



# STABILITY IN KEY AREAS (SIKA) - WEST

WEEKLY USAID BULLET POINTS  
NOVEMBER 26-DECEMBER 02, 2013



A Chaghcharan resident reading an SMS, highlighting government achievements, which was sent by the Ghor Deputy Provincial Governor on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

November 26-December 02, 2013

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November 26-December 02, 2013

**Submitted to:**

USAID Afghanistan

**Prepared by:**

AECOM International Development

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## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

- The Qadis District Governor organized a Peace meeting with participation of 99 government officials, Ulema, youth and women on December 1<sup>st</sup>. The meeting aimed to raise the people's awareness on the importance of peace and stability and to build a strong relationship between the government and community. Speeches about peace and stability were delivered by government officials and women. A woman from the community also asked the government to help rescue a boy who was kidnapped from Qadis District a few days before the meeting.

## ONGOING GRANTS ACTIVITIES:

- To date, 135 light infrastructure grant projects including water dividers, bridges, culverts, flood protection walls, community center refurbishments and road rehabilitation are ongoing.
- To date, 59 vocational grant trainings including tailoring, embroidery, carpet weaving, welding, carpentry and auto-mechanic courses are ongoing in Farah, Herat, Badghis and Ghor Provinces.

## DISTRICT GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT WITH THE COMMUNITY:

- The Shahrak Acting District Governor (ADG), in-line with the district government communications plan, held a meeting with 35 district *Ulema* and elders on November 26<sup>th</sup>. The ADG briefed the participants on the government activities and achievements in Shahrak District and requested the participants to support the government to deliver better services.
- On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Ghor Deputy Provincial Governor, in-line with his communications plan, conducted an SMS campaign to raise the people's awareness about government activities and achievements. 140 elders, *Ulema* and influential people received the SMS.
- The Pashtun Zarghun Tribal Conflict Resolution Committee (TCRC) meeting was held on November 29<sup>th</sup> with participation of 19 people including the District Governor (DG) and head of the District *Ulema* Council. The TCRC selected the DG as the head of the TCRC. The reconciliation committee prioritized the resolution of a family dispute in Pulpadeh, Shah Abad and Manzel villages.



**The Qadis District Governor organized a Peace meeting with participation of 99 government officials, Ulema, youth and women on December 1<sup>st</sup>.**



**The Shahrak Acting District Governor held a meeting with 35 district Ulema and elders on November 26<sup>th</sup>.**

## FARAH PROVINCE

- As part of the activities to help the Allah Dad Community Development Council (CDC) in Bala Boluk to locate other resources to refurbish the Allah Dad community center, an Advocacy and Concept Note training was provided to nine members of this CDC on November 28<sup>th</sup>. This CDC will receive a follow up training and draft a concept note.
- On November 26<sup>th</sup>, the Pusht-e Rod Farmers' Association, in-line with its communications plan, organized a coordination meeting with 16 farmers. The meeting aimed to find a way to address the farmers' concerns including lack of a proper irrigation system. Following a lengthy discussion the farmers decided to lobby with the national traders to invest in the agricultural sectors.
- Conflict Resolution training was provided to the Pusht-e Rod District Governor, the TCRC and *Ulema* on November 26<sup>th</sup>. The TCRC explained about their recent conflict resolution activities in Kosha village over a family dispute between a bride and her father-in-law. And the end of the training, the TCRC prioritized a land dispute in Gajgan village. To resolve the conflict, both parties will be invited to the Pusht-e Rod District Center on December 4<sup>th</sup>.
- The Khak-e-Safayd District Governor received Conflict Resolution training on November 30<sup>th</sup>. The DG will cascade the conflict resolution skills to the TCRC.
- The Community Development Department is implementing 24 labor intensive infrastructure grants (irrigation projects/community center refurbishment/flood protection) in Bala Boluk and Pusht Rod Districts.
- The Capacity Building Department is implementing 6 auto-mechanics (100 men), 5 tailoring (85 women, 30 men), 2 carpentry (30 men), 2 literacy courses (25 women, 25 men), 1 Computer Course (2 women, 9 men) and 1 English language course (11 men) in Bala Boluk, Pusht Rod, Khak-e-Safayd and Farah Center.



**Work ongoing to refurbish the community center in Shewan Payen village in Bala Boluk District.**



**11 Farah DRRD staff learning basic computer skills at the DRRD conference room.**

## BADGHIS PROVINCE

- The Qadis District Governor organized a Peace meeting with participation of 99 government officials, *Ulema*, youth and women on December 1<sup>st</sup>. The meeting aimed to raise the people's awareness on the importance of peace and stability and build a strong relationship between the government and community. Speeches about peace and stability were delivered by government officials and women. A woman asked the government to rescue the boy who was kidnapped from Qadis District a few days ago.
- The Qadis District Governor chaired the 11<sup>th</sup> DSC meeting on November 27<sup>th</sup> with participation of 77 people (56 men, 21 women). The DRRD Director asked the CDCs to implement their projects properly. The *Ulema* and women representatives delivered speeches about peace and stability in the community. After a long discussion the participants prioritized to resolve two land disputes in Qadis District. Thirty people have been selected to attend at the next TCRC meeting and mediate between the conflicting parties.

- Internal Communications training was provided to 31 Muqur government officials on December 1<sup>st</sup>. At the end of the training, participants understood the importance of internal communications in improving service delivery and communications to the public.
- On November 26<sup>th</sup>, the Qadis Youth Association received support to produce and print 2000 factsheets highlighting the association's activities and achievements. These factsheets will be distributed during the public meetings and gatherings.
- Advocacy and Concept Note training was provided to three members of Shorak Shar Arman CDC on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- The Badghis DRRD Director introduced three focal points for the Badghis Service Providers Catalog (SPC) at the provincial level and Qadis and Muqur Districts. These focal points will receive trainings and will be responsible for all SPC-related activities.
- The weekly coordination meeting with the DRRD was held on November 28<sup>th</sup>. An overview of the last week activities and future plan was presented.
- The Capacity Building Department is implementing 4 auto-mechanic (60 men), 23 tailoring (495 women), 3 carpentry (75 men), 1 embroidery (25 women) and 1 quilt making (25 women) courses in Muqur and Qadis Districts.
- The Community Development Department is implementing 66 labor intensive light infrastructure grants (aqueducts/culverts/irrigation/flood protection/road rehabilitation) in Qadis & Muqur Districts.



**The Qadis Youth Association printed 2000 factsheets highlighting the association's activities.**



**Laborers working to construct a culvert in Zadsaleh village in Qadis District.**

## HERAT PROVINCE

- The Pashtun Zarghun District Governor successfully organized the DSC meeting on November 27<sup>th</sup> with participation of 65 people (52 men, 13 women) in attendance. The DG briefed the participants on the status of the implementation of the mitigation activities. The Communications Department coordinated with the Herat Radio and Television of Afghanistan (HRTA) to produce news shot from the DSC meeting. The HRTA broadcast the news shot on November 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Advocacy and concept note training was provided to 18 members of Chahar Dara CDC in Kushk Rabat-e Sangi on November 26<sup>th</sup>. And on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, the same training was provided to 17 members of Kushk Haibat CDC in Pashtun Zarghun District.
- The Pashtun Zarghun TCRC meeting was held on November 29<sup>th</sup> with participation of 19 people including the District Governor (DG) and head of the District *Ulema* Council. The TCRC selected the DG as the head of the TCRC. The TCRC prioritized to resolve the family disputes in Pulpadeh, Shah Abad and Manzel villages.
- Gender Awareness training was provided to 19 women from Kushk Rabat-e Sangi District on November 26<sup>th</sup>. Topics included the definition of gender, difference between gender and sex, gender mainstreaming and gender equality.



**17 members of Kushk Haibat CDC in Pashtun Zarghun District received Advocacy and Concept Note training on Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

- The Herat Gender Working Group meeting was held with participation of 15 representatives from government and non-government organizations with an interest in gender activities on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Participants shared their gender-related activities, achievements and challenges in Herat Province. The participants gave some suggestions to consider gender mainstreaming in remote areas including conducting awareness raising campaigns and trainings.
- The Community Development Department is implementing 33 labor intensive grants, including Flood/ School Protection Walls/Road Rehabilitation/Culverts in Pashtun Zarghun, Shindand and Kushk Rabat-e Sangi Districts.
- The Capacity Building Department is implementing 5 carpet weaving (125 women), 14 tailoring (280 women), 2 welding (40 men) , 1 embroidery (20 women) and 1 computer (3 women,17 men) courses in Shindand, Kushk Rabat-e Sangi , Pashtun Zarghun Districts and Herat DRRD.



**20 local women practice tailoring skills in Rawandan village in Pashtun Zarghun District.**

## GHOR PROVINCE

- The Shahrak Acting District Governor (ADG), in-line with the district government communications plan, held a meeting with 35 district *Ulema* and elders on November 26<sup>th</sup>. The ADG briefed the participants on the government activities and achievements in Shahrak District and requested the participants to support the government to deliver better services. The *Ulema* talked about the importance of unity and pledged to support the government.
- Follow-up concept note trainings were provided to four members of the Shahrak-e Mohajerin CDC on November 26<sup>th</sup> and to four members of Aqajani CDC on November 27<sup>th</sup>.
- The 8<sup>th</sup> Chaghcharan DSC meeting was held with participation of 69 people (47 men, 22 women) on November 27<sup>th</sup>. The Deputy Provincial Governor highlighted the importance of the DSC meeting as a platform for the community to share their concerns. The DSC members were informed that due to freezing temperatures in winter, light infrastructure projects will be suspended. On November 30<sup>th</sup>, a lessons learned session was conducted and participants shared the DSC meeting challenges.
- On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Ghor Deputy Provincial Governor, in-line with his communications plan, conducted an SMS campaign to raise the people's awareness about the government activities and achievements. 140 elders, *Ulema* and influential people received the SMS.
- The Ghor Gender Working Group meeting was held with participation of 17 people from government and non-government organizations on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. The participants exchanged information about their organizations gender-related activities in Ghor.
- The Community Development Department is implementing 12 labor intensive grants, (Road Rehabilitation/Culverts) in Chaghcharan District.



**The 8<sup>th</sup> Chaghcharan DSC meeting was held with participation of 69 people on November 27<sup>th</sup>.**

## WHAT'S NEXT

- Farah Service Providers Fair will be launched on December 4<sup>th</sup>. And Pusht-e Rod TCRC meeting will be held on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

- Badghis Muqur District Governor will organize public meeting with *Ulema* on December 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Herat Kushk Rabat-e Sangi Women will organize a meeting with *Ulema* and elders on December 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Herat Shindand and Kushk Rabat-e Sangi TCRC meetings will be held on December 9<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Ghor Shahrak DG will organize a public meeting with *Ulema* on December 4<sup>th</sup>.

## SIKA-WEST GRANTS ACTIVITIES

#	Province	District	Under Development		Vetting To USAID		Grant Approved		Grant On-going		Grant Complete	
			#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$
1	Farah	Bala Boluk	5	\$55,000	1	\$48,602	36	\$734,646	14	\$256,070	14	\$234,192
2		Pusht-E Rod	1	\$20,000			22	\$296,686	14	\$158,895	3	\$22,389
3		Khak-E Safed	3	\$71,295	1	\$98,708	10	\$156,349	9	\$57,642		
4	Herat	Pashtun Zarghun	4	\$121,500	1	\$45,661	20	\$499,881	19	\$454,220		
5		Shindand	8	\$323,000	2	\$81,271	18	\$563,069	8	\$111,876		
6		Kushk Rabat-E-Sangi	8	\$289,213	6	\$242,889	26	\$727,692	19	\$455,062		
7	Ghor	Chaghcharan	9	\$509,100	4	\$207,000	13	\$485,562	3	\$77,161		
8		Shahrak			8	\$550,000	7	\$453,261				
9	Badghis	Qadis	12	\$180,282	1	\$48,852	65	\$641,756	59	\$476,385		
10		Muqur	10	\$163,700	2	\$73,463	37	\$490,717	30	\$291,741		
			60	\$1,733,090	26	\$1,396,446	254	\$5,049,619	175	\$2,339,052	17	\$256,581