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STABILITY IN KEY AREAS (SIKA)-WEST

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MAR 3-9, 2015



Date: 03/08/2015 04:08:12:12 PM Lat: 32.362023 Lon: 62.087260 Alt: 2180.8 ft

The Haji Abad CDC Rehabilitating A 1,760-Meter Road Including One Culvert In Haji Abad Village, Farah Center. Once Complete, The Road Will Improve Access For 13,122 People To The Provincial Center.

March 11, 2015

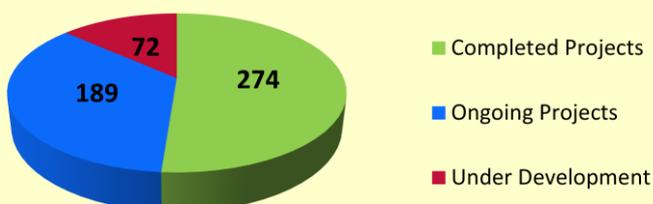
This publication was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development. It was prepared by AECOM.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK FARAH/GHOR/BADGHIS/HERAT):

- The Muqur District Governor (DG), Mr. Abdul Hadi Badghis, led the Muqur mixed Komite Sobate Woleswali on March 09, with 60 participants (40 male, 20 female). District residents and government officials gathered to discuss community problems. A key point discussed included the importance of education for children. A female teacher from Chashma Dozak village petitioned the District Government and Ulema to encourage parents to send their children to school. The DG and Ulema pledged to send these messages to residents through public gathering and sermons. The DG also informed the participants that the USAID funded CCI/IOM program had started working in Muqur District. The DG will lobby third party organizations including the CCI/IOM to allocate funds for development projects identified at the KSW. This Komite Sobate Woleswali meeting was undertaken by IDLG & MRRD without logistical or financial support from SIKA-West reflecting our program partners' leadership in sustaining critical district based programming.
- In collaboration with MRRD & IDLG, the Community Development Department completed feasibility studies for four projects in Qadis District. These projects (Provision of School Equipment) were identified in the GIRoA-led mixed Komite Sobate Woleswali and are designed to provide better educational environments for 2,106 students (334 boys & 1772 girls).
- In Chaghcharan, Kohsan and Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, between March 7-8, the respective DRRD DSWs and District Government personnel led the Project Management Training for 30 (28 male, 2 female) members of eight CDC Grantees; covering Community Mobilization & Development & Procurement Processes, while the Community Development Department covered technical sections of the course material. After the training, the CDCs will receive their first milestone payments and begin implementation of their grant funded projects (Provision of Equipment & Administrative Materials to Schools & DDA Offices).

Grants & Subcontracts Programming

- CDCs & DDAs are currently implementing 189 projects valued at AFN 254,323,750/USD\$5,086,475 (AFN 50-USD\$1.00) which will serve to improve service delivery to 931,555 residents across the target districts.
- IDLG/MRRD provincial and district partners have completed 274 projects valued at AFN 278,262,190/USD\$4,866,690. These projects have benefited 558,996 residents.
- Currently, 72 projects, valued at AFN 43,305,100 /USD\$866,102 (AFN 50- USD\$1.00) are under development.
- Please refer to Annex A for further details

Snapshot of Grant Funded Programming

- 13 CDC & DDA milestone payments totaling USD\$55,832 were processed in Qala-i-Naw, Pashtun Zarghun, Kohsan, Bala Boluk, Farah Center and Kushk-e Rabat Sangi supporting IDLG & MRRD-led grant funded solutions to community grievances.



Mr. Qamaruddin Shakib, The Badghis Deputy Provincial Governor Speaking About The Achievements of SIKA-West Program In Badghis Province At The Handover Ceremony.

On March 3, the SIKA-West Communications & Public Outreach and Stabilization Departments participated in a Program Handover Ceremony in Badghis Provincial Center. Present during the event were 41 attendees (37 male, 4 female), including the Badghis Deputy Provincial Governor (Mr. Qamaruddin Shakib), the Muqur and Qadis Executive Managers (Mr. Abobakr Azimi & Mr. Ramazan), Provincial Line Departments' representatives, Ulema and community elders from Badghis. During the handover ceremony, copies of the Qadis and Muqur District Profiles, Communication Plans, Badghis Service Providers Catalog, Communications & Governance Training Materials, Komite Sobate Woleswali Guidelines & Training Materials were handed over to our MRRD & IDLG partners. The Badghis DPG thanked the SIKA-West program and highlighted improvements in government service delivery in Qala-i-Naw, Qadis and Muqur. The event was broadcast by Badghis Radio & Television of Afghanistan.

MONITORING ACTIVITIES

- DRRD DSWs, SIKA-West Engineers and M&E Personnel conducted 64 joint project site visits. These visits yielded deficiencies that were in need of correction; e.g. the Ghalb Nazer CDC who are constructing a 85-ML Flood Protection Wall in Pashtun Zarghun were advised to do the pointing in accordance with the project specification, or the next milestone payment would not be authorized.
- SIKA-West M&E Personnel and Engineers attended the Italian funded INTERSOS Program coordination workshop for Project Partners and Stakeholders on March 9. INTERSOS presented their ongoing activities and projects in Herat Province. SIKA-West shared the recently approved USAID Weekly Reports with the participants to avoid program duplication in the common district (Guzara).

FARAH PROVINCE

- On March 9, SIKA-West Engineers and M&E Personnel visited Kababi Payeen village to inspect the work progress to date on the community's four culverts. No deficiencies were observed and the CDC was congratulated for working in accordance with the technical specifications. The grant funded project was awarded by the Pusht-e Rod District Government and Farah DRRD through the male Komite Sobate Wolesswali to improve the ability of 968 district families to travel via road to the District Center.
- On March 8, SIKA-West Engineers inspected the work progress of the Khawja Abdullah Bidar High School Rehabilitation & construction of a 225-meter Surrounding Wall in Chen Farsee village, Pusht-e Rod District. It was observed that the installation of some doors and windows required additional work; the CDC was advised to correct this deficiency. Once complete, the rehabilitated school will provide a better educational environment for 738 students (male).

BADGHIS PROVINCE

- Led by the Badghis DRRD, a Project Completion Ceremony was held for three completed projects (Flood Protection Walls) in Mazid Village, Muqur District on March 9. Identified by the Muqur mixed KSW and awarded to the community by the District Government & Badghis DRRD, the Flood Protection Walls now protect 41 Jeribs of farmland and 125 homes from being damaged by seasonal floods. Present at the ceremony were the Muqur District Governor (Mr. Abdul Hadi Badghisi), the Badghis Provincial Council Deputy Director (Mr. Aziz Bik), DSWs, CDCs and community elders who congratulated the Mazid, Neyazai and Zad Nasir CDCs on their work and highlighted the importance of GIRoA's services to address community needs.
- The SIKA-West Engineers and M&E Personnel inspected the work progress of the 88-ML Canal Lining, 48-ML Stone Masonry Flood Protection Wall & 48-ML Gabion Flood Protection Wall in Qashlaq Naw Khan Abasi Village, Muqur District on March 8. It was observed that not all gabion boxes were properly filled with stone for the Gabion Flood Protection Wall. The CDC was mentored to correct this deficiency and program staff will remain on site to ensure that the project is undertaken in line with project specifications. Once complete, 1000 Jeribs of community farmland will be safeguarded from being damaged by seasonal floods and would have sufficient irrigation water.

HERAT PROVINCE

- The Communications & Public Outreach Department handed over the responsibility of the Herat Service Providers Catalog (SPC) to the Herat DRRD on March 4. The Herat DRRD has now taken responsibility to handle the SPC Hotline and maintain the Herat Service Provider Catalog.
- The Kushk-e Rabat Sangi District Governor (DG), Mr. Shir Aqa Sarwari, led the Kushk-e Rabat Sangi mixed Komite Sobate Wolesswali meeting on March 09, with 100 participants (85 male, 15 female), including District Government officials, DDA members, CDC members, Ulema, Community Elders & both male and female district residents. The DG spoke about importance of peace and stability and highlighted the roles of residents in bringing peace into communities. A key point discussed included the danger of the poppy cultivation in the district. He asked the participants to inform their communities to stop poppy cultivation. The DG informed the KSW that the UN funded World Food Program (WFP)



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The Qala Gholam Seddiq CDC Constructing A 100-ML Flood Protection Wall In Qala Gholam Seddiq Village, Farah Center: Expected To Safeguard 2000 Jeribs Of Farmland From Being Flooded.



Date: 03/09/2015 01:15:22 PM Lat: 32.387233 Lon: 62.075267 Alt: 2171.9 ft
The Kababi Payeen CDC Completed 82% Of The Work On Their Culverts Construction Project (4 Culverts) In Kababi Payeen Village, Lash Wa Juwayn: Expected To Improve Access For 968 Families To The District Center.



Government Officials Cut The Ribbon At The Project Completion Ceremony For Three Flood Protection Wall Projects In Mazid Village, Muqur District On March 9.



The SIKA-West Engineers And M&E Personnel Inspected The Work Progress Of The 88-ML Canal Lining Including 48-ML Stone Masonry Flood Protection Wall And 48-ML Gabion Flood Protection Wall In Qashlaq Naw Khan Abasi Village, Muqur District On March 8.

and Italian funded INTERSOS programs have started working in Kushk-e Rabat Sangi. Recently, the District Government and DDA have selected district villages to be covered under the WFP Food for Work program. This Komite Sobate Woleswali meeting was undertaken by IDLG & MRRD without logistical or financial support from SIKA-West reflecting our program partners' leadership in sustaining critical district programming.

GHOR PROVINCE

- On March 3, with support of the Governance Department, a community gathering was held with four members (male) of the Jar Choqour CDC in Chaghcharan to obtain their feedback on the impact of SIKA-West programming. The Jar Chaqour CDC noted that government support provided to rehabilitate their road (2-KM road including three culverts) improved access for 400 families to the neighboring villages and Chaghcharan City. The CDC reported that local government investment connects their village to the neighboring village allowing them transport their produce to both neighboring village and provincial center markets.

CHALLENGES

- Due to heavy snow, all projects were suspended in Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, Muqur, Qadis and Qala-i-Naw on March 7.
- As a result of recent snowfall, road access to Shahrak and Du Layna Districts are closed; our program field personnel will resume programming in these two districts once these roads have been cleared.
- During the week, we observed that the Chaghcharan, Pashtun Zarghun, Kohsan, Muqur, Qala-i-Naw and Bala Boluk District Government Mobile Hotline did not receive calls from residents and the Pusht-e Rod and Qadis Districts Hotline focal points did not record the calls into the Hotline Logbooks. These issues were shared with the IDGL Regional Coordinator to follow up with respective DGs.

WHAT'S NEXT

- DSWs, SIKA-West Engineers and M&E Personnel will undertake 111 project site visits in Pashtun Zarghun, Guzara, Kohsan, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, Shindand, Pusht-e Rod, Farah Center, Lash Wa Juwayn, Muqur, Qadis, Qala-i-Naw and Chaghcharan (weather conditions permitting)
- Post Project Completion site visits will be conducted for a 300 ML Road Rehabilitation & Gravelling Project in Qhar Ghach Blocha Village, Muqur District and a Culvert Construction Project in Haji Abdullah Village, Qadis District; to ensure that CDCs are continuing to maintain these projects in line with their handover agreements.
- The Pusht-e Rod, Lash Wa Juwayn, Shindand, Pashtun Zarghun, Qadis and Kohsan Komite Sobate Woleswali meetings will be independently organized and led by our IDLG and MRRD program partners between March 9-16, without logistical or financial support from SIKA-West and will focus on addressing current district concerns and identifying GIROA led solutions.



Date: 03/04/2015 11:54:37 AM Lat: 34.215043 Lon: 62.550800 Alt: 3649.3 ft

The Dahi Shaikh CDC Completed The Construction Of 70-ML Stone Masonry Flood Protection Wall In Dahi Shaikh Village, Pashtun Zarghun District. The Flood Protection Wall Will Safeguard 1200 Jeribs Of Farmland From Being Flooded.



Lat 34.28622° N, Long 62.503083° E, Alt: 1012 m, Date 08-March-2015 10:10:54 AM

The Ghoran CDC Completed 81% Of The Work On Their 75-ML Gabion Flood Protection Wall In Dahi Shaikar Village, Pashtun Zarghun: Expected To Safeguard 750 Jeribs Of Farmland From Being Flooded.



Date: 03/03/2015 15:23:15:15 Lat: 34.797480 Lon: 62.138807 Alt: 1189.4 m

The Abu Hanifa CDC Completed 70% Of The Work On Their 80-ML Gabion Flood Protection Wall In Markaz Woleswali Village, Kushk-E Rabat Sangi" Expected To Safeguard 70 Houses From Being Flooded.



Lat: [34.032833° N]; Long: [62.183026° E]; Date: [09-March-2015 10:47:13 PM]

The Chishma Khooni CDC Rehabilitating The Chishma Khooni Boys & Girls Secondary School In Guzara District. Once Complete, 757 Students (450 Boys, 327 Girls) Would Have A Better Educational Environment.