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STABILITY IN KEY AREAS (SIKA)-WEST

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Project Handover Ceremony Was Conducted For The Road Rehabilitation Project In Kharestan Mohammad Anwar Village In Muqur District On July 5th.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK:

- The Pashtun Zarghun Tribal Conflict Resolution Committee (TCRC) successfully resolved a conflict between two residents in Mian Do Joy village. Mr. Najibullah was attacked and injured on March 2014 and accused Mr. Sallahuddin and his son for this attack and opened a case in the district court. The District Governor assigned the TCRC to follow up the case and resolve their conflict. The TCRC organized four mediation sessions with the conflicting parties and successfully addressed their conflict on June 22nd.
- Project Handover Ceremonies, attended by the District Governors, DRRD representatives and CDCs members, were conducted for the culverts rehabilitation project in Khalifa Hai Gulchin in Qadis and roads rehabilitation projects in Kharestan Haji Saduddin, Kharestan Mohammad Anwar and Abdul Aziz villages in Muqur District on July 5th and 6th.
- In-line with the efforts to improve government service delivery, a series of coordination meetings were held with the Municipality Department and the Deputy Provincial Governor in Ghor Province for finding a solution in collecting garbage from the city streets. The Deputy Provincial Governor proposed to organize an awareness raising campaign. It was agreed that the Feroz Koh Acting Mayor attend at the next Komite Sobate Woleswali and share this issue with the DDA and CDCs as well.
- Abdul Qudos Sharifi, the Pashtun Zarghun District Technical Manager, along with the DRRD District Social Worker, Mr. Ataullah, organized a project site visit for the 85-meter flood protection wall in Siagar village on July 1st. "Before rehabilitating the flood protection wall, our lands and houses were prone to floods and damages," said Mr. Sayed Ahmad, a Siagar resident.

SIKA-WEST RESULTS:**• Grants:**

- To date, 297 projects valued at \$6,673,380 have been approved by MRRD and IDLG in target districts.
- Currently CDCs are implementing 76 projects valued at \$3,253,038.
- To date, 193 projects valued at \$2,603,043 have been completed.
- 25 projects valued at \$1,379,574 are pending with the USAID Vetting Unit for action. SIKA-West has requested USAID support to expedite these pending requests.

• Cross-Cutting Capacity Building:

- The SIKA-West Governance Department continued mentoring the district government staff in the area of work prioritization, improving inventory and record keeping, filing system, preparing Organizational Chart and basic computer skills in Bala Boluk, Pusht-e Rod, Shindand, Pashtun Zarghun, Feroz Koh, Shahrak, Muqur, Qadis, Qala-i-Naw.
- Advocacy and How to Develop Concept Note training was provided to eight Pashtun Zarghun DDA members on July 2nd. The training aimed to enable the DDA members to advocate for the residents' needs and develop a concept note for Kitchen Gardening project. By the end of the training, the participants drafted their concept note. The SIKA-West Communications & Public Outreach Department (CPOD) will provide further mentoring to the DDA members to finalize their concept note and submit it to the third party organizations, using the Herat Service Providers Catalog (SPC), for financial resources.



The Ghor Deputy Provincial Governor And The DRRD Director On The Project Site In Shahrak Mohajerin Village, Feroz Koh.

On July 3rd, Mr. Mohammad Amin Tokhi, the Ghor Deputy Provincial Governor, along with the DRRD Director, Mr. Taj Mohammad Zulal and the Provincial Governor Spokesperson, Mr. Abdul Hai Khatibi, visited the work progress of 750-meter road and two culverts rehabilitation project in Shahrak Mohajerin village in Feroz Koh. "This is the first development project in this village, if the CDC implements the project with a high quality, the government will allocate more projects for the village," said the Deputy Provincial Governor. The visit was broadcast by Ghor Radio and Television of Afghanistan.

MONITORING ACTIVITIES

- Based on the MISTI request, the M&E team has verified the GPS points of the completed hard projects. Once all the GPS points were verified a complete Project Tracker with the GPS points will be submitted to MISTI by July 15th.
- DRRD DSWs, SIKA-West engineers and M&E personnel conducted 24 project site visits. Based on the finding the respective CDCs were mentored and guided to correct the deficiencies and implement the projects according to the projects specifications.

FARAH PROVINCE

- Mr. Sayed Mohammad, the Bala Boluk District Governor, organized a monthly coordination meeting with the District Managers on July 7th. The DG requested the Managers to report to their works and pay attention to the residents' concerns. Mr. Akhtar Mohammad, the Agriculture Manager, shared the farmers' request with the District Governor. The farmers requested the Agriculture Manager to provide them Saffron corm. The DG will share this issue with the Provincial Department of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (DAIL).
- Conflict Resolution Skills training was provided to seven Tribal Conflict Resolution Committee (TCRC) members in Farah Center on July 2nd. Topics included definition of conflict, reasons of conflict, conflict management, characteristics of a good mediator and tools and techniques to resolve a conflict. The TCRC will apply these techniques to resolve two identified conflicts: a conflict between two residents over an agricultural land in Nowdeh village and an inheritance dispute in Dehzok village.

BADGHIS PROVINCE

- Conflict Resolution Skills training was provided to 13 (4 females, 9 males) Tribal Conflict Resolution Committee (TCRC) members in Qala-i-Naw on July 7th. Following the training, the TCRC learned the skills to mediate between the conflicting parties in Baghak village over location of a school construction project by Education Department.

HERAT PROVINCE

- Communications Plan Development training was provided to three government staff in Kohsan District on July 6th. Topics included identifying audiences, messages, communications approaches, identifying the district communications plan objectives and budgeting and timeline. By the end of the training, the participants drafted the District Government Communications Plan. The SIKA-West CPOD will provide further training and support to finalize their Communications Plan.
- Conflict Resolution Skills training was provided to 30 Tribal Conflict Resolution Committee (TCRC) members in Guzara District on July 2nd. Topics included definition of conflict, reasons of conflict, conflict management, characteristics of a good mediator and tools and techniques to resolve a conflict. By the end of the training, the TCRC members identified a conflict over usage of an irrigation canal in the district. The TCRC will organize mediation sessions with the elders of the conflicting parties.
- A coordination meeting was held with the MRRD National Area Based Development Program (NABDP) Regional Manager, Mr. Alami, on July 1st. The discussion was focused on possibility of contracting with DDA for some projects. The NABDP will provide detailed information in this regard.
- A gender coordination meeting was held with the Herat Provincial Government Gender Specialist, Mrs. Fawzia Afzali and the SIKA-West IDLG Regional Coordinator, Mr. Maywand Fazli, on July 2nd. It was agreed that the SIKA-West Gender Mainstreaming Unit share the list of female focused projects, the Conflict Resolution Committees (CRC) members, female DDAs and Gender Strategy Plan with the Kabul IDLG.



The Kanesk Wasat CDC Completed 70% Of A 80-Meter Flood Protection Wall Rehabilitation Project in Rahim Abad Village, Bala Boluk District.



The Jan Khani CDC Rehabilitated 392-Meter Surrounding Walls In Mullah Mohammad Yaqoub Farahi High School, Pusht-E Rod District.



Conflict Resolution Skills Training Was Provided To 30 TCRC Members In Guzara District On July 2nd.



The Pashtun Zarghun District Technical Manager, Along With The DRRD District Social Worker, Visited The 85-Meter Flood Protection Wall In Siager Village On July 1st.

GHOR PROVINCE

- The Feroz Koh Conflict Resolution Committee (CRC) for women successfully addressed an inheritance dispute on July 6th. Two women were in conflict with their cousins because their cousins sold their lands without their permission. The CRC helped the women to open a case in the court which finally got their lands back.
- Mr. Hafizullah Habibi, the Shahrak District Executive Manager, organized a meeting with 50 youths to encourage them establish a youth association and engage actively with the district government on July 3rd. The DG highlighted the roles and responsibilities of youth in the district development. By the end of the meeting, youth established “District Youth Association”. The DG will support the youth to officially register their association.



Mr. Hafizullah Habibi, The Shahrak District Executive Manager, Organized A Meeting With 50 Youths To Encourage Them Establish A Youth Association And Engage Actively With The District Government On July 3rd.

CHALLENGES

- The Disaster Management training for Pashtun Zarghun District elders and Arbabs which was planned for July 2nd was rescheduled to after Ramadan.
- Most of the TCRC members in Feroz Koh are governmental staff and are busy with their official duties, therefore; they cannot actively engage with the conflict resolution activities. The SIKA-West Stabilization Department will share this issue with the Ghor Deputy Provincial Governor.

WHAT'S NEXT

- Herat: Conflict Resolution Skills training will be provided to Kohsan TCRC on July 13th.
- Herat: The Shindand District Governor will organize a Hashar on July 8th.
- Herat: The Pashtun Zarghun District Governor will organize a Hashar on July 12th.
- Badghis: Conflict Resolution Skills training will be provided to Qala-i-Naw TCRC on July 13th.
- Farah: Communications Skills training will be provided to Lash Wa Juwayn District Government staff on July 12th.
- Ghor: The Shahrak District Governor will organize a public meeting with community elders to listen to their concerns on July 9th.
- Ghor: Communications Skills training will be provided to District Government staff on July 13th.
- Ghor: The Ghor Deputy Provincial Governor will conduct anti-corruption meeting with the line-departments on July 22nd.