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STABILITY IN KEY AREAS (SIKA) – WEST

MONTHLY REPORT
JUNE 2015



The Khowja Gul Baid CDC Successfully Completed The Construction Of A Community Bridge In Khowja Gul Baidak Village, Kushk-E Rabat Sangi District, With Oversight And Technical Support From The District Government And Herat DRRD. The Bridge Has Improved Access For 1,000 Families, Both Within The Community And To Neighboring Villages.

JULY 2015

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JUNE 2015

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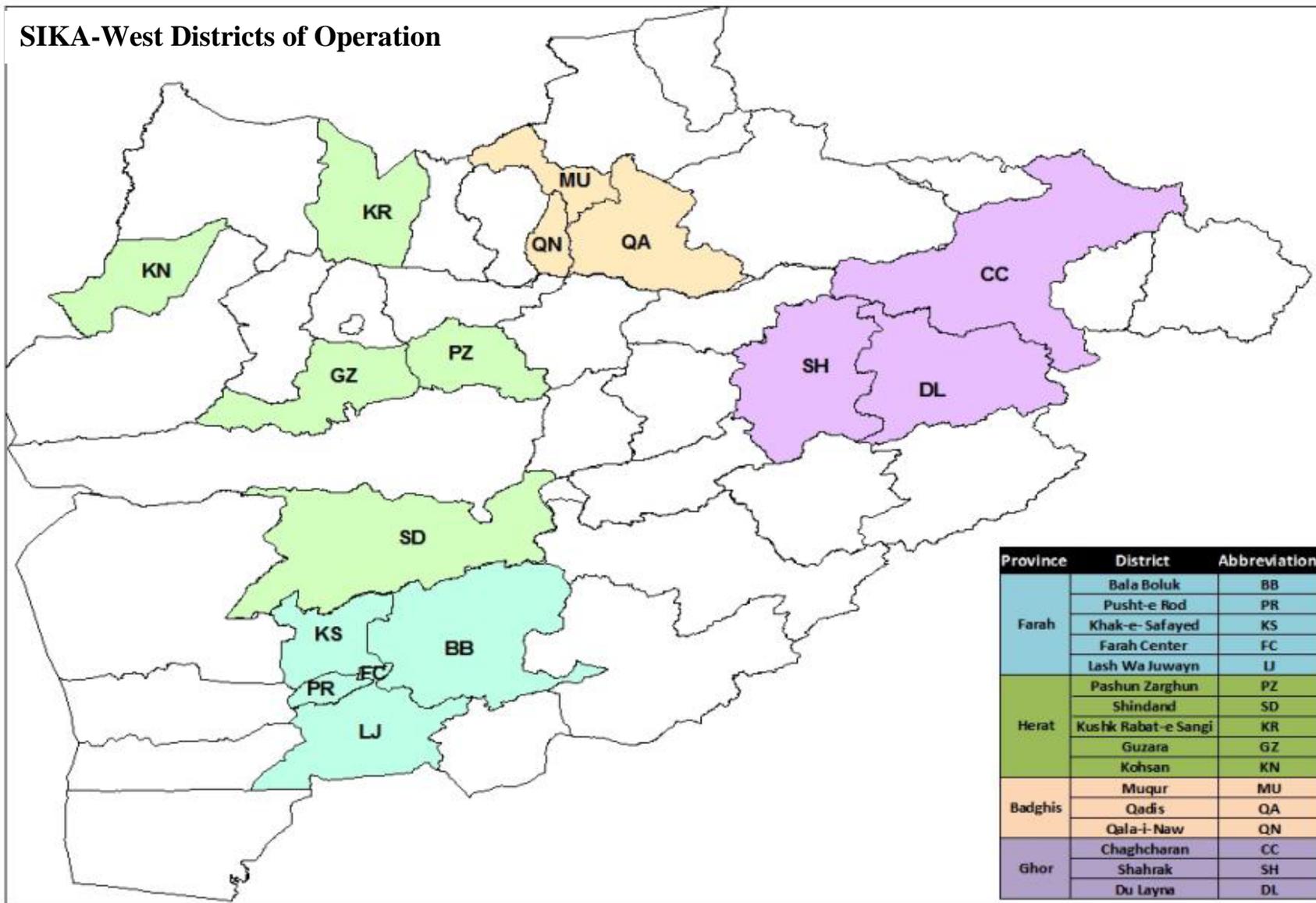
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ACRONYMS

AECOM	Architecture Engineering Consulting Operation Maintenance
CCI	Community Cohesion Initiative
CDC	Community Development Councils
COP	Chief of Party
CPOD	Communications & Public Outreach Department
DAIL	Department of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock
DCOP	Deputy Chief of Party
DDA	District Development Assembly
DDP	District Development Portfolio
DE	District Entities
DG	District Governor
DoLSA	Department of Labor and Social Affairs
DoWA	Department of Women's Affairs
DPP	District Project Portfolio
DRRD	Directorate of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
DSM	District Stability Matrix
DST	District Support Team
DSW	District Social Worker
GPS	Global Positioning System
GIRoA	Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
ICMA	International City/Country Management Association
IDLG	Independent Directorate of Local Governance
IR	Intermediate Result
KSW	Komite Sobate Woleswali
MISTI	Measuring Impacts of Stabilization Intervention
MRRD	Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
OSC	Overseas Strategic Consulting
PST	Provincial Support Team
SAM	Stability Analysis Mechanism
SIKA	Stability in Key Areas
SPC	Service Providers Catalogue
TCRC	Tribal Conflict Resolution Committee
CRC	Conflict Resolution Committee
TOT	Training of Trainers
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

SIKA-West Districts of Operation



INTRODUCTION

Program Profile: The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) awarded AECOM International Development the Stability in Key Areas (SIKA) –West program, which began on January 29, 2012 and is scheduled to end on August 31, 2015. Led by the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation & Development (MRRD) and the Independent Directorate of Local Governance (IDLG), the SIKA-West program is designed to promote stability in key areas by assisting provincial authorities and district-level government entities to improve governance programming and increase the provision of priority basic services; with the intended result of increasing citizen confidence in and support for, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIROA). During the initial 26-month Base Period, the SIKA-West program employed a phased provincial roll-out within the four provinces of Farah, Badghis, Herat, and Ghor, incorporating 10 target districts. In February 2014, the SIKA-West program entered its 18-month Option Period and extended its engagement to an additional six districts within these provinces, bringing the current total to 16.

Area of Operation: SIKA-West is active in the following provinces and districts:

- Farah Province: Farah Center, Bala Boluk, Pusht-e Rod, Khak-e-Safayd, and Lash Wa Juwayn Districts
- Herat Province: Pashtun Zarghun, Shindand, Kushk Rabat-e Sangi, Guzara, and Kohsan Districts
- Badghis Province: Qadis, Muqur, and Qala-i-Naw Districts
- Ghor Province: Chaghcharan, Shahrak, and Du Layna Districts

SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS

This report summarizes MRRD/IDLG SIKA-West program activities undertaken across all program departments during the month of June 2015. The report provides a programmatic overview and breakdown of activities by program focus, and outcome, detailing successes, challenges, and lessons learned. The report also highlights the leading role of the MRRD and IDLG partners with respect to both district and provincial programming.

STABILIZATION PROGRAMMING

The Stabilization Department handed over the Komite Sobate Woleswalis (KSWs) to the respective District Government on February 2015. The KSW meetings were undertaken by IDLG and MRRD without logistical or financial support from SIKA-West since March 2015, reflecting our program partners' leadership in sustaining critical district based programming. SIKA-West DST and PST Offices were closed in Chaghcharan, Du Layna, Shahrak, Shindand, Pashtun Zarghun, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, Kohsan, Guzara, Lash Wa Juwayn, Bala Boluk, Push-e Rod, Khak-e-Safayd, Farah Center, and Qadis Districts and all program staff withdrew. SIKA-West no longer reports the KSW activities.

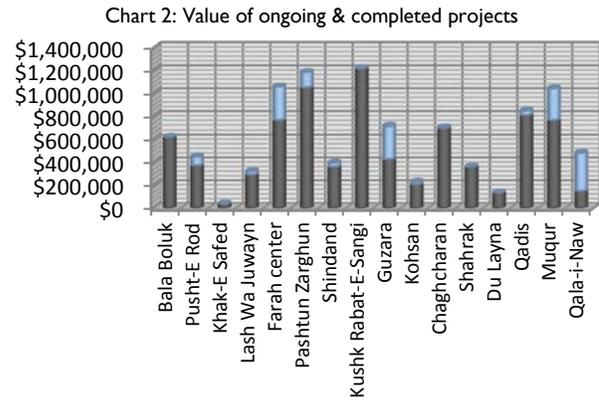
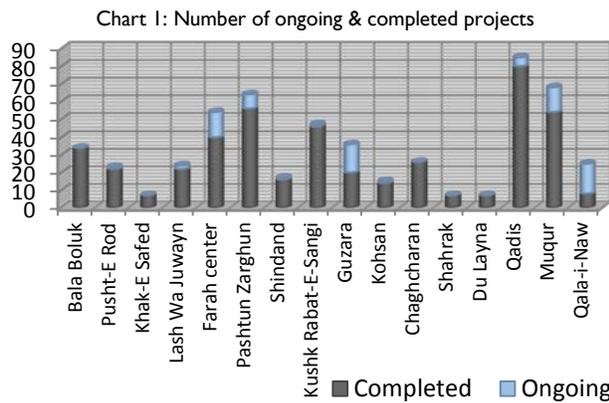
COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAMMING

On February 28, the SIKA-West Communications & Public Outreach programming ended in Bala Boluk, Pusht-e Rod (Farah Province); Shindand, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, Pashtun Zarghun, Kohsan (Herat Province); Chaghcharan (Ghor Province); Muqur, Qadis and Qala-i-Naw (Badghis Province). Program materials were organized and handed over to our MRRD and IDLG national, provincial and district partners, in accordance with the Transition Working Group (TWG) guidelines.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMING

The CDCs and DDAs successfully completed 459 grant-funded projects, which were identified, awarded, and monitored by our respective District Government and Provincial DRRD partners. These 459 grant funded projects are valued at USD\$8,301,327 (actual USD\$ spent) and include projects such as a) Rehabilitation of Irrigation Canals, b) Road Rehabilitation & Gravelling, c) Culvert Construction, d) School Rehabilitation and

Provision of Equipment, e) Gabion and Stone Masonry Flood Protection Wall Construction, etc. Implemented and managed by CDCs and DDAs under Fixed Obligation Grant mechanisms, these projects are designed to support GIROA partners (IDLG and MRRD) to address current district community grievances and reflect responsiveness in the provision of critical services. CDCs and DDAs are implementing 80 grant funded projects valued at USD\$1,519,333 (utilizing AFN50-60 exchange rate for actual amounts spent and pending milestone payments) (see charts 1 and 2).



EXAMPLES OF COMPLETED GRANT FUNDED PROJECTS APPROVED AND HANDED OVER TO GIROA

- On June 2, the Sarkamar CDC completed the provision of school equipment to Dehberang Boys High School in Dehberang village, Qadis District. Materials provided included 3 book cabinets, 4 office desks and chairs, 10 office chairs, 20-ML carpet, 7 boards, 36 student benches, and 3 tents. Qadis District Government and Badghis DRRD awarded the project in collaboration with the Badghis Department of Education to provide a better educational environment and facilities for 520 students (boys).
- On June 16, the Sultan Ha and Haji Qurban Ha CDCs successfully completed the construction of a 100-ML Gabion Flood Protection Wall in Mohammad Ali Khan village, Qadis District, with oversight and technical support from the Qadis District Government and Badghis DRRD. This project was designed to safeguard 50 homes, 80 Jeribs (39.5 acres) of farmland, and an existing road from being damaged by seasonal flooding. This project was awarded by the Qadis District Government and Badghis DRRD through the mixed KSW.
- On June 28, Project Completion Ceremony was held for the SIKA-West and MRRD/National Solidarity Program (NSP) projects in Guzara District. Present during the ceremony were the Herat Provincial Governor, DRRD Director, Department of Agriculture Irrigation and Livestock Director, Economy Director, the Guzara District Governor, District Development Assembly (DDA), district CDC members and SIKA-West personnel. SIKA-West handed over 23 completed projects including 4



School Equipment Was Provided To Dehberang Boys High School In Dehberang Village, Qadis District: Expected To Provide A Better Educational Environment And Facilities For 520 Students (Boys).



The Sultan Ha And Haji Qurban Ha CDCs Completed Construction Of A 100-ML Gabion Flood Protection Wall In Mohammad Ali Khan Village, Qadis: Expected To Safeguard 50 Homes, 80 Jeribs (39.5 Acres) Of Farmland, And An Existing Road From Flooding.

Rehabilitated Schools, 10 Flood Protection Walls, 2 School Equipment Grants, 1 DDA Office Equipment Grant, 3 Rehabilitated Roads, and 1 Water Reservoir & 12 Culverts to the Herat DRRD and Guzara District Government.

- On June 24, the Shir Ali Khan CDC successfully completed the Ziaratgah School Rehabilitation including a 398-ML Surrounding Wall in Ziaratgah village, Guzara District; with oversight and technical support from Guzara District Government and Herat DRRD. This project was awarded by the Guzara District Government and Herat DRRD in collaboration with the Education Department to provide a better educational environment for 2,486 students (1,100 boys, 1,386 girls).
- Led by the Farah Provincial Government and Farah DRRD and in collaboration with the Education Department, a Project Completion Ceremony was held for two School Rehabilitation Projects in Chah Korteh and Qala Behbood villages, Farah Center on June 17. Present during the ceremony were the Farah Provincial Deputy Governor, the Provincial Council Deputy Head, the Education Department Director, CDC members, School Faculty members and SIKA-West personnel. Now that these schools have been rehabilitated, 1,761 students (girls) in Chah Korteh and 2,200 students (girls) in Qala Behbood High Schools have an improved educational environment.

GOVERNANCE PROGRAMMING

On February 28, SIKA-West Governance Programing ended in Khak-e-Safayd, Bala Boluk, Pusht-e Rod, Lash Wa Juwayn & Farah Center (Farah Province), Shindand, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, Pashtun Zarghun, Kohsan (Herat Province), Shahrak, Chaghcharan (Ghor Province), Muqur, Qadis, and Qala-i-Naw (Badghis Province). Program materials were organized and handed over to our MRRD and IDLG national, provincial and district partners, in accordance with the Transition Working Group (TWG) guidelines.

GENDER MAINSTREAMING PROGRAMMING

On February 28, SIKA-West Gender Programing ended in Khak-e-Safayd, Bala Boluk, Pusht-e Rod, Farah Center, Lash Wa Juwayn, Guzara, Shindand, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, Pashtun Zarghun, Kohsan, Shahrak, Chaghcharan, Du Layna, Muqur, Qadis, and Qala-i-Naw. Program materials were organized and handed over to our MRRD and IDLG national, provincial and district partners, in accordance with the TWG guidelines.



The Sultan Ha And Haji Qurban Ha CDCs Completed Construction Of A 100-ML Gabion Flood Protection Wall In Mohammad Ali Khan Village, Qadis: Expected To Safeguard 50 Homes, 80 Jeribs (39.5 Acres) Of Farmland, And An Existing Road From Flooding.



The Shir Ali Khan CDC Completed The Rehabilitation Of Their Community's School In Guzara District: Expected To Provide A Better Educational Environment For 2,486 students



A Project Completion Ceremony Was Held For Two School Rehabilitation Projects, Farah Center.

The below table shows SIKA-West's progress towards achieving Performance Management Plan (PMP) indicator targets:

Indicator Name and Number	Target Year 1	Target Year 2	Target Year 3	Cumulative Target	June 2015 Result	Cumulative Result
S1: Number of sub-national government entities receiving USG assistance to improve their performance	42	110	360	512	0	854
S2: Percent of Afghans reporting that their district government is responsive to the needs of local people	NA	NA	60%	60%	70% ¹	70%
S3: Number of District Entities with USG assistance for citizens to engage their subnational government	NA	233	75	308	0	906
S4: Number of activities with community contribution	72	201	100	373	88	459
S5: Number of Afghans Trained (see indicators 2.3, 3.3, 4.4)	NA	5,272	5,000	10,272	0	12,562 (9,529 male, 3,033 female)
S6: Number of Persons Employed by stabilization program activities	NA	479	1,000	1,479	1,499 (male)	12,794 (12,754 male, 40 female)
S7: Number of person-days of employment created	9,000	11,340	30,000	85,800	39,706 (male)	326,598 (322,960 male, 3,638 female)
S8: Number of stabilization activities implemented through grants to district entities (see indicator 4.3)	72	201	75	348	88	459
S9: Number of SOIs against which stabilization activities have been executed	NA	12	7	19	0	22
S10: Number of stabilization Work Sessions Conducted for district entities (see indicator 1.2)	88	100	130	318	4	319
S11: Number of Districts in which SAM is utilized to develop programs (see indicator 1.2)	7	10	16	16	16	16

1- Source: MISTI Wave 5 Report Page 112. Results for the Wave 5 Survey for this indicator show: District Governor (80%), District Government (70%), Local Leaders (74%) and Provincial Government (59%).

Indicator Name and Number	Target Year 1	Target Year 2	Target Year 3	Cumulative Target	June 2015 Result	Cumulative Result
S12: Number of GIRoA Officials trained in aspects of government administration (See indicators 2.3 and 3.3)	NA	323	100	423	0	1,459 (1,320 male, 139 female)
S13: Number of female participants in USG-assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources and basic services. (assets, credit, income or employment)	NA	1,525	100	1,625	0	3,028
S14: Number of interventions that increased participation of women in district entity activities (KSWs)	27	36	100	163	0	173
1.1 Number of partnered District governments (and % of total) that show improved understanding of local Sources of Instability.	10	10	16	16	16	100% 16/16
1.2 Number of Stabilization work sessions conducted with district entities.	88	100	130	318	0	319
1.3 Number of Activities included in District Project Portfolios as a result of stabilization workshops	70	240	75	385	0	650
2.1 Number of District Entities able to access stabilization services provided by GIRoA organizations/line departments	NA	16	16	16	16	16
2.2 Number of SOI mitigating activities that are implemented in collaboration with providers identified in the Service Providers Catalogue	7	10	5	22	0	23
2.3 Number of people trained on Service Provider Catalog usage	NA	NA	100	100	0	986 (907 male, 79 female)
3.1 Number of people (percentage) reporting improvement in the responsiveness of GIRoA district entities with regards to SOI resolution	NA	NA	65%	65%	69%	69%
3.2 Number of public outreach and/or public consultation activities conducted by DEs with USG assistance	9	16	24	49	0	535

Indicator Name and Number	Target Year 1	Target Year 2	Target Year 3	Cumulative Target	June 2015 Result	Cumulative Result
3.3 Number of people trained in communications and outreach	300	1,291	500	2,091	0	3,222 (2,630 male, 592 female)
3.4 Number of PA's and DEs with a communication strategy or plan in place.	9	8	15	32	0	27
4.1 Percentage of people reporting improvement in service delivery by DEs and PAs.	NA	NA	60%	60%	65%	65%
4.2 Number of person days of employment created through SIKAWest interventions.	9,000	46,800	30,000	85,800	39,706 (male)	326,598 (322,960 male, 3,638 female)
4.3 Number of grant activities completed in support of stabilization goals	72	120	75	267	88	459
4.4 Number of person-days of training implemented through grants.	280	9,600	3,000	12,880	0	104,530 (34,043 male, 70,487 female)

STATUS OF PROGRAM OFFICE CLOSURES

- **Ghor Province:** Programming activities are complete in Chaghcharan, Du Layna, and Shahrak Districts. The District Support Team (DST) and Provincial Support Team (PST) Offices were closed and all program staff withdrawn.
- **Herat Province:** Programming activities are complete in Shindand, Pashtun Zarghun, Kushk-e Rabat Sangi, Kohsan, and Guzara Districts. The DST and PST Offices were closed and all program staff withdrawn.
- **Farah Province:** Programming activities are complete in Khak-e-Safayd, Bala Boluk, Pusht-e Rod, and Lash Wa Juwayn. The DST and PST Offices were closed and all program staff withdrawn. Program activities were extended in Farah Province until July 15, 2015.
- **Badghis Province:** There are 27 projects that are physically ongoing in Qadis (1 project), Muqur (13 projects), and Qala-i-Naw (13 projects). All programming activities will be completed by July 30, 2015.
- **Herat HQ Office:** Program activities will be complete and staff will withdraw by August 31, 2015.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- During this reporting period, the SIKAWest M&E personnel and Engineers organized 170 project site visits prior to the approval of the next round of milestone payments for CDCs and DDAs in Herat, Badghis, Farah, and Ghor Provinces. These visits yielded 57 deficiencies that were in need of correction. Examples of these site visits are outlined below:
 - On June 5, SIKAWest Engineers and M&E Personnel traveled to Jowi Now village, Lash Wa Juwayn District to monitor the work progress on the community's Culvert Construction project (2 Culverts). The Jowi Now CDC was mentored on proper concrete curing techniques. The CDC

completed 70% of the work on their project. This project was designed to address the community's concern on the poor transportation network within the Shor Abad village. Once the CDC completes the project, 1,920 people will have better access to the District Center.

- On June 6, SIKA-West Engineers and M&E Personnel inspected the work progress on the community's 56.2-ML Flood Protection Wall construction project in Sad Yaka village, Qala-i-Naw. It was observed that laborers did not wear protective clothing. The Zad Shahi CDC was instructed to provide protective clothing for laborers, or the next milestone payment would not be authorized. The CDC completed 35% of the work on their project. This project was awarded by the Badghis Provincial Government and the DRRD through the mixed Qala-i-Naw Komite Sobate Woleswali. This project was designed to safeguard 208 homes and 300 Jeribs (148.2 Acres) of farmland from being damaged by seasonal flooding.



The Jowi Now CDC Completed 70% Of The Work On Their Culvert Construction Project (Two Culverts) In Jowi Now Village, Lash Wa Juwayn District: Expected To Improve Access For 1,920 People To The District Center.

- On June 13, SIKA-West Engineers and M&E Personnel inspected the current progress and quality of the community's 9-KM Water Supply Network Project in Kadanak Village, Farah Center. It was observed that the bearing capacity of the soil for the elevated water tank was low and technical modifications were brought to the foundation design. The Kadanak CDC has completed 57% of the project, with oversight and technical support from the Farah Provincial Government and Farah DRRD. This project was designed to provide clean drinking water for 500 families within the village.



The Zad Shahi CDC Constructing A 56.5-ML Flood Protection Wall In Sad Yaka Village, Qala-I-Naw: Expected To Safeguard 208 Homes And 300 Jeribs (148.2 Acres) Of Farmland From Flooding.

- In response to the SIGAR Quarterly Data Call (April-June 2015), SIKA-West submitted the following documents to USAID: SIKA-West Program Sustainability and Handover Packages to MRRD & IDLG, Mid-Term Evaluation, Program Deliverables, PMP, Work Plan, Implementation Letter, and Contract Modifications.
- The M&E Department has updated the SIKA-West Hard Projects' Verification Tracker to MISTI for the period of May 16-June 15, 2015. The verified GPS Points of 15 projects (Du Layna, Farah Center, and Chaghcharan) were added to the tracker. The tracker was submitted to MISTI on June 17, 2015.



SIKA-West Engineer And M&E Personnel Inspecting The Work Progress On The Community's 9-KM Water Supply Network Construction Project: Expected To Provide Clean Drinking Water For 500 Families.

- As a component of the SIKA-West Final Evaluation, MISTI completed interviews with SIKA-West personnel and GIROA officials in Farah, Ghor, and Herat Provinces. The interview in Badghis is ongoing and will be completed on early July.
- During the month, SIKA-West received 14 verification reports noting projects "executed as reported." Since the beginning of the MISTI verifications, SIKA-West has received 129 verification reports noting work executed. SIKA-West is following up with MISTI on 5 projects that remain to be scheduled for re-verification.

CHALLENGES

- Due to current insecurity within Bala Boluk District, SIKA-West could not verify the GPS points for a Water Divider Project (BB-9-003: Construction of 5 Water Dividers for Kanesk Wasat Village). The project is one of five that MISTI has scheduled for re-verification.
- SIKA-West Engineers and M&E Personnel could not conduct project site inspections for 3 projects in Muqur District due to insecurity which resulted in the delay of USD\$18,661 in milestone payments.

DELIVERABLES

As per the SIKA-West contractual deliverables, the following documents were submitted to USAID:

- May 2015 Monthly Report
- Weekly Reports

U.S. Agency for International Development/Afghanistan

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