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The Zad Saleh CDC Completed 70% Of The Work On Their 75-ML Flood Protection Wall Construction Project In Zad Naser Village, Qadis District: Expected To Safeguard 50 Jeribs Of Farmland And An Existing Road From Being Damaged By Seasonal Flooding.

April 1, 2015

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

- The SIKA-West Communications & Public Outreach and the Governance Departments handed over the first SIKA-West Program Transition Package to both IDLG and MRRD SIKA-Units during separate meetings on March 18. Materials included copies of the Communications Plans, District Profiles, Service Providers Catalogs, Communications & Governance Training Materials, and Komite Sobate Wolesswali Guidelines.
- The Bala Boluk and Pusht-e Rod female KSWs meetings were organized on March 17 & 19 respectively, attended by 17 female residents (10 in Bala Boluk and 7 in Pusht-e Rod). Women in Bala Boluk discussed the lack of education for girls and agreed to petition the District Government to organize literacy courses in Bala Boluk. The Pusht-e Rod KSW members identified that their District Clinic lacks enough nurses. As a first step, the KSW members will introduce local midwives to the Public Health Department to see if they could be hired at the Pusht-e Rod Clinic. These KSWs meetings were undertaken without logistical or financial support from SIKA-West reflecting our program partners' leadership in sustaining critical district based programming.
- In Farah Center, Qala-i-Naw, Pashtun Zarghun, Lash Wa Juwayn and Qadis, between March 17-28, the respective DRRD DSWs and District Government personnel led the Project Management Training for 200 members (194 male, 6 female) of 53 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.

Grants & Subcontracts Programming

- CDCs & DDAs are currently implementing 244 projects valued at AFN 270,824,100/USD\$5,416,482 (AFN 50-USD\$1.00) which will serve to improve service delivery to 965,191 residents across the target districts.
- IDLG/MRRD provincial and district partners have completed 282 projects valued at AFN 290,579,290/USD\$5,071,700. These projects have benefited 593,515 residents.
- Currently, 19 projects, valued at AFN 12,752,950 /USD\$255,059 (AFN 50- USD\$1.00) are under development. Please refer to Annex A for further details.

Snapshot of Grant Funded Programming



- 98 CDC milestone payments totaling USD\$441,028 were processed in Chaghcharan, Farah Center, Guzara, Kohsan, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, Lash Wa Juwayn, Muqur, Pusht-e Rod, Pashtun Zarghun, Qadis and Shindand supporting IDLG & MRRD-led grant funded solutions to community grievances.



Muqur District Government Personnel And CDC Members Cut The Ribbon At The Project Completion Ceremony On March 18.

Led by the Badghis DRRD and Muqur District Government, a Project Completion Ceremony was held for a completed 88-ML Canal Lining Project, including 48 ML Stone Masonry Flood Protection Wall, and 48 ML Gabion Flood Protection Wall in Qashlaq Naw Kham Abasi Village, Muqur District on March 18. Before this project was completed, large volumes of water were lost to overflow and farmlands were frequently flooded during the wetter months. Now complete, the Canal & Protection Walls safeguard more than 1000 Jeribs of community farmland and ensure year round irrigation for 1,680 community residents. This project was identified by the Muqur mixed KSW and awarded to the community by the District Government & Badghis DRRD, reflected a local government response to this community grievance.

MONITORING ACTIVITIES

- DRRD DSWs, SIKA-West Engineers and M&E Personnel conducted 166 joint project site visits. These visits yielded deficiencies that were in need of correction. The Zad Saleh CDC, who are implementing a 75-ML Flood Protection Wall construction project in Qadis District, were advised to compact the backfilling of their flood protection wall, or the next milestone payment would not be authorized.
- On March 30, the Lash Wa Juwayn DSW, Mr. Mohammad Nasim, led the field inspection of a 85ML Canal Lining Project in Kariz Sufla Village. He observed that the cement mixture was not being undertaken properly and advised the implementing CDC to correct this deficiency. The DSW took appropriate photos and wrote a report on his findings, which was shared with the Farah DRRD; a copy was made available for SIKA-West.
- In-line with overall monitoring efforts, the M&E Department randomly called 17 laborers on 11 project sites in Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, Kohsan, Pashtun Zarghun, Guzara, Chaghcharan and Muqur Districts to verify that they were receiving their wages in accordance with the CDC Grant Agreements. M&E has cross checked the reported amount with the projects' BOQs and it was observed that these laborers received the amounts as per the agreements.

FARAH PROVINCE

- The Farah Deputy Provincial Governor, Mr. Mohammad Yonus Rasouli, and the Bala Boluk District Governor, Mr. Mohammad, led the mixed Farah Center and the male Bala Boluk Komite Sobate Wolesswali meetings on March 25 and 26 respectively, attended by 93 people, Farah Center (34 males, 2 females), Bala Boluk (67 males). CDC representatives in Bala Boluk requested that their District Government identify potential third party donors to support continued development programming through the Bala Boluk Komite Sobate Wolesswali. The DGO shared this request with the Provincial Government for further action. As a result, the Farah Provincial Governor will travel to Bala Boluk next week and discuss this concern with the Bala Boluk DG and other KSW members. These Komite Sobate Wolesswali meetings were undertaken by IDLG & MRRD without logistical or financial support from SIKA-West reflecting our program partners' leadership in sustaining critical district based programming.
- On March 23, SIKA-West Engineers visited Naw Abad village to inspect the work progress to date on the community's 200-ML School Surrounding Wall construction project in Lash Wa Juwayn District. No deficiencies were observed. This grant funded project was awarded by the Lash Wa Juwayn District Government and Farah DRRD through the male Komite Sobate Wolesswali to provide a safe educational environment for 117 students (male).

BADGHIS PROVINCE

- In collaboration with MRRD & IDLG, the Community Development Department completed feasibility studies for two projects in Chishma Sanjet and Najak Lalmi villages, Qala-i-Naw. These projects (Provision of School Equipment to Chishma Sanjet and Najak Lalmi Schools) were identified in the GIRoA-led mixed Komite Sobate Wolesswali and are designed to provide better educational environments for 621 students (483 males & 138 females).
- The Qadis District Governor, Mr. Saleh Mohammad Bik, led the mixed Komite Sobate Wolesswali meeting on March 17, with 32 participants (24 males, 8 females). District residents and government officials gathered to discuss community problems. A key point discussed was the continued danger posed by poppy cultivation and drug dealing within the district. With the support of the community residents, the Qadis DGO has recently arrested five persons suspected of being involved in the drug trade; and they requested that the KSW member continue to cooperate with their local government on addressing this challenge. This Komite Sobate Wolesswali 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.

HERAT PROVINCE

- The Pashtun Zarghun District Governor, Mr. Farhad Raufian, led the mixed Pashtun Zarghun Komite Sobate Wolesswali meeting on March 17, with 38 participants (34 males, 4 females). District residents and government officials gathered to discuss community problems. A resident of Rabat Wahab village petitioned the District Government to provide potable water for their community. The DGO and DDA acknowledged this request and pledged to lobby third party organizations to provide potable water for this community. This Komite Sobate Wolesswali meeting was undertaken by IDLG & MRRD without logistical or financial support



Date: 03/29/2015 10:28:49 AM Lat: 32.264867 Lon: 67.050067 Alt: 2154.5 ft
The Mohajer Abad CDC Completed 37% Of The Work On Their 1.8KM Road Rehabilitation Project In Mohajer Abad Village, Farah Center: Expected To Improve Access For 3,318 People To The Provincial Center.



Date: 03/23/2015 03:23:08 PM Lat: 31.709203 Lon: 61.616427 Alt: 1468.3 ft
SIKA-West Engineers Visited Naw Abad Village To Inspect The Work Progress To Date On The Community's 200-ML School Surrounding Wall Construction Project In Lash Wa Juwayn District. Once Complete, 117 Students (Boys) Will Have A Safe Educational Environment.



The Jar Khoshk CDC Implementing A 60-ML Canal Lining Project In Jar Khoshk Village, Qala-i-Naw: Expected To Safeguard 280 Houses From Being Damaged By Seasonal Flooding.



Date: 03/18/2015 09:40:36 AM Lat: 34.816947 Lon: 63.422067 Alt: 4232.0 ft
The Sultan Ha CDC Completed 40% Of The Work On Their 60-ML Flood Protection Wall Construction Project In Haji Mohammad Ali Khan Village, Qadis: Expected To Safeguard 80 Jeribs Of Farmland And 50 Houses From Being Damaged By Seasonal Flooding.

from SIKA-West reflecting our program partners' leadership in sustaining critical district based programming.

- On March 23, the SIKA-West Engineers and M&E Personnel visited Mahal-e Kandahari Ha Village to inspect the work progress to date on the community's Bridge construction project in Guzara District. No deficiencies were observed. This grant funded project was awarded by the Guzara District Government and Herat DRRD through the mixed Komite Sobate Woleswali to improve access for 12,288 people to the District Center.

GHOR PROVINCE

- On March 28 and 29, SIKA-West Engineers inspected the work progress of four Culvert Projects (two culverts in Pouza Leach and two culverts in Seya Sang villages) in Chaghcharan. No deficiencies were observed. The implementing CDCs were congratulated for their work and asked to continue in accordance with the projects specifications. Once complete, these culverts will improve access for 253 families to the Provincial Center and neighboring villages.

CHALLENGES

- Due to current insecurity within Bala Baluk District, SIKA-West District personnel are continuing to work from the Farah Provincial Office and will remain there until security conditions improve.
- The Lash Wa Juwayn, Pashtun Zarghun, Shindand, Kohsan, Chaghcharan, Qadis and Muqur DGO Hotline and the Badghis, Herat and Farah SPC Focal Points reported that they did not receive calls from residents during this reporting period. The issue was shared with the IDLG & MRRD Regional Coordinators. As a follow up, a letter has been written by the IDLG SIKA-Unit, signed by the IDLG Deputy Minister (Policy and Technical), which will be sent to Provincial and DGOs to inform them of their responsibilities to maintain and operate IDLG Hotlines.
- SIKA-West is waiting on past requests on re-verifications for 7 projects in Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, Pashtun Zarghun, Shindand and Qadis by MISTI. Some of these re-verification requests have been pending since December 2014.

WHAT'S NEXT

- The Community Development Department will provide Project Management Training for 19 CDCs in Guzara, Qadis and Chaghcharan. After successfully completing the training, the first round of milestones will be paid.
- DSWs, SIKA-West Engineers and M&E Personnel will undertake 163 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, Chaghcharan and Du Layna Districts (weather and security conditions permitting).
- The Badghis DOWA will organize the Badghis Gender Working Group meeting on April 5. This meeting will be organized without logistical or financial support from SIKA-West.
- The Chaghcharan, Du Layna and Shahrak Komite Sobate Woleswali meetings will be independently organized and led by our IDLG and MRRD program partners on March 31 and April 1; without logistical or financial support from SIKA-West and will focus on both identifying current district concerns and proposing GIROA led solutions.



SIKA-West Engineers And M&E Personnel Inspecting The Work Progress Of A Bridge Construction Project In Mahal-E Kandahari Ha Village Guzara District: Expected To Improve Access For 12,288 People To The District Center.



The Allaf Arbab Niaz CDC Constructing A 75-ML Flood Protection Wall Including 75-ML Gabion Mattress In Allaf Arbab Niaz Village, Kushk-E Rabat Sangi District: Expected To Safeguard 200 Jeribs Of Farmland From Being Damaged By Seasonal Floods.



SIKA-West Engineers Inspecting The Work Progress Of Two Culvert Construction Project In Pouza Leach Village, Chaghcharan: Expected To Improve Access For 153 Families To The Provincial Center And Neighboring Villages.



The Seya Sang CDC Completed 71% Of The Work On Their Two Culvert Construction Project In Seya Sangi Village, Chaghcharan: Expected To Improve Access For 100 Families To The Provincial Center And Neighboring Villages.