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STABILITY IN KEY AREAS (SIKA)-WEST

WEEKLY BULLET POINTS NO: 126
SEPTEMBER 2-8, 2014



Date: 09/03/2014 11:51:47:47 AM Lat: 35.067447 Lon: 63.240673 Alt: 3154.9 ft

86% Of Work Completed To Rehabilitate A 4-KM Road In Jan Doosti Village, Muqur District On September 3rd.

September 11, 2014

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

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK:

- The Community Development Department supported an MRRD District Social Worker (DSW) led Project Management Training (PMT) for 19 CDCs in Pashtun Zarghun, Kushk Rabat-e Sangi, Shindand, Bala Boluk, Chaghcharan, Shahrak and Du Layna Districts. Following this training, the CDCs will receive their first milestone payments to start their projects.
- The Communications & Public Outreach Department successfully supported the Ganj Abad CDC (Bala Boluk) to find local government and non-government resources to assist in refurbishing the Community Center. Using only the Service Provider Catalog and local government lobbying, the community obtained sufficient financial support to fund the project; with work starting on September 02.
- The Governance Department has supported the Pusht-e Rod District Government led effort to streamline the process of receiving requests for and processing national ID Cards for district residents. New guidelines have been developed that are shared with the district residents to avoid delays.
- In support of the Shahrak District Government Education Department, the Governance Department is working with government personnel to ensure that student records for Classes 1-12 are present, properly prepared and maintained in district secondary schools. These records are critical to enable students to move onto university and are a requirement of the Department of Education.
- The Community Development Department has received USAID approval to provide material support to the Pashtun Zarghun District Government (Solar Lighting) and Herat DRRD (Replace Perimeter Wall).
- With support from the Gender Unit, female members of Komite Sobate Wolesswali's have prioritized 14 grant funded projects in Pusht-e Rod, Pashtun Zarghun, Shindand, Guzara, Kohsan, Qadis and Muqur Districts. These projects, designed to address female district resident needs, include, school rehabilitation coupled with provision of equipment as well as culvert and flood protection wall construction.

SIKA-WEST RESULTS:**Grants Programming**

- To date, 308 projects valued at \$7,162,737 have been approved by MRRD and IDLG in 16 target districts.
- Currently CDCs are implementing 66 grant funded projects valued at \$2,926,833.
- To date, 213 CDC managed projects valued at \$3,202,745 have been completed and handed over.
- 22 projects valued at \$1,219,848 are pending with the USAID Vetting Unit for action. SIKA-West has requested USAID's support to expedite these pending requests.
- USD\$132,323 covering 15 CDC milestone payments have been disbursed in Shahrak, Chaghcharan, Kushk Rabat-e Sangi, Pashtun Zarghun, Shindand, Muqur and Bala Boluk Districts.

Cross-Cutting Capacity Building:

- Governance Department is supporting the Farah Department of Agriculture, Irrigation & Livestock (DAIL) to expand DAIL agricultural training (Plant Diseases) to farmers in Bala Boluk District. DAIL personnel will provide this training on September 9, 2014.
- Governance Department/Gender Unit are continuing with the two month proposal writing workshop for both Herat DoWA and IDLG Gender personnel.
- Communications & Public Outreach worked with the Ghor DRRD to publicize the role of DRRD Service Provider Committee and the mobile numbers available to reach government officials who can provide advice to district residents on available government/non-government Service Providers in the province.



Community Members Voluntarily Reconstruct The Ceiling Of A Mosque In Jalal Abad Village, Kushk Rabat-E Sangi On September 4th.

On September 4th, 2014, more than 50 local residents and government staff volunteered to work together and repair the ceiling of the community mosque in Jalal Abad village, Kushk Rabat-e Sangi District. This activity was a component of the Kushk Rabat-e Sangi District Government Communication Plan which serves to strengthen engagement between the district government and residents, raise awareness about the government activities and improve service delivery.

"I am very happy today that people gathered to reconstruct their community center voluntarily" Mr. Abdullah Nasrat, the Kushk Rabat-e Sangi District Executive Manager.

"Today's Hashar encouraged the people to be united and address their community problems together along with the government," Mr. Fazl Ahmad, Ulema Representative, Jalal Abad Village.

MONITORING ACTIVITIES

- Monitoring & Evaluation training was provided to Shahrak District Government personnel to assist in future grant funded infrastructure site inspections.
- MRRD DSWs and SIKA-West M&E personnel conducted 47 joint project site visits, prior to the approval of the next round of milestone payments for CDCs. DSW's identified deficiencies that were in need of correction; e.g Mohammad Zai Herati CDC was required to improve the compaction of their road project before next milestone payment would be authorized.
- The M&E Department is continuing to verify GPS coordinates for ongoing and completed project site locations, before sharing with MISTI.

FARAH PROVINCE

- On September 8th, as part of the District Government Communications Plan, the Lash Wa Juwayn District Governor, Mr. Samad Yar, met and listened to farmers concerns, on what they would need to avoid poppy cultivation. The farmers requested more support from the District Government to improve their irrigation systems and provide government led training on improved potato, onion and watermelon cultivation. These concerns will be discussed at the upcoming KSW.
- On September 7th the Pusht-e Rod DG received reports on recent expansions in government services over the past week. The District Agriculture Manager distributed 100 Disaster Assistance kits to farmers whose crops were destroyed in recent storms, and the Statistics Manager outlined that there has been an increase in Tazkira issuance to district residents.
- As part of program efforts to expand government service delivery in Farah, the Farah (DAIL) assigned one of their trainers to collaborate with the Governance Department and mentor Bala Boluk District Government DAIL personnel.
- Community Development Department conducted joint GIRoA project site inspections in 3 project sites in Bala Boluk and 2 project sites in Pusht-e Rod.

BADGHIS PROVINCE

- On September 2nd, the Community Development Department arranged for a Closing Ceremony to celebrate the completion of Road Rehabilitation Projects in Tootak Sia Gol, Tootak Khalifa and Tootak Haji Abdul Rashid villages in Muqur District. These completed road projects now enable 500 families to have easier access to neighboring communities and the District Center.
- Community Development Department completed feasibility studies for Gabion Wall projects in Muqur; Flood Protection Walls and Road Rehabilitation Projects in Qadis District.
- In line with the joint SIKA-West/IDLG District Governance Training Plan, organizational and tracking improvements were made to the Muqur District Government Inventory & Asset Management and Procurement Systems.

HERAT PROVINCE

- On September 8th, the Pashtun Zarghun District Governor, Mr. Farhad Raufian, organized a meeting with more than 80 elders, Afghan National Police and Afghan Public Protection Forces. The DG delivered speeches about the good work of security forces in the district and presented appreciation letters to six commanders.
- On September 3rd, the Pashtun Zarghun District Governor led the Komite Sobate Woleswali meeting with the participation of 72 district residents. 28 new projects including flood protection walls, bridges, water siphon and roads rehabilitation and provision of schools' equipment were proposed to address community problems.
- On September 4th, a coordination meeting was held between SIKA-West and Intersos Organization to collaborate on project activities & avoid duplication of activities in shared districts (Guzara and Pashtun Zarghun).
- The Governance Department continues to work with HELP Germany and TOLO Dorukhshan (Private Employment Agency) to find work for recent vocational training graduates. These graduates have now been registered with both groups and HELP Germany has pledged to coordinate with private companies in Herat City.



The Zer Joie Doken CDC Successfully Completed 58% Of The Chapak Doken Primary School Refurbishment Project In Pusht-E Rod District.



Prior To The Second Milestone Payment, The SIKA-West M&E Personnel And Engineers Inspected The Work Progress Of 1.7-KM Road Rehabilitation In Lodin Bloch Village, Muqur District On September 1st.



On September 2nd, Project Completion Ceremony Was Conducted For The Road Rehabilitation Projects In Tootak Sia Gol, Tootak Khalifa And Tootak Haji Abdul Rashid Villages In Muqur District

- During the week, feasibility studies of flood protection wall and culvert rehabilitation projects in Kushk Rabat-e Sangi District were completed.

GHOR PROVINCE

- On September 7th, the Ghor Provincial Governor, H.E. Sayed Anwar Rahmati, organized a coordination meeting with line-departments and discussed the upcoming Service Providers Fair. The DRRD Director, Mr. Taj Mohammad Zulal, provided information about the purpose of the Fair and asked the line-departments to participate in the Fair. *“People do not have information about government services; the Fair is great opportunity to show them what services are available,”* said the Provincial Governor.
- On September 3rd and 4th, as part of the activity to inform the people about the District Government Hotline and the DRRD SPC Hotline numbers, the Provincial Governor and the DRRD Director, sent informative messages to 320 residents in Ghor Province. *“Share your concerns with the local government through the complaint hotline; we are committed to take immediate action,”* is one of the messages.

CHALLENGES

- Due to security concerns over the past week, there has been a continued absence of District Government personnel within both the Bala Boluk and Pusht-e Rod District Government Offices.
- Projects site visits were suspended in a number of communities, within Shindand, Pusht-e Rod and Bala Boluk Districts due to security concerns.
- CDC members in Kohsan District lack identity cards and some CDCs are due for re-election. The Community Development Department is working on these issues with Herat DRRD; however there have been delays to Grant Application submissions.

WHAT'S NEXT

- Herat: The Komite Sobate Woleswali Shindand, Kushk Rabat-e Sangi, Guzara and Pashtun Zarghun meetings will be held on September 10th, 13th, 14th and 15th.
- Badghis: The Qadis District Governor will organize a public meeting with influential people to discuss their roles in bringing peace and security in the community on September 11th.
- Badghis: The Komite Sobate Woleswali Qadis and Muqur meetings will be held on September 10th and 13th.
- Farah: The Pusht-e Rod District Governor will organize an ant-drug addiction meeting with youth on September 10th.
- Farah: The Farah Center, Lash Wa Juwayn and Pusht-e Rod Komite Sobate Woleswali meetings will be held on September 10th, 13th and 14th.
- Ghor: The DRRD Director will organize a coordination meeting with line-departments to discuss the upcoming Service Providers Fair on September 10th.
- Ghor: The Provincial Governor will organize a meeting with farmers to encourage them stop poppy cultivation on September 13th.
- Ghor: The Komite Sobate Woleswali Chaghcharan and Shahrak meetings will be held on September 11th and 15th.



PZ-03-002- Ab Garmi - Road Project - Final Inspection
 Lat: [34.036755° N]; Long: [62.61838° E]; Alt: [2079.7 m]; Date: [02-September-2014 3:36:53 PM]
93% Of Work Completed To Rehabilitated A 1-KM Road In Jirah Gar Village, Pashtun Zarghun District On September 2nd.



Date: 09/07/2014 09:52:36:36 AM Lat: 35.218417 Lon: 62.291993 Alt: 2265.4 ft
The Torghundi Sharqi CDC Successfully Completed 86% Canal Lining (86-Meter) In Torghundi Sharqi Village, Kushk Rabat-E Sangi District On September 7th.



On September 7th, The Ghor Provincial Governor, H.E. Sayed Anwar Rahmati, Organized A Coordination Meeting With Line-Departments And Discussed About The Upcoming Service Providers Fair.



A baker in Ghor Province reads the message received from Ghor DRRD about the DRRD SPC Hotline number.