



# STABILITY IN KEY AREAS (SIKA) - WEST

WEEKLY USAID BULLET POINTS  
JANUARY 28- FEBRUARY 03, 2014



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January 28- February 03, 2014

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January 28- February 03, 2014

**Submitted to:**

USAID Afghanistan

**Prepared by:**

AECOM International Development

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## **IDLG/DRRD CAPACITY BUILDING AND COORDINATION**

- A five-day Advanced Communications training was started for the IDLG spokespersons and DRRD communications focal points from the four target provinces on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Topics included crisis communications management, interview techniques, communications plan, messaging and press release. The training provided a platform for the IDLG and DRRD to strengthen their communication.
- During the week, trainings on ‘Site Visit Monitoring’ were provided to 22 District Government staff. The trainings aimed to enable the district government officials monitor the work progress of projects being implemented by CDCs.
- The Justice Training Transition Program (JTTP) which works in collaboration with the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) will provide a list of the qualified trainers who are able to travel to the districts and provide legal trainings for the government staff.
- A list of the available small enterprises in Chaghcharan was submitted to the Assistance in Building Afghanistan by Developing Enterprises (ABADE), a USAID funded program. The SIKA-West and ABADE will do a feasibility study to see if these enterprises meet the ABADE criteria for funding.
- A coordination meeting was held with participation of the Kabul IDLG Head/Spokesperson, the SIKA-West IDLG Coordinator and the SIKA-West M&E team. The meeting aimed to strengthen coordination between the SIKA-West and the IDLG to broadcast and publish the SIKA-West success stories and achievements on the IDLG website.
- As a follow up to the Muqur DG monthly coordination meeting, a traffic policeman has been hired to control the speed of the Afghan National Army (ANA) and Afghan National Police (ANP)’s vehicles in residential areas. In addition, the DG with support of the police collected expired food and medicines from the Bazaars and destroyed them on January 26th

## **ONGOING GRANTS ACTIVITIES:**

- To date, 132 rehabilitation grant projects including water dividers, bridges, culverts, flood protection walls, community center refurbishments, and road rehabilitations are ongoing.
- To date, 52 vocational grant trainings including tailoring, embroidery, carpet weaving, welding, carpentry, and auto-mechanic courses are ongoing in Farah, Herat, Badghis, and Ghor Provinces.



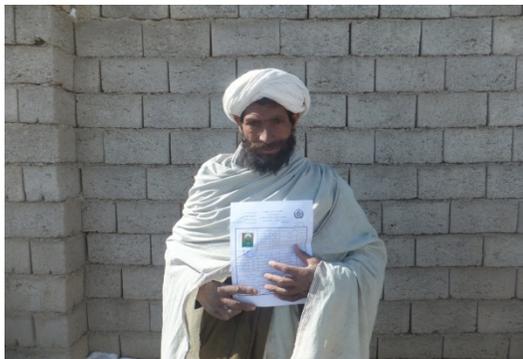
**20 local women practice tailoring skills in Mahal Koshak in Shindand District.**



**Ulema in Shahrak met with the Acting District Governor on January 29<sup>th</sup> to find a solution for the vacant position of a judge in the district. There has been no judge in Shahrak for five years due to insecurity.**

## FARAH PROVINCE

- The Kochis nomads in Bala Boluk District successfully advocated for their right to obtain National Identify Cards (Tazkara). The Kochis received Advocacy trainings and organized several meetings with district and provincial authorities to transfer the Tazkara registration book to the district center. The Provincial Governor approved and the Kochi nomads are now able to register at the district level. “We are happy that we are receiving Tazkara, now we can vote in the upcoming election,” said one of the Kochis.
- The Pusht-e Rod farmers held a joint meeting with the Finance Access for Investing in the Development of Afghanistan (FAIDA), the Chamber of Commerce and Industries (CCI) and Economy Department on January 30<sup>th</sup>. The FAIDA briefed the farmers on the process of getting loans for farmers. The farmers with support of the FAIDA will develop a proposal to receive loans.
- Mr. Ghusuddin, the Pusht-e Rod District Governor visited the work in-progress of the surrounding wall rehabilitation project in Massow village on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. “The district government office is always open for the residents to hear their concerns,” said the DG.
- The Pusht-e Rod women DSC meeting was held with participation of eight influential women on January 30<sup>th</sup>. The participants talked about the sources of instability including lack of people’s awareness about Islamic rules. To raise the people’s awareness, the women proposed to ask the *Ulema* and elders to talk about this issue at their sermons.
- Project Technical training was provided to foremen and supervisors of ten CDCs in Bala Boluk District on January 28<sup>th</sup>.
- The weekly coordination meeting with the Farah DRRD was held on February 1<sup>st</sup>. An overview of the last week activities and challenges was presented.
- CDCs are implementing 15 labor intensive rehabilitation grants (irrigation projects/community center refurbishment/flood protection) in Bala Boluk and Pusht-e Rod Districts.
- CDCs are implementing vocational training courses including five auto-mechanics (85 men), four tailoring (45 women, 20 men), three carpentry (45 men) , one Computer Course (2 women, 9 men) and one Health Education course (25 women) in Bala Boluk, Pusht-e Rod, Khak-e-Safayd, and Farah Center.



**Mr. Gul Mohammad, a Kochis in Bala Boluk District displays his National Identity Card (Tazkara).**



**Mr. Ghusuddin, the Pusht-e Rod District governor, visited the work in-progress of the surrounding wall rehabilitation project in Massow village on February 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

## BADGHIS PROVINCE

- As part of the follow up activities to address the issues raised by the Muqur District Government staff during the coordination meeting held on January 12<sup>th</sup>, a traffic policeman has been hired to control the speed of the Afghan National Army (ANA) and Afghan National Police (ANP)’s vehicles in residential areas. In addition, the DG with support of the police collected expired food and medicines from the Bazaars and destroyed them on January 26<sup>th</sup>.

- Mr. Saleh Mohammad Baik, the Qadis District Governor and the DRRD representative along with CDC members visited tailoring training courses in Mohammad Ali Khan and Naebha villages on January 28<sup>th</sup>. The DG asked the trainees to use this training opportunity to help their families.
- On February 1<sup>st</sup>, the Qarghach and Zad-Naser CDCs in Muqur District received follow up Advocacy and Concept Note training to enable them to find financial resources for the community center refurbishment project.
- Mr. Haji Abdul Hadi, the Muqur District Governor, organized a DSC meeting with participation of 72 people including five women on January 28<sup>th</sup>. “These are the people who decide to live under fear or in a peaceful environment,” said the DG. The participants reviewed the previously identified sources of instability including poverty and unemployment. Following a lengthy discussion, they proposed 13 new mitigation activities.
- The Muqur District Government Hotline received two calls about a family marriage and a loan dispute. The DG successfully mediated between the conflicting parties and resolved the conflicts.
- Training on ‘Site Visit Monitoring’ was provided to seven Qadis and Muqur District Government staff. The trainings aimed to enable the district government officials monitor the work progress of projects being implemented by CDCs.
- The weekly coordination meeting with the Badghis DRRD was held on January 30<sup>th</sup>. An overview of the last week activities and challenges was presented.
- The CDCs are implementing 65 labor intensive rehabilitation grants (aqueducts/culverts/irrigation/flood protection/road rehabilitation) in Qadis & Muqur Districts.
- The CDCs are implementing two auto-mechanic (30 men), 27 tailoring (435 women, 120 men), one carpentry (15 men), two embroidery (45 women), and one quilt making (25 women) courses in Muqur and Qadis Districts.



**Mr. Saleh Mohammad Baik, the Qadis District Governor, and the DRRD representative visited a tailoring training course in Mohammad Ali Khan Village on January 28<sup>th</sup>.**



**The SIKA-West engineer monitored the work quality of the culvert rehabilitation project in Arbab Adham village in Qadis District.**



**15 local men practice carpentry skills in Khak Polak village in Qadis District.**

## HERAT PROVINCE

- Follow up Advocacy training was provided to 18 members of Gim CDC in Pashtun Zarghun District on February 1<sup>st</sup>. The CDC will develop a concept note for the retaining wall project from the third party organizations.
- Mr. Rashid Wahidi, the Pashtun Zarghun Deputy District Governor, organized the DSC meeting with participation of 75 people including seven women on January 28<sup>th</sup>. The DSC members reviewed the previous identified sources of instability and proposed eight new mitigation activities. The CDCs’

representatives complained about the delay of their milestone payment which resulted in slow implementation of the projects. The participants asked the SIKA-West to provide them Advocacy training to find financial resources for their community center construction project.

- The Pashtun Zarghun Deputy District Governor visited the work in-progress of the road rehabilitation project in Kushk Sirwan village on February 1<sup>st</sup>. This project was recently stopped due to conflict between an elder and the CDC members. Following mediation between the conflict parties, the CDC resumed the implementation of the project.
- A five-day Project Management training was provided to 24 members of six CDCs in Kushk Rabat-e Sangi District from January 25<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>.
- The Herat DoWA organized a coordination meeting with the organizations interested in gender activities on January 29<sup>th</sup>. The meeting aimed to ask these organizations to provide support to celebrate the International Women’s Day on March 8<sup>th</sup>. The DoWA requested the SIKA-West to provide 20 banners, 1000 brochures and share SIKA-West gender-related achievements during the celebration.
- Training on ‘Site Visit Monitoring’ was provided to eight Kushk Rabat-e Sangi and Pashtun Zarghun District Government staff. The trainings aimed to enable the district government officials monitor the work progress of projects being implemented by CDCs.
- The weekly coordination meeting with the Herat DRRD was held on January 30<sup>th</sup>. An overview of the last week activities and challenges was presented.
- The CDCs are implementing 34 labor intensive rehabilitation grants, including Flood/School Protection Walls/Road Rehabilitation/Culverts in Pashtun Zarghun, Shindand, and Kushk Rabat-e Sangi Districts.
- The CDCs are implementing 13 tailoring (260 women), two welding (40 men), and one embroidery (20 women) courses in Shindand, Kushk Rabat-e Sangi, and Pashtun Zarghun Districts.



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**Mr. Rashid Wahidi, the Pashtun Zarghun Deputy District Governor, visited the work progress of the road rehabilitation project in Kushk Sirwan village on February 1<sup>st</sup>.**

## GHOR PROVINCE

- Mr. Tookhi, the Ghor Deputy Provincial Governor (DPG), received support and produced a short video clip on February 1<sup>st</sup>. The clip delivers anti-corruption messages and encourages people to support the government in combating corruption. The DPG asked the residents to share their concerns through the Chaghcharan Hotline Phone and Complaint Box. The video clip will be broadcast at the Ghor Radio and Television of Afghanistan (RTA) from February 1<sup>st</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Mr. Shahpasan Pahlavi, the Shahrak Acting District Governor (ADG) held a meeting with 32 *Ulema* and community elders to address the issue of the vacant position of a judge in the district on January 29<sup>th</sup>. The Shahrak district has not had a judge for almost five years due to security concerns. The ADG requested the *Ulema*



**Mr. Tookhi, the Ghor Deputy Provincial Governor (DPG), received support and produced a short video clip delivering anti-corruption messages and encourages people to support the government in combating corruption.**

to support the government to send a judge for this district. The *Ulema* and elders wrote an agreement and petition to the Provincial governor and pledged to support the government. A meeting will be held with the Provincial Governor and this issue will be shared with him.<sup>1</sup>

- Mr. Tookhi, the Ghor Deputy Provincial Governor (DPG) organized a meeting with 55 teachers and students to listen to their education concerns on January 28<sup>th</sup>. “Lack of professional teachers and low salary of teachers are the main concerns,” said one of the teachers. A female teacher asked the DPG to facilitate extra-curriculum trainings for female students. The DPG informed the participants that Management, English and Computer trainings will be provided to 60 women and asked them to participate in these trainings.<sup>2</sup>
- The Ghor Provincial Youth Association organized a television round table on the dangers of poppy cultivation and drug addiction with participation of a religious elder, Education Department and Directorate of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (DAIL) on January 30<sup>th</sup>. The participants discussed on the mentioned topic from the religious, social and economic aspects. The round table was broadcast on the RTA.
- The Ghor Deputy Provincial Governor (DPG) held a coordination meeting with 35 government staff including the Provincial Governor on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. The DPG presented an overview of the government activities and services during the last month to the participants and asked them to address the complaints they receive through the Hotline Phone.
- The Shahrak Acting District Governor held a coordination meeting with ten district government staff on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. The participants complained about the weak performance of the police and asked them to be more active to bring peace and security in the district. The participants thanked the ADG for organizing public meetings with *Ulema* and elders.
- On February 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Ghor Provincial Youth Association organized a meeting with 45 youths and students to emphasize the importance of peace in the community. Speeches about the importance of peace were delivered. “There won’t be peace and stability in the district without youth contribution,” said Malalai Ghori a youth representatives.
- A coordination meeting was held with the Ghor DoWA. The meeting aimed to ask these organizations to provide support for the International Women’s Day celebrations to be held on March 8<sup>th</sup>. The DoWA requested the SIKA-West to provide banners and brochures.
- Training on ‘Site Visit Monitoring’ was provided to seven Shahrak and Chaghcharan District Government staff. The trainings aimed to enable the district government officials monitor the work progress of projects being implemented by CDCs.



**The Ghor Provincial Youth Association organized a television round table on the dangers of poppy cultivation and drug addiction on January 30<sup>th</sup>.**



**“There won’t be peace and stability in the district without youth contribution,” said Malalai Ghori, the Ghor Provincial Youth Association’s member at the meeting on February 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

<sup>1</sup> - [http://www.jame-ghor.com/news/persian/news\\_1392/0254\\_01022014\\_news.htm#Uu8w8vmSzko](http://www.jame-ghor.com/news/persian/news_1392/0254_01022014_news.htm#Uu8w8vmSzko)

<sup>2</sup> - [http://www.jame-ghor.com/news/persian/news\\_1392/0253\\_29012014\\_news.htm](http://www.jame-ghor.com/news/persian/news_1392/0253_29012014_news.htm)

[http://newsvim.blogspot.com/2014/01/blog-post\\_29.html](http://newsvim.blogspot.com/2014/01/blog-post_29.html)

- The CDCs are implementing 18 labor intensive rehabilitation grants (Road Rehabilitation/Culverts) in Chaghcharan District.

## WHAT'S NEXT

- Farah: Pusht-e Rod farmers will receive Plant Disease training.
- Farah: Khak-e-Safayd youth will meet with the DG to share their concerns. The Khak-e-Safayd and Pusht-e Rod DSC meetings will be held on February 9<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Badghis: Qadis and Muqur DGs will organize their monthly coordination meetings on February 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Badghis: Muqur DG will organize an anti-corruption meeting with the district government staff on February 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Herat: Kushk Rabat-e Sangi Anti-corruption Drama will be performed.
- Herat: Shindand DSC meeting will be held on February 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Ghor: Shahrak ADG will organize meeting with *Ulema*, elders and youth.

## SIKA-WEST GRANTS ACTIVITIES

#	Province	District	Under Development		Vetting To USAID		Grant Approved		Grant On-going		Grant Complete	
			#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$
1	Farah	Bala Boluk	2	\$110,000	0	\$0	36	\$738,094	15	\$317,979	17	\$269,138
2		Pusht-E Rod	3	\$198,500	3	\$176,505	18	\$201,394	7	\$106,746	11	\$94,648
3		Khak-E Safed	4	\$269,000	0	\$0	11	\$163,172	11	\$163,173	0	\$0
4	Herat	Pashtun Zarghun	1	\$80,000	1	\$79,440	23	\$626,945	19	\$473,392	2	\$28,451
5		Shindand	4	\$216,000	5	\$63,799	25	\$831,629	19	\$489,329	0	\$0
6		Kushk Rabat-E-Sangi	0	\$0	0	\$0	25	\$679,079	18	\$430,236	0	\$0
7	Ghor	Chaghcharan	5	\$302,100	5	\$288,175	18	\$765,784	11	\$448,167	2	\$37,395
8		Shahrak	0	\$0	0	\$0	7	\$453,261	7	\$453,261	0	\$0
9	Badghis	Qadis	3	\$68,355	0	\$0	69	\$666,585	63	\$577,782	5	\$38,541
10		Muqur	1	\$45,000	1	\$45,463	44	\$653,285	38	\$571,335	5	\$35,620
			23	\$1,288,955	15	\$653,382	276	\$5,779,228	208	\$4,031,400	42	\$503,794