

WEEKLY BULLETS

The BIG Picture

- On March 6th USAID Mission Director, Ken Yamashita, visited the SIKA-W Offices in Herat and was provided an unique opportunity to dialogue directly with SIKA-W staff and PRRD Officials from Herat, Badghis and Farah.
- On March 9th, SIKA Unit Director, Mr. Gulham Haider and his Deputy, Mr. Siam Abedi arrived in Herat for the first MRRD-SIKA West Coordination Meeting. SIKA West Headquarters and PST staff presented progress to date and addressed in open and candid discussions a variety of issues.



SIKA-W presenting to Mr. Yamashita in Herat

Farah Province

- On March 5th, a coordination meeting was held with three Community Development Councils (CDC), within Doken community, to identify and elect a capable CDC able to implement the Doken school refurbishment project featured in Pusht-e Rod DPP #2
- The new management board's election of Dehzak Bala CDC was held with cooperation of the Farah PST.
- In Bala Boluk the tailoring vocational training for 15 women and five literacy courses for 125 female beneficiaries remain ongoing.
- In Pusht-e Rod, three literacy courses for 75 students (25 female, 50 male) remain ongoing.
- In Farah DRRD the computer course for 11 people (2 females and 9 males) remains ongoing.



Women in Dehzak community in Bala Boluk District receive tailoring vocational training.

Forward Looking

- From March 16th-24th, conduct Project Management training for the CDCs that have signed grants agreements.

Badghis Province

- On March 10th, the Qadis Youth Association conducted their first public outreach intervention, "Go to School" campaign. One hundred and two people participated in the public meeting, including the District Governor, senior district government staff, Ulema, influential elders and concerned parents. The Ulema strongly supported the Youth Association's efforts to register children at school. An influential mullah declared to the crowd, "We need a literate community to have a developed country".
- In Badghis, 13 banners, which were printed to hang at public places to mark International Women's Day, were handed over to DoWA. Approximately, 450 men and women participated in the ceremony.



An influential *mullah* declared to the crowd, "We need a literate community to have a developed country" at the "Go to School" campaign on March 10th.

Herat Province

- On March 10th, Gender Awareness training was provided to three Kushk Rabat-e Sangi female District Development Assembly (DDA) members.
- On March 9th, ‘Marketing’ training was provided to 67 farmers from Pashtun Zarghun at the District Governor compound. The farmers learned the fundamentals of basic marketing. The training covered methods to identify different customers in a market (market segmentation) and the four “Ps” of Marketing- “Product, Promotion, Place and Price”.
- On March 7th, almost 1000 brochures were distributed at a ceremony organized by Herat DoWA to mark International Women’s day. The brochures provided information on the history of Women’s Day, gender equity and roles of women in community development, and were designed in cooperation with DoWA.
- In Shindand, five literacy courses for 125 female beneficiaries were ongoing.



Almost 450 men and women participated at a ceremony organized by Badghis DoWA on March 07th.

Ghor Province

- On March 6th, a team from HQ traveled to Chaghcharan, Ghor Province and introduced the MRRD/Stability Program to the Deputy Provincial Governor and Head of the Chaghcharan District Development Assembly (DDA) and briefed them on the roll-out and upcoming DSC formation. The team initiated the process for the identification of the Chaghcharan DSC members in close coordination and cooperation with the Ghor Deputy Provincial Governor and the Head of the DDA.
- A coordination meeting was held with the Shahrak District Governor to re-brief him on the objectives of MRRD/Stability Program, roll-out and DSC formation process. The District Governor requested to start the program soon and said community leaders and people of this district are ready to support the program.



Almost 1000 men and women received a brochure at a major ceremony held by DoWA on March 7th.