

SIKA-EAST WEEKLY PROGRAM UPDATE

No. 30

During the reporting period, IR1-led district teams conducted the fifth series of hawza stability analysis sessions in Baraki Barak and Sayadabad. The volatile security situation in the two districts created some initial delays, however, as the week progressed, the sessions grew in participation and were completed successfully with the formulation of comprehensive Hawza Stability Plans.

The aim of the fair is to provide opportunities for service providers to assess their activities in their targeted area by getting direct feedback from beneficiaries, help community better understand the service providers and how to access the services that address sources of instability. The team also finalized the Wardak Service Provider Catalog and it will submit it for the management review in the upcoming week.

During the past week, IR3 conducted one-day training for Kabul and field staff to assist them in understanding the importance of SIKA and its roll vis-à-vis strategic communication at the district and community levels. The participatory training produced a great deal of information and suggestions for skills training for both Kabul and field staff, using a train the trainer methodology. These ideas and suggestions will shape the activities IR3 will be providing over the next months to prepare the field staff to fulfill their mandates.



IR4/Community Development (CD,) Grants and Engineering Section field team participated in IR1-facilitated Baraki Barak and Sayedabad *Hawza* Stability Analysis Workshops. The Community Development worked during the past week with IR1 to frame *Hawza* steps for transforming SoI solutions into project concepts in preparation for the development of District Stability Plans and Project Concept Notes. Also, CD prepared for stakeholder mapping as part of district profile development and roll-out in Narkh, Andar, Zurmat, Waza Zadran and Chak districts and began collecting existing district planning data (DDP and CDPs) in Narkh.

IR4/Grant Manager visited Logar Provincial Office in Pul-e-Alam and provided one-day training for grant team members on internal grant activities and internal reporting and communication within the Grant Department.

The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E), during the course of this week, collected info data required for AID Effectiveness indicators for the third quarter from relevant departments including Finance, Human Resources (HR), Security and Procurement. The gathered data will be submitted to the Home Office (HO) for review and upload onto the portal by next week. In addition, the team finalized Data Collection Forms for three high level indicators – 1, 2 and 3 – and shared it with PSU ICT Subunit to be used in the development process of the required database.

In the course of the week, the Capacity Building Department, together with IR1, coordinated activities in preparation of 3-day Hawza Stability Analysis Session (Women's Perspective) for Baraki Barak and Saydabad districts. The team also finalized the tracking process of all of the trainings conducted by relevant IRs and departments so far. Additionally, the team held meetings with the representatives of Care International, Human Rights Independent Commission, Directorate of Women Affairs (DoWA) and ANBDP officials in Ghazni and Paktia discussed their programs and the issue of women's involvement in the two provinces.

Program Support Unit (PSU) updated the SIKA-East roll-out tracker. PSU Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Subunit continued providing support to IRs and departments and is working intensively on designing and developing the required databases. ICT managed and

conducted a creative brainstorming session on the IR4 database and designed a tabular CRUD module in MS Access for IR4 database.

PSU Translation and Editing Subunit played a key role and supported the whole program by providing professional, reliable and accurate translation and interpreting services. Some of the key documents translated during the course of this week were: Hawza Stability Plans and the Service Providers Catalogue (SPC).

FIELD ACTIVITIES

GHAZNI

The Ghazni PMU Team put great efforts in terms of coordinating and managing other day-to-day activities and preparing the lists of DDA, CDCs and influential tribal elders for the anticipated Hawza Stability Analysis Sessions.

Ghazni Provincial IR3 Officer met Mr. Abdullah Woti, the Deputy Chief of Andar District DDA. Mr. Woti discussed the general situation in Ghazni and added that since the uprising of people against Taliban, the security situation has somewhat improved. He also committed to fully support and work closely with SIKA-East during the program implementation in Andar.



PAKTYA

The process of gathering information for Service Providers Catalogue (SPC) is completed after putting great efforts within the specified timeline. Also during the course of this week, the Paktya team attended the regular PRRD weekly meeting. Apart from this, Paktia Capacity Building Officer, Ms. Khadija Hakim, visited the Human Rights Independent Commission and conducted an assessment to determine the type of women-related projects that are already in place in our targeted districts and how are these projects implemented.

LOGAR

During the course of this week, Logar PMU Team met PRRD Director and DDA Chairperson and discussed the organization of the Shamazar Hawza Stability Analysis Session. After the confirmation of the training date and space, the team made preparations for the training and managed to secure attendance of more than 20 community elders from Shah Mazar, one of the most neglected and unstable areas of the district. With the conclusion of the Shah Mazar hawza, the stability analysis phase will end in Baraki Barak and the efforts will focus on the activities leading to the development of the District Project Portfolio (DPP).

MAIDAN WARDAK

During the course of this week, SIKA-East Wardak PMU team held Onkhi Hawza Stability Analysis Session according to the planned schedule. The meeting lasted for three days and was attended by CDC members, local influential people and elders. The meeting ended successfully and all the participants committed that they will fully support the program in their villages.



For the purpose of conducting Tangi Hawza Stability Analysis session next week, coordination meeting was held with PRRD, DDA, PG and Sayedabad Social Organizers and the plan for the meeting was shared with them. The participants

will be invited accordingly and the logistic preparation for this training is made as well. It is of note that Tangi is the most unsecured zone at the district level.

HUMAN RESOURCES/ADMINISTRATION/SUPPORT

SIKA-East's Human Resource Department, during this week, hired 4 staff. 6 offers have been accepted by the candidates and a total of 60 vacancies are under process.

QCA, LOGISTICS, PROCUREMENT AND SECURITY

The Audit and Quality Control (QCA) team made great efforts in conducting the physical inventory of the property. The inventory is still in progress and will be completed in an efficient and timely manner to make sure each action is in accordance with the required procedures. Also, the team checked procurement files, and conducted the cash count with the Finance Department.

SIKA-East's Procurement team, in addition to managing other day-to-day activities, issued new RFQs, followed up the previous announcements and as well as awarded different Purchase Orders (POs) for procuring different services and equipments for the program. The Contract for Digital Sender has been awarded and already received the goods.

The Logistic Department provided enough support by deploying the required tools and equipments to the provincial and district offices.

PROGRAM NEXT WEEK KEY ACTIVITIES PROJECTION

During the upcoming week, IR1 will conduct the sixth Hawza stability session in Sayadabad and start organizing the follow on Hawza-level process to turn the proposed solutions to the identified sources of instability into concrete activities. IR1 will also work closely with the Capacity Building and Gender on the three-day Hawza Stability Analysis Session (Women's perspective) where influential women from Baraki Barak and Sayedabad will be asked to identify main drivers of instability in their respective areas and propose solutions to address them. IR1 will continue making preparations for a quick roll out in additional districts, pending the approval from USAID and MRRD.

During the course of next week, IR2 will finalize the content of Service Provider Booklet with SIKA-East management and USAID.

IR4 CD and ESG will participate in final *Hawza* Stability Analysis sessions in Sayedabad and continue discussing with IR1 the activities leading to the development of the District Project Portfolio.

District and provincial grant team members will continue to participate and support Hawza Stability Analysis Sessions in Wardak Province and upon the finalization of the workshops, they will continue to work closely with community leaders on the identification of the possible projects. The team will also participate in Hawza Stability Analysis Session (Women's Perspective) for the female Hawza members from Wardak and Logar Provinces and provide an introduction to the grant cycle.

The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Department will interview female M&E Officer and follow up on the District M&E Officer's recruitment process with the Human Resources (HR) Department and ensure that the Afghan Info is submitted accordingly.

The Capacity Building Department will facilitate, together with IR1, 3-day Hawza Stability Analysis Session (Women's Perspective) for Baraki Barak and Saydabad districts and will also coordinate the 4-day MS Project training for SIKA-HQ. In addition to that, the team plans to coordinate Grants Department's training for SIKA-East field staff.

FIELD ACTIVITIES:

GHAZNI

Ghazni PMU Team will be busy managing the day-to-day activities and coordinating district and provincial level activities with the central level. The team will work closely with Kabul office to prepare the lists of DDA, CDC and influential leaders from Andar and Deh Yak to prepare for the quick roll out in the two districts.

PAKTYA

During the course of upcoming week, the Paktya PMU Team will be busy in managing Zurmat and Waza Zadran DSU Offices. The team will work closely with Kabul office to prepare the lists of DDA, CDC or influential leaders from Zurmat and Waza Zadran to prepare for the quick roll out in the two districts.

LOGAR

The Logar PMU Team besides following up other day-to-day activities plans to shift the equipments from the PMU Office to the Baraki Barak DSU. The team will also spend time reviewing the hawza stability plans and work closely with IR1 on taking stock of the stability analysis phase completed in Baraki Barak.

MAIDAN WARDAK

Maidan Wardak PMU Team will coordinate and facilitate the Nerkh district zone roll-out meetings. The team also plans to pursue the recruitment process of the required candidates with the Human Resources (HR) Department and will also put great efforts in terms of setting up Nerkh DSU Office.

QCA, LOGISTICS, PROCUREMENT AND SECURITY

The Quality Control and Audit (QCA), Logistic, and Procurement Departments will make sure they provide efficient and timely support to the program.

The Security Department will conduct Security Risk Assessment for Sayedabad District and Ghazni PMU Office. The team will also train the Security & Operation Officers on security and reporting procedures as well. On the other hand, the training for APPF Guards and staff on procedures for SIKA East will be continued.

The SIKA-East Weekly Updates details, last week achievement and next week projection. Should you require any additional information on any specific item, do not hesitate to contact SIKA-East Information and Reporting Team at reports@sikaeast.com.