



STABILITY IN KEY AREAS (SIKA) – EAST

MONTHLY REPORT (JUNE 2013)



Some of the sixty-three booths set up to display goods and services at the Service Providers Fair organized by PRRD and SIKA-East and held on June 3 and 4 in the Gardez Municipal Hall in Paktya. Over a thousand people attended.

June 2013

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STABILITY IN KEY AREAS (SIKA) – EAST

MONTHLY REPORT (JUNE 2013)

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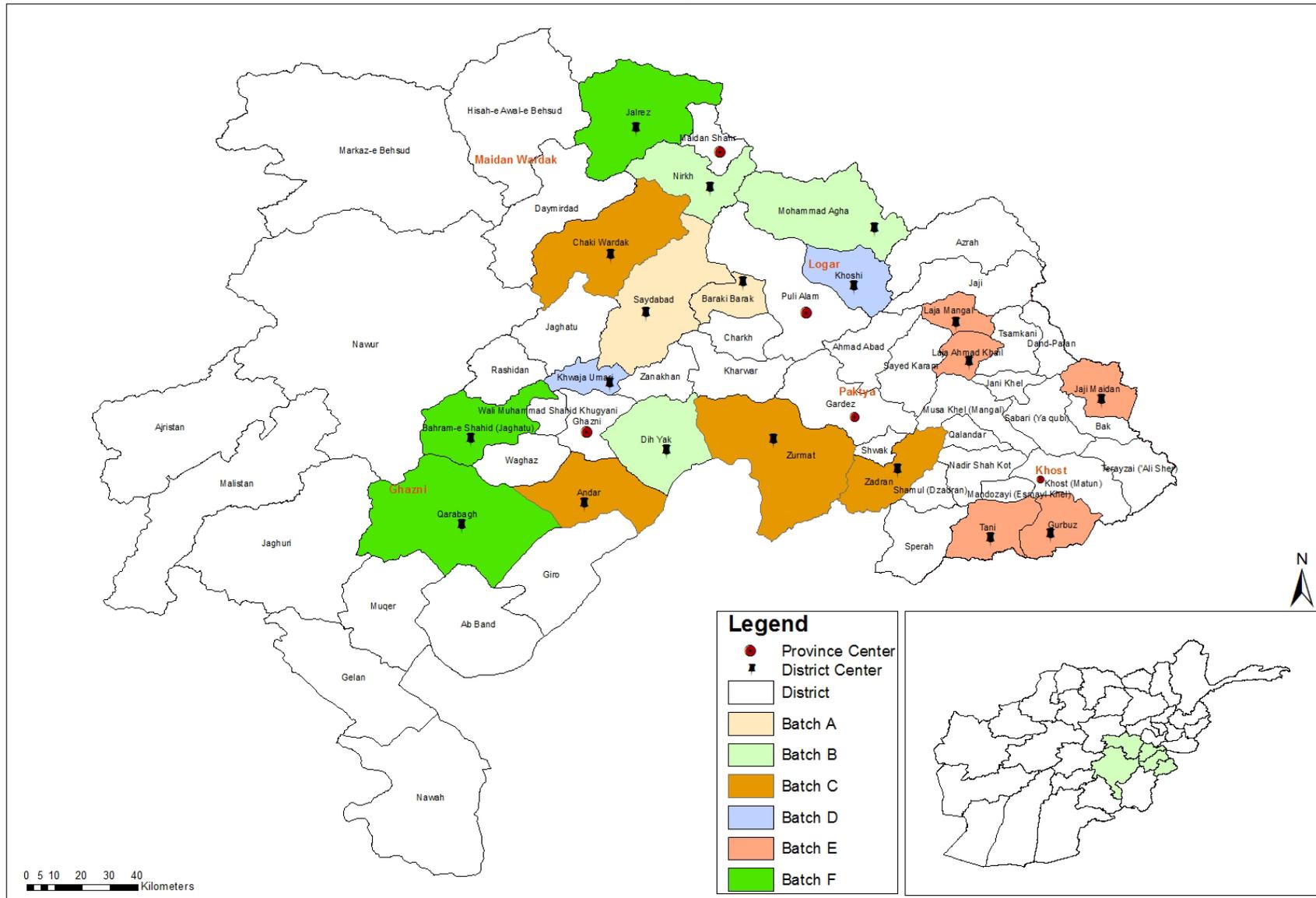
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ACRONYMS

ACSO	Afghan Central Statistics Office
ANSF	Afghan National Security Forces
CDC	Community Development Council
DCC	District Community Council
DDA	District Development Assembly
DoWA	Department of Women's Affairs
DPP	District Project Portfolio
DSU	District Support Unit
FOG	Fixed Obligation Grant
GRC	Grant Review Committee
HR	Human Resource
IDLG	Independent Directorate of Local Governance
IRD	International Relief and Development
MELU	Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Unit
MoI	Ministry of Interior
MRRD	Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
NDS	National Directorate of Security
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NSP	National Solidarity Program
PIRS	Performance Indicator Reference Sheet
PMP	Performance Management Plan
PMU	Provincial Management Unit
PRRD	Provincial Rural Rehabilitation and Development
SCA	Swedish Committee for Afghanistan
SIKA-East	Stability in Key Areas-East
SRA	Security Risk Analysis
STTA	Short-Term Technical Assistance
ToT	Training of Trainers
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

SIKA-EAST DISTRICT IMPLEMENTATION



BACKGROUND

This Stability in Key Areas-East (SIKA-East) monthly report provides a comprehensive picture of program activities during June 2013. The activities are grouped geographically according to the five provinces, plus Kabul, in which SIKA-East is currently active. Program activities during the reporting period are also covered by SIKA-East weekly reports 77 through 81.

This report provides information on objective-based project implementation and on relationships with, and the involvement of, the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD), the Independent Directorate of Local Governance (IDLG), and the Department of Women's Affairs (DoWA) at the provincial and district levels. It also covers training sessions conducted for members of Community Development Councils (CDCs), District Development Assemblies (DDAs), and other stakeholders.

OVERVIEW AND HIGHLIGHTS

On June 15 and 16, the leadership of four SIKAs met with the MRRD and IDLG senior officials for the Nine-month SIKA Review session. The two-day conference, which included representation from the government, USAID, and Implementing Partners (IP), was an opportunity for IPs to update the government partners on the progress in implementation, identify challenges and successes, and propose ways to further strengthen cooperation in the upcoming period. IDLG Director of Programs, Dr Sibghatullah Khan, and Minister of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, Weiss Barmak, noted that all four SIKAs have made significant progress since the signing of the Implementation Letter and outlined their vision for the program and SIKA-GIRoA collaboration in the coming months.

Under the leadership of MRRD and IDLG, SIKA-East made more progress during June than in any other month to date. On June 19, the program was launched in Laja Ahmad Khail and Laja Mangal Districts in Paktya Province. Two days later, SIKA-East was introduced in Gurbuz, Jaji Maidan, and Tani Districts in Khost Province. In Paktya, the Deputy Provincial Governor presided over the launch meeting, which was held in the district center in Laja Ahmad Khail; in Khost, the Provincial Governor headed the meeting in Khost City. Numerous other government officials, tribal and community leaders, DDA and CDC members, and people from the communities participated in the sessions. Approximately 180 people attended the Paktya launch, and 15 the event in Khost. At both launch meetings, Provincial Rural Rehabilitation and Development (PRRD) representatives outlined the goals of SIKA-East and explained how the program will be implemented. They emphasized that its primary goal is to improve the lives of rural people in the district through better service delivery by district authorities.

Two Service Providers Fairs were held this month, one in Paktya and another in Ghazni. The main purpose of the fairs is to bring service providers and the community together to allow the service providers to understand local needs and to inform the community about services available to them.



Eng. Mohammad Osman Mehdi, Khost PRRD Director, welcomes the participants at the launch of SIKA-East.



A service provider's booth at the Paktya fair

The first Service Providers Fair took place on June 3 and 4 in the municipal hall in Gardiz. The chief guest was the Deputy Provincial Governor, who also inaugurated the fair. Sixty-three service providers exhibited their products and resources. Over 1,000 people attended the event.

The second Service Providers Fair was held in Ghazni City on June 16 and 17. The fair was inaugurated by the Ghazni Provincial Governor in the presence of hundreds of people. Seventy booths were booked by service providers, including 20 booths reserved by NGOs and associations for women. Media representatives were invited to cover the event and interviewed many participants.

Following the award of the first 22 SIKA-East grants in May, another 19 were released in June. The value of grants awarded to date is \$1,729,388. During the month, SIKA-East completed first milestone payments for the first ten grantees from Saydabad District and the first ten from Mohammad Agha District, with a total value of \$164,868. Several grantees were quick to mobilize and begin working on their projects.

Meanwhile, PRRD Directors and SIKA-East staff continued to process grant applications and prepare engineering plans for projects identified by members of DDAs and other stakeholders as promoting stabilization. Kabul's engineering group has completed, or is working on, 120 engineering packages to date, with a total value of \$5,836,324.

In June, the District Project Portfolio (DPP) for Chaki Wardak was endorsed by the DDA and DDC, District Governor, PRRD, and governmental line departments.

Accompanied by its narrative, the Chaki Wardak DPP was submitted to USAID for approval on June 25. The Andar DPP has also been endorsed by the DDA, District Governor, PRRD, and line departments. The corresponding narrative is currently being written, and both documents are expected to be submitted to USAID for approval in early July. The DPP for Zadran was submitted to USAID in May, and approval is being awaited. Those for Zurmat, Khoshi, and Khwaja Umari are in various stages of finalization.

Also in June, Ahmad Abad District in Paktya was approved as SIKA-East's 20th district, and the program can begin to be implemented there.

The broadcasting of radio plays in Ghazni, Logar, and Maydan Wardak Provinces was completed this month. The radio plays were designed to foster a district dialogue on sources of instability and resources available to combat them. The dramas, which began to be aired in early May, provided a great opportunity for local citizens and local government at the district level to initiate communication about the role government can play in improving local stability. Next month, the radio plays will be recorded with a Paktya accent for airing in that district.

In June, communication committees in Dih Yak, Mohammad Agha, and Nirk Districts consolidated their already completed work into a comprehensive communication strategy for their individual districts. They incorporated the input of male and female committee members into the documents, as well as the



Ghazni Provincial Governor, Mohammad Musa Khan, at the inauguration of the Service Providers Fair.



Construction is already well under way on the school boundary wall at Qala Taj Khan in Mohammad Agha District.

viewpoints of the District Governor's office. The documents were shared with SIKA-East's Communication and Outreach Unit in Kabul for additional input and technical advice on practical ways of implementing the strategies.

SIKA-East worked together with PRRD, IDLG, DDAs, DCCs, and other key actors to complete the stakeholder mapping process and produce stakeholder registers in the five districts where SIKA-East was launched in June: Laja Ahmad Khail and Laja Mangal Districts of Paktya Province, and Gurbuz, Tani, and Jaji Maidan Districts of Khost Province.

This month, the Ministry of Finance provided a letter for SIKA-East confirming the tax-exempt status of CDCs and DDAs.

MAJOR CHALLENGES AND POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

Baraki Barak District: The longstanding impasse between the Baraki Barak District Governor and DDA seems to have been resolved. During the month, the PMU Manager met with the Baraki Barak District Governor twice to brief him on SIKA-East activities, including the procedure for implementing projects at the field level. The District Governor emphasized the need for a quick start on the projects, as the community is eagerly anticipating them. He also promised to provide early endorsement of the grant documents and to support the survey process.

Security Situation: While general incident reporting in the SIKA East districts is down from May, the month of June has seen a number of significant incidents with programmatic impact.

On June 6 and 10, the district center in Zadran was subject to direct and indirect fire with small arms, RPGs, and mortars. While the attacks were launched from a relative distance and were essentially aimed at an ANA convoy, a significant amount of munitions landed in close proximity to the district center. Some small arms fire did in fact hit the district center, where SIKA-East field staff are embedded on a day-to-day basis and as such are highly exposed. Depending on the frequency of attacks on the Zadran district center, it may be necessary to withdraw SIKA East field staff to operate from the provincial office, albeit temporarily, until their safety can be better addressed. ANSF resources at the district level are generally insufficient to prevent these types of attack.

On the morning of June 23, two SIKA-East staff from Nirkh District were abducted while en route to Maydan Shahr near Folad Khan Village. Security initiated communications with local authorities and community elders, which resulted in the release of the two staff that evening. While no significant threat or incident reporting existed in Nirkh prior to the incident, it seems clear that the route between Nirkh and Maydan Shahr is becoming more volatile again and that frequent attacks on military convoys, illegal insurgent checkpoints, and abductions will hamper travel for SIKA-East staff.

IMPLEMENTATION AND TRAINING TRACKERS

The following spreadsheets show the status of program activities, including trainings, in the districts where SIKA-East has already been launched.

SIKA-EAST TRAININGS TRACKER*

DISTRICT IMPLEMENTATION	I - ORIENT				II - PLAN					III - EXECUTE										IV - EVALUATE & LEARN		TOTAL			
	Stakeholder Orientation - Female SDU	Stakeholder Orientation - Male SDU	Governance Foundation - Female SDU	Governance Foundation - Male SDU	Stability Planning Process - Female SAPU	Stability Planning Process - Male SAPU	Resource Dialogue & Advocacy - Female COU	Advocacy - Male COU	Infrastructure Project Planning SDU	Project Design and Development - Female SDU	Project Design and Development - Male SDU	Grant Process - Female GSU	Grant Process - Male GSU	Grant Management - Female GSU	Grant Management - Male GSU	Grant Management Training Award - Female GSU	Grant Management Training Award - Male GSU	Grant Management Training Implementation - Female GSU	Grant Management Training Implementation - Male GSU	Short Courses GSU	Fundraising Training Male GSU		Fundraising Training Female GSU	Lessons Learnt - Female MELU	Lessons Learnt - Male MELU
PREVIOUS QUARTERS (Dec 2011 to Mar 2013)																									
Launch Date	District																								
June 4, 2012					1	1	1	1			1											1	1		
June 11, 2012	1				2	2	1	1	1	1	1														
November 18, 2012				1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1											
November 25, 2012				1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1												
December 25, 2012	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1									1	1			
February 7, 2013	1	1		1		1															1	1			
February 7, 2013		1		1		1	1																		
February 7, 2013	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1															
February 19, 2013	1	1	1	1		1		1	1	1															
ACTUAL	5	5	5	7	7	10	7	6	6	6	7	3	4	1	1					3	3			86	
QUARTER APR-JUN 2013																									
Launch Date	District																								
June 4, 2012																									
June 11, 2012																									
June 4, 2012									1																
November 25, 2012																									
November 18, 2012																									
December 25, 2012																									
February 7, 2013																									
February 7, 2013									1					1											
February 7, 2013																									
February 19, 2013																									
May 9, 2013	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1															
May 9, 2013	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1															
June 19, 2013		1																							
June 19, 2013		1																							
June 21, 2013		1			1																				
June 21, 2013																									
June 21, 2013																									
ACTUAL	2	5	2	2	3	3	2	5	6	0	2	1	8	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	45	

* Spreadsheet reflects training activities as of June 30, 2013. Figures represent trainings conducted to date. Yellow-highlighted cells represent trainings conducted this month. SIKA-East inductions and trainings of trainers are not included.

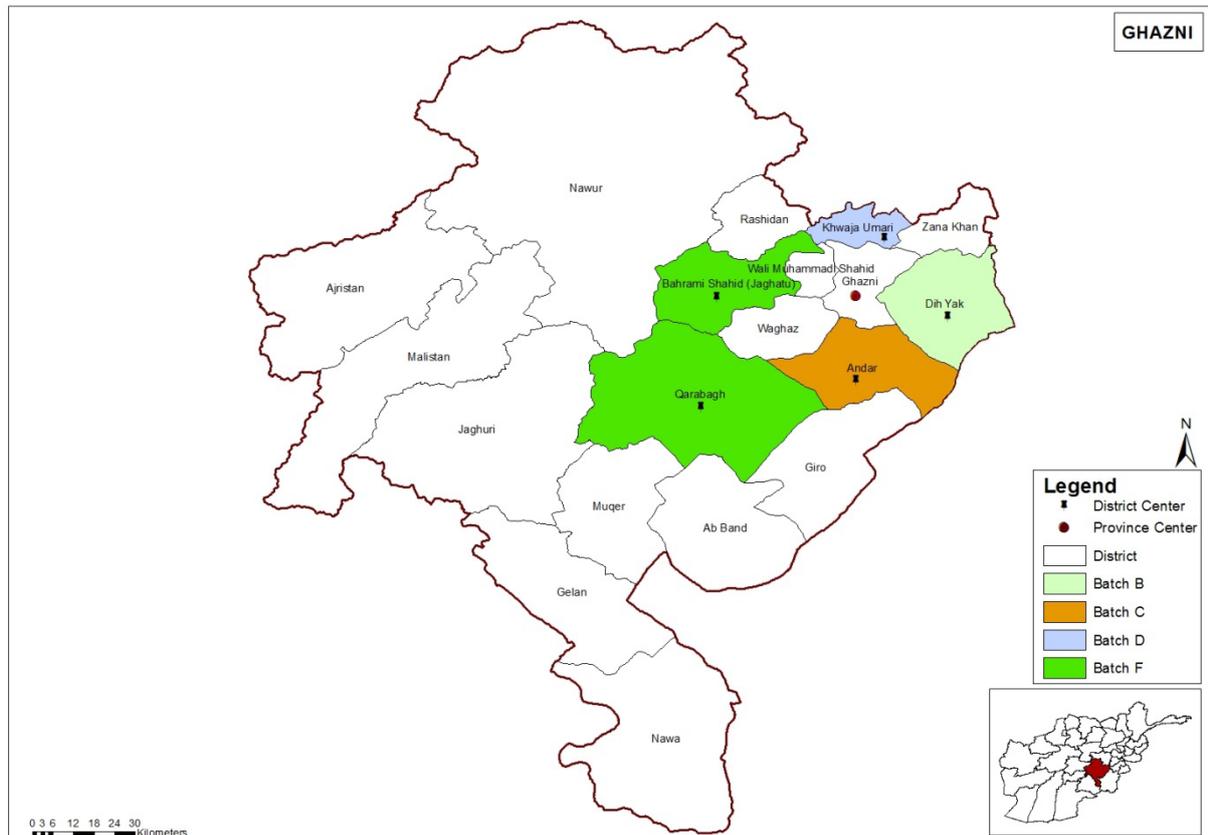
SIKA-EAST DISTRICT IMPLEMENTATION TRACKER

S/N	Province	District	III - EXECUTE													IV - EVALUATE & LEARN											
			PREPARATION					I - ORIENT			II - PLAN					Grants Track										District Lessons Learnt Report produced	District Evaluation Report produced
			# Province offices established	# Province staff hired	# District offices established	# District staff hired	# District profiles completed	# Stakeholder register produced	# District launch held	# Provincial Service Provider Catalog produced	# DPP produced	# DPP approved by DG/PRRD	# DPP approved by USAID	# Resource coordination meetings held	# Service Provider Fair held	# Engineering packages in process	€ Engineering packages in process	# Engineering packages completed	€ Engineering packages completed	# Total engineering packages	€ Total engineering packages	# Grants awarded	€ Grants awarded	€ Grants disbursed	€ Grants completed		
CUMULATIVE (to date)			15	177	9	16	16	4	11	5	5			38	\$2,135,586	82	\$3,700,738	120	\$5,836,324	41	\$1,729,386	\$164,868					
DISTRICTS																											
Batch A																											
1	Logar	Baraki Barak		1	11	1	1	1	1	1	1			9	\$557,716	3	\$264,270	12	\$821,986								
2	Maydan Wardak	Saydabad		1	15	1	1	1	1	1				3	\$15,656	30	\$826,941	33	\$842,597	12	\$286,460	\$49,828					
Batch B																											
3	Ghazni	Dih Yak		1	9	1	1	1	1	1				3	\$119,088	8	\$372,844	11	\$491,932								
4	Logar	Mohammad Agha		1	13	1	1	1	1	1				8	\$514,634	23	\$1,266,322	31	\$1,780,956	22	\$1,025,875	\$115,040					
5	Maydan Wardak	Nirkh		1	11	1	1	1	1	1				4	\$320,240	15	\$838,200	19	\$1,158,440	7	\$417,051						
Batch C																											
6	Ghazni	Andar		1	11	1	1	1	1					5	\$276,019	0	\$0	5	\$276,019								
7	Maydan Wardak	Chaki Wardak		1	11	1	1	1	1					6	\$332,233	3	\$132,161	9	\$464,394								
8	Paktya	Zadran		1	12	1	1	1	1																		
9	Paktya	Zurmat		1	11	1	1	1	1																		
Batch D																											
10	Ghazni	Khwaja Umari		1	9		1	1	1																		
11	Logar	Khoshi		1	10		1	1	1																		
Batch E																											
12	Khost	Gurbuz		1	10		1	1																			
13	Khost	Tani		1	9		1	1																			
14	Khost	Jaji Maidan		1	5		1	1																			
15	Paktya	Laja Ahmad Khail		1	10		1	1																			
16	Paktya	Laja Mangal			8		1	1																			
Batch F																											
17	Ghazni	Jaghatu			6																						
18	Ghazni	Qarabagh			5																						
19	Maydan Wardak	Jalriz			1																						
PROVINCES																											
1	Wardak		1	19				1				1	1														
2	Logar		1	18				1				1	1														
3	Ghazni		1	18				1				1	1														
4	Paktya		1	19				1				1	1														
5	Khost		1	14																							
CUMULATIVE (to date)			5	88	9		4			4	4																

SIGNIFICANT PROVINCIAL ACTIVITIES

In June, PRRD Directors and SIKA-East provincial staff 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



PROVINCIAL-LEVEL ACTIVITIES

- On June 16 and 17, PRRD and SIKA-East conducted a Service Providers Fair (SPF) in Ghazni Province. The main purpose of the fair was to bring service providers and the community together to allow the service providers to understand local needs and to inform the community about services available. The fair was inaugurated by the Ghazni Provincial Governor, Mohammad Musa Khan, in the presence of hundreds of people, including provincial council members, line directors, district governors, donors, members of Community Development Councils (CDC) and District Development Assemblies (DDA) and District Community Councils (DCC), tribal elders, representatives of the private sector, non-governmental organizations (NGO), and others. Seventy booths were booked by service providers, including 20 that were reserved by NGOs and associations for women. PRRD and other governmental institutions expressed their



Ghazni Provincial Governor, Mohammad Musa Khan, at the inauguration of the Service Providers Fair.

and others. Seventy booths were booked by service providers, including 20 that were reserved by NGOs and associations for women. PRRD and other governmental institutions expressed their

appreciation for the women's participation in the fair. Media representatives were invited to cover the event and interviewed many participants.

Significant Meetings:

- On June 5, the PRRD Director held his weekly coordination meeting, which was attended by the manager of SIKA-East's Ghazni Provincial Management Unit (PMU) and other implementing partners. The participants discussed the problematic CDCs and the PRRD endorsement process for DPPs. Following the meeting, PRRD issued an official letter to the Dih Yak District Governor about the problematic CDCs and requested advice on resolving problems with them.
- On June 9, the Ghazni PMU representative met with the PRRD Director to again discuss the problematic CDCs and to sign endorsement letters. Since the National Solidarity Program (NSP) Implementing Partner (IP) has suspended their activities in Dih Yak, SIKA-East has been tasked with the role of IP in Dih Yak and the signing of NSP forms.
- On June 11, the PRRD Director held a coordination meeting with SIKA-East's PMU manager to share information on the planned SPF. They also selected the Olympic ground as the venue for the event. Later that day, they met with the Deputy Provincial Governor to update him on SIKA-East and discuss the SPF. The Deputy Provincial Governor expressed satisfaction with the program and promised to support PRRD and SIKA-East with the event.
- At the beginning of the month, Ghazni PMU staff met with different service providers to inform them about the SPF and motivate them to participate. The Ghazni gender officer conducted several meetings with female service providers for the same purpose. The PRRD Director approved the list of participants and the invitation letters for the fair.
- On June 19, the PMU manager held a coordination meeting with the PRRD Director and other provincial government authorities, including the Provincial Governor, Deputy Provincial Governor, and Provincial Council members. The matters of discussion were problematic CDCs and endorsement letters. As a result, the PRRD suggested slight changes to the endorsement letters, and the PRRD Director committed to processing all the endorsement letters for problematic CDCs in Dih Yak within two weeks.
- On June 25 and 26, the PMU manager met with the PRRD Director to discuss the establishment of the Qarabagh District Support Unit (DSU) office, as well as endorsement letters. The PRRD Director promised to issue the endorsement letter for the Dih Yak CDCs. It was decided to meet the Deputy Provincial Governor and seek his suggestion on the Qarabagh DSU office.

ANDAR DISTRICT**Significant Meetings:**

- On June 9 and 10, respectively, the men's and women's communication committees conducted their meetings. The main focus of these meetings was to prepare six-month strategic communication plans for overall communication activities at the district level.
- On June 16, the Andar DSU met with DDA members to discuss Cycle 1 projects and the implementation process.
- On June 25, the GRC met to review proposed Dih Yak projects. Three projects were discussed and approved by the committee.
- On June 26, Andar District communication committee members met with the head of the Ghazni education department to discuss the fact that 156 teaching positions are vacant and students are attending open-air schools that lack classroom furniture. The Education Director promised to send tents for the schools and to try to fill the vacant teaching posts as soon as possible.

- During June, SIKA-East scheduled various sub-coordination meetings in Andar District, at which community members had the chance to meet service providers in the sectors of health, education, agriculture, and women's affairs. In the meetings, the community members shared their concerns and suggestions with each service provider. They in turn explained their services, projects, and plans and in most cases provided satisfactory answers to the community members.

Trainings and Other Activities:

- On June 2, a Grant Review Committee (GRC) Training of Trainers (ToT) was conducted for Andar District GRC members. The ToT covered grants evaluation criteria and the roles and responsibilities of GRC members. The session included an active question and answer period.
- The Ghazni gender officer, while facilitating training sessions for Andar women, has proposed establishing a women's society in Andar District. The aim of the society would be to discuss issues related to women and advocate on their behalf to concerned governmental or non-governmental organizations. The Ghazni gender officer had a follow-up meeting on June 2 with women from the district. They agreed with the idea of establishing a women's society and nominated 15 women to be founding members. They also proposed increasing the number of women in future and asked for SIKA- East technical support for running the organization.
- In June, the Andar DPP was endorsed by all the involved parties, and a copy was submitted to the Andar DDA.
- The Andar DSU developed and completed the required grants documents for 12 projects. They also completed proposals for two more projects: repair of a girls school and construction of two small bridges. The proposals will be shared with the CDC members for approval and further processing.

DIH YAK DISTRICT**Significant Meetings:**

- On June 9, the men's communication committee conducted their tenth meeting. Based on the six-month strategic communication plan, the committee members prepared a stability message for their audience.

Other Activities:

- The Dih Yak strategic communication plan was developed by the DDA+ for overall communication activities. The plan was submitted to the Kabul office for further processing.
- On June 9, the Dih Yak DSU completed grant application packages for four projects. They also prepared four projects from Cycle 1 for submittal to the GRC.
- On June 19, the Dih Yak communication committee raised the issue of problematic CDCs in the district. Sixteen CDCs do not have complete documents, which has made it difficult to endorse and approve the documents; moreover, allocated funds will not be awarded to such CDCs. In order to resolve the problem, the communication committee brought the issue to the attention of district and provincial government. To address the problem, the Provincial Governor called a joint meeting with the local heads of NSP, PRRD, and Care International, NSP's implementing partner. The Provincial Governor urged the parties to solve the problem within 15 days and to report to him on their progress.

JAGHATU AND QARABAGH DISTRICTS

- In June, the DSU collected data for Jaghatu and Qarabagh District profiles. By the end of the month, the profiles were 90 percent complete.
- Recruitment for both Jaghatu and Qarabagh DSUs started and continued till end of the month. By the end of the month, 11 positions had been filled.

KHWAJA UMARI DISTRICT**Trainings and Other Activities:**

- On June 9, 51 men from the Khwaja Umari DDA+ met to verify and endorse the DPP that they had developed following the first part of Stability Process training.
- On June 19, SIKA-East conducted Resource Dialogue and Advocacy training for 52 women.
- From June 18 to 22, the Khwaja Umari DSU conducted the second part of Stability Planning Process training for an average of 55 men from the DDA+. This session is the backbone of the entire SIKA-East process. It allows members of the DDA, DCC, and CDCs to discuss their priority grievances and identify local sources of instability and then find solutions targeting them.
- On June 23 and 24, the same participants received training in Resource Dialogue and Advocacy. Afterwards, they were asked to go back to their villages to consult with other community elders, such as mullahs, teachers, and other stakeholders in the community, to make sure that everyone's voice is heard. Following one week of consultation, all the community representatives were asked to return to verify agreement on the identified sources of instability and proposed solutions and to discuss any new ideas offered. After verification, the DPP was endorsed by all the participants.
- Between June 26 and 30, training in Infrastructure Project Planning was conducted for an average of 50 men from the Khwaja Umari DDA and CDCs.
- The Khwaja Umari DSU worked to finalize the DPP for presentation and endorsement by the District Governor, the PRRD, and governmental line departments.

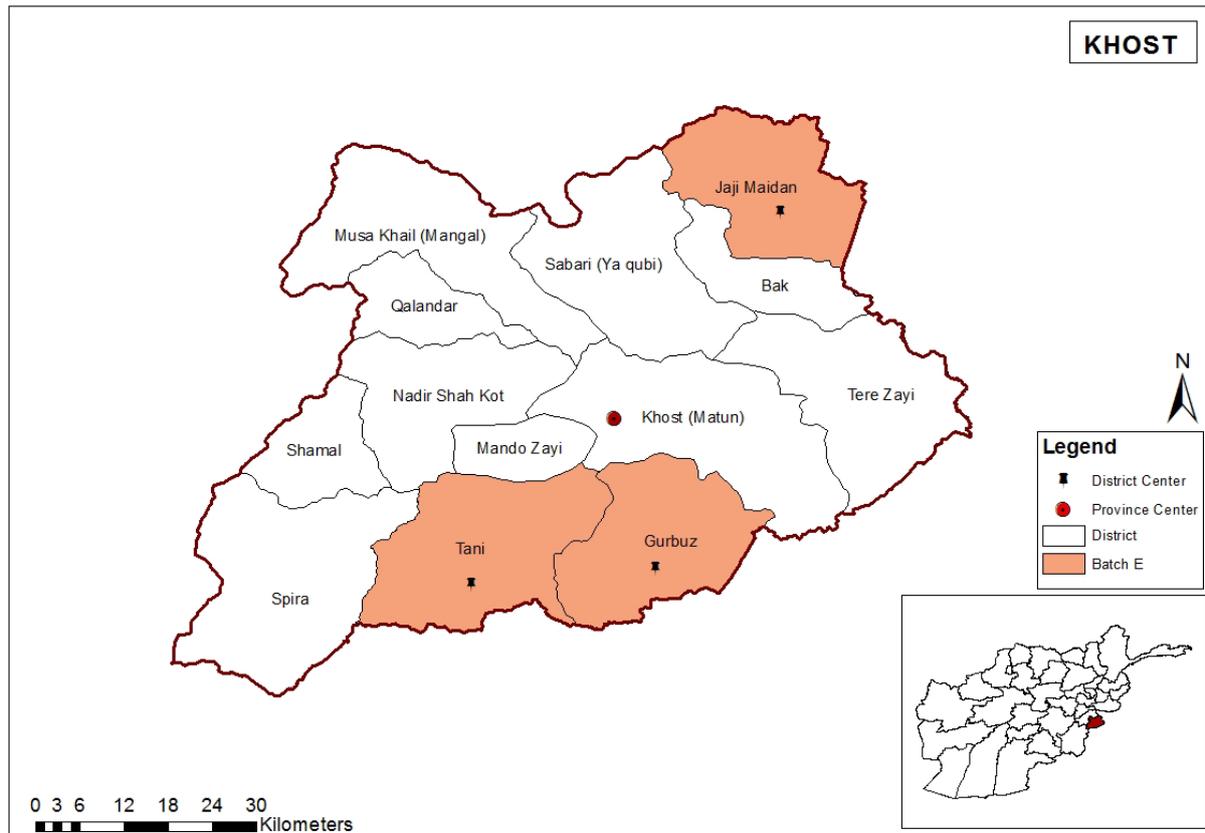


Khwaja Umari women receiving training in Resource Dialogue and Advocacy

NEXT STEPS FOR GHAZNI

- Conduct Grants Management training for the Ramak CDC;
- Develop four applications for project packages and prepare them for the GRC;
- Conduct the GRC for the mentioned projects;
- Start physical implementation of the projects;
- Present the Khwaja Umari DPP to the DDA, District Governor, PRRD, and other involved parties for their endorsement;
- Conduct Project Design and Development workshop for female and male members of the Khwaja Umari DDA+; and
- Conduct Grant Process and Application Workshop for men and women from the Khwaja Umari DDA+.

KHOST



PROVINCIAL-LEVEL ACTIVITIES

- On June 21, SIKA-East was launched in Khost Province. Eng. Mohammad Osman Mehdi, Khost PRRD Director, opened the launch meeting by welcoming the participants and briefly explaining the program's goals and implementation process. He was followed by Mr. Mohammad Zahir Shah Zadran, MRRD's SIKA-East Regional Coordinator, who gave a brief history of the SIKA program and emphasized that it is non-political in nature and only focused on the development of social and physical infrastructure designed to strengthen relations between the government and the people. Next, Mr. Abdul Jabar Naemi, Provincial Governor of Khost, spoke, promising to support the program himself and urging everyone involved with it to cooperate towards its success. Eng. Abdullah Stanikzai of SIKA-East then explained technical aspects of the program, noting that its main purpose is to identify sources of instability at the district level and to find appropriate solutions. Other speakers emphasized the importance of peace and stability to local communities and offered not only to support SIKA-East but to defend it .
- Data collection for the Khost Service Providers Catalogue is complete. Following data analysis and entry, and the approval of senior management, it will be sent to USAID for approval.
- In June, the recruitment of staff to serve at both provincial and district levels continued. The process will continue until the units are fully staffed.



Eng. Mohammad Osman Mehdi, Khost PRRD Director, welcomes the participants at the launch of SIKA-East.

- The Khost PMU established an email connection with the Provincial Governor. This has made sharing important files and communicating across the board easier for both sides.
- The Khost PMU reviewed the District Profiles and sent them to Kabul for further processing.

Significant Meetings:

- On June 8, the Provincial Deputy Governor met with the Khost PMU manager to discuss planned SIKA-East activities in the province. The PMU Manager described the timeline of the SIKA-East launch and other events in Khost Province. To ensure the smooth running of the program, the Deputy Governor asked the PMU manager to share any challenges and problems faced during program implementation and promised to support the program in all phases.
- On June 10, the PRRD Director met with the PMU manager, who provided an update on the achievements of SIKA-East to date. They also discussed the SIKA-East launch in the approved Khost districts. The Deputy Governor decided to send official letters to all sectors in the province to introduce SIKA-East and request their support. This may help to obtain data about other service providers and to avoid project duplication in the province.
- On June 16, the Khost PRRD Director held a coordination meeting, at which the PMU manager discussed the agenda for the program launches in Jaji Maidan, Tani, and Gurbuz Districts. The PRRD Director finalized and approved the agenda.
- On June 17, the Khost PMU Manager met with the public relations officer of the Provincial Governor's office to discuss the SIKA-East launch agenda and the participants list. They also discussed ways to ensure security during the launch and agreed to deploy police to reduce any risk.
- On June 20, the Provincial Governor met with the manager of SIKA-East's Program Support Unit in order to receive more detailed technical information about SIKA-East and the various steps in program implementation. The Provincial Governor said he was happy to have the program in his province because it represents a golden opportunity for the government, through PRRD, to provide services to the people. He mentioned that he would personally support SIKA-East in Khost and try to monitor and assist program implementation.

GURBUZ DISTRICT

- In June, the renovation of the Gurbuz DSU office was completed. The office will be fully functional once the generator is hooked up and the Internet is connected.
- The stakeholder survey of Gurbuz District was completed and confirmed by the District Governor and other district entities.
- Staff recruitment for the Gurbuz DSU continued throughout the month. By the end of June, ten people had been hired and begun working.
- From June 23 to 25, a Stakeholder Orientation and Governance Foundation workshop was conducted for 40 female members of the Gurbuz DDA and CDCs. This is the first time in the history of Gurbuz that this many women have come together for training.
- Between June 25 and 27, the same workshop was conducted for 65 men from the Gurbuz DDA and CDCs.



Women participating in the Stakeholder Orientation and Governance Foundation training in Gurbuz

JAJI MAIDAN DISTRICT

- Office equipment for the Jaji Maidan DSU office was purchased and delivered. The office is now fully functional.
- The stakeholder survey was placed on hold this week due to the Jaji Maidan DSU being busy in trainings.

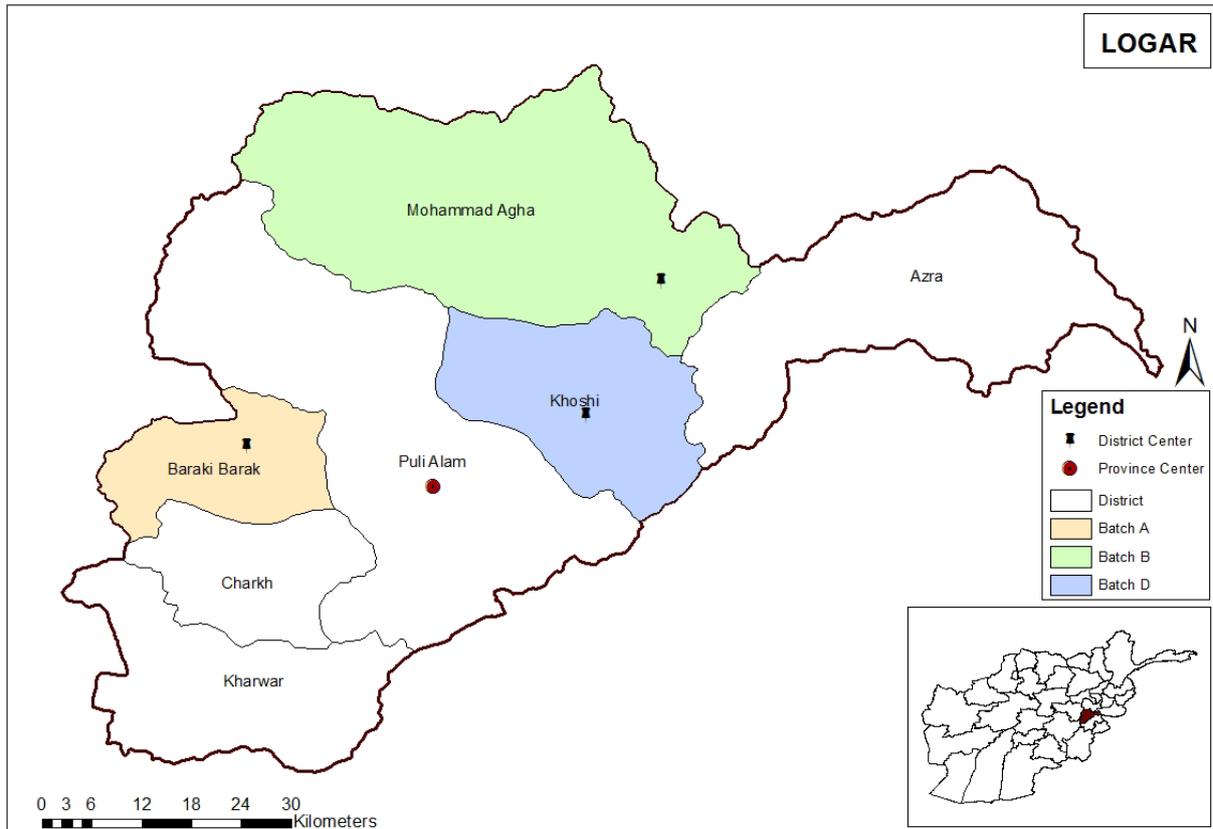
TANI DISTRICT

- On June 17, the Tani District Governor held a coordination meeting with the PMU manager to review and approve the list of participants for the SIKA-East launch.
- On June 25, the PMU Manager met with executive members of the Tani DDA in order to share the list of project stakeholders. During the meeting, the PMU manager explained the SIKA-East program and responded to the concerns of the DDA members. He mentioned that SIKA-East is an inclusive program and considers all community issues. The DDA members promised to support the program and the necessary changes in their district.

NEXT STEPS FOR KHOST

- Participate in regular meetings with PRRD;
- Conduct Stability Planning Process training for Gurbuz men;
- Perform a language review of DPPs;
- Conduct Resource Dialogue and Advocacy training for Gurbuz women;
- Conduct Stakeholder Orientation and Governance Foundation training for Tani men;
- Conduct Stability Planning Process training for Tani men; and
- Conduct Stakeholder Orientation and Governance Foundation training for Jaji Maydan men.

LOGAR



PROVINCIAL-LEVEL ACTIVITIES

Significant Meetings:

- In preparation for the service providers coordination meeting held in Puli Alam on June 26, SIKA-East drafted an agenda and consulted with the PRRD Director regarding the event. The purpose of the resource coordination meeting is to allow the DDAs of Baraki Barak, Mohammad Agha, and Khoshi Districts to confer with a wide range of service providers operating in the province.
- On June 2, the PRRD Director met with SIKA-East's PMU manager to discuss the possible participation of various representatives of PRRD and DRRD, as well as district governors and other governmental officials, in a ToT on Monitoring and Evaluation. The PRRD Director requested that SIKA-East send an official letter to PRRD so that they can inform the district governors and line departments accordingly. The PMU manager followed up on the matter and contacted the PRRD. The district governors agreed that their staff could participate in the event.
- On June 3, the PMU manager had two separate coordination meetings with the PRRD Director and the head of the Department of Economy. The purpose of these meetings was to discuss the upcoming service providers coordination meeting. The PMU manager shared the agenda of the meeting and provided information about the event.



June 2 meeting between the Logar PRRD Director and SIKA-East's PMU manager

- On June 9, the PMU Manager participated in a provincial-level agriculture sector meeting, which was conducted at the Department of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock (DAIL) compound. The main purpose of the meeting was to coordinate agricultural projects.
- On June 10, the Mohammad Agha District Governor and DDA members met with the Logar PMU Manager to discuss the DDA's concerns and comments regarding Cycle 1 projects. It was decided that the District Governor, DDA, and PMU work together to select the projects equally for all hawzas.
- On June 11, the PRRD Director held a coordination meeting with SIKA-East's PMU manager and other stakeholders. The PMU manager updated everyone on the program and sought their further support with the implementation process. The PRRD Director said he appreciated the progress SIKA-East has made in Logar.
- On June 18, the PRRD Director and PMU Manager met with the Provincial Governor to discuss the June 26 service providers coordination meeting. The Provincial Governor strongly supported the idea and mentioned that this event strengthens the links between the different sectors and the community.
- On June 23, the PMU manager met with the PRRD Director and Provincial Governor to update them on SIKA-East progress in the three districts of Logar Province where SIKA-East is active. The Provincial Governor suggested that SIKA-East prepare a presentation and provide further information on the program.
- Throughout the month, Logar PMU staff met with governmental and non-governmental service providers to discuss the service providers coordination meeting. The team also distributed invitation letters to the meeting to the Provincial Governor, District Governors, governmental and non-governmental organizations, and DDA+ members.
- On June 26, the service providers coordination meeting was conducted in Puli Alam municipality hall. The event started at ten in the morning and continued till one in the afternoon. A total of 120 individuals, 100 men and 20 women, participated in the meeting. The Deputy Provincial Governor, PRRD Director, and a SIKA-East representative spoke to the group and emphasized the importance of coordination among service providers and the community. At the end of the meeting, the PRRD Director and SIKA-East representative answered questions from the participants.



The Deputy Provincial Governor of Logar delivering a speech during the service providers coordination meeting

Training and Other Activities:

- On June 5 and 6, Grant Management training was held for an average of 14 men from Logar Province.
- On June 3, Logar PMU staff worked on a communication committee technical guideline discussed at a recent communication committee meeting. The guideline, which was developed to reflect the ideas and opinions of communication committee members, was later submitted to the Kabul office for review and comments.

BARAKI BARAK DISTRICT

Significant Meetings:

- On June 4, a coordination meeting was conducted with key members of the Baraki Barak DDA and representatives of each hawza in the district. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss project surveys in the villages and DPP challenges. After a long discussion about the challenges, the DDA members accepted that the existing DPP responds to community needs.

- On June 9, the District Governor met with the Baraki Barak PMU manager to receive an update on program activities. The PMU manager took the opportunity to seek the District Governor's further support regarding the endorsement of grant-related documents.
- On June 11, the women's communication committee of Baraki Barak conducted their first meeting. The participants discussed the committee's goals, objectives and benefits for the future. They also developed a protocol to share the meetings with the larger DDA.
- On June 16, the men's communication committee conducted their first meeting, at which they discussed the aims of the committee and the responsibilities of committee members.
- On June 18, the PMU Manager met with the District Governor to brief him on the procedure for implementing projects at the field level. The District Governor emphasized the need for a quick start on the projects, as the community is eagerly anticipating them. The District Governor promised to provide early endorsement of the grant documents and to support the survey process.
- On June 24, the men's and women's communication committees conducted their second meeting. Five men and five women participated in this meeting and discussed ways to develop a communication plan. They also filled out the first part of the worksheet identifying their communication plan goal and objectives. Copies of the worksheet were given to the participants to share with CDCs to solicit their input on the issues discussed.
- Due to security problems, project surveys have been delayed in Baraki Barak. In order to address these challenges and to expedite the SIKA-East project surveys, Chalowza Hawza DDA members and CDC heads met on June 25 and agreed to develop an agenda to cover the issues of stability, development projects, and existing challenges in the district. During the meeting, the participants agreed to develop a message about development, stability, and the impacts of development projects on stability and social conflicts in the villages. In addition, to get greater DDA+ buy-in, they shared their message with the District Governor. He approved it and advised the DDA and CDC members to conduct meetings with religious elders of the hawza and find better solutions for problems. The advocacy committee has started to meet with community elders, religious elders, teachers, and mullahs. After long discussions in several separate meetings, the above parties agreed that each village community elder will support SIKA-East and other development project staff during the project surveys and implementation.



Female communication committee meeting in Baraki Barak

Other Activities:

- On June 2, the Baraki Barak DSU completed the verification of the district profile and submitted the document to the Kabul office for further processing.
- Also on June 2, DSU staff finished updating the Service Providers Catalog (SPC). Earlier, they visited the Department of Economy and received a list of organizations that are currently active in Baraki Barak. Those organizations that are no longer active were eliminated from the SPC. The SPC was updated and shared with the Kabul office on June 17 for further processing.
- On June 3, DSU staff met with DDA members from the Baraki Rajan Hawza to discuss implementation of the retaining walls project in the hawza's Tap-e-Sakhi Village.
- During the month, the Baraki Barak DSU worked on grant applications and completed seven applications that were endorsed by the District Governor. On June 23, three grant applications were

signed by female DDA members. The documents will soon be sent to Kabul office for further processing.

KHOSHI DISTRICT

Significant Meetings:

- On June 2, SIKA-East's DSU manager met with the Khoshi District Governor and executive manager to update him on SIKA-East activities and invite them to attend a planned M&E ToT in Kabul. Both men agreed to take part in the training.

Trainings and Other Activities:

- After developing the first draft of their DPP, members of the Khoshi DDA, CDCs, and other influential members of the community went back to their villages to consult with other key stakeholders and discuss the DPP with them.
- From June 7 to 10, the Khoshi DSU completed the key hawza-level survey for nine hawzas.
- On June 9, the Khoshi DDA+ members met to verify the DPP that they created during the first part of Stability Planning Process training; 57 men participated in this session.
- On June 11, 21 members of the Khoshi DDA+ held a one-day Language Review and DPP Endorsement session.
- From June 16 to 20, the second part of Stability Planning Process training was conducted for an average of 50 men from the Khoshi DDA and CDCs.
- Twenty-six projects were selected for Khoshi District based on identified sources of instability and root causes. Action plans were also prepared for the projects.
- On June 18 and 19, Resource Dialogue Advocacy training was conducted for female members of the Khoshi DDA and CDCs; 45 women participated.
- On June 23 and 24, Resource Dialogue and Advocacy training was facilitated for an average of 59 men from the Khoshi DDA and CDCs.
- On June 26 and 27, fifty men from the Khoshi DDA and CDCs participated in Infrastructure Project Planning training.
- The Khoshi DSU continued to finalize the DPP. When complete, it will be sent for endorsement by the District Governor, PRRD, and the governmental line departments.
- The stakeholder mapping process was completed, and a final stakeholder register produced.

MOHAMMAD AGHA DISTRICT

Significant Meetings:

- On June 2, the Mohammad Agha women's communication committee met at SIKA-East's DSU office. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the district communication plan drafted by the committee and to incorporate the views of the DDA+ in it. They also discussed the issue of recently awarded grants, which offers a good opportunity for the district government leadership to take ownership of the projects and to promote them in their target areas.
- On June 15, the Mohammad Agha DSU Manager met with the District Governor and PRRD



Mohammed Agha DSU meeting with the District Governor on June 15

representatives to explain Cycle 1 projects and the procedure of project selection. The District Governor said that he was convinced that the projects will benefit the communities in the district.

- On June 15, the Mohammad Agha women's communication committee conducted their eleventh meeting. The committee has already prepared a communication plan and begun implementing it. The meeting participants discussed some necessary next steps and specified each member's tasks for the coming month.
- On June 17, the men's communication committee conducted their eleventh meeting. They discussed and began to develop a communication plan, which they hope to finalize at their next meeting.
- On June 24, the DSU manager met with members of the Bahadar Khill CDC to discuss challenges and possible solutions.
- On June 25, the Khoshi District Governor received the DSU manager to be updated on program progress and to coordinate upcoming activities and scheduled events. The District Governor promised to support the program.
- On June 30, the men's communication committee met to discuss message delivery and select the members who would be best to communicate with the service providers.

Trainings and Other Activities:

- On June 2, technical staff from the Mohammad Agha DSU visited the sites of six projects and provided necessary information and advice for better project implementation.
- On June 10, the Mohammad Agha DSU submitted hard-copy documents for ten projects to Kabul for further progressing. The documents included Fixed Obligation Grant (FOG) checklist forms, payment request forms, labor contracts, project technical supervisor qualification forms, hiring plan forms, and work plans.
- From June 10 to 13, Grant Management training was conducted for an average of 47 men from the Mohammad Agha DDA and CDCs.
- On June 24 and 25, training in Project Implementation was conducted for an average of 40 men from the DDA and CDCs to prepare them for the implementation of DPP projects.
- In June, the first milestone payments were delivered to key members of nine CDCs. Many of the CDCs have started physical implementation of their assigned projects.

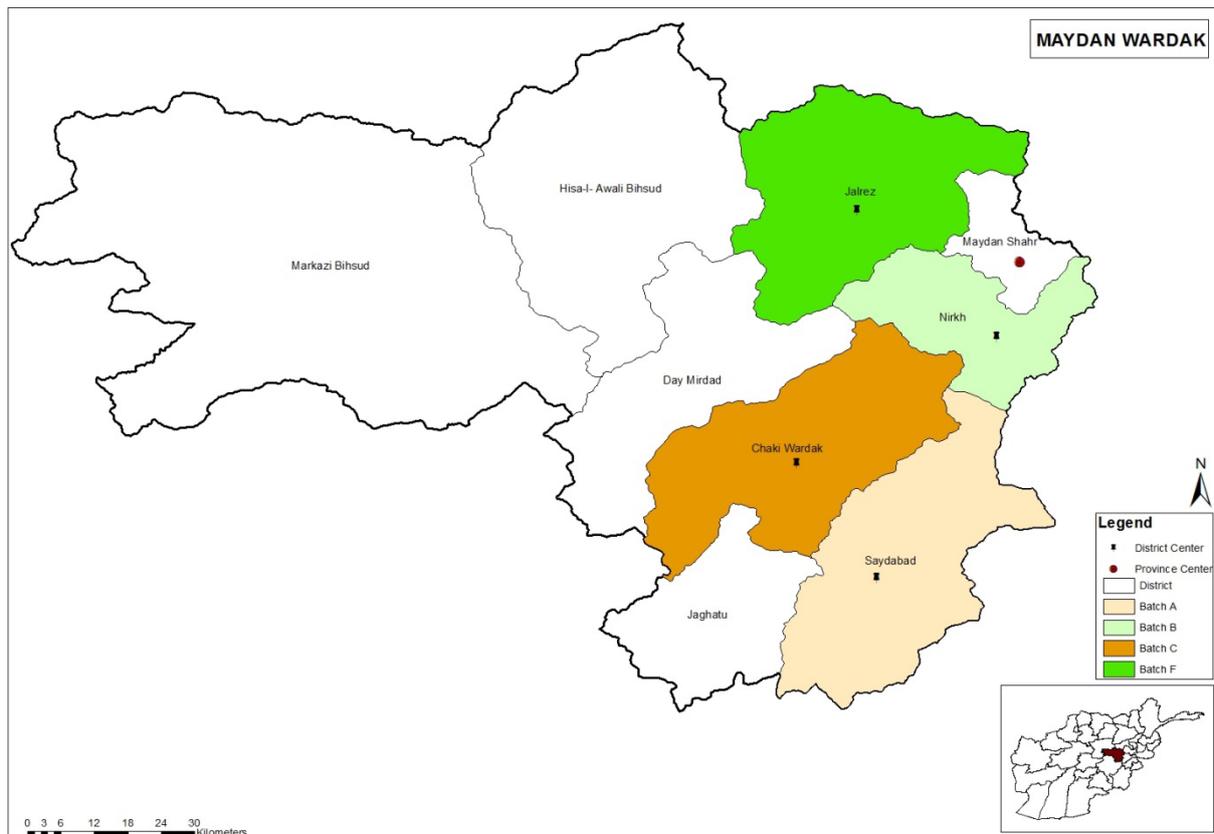
NEXT STEPS FOR LOGAR

- Participate in regular PRRD coordination meetings;
- Conduct Project Design and Development training for Khoshi men and women;
- Conduct Grant Process and Application Development training for Khoshi men and women; and
- Conduct communication committee meetings for Mohammad Agha, Baraki Barak, and Khoshi Districts.



Construction is well under way on the school boundary wall at Qala Taj Khan.

MAYDAN WARDAK



PROVINCIAL-LEVEL ACTIVITIES

Significant Meetings:

- On June 2, the Maydan Wardak PRRD Director held his regular coordination meeting, which was attended by SIKA-East's PMU manager and other stakeholders. The participants discussed their activities and plans, as well as challenges and possible solutions.
- On June 9, the PRRD Director held his second weekly coordination meeting of the month, which was attended by representatives of PRRD, SIKA-East, National Area Based Development Program (NABDP), NSP, and the Swedish Committee for Afghanistan. The PMU Manager followed up on the pending endorsement letters for the Chaki Wardak and Saydabad CDCs. The PRRD Director promised to coordinate the letters with the Provincial Council and speed up the process.
- On June 16, the Maydan Wardak PMU manager attended the PRRD Director's weekly coordination meeting and provided an update on SIKA-East activities in the province. The PRRD Director expressed satisfaction with the program's progress.
- On June 23, the PRRD Director held his regular coordination meeting, which was attended by the PMU manager and representatives of other organizations implementing MRRD projects. The PMU manager updated the participants on SIKA-East progress in all target districts of the province.
- On June 25, a meeting was conducted with Wardak service providers to review the Nirkh and Chaki Wardak DPPs to address any proposed projects, and also to coordinate projects addressed by the Saydabad DPP. Around 120 people from various sectors, including community members of targeted districts, participated.

CHAKI WARDAK DISTRICT**Significant Meetings:**

- On June 1, the women's communication committee conducted their fifth meeting in the DoWA meeting hall. The participants discussed the broadcasting of the six recently produced radio plays, the development of an activity plan, and ways to convey key messages to the community.
- On June 12, community development officers met with the Sewaki Hawza DDA+ in order to establish two Project Management Committees (PMC) for a tailoring course and the Sapid Kol protection wall project.
- On June 25, the women's communication committee conducted their seventh meeting, at which they discussed the importance of communication in society, the selection of communication channels, and practical work on the communication plan.

Other Activities:

- In the first week of June, a group of technical staff from the Chaki Wardak DSU completed a five-day visit to the sites of ten Cycle 1 projects that are under way in five hawzas. The SIKA-East staff were satisfied with the progress of the projects.
- The Chaki Wardak engineering team prepared the survey reports with the required details. They also worked on drawings and prepared the bills of quantities for the ten surveyed projects.
- The Chaki Wardak grant team worked on the endorsement letters for Malikhail, Kharoti, Baghband, and Salihkhail, and obtained endorsements by the District Governor. The letters have been submitted to the Maydan Wardak provincial council for further processing. The grant team also completed seven new grant applications and included all essential documents.
- The Chaki Wardak DPP was submitted to USAID on June 26. Approval is awaited.
- DSU staff met different governmental and non-governmental organizations to collect data in order to update the SPC.

JALRIZ DISTRICT

- The Maydan Wardak PMU started recruitment for the Jalriz DSU at the beginning of June. They announced key positions and enlisted some qualified candidates. By the end of the month, one staff member had been hired and begun working in the DSU office.

NIRKH DISTRICT**Significant Meetings:**

- On June 3, DSU staff met with the head of the Nirkh DDA to discuss problems and ways to solve them.
- On June 6, the women's communication committee conducted their tenth meeting in the DoWA meeting hall. The participants discussed grant awards and the evaluation of the communication plan.
- On June 17, the Deputy District Governor for Nirkh held a coordination meeting with the PMU manager to receive an update on the status of SIKA-East activities in the district. He also wanted to discuss the start of grant projects at the district level and promised to support implementation of the projects. By the end of the month, seven were under way.
- On June 24, the women's communication committee conducted their eleventh meeting. They discussed implementation procedures, project advantages, stability, and the selection of communication channels.

- On June 26, the men's communication committee conducted their eleventh meeting, at which they discussed the awarded projects' available budgets and implementation timelines, the advantages of the projects for the community, and the conveying of messages to service providers.

Trainings and Other Activities:

- In June, the Nirkh DSU collected data and finished updating the SPC. Telecommunication networks were added to the document.
- From June 10 to 13, Grant Management training was conducted for Nirkh CDCs. An average of 55 CDC members attended the training.
- In June, Nirkh engineers conducted surveys of projects in Badam Village. After collecting data, they began to prepare the survey report.

SAYDABAD DISTRICT

Significant Meetings:

- At the beginning of June, the Saydabad DSU conducted meetings with different governmental service providers, including the Deputy District Governor, in order to obtain updated information on services provided by governmental organizations to include in a new edition of the SPC.
- On June 24, the men's communication committee met to discuss the available budget for awarded projects, the projects' implementation timetable, available human resources, the projects' feasibility, and security.
- On June 25, community development officers met with key members of the blacklisted CDCs (Hasan Khil, Temor Khel, Rahman Khil, and Kamran Khil) in order to discuss the issues and solve their problems with PRRD.



Meeting with Deputy District Governor

Trainings and Other Activities:

- In June, the Saydabad DSU paid site visits to grant-award projects being implemented at Aman Khill, Markazi Sra Qala, Sisay, Zara Khill, Shek Azam, Hakim Khill, and Baber Khill. The projects are all making good progress and are being carried out according to plans.
- The Saydabad grants team processed three grant applications for Aman Khill, Yousof Khill, and Tara Khill projects. They also worked on the first milestone package for the awarded grants.
- From June 10 to 13, Grant Management training was conducted for an average of 13 members of Saydabad CDCs.
- On June 13, the Saydabad DSU held a GRC session and conducted a technical review of five grant packages.
- On June 26 and 27, the Maydan Wardak capacity building officer conducted Project Implementation training for an average of 34 men from the Saydabad DDA and CDCs.



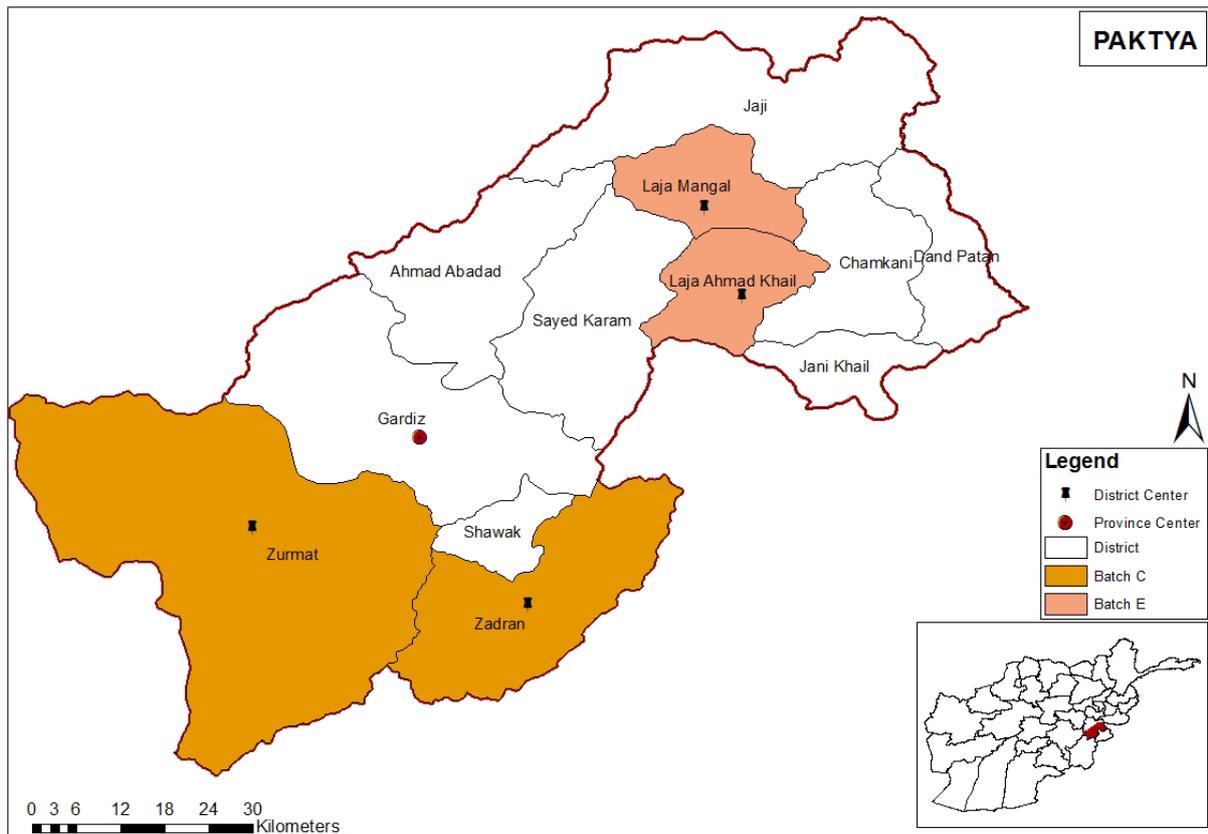
Kariz cleaning setup at Hakim Khill

- SIKA-East received five proposals for the organization and delivery of poultry training for women in Saydabad District. The bid evaluation committee evaluated the proposals and selected a potential service provider. Additional clarification and reference checks will be completed before the final decision for award can be made.
- The Saydabad engineering team conducted a project survey for a flood diversion project requested by the Aqa Khill CDC.

NEXT STEPS FOR MAYDAN WARDAK

- Participate in regular coordination meetings with PRRD and the District Governor;
- Conduct GRCs for Saydabad, Chaki Wardak, and Nirkh Districts;
- Set up an office and continue recruitment for the Jalriz DSU;
- Conduct communication committee meetings for Saydabad, Nirkh, and Chaki Wardak Districts;
- Conduct Grant Management and Grant Award training for Saydabad, Nirkh, and Chaki Wardak Districts;
- Conduct Infrastructure Projects Implementation workshop for Saydabad and Nirkh Districts;
- Conduct communication committee meetings for Saydabad, Nirkh, and Chaki Wardak Districts;
- Conduct engineering surveys for the remaining projects; and
- Submit the second milestone deliverables for nine grants to the Kabul office.

PAKTYA



PROVINCIAL-LEVEL ACTIVITIES

- On June 3 and 4, a Service Providers Fair (SPF) was conducted in Gardiz Municipality Hall. The chief guest was the Deputy Provincial Governor, who also inaugurated the fair. The Paktya PRRD Director, Eng. Abdul Rahman Rahmani, welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the fair. He spoke about PRRD activities in Paktya and stated that SIKA-East is a key program for the stability of the province. He went on to briefly outline SIKA-East's goals and objectives and to point out that this kind of stabilization program supports both the district and its communities and connects the communities with the government. The PRRD Director expressed his satisfaction with the program and its close coordination and collaboration with PRRD. The Deputy Governor of Paktya, Mr. Abdul Wali Sehi, also spoke and thanked PRRD and SIKA-East for organizing the fair, where all kinds of service providers can meet and exhibit their services to each other and the public. Sixty-three service providers exhibited their products and resources during the two-day event, which was attended by over 1,000 people.



The Paktya PRRD Director, Eng. Abdul Rahman Rahmani, welcomes visitors to the Service Providers Fair.



Service providers booths at the Paktya fair

The Service Providers Fair was reported in many media channels, including BBC Pashtu, Khedmatgar (newspaper), Pajwok (website), RTA, and Paktya local radio stations. In many cases, it was described as an important part of the growth of the Paktya economic scene.

- On June 19, SIKA-East was officially launched in the Paktya districts of Laja Ahmad Khail and Laja Mangal. Nearly 180 people attended the launch meeting, which was held in the district center in Laja Ahmad Khail. Following a recitation from the Holy Quran, the Paktya PRRD Director, Eng. Abdul Rahman Rahmani, welcomed the participants and introduced them to SIKA-East, emphasizing that the program represents a golden opportunity for people in the two districts to improve stability in their communities and better their lives. He was followed by the District Governor of Laja Ahmad Khail, who said he was pleased that SIKA-East has come to the two districts and promised to cooperate fully with the program's implementation. SIKA-East's manager for Paktya, Hazrat Gul Barikzai, spoke next, telling the participants that this is their program and they will be involved in all the implementation processes, from identifying the root causes of instability in their communities to executing projects to try to eliminate them. Others spoke as well, encouraging the communities to take advantage of the program and promising to support it in every way.
- From June 23 to 27, Grants Process and Application Development training was conducted for 47 members of the Paktya DDA and CDCs.
- In June, Ahmad Abad District in Paktya was approved as SIKA-East's 20th district, and the program can begin to be implemented there.



The booth of the Department of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock displayed several local products.



The District Governor of Laja Ahmad Khail, Mr. Zwani Khan, welcomed everyone to the June 19 launch meeting.

Significant Meetings:

- On June 12, the Paktya gender officer held a meeting with the PMU staff to discuss different ways of strengthening the role of gender in the program. The participants agreed to work together to involve women in the program.
- On June 17, the District Governor welcomed Paktya PMU representatives to his office and promised to support program implementation in the district and to allocate three rooms for SIKA-East staff in his compound.
- On June 18, the Paktya gender officer met with the PRRD Director to discuss the unavailability of women in SIKA-East targeted districts in Paktya. The PRRD Director mentioned that, due to cultural restrictions, women cannot take an active part in projects. He stated that the issue requires more advocacy, awareness, and extra time and effort to involve women in the program.
- On June 30, the gender officer met with the provincial manager of Afghan Women's Education Center (AWEC) to discuss the unavailability of women in Zurmat and Zadran Districts. The manager mentioned that AWEC had established some women's councils in different districts of Paktya but they

are not now active. She thought that SIKA-East would be a good vehicle through which to activate the councils and bring the women's councils into programming. She also promised to provide SIKA-East with a list of Zurmat and Zadran women endorsed by the District Governor.

Training and Other Activities:

- From June 2 to 6, training in Infrastructure Project Planning was conducted for an average of 45 men from the Paktya DDA and CDCs.



Paktya gender officer meeting with the AWEC provincial manager

LAJA AHMAD KHAIL

- On June 26 and 27, Stakeholder Orientation and Governance Foundation training was held for 61 men in Laja Ahmad Khail District.

LAJA MANGAL

- Between June 25 and 27, Stakeholders Orientation and Governane Foundation training was conducted in Laja Mangal District; 47 men attended.

ZADRAN DISTRICT

Significant Meetings:

- On June 6, the men's communication committee of Zadran District held their first meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the importance of the DDA+ in communicating with the community and government authorities. During the meeting, the men also developed communication protocols.
- On June 10, the Zadran District Governor met with the DSU manager to receive information about the grants process and the role of the DDA and the PMC. The District Governor expressed appreciation for SIKA-East's role in helping to stabilize his district.
- On June 23, seven members of the Zadran DDA and CDCs conducted separate sub-coordination meetings with the Directors of the Departments of Education, Agriculture, and Health at their offices. They discussed various issues relevant to each department. The Director of Education promised to deliver some stationery and books, and the Director of Health pledged to equip and renovate the district clinic. The community members plan to conduct follow-up meetings with the concerned departments. They will also schedule meeting with other service providers in upcoming weeks.
- On June 25, the PRRD Director met with the Paktya PMU and Zadran DSU managers to discuss the best ways to launch the program in Garda Serai. The PRRD Director suggested that they discuss this with the Provincial Governor first and then, with his permission, conduct a meeting with the key elders of Garda Serai.



CDC and DDA members meeting with the Director of the Department of Health on June 23

Trainings and Other Activities:

- From June 16 to 20, Grants Process and Application Development training was conducted for 36 men from the Zadran DDA and CDCs. The participants were guided through the applicant profile and pre-qualification, FOG checklist, application cover page, and application narrative. They also completed the applicant profile and pre-qualification form, and drafted grant applications based on the Cycle 1 priority projects.



Grants Process and Application Development training for Zadran CDC and DDA members

ZURMAT DISTRICT

Significant Meetings:

- On June 17, the Zurmat men's communication committee met for the first time. The participants discussed the purpose and benefits of such meetings and the importance of the DPP. They also developed a communication protocol.
- On June 25, the men's communication committee held their second meeting. They discussed the goals and objectives of the committee and filled out work sheets.

Trainings and Other Activities:

- On June 4, Zurmat DSU staff conducted Infrastructure Project Planning (IPP) training for members of the Zurmat DDA+, CDCs, and other local stakeholders. Forty-five men took part in the training and learned about project feasibility, field measurements, bills of quantities, cost estimating, and environmental assessment.
- From June 16 to 18, the Zurmat DSU conducted Project Design and Development training for 50 men from Zurmat District. The training covered project work plans and management, problems and solutions, stakeholders and beneficiaries, and technical activities.



Zurmat stakeholders receiving IPP training

- Between June 23 and 26, Grant Process and Application Development training was conducted for 45 men from the Zurmat DDA and CDCs; the participants also drafted grant applications based on Cycle 1 priorities.
- During the month, the stakeholder list for Zurmat was updated, corrected, and linked with related organizations in the SIKA-East database.
- Also in June, the DPP for Zurmat District was endorsed by the District Governor and the PRRD Director. The next step for this DPP is its translation into English for submission to USAID.

NEXT STEPS FOR PAKTYA

- Participate in regular coordination meetings with PRRD and other stakeholders; and
- Conduct Stability Planning Process training for men from Laja Ahmad Khail and Laja Ahmad Mangal.

SIGNIFICANT KABUL-BASED AND COMBINED ACTIVITIES

WORKSHOPS AND TRAININGS

- On June 2 and 3, the core training team conducted a SIKA Induction for newly hired staff. The purpose of the training was to orient the new employees on the goals and objectives of the program and the function of its various units. During the training, SIKA-East facilitators also explained how the program functions within the structure of the Afghan government and how it works to enhance better communication and cooperation with line departments at the district and provincial levels. Nineteen people attended.
- From June 9 to 13, SIKA-East conducted a Stability Planning Process ToT workshop for the newly hired staff in Gurbuz, Tani, Jaji Maidan, Laja Ahmad Khail, and Laja Mangal Districts. Representatives of PRRD and DoWA were among the participants. During the workshop, the SIKA-East core team presented the program and the Stability Analysis Methodology that will help district teams and government partners to work with sub-national entities such as DDAs, CDCs, and DCCs in identifying the sources of instability in their areas and finding solutions to minimize or eliminate them.
- On June 23 and 24, after finalization of the gender strategy, SIKA-East stability program officers from all the SIKA-East provinces, as well as members of other SIKA-East units, attended a two-day gender workshop in Kabul. Seventeen SIKA-East staff, including four women, participated. The purpose of the workshop was to collect information on gender issues from field staff and to become more aware of the impact of instability on those issues. The participants discussed ways to move forward with the gender strategy and to work with SIKA-East's government partners to implement it at the district and sub-district levels.
- On June 25 and 26, SIKA-East conducted the fifth SIKA orientation for newly hired staff. The purpose of the training was to familiarize the new employees with the goals and objectives of the program and the function of its various units. During the training, SIKA-East facilitators explained how the program is functioning within the structure of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and how SIKA-East can work better to enhance communication and cooperation with line departments at the district and provincial levels. An average of 25 men participated.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

Nine-Month SIKA Review: On June 15 and 16, the leadership of four SIKAs met with MRRD and IDLG senior officials for the Nine-month SIKA Review session. The two-day conference, which included representation from the government, USAID, and Implementing Partners (IP), was an opportunity for IPs to update the government partners on the progress in implementation, identify challenges and successes, and propose ways to further strengthen cooperation in the upcoming period. IDLG Director of Programs, Dr Sibghatullah Khan, and Minister of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, Weiss Barmak, noted that all four SIKAs have made significant progress since the signing of the Implementation Letter and outlined their vision for the program and SIKA-GIRoA collaboration in the coming months.

STABILITY ANALYSIS AND PLANNING UNIT

District Project Portfolios: The status of DPPs in the endorsement and approval pipeline is as follows:

- The Chaki Wardak DPP was endorsed by the DDA and DDC, District Governor, PRRD, and governmental line departments. Accompanied by its narrative, the Chaki Wardak DPP was submitted to USAID for approval on June 25.

- The Andar DPP was endorsed by the DDA, District Governor, PRRD, and line departments. The corresponding narrative is currently being written, and both documents are expected to be submitted to USAID for approval in early July.
- The Zadran DPP was endorsed by the DDA, District Governor, PRRD, and line departments, and submitted to USAID in May. Its approval is being awaited.
- The Zurmat DPP was also endorsed by the DDA, District Governor, and PRRD Director. The next step is to translate it into English and provide a narrative for submittal to USAID.
- The Khoshi and Khwaja Umari DPPs are undergoing language review and preparation of the accompanying narratives.

RESOURCE DELIVERY UNIT

Service Providers Fairs: SIKA-East's Kabul staff provided support in preparing for the Service Providers Fairs held in Gardiz on June 3 and 4 and in Ghazni City on June 17 and 18. These preparations included the printing of folders and Service Providers Booklets, selection of a venue, setting up of booths for the service providers, and coordination of the events with relevant government entities. Sixty-three service providers participated in the Paktya fair, and 60 at Ghazni. Well over 1,000 people from various sectors and districts visited the two fairs.

SIKA-East has now successfully completed the first round of Service Providers Fairs, including the two earlier fairs in Maydan Wardak and Logar Provinces. In order to assess their immediate impact, a SIKA-East team conducted an overall post-fair evaluation, using a questionnaire they developed to conduct a survey with the target group, namely service providers who participated in the fairs to promote their products and visitors to the fairs. Each SPF participant was asked:

- What types of contacts did you make at the fair?
- Has your business improved because of the fair? How?
- Who did you meet at the fair that has helped your business? How have they helped?
- Have your sales improved because of the fair? If yes, can you tell us how much?
- If your business has improved, have you had to hire new workers? How many? How many total workers do you have now?

Several service providers indicated that they had seen their business pick up following the fairs. The final results of the SPF evaluation will be reported next month.

Sub-coordination Meetings: As a result of sub-coordination meetings in Andar and Waza Zadran, community members had the chance to meet service providers in the sectors of health, education, agriculture, and women's affairs. They were able to share their concerns with regard to basic services to be provided to their districts and have the service providers address some of their Cycle 1 projects using existing resources.

COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH UNIT

Radio Plays: The broadcasting of radio plays in Ghazni, Logar, and Maydan Wardak Provinces was completed this month. The radio plays were designed to foster a district dialogue on sources of instability and resources available to combat them. The dramas, which began to be aired in early May, provided a great opportunity for local citizens and local government at the district level to initiate communication about the role government can play in improving local stability. Next month, the radio plays will be recorded with a Paktya accent for airing in that district.

Communication Committee Meetings: During this reporting period, 14 male and 12 female DDA+ communication committee meetings were convened, covering the districts of Chaki Wardak, Dih Yak,

Andar, Nirkh, Saydabad, Baraki Barak, Zadran, Zurmat, and Mohammad Agha. Both Kabul and field staff worked to facilitate the meetings.

Dih Yak, Mohammad Agha, and Nirk Districts consolidated their already completed work into a comprehensive communication strategy for their individual districts. They incorporated the input of male and female committee members, as well as the viewpoints of the district governor's office. These documents were finalized by the committees and shared with SIKA-East's Communication and Outreach Unit in Kabul for additional input and technical advice on practical ways of implementing the strategies.

The Mohammad Agha and Saydabad communication committees prepared a plan for promoting the newly awarded SIKA-East grants in such a way that the DDA, CDC, and District Governor can promote the grants as examples of positive work that local governing entities are instituting on behalf of the government of Afghanistan. As the grant awarding process has been started, this will be a good opportunity for the district government leadership to take ownership and promote these projects in their target areas.

Advocacy Training Follow-up: As districts complete advocacy trainings and begin to initiate communication committees that play a key role in working to implement advocacy ideas, SIKA-East has begun tracking individual advocacy efforts of training participants whose training has strengthened their ability to lobby on behalf of certain initiatives. The initiatives are selected by the individuals in the districts, and SIKA-East does not direct issue selection other than to encourage advocacy with an eye towards addressing previously identified sources of instability and projects in the DPP that may not be covered by a SIKA-East grant. Examples of these advocacy initiatives are included above in the sections for Andar, Dih Yak, and Baraki Barak.

SERVICE DELIVERY UNIT

Stakeholder Registers: SIKA-East worked together with PRRD, IDLG, DDAs, DCCs, and other key actors to complete the stakeholder mapping process and produce stakeholder registers in five districts: Laja Ahmad Khail and Laja Mangal Districts in Paktya Province and Gurbuz, Tani, and Jaji Maidan Districts in Khost Province. The following table shows detailed information:

Province	District	Planning Meetings						No of Interviews	Interview Teams
		PRRD	IDLG	DDA	DCC	SIKA-East staff	Other		
Khost	Gurbuz	0	8	4	0	3	1	40	3
	Tani	0	3	3	0	2	2	42	3
Paktya	Jaji maidan	0	7	7	14	3	0	40	3
	Laja Mangal	0	3	8	4	4	0	40	3
	Laja Ahmad Khail	1	2	10	15	3	0	40	2

Engineering Design Packages: In June, SIKA-East's engineering team completed the design of 14 projects for Logar, Maydan Wardak, and Ghazni Provinces. The total number of design projects completed to date is 82, and their total value is \$3,700,736. Meanwhile, 38 more projects are under design.

The status of engineering design packages is as follows:

Status of SIKA-East Engineering Design Packages

Districts			Designs		Projects Completion Status	
Province	Batch	District	Total Design in Progress	Designs Completed	In Progress \$	Complete \$
Maydan Wardak	A	Saydabad	3	30	15,656	826,941
	B	Nirkh	4	15	320,240	838,200
	C	Chaki Wardak	6	3	332,233	132,161
Logar	B	Mohammad Agha	8	23	514,634	1,266,322
	A	Baraki Barak	9	3	557,716	264,270
Ghazni	B	Dih Yak	3	8	119,088	372,844
	C	Andar	5	0	276,019	0
Paktya	C	Zadran	0	0	0	0
Subtotals			38	82	2,135,566	3,700,738
Grand Totals			120		5,836,324	

GRANTS AND SUB-CONTRACTS UNIT

Grant Awards: In June, GSU awarded 19 grants, following the 22 grants that were awarded in May. This brings the total number of grants awarded to date to 41, and their value to \$1,729,386. At the end of June, CDCs were implementing, or planning to implement, 22 grants in Mohammad Agha District, 7 in Nirkh, and 12 in Saydabad.

Grant Management Training: GSU continued with Grant Management training for the new grant recipients located in Saydabad, Nirkh, and Mohammad Agha Districts.

Payments: SIKA-East completed first milestone payments for the first ten grantees from Saydabad District and the first ten grantees from Mohammad Agha District, with a total value of \$164,868. The CDCs have successfully completed all requirements related to the first milestone from the grant agreement, including the opening ceremony and development of a workplan. SIKA-East's M&E unit has verified these achievements, and the CDCs have confirmed receipt of the funds.

Non-Infrastructure Grants: GSU's non-infrastructure grants team has developed scopes of work and requests for proposals for a series of tailoring, embroidery, fruit and vegetable processing, and poultry raising trainings in the districts of Saydabad, Nirkh, Chaki Wardak, and Baraki Barak. These trainings will address community requests identified in approved DPPs, most of them made by women, and additionally seek to create longer-term market opportunities for women from the four districts.

CDC/DDA Past Performance and Vetting: MRRD has submitted seven discs with information on CDCs in seven active SIKA-East districts. Received information and electronic versions of NSP documents and forms have a very positive impact in speeding up the vetting process and verifying CDC officials. Information about a CDC's past performance and implemented projects also accelerates and supports the CDC prequalification process.

CDC Tax Exemption: This month, the Ministry of Finance provided a letter for SIKA-East confirming the tax-exempt status of CDCs and DDAs.

Grant Applications Status: Kabul and field teams continued to support CDCs in grant application development processes, including the collection of required support documents. The current status of grant applications is summarized in the following table.

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

District	Under Development	Apps. Received	Apps. Received	Vetting Pending with USAID	Vetting Approved by USAID	GRC Approved	USAID Approval Requested	USAID Approval Received		Grants Awarded	
	No.	No.	\$ Value	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	\$ Value	No.	\$ Value
Andar	23	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0		
Dih Yak	15	6	237,302	1	2	6	2	1	25,380		
Mohammad Agha	21	23	1,110,264	4	20	22	22	22	1,025,875	22	1,025,875
Nirakh	20	12	692,125	2	14	9	8	8	454,634	7	417,051
Saydabad	5	22	678,580	5	5	22	19	14	359,808	12	286,460
Chaki Wardak	5	3	118,944	0	0	3	3	0	0		
Baraki Barak	40	3	238,600	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Total	129	69	3,075,822	16	41	62	54	45	1,865,697	41	1,729,386
Total		198									

CAPACITY BUILDING AND GENDER UNIT

Women's Participation in Ghazni Service Providers Fair: At the recent Service Providers Fair in Ghazni, 20 of the 70 service providers booths were run by women. The presence of so many women was highly appreciated by PRRD, the Directorate of Public Health, and others. During the fair, many women were asked to share their views of the event by Ariana TV, Ghazni TV, and Afghan National TV. Those interviewed were nearly unanimous in saying they liked the fair and were glad it had been organized by PRRD and SIKA-East. Many of them also said that such events are a good means to encourage women to take part in community affairs.

Working Group Meeting: On June 25 and 30, the gender working group met in Kabul to discuss ways forward on the implementation of the recently developed gender mainstreaming strategy. The main goals of the meetings were to operationalize the gender strategy and explore ways to increase the participation of women in SIKA-East.

PROGRAM SUPPORT UNIT

New District Launches: Kabul staff provided organizational and logistical support for the launches of SIKA-East in Laja Ahmad Khail and Laja Mangal Districts in Paktya Province on June 19 and in Gurbuz, Jaji Maidan, and Tani Districts in Khost Province on June 21. They also coordinated with Operations to set up SIKA-East offices in the new districts.

MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND LEARNING UNIT

M&E Work Plans: During the month, SIKA-East developed 40 M&E work plans for grants and completed 40 M&E indicator reporting plans to reach the first milestones of grants projects in Mohammad Agha District. In addition, field staff completed 33 first milestone site visit reports: 7 in Nirakh, 12 in Saydabad, and 14 in Mohammad Agha.

Results Framework: The SIKA-East Results Framework and Performance Management Plan (PMP) narrative has been sent to USAID for review and approval. SIKA-East is working to complete the Performance Indicator Reference Sheet (PIRS) section of the PMP.

Web-based Database: Thirty-four grant applications were entered into the SIKA-East database during June. Unit staff trained field officers on how to enter grant applications and other data into the database and will continue to train them until everyone is capable of fully using the database.

M&E Trainings: Unit staff prepared, translated, and finalized the training material for M&E trainings, which were conducted in Kabul from June 3 to 5 and from June 11 to 13. A total of 85 participants attended the trainings, including SIKA-East M&E officers and field staff; PRRD Directors and their staff, and District Governors and their staff. The training sessions focused on basic M&E concepts, structures, roles and responsibilities, M&E tools, and standard operating procedures for the provincial and district M&E officers.

SECURITY UNIT

Overall Security Situation: While general incident reporting in the SIKA East districts is down from May, the month of June has seen a number of significant incidents with programmatic impact.

On June 6 and 10, the district center in Zadran was subject to direct and indirect fire with small arms, RPGs, and mortars. While the attacks were launched from a relative distance and were essentially aimed at an ANA convoy, a significant amount of munitions landed in close proximity to the district center. Some small arms fire did in fact hit the district center, where SIKA-East field staff are embedded on a day-to-day basis and as such are highly exposed. Depending on the frequency of attacks on the Zadran district center, it may be necessary to withdraw SIKA East field staff to operate from the provincial office, albeit temporarily, until their safety can be better addressed. ANSF resources at the district level are generally insufficient to prevent these types of attack.

On the morning of June 23, two SIKA-East staff from Nirkh District were abducted while en route to Maydan Shahr near Folang Khan Village. Security initiated communications with local authorities and community elders, which resulted in the release of the two staff that evening. While no significant threat or incident reporting existed in Nirkh prior to the incident, it seems clear that the route between Nirkh and Maydan Shahr is becoming more volatile again and that frequent attacks on military convoys, illegal insurgent checkpoints, and abductions will hamper travel for SIKA-East staff.

Security Risk Assessments: Security Department conducted a security risk assessment of the new Maydan Shahr guesthouse. The department also finalized the assessments of the Jaghatu and Jalriz DSU offices. The building proposed for the Jaghatu DSU office did not meet the security requirements for staff to operate. Another building that meets the security requirements was identified for possible rent.

Security Training: From June 16 to 18, the Security Unit conducted the quarterly security training for the field services officers of ten districts. During the training, the officers were briefed on the security problems in the districts of their operation and their responsibility towards the safety of staff and the implementation of the standard operating procedures for security.

Armored Vehicles Registration: The Security Unit finalized and acquired the registration books for the USAID-supplied armored vehicles. The licenses are delayed, awaiting the signature of the Deputy Minister of Interior. This is expected early next month.

OPERATIONS UNIT

Logistics: SIKA-East in Kabul shipped equipment and furniture to field offices in all five provinces.

Procurement Activities: The status of vetting for procurement purchases and grants is shown in the following tables:

Procurement Vetting Tracker

(for purchase orders showing activity in June)

No	Vetted Company	Description	Final submission of all documents to USAID	Acknowledgment by USAID	Vetting approved by USAID	Days Pending	Remarks
19	Jubaili Bros Co.	Generator	1 May 13 Resend 8 May 13		20 Jun 13	43	Approved
23	Afghan ICT Solution Co.	VSAT	14 May 13	16 May 13	2 Jun 13	17	Approved
24	Khan Smooth Logistic and Service Co.	Septic tank/water	19 May 13	20 May 13	4 Jun 13	15	Approved
25	Asia Light Global Technical Services Co.	Generator for PMU/DSU offices	19 May 13	21 May 13	13 Jun 13	25	Approved
26	Ample Logistics Services	Connex for PMU & DSU Office	2 Jun 13	4 Jun 13	30 Jun 13	28	Approved
27	Zeenat Aria Ltd.	Home Appliances kitchenware	6 Jun 13	10 Jun 13		24	
28	Ernst & Young Ford Rhodes Sidat Haidar	Tax Advisory Services	6 Jun 13	10 Jun 13		26	
29	Ahmad Ilham Ltd	Disesl 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		24	
32	Ariana Network Services	Internet Bandwith for office	6 Jun 13	10 Jun 13	23 Jun 13	17	Approved
32a	Nasar Ali Zaman Razaie Ltd	Cleaning Supply	12 Jun 13	13 Jun 13		18	
33	Clean House Cleaning Service Co.	Empty of septic tank & garbage	12 Jun 13	13 Jun 13		18	

Grants Vetting Tracker

(for unapproved grant applications and applications showing activity in June)

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 # G001	Mohammad Shapoor, Head of Hassan Khel CDC / Retaining Wall Construction	26 Feb 13	26 Feb 13	27 Feb 13	Returned for more information	0	Additional information requested
VAR # G014	Ahmaddudin, Head of Wazeeri CDC, Siya Bini Kariz Extension	8 Apr 13	10 Apr 13	14 Apr 13	4 Jun 13	16	Approved
VAR # G024	Soor Kariz CDC, Soor Kariz Extension	5 May 13	5 May 13	6 May 2013	2 Jun 13	27	Approved
VAR # G030	Beco Naizgul Khni Qala CDC, Khni Kariz Extension	9 May 13	9 May 13	12 May 13	2 Jun 13	21	Approved
VAR # G031	Beco Naizgul Khni Qala CDC, Beco Niazgul Qala Kariz Extension	9 May 13	9 May 13	12 May 13	2 Jun 13	21	Approved
VAR # G032	Mahmood Khil CDC, Mahmood Khil Kariz Extension	12 May 13	12 May 13	14 May 13	2 Jun 13	199	Approved
VAR # G033	Mahmood Khil CDC, Charshanbi Kariz Extension	13 May 13	13 May 13	14 May 13	2 Jun 13	19	Approved
VAR # G034	Qala Abdul Rauf CDC, Construction of Abdul Rauf Super Passage	14 May 13	14 May 13	16 May 13		45	
VAR # G035	Nazeer Qala Abbazak CDC, Nazeer Qala Kariz Extension	14 May 13	14 May 13	16 May 13	2 Jun 13	17	Approved
VAR # G036	Shah Kabul Kalan CDC, Nawe Kariz Extension	14 May 13	14 May 13	16 May 13	2 Jun 13	17	Approved
VAR # G037	Karimadad Jonobi CDC, Road Rehabilitation and Retaining Wall Construction plus Karimadad Road Culvert Construction	15 May 13	16 May 13	19 May 13	2 Jun 13	14	Approved
VAR # G038	Badee Khil CDC, Badee Khil Kariz Extension	15 May 13	16 May 13	19 May 13	2 Jun 13	14	Approved

VAR # G039	Stara Shiga Baghak CDC	15 May 13	16 May 13	19 May 13	13 Jun 13	23	Approved
VAR # G040	Ramak CDC, Ramak Zagone Kariz Extension	20 May 13	20 May 13	21 May 13	23 Jun 13	10	Approved
VAR # G041	Tasan Bala CDC, Tasan Bala Kariz Extension	20 May 13	20 May 13	21 May 13	2 Jun 13	33	Approved
VAR # G042	Patan Khil CDC, Shash Qala Kariz Extension	26 May 13	26 May 13	28 May 13		35	
VAR # G043	Khwoja Kotgi CDC, Dewalgai and Khwoja Kotgi Kariz Extensions	27 May 13	27 May 13	30 May 13	23 Jun 13	24	Approved
VAR # G044	Sar Kala Markazi CDC, Canal and Water Reservoir Rehabilitation	May 30-2013	May-30-2013	6 Jun 13	16 Jun 13	10	Approved
VAR #G045	Joy Asiab CDC, Construction of Omarkhil Retaining Wall Project	30 May 13	30 May 13	6 Jun 13	25 Jun 13	19	Approved
VAR #G046	Bata CDC, Poultry Farm in Bata Haji Qala Project	9 Jun 13	9 Jun 13	10 Jun 13		20	
VAR #G047	Payendi CDC, Bridge Construction Project of Khairawal and Payeni Villages	9 Jun 13	9 Jun 13	10 Jun 13		20	
VAR #G048	Abo Khan (CDC, Poultry Farm in Mihtar Godali Abo Khan and Bagha	9 Jun 13	9 Jun 13	10 Jun 13		20	
VAR #G049	Mash CDC, Repairing and Boundary Wall Construction for Mash Female School	9 Jun 13	9 Jun 13	10 Jun 13		20	
VAR #G050	Dih Yak DDA, Digging of 30 Bore Wells in Salimanzi Village	9 Jun 13	9 Jun 13	10 Jun 13		20	
VAR #G051	Taimani Badam CDC, Monthain Karez Extension	10 Jun 13	10 Jun 13	10 Jun 13		20	
VAR #G052	Lashkar Khil CDC, Construction of Protection Wall in Dehehnew	10 Jun 13	10 Jun 13				
VAR #G053	Alozia Najran CDC, Construction of Protection Wall in Katab Khil Area	10 Jun 13	10 Jun 13				
VAR #G054	Usefkhil CDC, Culverts Construction	11 Jun 13	11 Jun 13				
VAR #G055	Zin Khan Khil CDC, Zin Khan Khil Deep Wells	13 Jun 13	13 Jun 13				
VAR #G056	Loy Kali Dashtak CDC, Karez Extension for Loy Khali Dashtak Dewalgai	13 Jun 13	13 Jun 13				
VAR #G057	Haser Tangi Dashtak CDC, Karez Extension for Haser Tangi Dashtak	13 Jun 13	13 Jun 13				
VAR #G058	Amankhil CDC, Hamzakhil Karez Extension and Amankhil Culverts Construction	16 Jun 13	16 Jun 13				
VAR #G059	Sagay Garge CDC, Dewalgai and Dalil Karez Extension	19 Jun 13	19 Jun 13				
VAR #G060	Akali CDC, Super Passage Construction and Canal Rehabilitation	24 Jun 13	24 Jun 13				
VAR #G061	Deh Kharotee CDC, Deh Kharotee Kurez Rehabilitation	24 Jun 13	24 Jun 13				
VAR #G062	Ganda Cheshma CDC, Ganda Cheshma Karez Extension and Rehabilitation	26 Jun 13	26 Jun 13	27 Jun 13			
VAR #G063	Tagab Payan CDC, Construction of New Surrounding Wall for Tagab Payan School	26 Jun 13	26 Jun 13	27 Jun 13			

HUMAN RESOURCES UNIT

The Human Resources unit recruited and hired 41 employees in June. The following table provides details on the newly hired staff.

Recently Hired SIKA-East Staff

No.	Position/Title	Gender	Employer	Unit	Province
1	HR Recruitment Officer	Male	AECOM	HR	Kabul
2	M&E Officer	Male	OSC	MELU	Paktya
3	Field Service Officer	Male	AECOM	Field Ops	Ghazni
4	District Engineer	Male	AECOM	IR4-Engineering	Paktya
5	Grants and Subcontracts Training Officer	Male	IRD	IR4-G&S	Wardak
6	Grants and Subcontracts Training Officer	Male	IRD	IR4-G&S	Paktya
7	Resource Development Officer	Male	AECOM	ISS-IR2	Paktya
8	M&E Officer	Male	AECOM	MELU	Kabul
9	Admin and HR Assistant	Male	IRD	IR4-G&S	Kabul
10	Grants and Subcontracts Officer	Male	IRD	IR4-G&S	Khost
11	Grants and Subcontracts Officer	Male	IRD	IR4-G&S	Khost
12	Grants and Subcontracts Training Officer	Male	IRD	IR4-G&S	Khost
13	Field Service Officer	Male	AECOM	Field Ops	Ghazni
14	Field Service Officer	Male	AECOM	Field Ops	Logar
15	District Engineer	Male	AECOM	IR4-Engineering	Ghazni
16	Audit Compliance Officer	Male	AECOM	Audit	Kabul
17	District Team Leader	Male	AECOM	PSU-DSU	Paktya
18	Grants and Subcontracts Training Officer	Male	IRD	IR4-G&S	Paktya
19	Communication and Outreach Officer	Male	OSC	IR3	Ghazni
20	Grants and Subcontracts Training Officer	Male	IRD	IR4-G&S	Paktya
21	Grants and Subcontracts Training Officer	Male	IRD	IR4-G&S	Paktya
22	Grants and Subcontracts Training Officer	Male	IRD	IR4-G&S	Khost
23	Grants and Subcontracts Officer	Male	IRD	IR4-G&S	Paktya
24	Grants and Subcontracts Officer	Male	IRD	IR4-G&S	Paktya
25	Grants and Subcontracts Training Officer	Male	IRD	IR4-G&S	Khost
26	Communication & Outreach Officer	Male	OSC	IR3	Ghazni
27	Grants and Subcontracts Training Officer	Male	IRD	IR4-G&S	Khost
28	Grants and Subcontracts Training Officer	Male	IRD	IR4-G&S	Paktya
29	Grants and Subcontracts Training Officer	Male	IRD	IR4-G&S	Khost
30	Grants & Subcontracts Training Officer	Male	IRD	IR4-G&S	Paktya
31	Resource Development Officer	Male	AECOM	ISS-IR2	Khost
32	Capacity Building Officer	Male	AECOM	ISS-CBT&G	Khost
33	Field Service Officer	Male	AECOM	Field Ops	Khost
34	Community Development Officer	Male	AECOM	ISS-Comm Dev	Ghazni
35	Community Development Officer	Male	AECOM	ISS-Comm Dev	Ghazni
36	Resource Development Officer	Male	AECOM	ISS-IR2	Ghazni
37	Community Development Officer	Male	AECOM	ISS-Comm Dev	Wardak
38	Resource Development Officer	Male	AECOM	ISS-IR2	Ghazni
39	Community Development Officer	Male	AECOM	ISS-Comm Dev	Paktya
40	Field Service Officer	Male	AECOM	Field Ops	Khost
41	M&E Officer	Male	AECOM	MELU	Ghazni

NEXT STEPS

- Finalize the narratives for the Andar and Zurmat DPPs and submit them for USAID approval;
- Continue working on the Khwaja Umari and Khoshi DPPs;
- Initiate recording of the radio plays with a Paktya accent for airing in that district;
- Prepare for sub-coordination meetings in Zurmat;
- Review the Khost Service Providers Catalogue and obtain USAID approval;
- Conduct post-evaluation of Service Providers Fairs;
- Prepare for a resource coordination meeting in Paktya;
- Conduct a lessons learned workshop;
- Begin working on June monthly Media Analysis Report;
- Continue reviewing Andar and Baraki Barak district profiles;
- Continue preparing Batch E and F district profiles;
- Continue facilitating communication committee meetings;
- Continue creating district communication plans;
- Conduct Resource Dialogue and Advocacy trainings for men and women in Batch E districts;
- Follow up on office space and office establishment in the newly approved districts of Jalriz, Jaghatu, and Ahmad Abad with related District Governors and PMU/DSU teams;
- Follow up on equipment shipments to the newly approved districts;
- Follow up on replacement of the Maydan Wardak guesthouse with the related departments;
- Conduct meetings with communities to pave the way for project implementation;
- Review stakeholder registration forms of five districts;
- Conduct the sixth SIKA Induction;
- Plan for identification of female stakeholders in Paktya Province;
- Monitor the projects and provide technical assistance to CDCs during implementation of the awarded infrastructure projects;
- Continue surveys and designs for Saydabad, Nirkh, Chaki Wardak, Mohammad Agha, Baraki Barak, Dih Yak, and Zadrán, based on DPP Cycle 1;
- Conduct Infrastructure Project Planning and Infrastructure Project Implementation training for several districts; and
- Continue recruitment by HR Department of 86 staff:
 - 36 vacancies in process with AECOM;
 - 6 vacancies in process with OSC;
 - 44 vacancies in process with IRD.

APPENDIX A

WORKSHOPS AND TRAININGS CONDUCTED IN JUNE

Date	Title	Location	Type	Men	Women
June 2	GRC ToT	Andar/Ghazni	Training	10	
June 2-6	Infrastructure Project Planning	Gardez/Paktya	Training	45	
June 2-3	SIKA Induction	Kabul	Workshop	19	
June 3-5	M&E Training	Kabul/ Park Star	Training	46	1
June 5-6	Grant Management	Mohammad Agha/ Logar	Training	14	
June 9	Verify DPP	Khoshi/ Logar	Training	57	
June 9	Verify DPP	Khwaja Umari/ Ghazni	Training	51	
June 9-13	Stability Planning Process	Kabul	ToT	27	2
June 10-11	Security and Operation	Kabul	Training	10	
June 11	Language Review and DPP Endorsement by DDA+	Khoshi/ Logar	Training	21	
June 10-13	Grant Management	Mohammad Agha/ Logar	Training	47	
June 10-13	Grant Management	Saydabad/ Maydan Wardak	Training	13	
June 10-13	Grant Management	Nirakh/ Maydan Wardak	Training	60	
June 11-13	M&E Training	Kabul	Training	39	0
June 16-17	Advocacy	Kabul	ToT	7	1
June 16-18	Project Design and Development	Zurmat/Paktya	Training	50	0
June 16-18	Security and Operation	Kabul	Training	7	1
June 16-20	Stability Planning Process	Khoshi/Logar	Training	50	0
June 16-20	Grants Process and Application Development	Zadran/Paktya	Training	40	0
June 18-22	Stability Planning Process	Khwaja Umari/Logar	Training	55	0
June 18-19	Resource Dialogue and Advocacy	Khoshi/Logar	Training	0	45
June 23-24	Resource Dialogue and Advocacy	Khwaja Umari/ Ghazni	Training	50	0
June 23-24	Gender	Kabul	Workshop	13	3
June 23-25	Stakeholder Orientation and Governance Foundation	Gurbuz/ Khost	Training	0	40
June 23-25	Resource Dialogue and Advocacy	Khoshi/Logar	Training	59	0
June 23-26	Grant Process and Application Development	Zurmat/ Paktya	Training	45	0
June 24-25	Infrastructure Project Planning	Mohammad Agha/Logar	Training	40	0
June 25-27	Stakeholder Orientation and Governance Foundation	Laja Mangal /Paktya	Training	47	0
June 25-27	Stakeholder Orientation and Governance Foundation	Gurbuz/ Khost	Training	65	0
June 26-27	SIKA Induction	Kabul	Workshop	25	0
June 26-27	Infrastructure Project Planning	Khoshi/Logar	Training	50	0
June 26-27	Infrastructure Project Planning	Saydabad/Maydan Wardak	Training	34	0
June 26-27	Stakeholder Engagement and Governance Foundation	Laja Ahmad Khail /Paktya	Training	61	0
June 26-30	Infrastructure Project Planning	Khwaja Umari/ Ghazni	Training	50	0

APPENDIX B

SIGNIFICANT MEETINGS CONDUCTED IN JUNE

Date	Topic	Location	Narrative Description	Result
June 2	Coordination with PRRD	Ghazni	Discussed certain problematic CDCs in Dih Yak and the PRRD endorsement process.	The PRRD issued an official letter to the Dih Yak District Governor CDCs and requested advice on resolving problems with them.
June 2	Coordination with PRRD	Logar	Discussed the possible participation of various representatives of PRRD and DRRD, as well as District Governors and other governmental officials, in a ToT on Monitoring and Evaluation.	The PRRD Director requested that SIKA-East send an official letter to PRRD so that they can inform the District Governors and line departments accordingly. The District Governors agreed that their staff may participate in the event.
June 2	M&E ToT	Khoshi/ Logar	Discussed the proposed M&E ToT with the Khoshi District Governor and executive manager and invited them to participate	Both men agreed to take part in the training.
June 2	Communication committee	Mohammad Agha/ Logar	Discussed the district communication plan drafted by the committee and to incorporate the views of the DDA+ in it.	They decided to share the plan with the DDA+.
June 2	Coordination with PRRD	Maydan Wardak	Discussed their activities and plans, as well as challenges and possible solutions.	They proposed solutions for challenges.
June 2-6	Coordination with service providers	Ghazni	The service providers were informed about the planned Service Providers Fair.	The service providers promised to participate in the SPF.
June 3	Coordination with PRRD	Logar	Discussed the service providers coordination meeting	The PMU Manager shared the agenda.
June 3	Coordination with Department of Economy	Logar	Discussed the service providers coordination meeting	The PMU Manager shared the agenda.
June 4	Coordination with key members of the DDA	Baraki Barak/ Logar	Discussed project surveys in the villages and DPP challenges.	The DDA members accepted that the existing DPP responds to community needs.
June 6	Communication committee	Zadran/ Paktya	Discussed the importance of DDA+ activities in communicating with the community and government authorities.	Developed communication protocols.
June 6	Communication committee	Nirakh/ Maydan Wardak	Female communication committee discussed grant awards and the evaluation of the communication plan.	They decided to follow up the issue in their next meeting.

June 8	Coordination with the Provincial Deputy Governor	Khost	Described the timeline of the SIKA-East launch and other events in Khost Province.	The Deputy Governor asked the PMU Manager to share all challenges and problems faced during program implementation. He promised to support the program in all phases.
June 11	Coordination with PRRD	Ghazni	Shared information regarding the planned SPF and selected a venue.	Olympic ground was selected for booth installation.
June 11	Coordination with the Deputy District Governor	Ghazni	Shared information regarding the SPF.	The Deputy Provincial Governor expressed satisfaction with the program and promised to support PRRD and SIKA-East with the SPF.
June 8-13	Women's participation in SPF	Ghazni	Gender officer approached female service providers and motivated them to participate in the SPF.	Many of the women agreed to participate.
June 8-13	Service Providers Catalogue update	Saydabad/ Maydan Wardak	Met different governmental service providers including the Deputy DG to received updated information regarding their services.	The DSU received required information and updated the SPC.
June 9	Coordination with PRRD	Ghazni	Discussed the problematic CDCs and signing endorsement letters	SIKA-East is tasked to have the role of IP in Dih Yak and sign NSP forms.
June 9	Coordination with PRRD	Wardak	Discussed the endorsement letter for the Chaki Wardak and Saydabad CDCs and followed up on the pending endorsement letter.	The PRRD Director promised to coordinate the mentioned letters with the provincial council and speed up the process.
June 9	Communication committee meeting	Dih Yak	Male communication committee discussed preparing a stability message for their audience	Based on the six-month strategic communication plan, the committee members prepared the stability message.
June 9	Communication committee meeting	Andar/ Ghazni	Male communication committee discussed six-month strategic communication plans for over all communication activities at the district level.	They decided to draft the plan.
June 9	Coordination with District Governor	Baraki Barak/ Logar	Updated the DG on program activities and sought his further support regarding the endorsement of grant-related documents.	The DG promised to support the process.
June 9	Communication committee	Saydabad/ Wardak	Male communication committee discussed projects awarded and how to publicize them.	They decided to follow up the topic in their next meeting.
June 10	Communication committee	Saydabad/ Wardak	Female communication committee discussed projects awarded and how to publicize them .	They decided to follow up the topic in their next meeting.
June 10	Communication committee meeting	Andar/ Ghazni	Female communication committee discussed six-month strategic communication plans for overall communication activities at the district level.	They decided to draft the plan.

June 10	Coordination with Deputy District Governor	Khost	Described all achievements of SIKA-East to date and discussed the SIKA-East launch in the approved Khost districts.	The Deputy Governor decided to send official letters to all sectors to introduce SIKA-East.
June 10	Coordination with District Governor and DDA members	Logar	DDA members discussed their concerns and comments regarding Cycle 1 projects.	It was decided that the PMU, DDA, and DG work together to select the projects equally for all hawzas.
June 10	Coordinate with District Governor	Zadran/ Paktya	Shared information about the grants process and the role of the DDA and the PMC.	The DG expressed appreciation for SIKA-East's role in the stabilization process in Zadran.
June 11	Coordination with PRRD	Logar	Update the PRRD Director and other stakeholders on the SIKA-East program.	The PRRD Director said he appreciated the progress SIKA-East has made in Logar.
June 11	Communication committee	Baraki Barak/ Logar	Female communication committee discussed the committee's goals, objectives, and benefits for the future	They developed a protocol to share the meetings with the larger DDA,
June 12	Gender involvement in program	Paktya	Gender officer discussed with PMU about the importance of women's involvement in the program and their role in stability.	The PMU agreed to work together to involve women in the program.
June 12	Coordination with the DG's Executive Manager	Khoshi/ Logar	Provided an update on SIKA-East activities	The Executive Manager was satisfied and expressed appreciation for SIKA-East's efforts in the stabilization process in Khoshi.
June 15	Coordination with PRRD and DG	Mohammad Agha/ Logar	Explained Cycle 1 projects and the procedure of project selection.	The DG said he was convinced that the projects are for the benefit of communities in the Baraki Barak District.
June 16	Cycle 1 projects	Dih Yak/ Ghazni	Discussed with DDA members about the Cycle 1 projects.	The DDA members agreed about the projects.
June 16	Coordination with PRRD	Khost	Discussed the agendas for the program launches in Jaji Maidan, Tani, and Gurbuz Districts.	The PRRD Director finalized and approved the agenda.
June 16	Communication committee	Baraki Barak/ Logar	The male communication committee conducted their first meeting and discussed the aims of the committee and responsibilities of the committee members.	They promised to share the outcome of the meeting with the larger DDA.
June 16	Coordination with PRRD	Maydan Wardak	Provided an update on SIKA-East activities in Maydan Wardak.	The PRRD Director expressed satisfaction with the program's progress.
June 17	Coordination with DG	Tani/ Khost	Shared the list of participants for the SIKA-East launch.	The DG approved the list of participants.
June 17	Communication committee	Mohammad Agha/ Logar	The male communication committee discussed the communication plan in their eleventh meeting.	They developed the communication plan.

June 17	Coordination with the Public Relations Officer of the Provincial Governor	Khost	Discussed the SIKA-East launch agenda, the participant list, and ways to measure security during the launch.	They agreed to deploy police to reduce any risk.
June 17	Coordination with DG	Paktya	Discussed the program and updated the DG on progress.	The DG was satisfied with program implementation and progress.
June 17	Coordination with Deputy DG	Nirkh/ Wardak	Discussed the status of Nirkh District activities and the commencement of grant projects at the district level.	The Deputy DG promised to support the project implementation.
June 17	Communication committee	Zurmat/ Paktya	Discussed the purpose and benefits of meetings and the importance of the DPP.	The committee developed a communication protocol.
June 18	Coordination with Provincial Governor	Logar	Discussed the service providers coordination meeting.	The Provincial Governor strongly supported the idea and mentioned that this event strengthens the links between the different sectors and the community.
June 18	Coordination with DG	Logar	Briefed the DG on the procedure of implementing projects at the field level.	The DG emphasized the need for a quick start of the projects as the community is eagerly anticipating this. He assured early endorsement of the grant documents.
June 18	Coordination with PRRD	Paktya	Discussed the unavailability of women in SIKA-East targeted districts in Paktya.	The PRRD Director mentioned that, due to cultural restrictions, women cannot take an active part in projects. He stated that the issue requires more advocacy, awareness, and extra time and effort to involve women in the program.
June 19	Coordination with PRRD and DG	Ghazni	Discussed problematic CDCs and endorsement letters.	The PRRD Director committed to process all the endorsement letters for problematic CDCs in Dih Yak within two weeks.
June 20	Coordination with DG	Mohammad Agha/ Logar	Discussed the concerns of the DDA+ members regarding Cycle 1 project selection.	Decided to hold a joint meeting with DDA+ members, the Mohammad Agha DSU, and the DG to address the problems.
June 20	Coordination with Provincial Governor	Khost	Briefed the Provincial Governor on SIKA-East and the various steps in program implementation.	The Provincial Governor said he would personally support SIKA-East in Khost and try to monitor and assist program implementation.
June 23	Coordination with PRRD and Provincial Governor	Logar	Updated the participants on SIKA-East progress in targeted districts of Logar Province.	The Provincial Governor suggested that SIKA-East prepare a presentation and provide further information on the program.
June 23	Seeking support from governmental service providers	Zadran/ Paktya	The CDC members met Directors of Education, Agriculture, and Health departments at their offices separately	As a result the parties promised to deliver some stationery and books and to equip and renovate the district clinic.

June 24	Coordination with the PRRD	Maydan Wardak	Updated the participants on SIKA-East progress in all targeted districts of Maydan Wardak Province.	The PRRD Director appreciated the PMU's effort in Maydan Wardak.
June 24	Communication committee	Baraki Barak/ Logar	Men's and women's communication committees conducted their second meeting and discussed the ways to develop a communication plan	They also filled out the first part of the worksheet identifying their communication plan goal and objectives.
June 24	Coordination with PRRD	Zadran/ Paktya	Discussed the best ways to launch the program in Garda Serai.	The PRRD suggested that they discuss this with the Provincial Governor first and with his permission conduct a meeting with the key elders of Garda Serai.
June 24	Communication committee	Nirakh /Wardak	The women's communication committee conducted their eleventh meeting and discussed the awarded projects' available budget and implementation timeline, the advantages of the projects for the community, and conveying the message to service providers.	They promised to share the outcome of the meeting with the larger DDA.
June 24	Communication committee	Saydabad/Wardak	The men's communication committee conducted a meeting and discussed awarded projects' available budget, implementation time, available human resources, feasibility of projects, and security.	They promised to share the outcome of the meeting with the larger DDA.
June 25	Coordinating with PRRD	Ghazni	Discussed the establishment of the Qarabagh DSU office as well as endorsement letters.	The PRRD Director promised to issue the endorsement letter for Dih Yak CDC. It was decided to meet the Deputy Provincial Governor and seek his suggestion on the DSU office
June 25	Grant Review Committee	Dih Yak/ Ghazni	Discussed three projects.	Approved three projects.
June 25	Program introduction to DDA executive members	Tani/ Khost	The PMU Manager explained the SIKA-East program and responded to the concerns of the DDA members.	The DDA members promised to support the program and the necessary changes in their district.
June 25	Coordination with the District Governor	Khoshi/ Logar	Updated the District Governor on program progress and coordinated upcoming activities and scheduled events.	The District Governor promised to support the program.
June 25	Communication committee	Zurmat/ Paktya	Men conducted their second communication committee meeting and discussed the goals and objectives of the committee.	They filled out various worksheets.
June 25	Communication committee	Chaki Wardak/ Wardak	Women conducted their seventh communication committee meeting and discussed the importance of communication in society, selection of communication channels and practical work on the communication plan.	They promised to share the outcome of the meeting with the larger DDA.

June 29	Communication committee	Saydabad/Wardak	Women's communication committee conducted their twelfth meeting and discussed their role in project implementation.	They concluded that they have an important role in the project's success.
June 30	Women involvement	Paktya	The Paktya gender officer met the provincial manager of AWEC to discuss the unavailability of women in Zurmat and Zadran Districts.	She promised to provide SIKA-East with a list of Zurmat and Zadran women endorsed by the District Governor.

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