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# STABILITY IN KEY AREAS (SIKA)-WEST

WEEKLY BULLET POINTS NO: 156  
APRIL 14-20, 2015



Date: 04/21/2015 11:06:51:51 AM Lat: 32.367877 Lon: 62.102200 Alt: 2172.9 ft

*The Qala Behdood CDC Completed 80% Of The Work On Their Community's Girls High School Rehabilitation Project In Qala Behdood Village, Farah Center. Once Complete, The Rehabilitated School Will Provide A Safe And Better Educational Environment For 2,200 Students (Girls).*

April 22, 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 Kushk-e Rabat Sangi District Governor, Mr. Shir Aqa Sarwari, led the Kushk-e Rabat Sangi mixed Komite Sobate Woleswali meeting on April 19, with 112 participants (104 male, 8 female). District residents and government officials gathered to discuss community problems. A key point discussed included the danger of poppy cultivation in the district. The DGO asked the participants to cooperate with their local government in combating poppy cultivation and drug dealing. The District Governor informed the KSW members that the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) agreed to drill 600 water wells in Kushk-e Rabat Sangi District. The DGO will organize a separate meeting with the DDA and CDCs' members to identify communities which are in need of water wells. This was the second KSW meeting undertaken by IDLG & MRRD without logistical or financial support from SIKA-West reflecting our program partners' leadership in sustaining critical district based programming.
- In Guzara on April 16, the respective DRRD DSW and District Government personnel led the Project Management Training for 9 members (4 male, 5 female) of 5 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.
- Program field activities were completed in Shahrak District and DST Staff withdrew from the Shahrak District Office on April 19.



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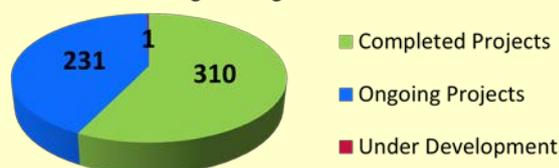
**The 47-ML Flood Protection Wall Safeguarded The Left And Right River Banks And Prevented Damage To The Footbridge By The Recent Heavy Flooding In Qala-I-Naw.**

On April 21, the Community Development Department conducted Post Project Completion Site Visit in Deh Sorkhak Paen village in Qala-i-Naw in order to ensure that the community was maintaining their 47-ML Flood Protection Wall which was completed on February 12 2015. The project was in good condition and not affected by the recent heavy flooding in Qala-i-Naw. The community was grateful for their local government support in addressing their grievances. The Flood Protection Wall is protecting the only foot-bridge in Deh Sorkhak Paen village during periods of heavy seasonal flooding. This project was awarded by the Badghis Provincial Government and the DRRD through the mixed KSW to enable 1,670 residents to use the bridge on a daily basis and access the village marketplace, businesses and schools.

**Grants & Subcontracts Programming**

- CDCs & DDAs are currently implementing 231 projects valued at AFN 250,041,700/USD\$5,000,834 (AFN 50-USD\$1.00) which will serve to improve service delivery to 864,061 residents across the target districts.
- IDLG/MRRD provincial and district partners have completed 310 projects valued at AFN 321,560,840/USD\$5,603,536. These projects have benefited 729,177 residents.
- Currently, one project, valued at AFN 371,200 /USD\$7,424 (AFN 50-USD\$1.00) is under development. Please refer to Annex A for further details.

Snapshot of Grant Funded Programming



- 44 CDC milestone payments totaling USD\$238,524 were processed in Pashtun Zarghun, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, Guzara, Kohsan, Farah Center, Lash Wa Juwayn and Qala-i-Naw supporting IDLG & MRRD-led grant funded solutions to community grievances.

**MONITORING ACTIVITIES**

- DRRD District Social Workers (DSWs), SIKA-West Engineers and M&E Personnel conducted 98 joint project site visits. These visits yielded deficiencies that were in need of correction; e.g. the Poza Lich Ulia CDC who are implementing two culvert construction projects in Chaghcharan were asked to correct the plain cement concrete of their culvert's wing wall 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.
- In-line with overall monitoring efforts, the M&E Department randomly called 9 laborers on 5 project sites in Pashtun Zarghun, Kohsan, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, Qala-i-Naw, and Farah Center to verify whether they were receiving their wages in accordance with the CDC Grant Agreements. M&E crosschecked the reported amount with the projects' BOQs. It was noticed that one laborer did not receive his wages in accordance with the CDC Grant Agreement. SIKA-West M&E and Community Development Department will follow up with the CDC to make sure the laborer is paid his outstanding wages.
- SIKA-West has started updating the USAID Afghan Info Database for the FY2015, QII. Information includes financial data, PMP indicators and status of grant projects. The updates will be completed and uploaded on April 30.

## FARAH PROVINCE

- The Lash Wa Juwayn District Governor, Mr. Samad Yar, led the Lash Wa Juwayn (male) Komite Sobate Wolesswali meeting on April 21, with 50 participants (male). District residents and government officials gathered to discuss community problems as well as receive updates from CDCs who are implementing grant funded projects. The DGO informed the Leftan CDC (68-ML Flood Protection Wall), Masjed Wahid Khan Wa Salam Khan CDC (Irrigation Canals), and Masjed Hai Mohammad Rahim CDC (20-ML Flood Protection Wall) not to start the physical activities of their projects because of the high water flow in the nearby river. This was the second KSW meeting 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 14, SIKA-West Engineers visited Karaiz Sufla village to inspect the work progress of the community's 85-ML Canal lining project in Lash Wa Juwayn District. No deficiencies were observed and the CDC was congratulated for their good work. As of the reporting date, the CDC completed 40% of the work on their project. This project was awarded by the Lash Wa Juwayn District Government and the Farah DRRD through the male KSW to provide sufficient water 2,000 Jeribs of community farmland.

## BADGHIS PROVINCE

- On April 18, the DRRD DSW, Mr. Shafiqullah, led the field inspection of a 10-ML Aqueduct construction project in Rais Sayed Mohammad village, Qadis District. The DSW, SIKA-West Engineers and M&E Personnel were pleased with the work quality and asked the CDC to continue in accordance with their project's specifications. As of the inspection date, the CDC had completed 78% of the work on their project. Once complete, the aqueduct will provide sufficient water for 3,000 Jeribs of farmland.
- On April 18, the DRRD DSW, SIKA-West Engineers and M&E Personnel conducted a joint site visit to Jar Khoshak Village to inspect the progress on the community's 60-ML Canal lining project in Jar Khoshk village, Qala-i-Naw. No deficiencies were observed. As of the reporting date, the Jar Khoshk CDC had completed 70% of the work on their project. The canal lining will safeguard 280 homes from seasonal flooding.

## HERAT PROVINCE

- On April 18, the DRRD DSW, Mr. Bashir Ahmad, led the field inspection of a 200-ML Flood Protection Wall construction project in Darweesh Ali Khan village, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi District. The DSW observed that the backfilling of the flood protection wall was not compacted properly and some laborers were not wearing safety clothing. The CDC was mentored to correct the backfilling and instructed to provide safety clothing for all laborers. As of the reporting date, the CDC had completed 70% of the work on their project. This project was awarded by the Kushk-e Rabat Sangi District Government and the Herat DRRD through the mixed KSW to safeguard 300 Jeribs of farmland from seasonal flooding.
- On April 15, the SIKA-West Engineer and M&E Personnel conducted a joint site visit to Karaiz Sufi Village to inspect the progress on the community's 110-ML Flood Protection Wall construction project in Guzara District. It was observed that a joint of the Flood Protection Wall was not constructed properly. The CDC was mentored to correct this



deficiency. As of the inspection date, the CDC had completed 70% of the work on their project. Once complete, the Flood Protection Wall will safeguard 1,600 Jeribs of farmland from seasonal flood damage.

## GHOR PROVINCE

- On April 20, the DRRD DSW, SIKA-West Engineer and M&E Personnel visited Akhtan village to inspect the work progress of the community's Culvert construction project in Du Layna District. No deficiencies were observed and the CDC was congratulated for their good work. As of the inspection date, the CDC had completed 21% of the work on their project. This project was awarded by the Du Layna District Government and the Ghor DRRD through the male KSW to improve access for 1,500 families to the District Center and neighboring villages.
- On April 20, the SIKA-West Engineer and M&E Personnel conducted a joint site visit to Pay Kamar Village to inspect the progress on the community's Culvert construction project in Chaghcharan. The inspectors were pleased with the work quality and asked the CDC to continue their work in accordance with their project's specification. As of the reporting date, the CDC had completed 70% of the work on their project. Once complete, the Culvert will improve access for 900 families to travel to neighboring villages and the provincial center.

## CHALLENGES

- SIKA-West Engineers could not conduct project site inspections for 4 projects in Guzara, Pashtun Zarghun, and Pusht-e Rod Districts due to insecurity which resulted in the delay of USD\$49,768 in milestone payments.

## WHAT'S NEXT

- DSWs, SIKA-West Engineers and M&E Personnel will undertake 102 project site visits in SIKA-West Districts of operation (weather and security conditions permitting).
- The Farah Center, Bala Boluk, Pashtun Zarghun, Guzara, Qadis, Muqur, and Qala-i-Naw KSW meetings will be independently organized and led by our IDLG and MRRD program partners between April 21 and 27; without logistical or financial support from SIKA-West and will focus on identifying current district concerns and proposing GIROA led solutions.



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**The Darweesh Ali CDC Constructing A 200-ML Flood Protection Wall In Darweesh Ali Khan Village, Kushk-E Rabat Sangi District: Expected To Safeguard 300 Jeribs Of Farmland From Seasonal Flooding.**

GZ-3-004-Karaz Sufi Village-Guzara District-Herat Province



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**SIKA-West Engineer And M&E Personnel Inspecting The Work Progress Of A 110-ML Flood Protection Wall Construction Project In Karaz Sufi Village, Guzara: Expected To Safeguard 1,600 Jeribs Of Farmland From Flooding.**



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**The DSW, SIKA-West Engineer And M&E Personnel Inspecting The Work Progress Of The Culvert Construction Project In Akhtan Village, Du Layna: Expected To Improve Access For 1,500 Families To The District Center And Neighboring Villages.**



**The Haji Ibrahim CDC Constructing A Culvert In Pay Kamar Village, Chaghcharan: Expected To Improve Access For 900 Families To The Provincial Center And Neighboring Villages.**