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STABILITY IN KEY AREAS (SIKA)-WEST

WEEKLY BULLET POINTS NO: 154
MARCH 31 - APRIL 6, 2015



The Paen Deh Nashin CDC Completed 47% Of The Work On Their Community High School Rehabilitation Including 633-ML Surrounding Wall Construction Project In Nashin Village, Guzara District: Expected To Provide A Safe And Better Educational Environment For 1,480 Students (780 Boys, 700 Girls).

April 8, 2015

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

- In-line with the IDLG approved Transitional Working Guidelines, the IDLG Deputy Minister for Policy & Technical Affairs sent official written instructions to the Provincial and District Government offices to inform them of their responsibilities to maintain and operate the District Government Hotlines and the Komite Sobate Wolesswalis (KSWs). Monthly IDLG financial support has been allocated for both the Hotlines and KSWs.
- On April 5, the SIKA-West M&E Department met with the IDLG Senior Program Manager to discuss the project's PMP Indicators reporting for the Quarterly Reports. The SIKA-West Quarterly Report (FY2015Q1) was reviewed. The IDLG Senior Program Manager suggested reporting the Indicators' results disaggregated by Year 1, 2 and 3 instead of cumulative numbers. This new approach will provide further explanation of the variance between the yearly targets and results. SIKA-West will incorporate this suggestion in upcoming reports.
- In Chaghcharan, Guzara and Kohsan Districts, between March 31-April 6, the respective DRRD DSWs and District Government personnel led Project Management Trainings for 52 members (36 male, 16 female) of 13 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 248 projects valued at AFN 272,380,800/USD\$5,447,616 (AFN 50-USD\$1.00) which will serve to improve service delivery to 954,364 residents across the target districts.
- IDLG/MRRD provincial and district partners have completed 292 projects valued at AFN 300,144,640/USD\$5,235,292. These projects have benefited 638,261 residents.
- Currently, 2 projects, valued at AFN 1,189,200 /USD\$23,784 (AFN 50-USD\$1.00) are under development. Please refer to Annex A for further details.

Snapshot of Grant Funded Programming



- 51 CDC milestone payments totaling USD\$201,005 were processed in Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, Du Layna, Qala-i-Naw, Qadis, Farah Center, Lash Wa Juwayn, Pashtun Zarghun, Muqur, and Pusht-e Rod Districts supporting IDLG & MRRD-led grant funded solutions to community grievances.



The 230-ML Flood Protection Wall & Irrigation Canal In Tangi Azo Village, Shahrak District Were In Good Condition And No Deficiencies Were Observed.

On March 31 and April 4, the Community Development Department conducted Post Project Completion Site Visits in Tangi Azo, Sar Chashma, Jawar Ha, and Oshan villages in Shahrak District in order to ensure that the communities were maintaining their Flood Protection Wall, Irrigation Canal, Roads, Culverts and Water Supply Network which were completed in October 2014. The projects were in good condition and no deficiencies were observed. The communities were grateful for their local government support in addressing their grievances. The Flood Protection Wall is safeguarding 200 Jeribs of farmland from being flooded. The Roads and Culverts have improved access for 405 families to the District Center, and the Water Supply Network provides potable water for 100 families.

MONITORING ACTIVITIES

- DRRD District Social Workers (DSWs), SIKA-West Engineers and M&E Personnel conducted 89 joint project site visits. These visits yielded deficiencies that were in need of correction; e.g. the Kang-e Zahak CDC who are implementing a 230-ML School Surrounding Wall construction project in Lash Wa Juwayn District were advised to do the masonry work of their project in accordance with the project's specification, or the next milestone payment would not be authorized. Follow up site inspections will be conducted in the coming week.
- During the week, SIKA-West M&E Department collected GPS coordinates for 13 project sites in Pashtun Zarghun, Shindand, Bala Boluk, Farah Center, and Shahrak. These verified GPS points will be included in the SIKA-West Tracker and submitted to MISTI on April 15.
- In-line with overall monitoring efforts, the M&E Department randomly called 14 laborers on 5 project sites in Qadis, Lash Wa Juwayn, Pashtun Zarghun and Kushk-e Rabat Sangi Districts to verify that they were receiving their wages in accordance with the CDC Grant Agreements. M&E crosschecked the reported amount with the projects' BOQs and confirmed that these laborers received the amounts in accordance to their agreements.

FARAH PROVINCE

- On April 4, SIKA-West Engineers visited Yazdi village to inspect the work progress of the community's High School Rehabilitation, which includes a 46-ML surrounding wall construction project in Farah Center. As of the reporting date, the Yazdi Eshaqzai CDC completed 70% of the work on their project. No deficiencies were observed. This project was awarded by the Farah Provincial Government and the DRRD through the mixed KSW to provide a safe and better educational environment for 1,540 students (615 boys, 925 girls).
- On April 4, the DRRD DSW, Mr. Mohammad Nasim, led the field inspection of a 30-ML Canal Lining Project in Masjed Shahid Inqlab village, Lash Wa Juwayn District. The DSW was pleased with the quality and progress of the work and asked the implementing CDC to continue in accordance with the project's specifications. Once complete, the canal will provide water to 1,000 Jeribs of community farmland owned by 1,428 residents.

BADGHIS PROVINCE

- On April 5, SIKA-West Engineers and M&E Personnel inspected the progress to date on the community's 60-ML Canal lining project in Jar Khoshk village, Qala-i-Naw. It was observed that in some parts of the canal, low quality stones were used. The implementing CDC was asked to remove these stones and use stones which are in accordance with their project's specifications, or the milestone payment would not be authorized. As of the reporting date, the Jar Khoshk CDC completed 40% of the work on their project. The canal lining will safeguard 280 houses from seasonal flooding.
- On April 5, SIKA-West Engineers visited the Zad Ali Ulia village to inspect the work progress on the community's 45-ML Gabion Flood Protection Wall construction project in Muqur District. The implementing CDC was working in accordance with their project's specifications. This project was awarded by the Muqur District Government and the Badghis DRRD through the mixed KSW to safeguard 600 houses and 200 Jeribs of community farmland from being damaged by seasonal floods.

HERAT PROVINCE

- On April 2, the Kohsan DSW, Mr. Juma Khan Azizi, led the field inspection of a 1.8-KM Road Rehabilitation, and three culverts construction project in Tai Kham village, Kohsan District. The DSW congratulated the implementing CDC for their good work, took photos and wrote a report about their site visit, which was shared with the Kohsan District Government. A copy was given to SIKA-West. As of the reporting date, the CDC completed 43% of the work on their project. Once complete, the Rehabilitated Road and Culverts will improve access for 715 families to the District Center.
- On April 5, the Kushk-e Rabat Sangi DSW, Mr. Abdul Hadi Jamshidi, SIKA-West Engineers and M&E personnel visited the Jafar Baik Khorasani village to inspect the work progress to date on the community's 60-ML Flood Protection Wall construction project. No deficiencies were observed. This project was awarded by the Kushk-e Rabat Sangi District Government and Herat DRRD through the mixed KSW to safeguard 300 Jeribs of farmland from being damaged by seasonal floods. As of the reporting date, the CDC completed 31% of the project's work.



Date: 04/04/2015 10:07:27 AM Lat: 32.387133 Lon: 62.103767 Alt: 2173.2 ft
SIKA-West Engineer Inspecting The Work Progress Of The High School Rehabilitation Project In Yazdi Village, Farah Center: Expected To Provide A Safe And Better Educational Environment For 1,540 Students (615 Boys, 925 Girls)



Date: 04/04/2015 09:04:56 AM Lat: 31.741377 Lon: 61.616773 Alt: 1695.5 ft
The Lash Wa Juwayn DSW Inspecting The Work Progress Of A 30-ML Canal Lining Project In Masjed Shahid Inqlab Village. Once Complete, 1,000 Jeribs Of Farmland Would Have Sufficient Water.



The Jar Khoshk CDC Completed 40% Of The Work On Their 60-ML Canal Lining Project In Jar Khoshk Village, Qala-i-Naw: Expected To Safeguard 280 Houses From Being Damaged By Seasonal Flooding.



Date: 04/05/2015 02:24:01 PM Lat: 34.978410 Lon: 63.110473 Alt: 3024.6 ft
Laborers Weaving Gabions For A 45-ML Gabion Flood Protection Wall Construction Project In Zad Ali Ulia Village, Muqur District: Expected To Safeguard 600 Houses And 200 Jeribs Of Community Farmland From Being Damaged By Seasonal Floods.

GHOR PROVINCE

- The Ghor Deputy Provincial Governor, Mr. Mohammad Amin Tokhi, the Du Layna District Governor, Mr. Mohammad Ismael Rezai, and the Shahrak District Governor, Mr. Shah Passand Pahlawi, led the mixed Chaghcharan and the male Du Layna and Shahrak Komite Sobate Woleswalis' meetings on March 31 and April 1 respectively, attended by 56 people (51 male, 5 female) in Chaghcharan, 26 people (male) in Du Layna, and 18 people (male) in Shahrak District. Speeches on importance of peace, stability and education were delivered by the government personnel. The female KSW members in Chaghcharan petitioned their local government to support the women textile producers to find markets for their products. The Ghor DPG acknowledged this request and pledged to lobby both government and non-governmental organizations to establish a marketplace for women in Chaghcharan. These KSWs 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 April 4, SIKA-West Engineers visited Pouza Leach Village, Chaghcharan to inspect the work progress to date on the community's two Culverts construction project. It was observed that some steel bars were rusty, the implementing CDC was asked to remove these rusty steel bars. This project was awarded by the Chaghcharan District Government and Ghor DRRD through the mixed KSW to improve access for 153 families to the Provincial Center and neighboring villages. As of the reporting date, the CDC completed 71% of the project's work.

CHALLENGES

- On April 6, heavy floods washed away six ongoing Gabion Flood Protection Wall construction projects in Qala-i-Naw. SIKA-West Engineers are inspecting the project sites and assessing the damage. A separate detailed report will be provided to USAID and MRRD in the coming week.
- M&E Department could not collect GPS points for five completed projects in Pusht-e Rod District due to the recent fighting between Afghan National Security Forces and Anti-Government Elements. The SIKA-West Security Department is assessing the security condition.
- SIKA-West Engineers could not conduct project site inspections for 12 projects in Muqur and Qala-i-Naw due to heavy flooding and one project in Pusht-e Rod due to insecurity which resulted in delay of 75,554USD\$ milestone payments.

WHAT'S NEXT

- DSWs, SIKA-West Engineers and M&E Personnel will undertake 106 project site visits in SIKA-West Districts of operation (weather and security conditions permitting).
- The Shindand, Kohsan and Shahrak KSW meetings will be independently organized and led by our IDLG and MRRD program partners on April 12 and 13; without logistical or financial support from SIKA-West and will focus on both identifying current district concerns and proposing GIROA led solutions.
- Monitoring & Evaluation trainings will be provided to 14 Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, Kohsan, Farah Center, Lash Wa Juwayn, Chaghcharan, Du Layna, Qadis DSWs and Government personnel.



Date: 04/02/2015 09:33:16 AM Lat: 34.671990 Lon: 61.138013 Alt: 2385.8 ft
 The Kohsan DSW Inspecting The Work Progress Of A 1.8-KM Road Rehabilitation Including Three Culverts Construction Project In Tai Kham Village: Expected To Improve Access For 715 Families To The District Center.



Date: 04/05/2015 11:18:37 Lat: 34.783140 Lon: 62.332900 Alt: 1319.7 m
 The Kushk-e Rabat Sangi DSW, SIKA-West Engineers And M&E Personnel Inspecting The Work Progress Of A 60-ML Flood Protection Wall Construction Project In Jafar Baik Khorasani Village: Expected To Safeguard 300 Jeribs Of Farmland From Being Flooded.
 GZ-3-004 -Karalz Sufi Village -Guzara District -Herat Province



Lat: [34.247428° N]; Long: [62.019161° E]; Alt: [902.9 m]; Date: [01-April-2015 11:23:46 AM]
 The Kariz Sufi CDC Completed 40% Of The Work On Their 110-ML Flood Protection Wall Construction Project In Guzara District: Expected To Safeguard 1,600 Jeribs Of Farmland From Being Damaged By Seasonal Floods.



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