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INTERNATIONAL RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT Combined 4th Quarter/Annual Report 2013 Engineering Quality Assurance and Logistical Support (EQUALS)

This report was produced by International Relief and Development for review by the United States Agency for International Development.

Abbreviations

- **ACEP** Afghanistan Clean Energy Projects
- **AGCC** Afghan German Construction Company
- **AGS** Afghanistan Geological Survey
- **AIDC** Afghanistan Infrastructure Data Center
- **AISCS** Afghanistan Infrastructure and Security Cartography System
- **ANDS** Afghanistan National Development Strategy
- **APPF** Afghan Public Protection Force
- **B&V** Black & Veatch
- **BOQ** Bill of Quantities
- **CAB** Crushed Aggregate Base
- **CB** Capacity Building
- **CBR** California Bearing Ratio
- **CCTV** Closed Circuit Television
- **CDU** Capacity Development Unit
- **CHEF** Construction of Health and Educational Facilities Program
- **CLTS** Community Led Total Sanitation
- **CoP** Chief of Party
- **COP** Combat Out Post
- **COR** Contracting Officer's Representative
- **DABS** Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat, the National Electric Company
- **DFAC** Dining Facility
- **DHPP** Darunta Hydroelectric Power Plant
- **DM** Deputy Minister
- **FF** Fractured Face
- **FoHE** Faculty of Higher Education
- **GFE** Government Furnished Equipment
- **GIRoA** Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
- **GIS** Geographic Information System
- **HHCC** Hayatullah Hamidi Construction Company
- **HMIS** Health Management Information System
- **IARCSC** Independent Administrative Reform and Civil Services Commission
- **IDC** Infrastructure Data Center
- **IDF** Indirect Fire
- **IED** Improvised Explosive Device
- **IOM** International Organization for Migration
- **IP** Implementing Partner
- **ISD** Infrastructure Services Department
- **IWRM** Integrated Water Resources Management
- **KRBA** Kabul River Basin Agency
- **KHPP** Kandahar Helmand Power Project
- **LoE** Level of Effort
- **LL** Liquid Limit
- **MDD** Maximum Dry Density
- **MECC** Mashriq Engineering Construction Company
- **MoEc** Ministry of Economy
- **MoEd** Ministry of Education
- **MoEW** Ministry of Energy and Water
- **MoFA** Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- **MoI** Ministry of Interior
- **MoM** Ministry of Mines
- **MoPH** Ministry of Public Health
- **MoPW** Ministry of Public Works
- **MST** Mobile Security Team
- **MTC** Midwife Training Center
- **NDABS** Nangarhar Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat (National Electric Company)
- **NMC** Natural Moisture Content
- **NRMC** Nakheel Risk Management Company
- **O&M** Operations and Maintenance
- **OAA** Office of Acquisition and Assistance
- **OEGI** Office of Economic Growth and Infrastructure
- **OST** Observational and Study Tour
- **PES** Pakistan Engineering Services
- **PCC** Plain Cement Concrete
- **PI** Plasticity Index
- **PKM** Pulemyot Kalashnikova Modernizirovanniy
- **PL** Plastic Limit
- **PMSI** Perini Management Services, Inc.
- **PoC** Point of Contact
- **PM** Project Manager
- **PRA** Participatory Assessment Survey
- **PTTC** Provincial Teacher Training Center
- **QA** Quality Assurance
- **QC** Quality Control
- **RCC** Roller-Compacted Concrete
- **RFA** Request for Approval
- **RFP** Request for Proposal
- **RFS** Request for Survey
- **RFT** Request for Testing
- **RFWI** Request for Works Inspection
- **RMC** Risk Management Company
- **SIGAR** Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction
- **SIPD** Shorandam Industrial Park Diesel Power Plant
- **SPC** Special Procurement Commission
- **SRRM** Silk Route Risk Management
- **SWSS** Sustainable Water Supply and Sanitation
- **TSSCoW** Technical Secretariat of the Supreme Council on Water
- **TOC** Tactical Operations Center
- **TWG** Trainees Working Group
- **UNOPS** United Nations Office for Project Services
- **UPS** Uninterruptible Power Supply
- **USACE** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- **USAID** United States Agency for International Development
- **VICC** Venco Imtiaz Construction Company
- **VS** Vertical Structures
- **WSST** Water Supply and Sanitation Team

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PROGRAM INFORMATION

Program Name:	Engineering Quality Assurance and Logistic Support (EQUALS)
Program Purpose:	Provide USAID's Afghanistan Office of Economic Growth and Infrastructure (OEGI) with an Afghanistan-based team to provide independent quality assurance for ongoing and planned construction, design and maintenance projects in the four infrastructure areas, namely: transportation, vertical structures, energy, and water and sanitation.
Implementing Partner (IP):	International Relief and Development, Inc. (IRD)
Period of Award:	18 April 2011 – 17 April 2016
Contract Number:	306-C-00-11-00512-00
USAID Contracting Officer Representative (COR):	Diana Shannon
Alternate COR:	Brett Burkhardt, Dr. Rahmatullah Zahin
IRD Chief of Party:	Paul Wolstenholme

ABOUT EQUALS

The Engineering Quality Assurance and Logistical Support Program (EQUALS) provides a full range of long-term and quick-response architect and engineering services, quality assurance services, and other logistical and technical support to ensure that USAID's infrastructure development projects in Afghanistan are sound and built according to established engineering standards. The program addresses Afghanistan's critical infrastructure needs, helping to promote economic growth and political stability. EQUALS assistance focuses on the areas of: energy, transportation, vertical structures, and water and sanitation sectors.

The EQUALS program focuses on the following components:

Quality Assurance (QA): Monitor construction projects implemented by other contractors and grantees through site visits by qualified engineers. Monitoring includes visual inspection of work at the site, as well as inspection of the IP's testing facilities, procedures, and results to ensure compliance with approved designs, technical standards, and contract schedules.

Engineering Support: Conduct site identification, review tender documents, bills of quantities, and designs.

Technical Assistance: Embed technical experts within ministries to help establish and implement sound policies.

Capacity Building: Strengthen the capacity of key ministries by training and working with government employees to transfer technology. Collaborate with local universities to implement an internship program designed to develop a cadre of trained workers.

Information Management: Manage and maintain a geospatial infrastructure database that provides vital project information and tracks security incidents to assist donors in effective planning and monitoring of infrastructure projects.

Logistical Support: Provide security, transportation, conference and training assistance, and office facilities, as requested by USAID, to further infrastructure development objectives.

EQUALS has been involved in nearly \$1 billion worth of construction projects across Afghanistan since it started in 2011.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Vertical Structures

During 2013, overall progress on most sites was inconsistent and affected by issues related to construction contractor performance, which resulted in delays in the completion of projects. Work activities on the 100 Bed and 20 Bed Hospitals in Gardez and Paktika, rectification of punch list items of four substantially complete Provincial Teacher Training Colleges (PTTCs), two Midwife Training Centers (MTCs) and award of contacts for leftover works at three Faculty of Higher Education (FoHE) projects were delayed beyond the projected completion dates. These delays have resulted in corresponding changes in the level of effort of EQUALS' Quality Assurance (QA) services to be rendered on these projects, which has been communicated to USAID in the revised EQUALS work plan.

At the 100 Bed Hospital in Gardez, on June 20, 2013, USAID's IP International Organization for Migration (IOM) terminated services of the construction contractor on account of non-satisfactory performance and non-likelihood to complete the project satisfactorily. IOM took a period of approximately three months after that to award the contract for remaining works to a new firm, which started mobilization of its staff and equipment to site on September 16, 2013. Thus, no construction work took place on the project site during the period June 20 - September 16, 2013. By the end of 2013, the project achieved a progress of 84% with its substantial completion anticipated by June 2014.

At the 20 Bed Hospital Project in Paktika, IOM terminated the services of its contractor on September 14, 2013, since USAID withdrew its approval of the firm's services on the Construction of Health and Educational Facilities Program (CHEF) program. Soon thereafter, the contractor withdrew its staff from the project. Work re-started in December 2013 and the project has now achieved a progress completion of approximately 96% with a substantial completion estimated by March 2014.

During the year, punch list items were rectified for the MTC projects in Bamyan and Badakhshan, and PTTC Nangarhar while the same at the PTTC in Faryab, Wardak, and Parwan are expected to be completed by the end of January 2014. All of these projects achieved substantial completion between December 2012 and January 2013.

Due to disputes over costs and remunerations, the common contractor for all three FoHE projects in Balkh, Jawzjan, and Faryab stopped work at these projects in August 2012. Outstanding works comprise the rectification of faulty electrical works, repairs to fix leakages in roofs, repairs to false ceiling damaged in places due to water leaks, and repainting of wall and ceiling surfaces damaged by water leaks. Per a directive issued by USAID on March 20, 2013, EQUALS QA engineers were assigned to assess items of work and associated costs required to provide electrical power for the three FoHE buildings by connecting their electrical systems to the grid/city power available in their respective locations. EQUALS engineers visited the three FoHE projects in March 2013 to obtain information and make measurements required for this task. EQUALS submitted the detailed report of its investigation, along with the cost-estimates, to USAID on March 26, 2013. EQUALS anticipates USAID's award of contracts for completion of outstanding works at these projects after which it will assign engineers to perform construction quality assurance services.

On September 25, 2013, USAID directed EQUALS to assign its engineering staff to visit the FoHE project sites in Balkh, Jawzjan and Faryab to make measurements for determining the quantities of remaining works in order to enable USAID to award contracts for left-over works at these projects. Consequently, a team of EQUALS' QA engineers was assigned to proceed to the three project sites on September 29, 2013. Upon return the team submitted a detailed report of its investigation, along with cost estimates to USAID on October 12, 2013.

The External Utilities (electrical, water-supply, sewage disposal plant, over-head water tank, etc.) at Sardar Kabuli School, whose substantial completion took place on June 30, 2013, were completed and formally handed over on September 15, 2013, to the Ministry of Education by USAID and the contractor Perini Management Services, Inc. (PMSI). However, some of the punch list items, including fire rated doors, remain to be completed. These remaining items are expected to be completed by the end of February 2014.

The Men's Dormitory and New Dining Facility were handed over to the Kabul University Administration at various stages and dates in 2012. The only work remaining was the testing of the Kabul University Dining Facility building sprinkling system which was completed; a report in this regard was submitted to USAID on October 08, 2013. The project has now been closed out as no outstanding work activities remain to be completed.

During the construction phase of each building project, EQUALS QA engineers and staff ensured and certified that its drawings, specifications and bills of quantities were properly followed, thus certifying that the US Government's funds were being properly and economically utilized, and USAID awarded construction contracts were being satisfactorily and timely implemented.

In addition to QA activities, an internship training was conducted by IRD EQUALS for students of the civil engineering departments of Kabul University and Kabul Polytechnic University on quality assurance inspection methodology and construction management. The training was held at the IRD Kabul office and at selected USAID project sites between the months of January and February 2013. Altogether, 16 male and 9 female students from both universities received the internship training. After the conclusion of the training program, a graduation ceremony was held at IRD Kabul during which certificates were awarded to the participants.

National Monitoring Team

The National Monitoring Team (NMT) field engineers conducted inspections of 62 Sustainable Water Supply and Sanitation (SWSS) and Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) projects in Logar Province in 2013. These projects were not completed earlier due to delays caused by security and weather. The Afghanistan Clean Energy Program (ACEP) was completed in 2011 and 2012 with a two-year warranty period. A total of 88 ACEP projects in 20 provinces were inspected by 10 NMT field engineers in the month of the January 2013, before expiry of the warranty period.

The NMT completed fieldwork in April in support of the ACEP warranty re-inspections and Afghanistan Infrastructure Data Center (AIDC) data confirmation, and the team was subsequently disbanded.

Roads Quality Assurance and Camp Liz O&M

The EQUALS Roads Team partnered positively this year with USAID's construction IP, Mashriq Engineering Construction Company (MECC) to complete Phase III of the Gardez-Khost (G-K) Road. The year ended as it started with effective roadway maintenance operations to keep traffic flowing under the extreme winter conditions.

Construction activities performed during the winter and first quarter of this year included drainage structures, retaining walls, roadway grading and materials testing. Concrete placement in support of drainage structures and retaining walls during this period was susceptible to curing interruption and possible damage due to the freeze-thaw cycles. Laboratory testing of the concrete provided evidence of potential deficiencies; these locations were tracked for performance monitoring.

Primary roadway construction occurred during the second and third quarters of this year. Asphalt paving commenced toward the latter part of the second quarter. Delays in paving operations were realized from interruptions in rock crushing and asphalt plant downtime. Concurrent with

roadway construction activity, MECC commenced movement of pre-cast concrete materials stored at Camp Casper in Section 3 of the road to Camp Liz near the middle of Section 2. This initiative would eventually enable the closure of Camp Casper in the third quarter. Modification 2 to JO-05 was awarded on May 29, 2013 to increase the level of effort and extend the performance period to September 30, 2013.

The third quarter realized substantial productivity on roadway construction, despite the effects of severe weather and increased hostilities by insurgents. EQUALS staff recruited and retained advance expertise in camp and project management to enhance program deliverables. Damaging floods in early August washed out two bridge sites near Km 50 and 52, 30m of retaining wall and roadway embankment near Km 54, as well as 60m of roadway at Km 70. Given the tactical urgency of sustaining military bases in this area, USAID authorized direct coordination between EQUALS staff and military engineers to enable placement of a 39m panel bridge at Km 50 and restoration of roadway embankment at Km 70 to restore traffic within one week after commencement of reconstruction operations. MECC responded by rebuilding the culvert crossing for the bridge site at Km 52, rebuilding the retaining wall and roadway embankment near Km 54, as well as installing traffic signs provided by EQUALS staff on both sides of the panel bridge at Km 50. More resourcing would have enhanced scheduling. Productivity during this volatile period increased from 78% of roadway completion at the end of the second quarter to 96% by the end of the third quarter. The closure of Camp Casper on August 25, 2013 enabled a reduction in Afghan Public Protection Force (APPF) security costs and return of the land to its owners). Modification 3 to JO-05 was awarded on September 14, 2013 to extend the performance period to November 30, 2013.

The 13 Km under contract for the G-K Road was completed in the fourth quarter of the year. The Directors of Public Works for Paktya and Khost Provinces participated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony with EQUALS and MECC staff on November 07, 2013. MECC consolidated its staff at Camp 44.5 across the G-K Road from Camp Liz. This proximity of IPs has enabled a more immediate response to emergencies, such as the bridge failure at Km 44+468. EQUALS and MECC staff mobilized quickly to manage traffic and construct a culvert bypass around the impassable bridge. Modifications 4 and 5 were awarded on December 9, 2013 and December 29, 2013 respectively to extend the performance periods to December 31 of 2013 and April 17 of 2014 respectively. These short-term contract modifications have been disruptive to program management of staff and sustainment of base operations. Challenges due to security and technical issues along the G-K Road are a concern for implementing Phase IV, for which limited delegation of directional authority is recommended.

Power Quality Assurance

Kandahar Helmand Power Project (KHPP)

The Power Quality Assurance team continued to conduct QA monitoring on construction as well as perform design reviews during the first three quarters on KHPP component projects. EQUALS performed substantial completion and inspections including final acceptance on all of the KHPP components during the final quarter of the year.

The substantial completion inspection of Durai Junction substation (DJCN) was conducted together with USAID and IP representatives on August 28, 2013. The final inspection followed on September 17, 2013. Punch list items were closed on October 31, 2013. EQUALS and Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat, the National Electric Company (DABS) representatives conducted a substantial completion inspection for Breshna Kot substation on October 14, 2013. The final acceptance inspection was completed on November 24, and the report was sent to USAID on November 30, 2013.

EQUALS initiated a review of the completeness of the IP's documentation concerning the refurbishment of the Kandahar City Medium Voltage Distribution System during the last week of October 2013. The substantial completion report was submitted to USAID on December 11, 2013.

The seven MTUs at Breshna Kot substation were on standby for the most part. The plant was dispatched when Kajaki hydro-generation was not available. Unit 5 broke down in early-December 2013, and is currently under repair. On November 10, 2013 EQUALS conducted a final inspection for the Shorandam Industrial Park (SIPD) Diesel Power Plant. The plant is not available for immediate dispatch, pending installation of a 20kV disconnect switch.

EQUALS Kajaki obligations were substantially completed and a final inspection was conducted. DABS awarded the installation and commissioning contract for Kajaki Unit 2 to GFA Consulting Ltd. EQUALS was invited to, and participated in the Kajaki Unit 2 workshop with USAID, Black & Veatch (B&V), GFA, and DABS in Dubai during December 11 - 15, 2013. The information exchange workshop addressed the turnover process for the project, as well as for the Government Furnished Equipment (GFE) from B&V to DABS and GFA. GFA is expected to mobilize at project sites on January 01, 2014.

EQUALS continued to be engaged in inspections and material handover verifications. EQUALS shall assess the project As-Built as soon as B&V submits these documents to USAID.

EQUALS continued supporting DABS in the operation of the BK and DJCN substations, and SIPD and KDEG diesel power plants. EQUALS verified spare parts requirements for these facilities and is engaged in training DABS operators in prudent plant management practices. EQUALS brought Senior Trainers on board to provide the training. The training team prepared work plans and training handbooks for 'Problem Solving' assistance to DABS. The training is scheduled to take place during the first quarter of 2014.

Kajaki Unit 2

The EQUALS QA team conducted a condition assessment (April 11 - 13, 2013) and participated in the inventory assessment (July 13 - 22, 2013) of GFE for Kajaki Unit 2. The purpose of these assessments was to finalize the formal handover of GFE to DABS from B&V.

The EQUALS Mechanical Engineer and the Power Team Lead attended a Technical Knowledge Transfer Conference in Dubai, December 11 - 14, 2013. The purpose of this conference, organized by USAID, was to ensure a smooth transition from the former Contractor (B&V) to the new Contractor (GFA) for Kajaki Unit 2. As the QA service provider, EQUALS attended this conference and contributed to the conversation by highlighting potential technical risks, and suggesting mitigating measures/solutions.

DABS Embed Team

USAID has funded the execution of "Installation of Turbine Generator Unit 2 at Kajaki Dam Hydropower Plant, Commercialization Part I and Part II" and "Power Transmission Expansion and Connectivity (PTEC)" projects to support DABS in the procurement process. EQUALS recruited a Procurement Specialist on August 01, 2013 to assist the DABS procurement staff and provide capacity building.

The Procurement Specialist supported DABS in technical and financial evaluations, negotiation and award of contracts, and improvements to the overall procurement system during the reporting period. Specifically, the Procurement Specialist supported DABS in the award and signing of two contracts: 1 - Selection of Consultant for Construction Management - At Risk for the Installation of Turbine Generator Unit 2 at Kajaki Dam Hydropower Plant on December 09, 2013; and 2 - DABS Corporate Management Support on December 23, 2013. Two other contracts (Selection of Construction Management Consultant; Power Transmission, Expansion and Connectivity) are under negotiation and are planned to be awarded and signed in January 2014. The evaluation of one remaining project (Design, Supply and Installation of Arghandi - Ghazni 220 kv Transmission Line Lot - 1 and Design, Supply and Installation of Sayedabad - Ghazni 220kv Substations Lot - 2) was completed and the bid evaluation report was submitted to USAID for their approval.

Darunta Hydro Power Plant (DHPP)

During the course of the year, the EQUALS QA team developed and delivered customized training packages for the O&M crews of the Darunta Hydropower Plant. Altogether, 24 trainees nominated by Nangarhar Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat (NDABS) and Darunta management (in 2 groups of 12) received over 90 days of training in theoretical and practical plant operation techniques. The training was organized into Basic, Operation, and Maintenance sessions, and resulted in an observed knowledge/skill increase and establishment of routine maintenance practices and procedures. This training had a direct impact on operation and maintenance of the plant, and resulted in increased operability of the power plant over the year. Notably, the O&M crews now understand how to troubleshoot plant faults; unit outages have been significantly reduced as a result.

Despite these improvements, the O&M crews continue to face numerous challenges in fully implementing preventive maintenance practices. In addition to the advanced age of the plant, there has been no capital maintenance/rehabilitation carried out in the last 20 years. Other limitations include frequent breakdowns, lack of essential spare parts and maintenance tools, unavailability of spare parts from the original equipment manufacturer (OEM), a limited maintenance budget provided by DABS, and a lack of awareness demonstrated by DABS' higher management regarding the importance of preventive maintenance.

The EQUALS QA team also completed the verification and inventory of Darunta spare parts, equipment, and logistics training materials from the previous Contractor (ANHAM) that were stored on site. This process commenced November 15, 2013 and was conducted in the presence of two DABS representative as part of the USAID formal property transfer. The process was concluded on December 10, 2013.

Materials Testing Laboratory

During the course of the year, the EQUALS Material Testing Laboratory team received 292 samples of soil, aggregate, sand, Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) binder and wearing course, cores, concrete cylinders, mortar cubes, bitumen, prime coat, tack coat, and steel bar materials from the Gardez - Khost Road, KHPP and Vertical Structures projects. All samples were tested and reports were submitted to respective managers. EQUALS Lab Technician also monitored the concrete cylinder and mortar cube samples compressive strength test data for the Salang Tunnel project at the sub-contractor's laboratory.

As part of the Vertical Structures Internship Training, the Material Testing Laboratory conducted practical and theoretical laboratory training for 10 Kabul University (January 06 - 10, 2013) and 13 Kabul Polytechnic University (February 06 – 10, 2013) students, 10 MoEW employees (August 17 – September 04, 2013), as well as numerous internal training sessions for 22 EQUALS field engineers. The training included explanation of quality checks on various materials, construction methodology as related to roads, and the requirements and testing of green concrete/stone masonry work in the field.

Ministry of Energy and Water

The Water Supply and Sanitation Team (WSST) started 2013 with the successful hosting of the 3rd National Conference on Water Resources Development and Management, where all line ministries and agencies in the water sector convened to discuss their achievements, challenges, plans and the way forward. President Hamid Karzai opened the conference and Dr. Ken Yamashita, USAID Mission Director in Afghanistan at the time, represented the U.S. Embassy as a keynote speaker. Through the coordination efforts of the WSST, a declaration was drafted and announced at the end of the conference.

Under the leadership of the Ministry of Energy and Water (MoEW), the Technical Secretariat of the Supreme Council on Water (TSSCoW), representing fifteen water sector line ministries and agencies, granted concurrence to 75% of the language in the draft Transboundary Water Policy. In addition, on December 9, 2013, the TSSCoW unanimously endorsed the Capacity Building

Policy and Strategy Framework. This framework defined a united way forward for the various ministries and agencies in the water sector. Through fora and facilitation provided by WSST, MoEW's Deputy Minister hosted bi-weekly TSSCoW meetings where Afghanistan's river basins and water management policies and projects were discussed and disseminated in an inter-ministerial setting.

The WSST also facilitated an observational study tour in November for five MoEW Project Managers (PMs) to attend an international conference on water in Kunming, China. At the conference, the Afghan delegates presented a research paper entitled "Building the Future - The Revival of Afghanistan's Era of Dam Building." The research paper was well received and the abstract was published in the Conference's Compendium of Papers. The Conference was significant as it re-introduced Afghanistan's dam construction industry to the international community.

The WSST provided formal training to 273 individuals (242 male, 31 female) throughout the year. Training topics included Primavera Project Scheduling, public administration, capacity building management, dams design/construction, operation and maintenance, project control, hydro-diplomacy and international law, negotiation on transboundary waters, and governance.

The WSST installed three P-6 (Primavera Project Scheduling) licenses for MoEW project management engineers and trained the engineers on the program's utilization. MoEW project management engineers are utilizing the software in their daily work.

The WSST's mentoring and on-the-job training contributed to MoEW engineers' increased work output and quality, and their confidence in negotiating and working with contractors on project control and project management of the five dam projects under construction. The WSST's mentoring has also increased the ability of MoEW engineers' to plan technical and contractual structures of future dam construction projects.

Over 2,000 documents on water management have been digitized and 40% of those documents have already been uploaded to a digital library designed by the WSST, in consultation with the MoEW. The digital library serves as a significant resource on technical studies, plans and policies of Afghanistan's work in water management. The MoEW has yet to decide who will have access to this digital library. In addition, a website on water activities is ready for MoEW's approval and launch. The website will assist in promoting MoEW as the lead ministry on water issues in Afghanistan.

With the arrival of H.E. Mohammad Aref Noorzai in November 2013 as the new Minister of Energy and Water, the WSST expects a revitalized MoEW, which will be even more active and engaged in water infrastructure projects. The new minister is an Engineer and has greater appreciation for the technical and legal expertise provided by the WSST. WSST recommends recruitment of additional qualified advisors in order to meet more effectively the MoEW's needs in critical aspects of its dam construction projects.

Afghanistan Infrastructure Data Center and Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIROA) Capacity Development Unit

Throughout 2013, the AIDC team was focused on two primary activities: final transition of material support to the five ministries engaged in capacity development in infrastructure cataloguing and reporting, and continued support for both USAID and EQUALS programmatic infrastructure related mapping and cataloguing requests.

Capacity Development, OEGI Ministries

Per guidance from USAID, capacity development in the area of infrastructure data collection, cataloguing, and reporting continued in five OEGI supported ministries: Public Works, Mines (at the Afghanistan Geological Survey), Public Health, Education (co-located with the Infrastructure Support Division) and Economy. The overarching concept is to provide the Ministry of Economy with the key data required to enable recommendations to be made to the Ministry of Finance for expenditures with regard to infrastructure.

Primary training in the implementation of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software to support this mandate has been completed, with 29% of the trainees and 20% of the trainers being female. The focus of ministry activities was on mentoring and implementing “train the trainer” periods of instruction at each of the five ministries to ensure long-term sustainability of the Infrastructure Data Centers (IDCs) located at the five ministries supported by the EQUALS program.

Key challenges in looking ahead, are the integration of these activities with existing ministry systems, and the coordination of these activities with other donor-supported activities dealing with infrastructure data. Of primary concern is the ability of the ministries to provide for these activities as part of ongoing budgets, as many ministry personnel are still being paid through short-term, donor-funded contracts. The main goal for EQUALS with regard to this activity, now that material support has been completed, will be to work with the ministries to establish these points of coordination through a series of internal conferences to be held during the first quarter of 2014.

Data Cataloguing and Reporting Support

In addition to the ministry capacity development activities, the AIDC GIS team continued to support mapping and data requests both internally in support of EQUALS programmatic goals, as well as external requests in support of USAID data requests. Most notable of these requests was a series of responses to Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR) findings noting possible concerns with the data contained in the Afghanistan Infrastructure and Security Cartography System (AISCS). IRD first responded to this finding at the beginning of 2013, with a follow-up from the SIGAR to IRD’s initial documented answer. As a result of the first SIGAR finding, the AIDC has sent field engineers out to verify each USAID building listed in AISCS.

Using smartphone technology, the EQUALS AIDC team continues to verify those locations, and will complete this activity during the first quarter of 2014. The AIDC team is discovering that, in the majority of cases where engineers have re-visited sites listed in AISCS, schools and health clinics have been located at the coordinates originally provided by IRD during initial quality assurance activities executed during HRLS I and II, which constitutes the larger bulk of structural information in AISCS.

Key challenges for the AIDC team will be coordination with the ministries with the support of USAID for the successful transition of off-budget structural information to the relevant ministry departments, helping to ensure that this vital information is properly catalogued for future government use.

Job Order-06

On September 08, 2013, USAID authorized Job Order No. 06 (October 1, 2013 through April 17, 2014). Under this JO, EQUALS was tasked with conference support services for two conferences in Kabul, and one conference in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

EQUALS completed arrangements in support of the Minister of Public Works and Executive Director of the Afghanistan Railway Authority’s travel for the International Road Federation Conference in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The two Afghan delegates traveled to Saudi Arabia and attended the conference November 10 - 14, 2013.

Planning for a multi-donor infrastructure information sharing conference is in progress for late March. The purpose of the conference will be to bring together the technical teams as well as decision makers that have been engaged with the implementation of the Infrastructure Data Centers (ICDs) at the OEGI-supported ministries. The goal will be to engage all key information stakeholders in order to ensure that information is more effectively shared for the benefit of the Afghan government.

Management and Security

In 2013, a number of management changes took place, both within the IRD EQUALS program and USAID. On January 15, 2013, Gilbert Richard arrived in Kabul as the Chief of Party (CoP). He replaced former CoP Osvaldo Juvier, who resigned from the project on October 19, 2012 due to family/health concerns. On August 15, 2013, Gilbert Richard resigned from his post as EQUALS CoP and retired from IRD; he recommended promotion of then Deputy CoP Paul Wolstenholme, who was officially promoted on September 21, 2013.

At the end of June/beginning of July, an EQUALS management transition within USAID took place. Contracting Officer's Representative Jocelyn Daway, who had held this title throughout EQUALS and its predecessor projects HRLS I and II, departed the country. Diana Shannon was introduced as the new EQUALS COR, and formally took over this responsibility on June 30, 2013. At this time, Brett Burkhart was also introduced as the new Alternate COR, taking over from Tami Sant on August 11, 2013. Rahmatullah Safi Zahin was also confirmed as an Alternate COR for the EQUALS program on September 10, 2013. There were also several Contracting Officer transitions during 2013: Anthony Amerson took over the position of Contracting Officer (CO) for the EQUALS program from former CO Cheryl Hodge-Snead at the end of February 2013; and Michael Capobianco took over as CO from Mr. Amerson in November 2013.

EQUALS received several new assignments and job order extensions throughout the year. JO-04 received a no-cost extension through June 15, 2013, and later through June 27, 2013. On July 4, 2013, JO-04 Modification 4 was approved by USAID, extending the JO through April 17, 2014. On August 11, 2013, additions to the Vertical Structures level of effort (LoE) were approved by USAID in JO-04 Modification No. 4. On October 13, 2013, the fully executed Modification No. 6 to JO-04 was received, adding to Power QA services. JO-05 also received a no-cost extension through June 15, 2013. Modification 2 was approved on May 29, 2013, extending JO-05 through September 30, 2013. Further, several additional no-cost extensions were granted to JO-05. On September 14, 2013, a no-cost extension until November 30, 2013 was received; on December 9, 2013, the period of performance for JO-05 was further extended through December 31, 2013. In addition to extensions for JO-04 and 05, USAID authorized JO-06 (Conference Support Services) on September 8, 2013.

EQUALS personnel experienced several emergency medical incidents over the year, all of which were immediately and fully communicated to USAID. In July 2013, the EQUALS Director of Support Services, Jan Gebhardt, was medically evacuated. In October, Camp Liz Operations Manager, Paul Heydenreich, was medically evacuated and returned to the U.S. On December 21, 2013 a Silk Route Risk Management (SRRM) employee was evacuated for treatment.

Concerning security, 2013 was a pivotal year for Afghanistan as Coalition Forces (CF) finalized the security handover to Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF). Unfortunately, many of Afghanistan's provinces have seen an increase in insurgent activity since the handover's completion. Pro-GIRoA operations have seen a significant drop in frequency, whereas the number of insurgent attacks has significantly risen. The military withdrawal of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and CF is likely to compound problems for Afghanistan's stability. NGO organizations have seen a rise in the number of incidents against them from 2011/12, attributed to the increased freedom of movement by anti-GIRoA forces. With the increase of kinetic activity at the end of the year and the onset of elections, 2014 will more than likely see the kinetic tempo escalate until a new government is formed.

1 PROGRAM UPDATE – TECHNICAL SERVICES

1.1 Vertical Structures

1.1.1. Construction of Health and Education Facilities Program

1.1.1 A Accomplishments and Project Update

Percentage of work reported against each project of the CHEF Program is mentioned below.

EQUALS anticipated substantial completion dates for specific CHEF projects are based on the progress of work achieved on each individual project, taking into account the time it has taken to achieve the percentage of work completion since the start of construction.

100 Bed Hospital Gardez, Paktya: The following activities were in progress during this quarter.

- Shuttering, steel bar fixing and concreting of fuel tank RCC beams and slab.
- Sub-base compaction and conducting field density tests for aggregate base course materials of road at the east side of main building (area B-6).
- Excavation, backfilling, shuttering, steel bar fixing and concreting for potable water manhole, stairs, boiler pad and site light poles, casting and installation of kerb.
- Air terminal installation and fixing (for lightning protection) on main building roofs.
- Electrical wiring, labeling, connecting of electrical cable to panel boards, installation of electrical wall lights at exterior of main building, installation of electrical grounding cables, termination of electrical feeders to main switch board, and wiring for fire alarm system.
- Installation of external and internal ceiling fixtures and painting of external ceiling in conference hall, clinics, male block, emergency department, operation theater block, dining/kitchen facilities and female blocks.
- Terrazzo floor casting, floor and skirting polishing in corridor, male/female block, recovery, and emergency, dining, kitchen and pharmacy blocks.
- Repairs to damaged gypsum plaster in corridor, conference hall, clinics, admin block, operation theater and pharmacy block.
- Installation and fixing of roof metal flashing sheet in male blocks, female blocks, generator block, recovery/delivery rooms, dining/kitchen facilities and pharmacy block.
- Installation of bathroom and toilet wall and floor tiles in admin block, pharmacy block, male block and dining/kitchen facilities.
- Fabrication, painting of water tower handrails, guard rail, steel ladder, prime coat and final painting of water tower's columns and beams.
- Fabrication, fixing and installation of wall handrail in male blocks, female blocks and pharmacy block.
- Installation and fixing of metallic conduit pipe for fire alarm, nurse call and communication systems in corridor, admin block, male block, female blocks, recovery/delivery rooms and operation theater.
- Installation and joining of copper pipe for carrying hot and cold water and air ducts in male and female blocks and operation theater.
- Leakage test for hot and cold water copper pipes in male and female blocks.
- Installation of rigid foam and plastering of rigid foam surface with in conference hall.
- Cleaning and preparation of hollow metal doors for painting.
- Placing of hot water boilers and steam generators in generator block, installation and connection of potable water pipes from water well to water tanks and buildings and installation of PVC window screen mesh in main building.

Progress achieved is 84%.

IOM has not supplied an estimated substantial completion date for this project.

EQUALS anticipates substantial completion by June 2014.

20 Bed Hospital Khair Kot, Paktika: The following activities were in progress this quarter.

- Insulation of water tank.
- Supply of furniture to the project site.
- Cleaning of marble around the building.

Overall progress of work achieved is 96.2%.

IOM has not yet supplied an estimated substantial completion date for this project.

EQUALS anticipates substantial completion by March 2014.

MTC Badakhshan: Substantial completion inspection of this project was conducted on December 29, 2012. On August 28, 2013, EQUALS QA engineer inspected the project and reported that all punch list items were rectified satisfactorily by the construction contractor. EQUALS submitted a report to USAID for final closeout of this project on August 31, 2013. On January 02, 2014 IOM and EQUALS engineers jointly conducted warranty inspection of the project. EQUALS will submit the warranty inspection report to USAID on January 04, 2014.

MTC Bamyan: Substantial completion inspection of this project was conducted on December 29, 2012. On December 01, 2013 EQUALS and International Organization for Migration (IOM) engineers visited the project for inspection of the remaining punch list items. A report was submitted to USAID on December 02, 2013. EQUALS and IOM engineers visited the project for warranty inspection on December 29, 2013. A report was submitted to USAID on December 31, 2013.

PTTC Faryab: Substantial completion inspection of this project was conducted on December 27, 2012. Subsequently, the contractor proceeded to complete the punch list items. After joint meetings amongst EQUALS, USAID and IOM on July 16 and 22, 2013, a revised punch list of remaining items was agreed upon and issued for rectification by the contractor. The following inspections were conducted in the 4th quarter:

- A joint inspection of the project was conducted by IOM, EQUALS and the construction contractor's representatives on November 5, 2013 and its report submitted to USAID on November 6, 2013.
- EQUALS Vertical Structures (VS) and IOM engineers visited the project for final punch list items and warranty inspections on December 29, 2013. A report was submitted to USAID on December 31, 2013.

PTTC Parwan: Substantial completion inspection of this project was conducted on January 17, 2013. The contractor Afghan German Construction Company (AGCC) proceeded to rectify some of the punch list items, but stopped work on June 01, 2013. After joint meetings amongst EQUALS, USAID and IOM on July 16 and 22, 2013, a revised punch list of remaining items was agreed upon and issued for rectification by the contractor. The following inspections were conducted in the 4th quarter:

- On November 19, 2013 IOM and EQUALS engineers jointly visited the project for warranty inspection of water tower. A report was submitted to USAID on November 25, 2013.
- IOM and EQUALS engineers visited the project for final punch list items on December 21, 2013. A report was submitted to USAID on December 23, 2013.

PTTC Wardak: Substantial completion inspection of this project was conducted on December 20, 2012. The contractor Hayatullah Hamidi Construction Company (HHCC) proceeded to rectify some of the punch list items, but stopped work on June 1, 2013. After joint meetings amongst EQUALS, USAID and IOM on July 16 and 22, 2013, a revised punch list of remaining

items was agreed upon and issued for rectification by the contractor. The following inspections were conducted in the 4th quarter:

- A joint inspection of the project was conducted by IOM and EQUALS on November 05 and 28, 2013 for rectification of punch list items. A report was submitted to USAID on November 06 and 28, 2013.
- EQUALS and IOM engineers visited the project for final punch list items and warranty inspections on December 22, 2013. A report was submitted to USAID on December 23, 2013.

PTTC Nangarhar: Substantial completion inspection of all buildings on this project was conducted on December 09, 2012. The water tower substantial completion inspection was conducted on January 14, 2013. After joint meetings amongst EQUALS, USAID and IOM on July 16 and 22, 2013, a revised punch list of remaining items was agreed upon and issued for rectification by the contractor. The following inspection was conducted in the 4th quarter:

- EQUALS and IOM engineers visited the project on December 07 and 19, 2013 for inspection of the remaining punch list items and warranty inspection. Reports to this effect were submitted to USAID on December 8 and 21, 2013 respectively.

Table 1: Key Performance Indicators for Construction of Health and Educational Facilities Program

Key Performance Indicators for 2013	Task Owner	Quarterly Required Deliverables				Quarterly Actual Deliverables				Annual Required Deliverables	Annual Completed Deliverables
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
Construction of Health and Educational Facilities Program	USAID										
Number of review reports on architectural and engineering drawings and specs		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of site inspections (monitoring, substantial completion, punch list verification, final, warranty etc.) and reports completed by EQUALS VS engineers		233	212	147	150	220	212	111	108	742	651 ¹

1.1.1 B Salient Issues and Concerns

The delays in the completion of project activities on the 100 Bed Hospital, 1 MTC and 4 PTTCs will result in corresponding changes in the LoE being provided for QA services on these projects by EQUALS Vertical Structures (VS) Division. To reflect these changes, a revised LoE for the VS Division will be submitted to USAID before the end of January 2014.

1.1.1 C Future Activities

Routine QA monitoring will continue on all ongoing CHEF projects.

¹ Due to work stoppage on CHEF projects (i.e. 4 PTTCs, 1 MTC, 100 Bed Hospital and 20 Bed Hospital) the number of annual completed deliverables is lower than required.

1.1.2 Faculties of Higher Education Program

1.1.2 A Accomplishments and Status

Construction remains stopped since August 2012, with the following status of each FoHE building:

Balkh: Substantial completion inspection and handover to the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) are pending. They will be undertaken upon completion of the remaining work by a new contractor to be appointed by USAID.

Progress achieved is 90%.

- Per USAID direction, EQUALS QA engineer visited the FoHE Balkh project on December 17 and 28, 2013 to identify if the building was still occupied or had been vacated by the local authorities. Reports in this regard were submitted to USAID on December 18 and 29, 2013.
- Per USAID direction, EQUALS VS engineers revisited the FoHE building in Balkh on December 28, 2013 to identify if the building was still occupied or had been vacated by the local authorities. A report was submitted to USAID on December 30, 2013.

Jawzjan: Substantial completion inspection and handover to the MoHE are pending. They will be undertaken upon completion of the remaining work by a new contractor to be appointed by USAID.

Progress achieved is 90%.

Faryab: Substantial completion inspection and handover to the MoHE are pending. They will be undertaken upon completion of the remaining work by a new contractor to be appointed by USAID.

Progress achieved is 95%.

- Per USAID direction, EQUALS QA engineer visited the FoHE Faryab project on December 17 and 28, 2013 to find out if the building was still occupied or vacated by the local authorities. Reports in this regard were submitted to USAID on December 21 and 30, 2013.
- Per USAID direction, EQUALS VS engineers revisited the FoHE building in Faryab on December 29, 2013 to find out if the building was still occupied or vacated by the local authorities. A report was submitted to USAID on December 30, 2013.

Incomplete works in the three projects mentioned above comprise the rectification of faulty electrical works, needed repairs to fix leakages in roofs, repairs to false ceiling damaged in places due to water leaks, and repainting of surfaces damaged by water leaks through roof membranes.

Table 2: Key Performance Indicators for Faculty of Higher Education Program

Key Performance Indicators for 2013	Task Owner	Quarterly Required Deliverables				Quarterly Actual Deliverables				Annual Required Deliverables	Annual Completed Deliverables
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
Faculties of Higher Educational Program	USAID										
Number of review reports on		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

architectural and engineering drawings and specs											
Number of site inspections (monitoring, substantial completion, punch list verification, final, warranty etc.) and reports completed by EQUALS VS engineers		6	4	0	0	6	4	0	0	10	10

1.1.2 B Issues and Concerns

Award of contracts for completion of remaining works in Faryab, Jawzjan and Balkh FoHE projects has been delayed. Thus, the substantial completion dates of these projects will be revised based upon when contracts are awarded and notices-to-proceed issued to contractors. This will result in corresponding changes in the LoE of EQUALS’ QA services to be rendered on these projects, which will be communicated to USAID in due time.

1.1.2 C Future Activities

As soon as contracts are awarded to new contractors and construction activities are restarted, EQUALS will resume QA services on FoHE project sites.

1.1.3 Renovation of Men’s Dormitory, Design and Construction of New Dining Facility at Kabul University

1.1.3 A Accomplishments and Status

Per USAID instruction on October 07, 2013, EQUALS QA engineer visited the Kabul University Dining Facility (DFAC) building sprinkling system which was tested by the Venco Intiaz Construction Company (VICC) and Tetra Tech. A report was submitted to USAID on October 08, 2013. The project has now been closed out since no outstanding work activities remain to be done.

Table 3: Key Performance Indicators for Men's Dormitory and Dining Facility Building at Kabul University

Key Performance Indicators for 2013	Task Owner	Quarterly Required Deliverables				Quarterly Actual Deliverables				Annual Required Deliverables	Annual Completed Deliverables
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
Men’s Dormitory and Dining Facility at KU	USAID										
Number of review reports on architectural and engineering drawings and specs		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Number of site inspections (monitoring, substantial completion, punch list verification, final, warranty etc.) and reports completed by EQUALS VS engineers		46	39	2	1	44	39	0	1	88	84 ²
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1.1.3 B Salient Issues and Concerns

None

1.1.3 C Future Activities

None; project completed.

1.1.4 Kabul Schools Program: Sardar Kabuli Girls' High School

1.1.4 A Accomplishments and Status

The Sardar Kabuli Girls High School Building, which was implemented by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) was completed and handed over to the Ministry of Education on September 12, 2011. However, fire doors, which were to have been installed within the entrances and exits of corridors within the building, had not been supplied at the time of its handing over. The fire rated doors were subsequently delivered to the site and were to be installed in specific positions by the UNOPS contractor on August 25, 2013. UNOPS sub-contractor began installation of fire rated doors (a total of 30 doors) on October 31, 2013 and had installed only 23 doors by December 18, 2013. Based on EQUALS QA report that certain modifications have been made to the doors at the site due to which its fire rating could be jeopardized, USAID subsequently issued instructions to UNOPS to stop the installation of doors until a satisfactory solution to the issue has been found. It is expected that the installation of the doors will now be completed by March 2014. EQUALS also reported to USAID that the school well house building Exterior Insulation Finishing System (EIFS) applied plaster all around the building has been totally damaged and has lost its bonding with the walls. USAID has instructed Perini Management Services, Inc. (PMSI) to rectify this as soon as possible. PMSI is expected to begin removal and re-plastering of the exterior walls and complete the entire work by the end of March 2014.

Table 4: Key Performance Indicators for Installation of Fire Rated Doors on Sardar Kabuli Girls' High School Project

Key Performance indicators for 2013	Task Owner	Quarterly Required Deliverables				Quarterly Actual Deliverables				Annual Required Deliverables	Annual Completed Deliverables
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
Sardar Kabuli Girls High School	USAID										
Number of review reports on architectural and engineering drawings and specs		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

² Due to early completion of projected work activities at the site, the number of completed deliverables was lower than the required. All work activities at the project have been completed.

Number of site inspections (monitoring, substantial completion, punch list verification, final, warranty etc.) and reports completed by EQUALS VS engineers			78	78	36	52	46	76	36	29	244	187 ³
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1.1.4 B Salient Issues and Concerns

None

1.1.4 C Future Activities

Routine QA activities will be conducted provided the contractor resumes installation of fire rated doors and re-plastering of well house exterior walls. At this point, these are the only remaining activities to be completed at the project.

The photos below illustrate VS activities and QA tasks in the 4th quarter of 2013 on various projects described above.



Image 01: CHEF-002, Gardez 100 Bed Hospital
Installation of electrical wall lights at exterior of main building.

N: 33.630878 E: 69.232596; 08Dec13



Image 02: CHEF-002, Gardez 100 Bed Hospital
Fabrication of channel for corner of air ducts.

N: 33.630878 E:69.232596; 08Nov13



Image 03: CHEF-011, Nangarhar PTTC
Provision of key for propane gas tank.

N:34.423611 E:70.433056; 07Dec13



Image 04: CHEF-011, Nangarhar PTTC
Warranty inspection underway.

N:34.423611 E:70.433056; 19Dec13

³ Annual completed deliverables are lower than annual required deliverables due to stoppage of and delays in start of work.



Image 05: KSP-002 Sardar Kabuli Girls School
Fire rated door accessories at the project site.
N:34.48475 E:69.13717; 29Nov13



Image 06: KSP-002 Sardar Kabuli Girls High School
Chipping of wall plaster and concrete for
installation of fire rated door.
N:34.48475 E:69.13717; 23Nov13



Image 07: KSP-002 Sardar Kabuli Girls School
USAID and EQUALS representatives
inspecting fire rated door automatic closing
device.
N:34.48475 E:69.13717; 10Dec13



Image 08: KSP-002 Sardar Kabuli Girls High School
Fire rated door installation joint inspection by
USAID/EQUALS/UNOPS representatives.
N:34.48475 E:69.13717; 10 Nov13

1.2 Roads Quality Assurance - New Construction

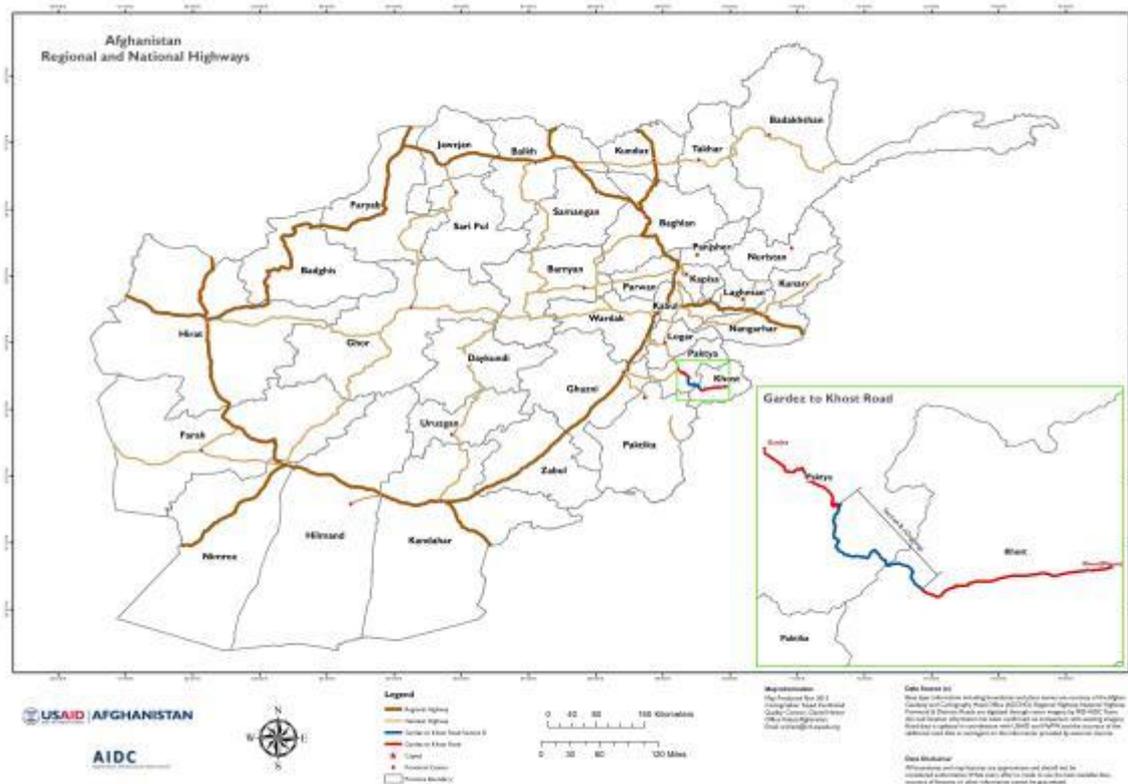
1.2.1 Quality Assurance - New Construction

Roads QA engineers conducted 154 site visits to the following road project:

Table 5: USAID-funded new construction roads monitored in 4th quarter 2013

Road Type	Type of Work	Road Name	Length	Status	Province
National Highway	Rehabilitation	Gardez-Khost Road, Sections 2A and 2B	13 km	Ongoing	Paktya - Khost

Map 1: Ongoing USAID-funded road projects monitored by EQUALS engineers (4th quarter 2013)



1.2.1 A Accomplishments and Status

Construction progress on the national highway roads is as follows:

Table 6: National highways progress status, 4th quarter 2013

Road Name	Work Completed (%)	Work Monitored (%)	Length (Km)	Status
Gardez to Khost Road Sections 2A and 2B, Phase III	100	100	13	Complete

Gardez-Khost Road Section 2: Section 2 in its entirety is 38 Km in length. It begins at Km 27+000 and ends at Km 65+000. EQUALS JO-05 is responsible for providing QA services for 13 km of Section 2. Construction activities were impacted in the contracted portion of Section 2A, from Km 30+000 to 36+000, and Section 2B, from Km 50+000 to 57+000. The following activities were completed and/or ongoing this quarter:

- Surface leveling of the uneven road portions to keep the road passable.
- Embankment work for the roadbed in Section 2B.
- Crushed Aggregate Base (CAB) placement, grading and compaction in Sections 2A and 2B.
- Stone masonry work for lined ditches in Sections 2A and 2B.
- Dry rip-rap placement for drainage ditches in Sections 2A and 2B.
- Asphalt sampling – mix verification, bituminous cement and cores.
- Culvert construction in Section 2B.
- Construction of guard/retaining walls and catch basin stone masonry in Section 2B.
- Asphalt prime coat application on CAB in Section 2B.
- Asphalt binder course placement and compaction for Section 2B.
- Placement of gabion structures in Section 2B.
- Excavation of the road side drainage ditches.
- Cleaning of the road side drainage ditches and culverts.
- Field/laboratory materials sampling/testing for Sections 2A and 2B.
- In Section 2A, joint survey operations were conducted by MECC and EQUALS QA Engineers to identify as-built conditions.
- Flood damage repair completed in Section 2B for retaining walls and slope protection.
- Verified completed construction quantity items placed in September for IPC #13 processing.
- EQUALS staff quantified remaining aggregate stockpiles at Camps 35, 44.5 and 63.
- EQUALS staff monitored the construction of the Bypass Road adjacent to Culvert #131 at Km 44+468 Right Side (R/S).
- EQUALS staff conducted a joint inspection of the punch list of rectified items in Section 2B.
- EQUALS staff provided daily punch list updates to track closure activity.
- Rectification of punch list items is tracked weekly per USAID guidance at the weekly meeting held on September 29, 2013.
- A new Word format of the Final Punch List for Section 2A and 2B was submitted to USAID on December 24, 2013.
- EQUALS staff finalized the tracker sheet of deficient items of the Gardez - Khost Road, Sections 2A and 2B.
- EQUALS staff conducted Final Inspections together with MECC and Ministry of Public Works (MoPW) for Sections 2A and 2B, held on November 07, 2013.
- Measurement of pavement and shoulder in correlation to as-built cross-sections in Section 2B was completed.
- Cursory check, review and comments regarding as-built cross-sections of Sections 2A and 2B was completed.
- Oversaw the hauling of reinforced concrete pipe by MECC from Camp Liz stockyard and installed for emergency road repair of culvert C-118 at Km 40+637, both sides.
- EQUALS staff monitored MECC Emergency Operation and Maintenance of the Gardez – Khost Road in Section 2.
- Oversaw and inventoried the ongoing transportation/storage of steel rebars from MECC Camp 63 and stored in Camp Liz.
- Interim Payment Certification (IPC #14) was finally reviewed with resolutions and submitted to USAID on December 21, 2013.
- Attended weekly progress coordination meetings with USAID, MECC and Tetra Tech on October 06, 20, 27 and November 26, 2013.
- Attended bi-weekly coordination meetings with USAID, MECC and Tetra Tech on December 03, 11 and 24, 2013.

The table below is a Bill of Quantity (BOQ) summary of progress through November 07, 2013:

Table 7: G-K Road Section 2 – Construction Activities Summary; Summary Progress Status, Bill of Quantities as of November 07, 2013

BOQ Ref #	Description Of Work	Location Km		Unit	Quantities Completed per Contract BOQ																Remarks
		From	To		Plan Quantity MECC Mod 04	IPC #1	IPC #2 11 Sep to 20 Oct, 2012	IPC #3 21 Oct to 30 Nov, 2012	IPC #4 01-31 Dec, 2012	IPC #5 01-31 Jan, 2013	IPC #6 01-28 Feb, 2013	IPC #7 01-31 Mar, 2013	IPC #8 01-30 Apr, 2013	IPC #9 01-31 May, 2013	IPC #10 01-30 Jun, 2013	IPC #11 01-31 Jul, 2013	IPC #12 01-31 Aug, 2013	IPC #13 01-30 Sep, 2013	IPC #14 10Oct-7Nov 2013	Completed BOQ To Date	
08-160-01	Snow Removal			day	14.00	n/a	0	0	0	0	10	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	11		
08-160-01a	Emergency Work			day	40.00	n/a	0	0	0	6	6	5	0	0	0	8	0	0	25		
08-203-01	Removal and Disposal of Existing Structure			M ³	600.00	n/a	105	15	0	34.8	51.4	158.3	82.5	109.0	0	0	0	0	556		
08-203-03	Removal and Disposal of existing PCC pavement			M ³	0	n/a												0	0		
08-204-01	Roadway Excavation			M ³	30,000.00	n/a	0	4,455	0	0	0	93.4	0	0	0	12,024.40	0	0	0	16,573	70% Design
08-204-02	River Training Soil Excavation			M ³	9,145.84	n/a	550	1,015	373	186	0	0	1,217.3	1,548.8	753.5	5,187.9	0	0	0	10,832	
08-204-03	Select Topping			M ³	2,000	n/a								172.5	0	0	0	0	173		
08-204-04	Embankment			M ³	16,000.00	n/a	4,680	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	7,172.4	0	0	0	11,867	70% Design	
08-205-01	Rock Excavation (Inclusive of blasting)			M ³	15,000.00	n/a	0	3,641	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,365.0	0	0	0	10,006	70% Design	
08-251-01	Placed Riprap (stone pitching,300mm)	50+440	56+760	M ³	2,156.55	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	16.8	34.4	195.5	205.7	228.2	76.7	422.00	1,179	13 Rock Ditches	
08-251-02	Grouted Riprap	50+765	54+200	M ³	894.38	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	41.8	10.8	88.5	2.4	0	0	259.05	403	Slope Protection	
08-253-01	Gabions and Revet Mattresses	50+150	54+200	M ³	2,335.04	n/a	0	0	0	0	75.6	144.8	112.6	98.0	0	0	470.0	790.00	1,691	Gabion Walls @ Various Locations	
08-301-01	Crushed Aggregate Base Grad Des. D, 200mm (Carriageway)			M ³	18,564.00	n/a	0	3,665	0	0	0	0	5,808.2	2,385.4	1,056.8	4,109.0	1,092.0	140.0	0	18,256	Full Width
08-301-02	Crushed Aggregate Base Grad Des. D,325mm (Shoulder)	30+000	36+000	M ³	12,657.00	n/a	0	1,035	1,073	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,765.1	2,602.1	0	6,475	Both Sides	
08-301-05	Stone Aggregate for Catch Trench, 75mm (max)			M ³	133.82	n/a												0	0		
08-400.3.1-01	50mm Asphalt Concrete Surface (Wearing Course)			M ²	100,260.00	n/a										33,883.0	60,041.6	0	93,925	Full Width	
08-400.3.2-01	75mm Asphalt Concrete (Binder Course)	54+130	54+220	M ²	92,820.00	n/a	0	12,460	5,740	0	0	0	0	20,925	30,502.5	16,166.5	3,231.0	630.00	89,655	Full Width	
08-411-01	Asphalt Prime Coat	54+130	54+220	M ²	100,260.00	n/a	0	15,260	2,940	0	0	0	0	26,245	29,785.0	14,506.0	3,530.0	630.00	92,896	Full Width	
08-412-01	Asphalt Tack Coat - Emulsified Asphalt			M ²	92,820.00	n/a										33,883.0	57,393.3	0	91,276	Full Width	
08-522-01	Plain Cement Concrete- PCC Class B (15 Mpa)	55+492	56+760	M ³	424.52	n/a	20	22	9	8	10.3	17.8	4.3	23.1	26.1	46.4	0	4.0	13.49	204	Bedding for Culvert Aprons
08-522-02	Structural Concrete- RCC Class A (25 Mpa)	50+222	56+760	M ³	1,511.12	n/a	265	135	124	67	45.2	76.6	58.4	139.0	182.7	64.3	0	7.8	73.88	1,239	12 Culvert Slabs & 24 Wingwalls
08-554-02	Reinforcing Steel- Grade 60			ton	139.47	n/a	27	15	6.1	4.6	2.3	8.35	15.01	8.58	16.93	3.17	2.28	2.50	0	112	
08-559-01	Waterproofing Membrane			M ²		n/a												0	0		
08-568-01	Sealing of Cracks by Injection			M ²	100.00	n/a												0	0		
08-568-02	Patching of Cracks by Non Shrink Grout			M ²	100.00	n/a												0	0		
08-602-01	RC Pipe, Ø 610mm			lm	0	n/a												0	0		
08-602-02	RC Pipe, Ø 1000mm			lm	0	n/a												0	0		
08-607-03	Cleaning, Reconditioning, and Repairing of existing Drainage structure			lm	200.00	n/a	0	0	0	0	125.9	0	0	0	0	0	31.0	0	157		
08-608-01	Type 2- Class 'B' Stone Masonry Lined Ditch A (trapezoidal)	56+540	56+760	lm	2,806.51	n/a	0	0	380	0	0	0	426.0	1064.00	610.0	0.0	0	0	310.00	2,790	1 Lined Ditch

BOQ Ref #	Description Of Work	Location Km		Unit	Quantities Completed per Contract BOQ																Remarks
		From	To		Plan Quantity MECC Mod 04	IPC #1	IPC #2 11 Sep to 20 Oct, 2012	IPC #3 21 Oct to 30 Nov, 2012	IPC #4 01-31 Dec, 2012	IPC #5 01-31 Jan, 2013	IPC #6 01-28 Feb, 2013	IPC #7 01-31 Mar, 2013	IPC #8 01-30 Apr, 2013	IPC #9 01-31 May, 2013	IPC #10 01-30 Jun, 2013	IPC #11 01-31 Jul, 2013	IPC #12 01-31 Aug, 2013	IPC #13 01-30 Sep, 2013	IPC #14 10Oct-7Nov 2013	Completed BOQ To Date	
08-620-01	Stone Masonry- Class "B" Retaining Wall, Guard Wall, Culvert-Inte/Outlet Structure, Causeways	50+765	53+650	M ³	4,083.93	n/a	267	515	460	83	60.0	191.2	148.2	151.4	323.2	169.9	0	19.8	753.97	3,143	5 Ret Walls
		50+500	52+639																		5 Headwalls
		50+522	55+815																		5 Catch Basins
		54+561	55+570																		9 Catch Trenches
a.)	Pre-Cast Guard Wall - Jersey Barrier	50+170	54+228	No.	1,200	n/a							345	248	15	0	294	128.00	1,030		
b.)	Pre-Cast Semi-Circle Pipe			No.	285	n/a								172	44	38	30	0	284		
c.)	Pre-Cast U Drain			No.	609	n/a											601	0	601		
d.)	Pre-Cast Slab for U Drain			No.	609	n/a											895	0	895		
e.)	Pre-Cast Box Culvert 2mx2m			No.	18	n/a							6	0	0			0	6		
f.)	Pre-Cast Slab for Stone Masonry Culvert 3mx1mx0.25m			No.	26	n/a						26	12	0	0			0	38		
g.)	Pre-Cast Guard Wall-"T" Wall				31										31	0		0	31		
h.)	Pre-Cast Pipe 1.0m Dia			No.	10	n/a											5	0	5		
i.)	Pre-Cast Pipe 1.5m Dia			No.	7	n/a											7	0	7		
a.)	Transportation of Pre-Cast Guard Wall - Jersey Barrier	Camp Casper	Camp Liz	No.	476	n/a										602		0	602		
b.)	Transportation of Pre-Cast Pipe 60cm Dia	Camp Casper	Camp Liz	No.	57	n/a										53		0	53		
c.)	Transportation of Pre-Cast Pipe 1.0m Dia	Camp Casper	Camp Liz	No.	19	n/a										23		0	23		
d.)	Transportation of Pre-Cast Pipe 1.5m Dia	Camp Casper	Camp Liz	No.	53	n/a										51		0	51		
e.)	Transportation of Pre-Cast Box Culvert 2mx2m	Camp Casper	Km 52	No.	6	n/a										6		0	6		
f.)	Transportation of Pre-Cast Slab for Culvert 3mx1mx0.25m	Camp Casper	Camp Liz	No.	32	n/a										32		0	32		
g.)	Transportation of Pre-Cast U Drain Cover Slab	Camp Casper	Camp Liz		391	n/a										1		0	1		
h.)	Transportation of Empty Container (20ft.)	Camp Casper	Camp Liz	No.	5	n/a										6		0	6		
i.)	Transportation of Semi-Circle Pipe	Camp Casper	Camp Liz	No.	n/a	n/a										30		0	30		

The EQUALS JO-05 program management performed several inspections of the road in Sections 2A and 2B during this period. The USAID contractor, MECC, completed 100% of the paving in Sections 2A and 2B this quarter. EQUALS QA engineers are tracking individual activity IDs for percentage completed and are including these for inspected work in the daily reports.

No construction or surveying activities were observed on Fridays throughout the quarter.

Construction and Emergency Road Operation and Maintenance

- USAID IP Construction Contractor MECC continued to provide EQUALS with Requests for Work Inspection, Testing, Approval, and Survey (RFWI, RFT, RFA, and RFS) for Sections 2A and 2B.
- EQUALS QA engineers completed the RFWIs, RFTs, RFAs, and RFSs for construction work performed on the road and distributed to MECC and USAID on a routine basis.
- MECC ramped up construction crews in Section 2A as weather conditions permitted. Work in this section included completion of culverts, embankment placement, grading and compaction, aggregate base course placement, and stone masonry work for lined drains. In addition, the defective binder course was replaced and the wearing course was completed in this section.
- MECC continued to perform construction operations in Section 2B. This work included stone masonry for retaining and guard walls, concrete box culvert construction with culvert aprons and wing walls, lined ditch construction, slope protection, binder course and wearing course placement. Extensive roadway embankment restoration due to flood damage took place on the roadway from Km 54+166 to 54+200, which included retaining wall and guard wall reconstruction.
- MECC is providing adequate security perimeters in work areas for the ongoing construction, inspection, equipment and personnel.
- MECC started the Emergency Operations and Maintenance (snow removal, emergency work and road maintenance) from Km 27 to 30, Km 36 to 50 and Km 57 to 65 of the Gardez - Khost Road in November of this quarter.
- Implementation of JO-05 Modification 4 was approved by USAID on November 27, 2013, for extension of the additional personnel LoE and support services for the enhanced QA monitoring contract, to December 31, 2013.

Security

- MECC security provider Nakheel Risk Management Company (NRMC) reported no pending issues and provides routine overview updates of current security and APPF status in the areas of work.
- Security threats have been decreasing in the Zadran valley due to the normal seasonal migration of insurgents back to Pakistan. EQUALS security provider SRRM tracked intelligence reports and local input along with current events in this area.

Progress achieved is 82% for the entire road of which Section 2 Phase III is 100% complete for the currently contracted 13 Km section.

Substantial completion date will be determined upon USAID selection of the final Section 2 Phase IV construction IP.

The photos below illustrate construction work on Section 2 of the Gardez-Khost Road during this quarter:



Image 09: Paving of asphalt binder course from Km 54+120 to 54+220 L/S.
N:33°21'15.59", E:69°29'13.49" 01Oct13



Image 10: Placing of stones in the gabion baskets for outlet protection of culvert C-158 at Km 51+786 L/S.
N:33°22'13.19", E:69°28'25.79" 04Oct13



Image 11: A view looking northwesterly of the retaining wall foundation under reconstruction at Km 54+180 due to flood damage in August.
N:33°21'17.04", E:69°29'11.38" 06Oct13



Image 12: A view looking southeasterly on the left side stationing of the roadway embankment and excavated area for the retaining wall foundation.
N:33°21'17.04", E:69°29'11.38" 06Oct13



Image 13: Sprinkling of water on stone masonry of trapezoidal lined ditch from Km 56+660 to 56+680 R/S.
N:33°21'3.43", E:69°30'13.69" 06Oct13



Image 14: Paving of asphalt wearing course from Km 54+120 to 54+220 B/S.
N:33°21'16.97", E:69°29'10.22" 07Oct13



Image 15: A view looking easterly at the inlet of the completed causeway at the Wadi confluence into the river at Km 52.

N:33°22'5.09", E:69°28'28.79" 12Oct13



Image 16: Mortar cube compressive strength test for stone masonry of lined ditch from Km 56+540 to 56+560 R/S.

N:33°19' 8.11", E:69°32'36.57" 10Oct13



Image 17: FDT of CAB material for shoulder 2nd layer at Km 56+740 L/S.

N:33°21'4.55", E:69°30'17.98" 10Oct13



Image 18: Mortar cube casting for compressive strength test for stone masonry work of retaining wall at Km 54+166 to 54+200 L/S.

N:33°21'16.96", E:69°29'12.53" 22Oct13



Image 19: Backfilling of retaining wall from Km 54+166 to 54+200 L/S.

N:33°21'17.04", E:69°29'11.38" 22Oct13



Image 20: Stone masonry work for slope protection from Km 50+ 765 to 56+795 L/S.

N:33°22'33.72", E:69°28'1.61" 24Oct13



Image 21: Mortar cube casting for compressive strength test of stone masonry for lined ditch from Km 56+760 to 56+783 L/S.
N:33°21'5.03", E:69°30'21.52"; 02Nov13



Image 22: Paktya MoPW Director speaks before ribbon cutting.
N:33°25'18.30", E:69°22'40.46" 07Nov13



Image 23: Paktya MoPW Director speaks before ribbon cutting.
N:33°25'18.30", E:69°22'40.46" 07Nov13



Image 24: Representative of Khost Governor's Office speaks to media.
N:33°20'56.73", E:69°29'47.39", 07Nov13



Image 25: Khost Province MoPW Director speaks to media.
N:33°20'56.75", E:69°30'21.52" 07Nov13



Image 26: All parties checking the retaining wall and slope protection at Km 54+200.
N:33°21'16.58", E:69°29'11.92" 07Nov13



Image 27: MECC giving information on grouting of rock ditches.
 N:33°22'35.32", E:69°27'59.82", 07Nov13



Image 28 : Grading for road maintenance from Km 36+400 to 36+600 full width.
 N:33°24'29.12", E:69°24'29.12" 20Nov13



Image 29: Compaction along the road surface from Km 36+400 to 36+600 full width.
 N:33°24'40.24", E:69°22'35.37" 20Nov13



Image 30: JO-05 staff listening while the Program Manager speaks on the road project.
 N:33°22'5.78", E:69°24'55.99"; 21Nov13



Image 31: Stone masonry work adjacent to culvert #131 at Km 44+468 R/S of Bypass Road.
 N:33°22'0.44", E:69°25'8.45" 30Nov13



Image 32: Compaction along the road surface from Km 47+300 to 47+450 B/S.
 N:33°21'49.35", E:69°26'50.86" 03Dec13



Image 33: As-built survey for the road cross-section from Km 52+500 to 55+000 B/S.
N:33°20'57.68", E:69°29'20.41" 3Dec13



Image 34: Transfer of RCP from Camp Liz to site for temporary culvert at Km 40+637.
N:33°22'4.10", E:69°25'3.82" 22Dec13



Image 35: Installation of RCP for temporary culvert at Km 40+637.
N:33°22'54.40", E:69°23'89.70" 22Dec13



Image 36: Diversion of flood from the road from Km 41+050 to 41+100 L/S.
N:33°22'41.41", E:69°23'17.72" 26Dec13



Image 37: Snow removal for improved traffic flow from Km 45+500 to 49+000 B/S.
N:33°22'5.21", E:69°25'27.37" 30Dec13



Image 38: Snow removal for improved traffic flow from Km 35+000 to 44+000 B/S.
N:33° 23' 28.68" E:69 22' 53.30" 31Dec13

Table 8: Key Performance Indicators for Gardez-Khost Road Rehabilitation, Section 2

Key Performance Indicators for 2013	Task Owner	Quarterly Required Deliverables ⁴				Quarterly Actual Deliverables				Annual Required Deliverables	Annual Completed Deliverables
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
Number of inspection reports completed by the EQUALS Road QA team	USAID	168	168	168	168	176	182	184	154 ⁵	672	696

1.2.1 B Salient Issues

- BOQ items are tracked once completed and a summary of field and materials testing is detailed in the EQUALS daily report.
- Ongoing rock and shale materials sliding from the hillsides of the entire Section 2 road are continuing to cause problems with the local traffic flow.
- Roadway maintenance work to keep the entire Section 2 of the roadway passable will be performed by MECC as required and monitored by EQUALS QA engineers. This contract started on November 16, 2013.
- The fallen span of Bridge 9, currently in place under the panel bridge erected by the U.S. military forces, will become a maintenance problem for the river/wadi channel and westerly bank at flood stage. The concrete mass will create hydraulic turbulence and erode the bank supporting the westerly panel bridge bearing.
- Ongoing and recent security and potential kidnap threats continue to be an issue for the EQUALS QA engineers providing daily inspection missions using local vehicles and drivers. Daily inspection missions continued despite these threats. Some delays have occurred due to ongoing attacks from Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and ambushes.
- IED incidents continued to be a threat throughout this reporting period along the Gardez - Khost Road. SRRM Mobile Security Teams (MSTs) are rolling out with Protective Sweep Teams prior to escorting EQUALS personnel into danger areas. The Sweep Teams are occasionally employing decoy Armored Vehicles (AVs) for these mission convoys in addition to the AVs for the inspection client's convoy.

1.2.1 C Future Activities

- Implementation of Job Order 05 Modification 5, approved by USAID on December 29, 2013, for extension of the additional personnel LoE and support services for the enhanced QA monitoring contract to April 17, 2014.
- MECC completed construction activities on 13 Km of Section 2 on November 07, 2013 and is attempting to complete punch list items during the winter season.
- Continuation of the training plan for the QA engineers and other additional technical staff as required and proposed, particularly during the winter months that will have limited road construction activities.
- Security enhancements are being planned for Camp Liz to facilitate transition into Phase IV construction oversight posture.
- The fallen concrete span of Bridge 9 should be broken up with pneumatic impact-hammers to facilitate its removal from under the temporary panel bridge.

⁴ Based on calculation of 56 reports/month (1 each for Sections 2A and 2B), considering Fridays and local holidays.

⁵ Q4 actual deliverables are lower than required due to consolidation of reporting into one Emergency O&M daily reports, as opposed to the previous 2/day. This is due mainly to the winter season.

- At the conclusion of the construction season, maintenance activities for drainage facilities are critical during the winter months to keep the pipes and/or culverts clear of sediment buildup. This preventive maintenance will prolong the design life and serviceability of the facilities.

1.2.2 Camp Liz Operation and Maintenance (EQUALS JO 05)

1.2.2 A Accomplishments and Status

The team accomplished the following:

- Operations and maintenance of Camp Liz, including security services, are ongoing with no major issues. Daily checks on equipment and services such as maintenance of vehicles, Information Technology (IT) networking, water distribution system, and other activities including landscaping are continuing per the daily operations and maintenance checklist already in place.
- On October 19, 2013 Camp Liz staff and COP Wilderness personnel performed a medical evacuation via the U.S. military helicopter of the JO-05 expat Camp Manager due to a sudden health issue. The Camp Manager is now in the U.S. undergoing rehabilitation treatment and will not be returning to Camp Liz.
- Camp Liz and EQUALS personnel held one camp-wide all hands staff meeting this period.
- The Camp Liz Risk Management Company SRRM continued to perform MST and camp security operational training and drills.
- JO-05/Camp Liz current operational vehicle assets: Nine (9) Toyota Land Cruisers (hard-shell), three (3) Toyota Hilux Pick-up (hard-shell), four (4) Toyota Nissan Patrol (soft-shell), and two (2) Nissan Pickups (soft-shell) were available/ready for project support.
- On October 03, 2013 Camp Liz IT staff established a new ISP Dish Antenna/3.0 – Comtech modem. Camp Liz internet connection is finally up with the required bandwidth 2Mbps down/2Mbps up.
- On November 14, 2013 Camp Liz O&M staff facilitated installation of a leased 550KVA generator as an interim replacement for the 500KVA generator being refurbished in Kabul.
- On December 21, 2013 Camp Liz staff performed a medical evacuation via ground transportation for a member of the SRRM staff. The individual was transported to a hospital in Khost for examination and returned to Camp Liz prior to movement to Kabul where he was treated at the ISAF Hospital and released for bed rest in the SRRM HQ compound in Kabul. More detailed information is available in the Serious Incident Report (SIR-1068) for this event.
- On December 21, 2013 o/a 1900 hours local time, Camp Liz staff responded to a fire in the Admin Office on Level 1 of the camp. The fire was found to be initiated by an electrical failure from a defective power strip. No personnel were injured in the fire as it occurred after duty hours. Rehabilitation of the office space is underway. More detailed information is available in the Serious Incident Report (SIR-1067) for this event.

1.2.2 B Salient Issues and Concerns

- Recent military intelligence reports indicate the continued infiltration of INS foreign fighters into the Zadran valley into areas immediately south of Combat Outpost (COP) Wilderness. These intelligence reports continue to be received and acknowledged. Additional security measures at Camp Liz have been enacted.
- Additional security bunkers for the Helicopter Landing Zone and near the east gate need to be implemented as provided in the camp-wide security enhancement plan.

1.2.2 C Future Activities

- Continue routine Camp Liz O&M and security activities as well as monitoring the MECC road seasonal maintenance work.
- Continue preparation and improvements of security and camp facilities to support operations for the upcoming Phase IV construction season with the arrival of additional technical, security, and operations personnel.
- Construct additional security bunkers, Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) camp perimeter monitoring system, improvements to the Tactical Operations Center (TOC) and associated camp security enhancements.
- Continue the coordination with USAID Office of Acquisition and Assistance (OAA) personnel to transfer required equipment from other USAID programs that are demobilizing to reduce new purchases.

JO-05 Camp Liz photos of activity for this quarter include:



Image 39: JO-05/Camp Liz – Established a new (ISP) dish antenna.
N:33°22'14.3", E:69°24'19.0" 04Oct13



Image 40: JO-05/Camp Liz transferred the damaged armored vehicle to Kabul.
N:33°22'14.3", E:69°24'19.0" 09Oct13



Image 41: JO-05/Camp Liz hard-shell vehicle maintenance services.
N:33°22'14.3", E:69°24'19.0" 25Oct13



Image 42: Camp Liz O&M staff assisting with installation of leased 550KVA generator.
N:33°22'14.3", E:69°24'19.0" 14Nov13



Image 43: Security enhancements installed for parking area of hard-shell vehicles on Level 1.
N:33°22'14.3", E:69°24'19.0" 14Nov13



Image 44: Security enhancements installed for Entry Control Point (ECP) 1.
N:33°22'14.3", E:69°24'19.0" 14Nov13



Image 45: Exterior of containerized units before rehabilitation to accommodate new TOC adjacent to clinic on Level 1.
N:33°22'14.3", E:69°24'19.0" 14Nov13

1.2.3 Quality Assurance – Salang Corridor Repair and Maintenance (R&M)

1.2.3 A Accomplishments and Status

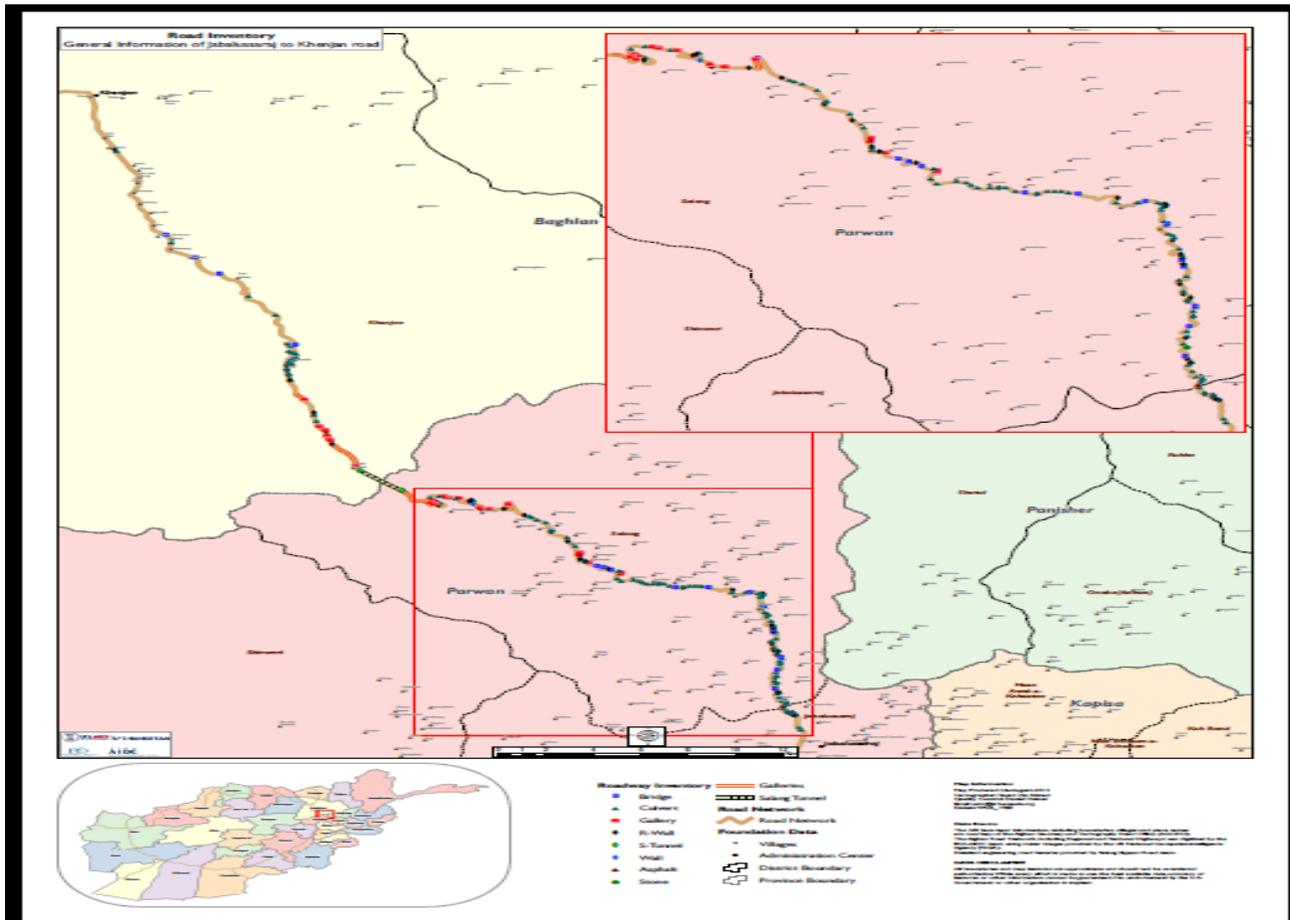
A pre-work inspection for this new R&M component took place September 01 – 03, 2013. October 29, 2013 was the last day of construction activity due to weather conditions. Winter maintenance, including snow removal and emergency repair, continue to take place.

EQUALS Road QA engineers conducted 28 site inspections and provided 28 daily reports in this quarter.

Table 9: Ongoing USAID-funded Salang Corridor Repair and Maintenance, 4th Quarter 2013

Road Type	Type of Work	Road Name	Length	Status	Province
National Highway	Rehabilitation	Salang Corridor	85 Km	Ongoing	Parwan - Baghlan

Map 2: Ongoing USAID-funded Salang Corridor Repair and Maintenance monitored by EQUALS engineers.



R&M progress on the Salang Corridor is as follows:

Table 10: Salang Corridor R&M Progress Status, 4th Quarter 2013

Road Name	Work Completed (%)	Work Monitored (%)	Length (Km)	Status
Salang Corridor R&M project	20	20	85	Stopped due to cold weather and winter season break

Salang Corridor R&M Project: Salang Corridor R&M project is 85 Km in length. It begins at Km 00+000 and ends at Km 85+000. EQUALS JO-04 is responsible for providing QA services for the 85 Km. The following activities were ongoing this quarter:

- Cutting and removal of part of the damaged asphalt for repairing.
- CAB repairing and compaction in Dushakh area, Km 57.
- Stone masonry work for road side retaining walls.
- Placing of G-15 Plain Cement Concrete (PCC) for topping of head walls.

- Mortar cube and G-15 PCC concrete cylinder sampling and testing in Omran Holding Group (OHG) laboratory.
- Asphalt prime coat application on CAB in Dushakh area.
- Asphalt binder course placement and compaction in Dushakh area.
- Asphalt wearing course placement and compaction in Dushakh area.
- Monitoring the road for any emergency work (if needed) from Jabal Seraj to Khinjan area.
- Per USAID request, monitoring the road condition on the north side of the Salang Tunnel. The road was in acceptable condition. The MoPW was making repairs on the north side of the Salang Tunnel.

Table 11: Key Performance Indicators for 85 Km Salang R&M Project

Key Performance Indicators for 4 th quarter 2013	Task Owner	Quarterly Required Deliverables	Quarterly Actual Deliverables	Salang R&M Required Deliverables	Salang R&M Completed Deliverables
Number of inspection reports completed by EQUALS Road QA engineer	USAID	6	34 ⁶	6	34

1.2.3 B Salient Issues and Concerns

None

1.2.3 C Future Activities

In addition to routine activities, the team plans to accomplish the following next period:

- OHG is continuing maintenance activities on the 85 Km Salang Corridor R&M Project.
- EQUALS and OHG engineers will be performing joint inspections of the maintenance activities.



Image 46: Cutting part of the damaged asphalt for repair from Km 58+920 to 58+980, C/L.
N:35°24'25.40", E:68°59'52.36" 01Oct13



Image 47: Stone masonry work for retaining wall from Km 14+262 to 14+275, L/S.
N:35°13'58.13" E:69°11'55.60" 01Oct13

⁶ Due to cold weather, the maintenance work has stopped and the actual deliverables are 34, which include 28 site visits and 6 bi-weekly reports.



Image 48: G-15 PCC concrete for topping of retaining wall from Km 14+360 to 14+372 L/S.
N:35°13' 58.16", E:69°12'0.38" 05Oct13



Image 49: Paving of asphalt binder and asphalt wearing courses from Km 57+785 to 57+900 L/S.
N:35°24'30.70", E:68°59'45.01" 26Oct13



Image 50: MoPW filled all the potholes w/soil. The road condition is good from Km 46+000 to 60+000, B/S.
N:35°24'2.18", E:68°59'35.09" 23Dec13



Image 51: No need for emergency work; the road was open to traffic from Km 00+000 to 85+000, B/S.
N:35°19'22.12", E:68°1'32.98" 31Dec13

1.3 Power Quality Assurance

1.3.1 Accomplishments

Kandahar-Helmand Power Project

CLIN 1 Kandahar Power Distribution System

1.1 Kandahar Breshna Kot Substation (KDBK)

- On September 27, 2013, the Kandahar Breshna Kot Substation (KDBK) was fully energized and reached substantial completion.
- On October 03, 2013, Black & Veatch (B&V) filed for substantial completion inspection. USAID directed EQUALS to engage in the inspection. A preliminary substantial completion inspection was conducted on October 09, 2013. There were 46 items on the EQUALS punch list.
- On October 14, 2013, EQUALS, DABS and B&V representatives performed a substantial completion inspection for the remaining 5 open punch list items.
- On October 23, 2013, EQUALS was invited to witness the turnover of tools and spare relays (SEL 421 and 451) stored at Amtex Village.

- On October 24, 2013, EQUALS witnessed the turnover of spare parts of electrical equipment from B&V/AEPC to DABS Breshna Kot substation.
- On November 24, 2013 EQUALS performed the Final Inspection with B&V and DABS. The report was submitted to USAID on November 30, 2013.
- EQUALS continued supporting DABS in the operation of the BK substation, including the verification of spare parts requirements.

1.2 Refurbish Kandahar City Medium Voltage (MV) Distribution System

- On September 26, 2013, B&V filed for a notice of substantial completion of this sub-CLIN. Given that this contract subcomponent did not involve construction performed by the Contractor, B&V requested that the inspection requirement be waived. On September 30, 2013, USAID put aside the inspection requirement as requested. However, prior to issuance of a certificate of substantial completion, USAID required the following documentation:
 1. Documentation of DABS receipt of Tables 1, 2, and 3 materials / equipment.
 2. Confirmation that the tracker reporting for Task II (a) work is at least 90% up-to-date.
 3. Updated Single Line Diagrams (SLDs) showing final installation (or disposition, if still not installed by DABS) of all Table 1 equipment. It is understood that SLDs reflecting Table 2 material are still in progress.
 4. Confirmation that Task VI (training) is complete, with video recordings and training records available for review.
 5. Attached Substantial Completion Punch list updated to reflect status of deliverables for all tasks and sub-tasks. Also, for Task II (a) on the Punch list, to include a narrative on how the quantity of 420 work sites was derived.
- On October 27, 2013, EQUALS received all required documentation from B&V and EQUALS performed a QA review on the completeness of submitted documentation. The report was submitted to USAID on December 11, 2013.

CLIN 1.5 Kandahar Breshna Kot Generation (KDEG)

- The 7 MTUs installed at BK are only operated when power from Kajaki is not available.
- On December 01, 02 & 03, 2013 EQUALS conducted the first observations in regard to the failure of MTU generator no 5. A preliminary report was submitted to USAID.
- EQUALS also witnessed DABS personnel dismantling the failed MTU engine #5 on December 14, 2013 and submitted a report to USAID.
- EQUALS continued supporting DABS and monitoring on the operation of the BK generation.

CLIN 2 Installation and Commissioning of Durai Junction Substation

- On September 21, 2013, EQUALS submitted the final inspection report with 3 items still to be completed by B&V. On October 22, 2013, these 3 remaining items were completed by B&V and USAID was notified.
- On October 23, 2013, EQUALS was invited to witness the turnover of tools and spare relays (SEL 421 and 451) for DABS DJCN substation held at Amtex Village.
- EQUALS no longer has a permanent presence at this site as B&V demobilized on October 31, 2013.
- On November 18, 2013, EQUALS conducted a site visit and discovered operational issues on two 110kV circuit breakers. A report was submitted to USAID for their information and to request direction regarding the matter.
- EQUALS continued to monitor DABS in the operation of the DJCN substation remotely from BK substation.

CLIN 2 Sub-CLIN 2 Procure equipment for additional substations

- On October 21, 2013, B&V uploaded the Material Inspection Receiving Reports (MIRR) for the transformers, circuit breakers, and switchgear to ibackup. EQUALS reviewed the Factory Acceptance Testing (FAT) records and found these to be complete and correct.
- EQUALS reviewed the design of the 20kV switchgear to be installed at Durai Junction, and found it to be adequate. In addition, EQUALS reported to USAID on December 3, 2013 that the control panel for the switchgear had not been delivered.

CLIN 3 Regional Camp and Program Management

- The dedicated area inside Amtex Village used as a laydown yard for KHPP equipment was emptied and closed during this reporting period.

CLIN 4 Shorandam Industrial Park (SIPD) Diesel Power Plant

- On October 05, 2013, B&V filed for final inspection of CLIN SIPD 4, addressing Modification 10 with USAID.
- On November 06, 2013, B&V informed USAID that the protection relay had been installed and tested and requested from USAID CLIN 4 Post Mod 10 final inspection, previously requested to be complete.
- On November 07, 2013, USAID notified EQUALS to conduct the final inspection and EQUALS conducted this on November 10, 2013.

Kajaki Sub-CLIN 6.2, Sub-CLIN 6.3 and CLIN 5 Kajaki Camp Improvement – Low Voltage Electrical Upgrade

- On October 07, 2013, Black & Veatch (B&V) filed a request for CLIN 6 Sub-CLIN 3 substantial completion inspection with USAID.
- On October 08, 2013, USAID notified EQUALS to conduct the substantial completion inspection on October 13 - 15, 2013. EQUALS submitted the completion report to USAID on October 18, 2013.
- On October 28, 2013, B&V filed a request for a final inspection and acceptance of Sub-CLIN 6.2 Repair GFE, Provide Missing and Additional Equipment with USAID. EQUALS conducted the final inspection on October 30 - November 01, 2013 and submitted a final inspection report to USAID on November 05, 2013.
- EQUALS participated in the Kajaki Unit 2 conference with USAID, B&V, GFA, and DABS in Dubai from December 11 - 15, 2013. The workshop addressed the turnover of the project and the GFE from B&V to DABS and GFA, the new contractor for the installation of Unit 2 in Kajaki.

Other

- EQUALS team continues to be engaged in inspections, and material handover verifications. B&V has not yet submitted “As-Built” drawings for EQUALS’ review.
- Bagh-e-Pul and “Big” SIP diesel power plants were handed over to DABS Kandahar on December 30, 2013. The three operators of the KDEG MTU power plant were shifted to Bagh-e-Pul and the other three operators were sent to SIP. Four other operators traveled to Iran for diesel plant operations training sponsored by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

DABS Embed – Procurement Advisor Activities

The Government Contract/Procurement Specialist conducted the following activities this quarter:

- Reviewed DABS Procurement’s filing system with the Procurement staff and identified shortcomings. A checklist of how to file documents was developed.

- Two staff members of DABS were trained in how to carry out evaluations of consultancy services preparation of price comparison sheets for evaluation purposes.
- On October 27, 2013, the Procurement Specialist attended an interview for hiring a Procurement Adviser under World Bank funded projects.
- On November 12, 2013 a meeting with the World Bank and DABS Chief Operational Officer (COO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) was held; the issue of recruiting a Procurement Specialist through the World Bank was discussed.
- The Electrical Engineer (PIU Director) commenced work with EQUALS on November 18, 2013.
- On December 30 - 31, 2013 the Procurement Specialist supported the DABS Project Implementation Unit (PIU) Manager in preparing standard procurement plans.

Kajaki Dam Hydropower Plant

- On October 02, 2013, an internal joint meeting of DABS and USAID was conducted to prepare for negotiations for the project “Selection of Consultant for Construction Management – At Risk for the Installation of Turbine Generator Unit 2 at Kajaki Dam Hydropower Plant” (RFP ID No: DABS-92-ICB-010).
- On October 03 and 09, 2013 negotiation meetings with DABS, USAID, and the selected consultant were held. As the consulting firm’s cost was high, the negotiation committee member advised the consulting firm to revisit their proposal and resubmit. Their revised proposal was reviewed and negotiated on October 12, 2013.
- On October 21, 2013 an internal meeting of USAID and DABS was conducted and the draft contract document was reviewed and finalized.
- On October 29 - 30, 2013 a package of evaluation and other documents was prepared with the support of USAID and finalized for Special Procurement Commission (SPC) approval. It was sent to the SPC on November 26, 2013 after a meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) Minister Zakhilwal.
- On November 06, 2013 the negotiation meeting with the proposed consulting firm was finalized in the presence of USAID.
- On November 09, 2013 the Procurement Specialist reviewed the presentation and talking points for a meeting on the same day with the Minister of Finance, Mr. Zakhilwal, on the Kajaki Dam Hydropower Plant Unit 2.
- On November 10, 2013 a meeting with DABS and USAID was held to discuss the text of the letter to be sent to the SPC regarding the Kajaki Project RFP.
- On November 11, 2013 the evaluation report was revised to be sent to the SPC and USAID for approval.
- On November 24 - 25, 2013 the Procurement Specialist, together with the DABS CFO, finalized the package of documents. After finalization, the package was sent to the Control Department of the Ministry of Finance. On November 26, 2013, the package of documents was sent to the SPC for approval. On November 27, 2013 the package was prepared to be sent to USAID for information.
- On November 30, 2013 the Procurement Specialist supported the DABS CFO in preparing and sending a request to support an International Conference to be held in Dubai December 11 - 15, 2013. The focus of the conference was technical information transfer and handover of project design documents.
- On December 01, 2013 the Procurement Specialist sent the request to EQUALS to be sent to USAID. On December 10, 2013 two staff members of DABS and one EQUALS engineer embedded in DABS departed for Dubai to attend the International Conference.
- On December 02, 2013 the Procurement Specialist representing DABS together with David Roebuck of USAID attended a meeting with the SPC. In this meeting, the SPC reviewed the package of documents for contract award approval. The SPC approved award of the contract to GFA Consulting Ltd (GFA).

- On December 08, 2013 the Procurement Specialist attended a meeting for preparation of contract signing with GFA and USAID.
- On December 09, 2013 the Procurement Specialist provided support and information on the contract to the DABS Commercial Department to be shared with media during the contract signing ceremony. The contract was signed between DABS and GFA. The Deputies to the Ministry of Finance and Energy and Water and USAID representatives also attended.

Commercialization Part 1 and Part 2

- On October 22, 2013 the Procurement Specialist provided support to the evaluation committee with the financial proposal for project 012 “Construction Management Consultant”.
- On October 27, 2013 price comparison sheets for the financial evaluation of “Commercialization Program Part 2 for Generation and Transmission” (DABS-91-ICB-038) were prepared together with DABS staff and sent to USAID for review.
- On October 05 - 07, 2013 negotiation meetings with DABS, USAID, and the consulting firm were conducted for the USAID-funded project “Corporate Management Support” (RFP ID No: DABS-91-ICB-039). The negotiation was successfully finalized and further actions for the award of the contract are in progress.
- On November 04 - 05, 2013, support was provided to DABS staff in preparing a package of evaluation and other documents for SPC and USAID approval of the “Commercialization Program Part 2 for Generation and Transmission” (DABS/91/ICB/038).
- On December 07, 2013 the Procurement Specialist supported the DABS CFO in preparing and sending an evaluation package for “Corporate Management Support” (RFP ID No: DABS-91-ICB-039) to the SPC for contract award approval. The evaluation package was submitted on the same day.
- On December 28 - 29, 2013 the Procurement Specialist supported the DABS Procurement Manager and the evaluation committee in a financial evaluation of “Commercialization Program Part 2 for Generation and Transmission” (DABS-91-ICB-038).

Power Transmission Expansion and Connectivity (PTEC)

- On October 20, 2013, the Procurement Specialist joined the evaluation committee for project 004 “Design Supply and Installation of 220kv Transmission Line”, funded by USAID to provide support and advice for carrying out the evaluation. The evaluation was finalized and a package of documents was sent to USAID and the SPC for approval of award on December 01, 2013.
- On October 22, 2013 the Procurement Specialist provided support to the evaluation committee with the financial proposal for project 012 “Construction Management Consultant”.
- On October 28, 2013, comparison sheets of prices for project 012 “Construction Management Consultant” were prepared together with DABS staff and sent to USAID for review.
- On November 02, 2013 the Procurement Specialist supported the financial evaluation committee members in conducting the financial evaluation for project number 012 “Construction Management Consultant”.
- On November 03, 2013 the Procurement Specialist supported Mr. Gene Lin of USAID and DABS staff in finalization of the package of documents for USAID and SPC approval of the “Design, Supply and Installation of Arghandi - Ghazni 220 KV Transmission Project”.
- On November 04 - 05, 2013, support was provided to DABS staff in preparation of an evaluation package and other documents for SPC and USAID approval of project 012 “Construction Management Consultant”.
- On November 10, 2013 the Procurement Specialist supported DABS staff in preparing the final package of the evaluation report for project number 04 “Design, Supply and Installation of Arghandi - Ghazni 220 KV Transmission Project”. It was sent to the award authority for approval.

- On November 17, 2013 the Procurement Specialist supported DABS staff in conducting the negotiation meeting with the consulting firm for project number 012 “Construction Management Consultant”.
- On November 23, 2013 the Procurement Specialist supported the financial evaluation committee members for project number 012 “Construction Management Consultant” to finalize the financial evaluation.
- On November 26, 2013 the Procurement Specialist attended the negotiation of project number 012 “Construction Management Consultant” and supported DABS staff.
- On December 10 - 11, 2013 the Procurement Specialist supported DABS procurement staff in preparing a package of documents for the project “Design, Supply and Installation of Arghandi - Ghazni 220 Kv Transmission Line and Two Substations Lot - 1 and Lot – 2” which will be sent to the SPC for contract award approval.

Darunta Hydroelectric Rehabilitation Project to 11.55 MW

Darunta Hydroelectric Power Plant (DHPP) 11.55 MW Restoration Project – Jalalabad, Afghanistan

Training and Technical Support

- EQUALS Electrical Engineer continued monitoring the O&M activities of Darunta throughout the period and provided technical support. He focused on Unit 1 as this unit is facing permanent problems including severe leakage through the wattle seal, excessive vibration, and shaft run-out.
- The average power generation of the plant in the reporting period was approximately 7.5 MW. However, the plant experienced declined water inflow and another with the Unit 1 governor electrical panel (electrical wiring destroyed by mice), which was verified by the EQUALS Electrical Engineer.
- On November 02, 2013 the EQUALS team completed the “Hydropower Plant Maintenance Training Course” for Group 1 of Darunta O&M crews, which was based on plant maintenance. The team also completed 11 out of 20 days of training for Group 2 by the end of December 2013, including a site visit to the Mahipar Hydropower Plant.
- Darunta O&M crews are applying the standard maintenance practices they learned during the three O&M training packages. Observed improvement include the following:
 - o Operation of the units using the standard procedures and guidelines provided during the operation training.
 - o Data recording and record keeping improved and are performed per newly developed log sheets.
 - o The crews have started practicing the inspection of bearing and hydraulic oil quality periodically.
 - o Any assembly or dismantling of the equipment is carried out with a proper planning, using appropriate tools and with standard procedures provided during the maintenance training.
 - o The crews are using appropriate tags/labels in areas where work is in progress, especially in the high voltage areas.
 - o The greasy and oily areas around the equipment or on the floor are cleaned regularly. They are now well maintained to a higher safety standard. Signs of oil or grease on the floor no longer exist.
 - o The crews are now using personal protective equipment (PPE) during maintenance, which was not in practice before they received training.
- The team printed and laminated all of the schematic diagrams associated with the various auxiliary systems of Darunta both in English and Pashto, which were developed during operation training; they also prepared important safety signs in a larger size. These will be displayed inside the plant at their respective locations for ease of reference for the O&M crews and visitors.
- The team completed the verification and inventory for the Darunta spare parts, equipment and O&M training related logistics (originally received from ANHAM) stored at the Darunta site. This process commenced November 15, 2013 and was conducted in the presence of two DABS

representative as part of the USAID formal property transfer. Some of these items are still in use in the ongoing training and will be physically handed over to the Darunta plant as soon as the training is completed on January 15, 2014.

- EQUALS Mechanical Engineer and Power Team Lead attended the Technical Knowledge Transfer Conference in Dubai, December 11 - 14, 2013. The conference was organized by USAID to ensure a smooth transition from the former (B&V) to the new Contractor (GFA) for Kajaki Unit 2.

Observed Maintenance Issues

- Unit 2 remained stopped for 11 days total, whereas Unit 3 remained stopped for approximately 30 hours in October, 34 hours in November and 14 hours in the month of December 2013. The cause of the stoppage was declined water inflow.
- Unit 1 stopped due to a short circuit. Investigation revealed that the electrical wiring of the governor panel was destroyed by mice; the unit remained under breakdown for 10 days.
- The Unit 1 wicket gate cable was damaged and the unit stopped for approximately seven hours for maintenance.
- The old back up battery bank was replaced with a new battery set. All wiring connections, testing and commissioning for the newly replaced backup battery bank were completed.
- The Unit 1 wattle seal was replaced when it went under shutdown due to short circuit occurrence. The Unit 1 wicket gate bushings were also repaired due to severe leakage.
- A severe leakage detected from the Unit 2 radiator was repaired.
- Unit 1 was brought to a complete stoppage due to poor water quality for over 12 hours in order to prevent the water lubricated Thordan bearing from severe wearing.

Table 12: Key Performance Indicators for the Power Quality Assurance Team

Key Performance Indicators for 2013	Task Owner	Quarterly Required Deliverables				Quarterly Actual Deliverables				Annual Required Deliverables ⁷	Annual Completed Deliverables
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
Kandahar Helmand Power Project	USAID										
Component 1 Kandahar Power Distribution System											
Number of quarterly inspections completed by engineers		58	58	80	81	135	125	162	192	277	614

⁷ Required deliverables for CLIN 4, Component 5, and Component 6, and Ad-hoc reports are not included as they were not originally specified by USAID. Work on these project components is completed based on the needs and requests of USAID.

Number of engineering technical reviews of design packages		DoS ⁸	DoS	DoS	DoS	5	1	0	0	DoS	6
Component 2 Durai Junction Substation											
Number of quarterly inspections completed by engineers		66	66	80	27	81	88	92	48	239	309
Number of engineering technical reviews of design packages		DoS	DoS	DoS	DoS	0	0	0	0	DoS	0
CLIN 4 Shorandam Industrial Park Diesel Power Plant											
Number of quarterly inspections completed by engineers		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	7	8	7	4	N/A	26
Number of engineering technical reviews of design packages		DoS	DoS	DoS	DoS	0	0	0	0	DoS	0
Component 5 Kajaki Substation	PROJECT COMPONENT TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED FROM IP										
Number of quarterly inspections completed by engineers		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	2	0	0	N/A	3
Component 6 Kajaki Hydro	QA WORKS TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED FROM EQUALS (July 29, 2012)										
Number of quarterly inspections completed by engineers		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	2	18	8	N/A	29
Ad-hoc Reports											
Number of additional reports completed		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	18	14	5	7	N/A	44

⁸ DoS – Dependent on Submittal

Darunta	USAID	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
Number of daily inspections to Darunta Plant by engineer		66	60	72	60	52	66	72	66	258	256
Number of days of O&M Darunta training.		22	35	20	21	22	35	8 ⁹	24	98	89
Number of engineering technical reviews and/or design packages		12	12	4	4	0	0	0	0	32	0 ¹⁰

1.3.2 Salient Issues and Concerns

Kandahar Helmand Power Project

EQUALS conducting site visits to DJCN substation entails significant procedural planning due to limited presence of personnel on the ground and security issues along the road leading to the substation, including access.

Kajaki Dam Hydropower Plant – DABS Embed

As the contract for phase one of the Kajaki Hydropower Plant Unit 2 Turbine Installation is a time-based contract, it requires close monitoring and administration by the client (DABS) to ensure the assignment is progressing satisfactorily and the payments claimed by the consultant are appropriate. EQUALS will provide advice to assist DABS in meeting the schedule in management and delivery of the contract.

Darunta Hydroelectric Power Plant 11.55 MW Restoration Project – Jalalabad, Afghanistan

- The inventory protocol for the property transfer from USAID to DABS (Darunta) is still pending. The inventory protocol was sent to the Chief Operating Officer of DABS together with a complete set of signed copies of the inventory list for formal signing. As Engineer Shekeeb Nessar asked for a price list of the inventoried items, EQUALS QA collected the complete file with the price list and will coordinate the formal handing over process on January 02, 2014 as planned and agreed by the USAID COR for Darunta.
- Unit 1 operates 24 hours/day, although it has been facing several operational and technical problems such as frequent damages to wattle seal, turbine shaft excessive run-out and vibration, and damaged water lubrication bearing. The main reason for such problems is its poor water filtration system that allows 80 µm particles to pass while the bearing is designed for 40 µm particles only. This is causing damage to the bearing sleeve and turbine shaft journal.

⁹ Actual deliverables are lower than required due to USAID requests for the EQUALS Sr. Mechanical Engineer to conduct a condition assessment and participate in an inventory assessment of GFE for Kajaki Unit 2 with the EQUALS KHPP team based in Kandahar. These visits caused a delay in delivery of the training program, which is currently scheduled to complete mid-January.

¹⁰ The engineering technical reviews are zero due to termination of the Implementing Partner, Anham, and subcontractor, AIP. QA and NDABS are implementing the Preventive Maintenance Plan to maintain the power plant until a follow-on contract is awarded.

1.3.3 Future Activities

Kandahar Helmand Power Project

- EQUALS to continue reviewing documentation to be submitted by B&V and await further instructions from USAID on the QA monitoring works for Kajaki Unit 2.

Kajaki Dam Hydropower Plant – DABS Embed

- Continue to support the negotiation committee of DABS for “Commercialization Program Part 2 for Generation and Transmission” (DABS-91-ICB-038) and “Selection of Construction Management Consultant the Power Transmission, Expansion and Connectivity (PTEC)” (DABS-92-ICB-012) to finalize negotiations and award the contracts.
- Support the DABS Procurement Department and the PIU to enter the procurement plans in the Procurement Plan Management System.
- Support DABS staff in finalizing the evaluations and negotiations of all other USAID-funded projects.
- Support the DABS Procurement and Finance Departments in releasing GFA invoices.

Darunta Hydroelectric Power Plant 11.55 MW Restoration Project – Jalalabad, Afghanistan

- Delivery and completion of the third package of the O&M training course for the Darunta O&M crews Group II, focusing on maintenance of the plant and equipment.
- Continuing to monitor the daily O&M activities of the plant and provide technical support as required.
- Formal handover of USAID property to Darunta (DABS).
- Preparation and distribution of certificates to Darunta trainees.
- Generating a final report comprising all of the three packages of training and accomplishments.

The photographs below illustrate developments on KHPP during the course of this reporting period:

CLIN 1 Subcomponent 1: Rebuild Breshna Kot Substation



Image 52: 20MVA power transformers; 03Oct13



Image 53: Trimming trees to attain transmission line clearance; 03Oct13



Image 54: USAID visit; 14Oct13



Image 55: Old guardhouse at BK has been demolished; 06Nov13



Image 56: Total load on MTUs (3,658 kW); 12Nov13



Image 57: Emissions testing on an MTU unit; 24Nov13

CLIN 2 Subcomponent 1: Rebuild Durai Junction Substation



Photo 58: Misaligned plunger with trip trigger inside the mechanism housing of the CB E03.3Q0; 18Nov13



Photo 59: E03.2Q0 CB in OFF position. The gas pressure level was at the recommended level; 18Nov13



Photo 60: Misaligned anti-pumping lever with trip trigger; 18Nov13



Photo 61: No fuse was installed; it only had a string of wire; 18Nov13



Photo 62: Main camp 150 KVA transformer without a proper foundation; 18Nov13



Photo 63: Overhead distribution lines to supply the man camp; 18Nov13

The photos below illustrate tasks on Darunta:



Image 64: Trainers explaining the damage occurring on the turbine runner; 24Oct13.



Image 65: Trainees observing ongoing repair of bottom ring at Mahipar HPP; 02Nov13.



Image 66: Parts stored at Darunta site inventoried; 21Nov13.



Image 67: Parts stored at Darunta site inventoried from Darunta substation; 22Nov13.



Image 68: Darunta backup battery bank replacement with a new battery set; 01Dec13.



Image 69: Darunta Unit 1 bearing maintenance ongoing; 05Dec13.



Image 70: Darunta Unit 1 wicket gate bushing maintenance in progress; 08Dec13.



Image 71: Trainers explaining the mechanical maintenance in Group 2 training; 22Dec13.



Image 72: Group 2 trainees attending maintenance training; 25Dec13.

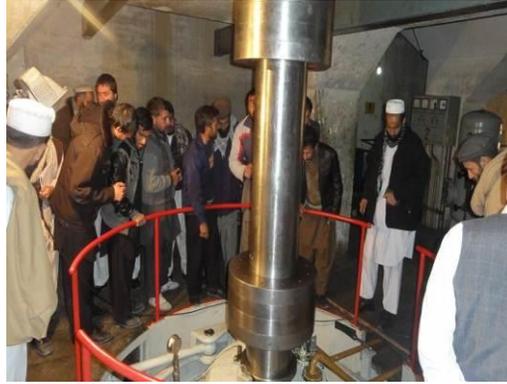


Image 73: Group 2 trainees visiting Mahipar HPP; 31Dec13.

1.4 Material Testing Laboratory

1.4.1 Accomplishments and Status

The Material Testing Lab Team conducted the following activities this quarter:

Gardez-Khost Road Samples

Received Samples

- Received 25 samples of soil, aggregate, sand, Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) binder course, asphalt cores, and bitumen materials from the Gardez - Khost Road, taken by EQUALS field engineers in the months of October, November, and December, 2013.
- 21 samples received in the 3rd quarter were tested in the 4th quarter.
- 11 samples received during December 2013 are pending as the Laboratory was re-located within the IRD EQUALS compound, due to the closing of a villa.

Tests Completed

- Completed the following tests for 35 samples:

Soil Samples Test

- The following tests were completed on 18 base course materials samples:
 - Natural Moisture Content (NMC) test by oven dry methods - AASHTO T 255
 - Sieve Analysis - AASHTO T 11/T 27
 - Maximum Dry Density (MDD) - AASHTO T 180
 - California Bearing Ratio (CBR) - AASHTO T 193
 - Liquid Limit (LL) - AASHTO T 98 and T 90
 - Plastic Limit (PL) - AASHTO T 98 and T 90
 - Plasticity Index (PI) - AASHTO T 98 and T 90
 - Fractured Face (FF) - ASTM D 5821
 - Los Angeles (LA) - AASHTO T 96
 - Classification of Soil - AASHTO M 145
 - Analysis - AASHTO T 11 and T 27

The test results were satisfactory for all 18 soil samples.

Sand Test

- The following tests were completed for 07 sand samples:
 - Sieve Analysis - AASHTO T 11/T 27
 - Clay Content by washed method - AASHTO T 11/T 27

Satisfactory test results were obtained for gradation of 06 sand samples; 01 sample failed.

HMA Binder Course Samples Test

- The following tests were performed and completed on 5 HMA binder course samples:
 - Marshall Stability - AASHTO T 245
 - Marshall Flow - AASHTO T 245
 - Voids in Mineral Aggregates (VMA) - AASHTO T 245
 - Voids Filled with Asphalt (VFA) - AASHTO T 245
 - Air Voids - AASHTO T 245
 - Asphalt Content - AASHTO T 164
 - Maximum Theoretical Specific Gravity (Gmm) - AASHTO T 209
 - Bitumen Contents - AASHTO T 308
 - Sieve Analysis - AASHTO T 11 and T 27

Unsatisfactory test results were obtained for 01 HMA binder course sample.

Confirmation Check on In-Place Density of Asphalt Binder Course by Core Method

- The following tests were completed on 04 core samples:
 - Density g/cc - AASHTO T 230 Method B
 - Compaction % - AASHTO T 230 Method B

Satisfactory test results were obtained for all core samples.

Bitumen Samples Test

- The following tests were completed on 01 bitumen samples:
 - Penetration AASHTO T 49
 - Flash & Fire Point AASHTO T 48
 - Softening Point AASHTO T 53
 - Ductility AASHTO T 51

Satisfactory test results were obtained for all bitumen samples.

- EQUALS lab technician monitored the test data for the Salang Tunnel samples at OHG sub-contractor laboratory.
- Reports of all tests completed were prepared and submitted to the JO-05 Program Manager.

Table 13: Key Performance Indicators for Materials Testing Laboratory

Key Performance Indicators for 2013	Task Owner	Quarterly Required Deliverables				Quarterly Actual Deliverables				Annual Required Deliverables	Annual Completed Deliverables
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
Number of material tests conducted	USAID	69	69	138	138	130	415	667	144	414	1356 ¹¹

1.4.2 Salient Issues and Concerns

None

1.4.3 Future Activities

As a result of decreased material testing support required for the Road sector (work scope within JO-04, as well as JO-05), all Material Testing Laboratory activities have been temporarily suspended, and laboratory equipment and supplies have been placed in storage. Reassembly of the Laboratory will take place as soon as sufficient demand requires it.

The photos below show Salang Tunnel concrete cylinder and mortar cube samples strength tested at OHG laboratory witnessed by EQUALS Lab Technician.



Image 74: Concrete cylinder strength test at OHG Lab, 28Oct13



Image 75: Mortar cube strength test at OHG Lab, 28Oct13

¹¹ The level of activity is dependent upon the quality of the IP's construction contractor. The total number of required deliverables was exceeded due to quality verification required in support of the GK road.

Table 14: Performance Indicator Summary for PROGRAM UPDATE – TECHNICAL SERVICES

Performance Indicator	Indicator Definition & Unit of Measurement	Baseline	4th Qtr. (Oct, Nov, Dec 2013)
Number of projects receiving QA/QC monitoring	Number of projects monitored by EQUALS engineers (project)		
Vertical Structures			10
Roads (JO-04)			1
Roads (JO-05)			1
Power			4
TOTAL			16
Number of inspection reports produced for all projects	Number of inspection reports submitted by EQUALS engineers for each project including monitoring, observation, and documentation of findings (inspection report)		
Vertical Structures			138
Roads (JO-04)			34
Roads (JO-05)			154
Power			318
TOTAL			644
Number of ad-hoc QA/QC reports	Number of additional reports completed per request of USAID (reports)		
Vertical Structures			5
Roads (JO-04)			0
Roads (JO-05)			6
Power			7
TOTAL			18
Percentage of satisfactory test results where QA testing results were validated	Materials tested by materials testing laboratory receiving satisfactory results (percentage)		95%
Number of QC tests conducted by IP and observed by EQUALS staff	Number of QC tests conducted by IP and observed by EQUALS staff to verify results (QC tests)		556
Percentage of Environmental compliance checks where appropriate mitigation measures are in place	Projects checked by QA engineers for environmental compliance receiving satisfactory results (percentage)		
Vertical Structures			90%
Roads (JO-04)			100%
Roads (JO-05)			85%
Power			N/A
TOTAL			92%

2 TECHNICAL – MINISTRY LIAISON & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

2.1 Ministry of Energy and Water

2.1.1 Accomplishments and Status

In addition to routine activities, the Water Supply and Sanitation Team (WSST) accomplished the following this quarter:

Task No. 1. Capacity Building, Technical, Policy and Logistical Support

1.1 Facilitate periodic (weekly or bi-weekly) meetings of the Technical Secretariat of the Supreme Council on Water (TSSCoW)

- The WSST continued providing support to the TSSCoW. During the October and December 2013 TSSCoW meetings, secretariat members in attendance focused on finalization of the Transboundary Water Policy document. The TSSCoW has concurred and accepted approximately 75% of the Dari version of the Transboundary Water Policy text. All three scheduled meetings for November 2013 were canceled by Deputy Minister (DM) Ziaie due to his busy schedule and additional responsibilities as an Acting Minister.
- The TSSCoW also endorsed the Capacity Building Policy and Strategy Framework and the 3rd National Water Conference Declaration and Action Plan in its December 2013 meetings.
- In 2013, a total of 26 TSSCoW meetings were scheduled, while 21 meetings were conducted.

1.2 Facilitate periodic (monthly or bi-monthly) meetings of joint TSSCoW and the International Water Sector Donor Community

- This activity has been taken over by USAID since June 2013. The first meeting that was organized by USAID took place on July 25, 2013 at the USAID compound. During this meeting, it was decided the Donor Coordination Meetings will take place on bi-monthly basis.
- The WSST participated in the bi-monthly meeting of the International Water Sector Donor Community organized by USAID. This was held on December 9, 2013.
- In order to better understand the activities of the donors on water related programs in Afghanistan, DM Ziaie requested a presentation to be organized for the water line ministries' senior management level. This request was made early in August. This request was passed on to USAID and USAID is planning for a presentation to be conducted in February 2014.

1.3 Executive and senior level technical and advisory support to Minister, Deputy Minister and Directors

- Continued holding meetings with DM Ziaie, DM Sami and the new Minister Mohammed Aref Noorzai on staffing status, WSST activities, China/Turkey observation study tour progress, graduation ceremony arrangements at Kabul University for student and Ministry participants at the workshop on dam design, construction, and operation and maintenance, WSST technical and engineering support, capacity building issues, dam design, construction and contractual issues relating to the Ministry's current and planned water projects.
- At the request of the MoEW, WSST participated in a four-hour video conference on the "Fourth Riparian Information Sharing and Consultation Meeting" relating to the Rogun Hydropower Project on October 20, 2013. The video conference was chaired by the World Bank (WB) office in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

1.4 Assist and mentor MoEW staff in establishing a digital library to include conversion of hardcopies to softcopies and make available to the public through a website

- A request has been sent to MoEW to introduce two of their employees to be trained on operation and maintenance of the digital library, and scanning and uploading of scanned documents.
- 40% of the digitized documents have been uploaded onto the digital library. The complete digital library will contain 24.93 GB of documents.
- The Water website is ready to be presented to the MoEW for their review and launch. Examples of documents included in the digital library include:
 - o Seismic Hazard Analysis Report on Shah-wa-Arus Dam
 - o River Basin Survey Report Final (Dari)
 - o Hydropower Projects and Dams (Monthly Progress Reports)
 - o Bakhshabad - Farahrud Multi-Purpose Project
 - o Monthly Progress Reports of Gambiri Dam
 - o Monthly Progress Reports of Pashdan Dam
 - o Monthly Progress Reports of Almar Dam
 - o Monthly Progress Reports of Shahtoot Dam
 - o Monthly Progress Reports of Farahrud Dam
 - o Monthly Progress Reports of Shah-wa-Arus Dam

Uploading of the digitized documents to the digital library was initiated in November 2013 and has reached 40% completion by December 2013.

1.5 Establish a digital library for the available documents at the WSST library at the MoEW and develop a website

- The Water website is ready for review and launch by the MoEW. 40% of documents have been uploaded to the digital library. All procurement for the digital library and website is complete.
- Software design activities for the digital library commenced in the 1st quarter of 2013 and were completed in the 4th quarter of 2013. The Water website project was initiated in the 1st quarter of 2013 and achieved 100% completion by December 2013.

1.6 Development of a sustainability plan for the MoEW including the digital library maintenance and all functions for which EQUALS is providing support

- The WSST asked the MoEW to identify two staff members to be trained in the operation and maintenance of the digital library and website. A sustainability plan will be ready by April 16, 2014.

Task No. 2. Capacity Building Program Activities and Accomplishments

Task 2 activities under the approved work plan continued to progress on schedule. The following activities and accomplishments took place:

2.1 Finalize the River Basins Capacity Building Participatory Assessment Survey, design and commence implementation of a capacity building plan for one river basin.

- This task was completed on September 30, 2013. DM Ziaie requested that the river basins' survey report be translated into Dari and disseminated to the relevant departments at the MoEW. As concurred by USAID, the River Basins Capacity Building Survey Report was disseminated to the relevant MoEW directorates and departments including the MoEW's Water and Administration Department, Water Management Directorate and Human Resource Directorate.

2.2 Conduct and complete a mentoring program for the MoEW's Human Resources Directorate/Capacity Building Department, and the MoEW Vocational Training Center

- After the eight working sessions conducted in September 2013, MoEW's Capacity Building Department reviewed the capacity building guidelines.
- MoEW's Director of Human Resources, Mr. Faiz, was briefed on the progress achieved with the MoEW Capacity Building Department staff with regard to the development of the CB guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures document. He reviewed the draft document and provided written feedback on November 27, 2013. He stated that the document would operationalize the Human Resources Strategy document that MoEW had developed with the Civil Service Reform Commission. The HR Strategy document (Dari version) prepared by the Civil Service Reform Commission's consultant was translated into English and a set of recommendations were provided to the HR Director for comments.



Image 76: Mentoring session for MoEW's CB Department
17Nov13

- Five working mentoring sessions were conducted in November 2013 to review the ten-step CB Standard Operating Procedures with the CB Department staff. The focus of these working sessions was to review the annual needs assessment.
- As part of the mentoring program for the MoEW Capacity Building Department staff, a pilot CB program was initiated at the request of the HR Director to implement the proposed CB Guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures. The pilot program was positively received as the Deputy Minister for Administration, who asked the HR Director to continue supporting this program. The CB staff members conducted four needs assessment interviews with the four HR Directorate Units' Managers by using the proposed CB Guidelines and forms. The team analyzed the data collected and identified seven programs. Based on the HR Directorate needs, MoEW goals and available resources, a two-hour CB program was selected by the team. A series of consultations with the MoEW CB staff continued to finalize the pilot training course materials utilizing the SOP related forms.
- Continued coordinating with the MoEW HR Director on a variety of capacity building issues including CB documents, the pilot workshop and other relevant mentoring programs.
- The MoEW's CB Department will conduct a pilot training workshop entitled: "Principles of Public Administration". The WSSST conducted and monitored a "dry-run" workshop on December 23, 2013 in order to provide feedback and recommendations for the CB Department staff.
- Mentored and supported a three-hour pilot training workshop on December 24, 2013 that was organized and conducted by the MoEW CB team. The training was based on the proposed CB

guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures document. This was the first workshop independently conducted by the MoEW CB team utilizing its own resources. Ten participants (6 male; 4 female) from the Human Resources Directorate attended the workshop.

- The pilot workshop was positively received by the CB Department staff, who stated they were happy to have learned how to implement processes following the needs assessment, as they had previously relied on donors to do this work for them in the past.



Image 77: Pilot CB program developed by the MoEW CB Department utilizing the “Proposed CB Guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures” 24Dec13



Image 78: Ms. Rahila Seddiqi, MoEW CB Manager, presenting at the pilot workshop developed by the MoEW CB Department 24Dec13

- The CB Guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures, updated with the HR Director’s input and pilot program implementation, will be a Task 2.2 deliverable for USAID, per the Work Plan. The Dari version of the document will be presented to the Deputy Minister for Administration for further endorsement and implementation.

2.3 Prepare capacity building development plan for the Kabul River Basin Agency (KRBA)

- As part of the effort to assess the capacity building function at the Kabul River Basin Agency and its fourteen sub-agencies, the WSSST conducted a two-phased random sample survey during March - April and September - November, respectively. The total number of the samples was 121, targeting upper and middle management in those entities. The response rate was 75%.
 - o Multiple coordination meetings were held with the Kabul River Basin Agency management. Two meetings were conducted with the Kabul River Basin Agency Director on October 06 and October 22, 2013.
- The progress on the Kabul River Basin Capacity Building Plan development was discussed with the Head of the Kabul River Basin, Engineer Maroof. Two working sessions were scheduled to be held for the sub-agency directors on November 25, 2013 and December 02, 2013. However, conflicting schedules led to postponement of the working sessions to December 2013 and January 2014.
- The Kabul River Basin Council has not yet been established. The focus of the MoEW is to create the water users association in the basin as a step prior to the establishment of the council. This has an impact on the development of the River Basin Agency CB plan, as by law, it should implement the plans of and receive guidance from the River Basin Council.
- As part of ongoing activities to develop the capacity building plan for the Kabul River Basin Agency and its sub-agencies, a 4-hour focus group session took place with the following three sub-agency directors: Ghazni Sub-river Basin Director, Mr. Ghafor Hedayat, Mid-Kabul River Basin Director, and Upper Panjsher River Basin Director, Mr. Ghulam Rabani. The purpose of this focus group is to

discuss the CB situation and the capabilities in those three sub-agencies. Furthermore, the outcome of the session will help in validating the results of the survey.

- One of the challenges that the Kabul River Basin Agency faces is that the River Basin Council has not been established yet. The current focus of MEW is to create the water users association in the basin as a step prior to the establishment of the council. This will limit the focus of the Agency CB Plan as it is supposed to function per the guidance and plans developed by the River Basin Council.
- As part of the participatory approach in developing the CB plan, a one-day workshop for the Kabul River Basin directors was conducted at MEW on December 11th. 14 sub-agency director and the General Director of Water Management Directorate Mr. Sultan Mahmood and Kabul River Agency General Director participated in the workshop. Subjects discussed during the workshop included:
 - Status of the KRBA CB Planning process
 - Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) vs. River Basin Management
 - Kabul River Basin Stakeholders Matrix
 - Kabul Agency Capacity Building Strategy Framework
 - Sub-river basin agency fact sheets
 - The results of the KRBA's Capacity Building Survey



Image 79: The one-day workshop for Kabul River Basin Agency and sub-agency directors and MoEW Water Management Directorate; 11Dec13.



Image 80: Mr. Sultan Mahmoodi, General Director of Water Management providing feedback during the one-day workshop; 11Dec13.

- The next workshop to finalize the Kabul Basin Agency CB Plan will be held in the first week of February 2014.
- Mr. Maroof, Kabul River Basin Agency, appointed Miss Mari as the CB Plan Coordinator. The WSST shared with her all of the workshop and CB plan materials and discussed finalizing the Kabul River Basin Agency's Capacity Building stakeholders' matrix.

2.4 Infrastructure Project Management

- Three Oracle Master Agreement/License agreements were signed by the MoEW's Project Management Unit Director and Project Managers.
- The development of a Standard Operating Procedures manual for the project management unit of the MoEW continues. The manual's outline was initiated in December 2013 and content materials will be developed in the next quarter.

2.5 Assist the MoEW in their development of a technical proposal submitted to the World Bank funded program – Capacity Building for Results (CBR)

- The Capacity Building for Results agreement package signed between the MoEW and the Civil Service Reform Commission was translated from Dari into English. Following the translation, it was discovered that the MoEW had not yet received the third tier rating. The Civil Service Reform Commission has been holding internal discussions to formalize its final decision. Two meetings with the MoEW's CBR committee members confirmed this conclusion. Therefore, no technical proposals can be developed until that decision is made.
- Per the request of USAID, the Capacity Building for Results agreement, signed between the MoEW and the Independent Administrative Reform and Civil Service Commission (IARCSC) on September 22, 2013, was sent to Dr. Gul Afghan Saleh on October 30, 2013.
- The Senior CB Advisor, Mr. Ghaleb Akari, assisted the MoEW in clarifying the process and expectations of CBR. Multiple coordination meetings were held with the MoEW CBR committee. During the November 27, 2013 meeting with Mr. Wali Fail, the MoEW HR Director and CBR Committee Coordinator informed the Senior CB Advisor that the Civil Service Commission had not sent the official designation of the Tier 3 to the MoEW. The Deputy Minister of Administration was briefed on the Ministry's progress on CBR, and informed that the MoEW had not been officially approved for either Tier 2 or 3 as shown in published documents by the Ministry of Finance. Therefore, the Senior Capacity Building Advisor indicated that it is apparent that there has not been any official decisions made thus far in this regard and there is a need to contact the Civil Service Commission to expedite the process of approving MoEW as a Tier 3 or Tier 2 ministry. Mr. Akhter Hafiz, MoEW's CBR committee coordinator, joined the meeting and the DM updated him on this development. They both assured WSST that they would follow up on this issue with the Civil Service Commission senior management.
- Since the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) is approved as a CBR Tier 3 recipient, the Senior Capacity Building Advisor held a meeting with MAIL's CBR team to discuss and share their lessons learned on the CBR program. They provided some of their CBR documents. Those were reviewed to learn how the MoEW could benefit from them once they are approved as a Tier 3 recipient. Mr. Fareed Aryan, Workforce Management Specialist, HR Directorate, MAIL emphasized that similar to MAIL, MoEW should prepare a full CBR technical proposal once it is approved by the Civil Service Commission. Then, a TOR will be developed for each position that will be supported by the CBR program. He shared with the WSST two sections of MAIL's proposal and indicated that the Civil Service Reform Commission has templates for each tier. He recommended contacting the commission to obtain those templates. MAIL took one year to prepare for the Tier 3 proposal, which has 120 pages and more than thirty annexes. Some of the annexes are more than 500 pages. MAIL has identified more than 330 positions to be funded by CBR. 60 TORs are being prepared for the first batch of those positions that will be filled within the next six months. This was communicated to the MoEW's Deputy Minister for Administration and the HR Director.
- Contacted Dr. Hashimi, Public Administration Advisor for CBRF and IARCSC in regard to CBR. He confirmed that the MoEW was still in the pre-qualification phase. He added that it was not yet clear whether the MoEW would be designated Tier 1, 2, or 3. Once it passes the pre-qualification phase and is placed in a Tier, his team will prepare a presentation for that Tier to the MoEW. The MoEW will prepare its technical proposal for the Tier to which it has been designated. He said that the proposal template requires a lot of effort because information on the Ministry's achievements, current and future plans and implementations should be provided. This is the Ministry's responsibility.

2.6 Out-of-Country Observation Study Tours (OSTs)

The status of the two OSTs to China and Turkey is as follows:

China OST – Completed

- The first OST took place October 29 - November 09, 2013 with 5 engineers from the MoEW traveling to Kunming, China to participate in the 3rd International Symposium on Rockfill Dams. The engineers were accompanied by the WSSST Team Lead.
- Following the October 28, 2013 pre-departure orientation, the six participants departed for China on October 29, 2013 and arrived safely in Kunming on October 30, 2013. They attended the conference pre-registration session on October 31, 2013.



Image 81: During the OST pre-departure meeting on October 28, 2013, Mr. Wais-ur-Rahman conducted a dry-run presentation for his MoEW's delegates' paper to be presented in China on November 03, 2013; 28Oct13



Image 82: Mr. Ghaleb Akari, Senior Capacity Building Advisor, presented to the MoEW OST delegates a summary of conference activities, logistics, financial arrangements, stakeholders' compact and other issues during the pre-departure orientation meeting; 28Oct13

- The six delegates attended the conference and presented their paper on November 03, 2013. They then departed for the Yichang region to conduct a four-day technical site visit to the three dam construction sites. They returned to Kabul on November 09, 2013.
- A series of individual debriefings were conducted for the six delegates. Post-OST evaluation forms were completed by the participants.
- A presentation is being prepared by the OST participants to be delivered to their MoEW colleagues highlighting the lessons learned. New technologies in dam construction will be shared.



Image 83: Mr. Wais-ur-Rahman delivering the team's paper at the conference; 03Nov13



Image 84: The Three Gorges project model briefing; 05Nov13



Image 85: The China OST delegates at the Three Gorges Dam; 05Nov13



Image 86: Conference participants at the Three Gorges Dam; 05Nov13

Turkey OST – Planning Phase

- In collaboration with the Turkish Water Institute, preparation for the second one-week OST to Turkey planned for March 2 - 9, 2014 was initiated in October. This OST targets senior MoEW river basin officials and management to benefit from the Turkish experience in river basin management. A detailed draft schedule and budget were designed.
- The DM approved the activity, and then nominated the following candidates:

No.	Name	Title
1	Abdul Maroof Maseer	General Director, Kabul River Basin
2	Mohammad Halim Halim	Director of Water Rights, Water Resources Management General Directorate
3	Mohammad Akhter Hafiz	Director, Water Policy Directorate
4	Esmatullah Esmat	Director, Northern River Basin
5	Ghulamriza Mohamad Haidar	Director, Panj Amu River Basin
6	Sher Mohammad Atayee	Director, Arghandab Sub River Basin

2.7 Facilitate development of Afghanistan's Water Sector Capacity Building Policy and Strategy Framework:

- A significant milestone in the endorsement of the Water Sector Capacity Building Policy and Strategy Framework was achieved during the two-hour meeting on December 09, 2013. The Technical Secretariat Capacity Building Group representing the Ministry of Energy and Water, Ministry of

Agriculture, Irrigation and Forestry, Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Urban Development, National Environmental Protection Agency, Ministry of Higher Education, Afghanistan Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Corporation, and Kabul Municipality signed a memo addressed to DM Ziaie approving and recommending the Technical Secretariat to endorse the two documents.

- Prior to the signing ceremony of the Technical Secretariat Capacity Building Working Group Meeting on December 09, 2013, the CB Policy and the CB Strategy Framework were reviewed and updated in the Dari version and translated into Dari. Mr. Akhter Hafiz, the MoEW Policy Director, and other group members provided their feedback.



Image 87: Capacity Building Working Group meeting; 09Dec13

- These two signed CB documents were officially presented and submitted to the Technical Secretariat during its biweekly meeting on December 25, 2013. DM Ziaie stated that capacity building was very important in all areas and also thanked USAID/EQUALS. He directed Mr. Hafiz to present the final draft of the Capacity Building Policy and Strategy Framework documents to Minister Arif Noorzai. DM Ziaie expressed his contentment and added that this document is evidence of the close coordination between different ministries in the water sector.



Image 88: Engineer Akhter Hafiz presenting the endorsed water sector capacity building documents during the Technical Secretariat Meeting; 25Dec13

- The two deliverables under Task 2.7: Water Sector Capacity Building Policy (Dari and English) and Water Sector Capacity Building Strategy Framework (Dari and English) were submitted to USAID on December 25, 2013.

Task No. 3. Transboundary Water Capacity Building and Policy Support

- The Transboundary Water Policy document (Dari version) was reviewed by the Technical Secretariat at a meeting on October 23, 2013. 75% of the policy draft was reviewed and approved by TS members. The document was updated and circulated to the members for further review of the remaining 25%. During the two meetings in December 2013, TS members also discussed the Transboundary Water Policy.
- Mr. Glen Hearn will return to Kabul during the last week of January 2014 for a period of approximately one month to serve as WSST Advisor on Transboundary Water and to move the Transboundary Water Policy forward.

Task No. 4. Engineering and Technical Support, Quality Assurance, and Capacity Building

- The WSST continued to provide technical advice and mentoring to MoEW engineers on quality control and quality assurance of the design and construction of the five major dam projects (Pashdan, Shah-wa-Arus, Machalghoo, Almar and Kamal Khan). WSST advised the MoEW engineers on invoice reviews, design reviews, project control, project schedule reviews and management of construction contracts. The WSST participated in meetings with the MoEW Minister, Deputy Minister, PMs, MoEW advisors and the contractors. Additionally, site visits were conducted to Pashdan, Shah-wa-Arus and Almar Dams.
- Shah-wa-Arus Dam was visited on November 09, 2013, December 04, 2013 and December 14, 2013. Pashdan Dam was visited on December 07 - 09, 2013 and the Almar Dam was visited on December 20 - 23 2013. More specifically, the support services for this period included the following:

4.1. Review technical documents related to the 5 major dams currently under design and construction by the MoEW

- The following documents were reviewed and memos were prepared and sent to the MoEW project management team, capturing deficiencies and remedial suggestions:

Table 15: Shah-wa-Arus Dam Technical Document Review Summary

No.	Document Reviewed	Purpose	Findings	Recommendations
1	Shah-wa-Arus Dam: Contractor's report "Consolidation Grouting of Dam Foundations and Quantity Variations" dated August 2013	The Contractor requested approval of increased consolidation grouting quantities vide this report; the MoEW asked EQUALS to assess their request.	The BOQ is based on a consolidation grout holes grid in 6 x 6 m square pattern. The Contractor reduced the spacing to 3 x 3 m to achieve low rock permeability. As a result, the total length of grout holes increased from 16500 to 22500 m, a 40% increase in quantity for this payment item. Observations were conveyed to MoEW vide a memo dated November 06, 2013.	EQUALS opined that the Contractor should have sought MoEW's permission for reducing the hole spacing and must justify their unilateral decision.

2	Shah-wa-Arus Dam: Contractor's report, "Report on Modifying Grout Curtain" dated October 2013	In the original curtain grouting plan, the grouting holes were depicted as 80 m deep. The Contractor has recently carried out test grouting of a few grout curtain holes and based on these trials, and has proposed reduction in curtain grout depth to 30 - 40 m.	On the basis of the results of test grout holes, EQUALS has assessed that the bed rock is much better than assessed earlier. Observations and recommendations were conveyed to MoEW vide a memo dated November 06, 2013	It is assessed that the required length of curtain grout holes could be 30 to 40 m, but the actual required depth of holes will depend on the grout intakes during installation of grout curtain.
3	Cracks Report submitted by the Contractor of Shah-wa-Arus Dam.	To assess the adequacy of report	The Contractors' report itself testifies that poor workmanship and quality control is responsible for the appearance of cracks. However, the Contractor insists that the cracking resulted due to high cement content.	EQUALS believes that the cracks have resulted due to poor workmanship such as poor curing, poor vibration and inappropriate contraction joint construction
4	Seismic Hazard Analysis Report	To assess that the report complies with the ICOLD ¹² and other standard criteria.	A memo was prepared for MoEW regarding assessment of this report.	EQUALS opined that the report appears to satisfy internationally accepted criteria for seismic hazard assessment of an extreme consequence dam. Since such reports are prepared by seismologists or organizations specializing in the seismic hazard assessment of major hydropower projects, EQUALS recommended that MoEW mobilize such expertise for a comprehensive assessment of the report.

¹² International Commission on Large Dams.

Table 16: Pashdan Dam Technical Document Review Summary

No.	Document Reviewed	Purpose	Findings	Recommendations
1	Design Memorandum, Hydraulic Design of Diversion and Outlet Work.	To review, assess and advise on the suitability of the proposed diversion conduit, approach channel, the intake tower, penstock and the feeder irrigation canal.	The design sub-contractor proposed an over-sized irrigation feeder channel section excavated in rock to be lined, oversized stilling basin for diversion flow and expensive stainless steel pipe for the diversion pipe.	EQUALS recommended the designer revise the cross-section of the feeder canal, use a precast conduit for the diversion conduit and propose a simple diversion stilling basin.
2	“Seismic Hazard Report” submitted by the Contractor of Pashdan Dam.	To assess that the report meets international standards	A memo has been prepared and submitted to the PM.	EQUALS opined that the report needs major revision since it does not satisfy the requirements laid out by ICOLD for seismic hazard assessment.
3	Pashdan Dam Report “Main Dam Spillway Alternates (DM-931-05-SA, REV1, 11 Oct 2013)”	Due to an almost 3-fold increase in the estimated probable maximum flood, the spillway structure will be much larger. EQUALS opined that the Contractor consider a value engineering exercise by detailed analysis of at least 2 spillway options, with and without a breach section.	The proposed design of the spillway under both options is very expensive and the project cost will increase by 100% if either of these designs is accepted. Observations and recommendations were conveyed to MoEW vide a memo dated November 06, 2013.	EQUALS opined that the Contractor may rely on the strength of rock for energy dissipation along the exit channel, thus avoiding very expensive excavations along the approximately 1.5 km long exit channel.

Table 17: Almar Dam Technical Document Review Summary

No.	Document Reviewed	Purpose	Findings	Recommendations
1	Geotechnical Investigations Report	The report was reviewed in order to better understand the site geology prior to the site visit.	The site comprises limestone, marlstone and overburden. Karstic limestone, if present in the foundation, may require substantial grouting for seepage control.	EQUALS opined that the Contractor should submit his geotechnical interpretative report immediately.
2	Seismic Hazard Analysis Report	To confirm that the report complies with the ICOLD and other standard criteria.	Memo has been submitted.	EQUALS opined that the report appears to satisfy internationally accepted criteria for seismic hazard assessment of an extreme consequence dam. Since such reports are prepared by seismologists or organizations specializing in the seismic hazard assessment of major hydropower projects, EQUALS recommended that MoEW mobilize such expertise for a comprehensive assessment of the report.

Table 18: Shahtoot Dam Technical Document Review Summary

No.	Document Reviewed	Purpose	Findings	Recommendations
1	“Seismic Hazard Analysis Report” for the Shahtoot Dam submitted by the Iranian consultants	The work belongs to MoEW’s Planning Section. This task was assigned to the advisors by DM Ziaie. The review purpose is to ensure that the consultant’s work complies with the ICOLD and other standard criteria.	The RFP for the Shahtoot Dam detailed design and the consultant’s technical proposal were also reviewed to assess the task requirements. A number of shortcomings in the report were identified. Observations and recommendations were conveyed to MoEW vide a memo dated November 24, 2013.	EQUALS opined that the consultant should update the report to satisfy internationally accepted criteria for seismic hazard assessment of an extreme consequence dam. Since such reports are prepared by seismologists or organizations specializing in the seismic hazard assessment of major hydropower projects, EQUALS recommended that MoEW mobilize such expertise for a comprehensive assessment of the report.

Table 19: Gambiri Dam Technical Document Review Summary

No.	Document Reviewed	Purpose	Findings	Recommendations
1	“Left Canal Report”, Gambiri Irrigation and Hydropower Project	To provide opinion, observations and suggestions in regard to the Gambiri project (left canal) proposed for irrigation of 6000 Ha of land.	The designer of the Gambiri project proposed three options for this canal, differing in length, proposed alignment and cross-section type. Cut/fill volumes are large, in the order of two million m ³ . Large rectangular sections in the mountain skirt of 15 m depth are designed with concrete lining.	Provided opinion and suggestions regarding the selection of the presented cross-sections and lining of sections cut in hard rock to reduce the cost of the project.
2	Diversion System Layout and Report, Gambiri Irrigation and Hydropower Project (Phase II).	The Gambiri Project is in the design phase and is managed by the MEW Planning Department. An advisory committee was created and asked to review and provide opinions and suggestions regarding this project.	The designer proposed a diversion dam with gated spillway, a settling basin, a dyke and a conveyance system to the hydropower plant. Parts of the above system are oversized and costly.	Suggested design of a flip-bucket spillway with a reduced stilling basin and rip-rap revetment on the exit channel instead of concrete lining. The designer agreed to analyze the proposed modifications.

Table 20: Bakshabad Dam Technical Document Review Summary

No.	Document Reviewed	Purpose	Findings	Recommendations
1	Draft Inception Report submitted by the project consultants, NESPAK for the Bakshabad Hydropower Project.	MoEW wants to ensure that the project consultants plan and deliver the project per their contract.	More than 25 observations and recommendations were conveyed to MoEW vide a memo dated November 05, 2013.	

4.2. Review construction and shop drawings of 5 major dams currently under construction by the MoEW

Table 21: Pashdan Dam Construction and Shop Drawing Review

Drawings Reviewed	Purpose	Findings	Recommendations
Pashdan Dam Spillway Alternatives Drawings	To confirm that the plans meet the project requirements.	The structure is over designed.	EQUALS recommended major revision of the plans.
Intake Tower and Conduit Drawings	To advise the MEW project manager that submitted construction drawings are correct and follows the feasibility study or the MEW initial approved documentation.	Parts of the project are oversized, and the designer used expensive construction materials, and some incomplete construction details.	Suggested revision of designed conduit and a stilling basin reduced.
“Escape Channel” Construction Drawings.	To confirm that the construction drawings meet the project requirements.	The construction drawings are incomplete. The longitudinal profile doesn’t present excavation volumes, the irrigation head regulator drawing doesn’t show all the sizes of the component parts.	Requested revision and completion of the construction drawings.
“Detail Design of Main Canal and Tributaries Alignments”	To review and verify the submitted construction drawings are complete, follow the project requirements, and present all necessary data for construction.	Some of the proposed cross sections are 10 m deep to provide the necessary slope for good flow.	Suggested change of the main canal alignment or drop elevation of the bottom of the canal.

Table 22: Gambiri Dam Construction and Shop Drawing Review

Drawings Reviewed	Purpose	Findings	Recommendations
Gambiri Irrigation and Hydropower Project (Phase II) Construction Drawings Revised.	To help the MEW project manager with data and information, that will help in approval of submitted documentation.	The construction drawings present a proposed large oversized settling basin with a concrete slab of 1 m thick for a maximum 4 m water depth.	Suggested revision of the settling basin and water gates for part of the settling basin.

4.3. Conduct project site inspections of the 5 major dams currently under construction by the MoEW

Pashdan Dam

- At the request of DM Ziaie, the WSST visited the Pashdan Dam December 07 - 09, 2013. The purpose of the site visit was to review Pakistan Engineering Services' (PES) proposed appurtenances, main spillway and emergency spillway. The field visit concluded that the existing valleys adjacent to the dam can be used as an emergency spillway, and would be less costly than PES' proposed servicing spillway.

Shah-wa-Arus Dam

- On November 09, 2013 the MoEW field staff and EQUALS Senior Water Resources Engineers visited the Shah-wa-Arus Dam site. Senior staff of the Contractor, M/S Tablieh-Parhoon Tarh J.V. (TPTJV), facilitated the visit and joined the members of the visiting team. The purpose of this visit was to assess the progress of the dam construction, quality control, health and safety, and to analyze issues raised by the MoEW field personnel including the newly observed cracks on the downstream face of CVC concrete. The visit included presentations by the Contractor's geologist on variation in the consolidation and curtain grouting quantities. A part of the visit also involved discussions regarding the workers and site safety. A site visit report was prepared and submitted to the MoEW and USAID during the period.
- On December 04, 2013, the WSST and MoEW Project Manager and field engineers visited the Shah-Wa-Arus Dam to observe and address issues regarding RCC quality control, concrete mix design changes, type of cement used, cracks that appeared in the dams' CVC concrete, RCC layers placement methodology, and cold weather concreting. EQUALS' observations of construction issues were discussed with the MoEW Project Manager and field engineers. Observations, conclusions and opinions of EQUALS' engineers regarding the construction work were documented and reported to the MoEW for consideration. Contractor's reports and drawings regarding the increased quantities of consolidation grouting work were also discussed.
- On December 14, 2013, MoEW engineers and EQUALS Senior Water Resources Engineers visited the Shah-wa-Arus Dam with two experts from United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) who were mobilized by the MoEW for a joint inspection of cracks in the dam body. Technical observations and recommendations on repairs of the cracks were forwarded to the DM Ziaie.

Almar Dam

- On December 20 - 23, 2013, the MoEW Project Manager and two EQUALS Senior Water Resources Engineers visited the Almar Dam. Engineer Hyatullah, Faryab Province Director of Water Resources Management also joined the visit. The teams visited and observed the cofferdam, main dam excavation, and abutments for assessment of geological and geotechnical phases, construction progress, and boring core samples to test the structural condition of the subsurface at the main dam. A site visit report was submitted to USAID.

4.4. Mentor, Train and Build Capacity of Project Management Unit within MoEW

- On October 07, 2013, the WSST conducted a one-day training for MoEW engineers on embankment dam engineering. Seven engineers (male) were trained.
- EQUALS utilized a meeting with the Pashdan Dam PM on November 16, 2013 for capacity building. The focus of the meeting was the Pashdan Dam spillway alternatives report "Main Dam Spillway Alternatives (DM-931-05-SA, REV1, 11Oct13)" and the Spillway Alternatives Drawings submitted by the Contractor. During the meeting, each of EQUALS' observations was explained to the PM and he was apprised of the technical reasoning behind the observations. The session was interactive and generated useful discussion.

- On November 12, 2013, the WSST Team Lead and Sr. Water Resources Engineer held a meeting with the MoEW Director of Design, Engineer Tamim. EQUALS proposed to involve MoEW's design team in the review of documents sent by the Project Implementation and the Project Planning sections of the MoEW to EQUALS. These documents include design reports, drawings, specifications, inception reports, etc. The WSST Advisor proposed sit-down meetings with the design group engineers and the WSST engineers in order to exchange observations and promote technological knowledge transfer.
- On November 26, 2013 EQUALS engineers participated in a meeting with MoEW Director of Design and the technical personnel of his department. EQUALS provided a brief to the 36 members of the group on the proposed training program. It was stated that EQUALS routinely reviews various technical documents for project implementation as well as the project planning departments of the MoEW. It was further stated that USAID desires that EQUALS utilize all of its activities, such as report reviews, for capacity building of the MoEW. Accordingly, EQUALS is proposing a training program in which the MoEW design engineers will review these documents independently. These engineers will present their findings per an agreed schedule to the EQUALS advisors. The EQUALS advisors will subsequently present their observations and discuss the background of their findings with MoEW engineers. It is anticipated that in an environment of technical discussions, the MoEW engineers will learn from the experience of EQUALS and technological knowledge transfer will take place. The MoEW Director of Design encouraged his staff to fully participate in this training program and gain from the experience of EQUALS' experts. He further stated that the engineers of the design group are expected to have a lean workload for the next five months due to the winter season, and that they must utilize this time to upgrade their knowledge.
- On November 26, 2013 the WSST's future capacity building activities, in particular the new initiative of involving more than 30 members of the design group in training activities, and an internship program for the Kabul University students were discussed in the biweekly progress review meeting with the USAID PM Dr. Saleh.

Shah-wa-Arus Dam

- During the Shah-wa-Arus Dam site visit on October 08, 2013 a two-hour training course on standardized report writing (Daily Report, Non-Conformance Report and Environmental Deficiency Report) was conducted for the MoEW at the project site. The critical areas of each report were explained in detail. Nine engineers (male) were trained.

4.5. Review invoices and contractual documents related to the 5 major dams currently under design and construction by MoEW

- The following invoices were reviewed:
 - o Machalghoo Dam: Invoice No.1 (revised invoice)
 - o Shah-wa-Arus Project: Invoice No.17 and Invoice No.18
 - o Kamal Khan Dam Phase II Project Invoice No. 1
 - o Machalghoo Dam Invoice No. 2 (revised invoice): Embankment and concrete volumes were discussed with the Deputy PM.
 - o Shah-wa-Arus Dam Project No.18: Invoice documentation and a contract clause regarding the project retainage were discussed with the PM and a memo was sent to him.
- Reviewed the latest schedule for the Shah-wa-Arus Dam Project submitted by the Contractor to the MoEW and sent comments to MoEW Engineers Mr. Wais-ur-Rahman and Mr. Ahmad Zoltani.
- Worked on Pashdan Dam delay issues by collecting information, reviewing tender documents and contract documents, and preparing a summary of WSST suggestions/recommendations. Prepared a draft Cure Notice and submitted to the MoEW for further transmittal to the Contractor.
- MoEW requested a list of contract clauses related to health and safety. The list was prepared and submitted to MoEW Engineer Wais-ur-Rahman.

4.6. Miscellaneous Support Activities

- Held meetings with the MoEW Director of Procurement on current capacity and training needs for Procurement Department staff.
- Developed materials for a six-day workshop on procurement procedures and best practices to be delivered in 2014.
- Worked with MoEW Project Managers and engineers on communications with contractors, contract management and administration relating to the five dams under construction.
- Prepared draft guidelines on quality assurance and reporting by field personnel. Began preparation of quality assurance guidelines for major items of dam work.
- Completed a review of the “Change of Source of Cement” issue for the Shah-wa-Arus Dam project. EQUALS recommendations were conveyed to the MoEW.
- Organized and conducted a certificate award ceremony at the Faculty of Engineering of Kabul University on October 27, 2013. This ceremony was attended by USAID representatives, Ministry of Higher Education, the Kabul University Chancellor and other university faculty and students.
- Assessed the problem of concrete freezing at the Shah-wa-Arus Dam due to the cold winter weather and communicated EQUALS’ recommendations to the PM.
- Assisted the MoEW in the drafting of a Cure Notice to be issued by the PM to the Contractor of the Shah-wa-Arus Dam Project.
- On November 16, 2013 participated in a meeting chaired by the new MoEW Minister, Mohammad Arif Noorzai. The PM and the contractors for the five under-construction dam projects also participated in the meeting. The meeting focused on the project progress, technical issues delaying the progress, and the Contractor’s response to these and other issues related to non-payment of invoices, visa procurement and land acquisition, etc. Other meetings conducted this period are as follows:

Shah-wa-Arus Dam

- EQUALS had a meeting with the Shah-wa-Arus Dam Contractor November 10, 2013. The PM chaired the meeting. The structural design engineer of TPIJV made a presentation regarding thermal analysis of the dam. The Contractor also provided an explanation for the cracks in the concrete body, assessing that the cracks are shrinkage cracks. EQUALS stated that non-destructive tests using sonic velocity techniques may be performed to determine the depth/extent of the cracks. EQUALS also suggested that the Contractor may retrieve concrete core to assess the extent of cracks and install tell-tales.
- EQUALS participated in a meeting chaired by the PM on November 11, 2013. Cement change and cold weather concreting issues were discussed with the Contractor. EQUALS expressed concern at the cold weather concreting that is being carried out by the contractor without giving due regard to low night temperatures. EQUALS opined that the Contractor should conduct an assessment of the present concreting work in light of American Concrete Institute (ACI) 306R.10, which is the latest document from ACI for cold weather concreting, and submit a report to the Ministry.
- On November 17, 2013, EQUALS participated in a meeting chaired by the MoEW DM regarding grouting issues. The PM and Contractor’s geotechnical expert also participated. The geologist made a presentation regarding the consolidation and curtain grouting. EQUALS opined that the Contractor should have proposed criteria for acceptability of grouting work and should have presented a report to the MoEW justifying increased quantities and seeking approval before proceeding with the work. The DM directed the Contractor to conduct a comprehensive assessment of grouting requirements and propose an economical but effective grouting plan for completion of this task within the allocated resources.
- On November 25, 2013, EQUALS held a meeting with the Shah-wa-Arus Dam Project PM to discuss the problems associated with the dam.

- On November 30, 2013, EQUALS participated in a meeting chaired by the MoEW DM Shujauddin Ziaie. The following problems associated with the project were discussed.
 - o Cracks in some parts of the dam
 - o Change of the cement without MoEW's approval
 - o Use of un-tested Portland Cement for the RCC and CVC cement, and
 - o Cold season concrete work
- Participated in several meetings with the PM to discuss issues regarding Invoice No.15 submitted by the Contractor. A letter with comments and suggested modifications and requests for additional information was sent to the Contractor.

Pashdan Dam

- On November 18, 2013 EQUALS held a meeting with the PM regarding the Pashdan Dam spillway alternatives report "Main Dam Spillway Alternatives (DM-931-05-SA, REV1, 11Oct13)" and the related drawings. MoEW's other advisors are of the opinion that the diversion channel should not be excavated on the left side. Instead, water should be diverted along the right side road. If the flood is diverted through the existing road opening, then the deep excavation up to 1109 m level on the left abutment will not be required and a much shorter spillway concrete structure can be constructed. They concluded that the design consultant will be asked to rely on the strength of conglomerate and sandstone rock for controlling exit channel retrogression so that the expensive excavation work is minimized.

Machalghoo Dam

- In October 2013, EQUALS participated in a meeting to discuss the Machalghoo Dam design issues. The MoEW engineers and advisers do not agree with the designer's hydrologic-hydraulic model. The proposed diversion culvert design and the proposed location of the two irrigation channels were also discussed.
- EQUALS participated in a meeting in October 2013 to discuss issues regarding the design of the Main Right Canal and the Left Main Canal that will provide irrigation water for 2800 acres of land from the Machalghoo Dam. The alignment of the canals and the high volumes of excavations were discussed.
- In November 2013, EQUALS participated in a meeting with the Deputy PM and MoEW advisers to discuss the Machalghoo Dam design issues. The design sub-contractor, PES, proposed a double barrel box culvert for the temporary diversion conduit. The alignment provided involves deep excavation, which is costly.

Almar Dam

- EQUALS participated in a meeting on December 16, 2013 with the PM of the Almar Dam project. The discussions focused on the coffer dam construction, diversion arrangements and the foundation excavation for the main dam. EQUALS expressed concern at the execution of works without approved plans.

Kamal Khan Dam

- In October, EQUALS participated in a meeting on the selection of the metal sheet piles and construction sequence for the proposed foundation of the project levees.
- Participated in a meeting with the PM to discuss Invoice No.1 submitted by the Contractor.

Shahtoot Dam

- Participated in a meeting regarding detailed design of the Shatoot Dam project. The project consultants made a presentation regarding detailed design inception. EQUALS asked the consultants to pay special attention to the presence of karstic limestone in the dam foundation and the reservoir

periphery, and to ensure that the foundation and reservoir rim are water tight. Furthermore, it was suggested that the consultants may consider a few large scale tests to evaluate the friction angle of the rockfill so that the embankment cross section is optimized.

Task No. 5 General Assistance

- The WSST served as liaison between USAID and the MoEW in coordinating meetings, facilitating the transfer of information, and requests for information.
- The WSST provided additional support to USAID on water-related issues including meetings with Ms. Lisa Swenarski on the status of the Transboundary Water Policy and organizing meetings between the DM and USAID Deputy Mission Director.
- At the request of USAID, the WSST printed books on watershed management for use by the MoEW.
- At the request of USAID, the WSST prepared a concept paper about a Regional Water Management Forum.

Other

Total number of staff trained by the WSST

In 2013, a total of 273 individuals (male - 242, female - 31) received formal training from the WSST. These individuals received training on all tasks within the WSST. The numbers are inclusive of the six MoEW delegates who attended the OST to China in November 2013.

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	2013 Annual Total
48 (44M, 4F)	58 (54M, 4F)	108 (91M, 17F)	59 (53M, 6F)	274 (242M, 31F)

2.1.2 Salient Issues and Concerns

- Completion of the National Transboundary Policy is delayed due to several cancellations of Technical Secretariat of the Supreme Council on Water meetings and the failure of other ministries to provide timely comments and input.
- The WSST is still waiting for the MoEW to identify two individuals to be trained in the operation and maintenance of the water website and digital library.

2.1.3 Future Activities

Planned activities will be conducted in the next reporting period, including:

- Conduct the Turkey OST in March 2014.
- A six-day workshop for 15 - 20 members of MoEW's Procurement Department during the first quarter of 2014.
- Continue to support MoEW management, engineers and project managers in the management of communications with contractors and administration of contractual issues for the five dams under construction.
- Continue to support the MoEW in providing necessary QA support and review of design and construction documents.
- Continue capacity building and transfer of knowledge by conducting site visits.
- Continue to facilitate the bi-weekly meetings of the TSSCoW.
- Continue to communicate the Afghan water sector developing and emerging issues with USAID.
- Prepare a sample geotechnical investigations manual. This will provide guidance to contractors through the MoEW PM and ensure uniformity of data presentation.

- Continue with the development of the Kabul River Basin Capacity Building Plan.
- Continue the capacity building mentoring program with the MoEW's Capacity Building Department and the development of the CB Standard Operating Procedures document.

3 AFGHANISTAN INFRASTRUCTURE DATA CENTER

3.1 Afghanistan Infrastructure Data Center

3.1.1 Accomplishments

In addition to routine activities, the AIDC teams accomplished the following during this period:

EQUALS AISCs Web Mapping Geographic Information System (GIS) Team

- Updated the Kandahar City KHPP AISCs-II web map on the new Amazon Server for USAID.
- Updated the Buildings Tracker AISCs-II web map on the new Amazon Server.
- Updated the Partner Liaison Security Office (PLSO) AISCs-II web map on the new Amazon Server.
- Locked down and password protected the buildings field engineer tracker on the new Amazon Server.
- Updated the Gardez - Khost Road AISCs-II web map on the new Amazon Server.
- Updated the USAID Funded Projects AISCs-II web map on the new Amazon Server.
- In the process of testing installation of the team's own Open Data Kit (ODK) Aggregate (RC2) server with Tomcat and Postgre SQL under Win7 OS.
- In the process of testing the use of ODK Briefcase to easily gather field engineers' field data from ODK database and use the data when there is a lack of internet connectivity.

EQUALS Security Team

- Prepared and printed Kabul to Almar Dam security maps.
- Prepared and printed Kandahar City and Kabul City security maps.
- Prepared and printed a Kabul - Ghazni Road map.

EQUALS Roads Team

- Coordinated printing of Salang Tunnel Feasibility Study Roadway Options brochures with USAID and the MoPW.
- Prepared and printed Afghanistan Road Projects Status Maps for USAID.
- Prepared and printed Road Sector maps for the US Embassy.

EQUALS Vertical Structures GIS Team

- 637 USAID building field reports were added to the AIDC GIS web database.
- Large GIS data-pull (9622 infrastructure records) was requested by USAID. The GIS team submitted the information to USAID in Excel format.
- Updated the USAID buildings databases for the Office of Economic Growth and Infrastructure (OEGI) team.
- At the request of OEGI, the team conducted a data pull of all completed and ongoing USAID educational and health buildings in the AIDC records.
- Prepared and printed a USAID buildings map for USAID.
- Conducted QC of 423 USAID building projects and updated them in the AIDC GIS web database.
- Updated USAID building tracker in the GIS database.

EQUALS Water and Power GIS Team

- Prepared and printed the Kajaki Dam Power House maps for USAID.
- Prepared and printed a Kabul-to-Mahipar Power Plant map.
- Prepared and printed Kabul River Basin maps of 14 provinces for the MoEW.
- Updated the Transitional Energy Investment Plan (wall and presentation maps) for USAID.
- Updated the Afghanistan Transitional Power Investment map (presentation map) for USAID OEGI.
- Updated the Afghanistan Transitional Energy Investment Plan (wall map) for USAID OEGI.
- Prepared the Indus River Basin map for the MoEW.

EQUALS National Monitoring Team (NMT)

- Field engineers are continuing inspections of USAID projects in Herat, Ghor, Farah, Uruzgan, Samangan, Kunar, Paktya, Kandahar, Zabul, Khost, Daikundi, Ghazni, Paktya, Logar, Faryab, Helmand, Badakhshan and Kunduz Provinces.
- Reviewed 1056 USAID building reports from Bamyan, Faryab, Herat, Samangan, Badakhshan, Kunar, Zabul, Kunduz, Kandahar and Nangarhar and sent them to the GIS team.
- Trained 5 Gardez - Khost and 1 KHPP field engineers in the ODK software and assigned them to different provinces for inspection of USAID projects.
- Finalized field engineers site visit plans for the months of November and December 2013.
- Since April 2013, the field team has completed 903 (66%) of the site visits.

Table 23: Key Performance Indicators for the AIDC Team

Key Performance Indicators for 2013	Benchmark	Annual Totals
Respond to all USAID-approved data queries	75% of all requests fulfilled within 24 hours; 90% of all requests fulfilled within 48 hours	Total 146 requests: 90% fulfilled within 24 hours, 100% fulfilled within 48 hours
Support EQUALS Monitoring Teams with static maps and data queries	75% of all requests fulfilled within 24 hours; 90% of all requests fulfilled within 72 hours	Total 142 requests: 100% fulfilled in 24 hours, 100% fulfilled in 72 hours
Support EQUALS Monitoring Teams with data QC	85% of locations checked and accepted or rejected within 6 days	Total 3614 locations: 100% checked in 2 days
Support EQUALS Monitoring Teams with data management	90% of new information received by AIDC added to the database/document repository within 7 days	Total 1536 documents: 100% added to database/document repository within 7 days
Implement and maintain a security incident tracking and reporting application within AISCS for the USAID Safety and Security Office	Maintain system uptime of 90%; respond to feature requests within 7 days with estimated LoE to complete	100% system uptime. Several features added within 7 days of request
Manage, maintain, and support AISCS to all USAID-approved users	Maintain system uptime of 90%; respond to feature requests within 7 days with estimated LoE to complete	100% system uptime

Number of maps produced per USAID request	96 hours to produce each map per request	Total 120 maps produced; each map produced within 96 hours of request
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3.1.2 Salient Issues and Concerns

None

3.1.3 Future Activities

Continue support in mapping, responding to data requests, and cataloguing of infrastructure assets for USAID.

4 CAPACITY BUILDING

4.1 GIRoA Capacity Development Unit

4.1.1 Accomplishments and Status

- Met with the Points of Contact (PoCs) of the GIRoA ministries regarding salient issues and updates.
- Facilitated the institutionalization of the infrastructure asset databases and GIS labs.
- Facilitated the establishment of an effective communication channel with the Office of Economic Growth and Infrastructure (OEGI) supported ministries.

The Capacity Development Unit (CDU) accomplished the following:

GIRoA IDCs

MoM/AGS:

- IDC assets were completely and officially submitted to the MoM/AGS with the assistance of the CDU and Logistics teams.
- Provided administrative support to AIDC site monitoring engineers from the Ministry of Economy (MoEc) and the Independent Local Governance Office.
- Commenced the “Training-of-Trainers” activities in AGS, MoM.

MoPW:

- IDC assets were completely and officially submitted to the MoPW with the assistance of the CDU and Logistics teams.
- Completed “Training-of-Trainers” workshop for five ministries, training 10 personnel at the MoPW IDC on December 02, 2013.

MoEc:

- Met with the MoEc PoC to discuss field workshop training.
- Conducted a meeting with the National Rural Access Program (NRAP) Deputy National Coordinator and Program Manager to present the AIDC database.
- Met with the MoEc PoC to finalize the date for the field workshop.
- Met with the MoEc PoC for the handover of IDC assets to the MoEc.
- IDC assets were completely and officially submitted to the MoEc.
- Met with the MoEc PoC regarding the creation of an IP database for the MoEc.
- Facilitated and coordinated the Trainees Working Group (TWG) between MoEc and Ministry of Education (MoEd) trainees.
- Completed the first draft of the data collection survey report for the MoEd IDC.

MoEd:

- Conducted the third round of practical data collection training at the MoEd IDC in District 6. Surveyed schools were: Sayed Ismail Hassanzai, Shamael Masaikh, Spenkai, Mohammad Qaem, Ghulam Mohammad Ghobar and Naheed Shahed, all in Kabul Province.
- Continued resurvey of schools (collecting schools’ photographs) by the MoEd and Infrastructure Services Department (ISD) trainees.

MoPH:

- Resumed the planned survey of two to three Kabul area hospitals by the MoPH IDC trainees.
- Assisted the MoPH trainees in compiling Health Management Information System (HMIS) data and adding it into the GIS system.
- Followed up on USAID’s assets handover letter with the Ministry of Finance, Minister’s office.
- Continued coordinating with KHPP engineers on the practical data collection of poles using the ODK system.
- Drafted a letter for the provincial site engineers to monitor USAID-funded structures in Paktya Province. Also, completed the administrative process of the letter from the Independent Directorate of Local Governance.
- Conducted Open Data Kit (ODK) training for 8 KHPP engineers.
- Finalized need assessment reports for GIROA ministries.
- Continued to work with the GIROA TWG to identify data sources and types, and database stakeholders in their respective ministries.
- Facilitated and coordinated a meeting with the EQUALS Contracting Office Representative (COR) and MoEc trainees.
- Conducted a presentation and demonstration in collaboration with the AIDC team on AIDC activities for representatives of the Department for International Development (DFID), World Bank, and UNOPS at the MoPW IDC.
- Worked on “Training-of-Trainers” work plan and schedule for five GIROA ministries.
- Held a meeting with 5 GIROA ministries’ PoCs on November 09, 2013 in order to obtain their approval for allowing the trainees to join the “Training-of-Trainers” workshop at the MoPW/IDC Department.
- Facilitated the IDC/GIS presentation for the top level management of the MoPW.
- Completed the final need assessment reports of the GIROA IDCs.
- Working on CDU’s final report. This will be submitted to USAID by the end of January 2014.

Table 24: Key Performance Indicators for Capacity Development Unit

Key Performance Indicators for 2013	
Infrastructure asset management capacity development and institutionalization needs assessment	<p>MoPW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of MoPW IDC’s needs assessment and Gap Analysis complete • 100% training plan for MoPW is prepared <p>MoM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of MoM IDC’s needs assessment and Gap Analysis complete • 100% training plan for MoM IDC is prepared <p>MoEd:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of MoEd IDC’s needs assessment and Gap Analysis complete • 100% training plan for MoEd IDC is prepared <p>MoPH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of MoPH IDC’s needs assessment and Gap Analysis complete • 100% of training plan for MoPH IDC is prepared <p>MoEc:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of MoEc IDC’s needs assessment and Gap Analysis complete • 100% of training plan for MoEc IDC is prepared • 100% of IDC Assets Handover

<p>Asset management foundation training to the GIROA ministries' IDC staff</p>	<p>MoPW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed 15 out of 15 weeks of asset management foundation training to MoPW staff • Completed 15 out of 15 weeks of asset management foundation training to MoPW new female staff • Completed 8 out of 8 weeks of theoretical data collection and analysis training to MoPW male and female staff • Completed 1 out of 1 week of practical data collection and analysis training to the MoPW IDC trainees <p>MoM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed 15 out of 15 weeks of asset management foundation training to MoM staff • Completed 15 out of 15 weeks of asset management foundation training to (new) MoM staff • Completed 6 out of 6 weeks of theoretical data collection and analysis training to MoM male and female staff • Completed 1 out of 1 week of practical data collection and analysis training to the MoM IDC trainees <p>MoEd:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed 15 out of 15 weeks of asset management foundation training to MoEd male staff • Completed 15 out of 15 weeks of asset management foundation training to MoEd female staff • Completed 8 out of 8 weeks of theoretical data collection and analysis training to MoEd staff • Completed 1 out of 1 week of practical data collection and analysis training to the MoEd IDC trainees <p>MoEc:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed 15 out of 15 weeks of asset management foundation training to MoEc staff • Completed 8 out of 8 weeks of theoretical data collection and analysis training to MoEc staff • Completed 1 out of 1 week of practical data collection and analysis training to the MoPW IDC trainees <p>MoPH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed 15 out of 15 weeks of asset management foundation training to MoPH staff • Completed 6 out of 6 weeks of theoretical data collection and analysis training to MoPH male and female staff • Completed 1 out of 1 week of practical data collection and analysis training to the MoPW IDC trainees
<p>Institutionalization of ministries' infrastructure asset database and GIS lab</p>	<p>MoPW – is in progress MoM – is in progress MoEd – is in progress MoPH – is in progress MoEc – is in progress</p>

Reporting	Reports submitted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 Monthly Activity Reports • 4 Quarterly Reports • 5 Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis Reports • 5 Interim Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis Reports • 3 Capacity Development Plans
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4.1.2 Salient Issues and Concerns

None

4.1.3 Future Activities

- Continue mentoring to assist the ministerial GIS/IDC teams.
- Preparation for workshop and conference as part of data transferal.

4.2 GIROA Infrastructure Data Center (IDC)

4.2.1 Accomplishments

AIDC mentors provided technical support during normal production work this period. The ministries' GIS staff are receiving and responding to requests from the ministries with limited oversight and external support from EQUALS as part of the transition and sustainability activities.

Ministry of Mines IDC

- Capacity support through:
 - o Assisting the IDC team in preparation of geology and topography maps of Takhar Province.
 - o Assisting the IDC team in preparation of a geology map of Samangan Province.
 - o Assisting the IDC team in preparation of a topographic map of Yakaulang District.
 - o Assisting the IDC team in preparation of a topographic map of Shaighan District of Samangan Province.
 - o Participating in the Training-of-Trainers (ToT) workshop at the MoPW (November 17 – December 02, 2013).
 - o Continuing to support the IDC team in producing a geological map of Shiva District.
 - o Continuing to support the IDC team in scanning two topographical maps of the Jabul Saraj District.
 - o Continuing to assist the IDC team in updating the Afghanistan Geological Survey (AGS) geo-database.
 - o Continuing to provide support to the IDC team in producing a topographic map of Baghlan Province.
 - o Continuing to support the IDC team in creating two geological applications in Flex Viewer.
 - o Continuing to support the IDC team in creating a geological map of Sabzak.
 - o Continuing to support the IDC team in the production of a topographic and geological map of Buzghor area in Takhar Province.
 - o Continuing to support the IDC team in the production of a topographic map of Rouyi Doab.

Ministry of Public Works IDC

- Capacity support through:
 - Assisting the IDC team in preparation of the Afghanistan Road Status map for the MoPW (Survey and Design Department).
 - Assisting the IDC team in preparation of a presentation for the Minister.
 - Assisting the IDC team in working on the Salang alternative plan map.
 - Participating in the ToT workshop at the MoPW (November 17 – December 02, 2013).
 - Preparing 20 copies of road design of Lataband, Sorobi to Omerzi and Mehtarlam to Laghman in A1 size for the Designs Department of the MoPW.
 - Continuing to assist the IDC team in updating the Afghanistan road and rail network GIS database.
 - Preparing Afghanistan road status, railway status and donor road maps for the Ministry of Urban Development Affairs.
 - Successful completion of ToT workshop for all ministries at the MoPW.
 - Printing the Afghanistan Road Status map (large size) for Salang conference, December 05, 2013.
 - Printing the Afghanistan Road Status map in A0 for the Minister Adviser's office.
 - Prepared an Afghanistan Regional and National Highway map and printed for Technical Deputy Minister.
 - Printed the Afghanistan Road Status map for the Survey and Designs Department.
 - Creating a Kandahar to Spin Boldak Road map for the Survey and Designs Department.
 - Updating Kholm to Kunduz Road alignment.
 - Preparing an Afghanistan Donor Road map for the Minister's Advisor.

Ministry of Education (Infrastructure Services Department)

- Capacity support through:
 - Supporting the IDC team to survey 26 schools in Districts 4, 7 and 5 in Kabul.
 - Supporting the IDC team to find route distance to 10 district centers for 10 provinces.
 - Calculation of route distance to 12 district centers for 12 provinces.
 - Assisting the IDC team in creating a Flex web map application for the Kabul schools survey.
 - Participating in the ToT workshop at the MoPW (November 17 – December 02, 2013).
 - Continuing to support the IDC team to produce an earthquake map for Afghanistan.
 - Continuing to support the IDC team in updating the Kabul District 7 information in the GIS database.
 - Continuing to support the IDC team in updating of 34 individual province political maps with road linear (distance) information.

Ministry of Economy IDC

- Capacity support through:
 - Assisting the IDC team to upgrade to 10.2 ArcGIS system.
 - Assisting the IDC team in design of the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS) data collection form and data collection from GIROA ministries.
 - Assisting the IDC team in preparation of GIS database for Deputy Minister.
 - Assisting the IDC team in updating the MoEc geo-database.
 - Assisting the MoEc IDC GIS team to connect their machines to new hardware.
 - Supporting the MoEc IDC GIS team to join and complete the ToT to develop and increase their skills for their upcoming activities and responsibilities.
 - Assisting the MoEc IDC GIS team in installation of new GIS software (QGIS) onto their machines.

- o Assisting the IDC GIS team in using the new plotter (plotting A0, A1, A2, A3 roll and sheet maps).
- o Assisting the IDC team in backing up the MoEc GIS database.
- o Assisting the IDC team in their checking of the GIS data's quality on the MoEc server and ensuring it was correct and clean.

Ministry of Public Health IDC

- Capacity support through:
 - o Assisting the IDC team in working on the Afghanistan health facilities web map.
 - o Assisting the IDC team in preparation of a health facilities map of Badakhshan, Takhar, Kunduz and Baghlan Provinces.
 - o Assisting the IDC team in working on Afghanistan health facilities map by province (Dari version).
 - o Preparing a Kapisa Province health facilities map by type of facility.
 - o Assisting the IDC team in updating the Afghanistan health GIS database.
 - o Assisting the IDC team in working on health indicator maps of Afghanistan.
 - o Assisting the IDC team in preparing Kapisa, Parwan and Panjshir health maps.

4.2.2 Salient Issues and Concerns

None

4.2.3 Future Activities

Provide support for ministry and donor coordination conferences.

5 PROGRAM UPDATE – SUPPORT

5.1 Management

5.1.1 Accomplishments

- New incoming Contracting Office personnel (Michael Capobianco and Ridigul Haqyar) were introduced to the EQUALS team.
- Terry Jones returned to EQUALS in the role of Program Security Risk Manager in October.
- Yusuf Said, Deputy Team Lead, Vertical Structures, demobilized during the month of October after over eight years supporting USAID programs with IRD.
- Recruited a Contracts Specialist to support the Water team. USAID approval was received and the selected candidate, Holly Te, joined the EQUALS team in Kabul on November 24, 2013.
- Completed staffing of vacant posts for JO-05, Gardez-Khost Road.
- Completed substantial completion inspection of phase three of the Gardez-Khost Road.
- Completed demobilization from IRD7 in October and IRD8 in November, and returned buildings to the landlords, reducing IRD's facilities footprint.
- Equipment and supplies for the Material Testing Laboratory were put into storage due to decreased testing requirements.
- Completed submission of all TraiNet information as required by USAID.
- Received the fully executed modification No. 6 to JO-04 in October, adding to Power QA services.
- Submitted the JO-05 – Gardez - Khost Road Phase III - No Cost Extension (NCE) proposal in October and received the fully executed Modification 4 for JO-05 – Gardez - Khost Road Phase III - No Cost Extension (NCE) in November.

- Submitted a proposal in October for the Power Transmission and Electricity Connectivity (PTEC), detailing EQUALS QA services, and continued discussions of EQUALS proposals with USAID in November.
- Submitted a proposal for the Regional Water Management Forum including Concept Paper, Budget and Budget Narrative for IRD EQUALS LoE.
- Reworked JO-05 budget to indicate staff and security drawdown during the month of December 2013 due to decreased road work activities. Submitted budget to USAID in November, indicating a lowered cost ceiling.
- Submitted a re-aligned JO-04 budget to USAID in December, indicating lowered total cost.
- Submitted Work Plan, Budget, and Budget Narrative for Kajaki Unit 2 to USAID in November.
- EQUALS COP and Director of Finance attended two major meetings at USAID in December on taxation and vetting requirements.

5.1.2 Salient Issues and Concerns

- The EQUALS Director of Support Services, Jan Gebhardt, was evacuated for medical reasons in July. Recruitment of a replacement is in process.
- Camp Liz Operations Manager, Paul Heydenreich, was medically evacuated in October and has returned to the United States.
- SRRM Medic based at Camp Liz had a heart attack on December 21, 2013. He was transported to Kabul via ground movement and received treatment.
- Demobilization of the U.S. military personnel from Camp Liz vicinity was completed during the month of November, substantially decreasing the availability of coalition forces to bolster available security for G-K road operations.
- Hiring of Expat staff for EQUALS: Pending approvals for Michael Hoagland (Deputy Program Security and Risk Manager) and Johan Venter (HR/Procurement Manager).
- The repeated short term extension of KHPP and JO-05 activities places a high administrative burden on both USAID and EQUALS to prepare extensions to the respective sub-contractors (AMTEX, APPF, SRRM, and MCS Aviation).

5.1.3 Future Activities

- JO-04 LoE and Budget will be submitted to USAID for review-early in 2014.
- Plan for a visit by IRD Director of Infrastructure, Kirk Ellis, during late-January, 2014.
- Planning and development of SOW for JO activities post April 2014.

5.2 Communication and Information Technology

5.2.1 Accomplishments

The IT Team continued to provide technical support to the three EQUALS offices in Afghanistan (Kabul, Kandahar, and Camp Liz) as well as at supported ministries.

Main Office - Kabul

- Improved internet speed in main office.
- Experienced internet signal interruption at main office; following up with service provider to have it resolved completely.
- Demobilized IRD7 server room. Moved all IT equipment to the IRD2 server room.
- Terminated contract with one of the ISPs.

- Scope of work for KHPP, main office and Camp Liz internet links were submitted to Procurement for further processing.
- Updates were installed on all servers including mail and primary servers.
- Replaced unmanageable network devices with manageable ones to provide better internet performance.
- Whitelisted mail server from many black-listed websites (internet databases).
- Organized the Outlook address book and removed disabled accounts from the list.
- Rebidding of main office internet connection is being processed.
- 4 laptops used by the Roads staff were backed up for record keeping and further usage.
- Security laptops were scanned for spam and malware.
- Email accounts of employees no longer working with EQUALS were cancelled.
- Windows updates were installed on all servers to enhance performance.
- Resolved an email exchange issue with external domains.
- Created second Mail Exchange (MX) record for email delivery failover.
- Security updates were installed on two core servers (email server and domain controller).
- Whitelisted main office Public IP addresses on the internet.

Ministry Support

- Installed Windows updates on all GIS servers at the Ministries.
- Purchased and set up three plotters for the GIS team in three ministries, namely MoEc, MoEd and AGS.
- Repaired the AGS faulty plotter and scanner.
- Setup of the digital library for the MoEW was completed; training was carried out for the MoEW team in digital library software.
- An issue with uploading files to the digital library at the MoEW was resolved.
- Backup system was configured for the digital library.
- Removed all malicious software and viruses from the Ministry's client computers.
- Internet at ministries was extended until December 31, 2013.
- There is an issue with downloading Primavera 6 for the MoEW. The vender sent another link to download the software from. This will be installed for the MoEW staff.

Kandahar

- Set up bandwidth monitoring system at the KHPP office.
- Set up a backup system at the KHPP office.
- Installed internet at KHPP from a different ISP.
- KHPP internet connection bid evaluation was completed.
- New internet connection at KHPP office in Kandahar was set up successfully.
- Serviced and repaired KHPP faulty copier.

Camp Liz

- Increased primary internet connection speed at Camp Liz.
- The secondary internet connection at Camp Liz was rendered inactive as the service provider could no longer provide internet from satellite. The IT team worked with Procurement to identify an alternate secondary service provider and successfully installed the secondary internet connection.
- Camp Liz existing internet service was extended to December 31, 2013; the team is in the process of extending the Camp Liz primary internet link until January 31, 2014.

5.2.2 Salient Issues and Concerns

Email security software to be renewed.

5.2.3 Future Activities

Routine activities will be conducted in the next reporting period.

5.3 Security

5.3.1 Accomplishments

EQUALS Compound

The Edinburgh International (EI) Risk Management Company (RMC) Security Team accomplished the following during the latest reporting period:

- 731 MST missions were undertaken by contracted MST security staff this quarter.
- 8 aviation missions were undertaken by contracted MST aviation this quarter.
- 184 guard parades, 5544 post visits and 184 QA/QC checks were conducted by the Site Security Team and officer on duty.
- The following road missions were conducted over the reporting period:
 - Kabul to Sarobi, October 08, 2013
 - Kabul to Jalalabad, October 06 - 13, 2013
 - Kabul to Jalalabad, October 22 to November 02, 2013
 - Kabul to Jalalabad, December 18 - 31, 2013
 - Kabul to Herat to Maimana to Kabul, December 20 - 23, 2013
- Licenses and Passes:
 - RMC license is valid until March 20, 2014
 - Radio movement/carriage license is valid until March 20, 2014
 - Weapon movement authorization will elapse on January 10, 2014.
 - Ramp 10 and 5 passes have now expired. Guard Force Compliance Manager has been asked to source renewal.
 - Ramp 10 and 5 APPF weapon carriage certificates have expired. Guard Force Compliance Manager has been asked to source renewal.
 - KIA B passes: Guard Force Compliance Manager has managed to renew for a short-term period and is in the process of renewing for 12 months.
 - IRD7 and 8 were handed back to the landlords and the APPF were released from contract.
- RMC manning is contractually correct.
 - The breakdown of RMC personnel is: 2 x RMC expats are permanently assigned to KHPP (Kandahar) and 8 x RMC are assigned to IRD EQUALS Kabul. There are also 4 x HCNs in Kabul.
- The training program for EQUALS expats, APPF and RMC is ongoing. The APPF conduct daily training before mounting night shift, meaning that all shifts train en masse every third day, allowing for a full audience. The method being used is “train the trainer” – the RMC train the officers, NCOs and supervisors who in turn train the APPF whilst being mentored and monitored by the RMC.

Table 25: Training attended by IRD Expats

Training Provided	Frequency	Number Attended
Use of Handheld GP340, Use of Vehicle GP360, Track 24 and Panic Alarms and Use of Pocket Buddies	2	9
Security Awareness and Observation Skills	2	10
Stroke and CPR Med Training	1	6
First Aid – Circulation	1	2
Safe Room Drills (MoEW Staff)	2	8
First Aid - Trauma	1	1
Security Awareness	1	6
Hostage Survival	1	4
Risk Category Matrix (MoEW Staff)	1	7

Table 26: Training provided for APPF

Training Provided	Frequency	Number Attended
Incident Management	2	66
AK47 Use of Unloading Bay, Load, Unload, NSPs	2	66
Rules for the Use of Force and Rules of Engagement	14	420
Vehicle and Personnel Search Procedures	3	99
AK variant Make Ready, Stoppage Drills	3	99
Vehicle and Persons Search	13	215
Pistol Weapons Handling Techniques (WHT)	3	15
Rifle WHTs	10	300
Stand-To Drills	3	81
WHTs Trainer	2	12
Alarm Drills	1	33
Coercion and Intimidation	2	66
Person's Search	3	99
Vehicle Search	3	99

Table 27: Training attended by EI RMC

Training Provided	Frequency	Number Attended
Threat and Risk Assessments	1	8

Medical Training (Use of Morphine)	1	8
Anti-Bribery Workshop	1	2
Conflict Management	2	4
Pistol WHT	2	10
AK Variant WHT	2	10
First Responder	2	3
Rules for the Use of Force (RUF)	3	10
Close Protection Lesson 1	1	8
Close Protection Lesson 2	1	8
Vehicle Documentation	1	5
IFAK Training and Knowledge System (TrAKS)	1	2
Use of Unloading Bay (TrAKS)	1	10

KHPP – Amtex Village - Kandahar

The EI RMC Security Team accomplished the following during the latest reporting period:

- 110 MST missions were undertaken by contracted MST security staff this quarter.
- One road mission, Amtex to Kandahar, was conducted over the reporting period
- Licenses and Passes:
 - o RMC license is valid until March 20, 2014.
 - o Radio movement/carriage license is valid until March 20, 2014.
 - o Weapon movement authorization lapsed on January 10, 2014.
 - o KAF VIP passes are valid until April 06, 2014.
 - o KAF badges are valid until April 2014.
- RMC manning is contractually correct.
- The breakdown of RMC personnel is: 2 x RMC expats are permanently assigned to the KHPP (Kandahar).
- The training program for EQUALS expats, APPF and RMC is ongoing. The RMC train the NCO and APPF.

Table 28: Training provided for APPF

Training Provided	Frequency	Number Attended
Weapon Handling Tests	6	27
Airway Management	1	5
Close Protection Walking Drills	1	5
CPR	4	20
Wound Packing and Limb Elevation	1	5
Vehicle Contact Drills	2	9
Weapon Cleaning	1	6
Heart Attack/Signals/Symptoms/Treatment	1	5
Arrival and Venue Drills	1	5
Alarm/Attack/IDF Drills	1	5

RUF/Rules for Escalation of Force (ROE)	2	10
Arrest the Bleeding	1	5
Vehicle Kit Maintenance	1	5
Team Tactics	1	5
SOPs	1	5
T24 Introduction	1	5
Respiratory System	1	5
Casualty Extraction	2	4
Walking Drills	2	5

Table 29: Training provided for RMC Expat staff

Training Provided	Frequency	Number Attended
SAP Duties	1	7
Airway Management	1	2
CPR	3	17
Wound Packing and Limb Elevation	1	2
Vehicle Maintenance	3	12
Heart Attack/Signals/Symptoms/Treatment	1	2
Arrival and Venue Drills	1	2
Alarm/Attack/IDF Drills	1	5
Arrest the Bleeding	1	5
Vehicle Kit Maintenance	2	4
Team Tactics	1	4
SOPs	1	4
T24 Introduction	1	5
Respiratory System	1	5
Casualty Extraction	1	5
Walking Drills	2	11
Driver Training	2	10

Table 30: Training attended by IRD EQUALS Expat/LN staff

Training Provided	Frequency	Number Attended
Airway Management	1	2
CPR	4	10
Wound Packing and Limb Elevation	1	2
Heart Attack/Signals/Symptoms/Treatment	1	2
Arrival and Venue Drills	1	2
Alarm/Attack/IDF Drills	1	2
Arrest the Bleeding	1	2
Vehicle Kit Maintenance	1	2
Team Tactics	1	2
SOPs	1	2
T24 Introduction	1	2
Driver Training	3	4
Security Awareness	1	2

Respiratory System	1	2
Casualty Extraction	1	2
Walking Drills	1	2

Camp Liz – G-K Road Project

Silk Route Risk Management (SRRM) RMC Security Team accomplished the following during the latest reporting period:

- 59 MST missions were undertaken by contracted MST security staff this quarter.
- 224 guard parades, 448 post visits and 336 QA/QC checks were conducted by the Site Security Team and officer on duty.
- The following road missions were conducted over the reporting period:
 - o Camp Liz to Km 27 to Km 36, September 2013
 - o Camp Liz to Km 63 to Km 50, September 2013
 - o Camp Liz to Km 27 to Km 36, October 2013
 - o Camp Liz to Km 63 to Km 50, October 2013
 - o Camp Liz to Km 27 to Km 36, November 2013
 - o Camp Liz to Km 63 to Km 50, November 2013
 - o Camp Liz to Km 102 to Camp Liz, December 2013
 - o Camp Liz to Kabul to Camp Liz, December 2013
- Licenses and Passes:
 - o RMC license is valid until February 28, 2014.
 - o Weapon movement authorization lapsed; renewal is in process until February 28, 2014.
 - o Communication license is valid until April 24, 2014.
 - o Afghan Investment Support Agency (AISA) security operations license is valid until February 28, 2014.
- RMC manning is contractually correct. The breakdown of RMC personnel is: 15 x RMC expats are permanently assigned to the IRD G-K Road (Camp Liz) and 10 x RMC HCN Interpreters allocated to IRD G-K Road (Camp Liz).
- The training program for EQUALS expats, APPF and RMC is ongoing. The RMC and APPF conduct daily training after roll call and in the afternoon. The method being used is “train the trainer” – the RMC train the officers, NCOs and supervisors who in turn train the APPF whilst being mentored and monitored by the RMC.

Table 31: Training attended by IRD Expats

Training Provided	Frequency	Number Attended
Immediate Action (IA) Drills	4	141
Vehicle Drills – Cross Loading and Medical Extraction	1	10
Road Missions – Protection of Client – Foot formations	1	3
Securo Tracker Unit Operation and Procedures	1	12
Contingency Planning – Health Support Plan	1	2
Policies and Procedures	3	66
Base Defense Plan	1	21

Table 32: Training provided for APPF

Training Provided	Frequency	Number Attended
Vehicle Inspection Drills	15	160
First Aid	30	254
Emergency Response Procedures	10	174
Mobile Movement - IED Drills	4	88
Situational Awareness	11	128
Policies and Procedures – APPF Leave Cycle	1	46
Vehicle Movement	14	248
Road Mission – Client Protection	39	774
ECP Procedures	2	7
Weapon Familiarization – AK 47	42	405
Weapon Familiarization - Pulemyot Kalashnikova Modernizirovanniy (PKM)	16	134
Medical – Anatomy and Physiology	1	8
Weapon Maintenance	16	225
Arrest Procedures	2	14
Range Day – AK47	2	31
Policies and Procedures – SOP's	19	267
Discipline - Drill	6	131
Counter Surveillance	2	13
Guard Post Procedures	2	10
Communication	8	77
Supervisor Duty - ECP	2	10
Vehicle Search Procedures	3	15
Base Protection - IA Drills	5	66
Vehicle Cross Decking Drills Medical Extraction	2	48
Train the Trainers – Planning of Training	2	7
IA Drills	5	93
Personal Hygiene	3	34
Night Patrols and Observation	2	46
Vehicle Inspection and Driver Training	1	24
RUF and ROE Training	1	24
Navigation	3	49

Threat and Risk Assessment	3	76
Observation and Counter Observation	10	115
Weapons Readiness Stages	1	7
Driving Skills – Do’s and Don’ts	3	32
Weapons Training – Shooting Range Drills	1	21

Table 33: Training attended by SRRM RMC

Training Provided	Frequency	Number Attended
IA Drills – Emergency Evacuation	1	17
Weapon Familiarization – PKM Drills	1	7
Road Mission – QRF Task – Client Protection	1	3
Road Mission – PSD Task – Client Protection (Close Protection)	1	4
IA Drills – Indirect Fire	2	26
IA Drills – Direct Threat	1	20
Weapon Maintenance – AK47	1	6
Contingency Planning – Health Support Plan	1	14
Policies and Procedures – Vehicle Drills	1	7
Policies and Procedures – Entrance Control	2	35
Base Maintenance	5	50
Base Defense Plan	3	45
IA Drills – Hostage Scenario	1	15
Observation	1	15
Policies and Procedures (Fire Drills and Incident Reporting)	1	15

5.3.2 Salient Issues and Concerns

EQUALS Compound:

- All RMC personnel are Ministry of Interior (MOI) and APPF registered and are in possession of an in-date multi-entry visa and work permit.
- Weapon Movement Authorizations: RMC personnel will shortly be in possession of annual weapon movement authorizations. It is anticipated that these will be valid until March 20, 2014.

KHPP – Amtex Village - Kandahar:

- All RMC personnel are MOI/APPF registered and are in possession of an in-date multi-entry visa and work permit.

- Weapon Movement Authorizations: RMC personnel will shortly be in possession of annual weapon movement authorizations. It is anticipated that these will be valid until the March 20, 2014.

IRD EQUALS – Camp Liz G-K Road Project:

- All RMC personnel are MOI/APPF registered. Seven of the 15 RMC personnel are in the process of receiving multi-entry visas. Eight RMC personnel are in possession of a valid multi-entry visa. All 15 RMC personnel have valid work permits.
- Weapon Movement Authorizations: RMC personnel will shortly be in possession of weapon movement authorizations.

5.3.3 Future Activities

EQUALS Compound:

- Ongoing Jalalabad mission until January 15, 2014.
- Ghazni mission dates TBC – preliminary dates January 26 - 30, 2014.

KHPP – Amtex Village - Kandahar:

- Breshna Kot/Shorandam Industrial Park Mission.
- Kajaki Dam Mission.

IRD EQUALS – Camp Liz G-K Road Project:

- Continuous mentoring and training of APPF staff.
- Force protection upgrades in preparation for spring offensive.
- Preparing for security transition of authority into Phase IV Road Construction of G-K Road.

5.4 Human Resources

5.4.1 Accomplishments

In addition to routine duties, the HR team accomplished the following:

- Performed in-processes for two new expats: Holly Te, Terry Jones.
- Created email accounts for newly hired local and expatriate staff.
- Contract termination/retrenchment letters were issued for 18 local nationals. Four expatriates demobilized.
- Prepared amendment/memos to Home Country National (HCN) manual for Overtime, Compensatory Time Off, Meal Allowances, Exceptions for Ministry Support Staff, Shift Policy for Night Staff, Alternating Saturday Off, Use of Afghan Carriers for Domestic Air Travel, and Notification in Event of Infectious Disease Diagnosis.
- Conducted annual performance appraisals for staff.
- Prepared contract amendment/salary increase and promotion letters.
- Sent probationary notices to respective supervisors.
- Recruited 10 staff members (expat x 2 and national x 8)
 - o Terry Jones, Security Manager
 - o Holly Te, Contracts & Procurement Specialist
 - o Mohammad Eimal, HR Assistant
 - o Mohammad Wahid, Field Engineer

- o Mohammad Usman, Accountant
 - o Akbar Jan, Senior Trainer
 - o Ezatullah Ulfat, Senior Trainer
 - o Bashir Sediqi, Country Representative
 - o Abdul Wadood, Senior Trainer
 - o Sayed Masood Sadat, IT Specialist
- One national staff member was transferred internally:
 - o Abdul Basir Ibrahim from JO-04 to JO-05, effective October 01, 2013.
- Processed resignation of five staff members:
 - o Bismillah Royan, Document Archive Assistant, last workday October 12, 2013.
 - o Rahimullah, Field Driver, last workday December 11, 2013.
 - o Samimullah Samimi, Human Resources Manager, last workday December 12, 2013.
 - o Ali Shahram, Security Contract Specialist, last workday December 12, 2013.
 - o Mansoor Mansoori, Civil QA Engineer, last workday December 15, 2013.
- Contract ended/retrenched 39 staff members:
 - o Sayed Mohammad Yousuf, Sr. Road Engineer, last workday November 30, 2013.
 - o Abdul Basir Ibrahim, Road Engineer, last workday November 30, 2013.
 - o Mohammad Dawood Omari, QA Engineer, last workday November 30, 2013.
 - o Mohammad Nasim, Sr. QA Engineer, last workday November 30, 2013.
 - o Mohammad Qasim Rahel, QA Engineer, last workday November 30, 2013.
 - o Nejabat Ahmad Shahi, Field Driver, last workday November 30, 2013.
 - o Samar Gul Muqbel, Field Driver, last workday November 30, 2013.
 - o Abdul Karim, Dining Facilities Supervisor, last workday November 30, 2013.
 - o Mohammad Reza, Cook/DFAC, last workday November 30, 2013.
 - o Mohammad Zahir, Laundry Attendant, last workday November 30, 2013.
 - o Najibullah Armani, House Attendant/DFAC, last workday November 30, 2013.
 - o Mohammad Rayees, House Attendant/DFAC, last workday November 30, 2013.
 - o Gulab Khan, Cleaner, last workday November 30, 2013.
 - o Haji Gul, Field Driver, last workday November 30, 2013.
 - o Abdul Wahid, Cleaner, last workday November 30, 2013.
 - o Hadem, Cleaner, last workday November 30, 2013.
 - o Habibullah, Cleaner, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Zabihullah Cleaner, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Jawid, Maintenance, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Abdul Nabi, Cleaner, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Nooruddin, Sr. Maintenance Technician, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Zaryalai, Cleaner, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Nargis, Cleaner, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Mohammad Bashir, Cleaner, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Khuja Abdul Nasir, Assistant Gardener, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Ahmadullah Ahmadzai, Maintenance Manager, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Mohammad Zahir, Cleaner, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Wahidullah, Assistant Gardener, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Sediqulla, Cleaner, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Sulaiman, AC Technician, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Eid Mohammad, Cleaner, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Noor Agha, Cleaner, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Zahidullah, Cleaner, last workday December 31, 2013.

- o Sameer Ahmad, Cleaner, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Abdul Shakoor, Logistics and Utility Support, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Humaira, Logistics Assistant, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Ajmal, Maintenance Technician, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Taj Mohammad Bashardost, Field Engineer, last workday December 31, 2013.
 - o Habibullah Habib, QA Engineer, last workday December 31, 2013.
- Two national staff member were terminated and four expats staff were demobilized:
 - o Wajia Bahman, HR Officer, last workday October 07, 2013.
 - o Mohammad Haseeb Yaqoubi, Road Engineer, last workday October 17, 2013.
 - o Yusaf Said (Expat) demobilized, last workday October 31, 2013.
 - o William Mark Reinke (Expat) demobilized, last workday November 30, 2013.
 - o Dante Estepa (Expat) demobilized, last workday November 30, 2013.
 - o Florante Calvelo (Expat) demobilized, last workday December 02, 2013.
 - Salary Increase/Promotion:
 - o 21 national staff members received salary increases/promotions during the quarter.

The EQUALS program had a total of 272 national and expatriate staff members on board at the end of this period. The table below identifies the nationality breakdown.

Table 34: EQUALS Program currently employees 272 national and expatriate employees.

Nationality	No
Afghan	237
Canadian	3
American	20
British	3
Zimbabwean	1
South African	1
Indian	1
Greek	1
Nepalese	1
Jordanian	1
Filipino	2
Pakistani	1
Total	272

A total of 45 flights were booked for EQUALS expats for R&R, RRB, vacation leave and demobilization.

Table 35: Expatriate Leave Status

Name	From	To	Remarks
Tanase Bude	September 12, 2013	October 06, 2013	RRB
Yunus Afshar	September 12, 2013	October 07, 2013	R&R
Daniel Heiner	September 26, 2013	October 11, 2013	RRB

Elizabeth Muller	September 19, 2013	October 14, 2013	R&R
Crispen Mpande	September 19, 2013	October 06, 2013	RRB
Ghaleb Akari	September 26, 2013	October 13, 2013	RRB
Carla Clemons	September 26, 2013	October 11, 2013	RRB
William Mark Reinke	September 26, 2013	October 11, 2013	RRB
Bijoy Misra	October 02, 2013	October 24, 2013	R&R
Edward Ross	October 03, 2013	October 27, 2013	RRB
Luther Webster	October 08, 2013	October 19, 2013	R&R
Farhat Javed	October 09, 2013	November 03, 2013	R&R
Om Bhola	October 11, 2013	October 22, 2013	RRB
Muneer Alrefai	October 14, 2013	November 03, 2013	RRB & Business
Demetre Papaioannou	October 17, 2013	November 04, 2013	R&R
Jagdish Kumar Sethi	October 31, 2013	November 23, 2013	R&R
Yusaf Said	October 31, 2013	Demobilization	Demobilization
Paul Wolstenholme	October 29, 2013	November 23, 2013	RRB
Kimberly Bednarski	November 05, 2013	December 04, 2013	R&R
Asif Mahmud Sahibzada	November 07, 2013	December 01, 2013	R&R
Shiv Kumar Shah	November 07, 2013	December 02, 2013	R&R
Dan Smock	November 21, 2013	December 04, 2013	R&R
Michael J. Downey	November 13, 2013	December 15, 2013	R&R
Jurist Awal	November 28, 2013	December 28, 2013	R&R
Dante C. Estepa	November 29, 2013	Demobilization	Demobilization
William Mark Reinke	November 30, 2013	Demobilization	Demobilization
Norris Ray Herrington	November 29, 2013	January 3, 2013	R&R
Craig L. Robinson	December 05, 2013	December 22, 2013	R&R
Tanase Bude	December 12, 2013	January 03, 2014	R&R
Garikai Crispen Mpande	December 12, 2013	January 12, 2014	R&R
Wayne Minehart	December 15, 2013	January 18, 2014	R&R
Yunus Afshar	December 17, 2013	January 07, 2014	RRB
Elizabeth Muller	December 17, 2013	January 14, 2013	RRB
Jagdish Kumar Sethi	December 19, 2013	December 30, 2013	RRB
Terry Jones	December 19, 2013	January 04, 2014	RRB
Edward Ross	December 19, 2013	January 20, 2014	R&R
Farhat Javed	December 26, 2013	January 12, 2014	RRB
Ghaleb Akari	December 26, 2013	January 25, 2014	R&R

Daniel Heiner	December 26, 2013	January 22, 2014	R&R
Bijoy Misra	December 26, 2013	January 15, 2014	RRB
Demetre Papaioannou	December 30, 2013	January 20, 2014	RRB

National staff leave utilization status is shown in the table below.

Table 36: Staff Leave Totals

Leave Used – October – December 2013	Days
Annual Leave	928.5
Sick Leave	296
Comp Time	517.5
Leave Without Pay	15
Additional Leave	0
Family Leave	0
Bereavement Leave	8
Maternity Leave	0
Paternity Leave	15

5.4.2 Salient Issues and Concerns

None

5.4.3 Future Activities

Routine activities are planned for the next reporting period.

5.5 Logistics

5.5.1 Accomplishment

The Logistics Team accomplished the following activities:

- Received and processed 19 IT and 13 non-IT “loss and damage” reports.
- Received and processed 356 IT and non-IT requests.
- Issued 107 IT and 55 non-IT items from stock.
- Moved 150 IT and non-IT items within IRD villas.
- Received and stored 127 IT items from 48 staff members.
- Labeled 83 IT and non-IT items with IRD tag numbers with a total cost of \$13,571 and included in the inventory database.
- Prepared 189 purchase requests and submitted to Procurement for further processing.
- Prepared food and cleaning supply requests for IRD offices, ministries and guesthouses.
- Prepared cost share data for the months of October, November and December and submitted to Finance.
- Sent 03 AV and 04 containers received from USAID to Camp Liz.

- Handed over one damaged armored vehicle to USAID per approved disposition instruction form USAID.
- Moved Security staff from ground floor to the second floor in IRD1.
- Closed down IRD7 building and moved all furniture and equipment to stock.
- Conducted physical inventory at IRD4, IRD5 and IRD6 buildings.
- Scheduled cleaners and cooks for Eid days for cleaning and preparing meals for expats.
- Prepared a list of damaged items that were in stock for disposal process and submitted for COP approval.
- Closed down IRD9 building and handed over to landlord.
- Shifted AIDC and VS staff from IRD7 and IRD9 buildings to IRD1, IRD3 and IRD4.
- Moved Material Testing Laboratory equipment to parking area.
- Closed down Salang site office and moved all furniture to IRD compound.
- Transferred and handed over IRD assets to the MoPW.
- Received disposition instruction approval for 04 damaged generators from USAID and handed over to the Kikarak Construction Company.
- Updated inventory database accordingly.

5.5.2 Salient Issues and Concerns

None

5.5.3 Future Activities

Routine activities are planned for the next reporting period.

5.6 Transportation

5.6.1 Accomplishments

- Terminated the services of 10 rental vehicles at Camp Liz, and 6 rental vehicles in Kabul.
- Prepared expense budgets and submitted to Procurement on a regular basis.
- 25 vehicles were present during the reporting period and were utilized on the EQUALS program.
- A total of 06 days road missions were executed during the reporting period. Breakdown is as follows:

Table 37: EQUALS road missions by days during the 4th quarter of 2013.

Kabul		Gardez		Kandahar		
Nat	Exp	Nat	Exp	Nat	Exp	Total
1	00	05	00	00	00	06

Table 38: Summary of EQUALS vehicle cost reporting for the 4th quarter of 2013.

Number of Vehicles	Total Km Covered	Total Cost in US \$	Average Cost/KM in US \$
25	46,733	36,856	0.78

5.6.2 Salient Issues and Concerns

None

5.6.3 Future Activities

Routine activities are planned for the next reporting period.

5.7 Maintenance

5.7.1 Accomplishments

In addition to routine activities, the Maintenance Team conducted the following:

- The contractor (Noorullah) made a wooden door at IRD1 basement (OPS room).
- Checked the 400KVA generator at EQUALS compound. It needs to be overhauled.
- Landlord replaced the ventilation pipe of the central heating system at IRD3.
- The contractor (SES) overhauled the 500KVA generator at Camp Liz.
- Chlorinated water wells and tested the water at EQUALS compound.
- Relocated all sand bags of firing positions from IRD7 to IRD9.
- Insulated the plumbing systems at IRD complex to avoid freezing.
- The contractor (SES) overhauled the 450KVA generator.
- Relocated the 88KVA generator from IRD7 to IRD9.
- Replaced the destroyed sand bags at IRD3 main gate.
- Repaired the walkway concrete at IRD3 yard.
- Repaired the firing positions at IRD compound.
- Relocated three guard posts at IRD compound.
- Duplicated 4 keys for HR department.
- Painted offices at IRD7 building.

Table 39: Items serviced, repaired, replaced, installed, supplied, removed and cleaned by the EQUALS Maintenance Team

Description of items	# of Items	Location
Items Serviced		
Air conditioner	61	EQUALS Compound & Ministries
450KVA generator	2 times	
400KVA generator	5 times	
165KVA generator	1	
88KVA generator	1	
Items Repaired		
Air conditioner	26	EQUALS Compound & Ministries
18KVA generator	1	
Refrigerator	1	
Water dispenser	3	

Water boiler	3	
Microwave	1	
Clothes washing machine	2	
Pressure tank	6	
Heater	6	
Vacuum cleaner	2	
Exhaust fan	5	
Shredder	1	
Kettle	2	
Iron	1	
Smoke detector	1	
Projector light	6	
Lamp	2	
Switch	1	
Socket	3	
Electrical shortage	14	
Toilet flush tank	8	
Shower	2	
Shower filter	1	
Dish washer sink mixer	2	
Double action valve	1	
Chair	5	
Door	1	
Main gate	1	
Handle lock	20	
Handle lock cylinder	2	
Coded lock	1	
Pad lock	1	
Downspout	1	
Wheelbarrow	1	
Items Replaced		
450KVA generator filter	15	EQUALS Compound & Ministries
450KVA generator dynamo	1	
400KVA generator filter	28	
400KVA generator diesel pipe	1	
400KVA generator battery terminal	2	
165KVA generator filter	4	
18KVA generator fan belt	1	
88KVA generator filter	5	
88KVA generator battery	4	
88KVA generator battery terminal	2	
13W bulb	371	
24W bulb	35	
36W bulb	15	
60W bulb	10	
105W bulb	2	
Neon light rod	27	
Neon light condenser	20	
Projector light bulb	2	
Projector light transformer	2	

Switch	5	
Socket	13	
Breaker	1	
Holder	4	
Plug	20	
Power cable	53 meters	
Ceiling fan	1	
Exhaust fan	3	
Water pump	7	
Refrigerator compressor	1	
Dryer machine motor	1	
AC	1 Set	
AC fan	1	
AC remote	3	
AC bracket	1	
AC outdoor	6	
AC condenser	7	
AC conductor	5	
AC compressor	5	
AC change valve	3	
AC power board	4	
AC copper pipe	1	
Water boiler pipe	11	
Water boiler heater	7	
Water boiler thermostat	5	
Muslim shower head	1	
Shower pipe	5	
Shower head	8	
Shower mixer	3	
Sink mixer	4	
Sink pipe	9	
Dish washer sink mixer	2	
Flush tank pipe	2	
Toilet cover	1	
Pipe connection	1	
½" valve	4	
½" ball valve with float	1	
Mirror	1	
Handle lock	5	
Handle lock cylinder	5	
Items Installed		
AC	1 set	EQUALS Compound & Ministries
AC bracket	1	
Fire extinguisher	1	
Dryer machine	2	
Transformer	1	
Projector light	1	
13W bulb	1	
36W bulb	1	
Plug	1	

Holder	1	
Socket	5	
Joint box	1	
Duct	6 meters	
Power cable	36 meters	
Shower curtain	1	
Soap dispenser	1	
Door closer	2	
Pad lock	2	
Board	14	
Plywood	2 pieces	
Glasses	4 pieces	
Ceramic tiles	3 SQM	
Shower curtain	1	
Items Supplied		
Fuel for generators	102786 liters	EQUALS Compound & Ministries
Thermometer	2	
400KVA generator diesel pipe	1	
18KVA generator fan belt	4	
Engine oil	3 barrels	
AC power cable	20 meters	
AC power board	1	
AC copper pipe	1	
AC compressor	1	
AC remote	1	
AC gas	6 balloons	
Refrigerator compressor	1	
Dryer machine motor	1	
Water boiler heater	1	
Ceiling fan	1	
8W bulb	30	
13W bulb	200	
Joint box	2	
Pad lock	10	
Handle lock	5	
Security lock	2	
½” valve	30	
Mirror	1	
Plywood	2 pieces	
Cleaning cloth	50 meters	
Door closer	1	
Cement	2 bags	
Ceramic tiles	4 SQM	
Marble	3 SQM	
Marble	2 pieces	
Woolen mattress	30 sheets	
Plastic sheet	1 roll	
Nylon string	40 rolls	
Tarpaulin	110 meters	
Sand bag	1500	

Rapid punch tool	1	
Rapid needle	2 packets	
Glasses	4 pieces	
Items Removed		
Waste water	36 tankers	EQUALS Compound
Items Cleaned		
Power plant	12 times	
450KVA generator radiator	12 times	
400KVA generator radiator	12 times	
450KVA generator air filter	5	
400KVA generator air filter	5	
165KVA generator radiator	12 times	
88KVA generator radiator	12 times	
Drainage pipe	24 each	
AC filter	4	

5.7.2 Salient Issues and Concerns

None

5.7.3 Future Activities

Routine activities are planned for the upcoming reporting period.

Appendix A: Performance Indicator Tracking Table for 2013

#	Performance Indicator	Impact / Outcome / Output	Indicator Definition & Unit of Measurement	Disaggregation	Data Source & Approach to Data Collection	Frequency, Person/Org Responsible	Baseline	Jan - Mar 2013	Apr - Jun 2013	July - Sep 2013	Oct - Dec 2013	Cumulative Totals - 2013
Strategic Objective 1: Quality Assurance/Quality Control of Infrastructure Projects across Afghanistan												
Intermediate Result 1.1: QA Inspection of USAID-funded Infrastructure Projects												
1.1.1	Number of projects receiving QA/QC monitoring	Output	Number of projects monitored by EQUALS engineers (project)	Sector	Workplan review; modifications to work plan	Monthly/Sector Team Leads		VS - 10 NMT - 2 Roads - 1 Power - 5 Total - 18	VS - 10 Roads - 1 Power - 5 Total - 16	VS - 10 Roads - 1 Power - 4 Total - 15	VS - 10 Roads (JO-04) - 1 Roads (JO-05) - 1 Power - 4 Total - 16	VS - 10 NMT - 2 Roads (JO-04) - 1 Roads (JO-05) - 1 Power - 5 Total - 18
1.1.2	Number of inspection reports produced for each project	Output	Number of inspection reports submitted by EQUALS engineers for each project including monitoring, observation, and documentation of findings (inspection report)	Sector	Inspection report review	Monthly/Sector Team Leads		VS - 316 NMT - 77 Roads - 176 Power - 324 Total - 893	VS - 327 NMT - 21 Roads - 182 Power - 291 Total - 821	VS - 147 Roads (JO-04) - 0 Roads (JO-05) - 184 Power - 277 Total - 608	VS - 138 Roads (JO-04) - 34 Roads (JO-05) - 154 Power - 318 Total - 644	VS - 928 NMT - 98 Roads (JO-04) - 34 Roads (JO-05) - 696 Power - 1210 Total - 2966
1.1.3	Number of ad-hoc QA/QC reports	Output	Number of additional reports completed per request of USAID (reports)	Sector	Report review	Ad-hoc/Sector Team Leads		VS - 4 NMT - 0 Roads - 0 Power - 18 Total - 22	VS - 4 NMT - 0 Roads - 1 Power - 14 Total - 19	VS - 5 Roads (JO-04) - 0 Roads (JO-05) - 7 Power - 5 Total - 17	VS - 5 Roads (JO-04) - 0 Roads (JO-05) - 6 Power - 7 Total - 18	VS - 18 NMT - 0 Roads (JO-04) - 0 Roads (JO-05) - 14 Power - 44 Total - 76
1.1.4	Percentage of satisfactory test results where QA testing results were validated	Outcome	Materials tested by materials testing laboratory receiving satisfactory results (percentage)		Materials testing laboratory test results documentation review	Monthly/Materials Testing Manager		98%	95.40%	94%	95%	96%
1.1.5	Number of QC tests conducted by IP and observed by EQUALS staff	Output	Number of QC tests conducted by IP and observed by EQUALS staff to verify results (QC tests)		Site visits by QA engineer including QA monitoring, observation, and documentation of findings.	Monthly/Team Lead (Roads)		1031	2243	779	556	4609
1.1.6	Percentage of Environmental compliance checks where appropriate mitigation measures are in place	Outcome	Projects checked by QA engineers for environmental compliance receiving satisfactory results (percentage)	Sector	Review of IP environmental compliance documentation; environmental compliance report	Monthly/Sector Team Leads		92%	94%	88%	92%	92%
Intermediate Result 1.2: Assist USAID/OEGI with Geographic Information of Infrastructure Investments												
1.2.1	Number of maps produced	Output	Number of maps AIDC unit produces per USAID request (map)		Map request log review	Monthly/AIDC Team Lead		18	18	46	38	120
1.2.2	Average response time to produce a map	Output	Average response time to produce a map per USAID request (hours)		Initial request time report/submission time report; monitoring form	Monthly/AIDC Team Lead		96 hrs	96 hrs	96 hrs	96 hrs	96 hrs

#	Performance Indicator	Impact / Outcome / Output	Indicator Definition & Unit of Measurement	Disaggregation	Data Source & Approach to Data Collection	Frequency, Person/Org Responsible	Baseline	Jan - Mar 2013	Apr - Jun 2013	July - Sep 2013	Oct - Dec 2013	Cumulative Totals - 2013
Strategic Objective 2: GIROA Technical Support and Capacity Development for Ministries												
Intermediate Result 2.1: Improved Capacity of the Afghan Water Sector												
2.1.1	Number of TSSCoW library soft copies available on website	Output	Number of TSSCoW library soft copy documents uploaded on website (document)		Website review	Monthly/Water Team Lead				N/A	204	204
2.1.2	Number of meetings with TSSCoW administered by EQUALS staff	Output	All the meetings facilitated by EQUALS with TSSCoW to assist with transitioning the administrative affairs to TSSCoW with minimum or no involvement by USG		Meeting minutes review	Monthly/Water Team Lead		10	4	4	3	21
2.1.3	Number of hours of trainings facilitated by IRD EQUALS staff Water sector	Output	Number of trainings facilitated by IRD EQUALS staff for Water sector (hours)		Training materials and module review; training course evaluation/report; attendants sheet with hours	Monthly/Water Team Lead		160 hrs	100 hrs	119 hrs	143 hrs	522 hrs
2.1.4	Number of staff trained within Water sector	Output	Number of Water sector staff successfully completing the trainings provided by IRD EQUALS (Staff Member)	Gender; type of training	Training attendants register; pre and post test assessments	Monthly/Water Team Lead		Hydrodiplomacy: F - 2, M - 21 Admin: F - 1, M - 7 Water Governance: F - 1, M - 16 Total: F - 4, M - 44	Int'l Law & TBW: F - 2, M - 33 CB Mgmt P1: F - 2, M - 8 Primavera: F - 0, M - 13 Total: F - 4, M - 54	CB Mgmt P2: F - 2, M - 5; PM Training: F - 0, M - 3 OJT for MEW Engs: F - 0, M - 9 KU Presentations: F - 3, M - 5 Materials Testing: F - 3, M - 6 Total: F - 8, M - 28	Training in Seepage and Stability of Embankment Dams: F - 0, M - 8 Training in Engineering Report Writing: F - 0, M - 10 China OST: F - 0, M - 5 Design Group: F - 0, M - 20 Pilot CB Workshop: F - 6, M - 10 Total: F - 6, M - 53	Male - 179 Female - 22
2.1.5	Percentage change in pre and post test assessments as a result of trainings implemented by IRD	Outcome	Total percent change from baseline to end line score of Water sector staff who successfully completed training (percentage)	Gender; MoEW/TSSCoW/type of training	Training attendants register; pre and post test assessments	Monthly/Water Team Lead				N/A	N/A	N/A
Intermediate Result 2.2: Improved Capacity of GIROA OEGL-supported Ministries to Monitor and Track Infrastructure Projects												
2.2.1	Number of on-budget assets catalogued in the Infrastructure Database Center	Output	Number of on-budget assets catalogued in the Infrastructure Database Center established at GIROA Ministries (assets)	Ministry	Document review/Database review	Monthly/AIDC Team Lead		MoPW: 527 MoPH: 215 MoM/AGS: 6448 MoEc: 1540 MoEd: 900	MoPW: 1054 MoPH: 430 MoM/AGS: 12896 MoEc: 30800 MoEd: 1800	MoPW: 2109 MoPH: 860 MoM/AGS: 25793 MoEc: 61600 MoEd: 3600	MoPW: 1582 MoPH: 645 MoM/AGS: 19345 MoEc: 46200 MoEd: 2700	MoPW: 5272 MoPH: 2150 MoM/AGS: 64482 MoEc: 140140 MoEd: 9000
2.2.2	Number of Ministry staff participating in training of trainer (TOT) activities at GIROA OEGL-supported Ministries	Output	Number of Ministry staff who successfully completed training of trainer activities at GIROA OEGL-supported Ministries (staff member)	Gender (F/M); Ministry	Training attendance register	Monthly/AIDC Team Lead				MPW: F - 3, M - 4 MoPH: F - 1, M - 5 MoM/AGS: F - 1, M - 3 MoEc: F - 1, M - 4 MoEd: M - 4 Total trained (Male) = 20 Total trained (Female) = 6	MPW: F - 4, M - 7 MoPH: F - 1, M - 7 MoM/AGS: M - 7 MoEc: F - 3, M - 6 MoEd: M - 8 Total trained (Male) = 35 Total trained (Female) = 8	MPW: F - 7, M - 11 MoPH: F - 2, M - 12 MoM/AGS: F - 1, M - 10 MoEc: F - 4, M - 10 MoEd: M - 12 Total trained (Male) = 55 Total trained (Female) = 14
2.2.3	Number of Ministry staff trained by TOT EQUALS beneficiaries	Impact	Number of Ministry staff who have successfully completed training by TOT EQUALS beneficiaries (staff member)	Gender (F/M); Ministry	Training attendance register	Monthly/AIDC Team Lead				MPW: 0 MoPH: 0 MoM/AGS: 0 MoEc: 0 MoEd: 0	MPW: 0 MoPH: 0 MoM/AGS: 0 MoEc: 0 MoEd: 0	MPW: 0 MoPH: 0 MoM/AGS: 0 MoEc: 0 MoEd: 0
2.2.4	Number of training hours conducted by the TOT Ministry Staff	Outcome	Number of hours of trainings facilitated by the TOT Ministry Staff (hours)	Ministry	Training materials review; training course evaluation/report; attendants sheet with hours	Monthly/AIDC Team Lead				MPW: 144hrs MoPH: 144hrs MoM/AGS: 144hrs MoEc: 144hrs MoEd: 144hrs	MPW: 128hrs MoPH: 128hrs MoM/AGS: 128hrs MoEc: 128hrs MoEd: 128hrs	MPW: 272hrs MoPH: 272hrs MoM/AGS: 272hrs MoEc: 272hrs MoEd: 272hrs