

WEEKLY REPORT

Farah Province

Milestones Achieved

- The fifth Pusht-e-Rod DSC meeting was held on February 10th at the District center with 30 people attending including 15 DSC members, 10 District Entities’ representatives and 5 observers. The meeting was organized to discuss projects prioritized by the DSC members at the fourth DSC meeting, and identify new Sources of Instability (SOI) in the District. Following discussions the Pang Joft Gow protection wall project was dropped off from the list due to the high cost of the project and insecurity in the area. The DCS members also prioritized the Massow canal excavation, Shahr-e Kohna water dividers, school refurbishment projects in Massow, Chapak, Duken and Tapa Shiran villages, and Literacy and Midwifery training for local midwives. A short training on Conflict Resolution Skills was provided to the participants. Below is the SOIs, root causes and mitigating activities identified in the meeting:



DSC members identify new SOIs, root causes and propose mitigating activities during the fifth Pusht-e-Rod DSC meeting on February 10th.

| Sources of Instability | Root Causes (RC) | Mitigating Activities (MA) |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Poverty and Lack of job opportunities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of government support to agriculture sector Lack of Market for the agricultural Productions Lack of proper education system Foreign Destabilizing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide job opportunities through development projects Rehabilitation of irrigation system Conducting literacy courses for men and women. Find market for agriculture products GIRoA to improve and train border police |

- The Project Priority Agreement (PPA) for projects in Gaskin and Khaja Abdullah Bidar, the Mirab Agreement for Gaskin and Needs Assessment forms for Tapa, Tapa Shiran, Gaskin, Gajgin and Khaja Abdullah Bidar CDCs featured in DPP # 1 in Pusht-e-Rod District were signed.
- The drawings and quantity estimation for water divider projects in Tapa and Qala Mula Aman communities featured in DPP #1 in Pusht-e-Road district were completed.
- As part of capacity building in Bala Buluk District, 30 youths were provided with Communication Skills Building training on February 10th. During the training the youths discussed the main elements of communications including, the message, audience and tools of communications. At the end of the training five



Bala Buluk youth jot down the main elements of communications during training on February 10th.

youths were selected as the Bala Buluk Youths Communications Focal Points and will receive further trainings to make a communications plan.

- The vocational training instructors worked on the development of work plans for the Auto Mechanic, Mobile Phone Repair, Tailoring and Embroidery courses due to start in Bala Buluk District next month.
- The draft Farah Service Providers Catalogue (SPC) was revised based on feedback received from USAID. Additional information on services and service providers were added to most of the sections in Bala Buluk and Pusht-e-Rod Districts. For each organization/line department in the SPC, a brief description was added that clearly introduces the service providers' information on the area/sector they work and the services they provide.
- As part of coordination activities for roll-out to Khaki Safed District, a team from HQ including the DCOP and Deputy Stability Director traveled to Farah Province and met with the Farah Provincial Governor on February 11th. The Provincial Governor expressed his full support and looks forward to expanding the MRRD/Stability Program to other districts in Farah Province. The Provincial Governor also recommended an additional roll-out into Bakwa District as soon as possible and has offered the Provincial Government's assistance to facilitate the roll out. Earlier in the week, the PST Manager met with the Khaki-Safed District Governor in order to brief him on the program. The District Governor also expressed his full support and is ready to facilitate the DSC introductory meeting.
- To date 19 Grant Applications for Bala Buluk District were approved by USAID.
- In Bala Buluk, one vocational training for 15 women and five literacy courses for 125 female beneficiaries are ongoing.
- In Pusht-e-Rod, three literacy courses for 75 students (25 female, 50 male) are ongoing.
- In Farah DRRD one computer course for 11 people (2 females and 9 males) is on ongoing.
- To date 31 employees (Professional staff: 1 female, 22 male; and Support staff: 1 female, 7 male) have been hired, and 4 positions are in the recruitment process. In addition to this number, 10 STTAs have been directly hired as literacy, computer and vocational trainings instructors.

Challenges/Action

- NSTR

Forward Looking

- Conduct the Project Cycle Management training to Pusht-e-Rod and Bala Buluk District Government staff scheduled on February 16th and 18th.
- Sign the PPA, Mirab Agreement and CDC Capacity Needs Assessment forms with Balandi and Safarak CDCs for the projects featured in DPP #1 in Pusht-e-Rod District.
- Sign the CDC Capacity Needs Assessment forms with Shahr-e Kohna, Safarak and Qala Mulla Aman CDCs for the projects featured in DPP # 1 in Pusht-e-Rod District.
- Sign the PPA and CDC Needs Assessment forms with the Chapak Duken, and Tapa Shiran CDCs for the projects featured in DPP #1 in Pusht-e-Rod District.

Badghis Province

Milestones Achieved

- To improve coordination with Badghis DRRD, weekly meetings have been planned with the Badghis DRRD Director every Thursday. The purpose of these meetings is to share the achievements, challenges and coming week plans of MRRD/Stability Program in Badghis Province. As part of this coordination activity, a meeting was held with Badghis DRRD Director on February 7th. During the meeting, along with sharing the previous week's achievements, the issue of Computer Training to DRRD staff was discussed with DRRD Director and a list of the trainees selected for the course was given to him for review and approval.
- As part of capacity building activities, capacity needs assessment forms were completed by 21 Qadis and Muqur DCS members. Seventeen females from the Qadis District Development Assembly (DDA) and associated Community Development Councils (CDCs) were also provided with Community Development orientation training on February 6th.
- As part of coordination activities for Literacy courses in Qadis District, separate meetings were held with the Qadis District Governor and 17 females from the Qadis DDA and CDCs on February 6th and 9th. During the meetings Qarchagi, Qadis Khordak and Taht-e-Bazaar communities were selected as sites for the literacy program.
- Introduction to Communications and Basic Elements of Communications training was provided to sixteen farmers from Qadis District. At the end of the training four farmers were selected as the communications focal points and will receive How to Develop Communication Plan training.
- To date 29 employees (Professional staff: 2 female, 19 male; Support staff: 0 female, 8 male) have been hired, and 6 positions are being recruited.



Badghis PST staff share the MRRD/Stability Program achievements for the week with the DRRD Director on February 7th.



Qadis DDA and CDCs' representatives identifying potential villages for the literacy program, February 9th.

Challenges/Action

- The residents of the communities which were selected for the Literacy Program have demanded an incentive for attending the literacy courses. This issue will be discussed with the Qadis DSC members at the next DSC meeting, where members will be informed that allowances are not part of any project budget to improve the sustainability of the program.

Forward Looking

- Conduct Project Cycle Management training for Badghis PST and Qadis District Government staff.
- Conduct PPA and CDC Needs Assessment, Grant Application process and Conflict Resolution Skills trainings to Muqur District Government and Muqur DST staff.

Herat Province

Milestones Achieved

- As part of communications capacity building activities, training on the Main Elements of Communications was provided to 30 Pashtun Zarghun District Government staff on February 12th. At the end of the training three people were selected as the communications focal points to receive further trainings.
- On February 10th, Site Survey and Checklist training was provided to 40 Shindand District Government staff. This training was part of a series of capacity building trainings which will be provided to the district government staff and CDCs to implement and monitor the upcoming projects in their District.
- A series of capacity building trainings including, Report Writing, Project Site Visit Assessment, Site Survey and Checklist trainings were provided to 23 Pashtun Zarghun District Government staff on February 11th.
- As part of coordination activities for the third Kushk DSC meeting, a meeting was held with Kushk District Governor on February 11th. He agreed to chair the DSC meeting on February 20th.
- As part of advocacy activities for a project which will establish a Livestock Farms, proposed by the Shindand DSC members, a meeting was held with the Animal Husbandry Manager of Herat Department of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (DAIL) on February 11th. The meeting was focused on the possibility of establishment of farms by DAIL, however the department is unable to establish farms in Shindand District due to lack resources. As a compromise the manager offered to provide artificial inseminators and vaccines to established farm owners. The result of the meeting will be shared with the DSC members at the next DSC members.
- As part of capacity building, in preparation for grant applications and implementation, Grant Application Process, Site Survey and Checklist trainings were provided to 40 Kushk District Government staff on February 12th.
- To date 30 employees (Professional staff: 4 female, 21 male; Support staff: 1 female, 4 male) have been hired, and 6 positions are being recruited.



Pashtun Zarghun District Government staff receive capacity building trainings on February 11th.

Challenges/Action

- NSTR

Forward Looking

- Conduct the fifth Shindand DSC meeting scheduled for February 17th.
- Conduct the third Kushk DSC meeting scheduled for February 20th.
- Provide Conflict Resolution Skills, PPA, CDCs Needs Assessment, M&E Report writing and Project Site Visit Assessment trainings to Kushk District Government staff on February 13th.
- Conduct the How to Develop a Communication Plan to Pashtun Zarghun District Government Communications Focal Points on February 13th.

- Provide Conflict Resolution Skills, CDCs Needs Assessment, and Grants Application Trainings to Pashtun Zarghun District Government staff on February 16th.
- Launch five literacy training courses in Shindand District through a combined ceremony on February 18th.

Additional Herat-based HQ Support

- To date 85 employees (Professional staff: 13 female, 49 male; Support staff: 10 female, 13 male) have been hired, and 16 positions are being recruited.