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# STABILITY IN KEY AREAS (SIKA)- WEST

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MARCH 25-31, 2014



Mr. Saleh Mohammad Baik, the Qadis District Governor, rang the Neswan High school's bell to start the new education year on March 26<sup>th</sup>.

April 2, 2014

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**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK:**

- As part of SIKA-West coordination with other SIKA programs, the SIKA-West Governance Manager met with the SIKA-South Capacity Building Department in Kabul on March 31<sup>st</sup> to standardize training materials and coordinate on common training approaches.
- Community Development facilitated a 4 day Project Management Workshop to Naw Abad Do Kasha and Kariz Bibi CDCs in the Shindand District Government Office from March 24-27. This training covered a review of the grant agreements, roles and responsibilities of CDC leadership, project milestone requirements, technical approaches and procurement processes
- In response to current Communication & Outreach efforts by the Ghor Provincial Government, residents from Pouza Leach Hulya Village in Chaghcharan District requested more information on available government services, particularly agricultural support. Government service factsheets were provided to the community leaders.
- On March 31<sup>st</sup> the Herat DRRD NABDP Department received the Kushk Rabat-e Sangi, Pashtun Zarghun, Qadis and Muqur District Stabilization Committee feedback on district development needs. NABDP will review and provide feedback.

**SIKA-WEST RESULTS:**

- **Grants:**
  - To date 280 projects valued at \$6,021,016 have been approved by MRRD and IDLG in ten target Districts.
  - Currently CDCs are implementing 163 projects valued at \$3,981,331.
  - As of the reporting date, 98 projects valued at \$1,284,638 were completed.
- **Cross-Cutting Capacity Building:**
  - On March 29<sup>th</sup>, as part of the District Government Hotline support, one-on-one mentoring was provided to Mr. Allah Dad, the Khak-e-Safayd Executive Manager to assist in recording and responding to district citizen calls.
  - The SIKA-West Governance Department supported the Shindand District Municipality to complete their annual departmental work plan which is focused on maintaining the cleanliness of the District Center and ensuring that public green areas are maintained. Further support will be provided to implement work plan activities.
  - One-on-one mentoring was provided by our Communications & Outreach Department to the Badghis Provincial Spokesperson regarding the Qadis & Muqur District Government Facebook Pages on March 30<sup>th</sup>. The Provincial Government spokesperson requested that a Facebook Page be created for the Badghis Provincial Government.
  - The SIKA-West Community Development Department provided technical mentoring to 16 CDCs during the past week.
  - Monthly District Workplans were agreed to between SIKA-West District Support Teams (DST's) and District Governors in our target districts.

**PEACE BUILDING AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION SKILLS TRAINING**

**20 Female DDA & 10 CRC Members In Pashtun Zarghun District Received Peace Building and Conflict Resolution Skills Training on March 25<sup>th</sup>.**

Women in rural areas play an important role in resolving familial conflicts. With the support and coordination of the Pashtun Zarghun District Governor, a Conflict Resolution Committee (CRC) for women was established to address district familial conflicts. Peace Building and Conflict Resolution Skills training was provided to both female DDA & CRC members to assist them identifying and addressing these issues. Training topics included mediation method, negotiations skills and conflict resolution techniques.

Applying these techniques the female CRC members will prioritize existing familial disputes and mediate between the conflicting parties on behalf of the District Government.

**MONITORING ACTIVITIES**

- During the week, the SIKA-West M&E Department assessed 16 projects in Bala Boluk, Pusht-e Rod, Pashtun Zarghun, Kushk Rabat-e Sangi, Shindand, Qadis and Muqur Districts. Current
- In cooperation with SIKA-West, DRRD District Social Workers (DSW) visited and inspected two project site visits in Muqur District.

## FARAH PROVINCE

- On March 25<sup>th</sup>, the representatives of Pusht-e Rod Youth Association met with the Farah Education Department Director to discuss a lack of resources within the district schools, these include a lack of drinking water and sports fields. The Director explained that these concerns will be addressed with upcoming projects and tasked the Education Manager to follow up with the Youth Association. The Communications & Outreach Department will track these issues and will have these concerns addressed at the upcoming Pusht Rod DSC meeting.

## BADGHIS PROVINCE

- On March 26<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Saleh Mohammad Baik, the Qadis District Governor, rang the Neswan High school's bell to start the new education year. More than 100 people including government officials, *Ulema* and women attended. The Education Manager delivered speech about the achievement of government in education sector in this district. *"If women were literate they could educate their children and we wouldn't have such miseries in our community,"* Mrs. Safia, School Principal.
- Led by the Badghis DOWA Director, the Gender Working Group (GWG) meeting was held on March 31<sup>st</sup>. The GWG developed a proposal for a market place for women and submitted it to the Provincial Governor (PG). The PG pledged to follow up this issue after the Presidential Election. The SIKA-West Gender Team will track this request and provide further updates.
- The Qadis District Governor facilitated the DSC meeting on March 25<sup>th</sup>, a key component of the meeting was discussion related to a request from Taht-e-Markaz CDC for a community hall in the district center, to address their concerns about unemployment. After filtering this request through the SAM criteria, the District Governor in agreement with the DSC members decided that this request did not address significant community grievances and would not be included in their mitigation activity list.
- The Muqur Acting District Governor (Mr. Mohammad Esmael) (ADG) facilitated the DSC meeting on March 26<sup>th</sup>. During the meeting a concern was raised by the Dahan Rigi CDC whose grant funded project has been pending under a vetting status for the past 6 months. The ADG acknowledged that this is a serious concern. SIKA-West is working on this issue with USAID.

## HERAT PROVINCE

- On March 27<sup>th</sup>, Communications & Outreach agreed with both IDLG and MRRD to conduct the Herat Services Provider Fair in the first week of May.
- On March 31<sup>st</sup>, Mr. Eng. Shir Aqa Sarwary, Kushk Rabat-e Sangi District Governor, organized a public meeting with more than 100 Arbabs, security forces and district officials to improve security during the Presidential Election. The Chief of Police gave an overview of the security situation in the district and highlighted the importance of residents' cooperation with government in improving the security.
- The Kushk Rabat-e Sangi Executive Manager facilitated the DSC meeting on March 26<sup>th</sup>. A woman representative talked about the roles of women in community development and asked the DSC members to give equal opportunities for them. The ADG asked the TCRC to be more active and



*A Recently Rehabilitated Water Divider In Kanisk Wasat Village, Bala Boluk District.*



*The Muqur District Social Worker Monitored The Road Rehabilitation Project In Heachka Village, Muqur*



*Laborers Rehabilitating A Water Intake, Khola Murgh Sofla Village , Kushk Rabat-e Sangi District.*



*A Recently Rehabilitated 150-Meter Flood Protection Wall , Kariz Zanjer Village, Shindand District.*

assigned them to follow up an old conflict between Tahiri and Jamshidi tribes over a pasture.

- The SIKA-West Chief of Party (COP) met with Aqa Mohammad Sediqi, the Herat DRRD Director and Mr. Ghulam Sakhi Alami, the NABDP Regional Manager on March 27<sup>th</sup>. A number of material resource requests were received from the Herat DRRD which was referred to the MRRD SIKA Unit & USAID. An agreement was made to have the Herat NABDP Department begin reviewing SIKA-West DSC mitigation activities.
- Mr. Habibullah Karimi, the Manager of the Pashtun Zarghun District Legal Department, received one-on-one mentoring from the SIKA-West Governance personnel, to develop a departmental annual work plan which outlines the legal services provided to district residents on March 28<sup>th</sup>. The Governance Department will track these activities and provide support in the provision of these services.

## GHOR PROVINCE

- Mr. Shah Passand Pahlawi, Shahrak Acting District Governor, organized his monthly coordination meeting with district line departments on March 26<sup>th</sup>. A key update was provided to the line departments by the Chief of Police (Abdullah Lalzad), which included information on the ANSF's arrival to the district and a request from the District Office to provide accommodation. The Acting DG also expressed his concern with the absence of line department heads during monthly coordination meetings and wanted to see attendance improve.
- The Ghor Gender Working Group reported residents' concerns to the Education Department about particular male teachers who were unqualified for their positions. The Education Department agreed to address these concerns as well as consider a previous request to include sports education in girls' schools. The GWG will track this issue and provide further updates.

## CHALLENGES

- Due to the pending Presidential Election, district and provincial travel will be reduced over the coming week.
- There are still concerns about Spring flooding in Shindand District, which is delaying the launch of a number of rehabilitation activities. Expectations are that flood waters will have receded by April 15, 2014.

## WHAT'S NEXT

- As part of the SIKA-West risk mitigation plan, the SIKA-West HQ and PST offices will be closed from April 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>, and the DST offices will be closed from April 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>.



*The Manager Of The Pashtun Zarghun District Legal Department Received One-On-One Mentoring From The SIKA-West Governance Personnel, To Develop A Departmental Annual Work Plan.*



*To Raise The Residents' Awareness About The District Government Activities, Agricultural, Peace, Education And Anti-Corruption Factsheets Were Distributed To Residents Of Pouza Leach Hulya Village, Chaghcharan On March 30<sup>th</sup>.*

**SIKA-WEST GRANTS ACTIVITIES**

#	Province	District	Under Development		Vetting To USAID		Grant Approved		Grant On-going			Grant Complete		
			#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	Hard	Soft	\$	#	\$
1	Farah	Bala Boluk	5	\$233,495	2	\$110,000	36	\$738,094	10	9	1	\$214,544	22	\$372,573
2		Pusht-E Rod	7	\$379,505	3	\$183,000	21	\$377,899	4	4	0	\$75,976	13	\$117,751
3		Khak-E Safed	5	\$367,000	1	\$98,000	11	\$163,172	10	1	9	\$201,721	0	\$0
4	Herat	Pashtun Zarghun	5	\$239,440	1	\$34,000	23	\$626,945	5	5	0	\$251,717	17	\$295,788
5		Shindand	4	\$260,879	0	\$0	25	\$831,629	16	16	0	\$532,500	5	\$38,100
6		Kushk Rabat-E-Sangi	1	\$65,284	1	\$65,285	26	\$744,362	21	14	7	\$529,137	3	\$143,191
7	Ghor	Chaghcharan	0	\$0	0	\$0	18	\$765,784	13	13	0	\$709,494	5	\$68,489
8		Shahrak	0	\$0	0	\$0	7	\$453,261	7	7	0	\$453,261	0	\$0
9	Badghis	Qadis	1	\$74,000	1	\$74,000	69	\$666,585	48	34	14	\$520,124	19	\$134,648
10		Muqur	1	\$45,463	1	\$45,463	44	\$653,285	29	29	0	\$492,857	14	\$114,098
			29	\$1,665,066	10	\$609,748	280	\$6,021,016	163	132	31	\$3,981,331	98	\$1,284,638