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STABILITY IN KEY AREAS (SIKA)- WEST

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The Jagatai Khodrawan CDC in Kushk Rabat-e Sangi District completed the rehabilitation of a 90-meter protection wall in Herat Province.

March 25, 2014

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK:

- Ongoing assistance is being provided to District Governors to update their Facebook pages. Currently all DGs are posting government activities on their pages. This approach serves as a bridge between the district government, media and residents.
- The Khak-e-Safayd pre-DSC meeting for women was held with participation of eight members of Women's Council and representative of DOWA on March 23rd. The Stability Analysis Mechanism (SAM) training was provided. Applying these techniques, the DSC members identified unemployment as the main source of instability. Another meeting will be held to identify mitigation activities and share them at the DSC meeting.
- A meeting was held with the IDLG regional Coordinator on March 24th. Current and future capacity building activities were discussed. New mechanisms to increase the effectiveness of capacity building activities at district level were sought. It was agreed to conduct a follow up meeting with IDLG SIKA Unit Team in Kabul and review the SIKA-West capacity building action plan for the extension period.

SIKA-WEST RESULTS:**• Grants:**

- To date 280 projects valued at \$6,021,016 have been approved by DRRD and IDLG in ten target Districts.
- Currently CDCs are implementing 164 projects valued at \$3,735,094.
- As of the reporting date, 90 projects valued at \$1,116,140 were completed.

• Capacity Building:

- To improve communication between the youth associations in Muqur District, training on "Main Elements of Communication" was provided to 34 representatives of three youth associations on March 19th. The Muqur District Governor will engage these youth in implementation of the District Governor's Communication Plan.
- Project Technical training was undertaken as a result of the deficiencies noted by the DST Technician. Highlighted were deficiencies in stone masonry, pointing, backfilling and materials used in some of the rehabilitation projects in Bala Boluk. Explanations on ways to correct the defects were provided to the supervisors of the projects.
- To help the government staff mentoring on "How to Develop a Work Plan" was provided to four government staff in Bala Boluk and one staff member in Pusht-e Rod District.
- To enable the government staff to organize DSC meetings independently, a refresher Stability Analysis Mechanism (SAM) training was provided to 13 government staff from Bala Boluk, Pusht-e Rod and Khak-e-Safayd Districts on March 18th.

SAPLING PLANTING IN QADIS DISTRICT

With support of the Department of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (DAIL), more than 300 saplings were planted in Qadis District on March 22nd.

The Qadis District Governor, Mr. Saleh Mohammad Baik, in-line with his communications plan, held a coordination meeting with the high ranking district government staff on March 20th. The participants discussed different issues including sapling planting, presence of the government staff at their duty station and coordination between the district staff. As a follow up activity, the Qadis DG organized a "Sapling Planting Day" on March 22nd. More than 130 people including the Provincial Governor's representatives, DRRD and DoLSA Directors, *Ulema* and farmers attended the event. Speeches on the importance of agriculture in improving the economy were delivered. As a result of the DG's coordination with the available resources outlined in the SPC, the Department of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (DAIL) provided more than 300 trees, the World Vision provided 30 shovels and the Afghanistan Peace and Reintegration Program (APRP) provided three knapsack sprayers to the farmers.

MONITORING ACTIIVTIES

- During the week, the SIKA-West M&E Personnel and Community Development Technicians visited the work in-progress of 17 projects in Bala Boluk, Pusht-e Rod, Pashtun Zarghun, Kushk Rabat-e Sangi, Qadis and Muqur Districts.
- In addition, the DRRD District Social Workers (DSW) conducted 12 project site visits in Muqur, Bala Boluk and Pashtun Zarghun Districts.

FARAH PROVINCE

- On March 20th, Mr. Ghusuddin, the Pusht-e Rod District Governor, with support of the SIKA-West reviewed the effectiveness of the first round of his communication plan and drafted the second round plan. The DG found the first round of the communication plan very effective in improving communication between the district government and residents.
- To recognize the efforts of the Farah DRRD Director in coordinating activities with the SIKA-West, an appreciation letter was given to Mr. Eng. Abdul Rauf On March 5th. The DRRD Director expressed his happiness and pledged to continue to support the program.
- The Pusht-e Rod District Governor facilitated the DSC meeting on March 24th. An overview of the status of the implementation of the mitigation activities was presented. *Ulema* and community leaders delivered speeches about peace and stability. The DG asked the Tribal Conflict Resolution Committee (TCRC) to be more active in identifying and resolving conflicts at the district level.
- The Pusht-e Rod women DSC meeting was held with participation of DOWA representative on March 24th. The women identified unemployment as a source of instability in the community. The participants proposed three mitigation activities including school rehabilitation, rehabilitation of a bridge in front of the school and road graveling.

BADGHIS PROVINCE

- To enable the government staff to organize DSC meetings more effectively, a refresher Stability Analysis Mechanism (SAM) training was provided to 13 government staff from Muqur and Qadis Districts on March 23rd.
- The weekly coordination meeting with the Badghis DRRD was held on March 20th. Different issues regarding the previous week activities and future plans were shared.

HERAT PROVINCE

- Mr. Abdul Hamid Noor, the Shindand District Governor, facilitated the DSC meeting on March 19th. The participants analyzed two sources of instabilities, poverty and unemployment and lack of education facilities. Following a lengthy discussion, 19 mitigation activities including school, road, protection wall and water divider rehabilitation was proposed. Women participants in the DSC meeting actively contributed to the meeting and proposed school rehabilitation projects to create a better environment for girl students.
- The Herat Gender Working Group meeting was held with government and non-government organizations in attendance on March 18th. The participants pledged to provide capacity building trainings based on the Women's Councils needs in Herat.
- The weekly coordination meeting with the Herat DRRD was held on March 24th. Different issues regarding the previous week activities and future plans were shared. The DRRD highlighted that the District Social Workers should be engaged in all SIKA-West activities at the district level.

GHOR PROVINCE

- On March 19th, the Ghor Deputy Provincial Governor organized a meeting with the TCRC members and assigned them to follow up on the old land dispute and murder cases in the Allah-Yar area. The TCRC agreed to invite the conflicting parties to the district center for mediation after the elections.



Appreciation letter was provided to Mr. Eng. Abdul Rauf, the Farah DRRD Director.



A school teacher and an active DSC member in Shindand District proposed a school rehabilitation project at the DSC meeting on March 19th.

- To enable the government staff to organize DSC meetings more effectively, a refresher Stability Analysis Mechanism (SAM) training was provided to five government staff in Chaghcharan on March 19th. Mr. Mohammad Amin Tookhi, the Ghor Deputy Provincial Governor (DPG), led the Chaghcharan DSC meeting on March 20th. The representative of the women TCRC gave an overview of their activities and achievements. The women DSC members proposed to build a market place and installing drinking water pipes.
- The Ghor Gender Working Group (GWG) meeting was held with participation of 13 government and non-government organizations on March 18th. The GWG reviewed the Chaghcharan TCRC activities and found them very useful in resolving conflicts. They proposed to establish TCRCs in other districts as well. The participants also agreed to hold a meeting with the Provincial Governor and share the GWG's meeting minutes with him.
- In order to encourage local people to send their children to school, the Chaghcharan government staff organized a public meeting with 40 people including Ulema, youth and parents on March 18th. Speeches about the importance of education were delivered. Ulema pledged to encourage the people at their sermons to send their children to school.
- To improve the coordination between the SIKA-West gender team and DOWA, the SIKA-West IDLG Coordinator organized a meeting with DOWA on March 20th. The DOWA appreciated the establishment of the TCRC for women.



The Ghor Gender Working Group reviewed the Chaghcharan TCRC activities and found them very useful in resolving conflicts. They proposed to establish TCRCs in other districts as well.



An Ulema representative in Chaghcharan delivered speeches about the importance of education at the public meeting on March 18th.

CHALLENGES

- Due to security concerns and recent Taliban attack in Bala Boluk, the District Governor and the SIKA-West postponed the DSC meeting which was scheduled for March 26th. The DG recommended holding the DSC meeting after the Presidential election.
- Movement is restricted in Pusht-e Rod District due to a suicide attack that occurred on March 24th.

WHAT'S NEXT

- With support of MRRD, SIKA-West is planning a joint four-day Local Governance Training of District Social workers (DSWs) and National Area Based Development Program (NABDP) community mobilizers. Tentatively, the training will be conducted after the Presidential Elections.
- Farah: Data collection for the Service Provider Catalogue (SPC) will be completed.
- Farah: will provide support to the Bala Boluk District Governor to finalize his communications plan.
- Badghis: Qadis District Governor education meeting will be held on March 26th.
- Herat: Kushk Rabat-e Sangi DSC meeting will be held on March 26th.
- Ghor: Shahrak District Governor coordination meeting with line-departments will be held on March 25th.

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 | 3 | \$148,000 | 36 | \$738,094 | 12 | 11 | 1 | \$237,458 | 20 | \$349,659 |
| 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 | \$156,431 | 0 | \$0 |
| 4 | Herat | Pashtun Zarghun | 5 | \$239,440 | 0 | \$0 | 23 | \$626,945 | 10 | 10 | 0 | \$390,012 | 12 | \$157,494 |
| 5 | | Shindand | 6 | \$342,150 | 0 | \$0 | 25 | \$831,629 | 14 | 14 | 0 | \$451,229 | 5 | \$38,100 |
| 6 | | Kushk Rabat-E-Sangi | 1 | \$66,600 | 1 | \$65,285 | 26 | \$744,362 | 21 | 14 | 7 | \$529,137 | 3 | \$143,191 |
| 7 | Ghor | Chaghcharan | 5 | \$288,175 | 0 | \$0 | 18 | \$765,784 | 8 | 8 | 0 | \$421,319 | 5 | \$68,489 |
| 8 | | Shahrak | | | 0 | \$0 | 7 | \$453,261 | 7 | 7 | 0 | \$453,261 | 0 | \$0 |
| 9 | Badghis | Qadis | 1 | \$74,000 | 1 | \$74,000 | 69 | \$666,585 | 49 | 34 | 15 | \$527,414 | 18 | \$127,358 |
| 10 | | Muqur | 1 | \$45,463 | 1 | \$45,463 | 44 | \$653,285 | 29 | 29 | 0 | \$492,857 | 14 | \$114,098 |
| | | | 36 | \$2,035,828 | 10 | \$613,748 | 280 | \$6,021,016 | 164 | 132 | 32 | \$3,735,094 | 90 | \$1,116,140 |