

SIKA-EAST WEEKLY PROGRAM UPDATE

SIGNIFICANT PROVINCIAL ACTIVITIES

NO. 80

GHAZNI

- The Provincial Management Team (PMT) manager conducted coordination meetings with the Provincial Rural Rehabilitation and Development (PRRD) Director on June 25 and 26, 2013. The purpose of these meetings was to discuss the establishment of the Qarabagh District Management Team (DMT) office as well as endorsement letters. The PRRD Director promised to issue the endorsement letter for Dih Yak Community Development Councils (CDC). It was decided to meet the Deputy Provincial Governor and seek his suggestion on the DMT office.

Andar District

- The Andar DMT completed the proposals for two projects. The projects include 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

- On June 25, 2013 the Grant Review Committee (GRC) met to review and analyze proposed Dih Yak projects. During the meeting three projects were discussed and approved by the GRC members.

Jaghatau and Qarabagh Districts

- Recruitment of staff continued for both DMTs, while one newly hired staff in Qarabagh and two staffs for Jaghatu began their work this week.

Khwaja Umari District

- From June 23 to 24, 2013 Resource Dialogue and Advocacy Training was conducted for Khwaja Umari District with an average participation of 50 men.
- Khwaja Umari DMT is still working to finalize the District Project Portfolio (DPP) for presentation and endorsement by the District Governor, the PRRD and governmental line departments.



Khwaja Umari women receiving Resource Dialogue and Advocacy Training

KHOST

- SIKA-East was launched in Khost Province. Prior to the launch of the program the PMT Manager along with a SIKA-East team from Kabul and Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD)-SIKA-East regional coordinator had a meeting with PRRD Director on June 20, 2013. During the meeting the participants discussed their plans for the launch meeting. On the same date they conducted a meeting with the Provincial Governor Mr. Abdul Jabar Naeemi. The region coordinator provided information on SIKA-East and mentioned the advantages of the program for Khost Province. The Provincial Governor afterwards stated that he had heard about SIKA-East in other provinces and was waiting for it in Khost. He promised to support the program and make it successful.

During the event the PRRD Director delivered a speech and expressed his gratitude to the program. He assured the participants that SIKA-East will bring positive changes to the province. Afterwards, the Provincial Governor spoke and thanked SIKA-East for covering Khost Province and committed to support the program.

- Data entry and analysis of the Service Providers Catalogue (SPC) is at the final stage. It will be shared with all stakeholders once approved by USAID.



Khost Provincial Governor speaking at SIKA-East launch

Gurbuz District

- From June 23 to 25 the Stakeholder Orientations and Stakeholder Foundation Workshop was conducted for female DDA and CDC members of Gurbuz District. Forty women participated in this workshop. This is the first time that this number of women has gathered for training in the history of Gurbuz.
- The Stakeholder Orientations and Governance Foundation Workshop for male CDC and DDA members was conducted from June 25 to 27, and was attended by 65 participants.



Tani District

- On June 25, 2013 the PMT Manager met with Tani DDA executive members in the PMT office in order to share the list of project stakeholders. During the meeting the PMT Manager explained the SIKA-East program and responded to the concerns of the DDA members. He mentioned that SIKA-East is an inclusive government-led program and will pay attention to governance and stabilization concerns of the communities. The DDA members promised to support the program and its implementation in their district.

LOGAR

- On June 23, 2013 the PMT had a coordination meeting with the PRRD head and Provincial Governor to update them on SIKA-East progress in target district of Logar Province. The Provincial Governor suggested that SIKA-East prepare a presentation and provide further information on the program.
- The Logar PMT met with governmental and non-governmental service providers to discuss the resource coordination meeting. The team also distributed invitation letters to the meeting to the Provincial Governor, governmental/non-governmental organizations, District Governors and DDA+ members.
- The resource coordination meeting was conducted on June 26, 2013 in Puli Alam municipality hall. A total number of 120 individuals participated in the meeting, including 100 men and 20 women. The Deputy Governor, PRRD Director and SIKA-East representative spoke to the 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.

Baraki Barak District

- On June 24, 2013 the joint men's and women's communication committees conducted their second meeting. Five men and five women participated in this 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. Copies of worksheet were given to the participants to share with CDCs to solicit their input on the issues discussed.
- On June 23, 2013 three grant applications were signed by female DDA members. The documents will soon be sent to Kabul office for further process.

Khoshi District

- 26 projects were selected for Khoshi District based on identified Sources of Instability (SoI) and root causes. Action plans for the mentioned projects were also prepared.
- Resource Dialogue and Advocacy training was facilitated for Khoshi CDC and DDA members on June 23 and 24, 2013. There was an average participation of 59 men.
- Infrastructure Project Planning Training was facilitated by capacity building officer in Khoshi District from June 26 to 27, 2013. Fifty trainees participated in the training.
- Khoshi DMT continued to finalize the DPP. The DPP will be sent for endorsement by the District Governor, PRRD and the governmental line departments.

Mohammad Agha District

- Project Implementation Training was conducted by the capacity building officer for Mohammad Agha CDC and DDA members from June 24 to 25, 2013 to prepare the community leaders for the implementation of DPP projects. The average number of participants was 40.
- The first milestone payments have been delivered to key members of nine CDCs. The CDCs will start physical implementation of their assigned projects in the coming week.
- The Mohammad Agha women's communication committee conducted their eleventh meeting on June 25, 2013. The committee has already prepared a communication plan and begun implementation. The meeting participants discussed some necessary next-steps and specified each members tasks for the coming month.
- On June 25, 2013 the DMT manager had a meeting with the Khoshi District Governor to update him on the program progress and to coordinate upcoming activities and scheduled events. The District Governor promised to support the program.
- The DMT manager had a meeting with the Bahadar Khill CDC members on June 24, 2013 to discuss problems, challenges and the best solutions.

PAKTYA

- From June 23 to 27, 2013 Grants Process and Application Development Training was conducted for Paktya CDC and DDA members with 47 participants.

Laja Ahmad Khill

- On June 26 and 27, 2013 the Stakeholder Engagement and Governance Foundation Training was held in Laja Ahmad Khill District of Paktya Province with 61 participants.

Laja Mangal

- Stakeholders Engagement training was facilitated in Laja Mangal District from June 25 to 27, 2013 with 47 participants.

Zadran District

- On June 23, 2013 seven members of CDC and DDA of Zadran conducted separate meetings with Directors of Education, Agriculture and Health departments at their offices. They discussed various issues relevant to each department. As a result the parties promised to deliver some stationery and books and to equip and renovate the district clinic. The Community members are going to conduct follow up meetings with same departments. They will also schedule meeting with other service providers in upcoming weeks.
- On June, 2013 the Paktya PMT and Zadran DMT had a meeting with the PRRD Director. The participants discussed the best ways to launch the program in Garda Serai while recognizing the official status of Waza Zadran. 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.



CDC and DDA members meeting with the Director of Health Department

Zurmat District

- On June 25, 2013, Zurmat Communication and Outreach officer conducted the second men's communication committee meeting. The participants discussed goals and objectives of the committee and filled out work sheets.
- From June 23 to 26, 2013 Grant Process and Application Development Training was conducted in Zurmat District. Forty-five male members of CDC and DDA participated in this training and drafted grant applications based on Cycle 1 priorities.

MAYDAN WARDAK

- The Wardak PMT conducted a coordination meeting with the PRRD and representatives of other organizations implementing MRRD projects. The PMT manager updated the participants on SIKA-East progress in all target districts of Wardak Province.

Chaki Wardak District

- The Chaki Wardak grant team completed seven new grant applications and included all essential documents. They processed endorsement letters for four projects and support letters for all cycle one projects.
- The women's communication committee conducted their seventh meeting on June 25, 2013. The participants discussed the importance of communication in society, selection of communication channels and practical work on the communication plan.

Jalriz District

- The Maydan Wardak PMT continued recruitment for the Jalriz DMT.

Nirakh District

- On June 24, 2013 the women's communication committee conducted their eleventh meeting. They discussed implementation procedures, project advantages, stability and selection of communication channels.
- Similarly on June 26, 2013 the men's communication committee conducted their eleventh meeting. They discussed the awarded projects' available budget and implementation timeline, the advantages of the project for the community, and conveying the message to service providers.

Saydabad District

- The Wardak capacity building officer conducted Project Implementation Training for Saydabad CDC and DDA members from June 26 to 27, 2013, with an average participation of 34 men.
- SIKA-East received five proposals for organization and delivery of poultry training for women in Saydabad District. The bid evaluation committee evaluated 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 District Engineering Team conducted a project survey for Aqa Khill CDC flood diversion point project.
- The communication and outreach unit supported a men's communication committee meeting on June 24, 2013. The participants discussed awarded projects' available budget, implementation time, available human resources, feasibility of projects and security.

SIGNIFICANT KABUL-BASED ACTIVITIES

- USAID approved the DDA+ and government endorsed Chak DPP with the narrative. This allows SIKA-East to finalize grant application and proceed with the project implementation with district entities.
- SIKA-East is currently preparing the narrative for the DPP of Andar District, which will allow SIKA-East to submit the DPP for USAID approval.
- During the week SIKA-East requested USAID approval for three grantees; one from Saydabad and two from Chaki Wardak Districts with a combined value of \$ 120,338.

Current Status of Grant Pipeline:

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	15	6	237,302	1	2	6	2	1	25,380	0	0
Mohammad Agha	21	23	1,110,264	4	20	22	22	22	1,025,875	22	1,025,875
Nerakh	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	0	0
Baraki Barak	40	3	238,600	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	129	69	3,075,815	16	41	62	54	45	1,865,697	41	1,729,386

- SIKA-East worked with PRRD, Independent Directorate for Local Governance (IDLG), DDA, DCC and other key actors to complete the stakeholder mapping process. They produced stakeholders registered in five districts including Laja Ahmad Khail and Laja Mangal Districts of Paktya Province; Gurbuz, Tani and Jaji Maidan Districts of Khost Province.
- SIKA-East conducted a Gender Workshop on June 23 and 24, 2013 for field staff. A total number of 17 SIKA-East staff including 4 women participated in this workshop. The theme of the workshop was to collect information from field staff and to become better aware of the impact of instability on gender issues and the relationship between men and women. During this workshop they discussed the ways to move forward with a gender strategy and work with our government partners to implement this at the district and sub district level.
- On June 25 and 26, 2013 SIKA-East conducted the fifth SIKA orientation for the newly hired staff. The purpose of the training was to familiarize new staff with the goals/objective of the program and the function of its units. During the training SIKA-East facilitators explained how the program is functioning within the structure of Government Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIROA) and how SIKA-East can work better to enhance communication and cooperation with line department at the district and provincial level. An average number of 25 men participated.

The following trainings were held during the week:

Date	Title	Location	Type	Men	Women
June 23-24	Resource Dialogue & Advocacy	Khwaja Umari/ Ghazni	Training	50	0
June 23-25	Gender	Kabul	Training	13	3
June 23-25	Stakeholder Orientations and Stakeholder Foundation	Gurbuz/ Khost	Training	0	40
June 23-25	Resource Dialogue & Advocacy	Khoshi/Logar	Training	59	0
June 23-26	Grant Process and Application Development	Zurmat/ Paktya	Training	48	0
June 23-27	Grants Process and Application Development	Paktya	Training	47	0
June 24-25	Infrastructure Project Implementation	Mohammad Agha/Logar	Training	40	0
June 25-27	Stakeholders Engagement	Laja Mangal /Paktya	Training	47	0
June 25-27	Stakeholder Orientations and Stakeholder 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 Implementation	Saydabad/Wardak	Training	34	0
June 26-27	Infrastructure Project Planning	Khwaja Umari/ Ghazni	Training	55	0
June 26-27	Stakeholder Engagement and Governance Foundation	Laja Ahmad Khill /Paktya	Training	61	0

- SIKA-East continued project design and development for Saydabad, Nirkh, Chaki Wardak, Mohammad Agha, Baraki Barak, Dih Yak and Andar Districts, with regular consultations and technical assistance between project management committees and the SIKA-East engineering team. The following table outlines project progress:

Districts			Designs		Projects Completion Status	
Province	Batch	District	Total Design in Progress	Designs Completed	In Progress \$	Complete \$
Maydan Wardak	A	Saydabad	3	30	15,655.92	826,940.52
	B	Nirkh	4	15	320,240.22	838,199.95
	C	Chaki Wardak	6	3	332,233.00	132,161.10
Logar	B	Mohammad Agha	8	23	514,634.03	1,266,321.60
	A	Baraki Barak	9	3	557,715.26	264,269.72
Ghazni	B	Dih Yak	3	8	119,088.05	372,843.58
	C	Andar	5	0	276,018.67	0
	C	Zadran	0	0	0	0
		Sub-totals	38	82	2,135,585.15	3,700,736.47
		Grand Totals	111		5,836,321.61	

- SIKA-East developed 12 Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) work plans for grants and completed 12 M&E indicator reporting plans to reach the first milestones of grants projects in Mohammad Agha District.
- Security Department conducted security assessment of Maidan Shahr's new guest house. The department also finalized the assessment of Jaghatu DMT office.
- The Armored Vehicle licenses are delayed – waiting on the signatures of the head of Deputy Minister of Interior (MoI). This is expected on June 30, 2013.
- The Human Resource Unit filled 8 positions during the week. All are for AECOM.

PROJECTED FIELD ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT WEEK

GHAZNI

- Hold regular coordination meetings with the PRRD;
- Obtain approval of Dih Yak community on four projects;
- Obtain approval of PRRD, DG and DDA members on Khwaja Umari DPP;
- Update Service Provider Catalogue
- Prepare four projects of Dih Yak Grant Review Committee; and
- Conduct Grants Management and Engineering Training for Dih Yak community.

KHOST

- Hold regular coordination meetings with the PRRD Director; and
- Conduct Stakeholder Orientation and Governance Foundation Workshop for male members of Tani CDCs and DDAs.

LOGAR

- Hold coordination meetings with PRRD and Provincial Governor;
- Start surveys in two Hawzas; and
- Conduct men's and women's communication committee meetings.

PAKTYA

- Conduct sub coordination meeting in Zurmat;
- Conduct Stakeholder Orientation and Governance Foundation Workshop in Jaji Maidan;
- Conduct Stability Planning Process for men (Part 1) for Laja Ahmad Khill; and
- Conduct of Stability Planning Process for men (Part 1) Laja Mangal.

MAYDAN WARDAK

- Conduct coordination meetings with District Governors;
- Conduct coordination meeting with PRRD and all stakeholders;
- Conduct monitoring of ongoing SIKA-East projects in Nirkh and Sayed Abad District;
- Fill out grant application according to the grant department plan;
- Conduct projects surveys according to engineering department plan;
- Consider and respond to community problem letters;
- Collect data to update the SPC;
- Conduct Grant Award Management Workshop; and
- Conduct communication committee meetings.

PROJECTED KABUL-BASED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT WEEK

- Start procurement process for second round of Service Providers Fair (SPF);
- Start preparation for lessons learned from resource development events;
- Review Khost SPC and send it to senior management;
- Conduct Post evaluation of Ghazni SPF;
- Organize gender internal working group in Kabul;
- Conduct Project Design & Development Training of Trainers (ToT);
- Prepare for rollout to Khost Province;
- Continue gathering information for the narratives of Khoshi and Khwaja Umari Districts;
- Submit the Andar DPP for USAID approval;
- Write the narrative for Zurmat DPP;
- Finalize review of Andar and Baraki Barak district profiles;
- Finalize Khoshi and Khwaja Umari district profiles;
- Continue conducting communication committee meetings;
- Continue data collection for new district profiles;
- Start working on June Monthly Media Analysis;
- Support CDCs/DDAs in processing additional grant applications for active SIKA-East districts;
- Support grantees for grant implementation and completion of milestones;
- Prepare necessary documentations for first milestone payment for grantees that have complete milestone requirements;
- Conduct Grant Management Training in Ghazni Province for grantees in Dih Yak District and start with grant implementation;

- Conduct security assessment of Ahmad Aba and Zadran District offices;
- Process the armored vehicles' licenses;
- Continue survey and design for Saydabad, Nirkh, Chaki Wardak Mohammad Agha, Baraki Barak, Dih Yak and Zurmat Districts based on the Cycle 1 projects;
- Continue recruiting to fill 87 positions:
 - 35 vacancies in process for AECOM;
 - 7 vacancies in process for OSC; and
 - 45 vacancies in process for IRD.