



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**AFGHANISTAN**

## SNAPSHOT

### Greenery Employee Overcomes Hardships to become a Valued Member of the Department



*“Mr. Ahmad” a Greenery Department Employee is shown pruning rose bushes as part of his daily tasks on roads throughout Kabul.*

*“Mr. Ahmad” stated that, “My work allows me daily to work with some of the most beautiful plants and flowers in Kabul. I find great pleasure in my work seeing the fresh flowers growing in Kabul during the summer months.”*

Even in a city plagued by decades of civil war and strife as Kabul, people have been able to overcome numerous challenges to become a vibrant member of the community. Take for example, “Mr. Ahmad” of the Greenery Department at the Kabul Municipality. “Mr. Ahmad” lost both of legs more than two decades due to a mine explosion. His wife later lost her legs during the Afghan civil war. He has five children who all are very proud of the hard work and dedication their father has given to make Kabul a better place to live. “Mr. Ahmad” works for the Greenery Department and is responsible for maintaining the greenery on some of the most populated roads and parks in Kabul.

Recently, “Mr. Ahmad” took part in a Greenery training course organized by the Kabul City Initiative (KCI) project. KCI contracted with local greenery expert who taught the trainees about the pruning of trees, tree nutrients and park maintenance. More than 120 participants from the Greenery Department took part in this training.

Engineer Nasreen the Director General of the Greenery Department is grateful for the work of “Mr. Ahmad” and other members of her team. Early last year, Engineer Nasrin, a diehard green thumb at heart, was appointed the first ever women head of the Greenery Department. “Kabul Citizen’s role is very important in greening the city. We have distributed many trees to public places like mosques and schools for people to plant but we need to teach them how to take care of them as well; specially children and youth to not damage the trees and public parks and help their parents to make the city green” says Eng. Nasrin.

For his dedication to protecting the greenery as emphasized by both the DG for Greenery and H.E. Mayor Nawandesh, “Mr. Ahmad” received a letter of appreciation and a special motorbike from the department, which will now allow him to better conduct his routine tasks of preserving Kabul’s green landscapes.

A primary objective of the USAID-funded Kabul City Initiative (KCI) project is to build the capacity of the municipal staff to more effectively deliver city services.

#### Telling Our Story

U.S. Agency for International Development  
Washington, DC 20523-1000  
<http://stories.usaid.gov>