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# STABILITY IN KEY AREAS (SIKA)- WEST

WEEKLY BULLET POINTS NO: 109  
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*The SIKA-West Engineers Monitored The Work Progress Of Canal Lining Improvement Project In Torghundi Sharqi, Kushk Rabat-E Sangi District.*

April 23, 2014

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**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK:**

- On April 21<sup>st</sup>, Mr. Eng. Abdul Raouf, the Farah DRRD Director, led the Service Providers Catalog (SPC) distribution. The CDCs were briefed on the importance and usages of SPC and 215 copies of SPC were distributed to 43 CDCs from Dar Abad Bala and Paen, Korgh Zard, Naw Deh and Barantot and other surrounding villages.
- The Intra-District Komite Sobate Wolesswali (District Stabilization Committee) was held with collaboration of Mr. Eng. Farhad Raufian, the Pashtun Zarghun District Governor and Mr. Saleh Mohammad Baik, the Qadis District Governor at the Pashtun Zarghun District Center on April 15<sup>th</sup> to share views on district stabilization programming and learn from each other's approaches as lead facilitators. An issue was raised by Siagar CDC about a pipe scheme project funded by MRRD/National Solidarity Program (NSP) in their village 10 years ago. The CDC claimed that with the allocated budget, they could only complete 50% of the project. The participants identified lack of government basic services as a major community problem and proposed completion of the pipe scheme project as a solution.
- As part of follow up in finding jobs for the vocational graduates in Jawaleq Sofla and Ulya villages in Qadis, two private carpentry shops owned by Abdul Qayoum and Ali Ahmad agreed to employ two of the graduates. Two graduates will be hired and assessed after a 3 day probationary period on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**SIKA-WEST RESULTS:**

- **Grants:**
  - To date 283 projects valued at \$6,213,360 have been approved by MRRD and IDLG in ten target Districts.
  - Currently CDCs are implementing 145 projects valued at \$4,001,308
  - To, 121 projects valued at \$1,482,141 have been completed.
  - Eight projects are pending with the USAID Vetting Unit valued at \$454,450 since mid-March.
- **Cross-Cutting Capacity Building:**
  - Stabilization Practices training was provided to 12 members of Bagh-e Barjan, Zir Jooy, Sarkala Doken and Kababi Payeen CDCs in Pusht-e Rod District on April 17<sup>th</sup>. The CDCs analyzed each of the major problems (poverty & unemployment and water dispute), and solutions (roads and flood protection walls rehabilitation) identified in the last Komite Sobate Wolesswali meetings.
  - The Bala Boluk District Governor developed his second-round communications plan on April 20<sup>th</sup> and was approved by the Provincial Governor. SIKA-West Communications & Public Outreach Department (CPOD) will share the plan with IDLG for review and approval. The activities included public meetings, awareness raising campaigns, celebrating the International Peace Day and etc.
  - The SIKA-West 18-month District Government Capacity Building Work Plan was finalized and approved by IDLG. This plan is focused on enhancing the capacities of district governments to improve current service delivery.



**Students in Sultan Razia School are happy that Sport Education was included in their curriculum in Chaghcharan.**

The Ghor Gender Working Group (GWG) successfully advocated including sports education in girls' schools. Girl schools in Chaghcharan previously lacked sports education in their curriculum, as well as, sport facilities. The GWG identified the need to advocate with the Education Departments to address this issue. The GWG organized a meeting with Mr. Sebqatulla Akbari, the Education Director on March 25<sup>th</sup>. The Education Director showed interest and appreciated the GWG efforts in assisting girl students and agreed to include sports education in girls' schools and employ qualified female teachers. Follow up meetings were held on April 16<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Finally the Education Department included sport education in the girls' schools and provided land for sport facilities in Khadija Tul Kobra, Lisa Neswan Dara Haji and Sultan Razia schools.

**MONITORING ACTIVITIES**

- A Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP) review is planned for the end of April. The output will be a revised PMP and revised data gathering techniques and tools.
- The DRRD District Social Workers (DSW), the SIKA-West Engineers and M&E personnel conducted a total of 54 project site visits, below is an example of finding:
  - The gravelling was not according to the engineering specifications for the road graveling project in Khaja Sabzposh village in Kushk Rabat-e Sangi. The CDC was mentored to correct the deficiencies and a follow monitoring is planned for next week.

## FARAH PROVINCE

- Stabilization Practices training was provided to 12 members of Bagh-e Barjan, Zir Jooy, Sarkala Doken and Kababi Payeen CDCs in Pusht-e Rod District on April 17<sup>th</sup>. The CDCs analyzed each of the major problems (poverty & unemployment and water dispute), and solutions (roads and flood protection walls rehabilitation) identified in the last Komite Sobate Wolesswali (District Stabilization Committee)<sup>1</sup> meetings. The same trainings were provided to five Komite Sobate Wolesswali Bala Boluk members including the District Governor, the DSWs and Administrative and Executive Managers on April 20<sup>th</sup> and six Pusht-e Rod government staff on April 21<sup>st</sup>.
- The Komite Sobate Wolesswali Khak-e-Safayd, Bala Boluk and Pusht-e Rod meetings for women were held separately on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. The women identified unemployment, lack of education and insecurity as community major problems and proposed to renovate a girl school in Massow village. The SIKA-West Stabilization Programming will share these issues at the men Komite Sobate Wolesswali meetings.



*Mr. Haji Faiz Mohammad, Kariz Haji Wakil CDC Head, Receiving A Copy Of The Farah Service Providers Catalog (SPC) On April 21<sup>st</sup>.*

## BADGHIS PROVINCE

- Mr. Abobakr Azimi, the Muqur District Executive Manager (DEM), along with the DRRD District Social Worker (DSW) and CDC members visited the work progress of road rehabilitation project in Jahan Dosti village on April 16<sup>th</sup>. The community residents asked the district government to rehabilitate the irrigation canal that was destroyed recently due to heavy flooding. Mr. Azimi pledged to share this request with the District Governor and the provincial authorities for support. The SIKA-West CPOD will coordinate with the Stabilization Programming Department to invite the respective CDC to the upcoming Komite Sobate Wolesswali to share their concern.
- Mr. Mohammad Ali Kaihan, the Qadis District Admin & Finance Officer, along with the DDA and CDC members visited the work progress of the culvert rehabilitation project in Khordak village on April 16<sup>th</sup>. He was pleased with the work quality and progress and asked the CDC to continue their work based on the project specifications.
- The Muqur DEM organized the monthly coordination meeting with the high ranking district government officials on April 15<sup>th</sup>. A recent complaint by the residents from the Comprehensive Health Clinic (CHC), claiming that the CHC didn't distribute food items equally, was shared with the participants. The DRRD District Social Worker (Bismella Waher) was assigned to follow up on this issue with CHC. The SIKA-West CPOD will support the DSW to contact CHC to address this concern.
- Stabilization Practices trainings were provided to 17 members of eight CDCs and 15 DDA members, the District Governor, the Executive Manager, one DSW in Muqur District on April 17<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. The participants practiced how to identify community major problems, identify their reasons and find solutions. The same training was provided to 24 DDA members (9 women), the District Governor, the DSW and 20 members of 10 CDCs in Qadis District on 20<sup>th</sup>.



*Mr. Abobakr Azimi, The Muqur District Executive Manager, Along With The DRRD District Social Worker (DSW) And CDC Members Visited The Work Progress Of Road Rehabilitation Project In Jahan Dosti Village On April 16<sup>th</sup>.*



*Mr. Mohammad Ali Kaihan, The Qadis District Admin & Finance Officer, Along With The DDA And CDC Members Visited The Work Progress Of The Culvert Rehabilitation Project In Khordak Village On April 16<sup>th</sup>.*

<sup>1</sup> - From now on, the District Stabilization Committee will be referred to as the Komite Sobate Wolesswali, the Dari equivalent.

## HERAT PROVINCE

- On April 15<sup>th</sup>, Interviewing Techniques training was provided to Mr. Abdul Hameed Noor, the Shindand District Governor, to support him to speak on the Herat Radio & Television of Afghanistan (RTA) and discuss about the effects of the District Government Communications Plan. Following this training, the Shindand District Governor and Mr. Saleh Mohammad Baik, the Qadis District Governor, attended a 30-minutes television round table at the RTA. *“The Communications Plan improved communication between the government and residents. Now people are referring to the government more and this shows that they trust the government,”* Abdul hammed Noor.
- Requested by the District Governor, Report Writing Skills training was provided to Mr. Rashed Waheedi, the Pashtun Zarghun DEM on April 20<sup>th</sup>. The DEM is responsible for the district government weekly report.
- Mr. Ghulam Saeed, the Herat DRRD SPC focal point will lead the establishment of Herat SPC Committee on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Stabilization Practices training was provided to the Shindand Komite Sobate Woleswali members on April 19th. Consequently, Mr. Abdul Hameed Noor, the District Governor, led the meeting on April 21<sup>st</sup>. A dispute between Dolourg CDC and Rebat Rod, Deh Mirza Qasem, Chishma and Khaja Nooh CDCs was raised. The five opposing CDCs complained that the Dolourg CDC is not qualified to implement the 4-KM road rehabilitation. The District Governor advised the opposing CDCs to let the Dolourg CDC implement the project and they directly monitor the project implementation and quality. A week’s time was given to come up with a final decision or he will cancel the project. The SIKA-West Stabilization Programming Department will track this issue and provide further updates.
- The Herat Gender Working Group meeting was held on April 16<sup>th</sup>. An achievement of the meeting was that the National Area Based Development Program (NABDP) and Welfare and Development Organization for Afghanistan (WDOA) showed interest and pledged to provide vocational and literacy trainings for women in Pashtun Zarghun, Shindand and Kushk Rabat-e Sangi Districts. In addition, the SIKA-West Governance Department will provide Work Plan Development and Report Writing trainings for women’s councils in both district and provincial centers in Herat.
- Concept Note Development and Advocacy training was provided to 21 members (11 men, 10 women) of Khalifa Rahmat Hulya, Khalifa Rahmat Sufla, Baghchaha, Lak Lak Khana and Robot-e Sangi Sharq CDCs in Kushk Rabat-e Sangi District on April 20<sup>th</sup>. The SIKA-West CPOD will provide further mentoring and support to enable these CDCs to find financial resources from third party organizations outlined in the SPC for the kitchen gardening, tailoring and embroidery vocational training projects proposed at the Komite Sobate Woleswali (DSC) meetings.

## GHOR PROVINCE

- Following the Concept Note and Advocacy training provided to Aqa Jani CDC in Shahrak District, the CDC developed a concept note for the protection wall construction project and submitted it to the Afghan Aid Organization (AAO) for financial support on April 16<sup>th</sup>. The AAO will share the concept note with their main office in Kabul. The CPOD will also provide support to this CDC to submit their concept note to the organizations at the provincial level.



**Eng. Farhad Raufian, The Pashtun Zarghun District Governor (Left Side) And Mr. Saleh Mohammad Baik, The Qadis District Governor (Right Side), Jointly Held An Intra-District Komite Sobate Woleswali Meeting In Pashtun Zarghun District Center On April 15<sup>th</sup>.**



**On April 15<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Abdul Hameed Noor, The Shindand District Governor, And Mr. Saleh Mohammad Baik, The Qadis District Governor, Attended A 30-Minute Television Round Table At The RTA And Spoke About The Effects Of The District Government Communications Plan.**



**The Khaja Gol Baidak CDC Rehabilitated A 2-Km Road , One Culvert And 16-Meter Wash In Kushk Rabat-E Sangi District.**

- A meeting was held with Mr. Khaja Mohammad Seddiqi, the Shahrak new District Governor on April 19<sup>th</sup>. An overview of the MRRD/IDLG Stability Program objectives and components was provided to the District Governor. Respectively, the DG pledged to cooperate with the program.

## CHALLENGES

- Most Khak-e-Safayd DDA members fear being targeted by Taliban if they attend the DSC meetings.
- Due to security problem no site visit was conducted in Khak-e-Safayd District and all activities are pending.

## WHAT'S NEXT

- The SIKA-West M&E Department is planning to conduct project impact assessments for the following projects: Water divider rehabilitation in Khair Abad and Khawja villages in Bala Boluk, Barangak Akhtar Khana and Joy Kharaba villages in Pusht-e Rod District.
- Coordination between Stabilization Programming Department and respective District Governors to extend the geographical range of the Komite Sobate Woleswali will be done. The DGs will reach out communities that have not been part of the Komite Sobate Woleswali to attend these meetings, share their concerns and find solutions.
- Herat: Provide Concept Note Development training for five CDCs in Shindand on April 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Herat: Establish Herat SPC Committee on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Ghor: Provide Concept Note Development training for Soofak CDC in Chaghcharan on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Ghor: Shahrak DSC meeting will be held on April 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Badghis: Facilitate District Governor project site visit to Lamani village in Muqur on April 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Badghis: Qadis and Muqur DSC meetings will be held on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Farah: Bala Boluk DSC meeting will be held on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. And Pusht-e Rod DSC meeting will be held on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## ANNEX A: SIKA-WEST GRANTS ACTIVITIES

#	Province	District	Under Development		Vetting To USAID		Grant Approved		Grant On-going			Grant Complete		
			#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	Hard	Soft	\$	#	\$
1	Farah	Bala Boluk	4	\$203,000	2	\$110,000	36	\$738,094	11	10	1	\$245,039	22	\$372,573
2		Pusht-E Rod	5	\$283,489	1	\$30,000	21	\$377,899	5	5	0	\$164,863	13	\$117,751
3		Khak-E Safed	4	\$309,000	1	\$98,000	12	\$208,720	4	2	2	\$156,935	7	\$45,044
4	Herat	Pashtun Zarghun	5	\$239,265	3	\$142,450	24	\$699,770	5	5	0	\$251,717	17	\$295,788
5		Shindand	2	\$163,189	0	\$0	25	\$831,629	18	18	0	\$630,190	5	\$38,250
6		Kushk Rabat-E-Sangi	1	\$65,284	0	\$0	26	\$744,362	13	13	0	\$441,284	11	\$231,044
7	Ghor	Chaghcharan	0	\$0	0	\$0	18	\$765,784	13	13	0	\$709,494	5	\$68,489
8		Shahrak			0	\$0	7	\$453,261	7	7	0	\$453,261	0	\$0
9	Badghis	Qadis	1	\$73,971	1	\$74,000	70	\$740,556	41	31	10	\$481,912	26	\$172,860
10		Muqur	0	\$0	0	\$0	44	\$653,285	28	28	0	\$466,613	15	\$140,342
			<b>22</b>	<b>\$1,337,198</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>\$454,450</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>\$6,213,360</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>\$4,001,308</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>\$1,482,141</b>

**ANNEX B: DISTRICT GOVERNMENT HOTLINE TRACKER**

<b>District Government Office</b>	<b>Date Call Received</b>	<b>Complaint Type</b>	<b>Complaint Description</b>	<b>Actions/Follow ups</b>	<b>Date Complaint Resolved</b>	<b>Status</b>
Muqur/Badghis	15-Apr-14	Irrigation water	Irrigation water dispute in Muqur between residents of Zarghar, Jandosti, Mazid, Zadnasir, Niyazi and Jekna villages over the use of irrigation water from a public canal.	MU DG tasked the Villages' Affairs Manager to call all the villages' elders from the concerned villages to the DG Offices. The villages' elders shared the issue with the DG. Later on, the DG discussed the issue with the elders and fixed a time for each village to use water from the canal. The dispute was resolved and the elders agreed to the solution of having fixed times for water use by each village.	15-Apr-14	Solved
Pusht-e Rod/Farah	21-Apr-14	Land Dispute	A local resident of Chardeh village of PR district complained against another villager over outstanding rental payments for use of a garden for a period of two years.	DGO will follow up on this issue.		Under process
Kushk Rabat-e Sangi/Herat	15-Apr-14	Road Accident	A resident of KRS district called to request for help after the vehicle he and 6 others were travelling in, overturned. Three people - a woman, a man and a child were injured in the accident.	The DGO sent three government staff to help the victims. The injured persons were ferried to Herat government hospital for treatment.	15-Apr-14	Solved