



# STABILITY IN KEY AREAS (SIKA) – EAST

WEEKLY PROGRAM UPDATE NO.105

DECEMBER 21-26, 2013



*Photo: Booths installed by private carpet weaving companies at the Ghazni Service Providers Fair.*

**December 30, 2013**

This publication was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). It was prepared by AECOM.

### Highlights of the Week:

- Shetam protection wall in Dih Yak District of Ghazni Province was completed during the week.
- SIKA-East presented the Scope of Work for District Information Centers to USAID. The activity is intended to provide support to MRRD in establishing the DICs, supply them with materials and equipment, and provide technical training to DDA's information management committees, District Social Workers, and District Governor Office staff to establish systems and procedures to effectively manage the DICs. DICs are meant to serve as a joint communications and outreach platform for DDA and DGO in the target districts.



*Photo: The Governor of Logar Province visits one of the booths installed by service providers during the Service Providers Fair in Logar Province.*

### SIKA-East Results:

- **Capacity Building:**
  - Thirteen training activities conducted in Khost, Paktya, Ghazni, and Maydan Wardak Provinces during the week were attended by 510 men and 117 women.
  - Since the beginning of the program, 17,412 individuals, of whom 12,829 are men and 4,583 women, have attended a total of 474 training sessions.
- **Grants:**
  - Two new grants were awarded to Mohammad Agha District of Logar Province.
  - Ninety-seven grants, with a value of over \$4 million, have been awarded in Andar, Dih Yak, Baraki Barak, Mohammad Agha, Chaki Wardak, Nirkh, Saydabad, and Zurmat Districts. Thirty-three projects have been completed.
  - Ten new engineering designs were developed during the week for nine districts where SIKA-East is active.

### Service Providers Fairs Held in Logar and Ghazni Provinces

In close coordination with Provincial Rural Rehabilitation and Development (PRRD), SIKA-East conducted Service Providers Fairs (SPF) in the provinces of Logar and Ghazni. The two-day events were attended by numerous government officials, governmental and non-governmental service providers, representatives of Community Development Councils and District Development Assemblies, and community members.

The fairs were inaugurated with speeches by PRRD Directors and Provincial Governors. The speakers expressed appreciation to SIKA-East for conducting such events and bringing the community and service providers closer so that people can find out about government and non-governmental resources that are available to them.

In Logar, 58 service providers installed 70 booths; 10 were allocated for women. Over 1,400 people attended the Paktya fair, including more than 100 women. In Ghazni, service providers installed 76 booths; 18 were for women. Nearly 1,300 people attended the event over the two days.

## PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

### Institutional Strengthening and Stabilization

- On December 22, IDLG hosted a two-hour meeting with representatives of the four SIKAs and USAID to introduce the new SIKA IDLG coordinator and discuss realignment of the program in the option period (March 2014 – September 2015). IDLG Deputy Minister Farid Mamondzai spoke about the direction that IDLG would like to take in the next phase and urged greater cooperation with government partners. USAID and SIKA representatives emphasized the extensive coordination that the program has had with IDLG and MRRD over the past five months, including their role in the design of all recent activities. Deputy Minister Mamondzai said that the two ministries will work together to develop a coherent approach to give clear program direction by reconciling the priorities of MRRD (development) and IDLG (governance). MRRD and IDLG are developing a paper on stabilization which will serve that purpose.
- SIKA-East prepared and submitted the Scope of Work for district information centers (DIC) to USAID for approval. The SoW proposes that SIKA-East support Local Institutions Development Department (LIDD) in establishing the DICs in districts where they are not functional; furnish supporting material that could be sustained independently of the grant; and provide technical training to assist the District Development Assemblies' (DDA) information management committees, District Social Workers (DSW), and District Governor Office (DGO) staff to develop systems and procedures to effectively manage the DICs and also utilize the equipment provided.
- At the field level, SIKA-East and PRRD DSWs completed consultation with elders in the provinces of Logar, Ghazni, Paktya, and Khost. Holding dialogue with influential people from the community was necessary to prepare them for DDA+ provincial conferences that are planned for December 29 to 31. During the conferences, members of DDAs from SIKA-East districts will meet and discuss broadening local analysis of instability and conflict and strengthening District Project Portfolio (DPP) ownership and management.

### Capacity Building

- Thirteen training activities were conducted during the week. These were attended by 510 men and 117 women. The training topics included: Lobbying, Negotiation Strategy, Resource Dialogue and Advocacy, Fundraising and Unity Building.



*Opening ceremony of Lashkar Khill protection wall project in Mohammad Agha District of Logar Province.*



*Visitors to the Ghazni Service Providers Fair register before attending.*



*Work proceeds on the Bazi Khill road rehabilitation project in Nirkh District of Maydan Wardak Province.*

- Twenty-two DDA+ communication committee meetings for men and women took place in Mohammad Agha, Mando Zayi, Nirkh, Ahmad Abad, Tani, Chaki Wardak, Saydabad and Zadran District.

### **Infrastructure Grants**

- Two grants, with a cumulative value of over \$126,000, were awarded for Mohammad Agha District of Logar Province during the week, bringing to 24 the number of awards granted for Mohammad Agha District to date.
- Ten new engineering designs, valued at over \$261,000, were completed in the reporting period. These designs were for three projects in Baraki Barak and one project each in Khwaja Umari, Jaji Maydan, Mando Zayi, Mohammad Agha, Saydabad, Zurmat, and Zadran.
- To date, 193 grant applications, valued at over \$9.2 million, have been received and 137 applications have received USAID approval.
- SIKA-East submitted 16 grant requests for USAID approval. These included 13 infrastructure projects and three capacity building projects for the districts of Baraki Barak, Dih Yak, Saydabad, Laja Mangal, Tani, Gurbuz, Khwaja Umari, and Andar.
- Ten grants, valued at over \$569,000, were reviewed and approved by joint MRRD and SIKA-East Grant Review Committees (GRC). These include six projects for Khoshi, two for Khwaja Umari, and one each for Gurbuz and Jaji Maydan.

### **Capacity Building Grants**

- So far five applications, valued at over \$222,000, have been received, and all have been approved by USAID.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

- SIKA-East has conducted 120 focus group sessions so far. All 120 surveys have been transcribed and translated into English. Data analysis for all 12 districts continued and were completed during the week.

## **SIGNIFICANT PROVINCIAL ACTIVITIES**

### **GHAZNI**

- Separate Lobbying training sessions were conducted for 42 men and 28 women from Jaghatu District.
- The Shetam protection wall project in Dih Yak District was successfully completed during the week. This project was started on August 15 and had a total value of \$40,815. The wall was inaugurated in the presence of PRRD DSWs, CDC members, and community elders.

### **KHOST**

- A Negotiation Strategy training session was conducted for 40 women from Tani District.
- To date, 12 grant applications, valued at over \$625,000, have been received for Khost Province. Nine applications have been submitted to USAID for approval, and six requests, with a cumulative value of over \$291,000, have been approved.

## **LOGAR**

- One contract for embroidery training for Baraki Barak District was completed and signed during the week, and a grant request for poultry training for the same district was submitted to USAID.
- Two grant projects were started in Mohammad Agha District this week.
- Of the 38 grants awarded for Logar Province, 10 projects, valued at \$388,777, have been completed so far, all in Mohammad Agha District.

## **MAYDAN WARDAK**

- Three training sessions were conducted in Maydan Wardak Province during the week: separate sessions of Resource Dialogue and Advocacy for 50 men and 29 women from Jalrez District, and a Fundraising training session for 20 women from Saydabad District.
- One engineering design, worth more than \$45,000, was completed for Saydabad District.

## **PAKTYA**

- Six training sessions were held in Paktya Province during the week: Negotiation Strategy for 57 men and Fundraising for 56 men, both from Laja Ahmad Khail; Lobbying for 60 men, Unity Building for 62 men, and Negotiation Strategy for 59 men, all from Zadran District; and Fundraising for 62 men from Gerda Serai Sub-district.
- Twenty-nine grant applications, valued at \$1.5 million, have been received so far for Paktya Province.
- SIKA-East received approval for twelve grant projects: six for Zurmat District, two for Laja Ahmad Khail, two for Laja Mangal, and two for Zadran District.

## **CHALLENGES**

- The Maydan Wardak Governor issued a letter to SIKA-East to put construction projects on hold if the temperature drops below -5° C.
- The Salih Khail project in Chaki Wardak District is still on hold due to Taliban interference and security reasons. The related Program Management Committee (PMC) continues to negotiate to try to restart the project.

## **SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT WEEK**

- Conduct DDA+ conferences in Maydan Wardak, Khost, Logar, and Paktya Provinces;
- Conduct GRC meetings for 10 projects in Gurbuz, Jaji Maydan, and Baraki Barak Districts;
- Issue Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for capacity building grants; and
- Disburse \$275,416 in milestone payments to 28 grant recipients.

### SIKA-East Grants Pipeline

(Please note that the US dollar value of the grants may fluctuate in accordance with the fluctuating conversion rates between the US dollar and the Afghan national currency)

Province	District	Under Development	Applications Received		Vetting Pending with USAID	Vetting Approved by USAID	GRC Approved	USAID Approval Requested	USAID Approval Received		Grants Awarded/ Cumulative		Grants Completed	
		No.	No.	\$ Value	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	\$ Value	No.	\$ Value	No.	\$ Value
Ghazni	Andar	5	8	\$519,081	4	6	8	6	5	\$324,849	4	\$281,110	0	\$0
	Jaghata	0	0	\$0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0	0	\$0		\$0
	Khawaja Umari	28	5	\$226,820	4	0	5	4	0	\$0	0	\$0		\$0
	Qarabagh	0	0	\$0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0	0	\$0		\$0
	Dih Yak	1	15	\$622,468	3	8	15	15	12	\$475,123	9	\$352,487	3	\$82,818
Khost	Gurbuz	0	7	\$337,736	7	0	6	6	4	\$221,279	0	\$0		\$0
	Jaji Maydan	1	2	\$70,287	2	0	2	2	2	\$70,287	0	\$0		\$0
	Mando Zayi	0	0	\$0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0	0	\$0		\$0
	Tani	1	3	\$217,076	2	1	2	1	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Logar	Baraki Barak	9	22	\$1,139,224	3	15	22	20	19	\$906,005	14	\$631,412	0	\$0
	Khoshi	4	3	\$173,987	0	0	3	0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
	Moh. Agha	1	26	\$1,327,105	0	24	26	25	25	\$1,254,127	24	\$1,146,929	10	\$409,180
Maydan Wardak	Jalrez	0	0	\$0	0	0	0	0	0	\$0	0	\$0		\$0
	Chaki Wardak	1	17	\$750,549	3	10	17	16	14	\$654,131	11	\$467,859	1	\$42,332
	Nirakh	0	23	\$1,205,258	3	17	22	20	18	\$986,100	14	\$813,524	8	\$444,044
	Saydabad	1	33	\$1,087,334	9	11	31	27	26	\$946,015	19	\$616,726	11	\$258,018
Paktya	Zurmat	2	10	\$651,610	8	2	11	9	6	\$379,838	2	\$132,559	0	\$0
	Ahmad Abad	1	1	\$58,727	0	0	1	0	0	\$0	0	\$0		\$0
	Laja Ahmad Khail	4	5	\$151,019	1	0	5	2	2	\$76,294	0	\$0		\$0
	Laja Mangal	2	6	\$254,456	6	0	6	4	2	\$125,545	0	\$0		\$0
	Zadran (Garda Serai)	1	1	\$48,256	1	0	1	0	0	\$0	0	\$0		\$0
	Zadran	2	6	\$399,500	4	2	6	3	2	\$171,187	0	\$0	0	\$0
<b>Total</b>		<b>64</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>\$9,240,493</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>\$6,590,780</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>\$3,177,597</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$1,236,392</b>