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Kabul City Employees Earn International Certification



“Checking the accuracy of a payment request using the newly installed Financial Management Information System (FMIS)”

Six months ago, the Kabul Municipality had no computer system. Earlier this month, 245 employees (or 15% of the 1600 person work force) earned their International Computer Driving License (ICDL). This week, another 200 employees enrolled in ICDL training, and once they complete and pass tests on all four on line modules, will also become certified to operate the City's new computer systems.

ICDL is the certifying authority for the leading international computer skills certification program. The ICDL training course is delivered in 148 countries through a network of nationally appointed partners. KCI subcontracted with a local Afghan company to deliver IT training and administer the certification program. The subcontractor's internationally certified ICDL instructors not only conducted the training but also administered a Training of Trainers (TOT) program and trained eight Afghans as certified ICDL instructors.

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. KCI is assisting the municipality in its transition from a paper based system and working to achieve computer literacy for a majority of Kabul's technical employees.

KCI IT staff have trained the City's IT staff and have worked jointly to install new systems and computers and oversee the ICDL training. A number of the computers now used by City employees were obtained from closed out USAID projects.

The City's Human Resource data base is now computerized rather than paper based. Most important, municipal staff are now able to operate and maintain the Financial Management Information System (FMIS) recently installed by KCI. A local subcontractor has been installing the system (compatible with the system used by the Ministry of Finance) and training the budget staff to produce the proposed budget on time, and to manage expenditures with the system.

Staff are now ICDL certified in all 16 municipal departments including: Policy and Planning, Finance, Construction Control, Land Acquisition, Revenue, Internal Audit, Cultural Services, Urban Planning, Market Control, Road Construction, Parks and Sanitation.

Telling Our Story

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