

## WEEKLY REPORT

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### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK INCLUDE:

***Mobilization of the SIKA-West COP to post:*** On October 12<sup>th</sup>, the SIKA-West Chief of Party, arrived in country. The COP was met by the SIKA-West Acting COP in Kabul and the handover process was initiated. The incoming COP was also introduced to the MRRD focal point while in Kabul and met with the USAID COR in Herat.

### INTERMEDIATE RESULT 1

The IR1 team followed up on last week's Bala Buluk, Pusht-e-Road and Shindand District Stabilization (DSC) Meetings. The Bala Baluk District Stabilization Matrix (DSM) was reviewed, analyzed and updated based on input from the last DSC Meeting. The IR1 Stability Program Officers (SPO) followed up with the Farah Provincial Support Team (PST) on further coordination with the Ulema, tribal leaders and information gathered on the Bakhsh Abad Dam. The primary reason the Ministry of Water and Energy could not start work on the Bakhsh Abad Dam is due to poor security, SIKA West through the DSC meetings will try and shore up community support for this project. Further, the *mullah's* have agreed to help convince the more pro-Taliban *mullah's* to attend the next DSC Meeting. The SPOs drafted the Pusht-e-Road and Shindand DSM memos with information on Sources of Instability (SOI) and root causes identified in the first meetings of the DSC in Pusht-e-Road and Shindand Districts. The Bala Buluk, Pusht-e-Road and Shindand District DSMs and District Project Portfolios (DPP) were discussed and next steps agreed to by all Program Departments in the Weekly DSM Meeting.

### INTERMEDIATE RESULT 2

The data in the Farah Service Provider Catalogue (SPC) has been sorted by provincial and district level. General information about all the service providers are available in the provincial sheet and information about the services and organizations in districts are incorporated into two different sheets. On October 17<sup>th</sup>, the content of the SPC was reviewed and cross checked and submitted to the IR3-Communication and Outreach department for further review and addition.

### INTERMEDIATE RESULT 3

On October 15<sup>th</sup>, Communication Leader conducted a one day training workshop for the HQ communications officers and Herat PST member on "How to Develop a Communications Plan". IR3 will be working closely with district entities on developing and implementing communications plans. The training was followed by the drafting of the Farah DRRD communication plan.

### INTERMEDIATE RESULT 4

On October 15<sup>th</sup>, the Community Development Team arranged a meeting with IR1 to prepare the list of projects recommended by DSC members for Bala Baluk. Constraint factors such as weather were taken into account when reviewing this list.

## PROVINCIAL ACTIVITIES

### FARAH PST

A meeting was held with the DoWA administrator, where information was obtained regarding violence against women. At the meeting, the DoWA administrator, Abdul Ahad, and the DoWA communications officer, Rabia Ayubi, were trained on how to make a brochure and this was followed up by my a training on brochure material collection and the brochure was sent to Herat for editing and publishing.

## **BADGHIS PST**

During the week, most of the focus was on data collection for the SPC from governmental and non-governmental organizations in the province.

## **HERAT PST**

On October 13th, the PST team officially started working in their new offices at the MRRD compound in Herat. In addition, during this week, the team met with the Herat DRRD and updated the officials on the relocation of the PST staff to the DRRD and the official start of their activities.

## **GENDER AND CAPACITY BUILDING**

### **SIKA-West Gender Programming HQ**

- The Gender Department chaired the weekly Internal SIKA-West Gender Working Group on October 17<sup>th</sup>, which allows for gender related discussions, updates and guidance between all IR's and other departments. During this week's meeting the following issues were discussed and decided upon:
  - **IR1-** Over the past week, contacted 13 influential female residents of the following communities; Dehzak, Kaneshk, Gerani, Shewan & Ganjabad. The CBD Gender Department has met with these women in Farah and received updates on potential areas of intervention.
  - **IR2-** Gender Department is waiting on receipt of Pusht Rod SPC data from IR2 and will then analyze the data to see what district Gender Services may be expanded or improved.
  - **IR3-** Launched the Brochure Campaign with Herat DOWA. This messaging support will teach DOWA how to draft and write their own messaging.
  - **IR4-** Prepare for vocational training programs and infrastructure programs for men and women in Bala Baluk. Over the past week, six vocational programs were identified for the Bala Baluk district.
  - **M&E-** M&E has redesigned the reporting requirements for program activities and will provide training to the Gender Working Group and Field Trainers on these new requirements next week.

### **Capacity Building Headquarters Component**

Two CBD RFP's have been finalized and prepared into Purchase Orders. These Purchase Orders are RFP FH001 Adult Computer Programming for GIRoA Personnel and RFP FH002 Adult English Language Programming for GIRoA Personnel. CBD is waiting on USAID approval for these programs.

## **MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

During the week, the M&E Department continued collecting support documents from the PST offices for DSC formation meetings held in Pusht Rod District of Farah Province, as well as Shindand District of Herat Province. In addition, the screening and shortlisting of applicants continued for the Farah DST M&E Assistant Positions.

## HR & RECRUITMENT

- To date 97 employees (29 female, 68 male) have been hired and 41 positions are under process.

SIKA-West Recruitment				
Staff	Herat Office	Herat Province	Farah Province	Badghis Province
Hired	64	9	13	11
In process	14	9	16	10
Females hired	24	2	2	1
Males hired	40	7	11	10

## DELIVERABLES

- Weekly Report
- Grants Manual (resubmission)
- Monthly Report

## SECURITY OPERATIONS

- Security personnel conducted various Herat City moves without any incidents.