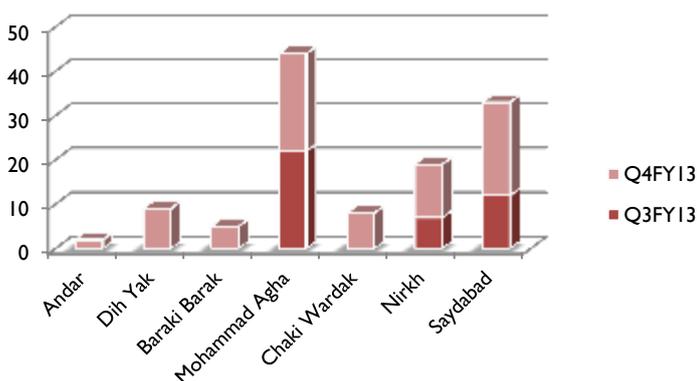
pproved by USAID. Local Community Development Councils (CDCs) and other entities apply for grants, while SIKA-East, following USAID approval, provides funding, grant management training, and engineering assistance.

After the award of the first 41 SIKA-East grants to Saydabad and Mohammad Agha District recipients in the previous quarter and the approval of new DPPs, SIKA-East rolled out its grants program in five new districts in the current period: Andar, Dih Yak, Baraki Barak, Chaki Wardak, and Nirkh. From July to September, the program awarded 38 new grants, valued at \$1,693,010 in total. Most of these grants fall under four infrastructure categories: irrigation, education, transport, and water supply and sanitation. With the resources invested in the communities, these grants provide 55,554 individual work days.

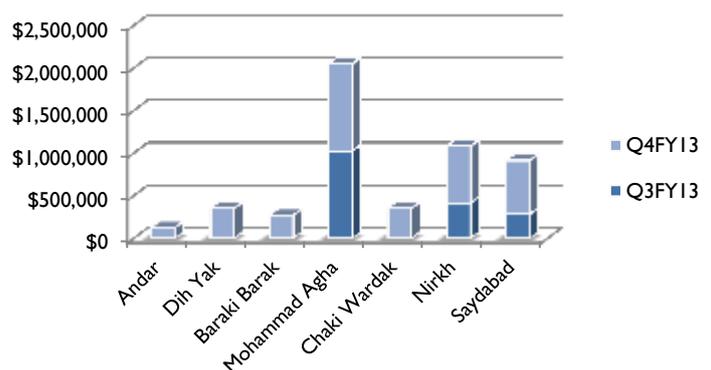
This quarter also saw the completion of the first six grant projects: four in Saydabad District, valued at \$93,593, and two in Mohammad Agha, totaling \$85,088. The remaining grant activities are projected for completion throughout January 2014. After the payment of the final milestone, each grant activity enters a mandatory three-month monitoring period, upon which the grant is closed.

Since the beginning of its operations, the program has awarded 79 grants, with a total value of \$3,422,395. The program expects an increase in number and value of awarded grants in the following quarter.

SIKA-East Grants Number
Quarterly Progress Q4FY13



SIKA-East Grants Value
Quarterly Progress Q4FY13





PROGRESS
TOWARD
INTERMEDIATE
RESULTS

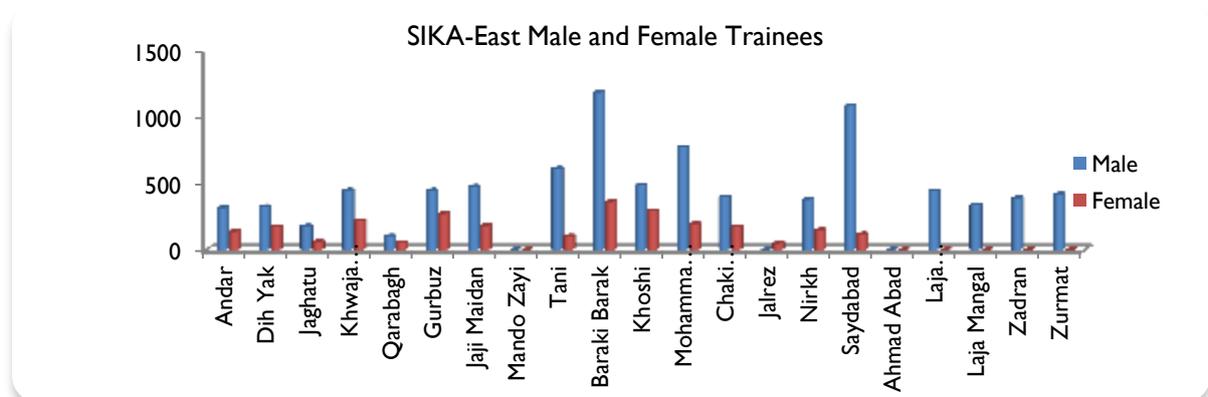
PROGRESS TOWARD INTERMEDIATE RESULTS

SIKA-East Revised PMP in Effect in FY2014 The recently revised SIKA-East Performance Management Plan (PMP), inclusive of the Results Framework and performance indicators, is effective as of October 1, 2013. In agreement with USAID, this quarterly report, as well as the SIKA-East September Monthly Report, are the last reports documenting progress against the original SIKA-East Results Framework.

In support of its four contractual Intermediate Results (IRs) elaborated below, SIKA-East's comprehensive capacity building approach includes a series of stability, resource, and outreach-focused sessions for district entities, such as Stakeholder Orientation, Governance Foundation, Stability Planning Process, Resource Dialogue, Advocacy, and Public Communications Campaign Development. These sessions typically are conducted for men and for women separately.

Quarterly Progress SIKA-East completed various training sessions for DDA+s and Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIROA) staff during the quarter. On average, 38 individuals were trained per stabilization work session across the provinces, with Ghazni Province contributing, on average per session, 35 individuals, Khost 49, Logar 30, Maydan Wardak 20, and Paktya 50 individuals. Both July and August averaged 46 individuals per stabilization work session.

Some 23% of the total trainees, in both stabilization and outreach capacity building, are women from the districts. The exact ratio between male and female trainees on a district level is represented in the chart below.



IRI – Provincial and District Entities increasingly address sources of instability and take measures to respond to the population's development and governance concerns related to Stability Analysis Tool-identified sources of instability.

SIKA-East assists district entities to formulate strategies that address the root causes of local instability and to respond to citizen concerns through the District Stability Planning Process (DSPP). The DSPP involves the implementation and use of the SIKA-East Stability Analysis Methodology (SAM). SAM provides a structured framework to approach, analyze, and deconstruct the local environment and dynamics to uncover root causes of instability, along with community resiliencies, and plan activities to address these root causes. SAM integrates gender analysis integrating women's perspective in the SPP by working with both women's and men's groups.

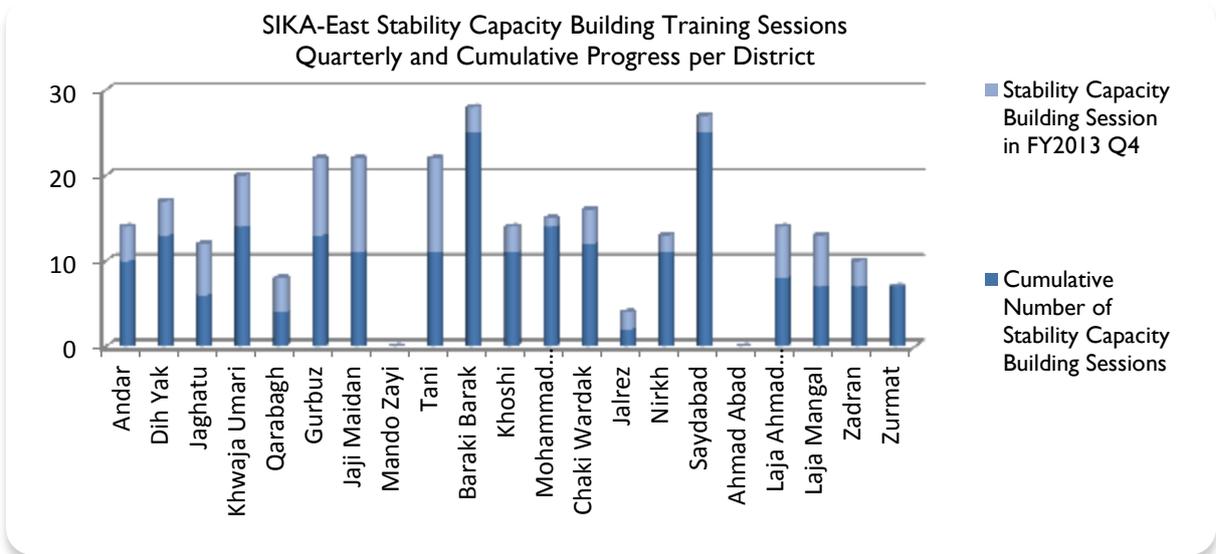
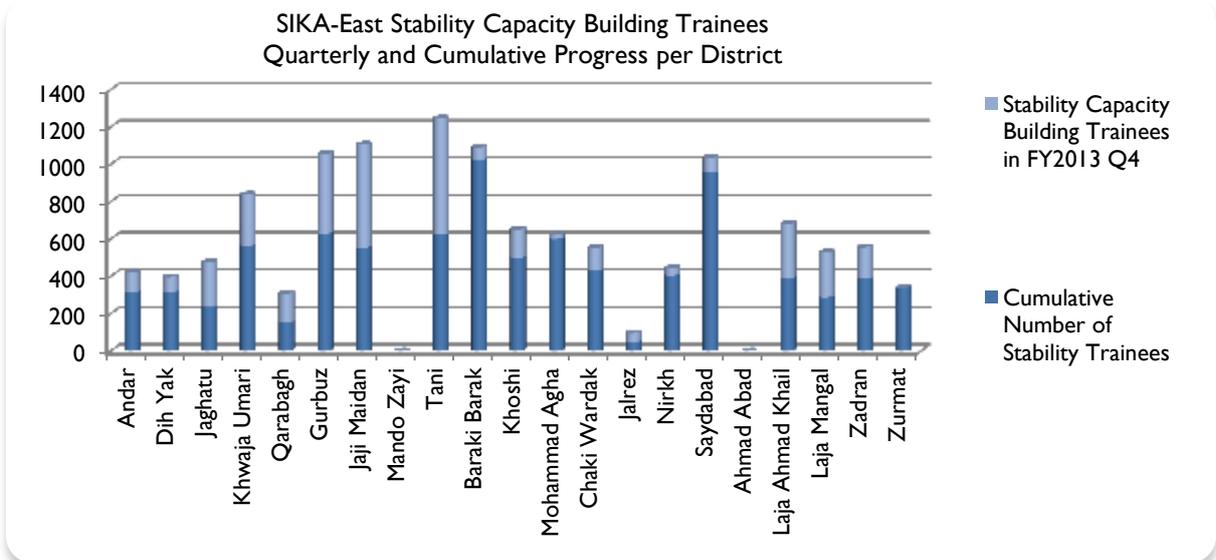
Over the months since the start of the program, SIKA-East and GIROA have engaged the DDA+ of each approved district – 20 out of the programmed 21 districts – in analyzing root

causes of local instability and developing DPPs of interventions that alleviate them. The 21st district, Mando Zayi, is planned for district implementation launch early in October.

In FY2013 Q4, district implementation was fast-tracked in order to get grant projects in place before the coming winter weather places a halt on these projects.

The SIKA-East program launched in four districts in FY2013 Q4: Bahrami Shahid (Jaghatu), Qarabagh, Jalrez, and Ahmad Abad – and the SPP sessions were implemented in six districts – Tani, Jaji Maidan, Bahrami Shahid (Jaghatu), Qarabagh, Jalrez, and Ahmad Abad.

The charts below represent quarterly versus cumulative progress in the number of stability-focused capacity building sessions and numbers of trainees (male and female total) with a district breakdown.



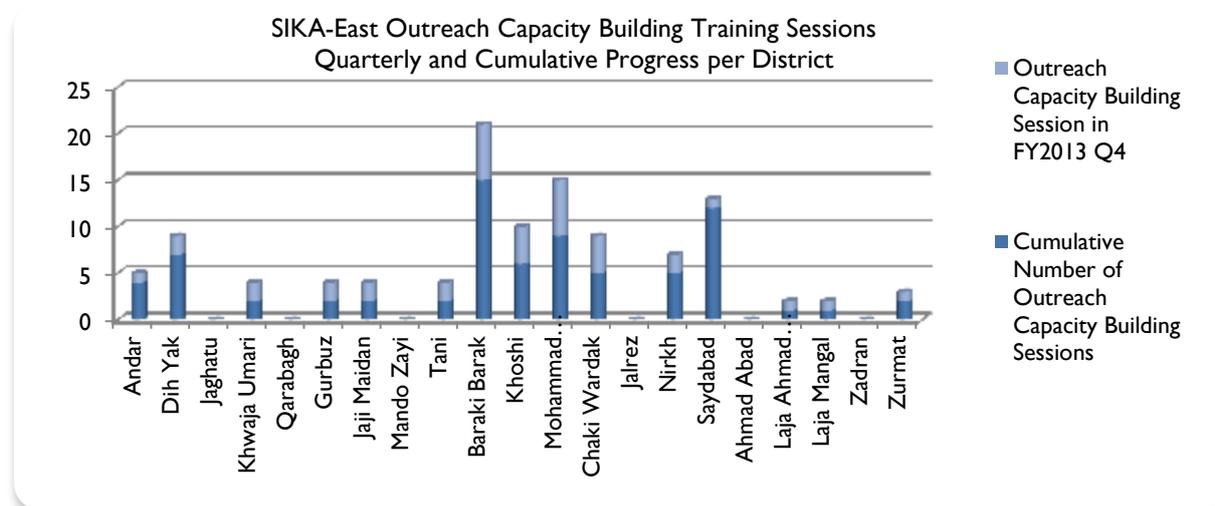
IR2 – Provincial and district entities understand what organizations and provincial line departments work in their geographic areas, what kind of services they provide, and how to access those services.

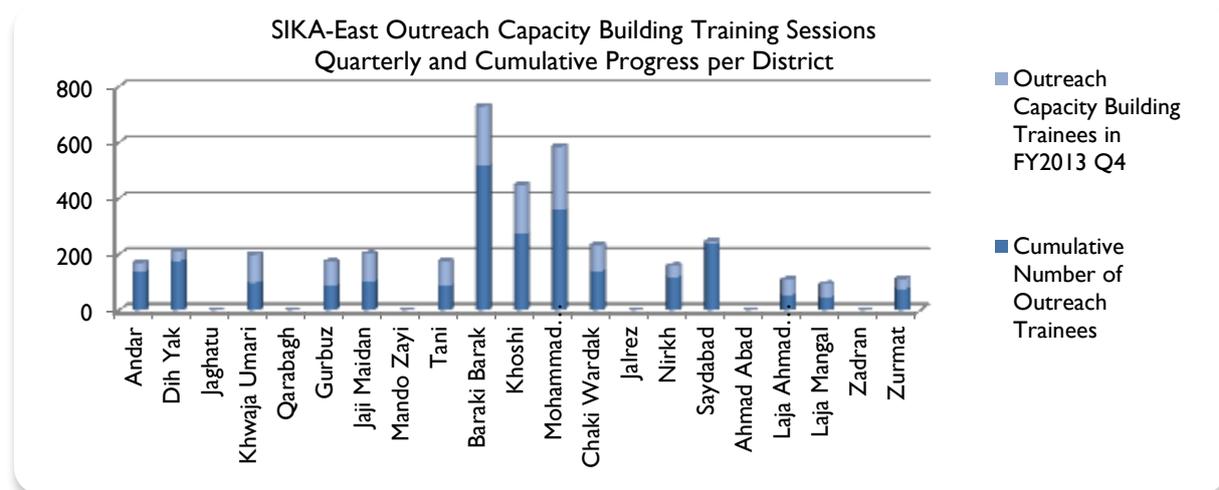
Through the development of Service Provider Catalogues (SPCs) and Provincial Department Service Profiles (PDSPs), SIKA-East and GIRoA have been able to provide the DDA+ and the

communities with lists of services and resources available in their immediate area for utilization on the proposed projects in each district. The Service Providers Fair (SPF) is a SIKA-East–organized platform where various service providers listed in the SPC and PDSP are able to connect with the DDA+ members and the public and present the exact services they provide. These relationships are also built and strengthened through resource coordination and sub-coordination meetings, which are held on a regular basis amongst service providers, GIRoA, and the DDA+ members. The SPFs held in Ghazni and Paktya Provinces were completed successfully with a total of 70 and 75 service provider booths, respectively, at each SPF; the visitors totaled 1,088 and 1,160, respectively, for each SPF. Unfortunately, due to vetting delays, the SPFs for Maydan Wardak and Khost Provinces, previously scheduled for late September 2013, had to be postponed to October 2013.

IR3 – Provincial authorities improve their ability to communicate with district entities in order to help them better understand their population's needs and prioritize basic service delivery interventions.

Further trainings such as Advocacy, Fundraising, Lobbying, and Unity Building provide the DDA+ and GIRoA members with the knowledge and know-how to advocate funds for non-SIKA-East projects. SIKA-East guides and facilitates the processes to ensure that district communication strategies focus on using communication to move both men and women to action, i.e., not just sharing information but thinking strategically about the audience and how it will access and use the information. The SIKA-East outreach capacity building component provides governmental actors with core best practices in terms of messaging, communication strategy, and outreach. The charts below represent quarterly versus cumulative progress in the number of outreach capacity building sessions and number of trainees (male and female total) with district breakdown.





DDA+s have designed district communication plans with only the guidance of SIKA-East and GIRoA. In FY2013 Q4, five districts – Andar, Chaki Wardak, Nirikh, Saydabad, and Zurmat – completed their district communication plans. A few groups have continued advocacy in the districts without any further interventions from SIKA-East and have had positive results. There have been at least ten documented advocacy efforts in Ghazni, Maydan Wardak, and Paktya Provinces in FY2013 Q4. SIKA-East is collecting anecdotal evidence from these success stories. A great success from a gender perspective is that joint male and female communication committee meetings are being held in Ghazni’s Khwaja Umari District.

IR4 – Provincial authorities are able to improve basic service delivery by using GIRoA, CDCs, DDAs, and ASOP DCCs (where these continue to exist), which gain capacity to plan, design, implement, and monitor labor-intensive projects, with a focus on productive infrastructure.

SIKA-East facilitates the development of feasible projects and manages the grant and non-grant projects. Courses for DEs include: Infrastructure Project Planning, Project Design and Development, and Grant Management.

As of 30 September 2013, 79 infrastructure grant projects have been awarded. In FY2013 Q4, 38 grants were awarded in six districts – Andar, Baraki Barak, Chaki Wardak, Dih Yak, Nirikh, and Saydabad. All these projects are directly linked to root causes of local instability identified in the DPPs. With each grant award, the CDC or PMC members are taken through Grant Management Training, which provides them with the capacity to manage the relevant project from finance through monitoring of the project.

PROGRAMS
&
CROSS-
CUTTING
ACTIVITIES



PROGRAMS

GENDER MAINSTREAMING

In August 2013, SIKA East's Gender Mainstreaming Strategy was officially approved by USAID, enabling SIKA-East to begin operationalizing the strategy. The strategy is based on four overarching principles directly related to the expected program outcomes:

- (i) Importance of raising awareness about rights, roles, and responsibilities in Afghanistan;
- (ii) Engaging male allies and female role models for supporting cohesion;
- (iii) Increased female participations, leading to better leadership and more representative decision-making in communities; and
- (iv) Improved access to economic opportunities, leading to greater stability.

In the coming quarter, SIKA-East will launch the Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan to operationalize the strategy, in line with the region's culture. In addition, SIKA-East is revising and updating the "Outreach to Afghan Women Guide," a toolkit designed to give concrete skills to improving outreach to women. This is a segment of SIKA-East's initiative to compile a user-friendly gender toolkit which will be also made available to other developmental actors in Afghanistan.

Gender and Stakeholder Engagement SIKA-East worked to increase female participation, mobilizing a variety of networks and soliciting the support of allies, such as DoWA, the Afghan Women's Education Center (AWEC), and other local NGOs working on women's issues. The program will continue to engage male allies, tribal elders, and female role models on the importance of women's participation in locally-driven initiatives and issues that relate to their access to services that benefit the welfare of the family – a key element in the program's stakeholder engagement.

Integrating Gender into the Stability Planning Process

During the development of DPPs, female perspectives are routinely integrated into the stability planning process. Despite the conservative social environment of the area of operation, stability planning processes in 12 of 16 districts have generated DPPs with both female and male input. In three of the four districts initially lacking female input, elders have now endorsed women's participation.

Capacity Building for Women SIKA-East has mainstreamed gender into the capacity building programs by ensuring the inclusion of female representatives in the DDA+ and the related stability and outreach trainings. The following chart shows the ratio of male and

Girls' Schools Reopen in Tangi Valley as a Result of Women's Advocacy Efforts

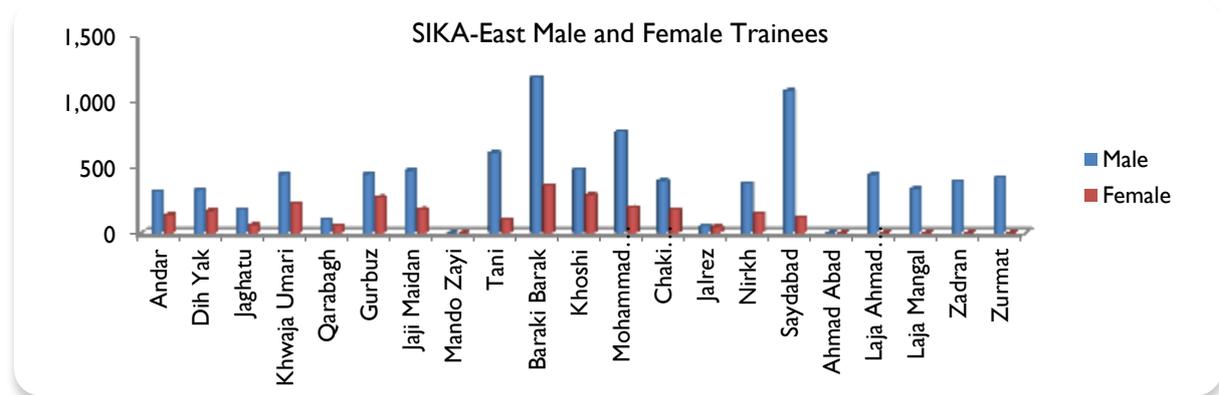


During the quarter, the Saydabad Women's Advocacy Team, formed earlier this year as a result of SIKA-East's outreach training, was instrumental in reopening schools for girls in Saydabad's Tangi valley, a stronghold of the Taliban, who had opposed girls' education for years.

The women began by bringing together community elders, parents of school-age girls, and other stakeholders in girls' education. A delegation of elders then approached the Taliban and persuaded them to lift their opposition to schools for girls.

At the end of August, several schools reopened in the area.

female beneficiaries of SIK-East’s capacity building program.



Addressing Gender in Project Implementation and Service Delivery In the reporting period, as SIK-East prepared for the upcoming Service Provider Fair in Wardak, the program reached out specifically to family-welfare-oriented organizations and female service providers. In Zurmat, Chaki Wardak, Deh Yak, Andar, and Baraki Barak Districts, women identified the need for vocational training in tailoring, embroidery, and vegetable and fruit processing. RFPs were designed for non-infrastructure grants to provide the requested trainings. SIK-East recognizes the potential for supporting livelihood development strategies, in particular for women. Overall, support to increasing women’s participation in economic activities leads to increases in the family’s economic resources and access to productive assets, skills development, and market information. Furthermore, women’s economic participation and empowerment is fundamental to strengthening communities and building resiliencies.

SIKA-East’s radio plays and other messaging activities (see *New Transition Initiatives* below) apply a gender lens emphasizing the importance of girls’ education and promoting family-welfare-oriented services. SIK-East’s new capacity building initiatives will further emphasize the gender-focused aspects of the program.

In the coming quarter, SIK-East plans to engage with MRRD and IDLG representatives, as well as other stakeholders, to jointly explore options to strengthen the design and viability of livelihood initiatives for women, and to align the new initiatives to the existent government-led initiative in Afghanistan. In response to district project trends, SIK-East will also explore educational resources on themes such as inheritance, consent to marriage, and property rights to respond to needs addressed during the stability planning process.

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING AND STABILIZATION

SIKA-East All Staff Conference On September 18 and 19, SIK-East held an all staff conference in Kabul, led by Deputy Ministers from MRRD and IDLG, with the active participation of PRRD Directors from Ghazni, Khost, Logar, Maydan Wardak, and Paktya, and attended by nearly 500 program staff from SIK-East’s area of operation. The purpose of the gathering was to provide a forum for the participants to align their objectives, share successes and challenges, discuss ways to strengthen SIK-East’s partnership with MRRD and IDLG, and improve coordination in the field.

District Social Workers Throughout the quarter, SIK-East and MRRD’s Community-Led Development Department continued working on the recruitment and training of district social workers (DSWs) in SIK-East districts where these positions were unfilled. The program and MRRD developed a joint agenda and training curriculum for the induction and training of the new

hires. SIKA-East is coordinating with MRRD's Community Led Development Department (CLDD) of MRRD to discuss SIKA-East capacity building for newly hired and existing district social workers. The DSWs will perform shared PRRD and SIKA-East duties during the life of the program and are envisaged to be moved to the official government *tashkheel* following the end of the program. The planned training, which will consist of several existing SIKA-East and MRRD modules, will be jointly conducted by SIKA-East and MRRD staff in the following quarter.

District Profiles During the quarter, SIKA-East developed new district profiles for Andar, Khoshi, and Khwaja Umari Districts and updated the profiles for Baraki Barak, Dih Yak, Mohammad Agha, and Saydabad. At the end of the reporting period, district profiles for Jaghatu and Qarabagh being finalized. With this, SIKA-East has collected essential information for 19 of the 21 districts. Ten profiles remain to be completed by the end of November. These district profiles help SIKA-East and its government partners to better understand the dynamic in a district in terms of its social, political, and economic situation.

District Project Portfolios In August, the DPPs for Andar and Zurmat were approved, bringing the total of approved DPPs to eight. At the end of the quarter, the DPPs for Khoshi, Khwaja Umari, and Laja Ahmad Khail, together with accompanying narratives, were readied for submittal to USAID. The DPPs for Gurbuz, Jaji Maidan, Tani, and Laja Mangal were endorsed by respective DDA+s, District Governors, and PRRD Directors and were poised for narrative development and submittal to USAID in the next quarter. In total, DDAs have created 16 DPPs since the beginning of the program. These are undergoing endorsement, review, approval, and implementation phases.

DDA+ Communication Committees During the quarter, men's and women's communication committees from ten districts in all five provinces held both separate and joint meetings to develop agendas and communication strategies and learn how to communicate their problems and concerns with local government authorities. During this reporting period, seven strategic communications plans that had been developed by these committees were in various stages of implementation. An additional number were being developed.

Service Provider Fairs SIKA-East continued working on logistical arrangements for SPFs in the provinces. Delays in the USAID vetting process caused postponement of the SPFs originally scheduled for late September in Maydan Wardak and Khost. The Maydan Wardak SPF is now scheduled for October 29-30, and the Khost event for October 22-23.

To assess the first round of SPFs in Maydan Wardak, Logar, Paktya, and Ghazni, SIKA-East conducted an overall post-fair evaluation targeting both service providers and SPFs visitors. The interviewees were generally satisfied with the SPFs. For instance, the Alkozai group of companies reported an increase in sales and plans to hire more staff to accommodate it. Almadina Honey Co. is expecting support from some companies they met at a fair.

Sub-coordination Meetings Throughout the quarter, members of DDAs and CDCs in most districts where SIKA-East is active had the chance to discuss their issues and share their concerns about DPP projects with service providers in a series of sub-coordination meetings. During the meetings, groups of community members from the districts visited the offices of government service providers – including the Departments of Agriculture, Education, Health, Women's Affairs, Counter Narcotics, Public Works, and Rural Rehabilitation and Development – to identify gaps in service delivery and lobby for the implementation of projects that address sources of instability.

NEW TRANSITION INITIATIVES

In support of the transition leading toward stronger GIRA-led stabilization planning processes and thereby enhancing the sustainability of the program, in consultation with DDA+s in districts of operation, SIK-East has initiated a series of additional capacity building activities.

Complementing the existent training and grant program, these activities are specifically targeting the institutional strengthening needs of PRRD, IDLG, and district entities to enable them to assume an increasingly more active role in SIK-East and public administrative processes in general, but also prioritize activities to address underlying systemic deficiencies and root causes of instability. Specific activities will help develop the technical expertise of DDA+s to assume functional control over strategic planning and resourcing processes, but also contribute to the establishment and enhancement of communication, networking, and coordination channels, platforms, and processes.

Throughout September, in coordination with DDA+s, SIK-East continued to work on designing and developing new projects aimed at enhancing core skills of governmental institutions and district entities to enable smoother transition of program activities to the government partners. The general funding approach to these activities is two-phased: the initial pilot activity is funded and organized by SIK-East, while subsequent activities under the same category will be funded through grants, with DDA+s and other eligible district entity grantees as applicants. These activities are all projected to start in the first quarter of FY2014, pending USAID approvals.

All activities target specific institutional strengthening needs of the district entities, as well as provincial and district offices of the SIK-East governmental partners. Addressing cross-cutting stabilization themes across districts, this approach helps synchronize the overall programmatic approach to interventions while addressing individual district needs. Those activities which marked significant progress in the reporting period are as follows:

PRRD/IDLG SKILLS ENHANCEMENT THROUGH CAPACITY BUILDING ASSESSMENTS AND CORRESPONDENT PROGRAMS

Government Capacity Assessments and Enhancement Plans In support of the program transitioning to the Afghan government, and focusing on PRRD/IDLG skills enhancement, capacity building assessments will be conducted and correspondent programs will be produced for five PRRD and 21 District Governor Offices (DGOs). In September, SIK-East's selected vendor was submitted to USAID vetting. The assessment is projected to start in November. In-kind capacity enhancement grants will be developed as soon as the capacity development plans are produced. This grant activity is estimated to start in December.

Embedded Advisors Short-term staff will be provided to the five Provincial Departments of Economy (*Department of Economy Advisor*), five Provincial Governors' Offices (PGOs) (*Sectors Services Advisor*), and 21 DGOs (*District Governor Communication Advisor*) to improve functional delivery of resourcing, coordination, and strategic communications services. Scopes of Work for the three positions were drafted. By the end of the reporting period, governmental counterparts in Maydan Wardak and Khost provinces confirmed interest in the activity, while decision was pending in Logar and Paktya, and discussions were undergoing in Ghazni Province.

DDA+ Capacity Assessments and Assistance DDA+s and SIK-East will assess existent DDA+ capacity, identify assistance required, and plan for increased DDA+ responsibility for analysis, management, communication, and coordination activities. As planning and mobilization of resources continued throughout the quarter, this activity is scheduled for implementation in November and December. Capacity enhancement grants will be developed in line with the above assessments in December or later.

DDA+ Provincial Conference To establish and enhance DDA+s, District Governors, and DRRD dialogue and coordination, SIK-East is working on organizing a DDA+ Provincial Conference to bring together sister DDA+s and government authorities at the provincial level to share and broaden local analysis of instability and conflict, and to strengthen DPP ownership and management. The expected participant-identified follow-up activities – such as thematic or technical seminars addressing DPP systemic issues, DDA+ updates for constituents, and leadership field visits to monitor service delivery – will be funded as grants. In September, Maydan Wardak was identified to host the first pilot provincial conference. The organization committee was established, and the conference has been scheduled to take place at the end of October.

Water Management Training for Mirhabs and Conflict Management Workshops Under SIK-East's Category III Grants, this training will supplement the existent training curricula with topics addressing root causes and sources of instability across districts. At the end of the reporting period, SIK-East was working on development of these trainings.

Stabilization Entry Point Development for Women Through in-kind grants, SIK-East will assist DDAs+ to access ongoing activities involving women (i.e., literacy, hygiene awareness) to encourage stabilization activism, working with and through local organizations and networks, including female CDC structures. These grants are envisioned to support thematic trainings, technical activities, and exchanges. In the reporting period, preparatory gender mapping and identification of female role models and potential male allies was in progress.

GOVERNMENT-CITIZEN DIALOGUE AND COORDINATION

SIK-East is assisting DDAs+, DGs, and DRRDs to facilitate local forums (hawzas, community clusters, and through the radio) to consult citizens on interests and concerns, establishing and enhancing two-way communication between local government and their constituents.

Radio Call-in Shows SIK-East will fund radio call-in shows that will also run twice a week for 13 weeks in all five provinces. The interactive call-in shows will highlight themes selected by MRRD, IDLG, and SIK-East in collaboration. Each program will feature a moderator (host), a community leader (i.e. tribal elder, religious leader, women's leader) and a representative of PRRD or another government office. The topics will include education, governmental accountability, gender equality, dispute resolution, and others. Listeners will be able to phone in questions and directly engage with program guests. Through dialogue between panelists and callers, the program is intended to raise Afghan listeners' awareness of the PRRD and IDLG and the work they do for local communities and to give citizens a chance to interact with their government and discuss local concerns. At the end of the reporting period, SIK-East was working on technical arrangements to begin airing in November, pending USAID approval of the vendor.

Bulk Text Messaging In support of outreach capacity building for DDA+s, SIK-East will create a system that allows a joint message from the DG and the DDA+ to be sent to constituents once a week to promote specific programs, raise awareness, or mobilize the audience to, illustratively, participate in local gatherings or in the radio call-in show. Consultations with IDLG and NABDP commenced and technical aspects of this initiative were being developed in September, with an estimated activity start date in November.

Cross-district DDA+ Exchange and Exposure Visits These visits will be organized to help DDA+ members observe activities and share experiences and best practices with their counterparts from other districts or provinces. As activity planning continues, specific exchange events and

exposure will be defined at DDA+ Provincial Conferences in the next quarter. SIKA-East expects at least eight events to take place across the districts.

STABILIZATION COMMUNICATION AND MESSAGING

Radio Plays SIKA-East's six already recorded radio plays provide a vehicle for starting discussion on six key root causes of instability that trend across districts. The plays initially aired last spring/summer in Maydan Wardak, Logar, and Ghazni. After a positive audience response, SIKA-East, together with DDAs, decided to move forward with a second round, expanding into additional provinces – namely, Khost and Paktya – beyond the original Maydan Wardak, Logar, and Ghazni broadcasts. DDA+ members will be encouraged to distribute broadcast schedules and hold local community gatherings to listen to the plays and then open a discussion on the topics covered. The radio plays will begin broadcasting in November, pending USAID approval of the vendor.

Messaging and DDA+ Print Media SIKA-East's recently developed stability-related messaging list, produced in support of a comprehensive stabilization communications strategy on the district level, underwent review by multiple stakeholders during September. The messages, aimed for the general population on behalf of DDA+s, directly track the topics of the radio plays and will be used in printed brochures. While SIKA-East provided the templates, the DDA+ communications committees will develop the text and the design. The brochures will be distributed to district partners to disseminate amongst their local communities during the airing of the radio plays. The brochures are expected to be approved by PRRD and District and Provincial Governors in early October and printed by the end of the month.

District Information Centers SIKA-East is working together with MRRD's National Area Based Development Program (NABDP) on establishing or expanding existing DICs in all 21 districts in November, pending USAID approval for this new grant initiative. SIKA-East will provide equipment, such as computers, printers, software, and supplies, technical support and capacity building in messaging, communication, and graphic design for DDA+ communications committees. The goal of the DIC activity is to assist DDA+s to implement more consistent communication with local communities regarding the work the Afghan government is doing on their behalf. The DICs will support efforts to increase regular and substantive conversations between local government and the community it represents. In the reporting period, SIKA-East was working on defining the implementation mechanism and format for this activity, to be aligned with NABDP's vision for the DICs.

SERVICE PROVIDER COMPETENCIES

Technical Training SIKA-East launched a new Service Provider Competencies Technical Training component in the reporting period. In response to identified capacity needs, SIKA-East, together with PRRD and public/private institutions, started preparing trainings for engineers and technicians on fundamentals of field engineering and construction management, including field measurement, reading/creating technical drawings, project feasibility, environmental compliance, quality assurance/control, and operations and maintenance. Three courses were outlined and marked progress toward implementation in the reporting period:

- **Infrastructure Project Planning Process** two-day training: 41 participants were selected from ten districts of Maydan Wardak, Logar, and Paktya Provinces.
- **Infrastructure Project Implementation** two-day training: 19 PRRD/DRRD officials have been identified for this training. From the total 54 participants from Maydan Wardak Province, 17 are female.

- **Infrastructure Operation and Maintenance Support** one-day training: this will provide vocational training to youth that can support operations and maintenance of ongoing/planned infrastructure or engineering projects (road maintenance, generator repair, canal refurbishment, solar panel repair, etc.). This activity will start in October.

Grant-writing and Management The first three-day training for men started on September 29 for 22 participants from three provinces: Logar, Maydan Wardak, and Paktya. The target is to train 250 male and 200 female participants from 21 districts, including DDA+s, PRRD, IDLG, and local NGOs. The women’s training will start in November. This capacity building activity was launched to enable DDA+s’ support to CDCs with instruction on donor research as well as typical expectations, responsibilities, and templates for budgeting, managing, monitoring, reporting, and similar grant-related tasks. SIKA-East will also support female DDA+ members and DoWA officials to adapt these courses for female-led NGOs and interest groups.

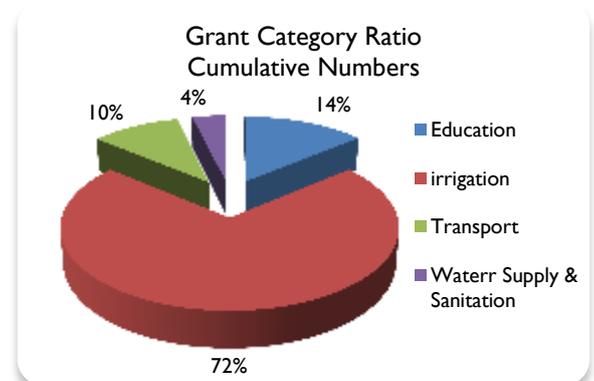
Woman-owned Business Technical Assistance Two themes are being considered and under development for this capacity building program: (i) business development and networking events, and (ii) training workshops on marketing skills. Preparatory discussions were in progress at the end of September. In the next reporting period, MRRD’s Afghanistan Rural Enterprise Development Program (AREDP) will also be consulted to define the exact format of the activity estimated to start in December.

GRANTS

Grant Status During the quarter, SIKA-East assisted local entities to submit 60 new grant applications with a total value of \$2,920,826. Fifty-five of the 60 grant applications were submitted to USAID for approval, after receiving GRC endorsement by this joint PRRD – SIKA-East body. In the reporting period, 38 new grants valued at \$1,693,010 were awarded. The first six SIKA-East grants were completed: two projects worth \$93,593 were finished in Mohammad Agha District, and four projects, worth \$85,088, were completed in Saydabad District. The completed grants are now in the mandatory three-month monitoring period, after which they will be closed.

Since the beginning of its operations, SIKA-East has received 129 grant applications from district entities in Saydabad, Mohammad Agha, Nirkh, Dih Yak, Chaki Wardak, Andar, Baraki Barak, Zurmat, Zadran, Tani, and Khoshi. Additionally, 113 grant projects are being developed to account for the same number of new grant applications. From the received applications, 120 have been endorsed and approved by GRCs, and subsequently 109 of these have received USAID approval.

Most of these grants fall under four infrastructure categories: irrigation, education, transport, and water supply and sanitation. Illustratively, the communities, who provide 10% of the total grant value in kind, advocate for *karez* rehabilitation and extension, school boundary wall construction, flood protection wall construction and rehabilitation, road gravelling and construction, canal and culvert construction and rehabilitation, well boring, hand pump installation, and similar projects. In the reporting period, five grants were awarded for school boundary walls construction under education, 26 grants for irrigation projects, five under transport, and one under water supply and sanitation. The pie chart to the right depicts the category ratio of all awarded grants since the beginning of the program.



The program has thus far awarded a total of 79 grants with a value of \$3,422,395, inclusive of the six completed projects. With the grant resources imbued in the communities, these grants provide 126,279 individual work days, advancing local job opportunities. Please refer to *Appendix A* for a quantitative grant status overview.

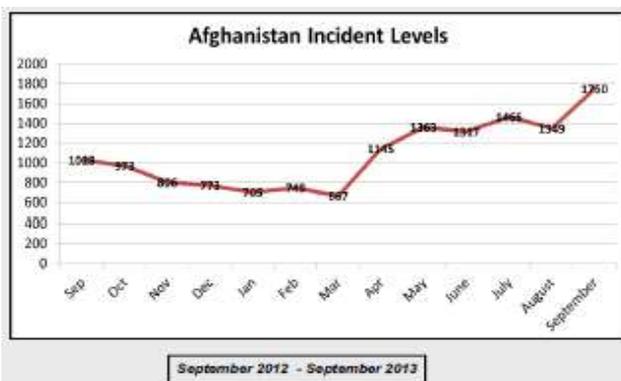
Engineering Design Packages During the reporting period, SIKA-East completed the designs for 42 projects in seven districts of Ghazni, Logar, Maydan Wardak, and Paktya Provinces. So far, the designs of 124 projects, with a total value of \$6,281,433, have been completed, while the designs for 32 other projects are under way. Please refer to *Appendix A* for a quantitative overview of engineering design status.

Milestone Payments Payments were executed for the completion of first, second, and third milestones for 53 grantees from Andar, Baraki Barak, Chaki Wardak, Dih Yak, Mohammad Agha, Nirkh, and Saydabad. The total value of the quarterly payments was \$524,299.

Grant Management Training Thirteen CDCs from Andar, Baraki Barak, Chaki Wardak, Dih Yak, and Nirkh Districts successfully completed Grant Management Award training and started implementing projects with a total value of \$782,772. This training enables the grantees to responsibly manage not only SIKA-East-funded grants, but also other future projects.

Grant Review Committees Between July 1 and September 30, GRCs approved 61 projects in Andar, Baraki Barak, Chaki Wardak, Dih Yak, Khoshi, Mohammad Agha, Nirkh, Saydabad, Tani, Zadran, and Zurmat Districts, with a total value of \$3,135,611. The involvement of PRRDs in the grant award and implementation process through this joint body encourages greater ownership by SIKA-East’s governmental counterparts. In the same spirit, PRRD representatives are regularly present at inauguration ceremonies organized by the grantees at the grant activity completion.

Non-infrastructure Projects In September, USAID approved four non-infrastructure grant applications for trainings – in tailoring, embroidery, poultry raising, and fruit and vegetable processing – for women from Baraki Barak District. An additional 13 vocational training courses were being prepared, covering topics such as tailoring and embroidery, fruit and vegetable processing, orchard management, and animal health and hygiene – for women and men from Saydabad, Baraki Barak, and Zurmat Districts. These trainings will address community requests identified in approved DPPs and additionally seek to create longer-term market opportunities for men and women from the districts. SIKA-East is closely coordinating with MRRD’s NABDP, National Solidarity Program (NSP), and AREDP to create the necessary linkages with the existing government initiatives and ensure greater sustainability of these efforts. RFPs to conduct the original four trainings for Baraki Barak are expected to be issued and proposals received in October.



OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Security Situation The greatest operational challenge to SIKA-East during the quarter continued to be the worsening security situation in the provinces, especially in Maydan Wardak. The incident chart to the right shows a significant and steady increase in violence in the country since March 2013, slowing down mildly only in August – most likely due to the holy month of Ramadan. The southern and the southeastern region show the highest level of incidents. A high-to-extreme

level of risk of threats, IEDs, small arms fire, and mortar fire continued without a change throughout the quarter. Abduction, crime, and road traffic accidents remained at moderate-to-high levels.

SIKA-East Launched in Jaghatu, Qarabagh, Jalrez, and Ahmad Abad Districts



SIKA-East launch in Jaghatu and Qarabagh Districts: the Ghazni Deputy Provincial Governor, Mohammad Ali Ahmadi, introduced the program to 60 people attending the event on September 1.



SIKA-East launch meeting in Jalrez District of Maydan Wardak Province, September 1: female DDA members also attended.



Paktya PRRD Director, Eng. Abdul Rahman Rahmani, explained SIKA-East to attendants of the Ahmad Abad program launch.

SIKA-East Related Incidents During the quarter, SIKA-East recorded 22 incidents directly related to the program, partners, beneficiaries, and area of operation. One SIKA-East staff member was abducted by insurgents in Khwaja Umari District and released several days later through community-led negotiations. Another was subject to an abduction attempt in Saydabad District. A CDC head, also a SIKA-East grantee, was also abducted and released at a later date. However, the head of the Dih Yak DDA and Shetam CDC was killed by a roadside bomb while traveling between his home and the district center.

Eight attacks were recorded in Khwaja Umari, Mohammad Agha, Baraki Barak, Maydan Shahr, and Laja Mangal during the quarter – mainly at district centers where program staff are collocated with governmental officials. SIKA-East suffered no direct loss of life and only light damage to property. Armed clashes between the Afghan National Army and the insurgents in Zurmat and Saydabad disrupted travel to offices or to project sites. A Taliban checkpoint on the road between Nirkh and Maydan Shahr continued to present a significant problem for SIKA-East’s daily activities in Nirkh District. Additionally, the Taliban repeated their demand that tribal elders tell the villagers to leave their jobs with the government. In addition, four cases of personal threat, by letter or phone, were reported by program staff during the quarter. More details on the incidents affecting the SIKA-East operational environment are available in the Appendices.

SIGNIFICANT PROVINCIAL ACTIVITIES

During the quarter, PRRD Directors and SIKA-East in all five target provinces met regularly to discuss stabilization progress, challenges, and plans and to coordinate upcoming activities with government entities. Program activities are summarized on a province-by-province basis below.

Ghazni Province

SIKA-East operates in five districts of Ghazni Province: Andar, Dih Yak, Khwaja Umari, and – as of September 1 – Jaghatu and Qarabagh Districts. The Jaghatu and Qarabagh launch meeting was attended by the PRRD Director, high government officials, and representatives of line departments, as well as community elders, tribal leaders, and other citizens.

Leading up to the launch, the program completed a survey of key hawza- and district-level members of the DDAs, as well as other stakeholders, for Jaghatu and Qarabagh. Within days of the opening ceremony, PRRD and SIKA-East trainers began conducting capacity building programs in stabilization analysis and planning and outreach-related subjects.

With the SIKA-East capacity building program rolling out in the newly opened Jaghatu and Qarabagh Districts, overall during the quarter, 29 training sessions took place across Ghazni, with 750 men and 269 women from various DDA+s and CDCs taking part.

Also during the reporting period, the grant program got under way in Dih Yak in July and in Andar in September. Grants for 11 new projects, worth \$480,293, were awarded for implementation in the two districts. The program made 15 milestone payments, totaling \$124,965, to the CDCs implementing the projects.

- USAID approved the Andar DPP in early August, and the PRRD Director and District Governor endorsed the Khwaja Umari DPP in September. The Khwaja Umari DPP will be submitted to USAID for approval in early October.
- Towards the end of the quarter, the DDA+ redesigned two DPP projects previously rejected by the local CDCs in Khwaja Umari. Both the Bene Sang Village and Tormay Village diversion dam projects have been changed to protection walls in response to community requests.
- Grants Management Implementation training was conducted for members of six CDCs that have been awarded grants. The participants learned about community capacities, ways to manage their project expenses, the implementation process, reporting, and purchasing rules and regulations. During the training, CDC members developed a work plan for grant project implementation.
- The Andar District Governor and the DDA+ signed the supporting documents for their grant application for local broadcasting of SIKA-East prerecorded radio plays.
- With SIKA-East assistance, two Dih Yak CDCs, the Tanfer CDC and the Ramak CDC, which is extending the Zagone karez, conducted a cross-visit to inspect each others' projects in order to learn about different construction techniques that they may need to employ in future.

Khost Province

SIKA-East now has a presence in four districts of Khost Province: Gurbuz, Jaji Maidan, Mando Zayi, and Tani. At the end of September, preparations were under way for the opening of a SIKA-East office in Mando Zayi and the planned launch of SIKA-East in the district on October 1.

Following the launch of SIKA-East in the districts of Gurbuz, Jaji Maidan, and Tani at the end of June, 37 trainings took place in the three districts during the reporting period. A total of 1,400 men and 480 women attended the trainings.

The DPPs for Gurbuz, Tani, and Jaji Maidan were endorsed by the respective DDA+, District Governor, and PRRD Director. They were being finalized at the end of the reporting period and will be submitted to USAID in early October. Grants will start being awarded once the district DPPs are formulated and approved by USAID.

- On August 26, a resource coordination meeting was held in the Provincial Governor's guesthouse. Besides many service providers, it was attended by the Provincial Governor, the PRRD Director, and line department directors, as well as representatives from the DDAs, DCCs, and CDCs from Khost's Gurbuz, Tani, and Jaji Maidan Districts. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the three districts' DPPs to the community and line directors of the province and to acquaint the district entities with the attending service providers, their service types, and procedures for accessing their services. Over 130 people attended the event.
- In preparation for the Khost Service Providers Fair, postponed until October 22-23 due to a delay in receiving USAID vetting approval, the Khost Service Providers Catalogue (SPC) is undergoing a final review. A total of 85 key service providers have been included.

- The District Governor of Mando Zayi, with SIKA-East's participation, hosted a meeting attended by tribal elders, the head of the DDA, and district community development workers. The meeting nominated 40 elders and religious scholars to conduct a survey of influential stakeholders in the district, which will lead to the formation of the DDA+ in the next quarter.

Logar Province

In Logar province, SIKA-East operates in three districts: Baraki Barak, Khoshi, and Mohammad Agha. In the course of the month, a total of 23 capacity building sessions were attended by 554 men and 302 women.

The SIKA-East grants program is operational in Baraki Barak and Mohammad Agha Districts. The first five grants, valued at \$269,597, were awarded to Baraki Barak entities. In addition, four grant applications, worth \$468,447, were approved by USAID in September for non-infrastructure projects. The grants cover embroidery, tailoring, and poultry training, plus support for vegetable and fruit processing projects. Trainings are estimated to begin in November.

In Mohammad Agha, the grant program did not award any new grants in the reporting period. Nevertheless, the district is leading in the number of awarded grant projects in SIKA-East's area of operation: 22 grants in total, with a value of \$1,025,875, of which two are now completed.

The grant program will roll out in Khoshi District once the DPP is approved by USAID in the next quarter.

- Local elders in Mohammad Agha District have voiced concerns about the allegedly unequal choice of projects across hawzas, about project quality, and about the transparency of the selection process. The PRRD Director has also expressed concerns about project costs in the Mohammad Agha DPP. As a result, PRRD, the Provincial Governor's Office, and SIKA-East have formed a committee to conduct an investigation, making site visits and interviewing DDA members. The committee's report was under review at the end of the reporting period. Management action will follow after the report findings are conclusive. In the meantime, grants and capacity building programs continue.
- The first two grant projects were completed in Mohammad Agha District: the Bahadurkhil and the Rasool Khil karez extension activities, valued at \$85,088 in total. An estimated 2,760 people, more than half of whom are women, will benefit from the improved irrigation systems.

Gender Meeting in Gardiz



Paktya is one of the most conservative provinces in southeastern Afghanistan, and it has been difficult to get women from the area involved in the program. During the last quarter, SIKA-East worked hard to change that.

SIKA-East held meetings with the head of the Paktya provincial council to discuss the unavailability of women in Zurmat and Zadran Districts, with the District Governors of Laja Mangal and Laja Ahmad Khail, and with the heads of women's organizations to solicit their help.

The program also helped in the organization of a major meeting in Gardiz, the capital of Paktya Province, to discuss the involvement of women from Laja Ahmad Khail and Laja Mangal in the program. The participants, who numbered 30, agreed to prepare a list of prominent women from the districts and present it to SIKA-East.

In the end, it was the most recently launched district program, the one in Paktya's Ahmad Abad District, that attracted the first women in the province: fifteen of them attended SIKA-East's three-day workshop on Stakeholder Orientation and Governance Foundation in September.

- The Baraki Barak DDA+ communication plan was being finalized at the end of the quarter, with SIKA-East technical support. Implementation is scheduled to begin in late October.
- Consultations were held with Khoshi DDA and CDC members to gather their opinion on first aid training and to develop a concept note on the subject, as part of the SIKA-East new capacity building and transition initiatives.

Maydan Wardak Province

SIKA-East now operates in four districts in Maydan Wardak province: Chaki Wardak, Jalrez, Nirkh, and Saydabad. On September 1, SIKA-East was officially launched in Jalrez District. Those attending the launch meeting held in Maydan Shahr included a representative of the Provincial Governor, the PRRD Deputy Director, the head of the Provincial Council, and other government officials, as well as members of the Jalrez DDA and CDCs and several influential women from the district. Over 90 people participated in the Jalrez launch.

Despite the worsening security situation in Maydan Wardak Province, the program continued implementation, with some interruptions caused by indirect attacks on the SIKA-East premises as well as insurgent roadblocks delaying travel in Chaki Wardak, Saydabad, and Nirkh Districts. Maydan Wardak staff were given additional security training and briefing on security threats and given specific directions about security and communication approaches.

The capacity building program started in Jalrez District and continued across the province with a total of 17 training sessions held for 275 male and 159 female participants across the districts.

The grant program was launched in Chaki Wardak District during the quarter. In total, SIKA-East has awarded 41 grants to the province with a cumulative value of \$1,646,631.

- In September, four CDCs in Saydabad completed grant projects valued at \$93,593. These included the Sheekh Azam and Zarsanga well boring and hand pump installation, the Srakala Markazi canal rehabilitation and culvert construction, and the Baddee Kheil karez rehabilitation. Some 5,600 individuals are estimated to benefit from the four projects.

Paktya Province

On September 22, SIKA-East was launched in Ahmad Abad District, the twentieth district to see SIKA-East introduced. Attending the launch meeting were the District Governor, the PRRD Director, and other government officials, as well as community elders, tribal leaders, and other stakeholders with an

SIKA-East Completes Its First Grant Projects



The rehabilitated Srakala Markazi canal and road in Saydabad District, Maydan Wardak Province, one of six SIKA-East grant projects to be completed in September.



Inauguration ceremony to celebrate completion of the Bahadurkheil karez extension in Mohammad Agha District, Logar Province. Attending the ceremony were PRRD representatives, DDA/CDC members, religious elders, and representatives of youth association and civil society organizations. The Bahadurkheil karez is located in a mountainous area, where most of the people are farmers and herdsmen, who will benefit greatly from the karez.

interest in the district's stability and development. About 130 people participated.

SIKA-East now operates in five districts of Paktya Province: Ahmad Abad, Laja Ahmad Khail, Laja Mangal, Zadran, and Zurmat. Capacity building programs are scheduled to start in Ahmad Abad District in the following quarter. Grants are also awaiting DPP approval for four out of the five districts, with Zurmat grants already scheduled to start in November.

The province recorded 18 capacity building sessions during the quarter, with 841 men and no women from the districts attending.

- The Zurmat DPP was approved by USAID at the end of August, enabling the program to start preparing for grants rollout.
- SIKA-East has been challenged in its attempt to mobilize women to participate in its capacity building programs in all Paktya districts, reportedly due to the security situation and cultural barriers. A series of high-profile, large-scale meetings with governmental, NGO, and community representatives was held to elicit a higher involvement of women from the area.
- To resolve the traditional inter-tribal hostility between the Garda Serai tribes in the sub-district of Zadran, and the Western Zadran tribes, SIKA-East is working with two DDA+s, one for each area, to roll out capacity building programs. These will be reported jointly.

PROGRAM-WIDE NEXT STEPS

- Launch SIKA-East in Mando Zayi district, Khost province in October;
- Conduct Service Provider Fairs in Maydan Wardak and Khost;
- Finalize and obtain approval for DPPs of Tani, Jaji Maidan, Jalrez, Zadran–Garda Serai, Jaghatu, Qarabagh, and Mando Zayi;
- Launch new capacity building transition initiatives;
- Accelerate development of grant applications, working with DDAs+, CDCs, and PMCs in cooperation with PRRD and IDLG representatives in new SIKA-East active districts; and
- Complete new Environmental Review Form and Environmental Review Report for infrastructure projects per USAID requirements.

CROSS-CUTTING ACTIVITIES

MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E)

M&E Field Activities During the reporting period, M&E conducted 144 site monitoring visits for all four milestones of grant projects. Fifty-four of the site visits took place in Mohammad Agha District, 43 in Saydabad, 21 in Nirkh, 12 in Chaki Wardak, eight in Dih Yak, five in Baraki Barak, and one in Andar. Although most site visits showed positive results, a few minor deficiencies were recorded by SIKA-East, followed by a satisfactory remedial response by the grantees.

Focus Group Survey SIKA-EAST awarded a contract to RSI to conduct a focus group survey of the 12 remaining districts, namely, Khwaja Umari, Khoshi, Laja Ahmad Khail, Laja Mangal, Gurbuz, Jaji Maydan, Tani, Jaghatu, Qarabagh, Jalrez, Ahmad Abad, and Mando Zayi. Implementation will start in the second half of October after the Eid al-Adha holidays, and the survey will be completed by the end of the calendar year.

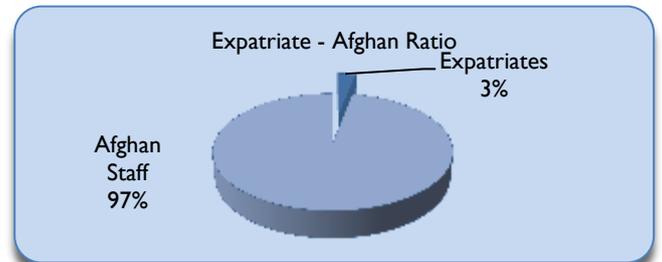
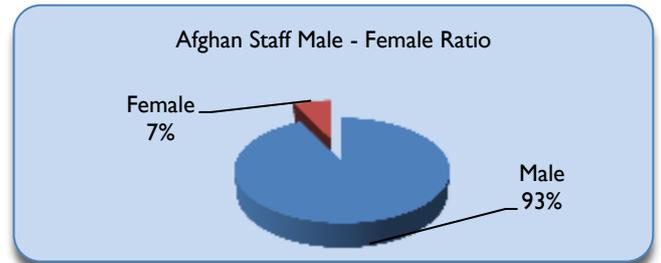
HUMAN RESOURCES

SIKA-East is currently implemented by 564 staff members in total, of whom 547, or 97%, are Afghan nationals.

Sixty-three percent of the Afghan nationals are based in the five provinces and 21 districts where SIKA-East

operates. Twelve percent of the Afghan nationals are in senior management positions. Seven percent of the Afghan employees are women.

In the next reporting period, SIKA-East will continue recruitment of an additional 130 staff members envisioned to implement the program in its area of operation.





APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: SIKA-EAST GRANTS AND ENGINEERING

SIKA-East Grants Pipeline (Cumulative through September 30, 2013)

Province	District	Under Development	Applications Received		Vetting Pending	Vetting Approved	GRC Approved	Approval Requested	Approval Received		Grants Awarded		Grants Completed	
			No.	\$ Value					No.	\$ Value	No.	\$ Value	No.	\$ Value
Ghazni	Andar	19	5	\$340,801	4	4	4	5	5	\$340,801	2	\$127,806	0	\$0
	Dih Yak	10	11	\$495,880	4	8	11	11	10	\$419,669	9	\$352,487	0	\$0
Khost	Tani	0	1	\$42,824	1	0	1	1	1	\$42,824	0	\$0	0	\$0
Logar	Baraki Barak	17	18	\$954,418	3	15	16	15	14	\$743,535	5	\$269,597	0	\$0
	Khoshi	0	1	\$42,824	1	0	1	1	1	\$42,824	0	\$0	0	\$0
	Moh. Agha	20	23	\$1,110,264	1	24	22	22	22	\$1,025,875	20	\$940,787	2	\$93,593
Maydan Wardak	Chaki Wardak	7	15	\$679,479	6	7	15	13	12	\$574,041	8	\$352,358	0	\$0
	Nirakh	14	20	\$1,131,149	0	20	18	16	13	\$784,302	12	\$666,999	0	\$0
	Saydabad	0	29	\$945,703	0	11	26	23	23	\$690,432	17	\$533,680	4	\$85,088
Paktya	Zadran	10	2	\$82,015	2	0	2	1	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
	Zurmat	16	4	\$171,284	2	0	4	1	1	\$51,284	0	\$0	0	\$0
Totals		113	129	\$5,996,641	24	89	120	109	102	\$4,715,587	73	\$3,243,714	6	\$178,681

SIKA-East Engineering Design Packages (Cumulative through September 30, 2013)

Engineering Designs		Number of Designs		Projects Completion Status	
Province	District	In Progress	Completed	In Progress	Completed
Maydan Wardak	Saydabad	4	30	\$89,700	\$826,941
	Nirakh	0	19	\$0	\$1,115,264
	Chaki Wardak	1	15	\$37,185	\$808,256
Logar	Mohammad Agha	6	25	\$374,111	\$1,406,845
	Baraki Barak	7	18	\$182,893	\$1,104,817
	Khoshi	0	0	\$0	\$0
Ghazni	Dih Yak	1	12	\$0	\$602,434
	Andar	4	4	\$204,006	\$331,285
	Khawaja Umari	0	0	\$0	\$0
Paktya	Zadran	3	1	\$449,604	\$85,592
	Zurmat	3	0	\$292,810	\$0
	Laja Ahmad Khail	0	0	\$0	\$0
	Laja Mangal	0	0	\$0	\$0
Khost	Gurbuz	3	0	\$208,698	\$0
	Jaji Maidan	0	0	\$0	\$0
Subtotals		32	124	\$1,839,005	\$6,281,433
Grand Totals		156		\$8,120,439	

APPENDIX B: PROCUREMENT AND GRANTS VETTING

Procurement Vetting Tracker

(for unapproved purchases and purchases approved in Q4 FY 2013)

No	Vetted Company	Description	Final Submission of All Documents to USAID	Acknowledgment by USAID	Vetting Approved by USAID	Days Pending	Remarks
27	Zeenat Aria Ltd.	Home Appliances Kitchenware	6 Jun 13	10 Jun 13	3 Jul 13	23	Approved
28	Ernst & Young Ford Rhodes Sidat Haidar	Tax Advisory Services	6 Jun 13	10 Jun 13	2 Jul 13	26	Approved
29	Ahmad Ilham Ltd	Diesl Fuel for Office Generator	6 Jun 13	10 Jun 13	23 Jun 13	17	Approved
30	Park Star Hotal	Hotal/Hall Booking	6 Jun 13	10 Jun 13	18 Jun 13	12	Approved
31	Hamid Ilyas Ltd	Furniture	6 Jun 13	10 Jun 13		51	
32	Ariana Network Services	Internet Bandwith for Office	6 Jun 13	10 Jun 13	23 Jun 13	13	Approved
32a	Nasar Ali Zaman Razaie Ltd	Cleaning Supplies	12 Jun 13	13 Jun 13	10 Jul 13	27	Approved
33	Clean House Cleaning Service Co.	Emptying of Septic Tank and Garbage	12 Jun 13	13 Jun 13	24 Jul 13	41	Approved
34	Royal Osaka Logistic and Service Co	Groceries for Expats/Engine Oil & Filters for Kabul Office, PMT & DMT Generators	1 Jul 13	2 Jul 13	9 Jul 13	7	Approved
35	Royal Osaka Logistic and Service Co	District Office Generators	3 Jul 13	7 Jul 13	9 Jul 13	6	Approved
36	Afghan Global Ltd	IT Equipment	9 Jul 13	10 Jul 13	3 Aug 13	24	Approved
37	Royal Osaka Logistics and Service Co.	Lease of 294 Samsung Galaxy Smart Phones	23 Jul 13	23 Jul 13	3 Aug 13	11	Approved
38	Ample Logistics Services	Food/Refreshments & Cleaning Supplies for PMT & DMT Offices	6 Aug 13	7 Aug 13		55	
39	Rahman Safi Impact Consultancy	Focus Group	6 Aug 13	7 Aug 13	27 Aug 13	21	Approved
40	Track 24 FZE	Security Track and Risk Management Services	20 Aug 13	27 Aug 13		34	
41	Digit Zone Ltd	Toner and Cartridges	29 Aug 13	5 Sep 13		25	
42	Tal Waddan Group	Service Providers Fair in Maydan Wardak and Khost	29 Aug 13	5 Sep 13		25	
43	Park Star Hotal	Hotal/Hall Booking	15 Sep 13	17 Sep 13		13	
44	Afghan Diamond Logistics Company	Service Providers Fair in Ghazni Province	26 Sep 13			4	
46	Soft Net International	IT Equipment	29 Sep 13			1	

Grants Vetting Tracker

(for unapproved grant applications and applications approved in Q4 FY 2013)

SIKA-East Log No.	Vetted Organization / Project	Documents Received from Grants Department	Initial Submission to USAID	Final Submission of All Documents to USAID	Vetting Approved by USAID	Days Pending	Approved
VAR # G042	Patan Khil CDC, Shash Qala Kariz Extension	26 May 13	26 May 13	28 May 13	2 Jul 13	35	Approved
VAR #G046	Bata CDC, Poultry Farm in Bata Haji Qala Project	9 Jun 13	9 Jun 13	10 Jun 13	24 Jul 13	44	Approved
VAR #G047	Payendi CDC, Bridge Construction Project of Khairowal and Payeni Villages	9 Jun 13	9 Jun 13	10 Jun 13	8 Jul 13	28	Approved
VAR #G048	Abo Khan CDC, Poultry Farm in Mihtar Godali Abo Khan and Bagha	9 Jun 13	9 Jun 13	10 Jun 13	9 Jul 13	29	Approved
VAR #G049	Mash CDC, Repairing and Boundary Wall Construction for Mash Female School	9 Jun 13	9 Jun 13	10 Jun 13	7 Jul 13	27	Approved

VAR #G050	Dih Yak DDA, Digging of 30 Bore Wells in Salimanzi Village	9 Jun 13	9 Jun 13	10 Jun 13	3 Jul 13	23	Approved
VAR #G051	Taimani Badam CDC, Monthain Karez Extension	10 Jun 13	10 Jun 13	11 Jun 13	24 Jul 13	43	Approved
VAR #G052	Lashkar Khil CDC, Construction of Protection Wall in Dehehnew	10 Jun 13	10 Jun 13	11 Jun 13	24 Jul 13	43	Approved
VAR #G053	Alozia Najran CDC, Construction of Protection Wall in Katab Khil Area	10 Jun 13	10 Jun 13	11 Jun 13	9 Jul 13	28	Approved
VAR #G054	Usefkhil CDC, Culverts Construction	11 Jun 13	11 Jun 13	13 Jun 13	9 Jul 13	26	Approved
VAR #G055	Zin Khan Khil CDC, Zin Khan Khil Deep Wells	13 Jun 13	13 Jun 13	16 Jun 13	9 Jul 13	23	Approved
VAR #G056	Loy Kali Dashtak CDC, Karez Extension for Loy Khali Dashtak Dewallgai	13 Jun 13	13 Jun 13	16 Jun 13	10 Jul 13	24	Approved
VAR #G057	Haser Tangi Dashtak CDC, Karez Extension for Haser Tangi Dashtak	13 Jun 13	13 Jun 13	16 Jun 13	10 Jul 13	24	Approved
VAR #G058	Amankhil CDC, Hamzakhil Karez Extension and Amankhil Culverts Construction	16 Jun 13	16 Jun 13	17 Jun 13	10 Jul 13	23	Approved
VAR #G059	Sagay Garge CDC, Dewallgai and Dalil Karez Extension	19 Jun 13	19 Jun 13	20 Jun 3	14 Jul 13	24	Approved
VAR #G060	Akali CDC, Super Passage Construction and Canal Rehabilitation	24 Jun 13	24 Jun 13	17 Jul 13	17 Jul 13	0	Approved
VAR #G061	Deh Kharotee CDC, Deh Kharotee Kurez Rehabilitation	24 Jun 13	24 Jun 13	17 Jul 13	17 Jul 13	0	Approved
VAR #G062	Ganda Cheshma CDC, Ganda Cheshma Karez Extension and Rehabilitation	26 Jun 13	26 Jun 13	27 Jun 13	17 Jul 13	20	Approved
VAR #G063	Tagab Payan CDC, Construction of New Surrounding Wall for Tagab Payan School	26 Jun 13	26 Jun 13	27 Jun 13	17 Jul 13	20	Approved
VAR #G064	Toor Khil CDC, Toor Khil Deep Wall Project	2 Jul 13	2 Jul 13	3 Jul 13	3 Aug 13	31	Approved
VAR #G065	Tara Khil CDC, Building Flood Diversion over Streams (Siphon)	7 Jul 13	7 Jul 13	8 Jul 13	3 Aug 13	26	Approved
VAR #G066	Karimdad Shamli CDC, Boring Wells & Construction of Protection Wall	7 Jul 13	7 Jul 13	8 Jul 13	3 Aug 13	26	Approved
VAR #G067	Shah Mazar CDC, Installation of Top Ring and Apron for Karez Opening	7 Jul 13	7 Jul 13	8 Jul 13	5 Aug 13	22	Approved
VAR #G068	Qala Nazem Kochi CDC, Rehabilitation of Kojal Karez	7 Jul 13	7 Jul 13	8 Jul 13	24 Jul 13	16	Approved
VAR #G069	Lalak Khil CDC, Development of New Surrounding Wall for Lalak Khil School	15 Jul 13	15 Jul 13	16 Jul 13	3 Aug 13	18	Approved
VAR #G070	Shetam CDC, Construction of Protection Wall for Agricultural Land	15 Jul 13	15 Jul 13	16 Jul 13	5 Aug 13	20	Approved
VAR #G071	Miran CDC, Boring of 35 Potable Water Wells	18 Jul 13	18 Jul 13	18 Jul 13	18 Aug 13	31	Approved
VAR #G072	Salih Khil CDC, Construction of Wall	18 Jul 13	18 Jul 13	18 Jul 13	18 Aug 13	31	Approved
VAR #G073	Tasan Payan CDC, Construction of Aqueduct and Protection Wall	18 Jul 13	18 Jul 13	18 Jul 13	18 Aug 13	31	Approved
VAR #G074	Qala Sadeq CDC, Construction of Qala-e-Kohen School Surrounding Wall	30 Jul 13	30 Jul 13	7 Aug 13	8 Sep 13	32	Approved
VAR #G075	Lalak Khil CDC, Deep Wells Project	30 Jul 13	30 Jul 13	7 Aug 13	19 Sep 13	43	Approved
VAR #G076	Abbas Qala CDC, Instalaaation of Top Ring and Apron for Karez	30 Jul 13	30 Jul 13	7 Aug 13	2 Sep 13	26	Approved
VAR #G077	Shetam CDC, Construction of Canal and Pool	6 Aug 13	6 Aug 13	7 Aug 13	21 Aug 13	14	Approved
VAR #G078	Baraki Barak DDA, Tailoring, Embroider, and Poultry Traning	4 Aug 13	4 Aug 13	7 Aug 13	2 Sep 13	26	Approved
VAR #G079	Angorbagh PMC, Karez Extension and Rehabilitation of Reservoir and 12 Existing Wells	4 Aug 13	4 Aug 13	7 Aug 13	15 Sep 13	39	Approved
VAR #G080	Khan Jan Khil CDC, Construction of Dadil Road and Culverts	4 Aug 13	4 Aug 13	7 Aug 13	8 Sep 13	32	Approved
VAR #G081	Dasht-e-Qala Nazeer CDC, Installation of Top Rng and Apron for Karez Opening	12 Aug 13	13 Aug 13	22 Aug 13	22 Sep 13	31	Approved
VAR #G082	Eidkhil CDC, Installation of Top Rng and Apron for Karez Opening	12 Aug 13	13 Aug 13	22 Aug 13	22 Sep 13	31	Approved

VAR #G083	Qala Yousaf CDC, Installation of Top Rng and Apron for Karez Opening	12 Aug 13	13 Aug 13	22 Aug 13	19 Sep 13	28	Approved
VAR #G084	Deh Pak CDC, Road Rehabilitation and Construction of Retaining Wall	12 Aug 13	13 Aug 13	22 Aug 13	19 Sep 13	28	Approved
VAR #G085	Mohammad Khil PMC, Construction of Super Passage	12 Aug 13	13 Aug 13	28 Aug 13	15 Sep 13	18	Approved
VAR #G086	Ibrahim Khil PMC, Construction of Protection Wall	12 Aug 13	13 Aug 13	22 Aug 13	19 Sep 13	28	Approved
VAR #G087	Barghoshon PMC, Construction of School Boundary Wall	12 Aug 13	13 Aug 13	22 Aug 13		48	
VAR #G088	Sarposh PMC, Construction of Nek Paikot School Boundary Wall	12 Aug 13	13 Aug 13	22 Aug 13	19 Sep 13	28	Approved
VAR #G089	Goda PMC, Construction of Protection Wall	14 Aug 13	14 Aug 13	22 Aug 13		47	
VAR #G090	Kanest CDC, Reconstruction of Mullah Mashki Alam High School Boundary Wall	27 Aug 13	27 Aug 13	3 Sep 13		34	
VAR #G091	Abdul Rahim CDC, Graveling of Abdul Rahim Village Road and Construction of Culverts	3 Sep 13	3 Sep 13	12 Sep 13		9	Approved
VAR #G092	Birana PMC, Construction of Birana Shahjoy Stream Intake	10 Sep 13	10 Sep 13	16 Sep 13		14	
VAR #G093	Noor Khil PMC, Protection Wall for Said Stream in Noor Khil Project	10 Sep 13	10 Sep 13	16 Sep 13		14	
VAR #G094	Mangar Khil PMC, Karez Extension, Reservoir Rehabilitation, and Existing Wells Rehabilitation	10 Sep 13	10 Sep 13	16 Sep 13		14	
VAR #G095	Guldan Allah Mohammad Khil CDC, Construction of Protection Wall	10 Sep 13	10 Sep 13	16 Sep 13		14	
VAR #G096	Goddano PMC, Bikh Gul Ghani Dad Chini Pipe Scheme Construction	10 Sep 13	10 Sep 13	16 Sep 13		14	
VAR #G097	Dowa Khola PMC, Dowa Khola Pipe Scheme	12 Sep 13	12 Sep 13	16 Sep 13		14	
VAR #G098	Zurmat DDA, Tailoring Training, University Entry Exam Preparation Course, & Radio Play Projects	12 Sep 13	12 Sep 13	16 Sep 13		14	
VAR #G099	Tani District Development Assembly (DDA), Radio Play Project	22 Sep 13	22 Sep 13	25 Sep 13		5	
VAR #G100	Khushi DDA, Radio Play Project	24 Sep 13	24 Sep 13			0	
VAR #G101	Babyan CDC, Construction of Haroon Karez Opening	29 Sep 13	29 Sep 13			0	
VAR #G102	Andar DDA, Radio Play Project	29 Sep 13	29 Sep 13			0	

APPENDIX C: Incident Report

Security Incidents in SIKA-East Target Districts

Date	Type	Description	Deaths	Injuries
July 1	Rocket attack	A rocket was fired from an unknown location toward the military base in Puli Alam. The rocket did not hit the target but exploded to the south of the SIKA-East DSU office. The incident occurred around 17:00, and no SIKA-East staff were injured.	N/A	N/A
July 4	Small arms, RPG, mortar attack	Insurgents attacked the Zadrán district center, inflicting damage on the SIKA-East office and stock room, but were beaten off by security forces. There were no injuries to staff. This incident constitutes a direct threat against SIKA-East staff in the district and warrants further discussion as to whether program operations should continue from the district center moving forward.	N/A	N/A
July 4	Phone threat	Security investigated the threatening phone calls and letter that have been received since last March by the Puli Alam field finance officer but which he only disclosed on this date. Security is assessing the situation for further action.	N/A	N/A
July 7	Armed clashes between ANA and insurgents	Two incidents in the villages of Neknam and Zawo in Zurmat District of Paktya Province impacted SIKA-East staff movements to areas for project implementation.	N/A	N/A
July 7	Armed clash between ANA and insurgents	This incident in Mali Khail and Hasan Khail Villages in Saydabad District of Maydan Wardak Province affected SIKA-East staff movements to areas for project implementation.	N/A	N/A
July 8	Illegal checkpoint	The Taliban and Hezb-i-Islami party checkpoint on the road between Nirkh and Maydan Shahr is a significant problem for SIKA-East's daily activities in Nirkh District. Additionally, the Taliban repeated their demand that tribal elders tell the villagers to leave their jobs with the government.	N/A	N/A
July 24	Small arms, RPG, mortar attack	Insurgents launched an attack against the Khwaja Umari district compound, which lasted around 30 minutes. While fleeing from the area, the insurgents came upon a SIKA-East community development officer for the district, who was working in a field that insurgents fled through. They abducted him. After communications and follow-up with the district authorities and elders, the SIKA-East staff member was released on July 29.	N/A	N/A
July 25	Mortar attack	Insurgents again attacked the Khwaja Umari district compound, firing five mortar rounds. Two landed near the district building, and the other three in nearby Tormay Village. Nobody was injured in the attack.	N/A	N/A
August 3	Armed attack	Insurgents attacked the Mohammad Agha district center using RPGs and small arms. Insurgents also targeted the balloon over the ISAF base, which was destroyed. No one was killed or injured during the attack.	NA	NA
August 7-11	Theft	During the Eid holiday, burglars broke into the PMU office and stole seven laptops and one digital camera. The unit reported the theft to PRRD and National Directorate of Security (NDS), who have initiated an investigation.	NA	NA
August 14	Taliban checkpoint	A grants training officer in Ghazni's Dih Yak District was travelling to Kohna Deh village for first milestone payment verification documents and was halted by a Taliban checkpoint, where vehicles and persons were being searched. Before his turn came, he hailed a rickshaw and was able to leave the area and return to the district center office. In similar circumstances in future, he was told he should destroy the documents he is carrying, as they can be reproduced at a later date.	NA	NA
August 18	Phone threat	A SIKA-East IT network engineer was told by an unknown caller to stop movements to Logar Province. Investigation is ongoing.	NA	NA
August 18	Written threat	A written threat was posted on a wall of a SIKA-East grant project warning that individuals involved in the project – PRRD and the CDC – should not be or they would be dealt with according to Amerat (Taliban) rules and regulations with no right to recourse.	NA	NA

August 20	Abduction	The head of the Yosufkhail Village CDC was abducted by insurgents following posting of the above threat letter. He was released on August 24 through the efforts of community elders.	NA	NA
August 21	Night letter	A night letter was posted on the door of the head of the CDC in Aslam Khil Village in Saydabad.	NA	NA
August 27	Attempted abduction	The field technician from the Saydabad DSU had traveled to Janjoi Village to monitor three projects. At the site, the head of the CDC invited him to his house for lunch. While they were inside, insurgents surrounded the house and told the CDC head to hand over the engineer to them, but he refused to do so. During the night, the insurgents called the CDC head and threatened him for bringing the SIKA-East engineer to his house.	NA	NA
September 7	Rocket attack	Insurgents fired three rockets at the Baraki Barak district center, which injured three men with the district military forces. There was no damage to district center buildings. According to locals, the attack lasted for 30 minutes and two insurgents were killed.	2	3
September 8	Suicide bombing, attack with heavy and small arms	An insurgent attack on NDS facilities in Maydan Shahr blew out the windows in the SIKA-East guesthouse, killed six attackers and four NDS personnel, and wounded over 100 civilians.	10	100+
September 9	Attack with mortars, heavy and small arms	Insurgents attacked the Khwaja Umari district center with eight mortars, and ANSF responded with heavy and light weapons. The attack did not have any casualties or damage to the District Center/DSU facilities.	0	0
September 14	Attack with heavy and small arms	Approximately 30 insurgents attacked the Laja Mangal district center with heavy and small arms. No one was injured or killed in the incident, and there was no damage to government facilities	0	0
September 28	Roadside IED	The head of the Dih Yak DDA and Shetam CDC was killed by a roadside IED while traveling between his home and the district center.	3	9

APPENDIX D: SIKA-EAST TRAININGS TRACKER

DISTRICT IMPLEMENTATION		I - ORIENT				II - PLAN					III - EXECUTE														IV - EVALUATE & LEARN		TOTAL									
		Stakeholder Orientation - Female	Stakeholder Orientation - Male	Governance Foundation - Female	Governance Foundation - Male	Stability Planning Process - Female	Stability Planning Process - Male	Resource Dialogue & Advocacy - Female	Resource Dialogue & Advocacy - Male	Advocacy - Male	Infrastructure Project Planning	Project Design and Development - Female	Project Design and Development - Male	Grant Process - Female	Grant Process - Male	Grant Management - Female	Grant Management - Male	Grant Management Training Award - Female	Grant Management Training Award - Male	Grant Management Training Implementation - Female	Grant Management Training Implementation - Male	Infrastructure Project Implementation	Lobbying - Female	Lobbying - Male	Fundraising Training Male	Fundraising Training Female	Coalition Building - Female	Coalition Building - Male	Negotiation Strategy - Female	Negotiation Strategy - Male	Lessons Learnt - Female	Lessons Learnt - Male				
		SDU	SDU	SDU	SDU	SAPU	SAPU	COU	COU	SDU	SDU	SDU	GSU	GSU	GSU	GSU									GSU	GSU					MELU	MELU				
PREVIOUS QUARTERS (Dec 2011 to Jun 2013)																																				
Launch Date	District																																			
June 4, 2012	Saydabad					1	1	1	1	1																										
June 11, 2012	Baraki Barak	1				2	2	1		1	1	1	1																							
November 18, 2012	Nirakh			1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1																					
November 25, 2012	Mohammad Agha			1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1																							
December 25, 2012	Dih Yak	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1												1	1										
February 7, 2013	Zadran	1	1		1		1			1	1														1	1										
February 7, 2013	Zurmat		1		1		1	1		1	1																									
February 7, 2013	Chaki Wardak	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1		1																							
February 19, 2013	Andar	1	1	1	1		1			1	1			1																						
May 9, 2013	Khoshi	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1																									
May 9, 2013	Khawaja Umari	1	1	1	1	1	1			1	1																									
June 19, 2013	Laja Ahmad Khail																																			
June 19, 2013	Laja Mangal		1																																	
June 21, 2013	Gurbuz		1			1																														
June 21, 2013	Jaji Maidan																																			
June 21, 2013	Tani																																			
	ACTUAL	7	10	7	9	10	12	8		10	11	6	9	4	7	1	1							3	3								118			
QUARTER JUL-SEP 2013																																				
Launch Date	District																																			
June 4, 2012	Saydabad																2						1		1											
June 11, 2012	Baraki Barak										1					1							1	1	1	1	1	1								
November 18, 2012	Nirakh															1																				
November 25, 2012	Mohammad Agha																							1	1	1	1	1			1	1				
December 25, 2012	Dih Yak										1						2						2													
February 7, 2013	Zadran															1																				
February 7, 2013	Zadran / Garda Serai		1		1																															
February 7, 2013	Zurmat															1																				
February 7, 2013	Chaki Wardak																																			
February 19, 2013	Andar																1							1	1	1	1									
May 9, 2013	Khoshi												1	1	1										1	1	1	1	1	1	1					
May 9, 2013	Khawaja Umari												1	1	1	1									1	1										
June 19, 2013	Laja Ahmad Khail																																			
June 19, 2013	Laja Mangal																																			
June 21, 2013	Gurbuz																																			
June 21, 2013	Jaji Maidan	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1																				
June 21, 2013	Tani	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1																					
September 1, 2013	Jaghatu	1	1	1	1	1	1																													
September 1, 2013	Qarabagh	1	1	1	1	1	1																													
September 1, 2013	Jalriz	1	1	1	1	1																														
September 22, 2013	Ahmad Abad																																			
	ACTUAL	5	6	5	6	6	8	3	5	0	7	2	7	2	9	1	8	0	1	0	0	4	3	5	7	7	3	3	3	3	1	117				

Spreadsheet reflects training activities as of September 30, 2013. SIKA-East inductions and trainings of trainers are not included.

APPENDIX F: GRANTS PIPELINE SUMMARY

Pre-Award Cycle																					
DISTRICT	Grant Applications In Process						USAID Vetting Process						GRC Process			USAID Approval to Award					
	Under Development		Applications Received		Total		Pending with USAID		Approved by USAID		Applications Not Require USAID Vetting		Schedule for GRC	Approved by GRC	App. On-hold or Rejected By GRC	Approval Requested		Approval Received			
Saydabad	0	\$0	29	\$945,703	29	\$945,703	0	\$0	11	\$472,425	11	\$182,636	0	\$0	26	\$865,659	1	23	\$690,432	23	\$690,432
Mohammad Agha	20	\$1,059,440	23	\$1,110,264	43	\$2,169,704	1	\$58,884	24	\$1,266,182	7	\$151,955	0	\$0	22	\$1,025,875	1	22	\$1,025,875	22	\$1,025,875
NirKh	14	\$410,572	20	\$1,131,149	34	\$1,541,721	0	\$0	20	\$104,761	7	\$151,406	0	\$0	18	\$1,029,645	3	16	\$925,304	13	\$784,302
Dih Yak	10	\$224,556	11	\$495,880	21	\$720,436	4	\$197,398	8	\$442,177	11	\$209,303	0	\$0	11	\$495,880	0	11	\$495,880	10	\$419,669
Chaki Wardak	7	\$170,000	15	\$679,479	22	\$849,479	6	\$277,275	7	\$367,316	9	\$156,888	0	\$0	15	\$679,479	0	13	\$590,041	12	\$574,041
Andar	19	\$379,719	5	\$340,801	24	\$720,519	4	\$218,927	4	\$215,098	16	\$204,945	0	\$0	4	\$297,977	0	5	\$340,801	5	\$340,801
Baraki Barak	17	\$434,980	18	\$954,418	35	\$1,389,398	3	\$187,244	15	\$870,406	11	\$229,195	2	\$73,327	16	\$881,091	0	15	\$807,828	14	\$743,535
Zurmat	16	\$1,156,000	4	\$171,284	20	\$1,327,284	2	\$123,284	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	4	\$171,284	0	1	\$51,284	1	\$51,284
Zadran	10	\$161,000	2	\$82,015	12	\$243,015	2	\$82,015	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	2	\$82,015	0	1	\$76,015	0	\$0
Tani	0	\$0	1	\$42,824	1	\$42,824	1	\$42,824	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$42,824	0	1	\$42,824	1	\$42,824
Khoshi	0	\$0	1	\$42,824	1	\$42,824	1	\$42,824	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$42,824	0	1	\$42,824	1	\$42,824
Grand Total	113	\$3,996,266	129	\$5,996,640	242	\$9,992,906	24	\$1,230,674	89	\$3,738,364	72	\$1,286,328	2	\$73,327	120	\$5,614,552	5	109	\$5,089,108	102	\$4,715,587

Post Award Implementation Cycle																
DISTRICT	Award and Implementation						Total	Grant Agreement Types				Activity Type				
	Award/Ongoing		Completed		Closed			FOG	In-Kind		Infrastructure		Non-Infrastructure			
Mohammad Agha	20	\$940,787	2	\$85,088	0	\$0	22	\$1,025,875	22	\$1,025,875	0	\$0	22	\$1,025,875	0	\$0
Saydabad	17	\$533,680	4	\$93,593	0	\$0	21	\$627,274	21	\$627,274	0	\$0	21	\$627,274	0	\$0
NirKh	12	\$666,999	0	\$0	0	\$0	12	\$666,999	12	\$666,999	0	\$0	12	\$666,999	0	\$0
Dih Yak	9	\$352,487	0	\$0	0	\$0	9	\$352,487	9	\$352,487	0	\$0	9	\$352,487	0	\$0
Chaki Wardak	8	\$352,358	0	\$0	0	\$0	8	\$352,358	8	\$352,358	0	\$0	8	\$352,358	0	\$0
Andar	2	\$127,806	0	\$0	0	\$0	2	\$127,806	2	\$127,806	0	\$0	2	\$127,806	0	\$0
Baraki Barak	5	\$269,597	0	\$0	0	\$0	5	\$269,597	5	\$269,597	0	\$0	5	\$269,597	0	\$0
							0	\$0								
Grand Total	73	\$3,243,714	6	\$178,681	0	\$0	79	\$3,422,395	79	\$3,422,395	0	\$0	79	\$3,422,395	0	\$0

DISTRICT	Payments									
	1st Milestone		2nd Milestone		3rd Milestone		4th Milestone		Total	
Mohammad Agha	22	\$218,421	22	\$286,242	9	\$101,601	2	\$11,509	55	\$617,774
Saydabad	21	\$123,528	12	\$93,074	7	\$50,524	4	\$13,686	44	\$280,811
NirKh	12	\$123,589	10	\$180,524	4	\$78,176	0	\$0	26	\$382,289
Dih Yak	8	\$51,010	4	\$41,134	1	\$5,726	0	\$0	13	\$97,870
Chaki Wardak	4	\$34,885	1	\$13,396	1	\$14,816	0	\$0	6	\$63,098
Andar	2	\$27,095	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	2	\$27,095
Baraki Barak	4	\$41,883	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	4	\$41,883
Grand Total	73	\$620,411	49	\$614,370	22	\$250,843	6	\$25,195	150	\$1,510,819

APPENDIX G: SIKA-EAST PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT PLAN INDICATORS

Indicator	District	FY2013 Q4															
		FY2013 Q4 Total				JULY 2013				AUGUST 2013				SEPTEMBER 2013			
		#	M	F	T	#	M	F	T	#	M	F	T	#	M	F	T
1.1	Number of people and Stabilization work sessions conducted for district entities																
1.3	Number of people participating in Stability Analysis Tool stabilization work sessions																
	Dih Yak	4	80	0	80	2	63		63				0	2	17		17
	Khwaja Umari	6	195	79	274	3	87	31	118	1	56		56	2	52	48	100
	Andar	4	87	19	106				0	3	72	19	91	1	15		15
	Jaghatu	6	177	61	238									6	177	61	238
	Qarabagh	4	102	52	154									4	102	52	154
	Gurbuz	9	280	148	428	3	120	41	161	2	74		74	4	86	107	193
	Jaji Maidan	11	418	135	553	4	191		191	2	112		112	5	115	135	250
	Tani	11	555	68	623	5	321	0	321	2	103		103	4	131	68	199
	Baraki Barak	3	67	0	67								0	3	67		67
	Khoshi	3	105	47	152					1	64		64	2	41	47	88
	Mohammad Agha	1	22	0	22								0	1	22		22
	Chaki Wardak	4	91	33	124	1	30		30	1	61		61	2		33	33
	Saydabad	2	80	0	80	1	37		37	1	43		43				0
	Nirkh	2	40	0	40				0	2	40		40				0
	Jalrez	2	0	48	48				0				0	2		48	48
	Laja Ahamad Khail	6	294	0	294	2	67		67	3	173		173	1	54		54
	Laja Mangal	6	241	0	241	2	60		60	3	138		138	1	43		43
	Zadran (Garda Seri)	3	168	0	168				0	2	114		114	1	54		54
2.5A	Number of Service Provider Catalog training workshops held for District Entities																
2.5B	Number of DE Members trained in using the Service Provider Catalog																
	Due to the inclusion of this training into the evolved DSPP, there no longer were separate trainings to report against these indicators - refer to 1.1 and 1.3.																
3.5A	Number of communication trainings conducted for DEs																
3.5B	Number of DE members trained in communication																
	Dih Yak	2	24	10	34	2	24	10	34				-				-
	Andar	1	33	0	33				-				-	1	33		33
	Gurbuz	2	37	50	87	1		50	50	1	37		37				-
	Jaji Maidan	2	56	45	101				-	1	56		56	1		45	45
	Tani	2	54	34	88				-	1	53		53	1	1	34	35
	Baraki Barak	6	122	91	213				-	4	85	54	139	2	37	37	74
	Khoshi	4	89	87	176				-	2	46	41	87	2	43	46	89
	Mohammad Agha	6	149	77	226				-	4	106	48	154	2	43	29	72
	Chaki Wardak	4	38	56	94				-	3	38	32	70	1		24	24
	Nirkh	2	18	22	40				-				-	2	18	22	40
	Saydabad	1	8	0	8				-				-	1	8		8
	Laja Ahmad Khail	1	55	0	55				-	1	55		55				-
	Laja Mangal	1	47	0	47				-	1	47		47				-
	Zurmat	1	36	0	36				-				-	1	36		36

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SNAPSHOT

Villagers Repair Key Irrigation System

Four villages have joined together to rebuild a traditional network that provided water to the area for centuries



USAID/ SIKAEAST

Hard at work repairing the karez in Arab Kheil village

Ramadan, the Muslim month of fasting, may seem an unlikely time of year to undertake major public works in Afghanistan. But 30 men gather day after day for this crucial repair job

U.S. Agency for International Development
www.usaid.gov

Ramadan, the Muslim month of fasting, may seem an unlikely time of year to undertake major public works in Afghanistan. Many Afghans go from dawn to dusk without any food or drink, or so much as a sip of water. But in Arab Kheil village in Maydan Wardak province, 30 men from four villages gather day after day for a crucial repair job.

They are working on the ancient karez or network of traditional tunnels that are meant to transport underground water into canals. From ancient times, the karez efficiently irrigated fields and provided drinking water. But those in and around Arab Kheil have fallen into disrepair, resulting in a water shortage and many bitter fights among the villages.

Crops withered in the fields and young men started to leave because farming was no longer viable. Many joined the insurgents because they offered money to new recruits.

That was when the elders from four villages formed a shura to formulate the way forward. Rebuilding the karez was identified as a priority. With support from the Afghan Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development and USAID's Stabilization In Key Areas (SIKA-East) program, the villagers started to repair the karez.

First, the elders chose the community workers, carefully picking one from each of the poorest families and an equal number from each participating village. The karez is expected to be repaired before the autumn rains.

Times were hard but now, says an elder, there is a chance that life will get better.

"Once the canals are clean, our women won't have to go far from home each day to fetch water," he said.

"It is about health and about our children," added another.



SNAPSHOT It Took A Wall To Build Better Future

A fence around a village school gave families the confidence to send their children to study



Photo: USAID/SIKA-East

Building the wall that would change prospects for Qala Taj Khan's children

The village built the wall itself – the schoolchildren's fathers, brothers and uncles pitching in to work on the project

U.S. Agency for International Development
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For a village in eastern Afghanistan, it took a wall to start building a better future. The new fence around the school gave families the confidence to send their children to study without worrying about their safety. Till then, they feared they might be kidnapped and sold in neighboring Pakistan. Or that insurgents would try to stop girls from going to school.

The village built the wall itself - the schoolchildren's fathers, brothers and uncles pitching in to work on the project. They were supported by the local authorities and USAID's Stabilization in Key Areas (SIKA) East program.

Qala Taj Khan, in the troubled Mohammad Agha district in Logar province, sees education as the key to a better, more secure future.

A young man says that Kamal Kheil village near by is relatively peaceful "because its young men are employed and educated."

"A growing number of educated people help create stability and hope," says one elder.

"Educated people do not want war," says another, "if people had focused on education before, we wouldn't have to protect our village (in this way) today."

Now, Qala Taj Khan has the chance to build on its dreams.