

Weekly Bullets

Coordination with Farah DRRD and other Line Departments

- On March 26th, a detailed presentation covering MRRD/Stability Program objectives, components and target districts was provided to the Farah DRRD Director, USAID representative and a number of government and non-government representatives as part of a DRRD facilitated coordination meeting.



The Farah DRRD Director (standing), outlines DRRD achievements in 2012 and future plans during a coordination meeting on March 26th.

Farah Province

- March 27th, to build the capacity of district entities, improving effective communicate with the people, media training was provided to 13 Bala Boluk District government staff. The training covered media relations, interview techniques and news release.
- The Pusht-e Rod District Governor and Youth Association Communications Plans were finalized and signed by the District Governor and head of the youth association. For organizations in other districts, these communications plans have proved effective in implementing effective education and gender campaigns.

Badghis Province

- On March 26th, the second Muqur DSC meeting was held with participation of 73 people including 15 DSC members, 44 District Entity representatives, 13 community observers. The Stability Analysis Mechanism (SAM) training, and an overview of project criteria and budget limitations was provided to the participants, who later identified six SOIs including illiteracy, lack of unity, unemployment, poverty, administrative corruption, poppy cultivation and drug trafficking. By the end of the meeting 47 mitigating activities had been proposed, which will be prioritized in future meetings.
- On March 31st, five Muqur District government staff including the District Governor were provided with Project Cycle Management training, to build capacity and familiarize stakeholders with the MRRD/Stability Program.
- On March 30th, the monthly Badghis Gender Working Group coordination meeting was held at the Department of Women's Affairs (DoWA) with participation of 29 people. Information regarding gender-related activities in Badghis was exchanged, and a Gender Mainstreaming training was provided to participants at the end of the meeting.



Stability Analysis Mechanism training was provided to participants during the second Muqur DSC meeting on March 26th.

Herat Province

- On March 26th, as part of a follow up activity to address identified SOIs in Shindand District, the 6th DSC meeting was held with participation of 65 people including 30 DSC members, 29 District Entity representatives and six community observers. The DSC members analyzed three SOIs including the presence of ISAF, influence of Iran and Pakistan, and lack of national unity amongst the tribes. Following a discussion on SOIs, root causes and mitigating activities, a number of soft and hard mitigating activities were proposed. The meeting ended with Conflict Resolution Skills training.
- On March 28th, a six-month communications plan was finalized and signed by the Kushk Rabat-e Sangi District Governor.



- On April 1st, as part of the Shindand District Governor's communications plan a public meeting was held for 45 women to improve their engagement in the district decision making process. Participants included DDA members, and representatives from civil societies, the Department of Education, schools and members of district associations. During the meeting participants shared issues and challenges, and requested the District Governor support gender equality and mainstreaming in the district government offices. The District Governor highlighted the importance of women in the police and other government departments, and said vacant positions were available.
- On March 31st, as part of activities to coordinate vocational trainings in identified districts a meeting was held with Herat DoWA Director. To provide support for the trainings, a letter of agreement was signed by the director at the end of the meeting.



Women were encouraged to join government departments by the Shindand District Governor at a public meeting on April 1st.