

SIKA-EAST WEEKLY PROGRAM UPDATE

NO. 78

SIGNIFICANT PROVINCIAL ACTIVITIES

GHAZNI

- On June 11, 2013 the Ghazni Provincial Management Unit (PMU) Manager conducted coordination meetings with the Ghazni Provincial Rural Rehabilitation and Development (PRRD) Director with the aim of sharing information regarding a Service Provider Fair (SPF) and selecting a venue. As a result the Olympic ground was selected for booth installation. With the same purpose, the PMU Manager and PRRD Director met the Deputy Provincial Governor on the same day. The Deputy Provincial Governor expressed satisfaction with the program and promised to support PRRD and SIKA-East with the SPF. To date about 63 service providers have registered to install booths and participate in the fair.
- The Ghazni PMU shared the SPF invitation letter with the PRRD Director and after his approval distributed the invitation letter to the line departments, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) and Civil Society.
- During the week, the Ghazni Gender Officer was busy conducting meetings with female service providers. The purpose of the meetings was to brief them on the upcoming SPF in Ghazni Province and to motivate them to participate.
- On June 9, 2013 the Ghazni PMU representative participated in a meeting with the PRRD Director. The aim of this meeting was to discuss the problematic Community Development Councils (CDCs) and to sign endorsement letters. Since the National Solidarity Program (NSP) Implementing Partner (IP) has suspended their activities in Dih Yak, SIKA-East is tasked to have the role of IP in Dih Yak and sign NSP forms.

Andar District

- On June 9 and 10, 2013 male and female communication committees conducted their meetings respectively. The main focus of these meetings was to prepare six month strategic communication plans for over all communication activities at the district level.

Dih Yak District

- On June 9, 2013 the male communication committee conducted their tenth meeting. Based on the six month strategic communication plan, the committee members prepared the stability message for their audience.
- On June 9, 2013 the Dih Yak DSU completed grant application packages for four projects.

Jaghatau and Qarabagh Districts

- During the week recruitment for Jaghatu District Support Unit (DSU) as well as data collection for both District Profiles continued.

Khwaja Umari District

- The DDA+ members of Khwaja Umari District held a session to verify and endorse the District



Khwaja Umari DDA+ verifying DPP endorsement

Project Portfolio (DPP) on June 9, 2013. 51 male members of the DDA+ participated in this session.

KHOST

- On June 8, 2013 the Khost PMU Manager had a coordination meeting with the Provincial Deputy Governor. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the planned activities of SIKA-East in Khost. The PMU Manager described the timeline of the SIKA-East launch and other events in Khost Province. For purposes of the smooth running of the program, 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.
- On June 10, 2013 the PMU Manager had a meeting with the PRRD Director. The PMU Manager described all achievements of SIKA-East to date. The participants also discussed the SIKA-East launch in the approved Khost Districts. In order to introduce SIKA-East to other sectors, the Deputy Governor decided to send official letters to all sectors to introduce SIKA-East. This may help to obtain data about other service providers and to avoid project duplication in the province.
- The Khost PMU reviewed the District Profiles and sent these to Kabul for further processing. Additionally, the unit continued data collection for the Service Provider Catalog (SPC).

Gurbuz District

- The stakeholder survey of Gurbuz District was completed this week and was confirmed by the District Entities (DE)/District Governor (DG).

Jaji Maidan District

- Office equipment was shipped to Jaji Maidan District. The DSU office was set up is ready to function.
- The stakeholder survey was placed on hold this week due to the Jaji Maidan DSU being busy in trainings.

LOGAR

- On June 11, 2013 the PMU Manager participated in a PRRD-led coordination meeting to update the PRRD Director and other stakeholders on the SIKA-East program and to seek their further support with the program implementation. The PRRD Director appreciated the progress SIKA-East has made in the Logar Province.
- On June 9, 2013 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, 2013 the Logar PMU Manager had a meeting with the Mohammad Agha DG and DDA members to discuss their concerns and comments regarding the Cycle 1 projects. It was decided that the PMU, DDA and DG work together to select the projects equally for all *hawzas*.



Mohammed Agha DSU meeting the DG

Baraki Barak District

- On June 09, 2013 Baraki Barak DSU Manager had a meeting with the Baraki Barak DG to update him on the program activities and seek his further support regarding the endorsement of grant related documents.
- On June 11, 2013 the female 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.
- The Baraki Barak male communication committee meeting was delayed due to security reasons. This meeting will be held next week.



Female communication committee meeting in Baraki Barak

Khoshi District

- The DDA+ members of Khoshi District held a session to verify the DPP on June 9, 2013. 57 Male DDA+ members participated in this session.
- The DDA+ members of Khoshi District held a one-day Language Review and DPP Endorsement session on June 11, 2013. A total of 21 DDA+ members participated in this session.
- From June 7 to 10, 2013 the Khoshi DSU completed the key *hawza* level survey for nine *hawzas*.

Mohammad Agha District

- From June 10 to 13, 2013 Grant Management Training was conducted for the Mohammad Agha District CDC and DDA members. The average number of participants was 47 male members.
- On June 10, 2013 the Mohammad Agha DSU submitted the hard copy documents of ten projects including Fixed Obligation Grant (FOG) checklist form, payment request form, labors contracts, project technical supervisor qualification form, hiring plan form and the work plan to Kabul for further progressing.

PAKTYA

- On June 12, 2013 the Gender Officer held a meeting with the PMU staff. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the different ways to strengthen the role of gender in the program. The participants also discussed the importance of gender in stability programs. They agreed to work together to involve women in the program.
- The Paktya SPF event was broadcasted and aired in many local and international media outlets such as BBC Pashtu, Khedmatgar Newspaper, Pajwok Website, RTA and Paktya local radio stations. The event has been introduced as an important part of the growth of Paktya economics.

Zadran District

- On June 10, 2013 the Zadran DSU Manager held a meeting with the DG. The DSU Manager shared information about the grants process and the role of the DDA and the Project Management Committee (PMC). The DG expressed appreciation for SIKA-East's role in the stabilization process in the Zadran District.

Zurmat District

- During this week, the DPP for Zurmat District was endorsed by DG and the PRRD Director. The next step for this DPP is its translation for submission to USAID and moving on with Project Design and Development/Grant Process.

MAYDAN WARDAK

- On June 9, 2013 the PRRD Director held his weekly coordination meeting, which was attended by representatives of PRRD, SIKA-East, National Area Based Development Program (NABDP), NSP, and the Swedish Committee for Afghanistan. The topic discussed in this meeting was the endorsement letter for the Chaki Wardak and Saydabad CDCs. The PMU Manager followed up on the pending endorsement letter. The PRRD Director promised to coordinate the mentioned letters with provincial council and speed up the process.

Chaki Wardak District

- The Chaki Wardak District engineering team prepared the survey reports with the required details; meanwhile they worked on drawings and prepared the Bill of Quantity (BoQ) for the ten surveyed projects.
- The Chaki Wardak District grant team worked on the endorsement letters for Malikhail, Kharoti, Baghband and Salihkhail and obtained endorsements by the DG. The letters have been submitted to the Wardak provincial council for further processing.
- The Chaki Wardak DSU met different governmental and non-governmental organizations to collect data and update the SPC.

Jalrez District

- The Wardak PMU started recruitment for the Jalrez DSU. They announced key positions and enlisted some qualified candidates.

Nirkh District

- Grant Management Training was conducted for Nirkh CDCs from June 10 to 13, 2013. On average, 55 CDC members attended the training.
- During the week, Nirkh engineers conducted survey of projects in Badam Village. They collected the data and started to prepare the survey report.
- On June 6, 2013 the female communication committee conducted their tenth meeting in the Department of Women Affairs (DoWA) meeting hall. The participants discussed grant awards and the evaluation of the communication plan.
- The Nirkh DSU collected data in order to update the SPC.

Saydabad District

- During the week, the Saydabad DSU conducted meetings with different governmental service providers including the Deputy DG. The purpose of these meetings was to obtain updated information on services provided by governmental organizations in order to update



Meeting with Deputy District Governor

the SPC.

- The Saydabad male and female communication committees conducted their eleventh meeting on June 9 and 10, 2013 respectively. The meeting focused on projects awarded and how to publicize them.
- Grant Management Training was conducted for Saydabad CDCs from June 10 to 13, 2013. On average, 13 CDC members attended the training.

SIGNIFICANT KABUL-BASED ACTIVITIES

- Following the stakeholder survey, SIKA-East conducted the Stability Planning Process Training of Trainers (ToT) session for the newly hired staff in Gurbuz, Tani, Jaji Maidan, Laja Ahmad Khail, and Laja Mangal Districts from June 9 to 13, 2013. The representatives of PRRD and DoWA were among the participants. During this session, the SIKA-East core team presented the program and the Stability Analysis Methodology (SAM) which will help district teams and government partners to work with sub-national entities such as DDA, CDC and District Community Councils (DCCs) in identifying the Sources of Instability (SoI) and solutions to minimize these through holding dialogs and applying SAM.
- The broadcasting of radio plays was completed this week. The radio plays were designed to foster a district dialogue on sources of instability and resources available to combat them. The radio plays targeted to air in early May 2013, 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 stability at the local level.
- An informal survey for stakeholder mapping was completed in Laja Mangal and Laja Ahmad Khail Gurbuz, Tani and Jaji Miadan Districts. The surveyors of these districts will call a core team meeting to analyze the survey data in order to develop the stakeholder register.
- During the week, USIAD approved grant applications for two grantees from Dih Yak with a total value \$51,636.
- SIKA-East conducted a Grant Review Committee (GRC) meeting in Wardak for the evaluation of four projects from Saydabad, three from Chaki Wardak and one from Nirkh Districts. All eight applications have received concurrence for further processing.

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	0	0
Dih Yak	18	3	111,036	3	0	3	2	0	0	0	0
Mohammad Agha	21	23	1,110,264	1	20	22	22	22	1,025,875	22	1,025,875
Nerkh	20	12	692,125	2	13	10	8	8	454,634	7	417,051
Saydabad	6	21	624,447	3	4	21	14	14	359,808	11	266,191
Chaki Wardak	5	3	119,177	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Baraki Barak	43	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	136	62	0	13	37	59	46	44	1,840,317	40	1,709,117

- This week, grants were awarded to Mohammad Agha to the value of \$1,025,875, Saydabad \$359,808, and Nirkh \$454,634. The current status of the SIKA-East grants pipeline is as depicted in the table above.
- The following trainings were held during the week:

Date	Title	Location	Type	Men	Women
June 9	Verify DPP	Khoshi/ Logar	Training	57	
June 9	Verify DPP	Khawaja Umari/ Ghazni	Training	51	
June 9-13	Stability Planning Process	Kabul	ToT	27	2
June 10-11	Security & 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/ Wardak	Training	13	
June 10-13	Grant Management	Nirkh/ Wardak	Training	60	

- Project design and development is under way for seven districts, with regular consultations and technical assistance between project management committees and engineering teams. The current status of engineering projects is as follows:

Districts			Designs		Projects Completion Status	
Province	Batch	District	Total Design in Progress	Designs Completed	In Progress \$	Complete \$
Maydan Wardak	A	Saydabad	4	29	75,650.50	766,789.94
	B	Nirkh	5	14	397,964.65	760,309.52
	C	Chaki Wardak	2	3	56,602.06	132,161.10
Logar	B	Mohammad Agha	9	23	502,480.00	1,261,461.19
	A	Baraki Barak	6	1	461,377.96	84,483.69
Ghazni	B	Dih Yak	3	7	90,574.66	351,636.32
	C	Andar	1	0	97,831.44	0
	C	Zadran	0	0	0	0
		Sub-totals	30	77	1,682,481.27	3,356,841.77
		Grand Totals	107		5,039,323.04	

- SIKA-East conducted the second batch of Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Training from June 11 to June 13, 2013. 39 individuals including IDLG and MRRD officials participated in this training.
- The Security Unit conducted the quarterly Security Training for the Field Services Officers of ten Districts. During the training, the trainees 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 Security Standard Operating Procedure (SoP).
- The Human Resource Unit filled 10 positions during the week: two positions for AECOM, seven for IRD and one for OSC.

PROJECTED FIELD ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT WEEK

GHAZNI

- Hold regular coordination meetings with the PRRD;
- Hold the Service Provider Fair;
- Stability Planning Process Training ; and
- Resource Dialogue and Advocacy Training for female of Khwaja Umari.

KHOST

- Hold regular coordination meetings with the PRRD Director;
- Complete the stakeholder surveys in all three districts.
- Launch SIKA-East in the three target districts; and

LOGAR

- Hold male communication committee meeting in Baraki Barak;
- Complete project surveys according to the engineering group plan;
- Project Design and Development workshop for Zurmat DDA+;
- Hold male and female communication committee meetings in Mohammad Agha District; and
- Stability Planning Process Training for Khoshi District.

PAKTYA

- Hold coordination meetings with PRRD and Provincial Governor;
- Hold sub-coordination meeting of Zadran; and
- Coordinate sub-coordination meeting of Zurmat with local authorities and concerned parties.

MAYDAN WARDAK

- Hold regular coordination meetings with the PRRD Director, DGs, and other government officials;
- Fill out grant applications according to the Grants Unit plan;
- Complete project surveys according to the engineering group plan;
- Draft community problem letters and the grant applications development;
- Collect data for SPC; and
- Grant Management Workshops.

PROJECTED KABUL-BASED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT WEEK

- Advocacy ToT for batched district staff;
- Meeting with gender consultant, female district staff and Provincial Communication Officers to discuss ways to better link male and female communication strategies in the districts;
- Finalize the May Monthly Media Analysis Report and share with interested parties;
- Continue reviewing District Profiles;
- Continue data collection for new District Profiles;
- Edit, review and finalize district communication plans of Nirkh and Mohammad Agha Districts;
- Receive and distribute final analysis report of radio plays;

- Receive Paktya accent radio play first edition broadcasting and provide feedback to the production company;
- Submit the Chaki Wardak and Andar DPP to USAID for approval;
- Continue survey and design for Saydabad, Nirkh, Chaki Wardak, Mohammad Agha, Baraki Barak, Dih Yak and Zurmat, based on DPP Cycle 1 projects;
- Project Implementation Training for Saydabad CDC;
- Prepare for the Ghazni Service Provider Fair;
- Hold a meeting with the Paktya provincial council;
- Continue preparing for the Gender Workshop;
- Follow up with office space and office establishment of Jalrez DSU Office;
- Follow up on the shipment of equipment to Tani District;
- Support CDCs/DDAs in further grant application development in SIKA-East active districts;
- Process payment requests for first milestone achievement from ten applications from Saydabad;
- Hold GRC meeting for the evaluation of four grant applications in Dih Yak and seven applications in Baraki Barak;
- Analyze the informal stakeholder mapping survey data;
- Conduct the quarterly Security Training for Field Service Officers; and
- Continue recruiting to fill 80 positions:
 - 39 vacancies in process for AECOM;
 - 3 vacancies in process for OSC; and
 - 38 vacancies in process for IRD.