

PD ABK235  
92571

1991 ANNUAL REPORT  
TO THE OFFICE OF THE AID REPRESENTATIVE

**RURAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

International Rescue Committee

Contracts #306-0208-A-00-8829-00  
and #306-0211-A-00-8829-00

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. INTRODUCTION	1
II. BACKGROUND	1
III. RAP'S OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES	2
IV. RAP'S 1991 ACTIVITIES	3
A. PROPOSAL REVIEW	4
B. NARRATIVE AND FINANCIAL REPORTING	5
C. MONITORING	5
1. 1991 Monitoring Activities	5
D. PVO TRAINING UNIT	6
1. Rationale for Establishing a Training Unit	6
2. Training Unit's 1991 Activities	7
E. OTHER ACTIVITIES	8
1. ANGO Study	8
2. Personnel Changes	8
V. PVO'S SUPPORTED BY RAP	9
A. 1991 PROJECTS FUNDED BY RAP	9
B. USAID BAN	10
C. 1991 PVO ACTIVITIES	10
1. Afghanistan	10
2. Afranc	11
3. CARE International	12
4. Co-ordination of Afghan Relief	13
5. Co-ordination of Humanitarian Assistance	15
6. Engineering Services for Afghanistan Reconstruction	16
7. Farah Reconstruction Foundation	16
8. Mercy Corps International	17
9. Mercy Fund	17
10. Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan	18
11. Save the Children Federation	18
12. Solidarites Afghanistan	20
D. OTHER PVO'S	21
VI. FUTURE DIRECTIONS	22

Annexure 1 - Project Proposal Review During 1991

Annexure 2 - Project Monitoring During 1991

Annexure 3 - Training Unit Activities During 1991

Annexure 4 - RAP Organizational Chart

Annexure 5 - Map of Location of RAP Funded Projects in Afghanistan

Annexure 6 - RAP and Afghan PVO's

## I. INTRODUCTION

The International Rescue Committee's (IRC) Rural Assistance Program (RAP) experienced many challenges and changes during this eventful year. Overall, RAP was able to expand and strengthen its program to meet the changing needs of RAP's partner organizations and the communities with which they work.

The outbreak of the Gulf war in January 1991 led to the evacuation of expatriate staff. The RAP office continued to function under the direction of the Internal Auditor and Office Manager. By April, all staff were able to return to Pakistan and RAP's previous level of activity was restored.

RAP's activities were also affected by a dramatic increase in security incidents directed against NGO activities. Many agencies experienced the theft of materials and funds, hijacking of vehicles, kidnapping of staff and, in one instance, the death of a staff member. This deterioration in security led USAID, in mid-July, to impose a ban on the entry into Afghanistan of any expatriate staff, project funds, supplies, and/or commodities paid for by USAID. As a result of this ban, most RAP-funded projects came to a virtual standstill and no new project proposals were funded. On December 29, the ban was lifted for all areas of Afghanistan except Ghazni province where two Americans had been kidnapped and held hostage.

RAP's funding of cross-border projects during 1991 was lower than anticipated as a result of the Gulf War and the USAID ban on cross-border activities. Nevertheless, RAP did review and approve 15 proposals totaling \$2,000,177 for projects in nine provinces of Afghanistan. Due to the USAID ban, one of the projects was cancelled and 14 were delayed, most of which did not fully achieve their objectives.

One of RAP's major accomplishments during 1991 was the establishment of the PVO Training Unit. It will enable RAP to complement its financial assistance by providing institutional development assistance to the increasing number of Afghan PVO's with which RAP is dealing. The goal of the Training Unit is to provide the staff of Afghan PVOs with the administrative and technical skills required to implement rehabilitation projects inside Afghanistan. Since its creation in April, the Training Unit has hired and trained staff, initiated the development of course curricula, and conducted the first courses.

## II. BACKGROUND

RAP has evolved from early efforts to provide humanitarian assistance to the people living inside Afghanistan. Funds for such aid came in 1985 from the U.S. Government's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA). This funding responsibility was transferred to USAID's Office of the AID Representative for Afghanistan (O/AID/REP), after it was established in the same year. USAID identified Private Voluntary Organizations (PVOs), many of which had been working

in Afghanistan since soon after the war began, as the most suitable implementing partners under the existing circumstances. As many of these groups were European based, and therefore unable to receive direct USAID assistance, IRC was selected to serve as a channel for these funds. From 1985 to 1988, \$6.9 million in grant funds were given to PVOs through IRC for cross-border projects. During these years the majority of assistance focused on health care training, support for medical facilities and cash for food programs.

By 1988, increasing stability in many areas made it possible to provide other types of assistance to those remaining in Afghanistan. In response to this opportunity, the O/AID/REP initiated the Rural Assistance Program (RAP) which would continue to provide emergency and survival assistance as needed, but would increasingly aim to support projects that would raise levels of food production and incomes in rural areas of Afghanistan. IRC was chosen by USAID to manage RAP, and in June 1988 a Cooperative Agreement was signed appropriating \$10 million dollars over a two-year period to fund cross-border projects implemented by PVOs. Since that date, amendments to the Co-operative Agreement have increased the grant total to \$18.85 million, and extended the life of the project until December 31, 1992.

### III. RAP'S OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES

The objectives of RAP are to fund PVO projects that provide survival assistance in emergency situations, or that provide short-term relief and rehabilitation assistance designed to increase agricultural productivity and rural incomes in Afghanistan. The program was originally intended to provide relief assistance which would enable Afghans to remain in Afghanistan rather than to become refugees in Pakistan or Iran. In anticipation of refugee repatriation, however, the program is increasingly being viewed as a means to restore the agricultural sector in Afghanistan in order to sustain existing populations and returning refugees, as well as to provide an incentive for those presently in Pakistan to return.

Funding priorities have been developed for RAP in order to achieve these objectives. One of these is to pay increasing attention to the sustainability of programs by requiring greater community contribution to the projects which it funds. Another priority of RAP is to promote sustainability by strengthening Afghan PVOs through the provision of increased institutional development assistance as well as financial support. A third priority of RAP is to increase assistance to under-served areas and to under-served populations. A final priority of RAP is to try to more accurately assess the impact projects are having on the target populations.

RAP's objectives are achieved primarily through funding cash for work projects which provide employment to many Afghans in rural areas. The majority of such funds are used to clean and repair canals and karezes (traditional irrigation systems). During the war many of these became inoperable, either as a result of bombing or through

lack of maintenance due to an inadequate labor force. Their repair is essential for the rehabilitation of the agricultural sector which, in many areas, will be a pre-condition for the return of refugees.

Another major component of RAP grants is transporting and distributing agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, and farm machinery. Several PVOs have begun seed multiplication programs to introduce high yield varieties of wheat. In war affected regions where there has been no recent harvest, farmers need seed to plant their first crop. There is also a shortage of draft power as a result of the war, and where necessary, PVOs are providing tractors and oxen to clear and plow fields.

RAP also funds a women's income generating program which operates in three provinces of Afghanistan. This project provides the materials for women to produce handicrafts primarily consisting of needlework unique to their particular region. Production of these items provides women the opportunity to assist financially in the support of their families.

Attainment of these objectives lies with the PVOs who implement the projects in Afghanistan. RAP is increasingly emphasizing the need to provide institutional development assistance to PVOs along with financial assistance for their projects. A priority of RAP will be to continue to strengthen PVO cross-border assistance programs by helping PVOs improve the quality of their project proposals, reports and monitoring. With the establishment of the Training Unit, RAP can also now assist in strengthening PVOs and their programs by training their staff. Most of RAP's efforts in this regard will be focused on Afghan PVOs as they are playing an increasingly important role in the reconstruction of Afghanistan.

#### IV. RAP'S 1991 ACTIVITIES

USAID approved three modifications to the Co-operative Agreement during 1991. The expiration date of the project was extended to December 31, 1992 when Amendment #10 was signed in March. Amendment #11, signed in June, obligated an additional \$2,000,000, committed \$2,050,000 in future funding, and made revisions to the budget. This brought the total amount obligated to IRC to \$16,800,000 and the total estimated grant value to \$18,850,000. In September, the Co-operative Agreement was fully funded when \$2,050,000 was obligated under Amendment #12. Budget revisions were also made at this time.

Under the terms of the Co-operative Agreement, RAP reviews project proposals received from PVOs, submits its recommendations regarding the proposals to USAID, administers and monitors the grants approved for funding, and provides assistance to PVOs through the Training Unit.

## A. PROPOSAL REVIEW

The RAP Coordinator, and the staff of RAP's Proposal Review Department, spend a large percentage of their time meeting with PVOs to discuss their eligibility for receiving RAP funds, their proposal ideas, and their proposals. RAP discourages PVOs from submitting proposals until the project concept has been discussed and approved by RAP. This reduces the number of proposals RAP receives, as well as the risk that a PVO will spend time and energy developing a proposal that RAP will not fund. Once a proposal is received, the RAP office evaluates it and, if necessary, provides recommendations to the PVO on how it could be strengthened. If the proposal is acceptable to RAP it is forwarded to USAID for funding consideration.

During the last two years RAP has made a concerted effort to improve the quality of project proposals. The preparation of the "RAP Manual" in 1990, which was translated into Farsi in 1991, was the first step taken to improve PVO proposals. In March, RAP hired an Afghan engineer to assist in proposal review, and to provide technical assistance to PVOs developing proposals for RAP. In September, RAP conducted a proposal writing workshop for PVOs which was designed to familiarize PVOs with RAP's proposal requirements. This was very well received and RAP has received several requests to repeat the workshop.

In September, RAP finalized and distributed a "Project Design and Data Collection Guidelines" manual, which is to be used by PVOs along with the "RAP Manual" when preparing proposals and reports. These guidelines were developed in order to improve the quality of data and technical information being provided in PVO proposals and reports. The guidelines present a series of low-technology, low-cost and low-effort data collection methods that PVOs can use to gather data to justify their requests for funding. RAP expects that the collection of more accurate data will improve project proposals, reports and implementation, and will enable a more accurate assessment of project impact in target areas.

RAP has seen a dramatic improvement in the quality of PVO proposals during 1991. It is expected, and there are strong indications to prove, that the increased effort PVOs have put into preparing better planned and designed proposals has resulted in better implemented projects in Afghanistan.

During 1991, 34 PVOs approached the RAP office for project funding. A total of 41 project proposals were reviewed, of which 15 were approved, eight are still being reviewed, and 18 were rejected. RAP grants during 1991 totaled \$2,000,177.

There was a noticeable increase in the number of Afghan PVOs seeking RAP funding during 1991. Of the 34 PVOs that approached RAP for funding, 25 were Afghan PVOs and of the 41 project proposals that were reviewed, 28 were submitted by Afghan PVOs. Six of these proposals (including two received in late 1990), totaling \$635,032, were submitted to USAID and each was approved for funding. (For more details on RAP's proposal review activities during 1991, see Annexure 1.)

## B. NARRATIVE AND FINANCIAL REPORTING

In addition to improving the quality of project proposals, RAP worked hard in 1991 to improve the quality of PVO narrative and financial reports. This, in turn, has enabled RAP to improve its own reporting. A full-time expatriate Project Officer was hired to review PVO Quarterly Narrative Reports, to compare the report information with the original proposal information, and to provide advice to PVOs on how to improve the quality of their reports. The Project Officer also began to set up a computerized data base of PVO proposal information, report information, and RAP monitoring information. This program should be operational by the spring of 1992. RAP also strengthened its Accounting Department by hiring a more qualified Assistant Internal Auditor, as well as a bookkeeper. With this increased support, RAP's Internal Auditor was able to conduct nine audits of RAP-funded projects and 8 audits of IRC's Medical Co-financing Program grants. RAP's policy is to conduct internal audits at the conclusion of every RAP grant.

During 1991, RAP's Internal Auditor conducted accounting workshops in Peshawar and Quetta which were designed to instruct PVOs in RAP's financial requirements, and to improve PVO Quarterly Financial Reports. As with the proposal writing workshop, these accounting workshops were very well received and RAP expects to repeat them in 1992.

## C. MONITORING

RAP has a policy to try to monitor every project it funds at least once during its implementation or shortly after its completion. Monitoring projects is essential to insure proper accountability and to verify that program objectives are being achieved. Monitoring information also gives RAP the opportunity to provide advice to PVOs on how their projects could be improved. As most PVOs rely on their field staff alone for project information, RAP's independent monitoring capability can serve as an important management tool for PVO directors and managers. Monitoring reports also help RAP set priorities regarding geographic areas of greatest need and activities likely to be the most successful and beneficial. RAP has also sent its monitors to project sites at the proposal stage to verify the need for assistance and to determine the feasibility of the proposed project.

RAP's monitoring team consists of an expatriate manager and six Afghan monitors. A second British national, who initially worked with the monitoring section as an assistant manager, was appointed Manager of the Training Unit in April.

### 1. 1991 Monitoring Activities

The Gulf War, natural disasters, the deteriorating security situation in Afghanistan, and the USAID ban on cross-border activities all served to limit RAP's monitoring activities during 1991. Nevertheless, the monitoring teams were able to conduct 12 missions to monitor RAP projects and one mission to monitor a grant administered

through IRC's Medical PVO Co-financing Program. (See Annexure 2 for a summary of RAP's 1991 monitoring activities.)

Two monitoring missions to Kandahar which planned to monitor Afrane's Grant #16 and Solidarites Afghanistan's Grant #30 were cancelled because of the evacuation of the Monitoring Manager and Assistant Manager during the Gulf War. In-house training of the monitors was postponed as well. Instead, in order to assess the extent of damage caused by an earthquake in northern Afghanistan and severe flooding in southern Afghanistan, the monitors were sent to adjoining areas in Pakistan to interview people displaced by these disasters. The information collected was useful in appraising proposals and requests for assistance from PVOs wishing to respond to these emergencies. Intended monitoring of one such proposal approved by RAP for funding, Mercy Corps International's flood relief project in Kandahar province, was prevented as the continued flooding delayed project implementation.

During their absence, the expatriate monitoring staff prepared the curriculum for a monitor training course. Upon their return in April, the course began. The purpose of the course was to improve the monitoring skills of RAP's monitors, thereby ensuring more accurate and objective reporting on projects. The course was conducted under the direction of the newly-formed RAP Training Unit. Topics covered included principles of monitoring, pre-mission planning, report writing and field training such as flow measurement, crop-cut methods and soil analysis. During the course, a trip to Paktika province to monitor an irrigation repair project helped to reinforce the classroom instruction.

From mid-July onwards, the USAID ban precluded the use of RAP vehicles for monitoring in Afghanistan. This delayed but did not prevent monitoring as RAP was able to rent vehicles to continue its monitoring activities. During the ban, RAP was able to monitor 12 projects in Farah, Paktika, Logar, Wardak and Nangahar provinces.

#### D. PVO TRAINING UNIT

##### 1. Rationale for Establishing a Training Unit

A top priority of RAP is to promote sustainability by funding and strengthening Afghan PVOs. In late 1989, USAID approved the first grant through RAP to one such group. Since then, RAP and USAID have approved 13 more proposals from Afghan PVOs, committing a total of \$1,760,156 to these organizations to date.

Along with this financial assistance came an increase in the time RAP staff committed to working with these nascent PVOs. Considerable time and effort were spent advising and assisting these groups at the proposal development, project implementation, and narrative and financial report writing stages. RAP realized that if it was to continue increasing its financial assistance to Afghan PVOs in a responsible manner, it would have to expand its existing capacity to provide support and training to them.

This was the rationale behind IRC's proposal to USAID in March 1991, to establish a PVO Training Unit within the RAP structure. In June, USAID approved the proposal and as part of Amendment #11 to the Co-operative Agreement, approved \$468,300 to fund the Training Unit through December 1992. The Training Unit's funds were later revised to \$456,011 when Amendment #12 was signed in September.

The goal of the Training Unit is to provide training for Afghan PVO staff which will enable them to successfully implement cross-border rehabilitation programs. The Training Unit's objectives are:

- to develop courses and training materials to help address identified needs;
- to act as a training resource center;
- to follow-up on training and monitor the post-training performance of trainees; and
- to provide in-house training for RAP staff which will enable the organization to better achieve its objectives.

## 2. The Training Unit's 1991 Achievements

Most of the summer and fall were spent hiring and training staff and preparing course curricula. Presently, the Training Unit is staffed by two expatriates (the Assistant Manager and a Curriculum Advisor) and ten Afghans (one senior training advisor, three training advisors, four trainers, an administration assistant/translator and a part-time artist who prepares teaching materials). The Training Unit's Manager left the program in September and the Assistant Manager is currently serving as the Acting Manager.

The first Training Unit course began in April. Under the direction of the Training Unit Manager, a course was conducted for the RAP monitors using a curriculum developed by the Training Unit Manager and Monitoring Manager. The first stage of the course, held in Peshawar, was followed by a field trip to Afghanistan. The training was then completed at the Darsamand Training Center in Kohat district.

In September and October, four workshops were conducted by the Training Unit for PVO staff in proposal writing, accounting (offered in Peshawar and Quetta), and communication techniques. In December, the first two of the Training Unit's PVO courses were offered. The first was a two week Administration and Management course, and the second a two week Community Participation course. Curricula were also prepared during this period for Field Accounting, Record Keeping, Report Writing, and Extension courses which are to be offered in January and February 1992. (A list of the workshops and courses offered by the Training Unit during 1991 is given in Annexure 3.)

In December, the Training Unit held its first seminar of what is planned to be a monthly seminar series. Approximately 60 members of the PVO community participated in this seminar in which Dr. Maurice Albertson of Colorado State University discussed the topic of "International Aid -- What's Missing?" The objective of the seminar series is to bring primarily Afghan PVO directors and managers together on a monthly basis for presentations on relief and development issues, and to discuss the relevance of these issues in the Afghanistan context.

## E. OTHER ACTIVITIES

### 1. ANGO Study

In the fall of 1991, RAP commissioned a two-month study of Afghan NGOs. This study, prompted in part by RAP's need to channel increasing funding to Afghan NGOs, was intended to accomplish two tasks. First, the consultants were to prepare a general issues paper of use to the donor and NGO communities discussing the nature of Afghan NGOs, issues relating to funding Afghan NGOs, socio-political issues raised by funding Afghan NGOs, and training needs of Afghan NGOs. Second, the consultants were to make recommendations on the strategies and policies IRC should adopt with regard to Afghan NGOs.

The report will be finalized in early 1992. The consultants identified more than 100 Afghan NGOs, many of which had formed in the past year. The report recommends that RAP should increase its funding for Afghan NGOs but channel most of that funding to a limited group of NGOs. RAP would then be able to assist these organizations in their institutional development, providing technical and administrative support and training. In selecting Afghan NGOs to fund, the report recommends that RAP should attempt to attain a reasonable level of regional and ethnic diversity, obtain some sectoral mix of engineering and agriculture groups, and select groups that have sufficient technical capacity and the ability to develop community support and investment.

### 2. Personnel Changes

During 1991, there was a large turnover of expatriate staff in the RAP office. In April, Olwen Herbison joined RAP as a Curriculum Consultant for the PVO Training Unit. In July, Heidi Wagner left her position as Assistant Coordinator at RAP to become Coordinator of IRC's Women's Programs. In August, Christina O'Grady joined RAP as the Reports Officer. In September, Evan Canfield, the Manager of the Proposal Review Department, left to resume studies in the U.S. He was replaced by William Miller, who had been working as a consultant on agriculture to RAP since June. In September, Jonathan Goodhand, the Manager of the PVO Training Unit, left to resume studies in England. Terry Leary, who joined RAP in August as Assistant Manager of the Training Unit, became Acting Manager following his departure. In September, Lisa Laumann joined RAP as Project Officer for the Medical PVO Co-Financing Agreement which is administered through the RAP office. (An organizational chart for the RAP office is contained in Annexure 4.)

## V. PVO'S SUPPORTED BY RAP

Since RAP's inception in June 1988, a total of 59 grants, totaling \$11,710,503, have been approved. Of this total, 34 projects have been completed and fully liquidated, 11 are completed and in the process of being liquidated, 10 are in progress, one was cancelled and, due to the USAID ban, the implementation of three is yet to begin. These projects are implemented by 12 PVOs (five Afghan, four American and three European) in 19 different provinces of Afghanistan. (See Annexure 5 for the geographic location of these projects.)

## A. 1991 PROJECTS FUNDED BY RAP

During the first quarter of 1991, RAP completed the review of six proposals which were submitted at the end of 1990, including two from an Afghan PVO. USAID approved all for funding. Throughout the year, RAP received a further 35 new proposals from 23 PVOs. Of these, 26 proposals were from 18 Afghan PVOs. Of the 35 proposals submitted nine were approved for funding by USAID. Four of these were from Afghan PVOs.

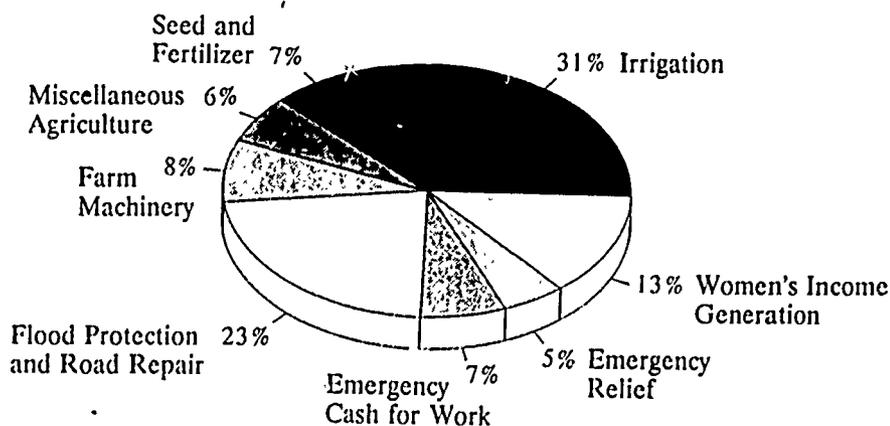
Projects recommended for funding and approved by USAID during 1991 were:

Grant #	PVO*	Grant Amount	Province	Type of Assistance
45	CHA **	\$ 45,675	Farah/Nimroz	Emergency relief for flooding, cash for work
46	MCI	\$100,000	Kandahar	Emergency relief for flooding
47	Mercy Fund	\$ 75,561	Paktika	Irrigation repair
48	SCF	\$265,919	Baghlan/Ghazni/ Nangarhar	Women's income generation
49	SCF	\$307,005	Ghazni	Irrigation repair, erosion control, road repair
50	Solidarites	\$ 58,122	Wardak	Road repair
51	CoAR**	\$228,709	Ghazni/Wardak	Irrigation repair, seed/fertilizer, fruit trees, bees, nursery, tractors, workshop
52	CoAR	\$213,859	Ghazni	Irrigation repair, seed/fertilizer, fruit trees, nursery, tractors
53	FRF **	\$ 1,356	Farah	Emergency relief for flooding
54	SCF	\$ 16,000	Nangarhar	Emergency relief for earthquake
55	Afranc	\$259,733	Ghazni	Irrigation repair, seed/fertilizer, fruit trees, tractors, erosion control, road repair
56	ESAR **	\$ 57,131	Paktika	Irrigation repair
57	Afghanaid	\$201,018	Takhar	Irrigation repair, seed/fertilizer
58	Solidarites	\$ 81,757	Wardak	Irrigation repair
59	RAFA **	\$ 88,302	Paktika	Irrigation repair

\* Acronyms are spelled in the text of the report.

\*\* Denotes organization is an Afghan PVO

### 1991 RAP FUNDING BY SECTOR



Note: Miscellaneous Agriculture includes fruit trees and bees.

## B. USAID BAN ON CROSS-BORDER ACTIVITIES

In July 1991, a ban was imposed on all USAID-funded cross-border programs as a result of the increasing number of thefts, hijackings and kidnappings directed against the activities of aid agencies in Afghanistan. During the period of the ban, all commodities, funds and expatriate personnel supported by US government funding, were not permitted to enter Afghanistan. This not only affected on-going RAP-funded projects, but prevented RAP from funding any new PVO project proposals.

The ban led to difficulties of varying degrees for RAP's grantees. In some situations, where materials and funds were transferred to project sites before the ban was imposed, work continued until these stocks were depleted. In other situations, supplies were available at the site but salaries of workers could not be paid, which resulted in the cessation of the projects. By not being able to complete project activities or pay salaries, many of the PVOs had difficulty maintaining their credibility with the local communities. Furthermore, by the time the ban was lifted in December, the best time for project implementation was lost. Most projects will not be able to resume their activities until warmer weather returns in the spring.

The restrictions of the ban also led to financial difficulties for PVO's. Some were fortunate enough to be able to borrow funds from alternate sources while others were unable to pay the salaries of staff and laborers until the ban was lifted. Consequently, PVOs re-assessed their projects and requested time extensions and budget revisions which, in some cases, reduced the project's activities. Budget revision requests beyond RAP's approval authority have been forwarded to USAID.

On December 29, USAID lifted the ban for all areas in Afghanistan except Ghazni province. Several RAP grantees have projects in this province and it is hoped the restrictions on this area will soon be lifted.

## C. 1991 PVO ACTIVITIES

### 1. Afghanaid

Afghanaid is a British PVO which has been funded by RAP since 1988. In that time 11 grants, totalling almost \$2.5 million, have been approved. In 1991, a proposal for irrigation repair and seed multiplication in Takhar province was submitted by Afghanaid and approved, but could not be implemented due to the USAID ban. Two projects begun in 1990, were completed this year.

One Afghanaid proposal that was on-going from 1990, was Grant 39 (\$184,850) in the Panjshir Valley of Kapisa province. This grant has been fully liquidated. The project benefitted 3,926 families by successfully completing the following activities:

- collecting, treating and re-distributing 30 metric tonnes (mt) of improved wheat seed, multiplied last season, with 29.7 mt of DAP and 37.5 mt of Urea fertilizers;

- distributing 45.9 mt of DAP and 69 mt of Urea for use on wheat seed multiplied last season but not collected;
- purchasing and re-distributing 25 mt of local wheat seed with 22.6 mt of DAP and 30.2 mt of Urea; and
- distributing 21 mt of improved wheat seed, transported from Pakistan, with 22.6 mt of DAP and 30.2 mt of Urea.

The second on-going Afghanaid proposal was Grant 40 (\$91,374), in Chardara district of Kunduz province. Grant 40 has been fully liquidated. Originally, Afghanaid intended to provide agricultural inputs and repair irrigation systems under this grant. Increased military activity in the project area resulted in the cancellation of the irrigation component of the project. Nevertheless, the project benefitted 1,532 families through the distribution of wheat seed and fertilizers as follows:

- distribution of 15.5 mt of improved wheat seed, transported from Pakistan, with 15.5 mt of DAP and 23.25 mt of Urea; and
- the purchase and distribution of 53.2 mt of local wheat seed with 35.14 mt of DAP and 53.2 mt of Urea.

Afghanaid's Grant 57 (\$201,018) was approved in July, but an agreement was not signed due to the USAID ban and implementation has not begun. The 10 month project intends to restore and protect from flooding 1,920 hectares of agricultural land in Taloqan district of Takhar province, by constructing three gabion off-takes, one gabion groin and three stone and concrete protection walls. To complement this work, five tonnes of improved seed will be distributed for multiplication purposes.

Afghanaid's Grant 19, completed in 1990, was fully liquidated in 1991.

## 2. Afrane

Afrane, a French organization, has had eight projects totalling almost \$1.65 million funded through RAP since 1988. This includes a year long rural rehabilitation project in Ghazni province which was approved in 1991 as Grant 55. During this year Afrane has submitted final reports for projects completed in 1990 and consulted RAP on possible funding for projects in Badakshan and Logar provinces.

Under Grant 55 (\$259,733), Afrane proposed to repair 95 karezes, prevent river bank erosion by constructing 140 meters of retaining wall, provide farm traction, distribute 30 mt of improved wheat seed and 3,000 apple tree saplings and repair damaged sections along 52 km of road in Giro, Jaghatu and Khodja-Omari districts. However, three months after the project began the USAID ban came into force severely affecting the project's progress.

The status of Afrane's Grant 55 is as follows:

- The initial stages of the wheat multiplication began with the application to the wheat of locally purchased Urea fertilizer during the last growing stages before harvest. However, a lack of funds caused by the ban prevented the continuation of this activity at the seasonally appropriate time. Consequently, the seed multiplication component of the project was cancelled.

- Two tractors with accompanying implements were purchased and transported to the project site. Once the harvesting of the summer yield and ploughing for the winter crop were completed, the tractors were utilized for road repairing activities.
- Assessment of the repairs required for each karez was completed but work has not begun as funds were not available for laborers wages.
- The river bank protection and fruit tree distribution has not begun.

A request by Afrane to extend the completion date and revise the budget of Grant 55 is under consideration.

At the beginning of 1991, RAP monitors had planned to inspect the project site of Afrane's Grant 16 in Kandahar province. However, the trip was not made as arrangements were not finalized when RAP's expatriate monitoring staff were required to leave Pakistan for security reasons. The area also became inaccessible due to flooding. This project concluded at the end of 1990 but difficulties in the field have delayed submission of the final report.

Afrane submitted the final report for Grant 24 (\$166,998) in Logar province, which ended in December 1990. RAP monitors visited the project in September 1991, and were impressed with the well-managed field operations.

Grant 25 (\$89,775) in Badakshan province, which ended in 1990, has been fully liquidated but the final narrative report is still pending.

The final report for Afrane's Grant 26 (\$143,827) in Herat province, which was completed in 1990, was submitted to RAP.

During the first quarter of 1991, Afrane approached RAP regarding possible funding for future projects in Badakshan and Logar provinces. Support for activities in Logar could not be considered until RAP had monitored Afrane's previous projects in this province. A \$158,868 proposal for seed multiplication and canal and road repair in Badakshan was submitted. RAP informed Afrane that it could not fund this project until Afrane had strengthened its field administration in this region.

### 3. CARE International

CARE's village assistance project, Grant 23 (\$1,044,911), in the Shegal, Pech and Marawara valleys of Kunar province ended in February 1991, after approval of several no cost extensions. Project funds have been fully liquidated.

CARE utilized 3,805 mt of wheat in the food security and food for work components of the project. The food security scheme benefited 2,366 families. After de-mining of project areas, activities such as road repair, irrigation channel repair, karez cleaning and storage building construction were implemented through the food for work component of the project. Throughout the project an average of 1,000 people were employed each month on reconstruction activities. CARE also provided mule traction training to eight farmers and five CARE sponsored farmers participated in a para-vet course conducted by O/AID/Rep.

#### 4. Co-ordination of Afghan Relief (CoAR)

RAP first funded CoAR, an Afghan PVO, in 1990. To date, five grants totalling almost \$700,000 have been approved. Two of the projects begun in 1990 in Ghazni and Wardak provinces, were completed this year. To continue and expand the activities initiated in these projects, two further grants were approved in 1991. CoAR also submitted a proposal for seed testing in Ghazni, Logar and Wardak provinces for which funding was not approved due to the USAID ban.

CoAR's operational structure involves two administrative bodies permanently based in Afghanistan. In Ghazni province, the Moqur Reconstruction Committee operates from the Moqur district center while in Wardak province, the Sayed Abad Reconstruction Committee is located in the district center of Sayed Abad. CoAR's agricultural, irrigation repair and engineering activities are managed from these locations.

CoAR's on-going projects from 1990 were Grant 38 (\$145,233) in Ghazni province, and Grant 41 (\$55,474) in Wardak province. Under Grant 38, an estimated 5,034 families benefited from the repair of 120 karezes in Moqur, Auband and Gelan districts and the delivery to Moqur district of two tractors with implements. Grant 41 benefited approximately 2,085 families by repairing 41 karezes and delivering a tractor with implements to Sayed Abad district. The karez repair in both these grants was carried out jointly with cash-for-work support from RAP and food-for-work support from WFP.

RAP monitoring of Grant 41 in November verified the reported achievements. The monitors felt the main reason for the projects success lay with the good relationship which has developed between CoAR and the community.

A CoAR proposal approved in 1991, was Grant 51 (\$228,709) in Sayed Abad and Chak districts of Wardak province, and Zanakhan district of Ghazni province. CoAR proposed the following: to purchase two tractors and establish a mechanical workshop; to rehabilitate 40 karezes; to distribute 30 mt of improved wheat seed and 75 mt of fertilizer; to distribute 300 bee families; to distribute 14,000 fruit tree saplings; and to establish a two-jerib (one jerib = 2000 m<sup>2</sup>) nursery. This has been achieved to a certain extent, though the imposition of the USAID ban prevented the continuation and completion of activities.

Grant 51 achievements to date are as follows:

- Two tractors and their accompanying implements were purchased and transported to the project site. One is located in Sayed Abad district while the other is in Zanakhan district. CoAR has cultivated approximately 2,550 jeribs of farming land in these areas.
- The mechanical equipment was purchased, transported to Sayed Abad district and installed in the workshop which was constructed by CoAR. The repair of farm machinery has been initiated.

- The 40 karezes which were to be repaired jointly under RAP cash-for-work and WFP food-for-work, are approximately 90% completed utilizing the WFP component only. With the lifting of the ban CoAR can now pay the laborers the cash component for this completed work.
- Due to the ban, CoAR was unable to purchase the seed and fertilizer for the intended autumn planting. These commodities will be purchased and a spring planting will take place.
- One hundred bee families were purchased from neighboring Logar province and are stationed in Sayed Abad district for distribution.
- During the spring of 1991, CoAR purchased locally 5,500 apple and apricot trees and distributed them to farmers in Sayed Abad district at 25% of the purchase price. Farmers received training in fruit tree planting, pruning and protection techniques.
- A two-gerib plant nursery has been established in Sayed Abad district.

When RAP monitors visited Grant 51 in November, the effects of the ban were apparent. However, the monitors felt that CoAR's good relations with the community would reduce dissatisfaction which could result from the delayed completion of the project.

The second proposal approved in 1991 was Grant 52 (\$213,859) in Moqur, Auband and Gelan districts of Ghazni province. CoAR proposed the following: to purchase two tractors; to rehabilitate 60 karezes; to distribute 45 mt of improved wheat seed, 112 mt of fertilizer and 12,000 fruit tree saplings; and to establish a two-gerib nursery. The imposition of the USAID ban also prevented the completion of Grant 52 activities.

Achievements, so far, have been:

- Two tractors and their accompanying implements were purchased and transported to the project site. One is located in Auband district while the other is in Gelan district. CoAR has cultivated approximately 2,500 geribs of farming land in these areas.
- The 60 karezes which were to be repaired jointly under RAP cash-for-work and WFP food-for-work, are approximately 85% completed utilizing the WFP component only. With the lifting of the ban, CoAR can pay the laborers the cash component for this completed work.
- Due to the ban, CoAR was unable to purchase the seed and fertilizer for the intended autumn planting. These commodities will be purchased and a spring planting will take place.
- During the spring of 1991, CoAR purchased locally 5,500 apple and apricot trees and distributed them to farmers in Moqur, Auband and Gelan districts at 25% of the purchase price. Farmers received training in fruit tree planting, pruning and protection techniques.

- A two-gerib plant nursery has been established in Moqur district.

To allow completion of project activities, CoAR's request for a no-cost extension until March 31, 1992 for both Grants 51 and 52 was approved.

During August CoAR submitted a \$60,888 proposal for seed testing in Ghazni, Logar and Wardak provinces. After review, RAP submitted the proposal to USAID for funding consideration. Unfortunately, USAID was unable to approve the project due to the USAID ban which went into effect at this time.

##### 5. Co-ordination of Humanitarian Assistance (CHA)

CHA was the first Afghan PVO to receive RAP funding. This occurred in 1989, and to date five projects totalling almost \$750,000 have been approved. Two projects funded in 1990 were carried over to 1991, and one additional project was approved this year.

CHA's two projects in south-western Afghanistan which began in 1990 are Grant 42 (\$220,818) in Farah province and Grant 43 (\$187,859) in Farah, Ghor and Nimroz provinces. Progress on both projects was delayed at the beginning of 1991 by the severe flooding affecting this region of Afghanistan. Completion is expected in early 1992.

Under Grant 42, CHA has cleaned 39 karezes and 43 canals in Anardarah, Lash Jowain, Shindand, Qala-e-Kah and Khak-e-Safed districts. Of these systems, six karezes and two canals were cleaned twice as flooding had filled them with silt. To further improve the benefits gained from repairing these systems, CHA has lowered the inlet to one of the canals, cut a new canal and constructed three bridges, two diversion dams and two flood protection walls.

The work proposed for Farah Center under Grant 42 could not be carried out due to the deterioration of security in this area. CHA substituted irrigation systems in more secure areas in place of those in Farah Center. This resulted in the number of cleaned and repaired karezes and canals being greater than the number proposed.

The achievements to date for Grant 43 have been the cleaning and repair of 42 karezes and 4 canals in Bakwa and Gulistan districts of Farah province, Kashrod district of Nimroz province and Taiwara district of Ghor province.

During September, RAP monitors were able to travel to some of the project sites of Grants 42 and 43. Poor security limited access to some areas. The monitors gave positive reports of CHA's progress and ability to implement projects in this difficult and remote area of Afghanistan.

CHA's response to the flooding disaster in the early part of 1991 was to submit a proposal for survival assistance for the people of Farah and Nimroz provinces. Grant 45 (\$45,675) in Jowain, Farah Center, and Bakwa districts of Farah and Kashrod district of Nimroz was approved, implementation is completed and funds have been fully liquidated.

Grant 45 proposed to provide relief assistance of food and blankets plus some cash-for-work to rebuild structures damaged by the flooding. When CHA reached the project location the people requested a change in the proposed activities. As well as delaying the project's commencement, the rain and flooding which continued for almost three months further caused the collapse of structures, damage to river banks and the silting of irrigation systems. The communities felt protection of agricultural land and reconstruction was more important than relief assistance and requested CHA to utilize all the project funds in the cash-for-work activities.

The project location was also altered to suit the conditions. Intensified fighting prevented CHA from working in Farah Center and the project was moved to Anardarah, Khak-e-Safed and Qala-e-Kah districts in Farah province.

The achievements of Grant 45 were:

- the construction of a flood protection wall, therefore negating the need for people to move to higher ground;
- the cleaning of four karezes; and
- the sinking of three wells, one of which supplied water to people dislocated from surrounding areas.

CHA's Grants 27 and 36, completed in 1990, were fully liquidated in 1991.

#### 6. Engineering Services for Afghanistan Reconstruction (ESAR)

ESAR, an Afghan PVO, received its first funding from RAP in 1991. Grant 56 (\$57,131) which funded a proposal to repair 17 karezes in Gomal, Owmna and Sharan districts of Paktika province was approved in May. Initially, work progressed well but all activity stopped when the ban was imposed and the wages of workers could not be paid. As 75% of the work had been completed before the ban went into effect, ESAR expects the project to be completed in early 1992. ESAR's request for a budget revision of \$11,715 for Grant 56, which was required as a result of the ban, has been approved.

In August, RAP monitors visiting the project site of Grant 56 verified ESAR's progress reports.

ESAR submitted two other proposals for funding consideration. The first of these was for karez repair in Zormat district of Paktia province. Due to the intensified fighting in this area, the proposal was not approved.

The other proposal was for karez repair in Shahwalikot district of Kandahar province. This proposal is currently under review.

#### 7. Farah Reconstruction Foundation (FRF)

In response to the flooding in south-western Afghanistan at the beginning of 1991, FRF submitted a proposal to provide relief supplies to the people of Farah province. Grant 53 (\$8,042) was the first RAP funding approved for this Afghan PVO. FRF, in conjunction with RONCO, transported 30 mt of United Nations supplied blankets, tea,

sugar, ghee, plastic sheets, sand bags, shovel, picks and buckets to 4,729 people in Balabolok and Bakwa districts of Farah. Originally, FRF intended to transport these commodities. However, RONCO's assistance resulted in FRF refunding \$6,686 of unspent transportation costs. This grant has been fully liquidated.

FRF submitted three proposals for Farah province. One was to repair 3 karezes in Farah Center district, another proposed to repair 12 km of canal in Balabolok district and the third would repair 18 km of canal, also in Balabolok district. RAP has not approved these projects.

#### 8. Mercy Corps International (MCI)

RAP first funded MCI in 1988 when two proposals were approved. Further funding was not granted until 1991 when a third proposal was approved. In total, MCI has received nearly \$350,000.

Kandahar province was also affected by the heavy rains and flooding in early 1991. A proposal to provide relief supplies to the people of this area was submitted by MCI and approved for funding. The implementation of Grant 46 (\$100,000) was delayed by the continuing rain and flooding. Ultimately, MCI purchased and delivered tents, tarpaulins, blankets and food to the people living in Maiwand, Panjwai and Arghandab districts of Kandahar. This grant also covered the transportation and distribution of similar commodities provided by the United Nations and Medicines Sans Frontiers. All funds from this grant have been fully liquidated.

RAP monitors planned to inspect the distribution of these commodities but the trip was cancelled due to delays in the project's implementation caused by the flooding. However, the UN and MCI were able to monitor the project. The UN's monitoring of the beneficiary selection process was positive while MCI's expatriate staff member who inspected the project was also satisfied with the implementation methods used.

#### 9. Mercy Fund

Mercy Fund is a U.S. based PVO that has received over \$1.2 million since 1988 to fund seven projects. Of these, one was ongoing from 1990, while another was approved this year.

Grant 44 was approved at the end of 1990 and was finalized during 1991. Unfortunately, this agriculture/engineering survey and rehabilitation project in Baghlan province was not implemented. At the beginning of the grant period, project funds enroute to the site were stolen. Mercy Fund was informed that the funds had been recovered and were at the site. Snow blocked passes prevented access to the area during winter. When the pass opened in May, which was later than usual, Mercy Fund staff began conducting the surveys. However, when it became apparent the funds were not available, the staff returned to Peshawar. After several months of negotiations the funds were recovered and returned to RAP. Due to the devaluation of the Rupee and Afghani during the grant period, the amount returned was less than originally granted. This exchange rate loss has been reported to USAID as stolen funds.

Mercy Fund submitted a proposal to repair 13 chows (covered irrigation channels) in Gomal district of Paktika province. This proposal was approved as Grant 47 (\$75,561). Mercy Fund was able to achieve more than they proposed and by the completion of the project repair of the following had been achieved:

- 14 chows;
- six in-takes; and
- one retaining wall.

RAP monitoring of the project in May and August indicated that the community was satisfied with the project's achievements. Grant 47 has been fully liquidated.

This organization has ceased operating as Mercy Fund. They no longer have connections with their parent organization in the United States and are now known as Koh-i-Noor Foundation.

#### 10. Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan (RAFA)

RAFA is an Afghan PVO which first received funding from RAP in 1990. This 1990 grant ended in 1991 and a new proposal was approved. A total of almost \$270,000 of has been approved to date.

The RAFA grant carried over from 1990 was for administrative support. Funds from Grant 33 (\$177,287) have been fully liquidated. At the completion of this grant RAP agreed to consider proposals for rehabilitation projects. Consequently, RAFA submitted 5 proposals during 1991.

RAFA submitted a proposal to repair 17 karezes in Waza Khwa district of Paktika province which was approved as Grant 57 (\$88,302). Due to the USAID ban, implementation of this project has not begun.

A proposal to rehabilitate karezes in Zarghoon Shahr district of Logar province could not be approved because increased military activity made the region unsafe. Another proposal for karez rehabilitation in Qarabagh and Andar districts of Ghazni province was not approved as two other PVOs were already conducting irrigation repair in this area. RAFA also submitted two proposals for emergency food assistance in Kahmard district of Bamiyan province and Jaghatu district of Ghazni province. RAP was unable to approve these projects as the need could not be justified.

#### 11. Save the Children Federation (SCF)

SCF, a U.S. based organization, has received over \$1.9 million to fund 8 projects since 1988. Proposals for women's income generation in Ghazni, Baghlan and Nangarhar provinces, rural rehabilitation in Ghazni province, and earthquake assistance in Nangarhar province were approved in 1991.

Grant 48 (\$265,949), approved in early 1991, is an extension of SCF's previously funded Grant 11. This income generating project is targeting 2,000 women in Qarabagh district of Ghazni, Nahrein district of Baghlan and Momandara district of

Nangarhar. Handicraft kits are prepared in Pakistan and transported to the women producers in these locations. The finished products are collected and brought back to Pakistan for sale in SCF shops.

The USAID restriction on cross border activities has interrupted the flow of new, completed and replacement kits between SCF and the producers. This will make it difficult for SCF to fully realize their project objectives within the grant period. However, achievements of Grant 48 have been:

- the training of nine local women to assist producers in their homes to facilitate the production of kits and ensure quality of work;
- distribution of 1,000 skill test kits;
- distribution of 2,200 production kits; and
- the return of 911 completed kits.

Unfortunately, in July SCF was the victim of one of the many security incidents occurring in Afghanistan. Rs.148,567 were stolen in Paktika province enroute to the project site. Survey and agricultural equipment and cameras belonging to SCF were also stolen as were personal items and money belonging to SCF staff.

Grant 49 (\$307,005), funded in 1991, proposes to rehabilitate 50 karezes, construct flood control structures, and repair 11 km of access road and 26 culverts in Qarabagh district of Ghazni province. Project implementation was delayed by snow blocked roads which opened later than expected. This delay was then compounded by the USAID ban. Before work was halted, due to a lack of funds resulting from the USAID ban, the following was achieved:

- rehabilitation of 31 karezes;
- construction of one flood control structure;
- partial (25%) construction of a second flood control structure;
- construction of one aqueduct; and
- repair of 40% of the road by digging side ditching for 10 km and repairing 14 culverts.

SCF Pakistan-based monitoring staff visited Grant 48 sites in Ghazni and Nangarhar provinces plus the project sites of Grant 49 in July. They felt the implementation methods used were effective and were pleased to see the good relations between SCF's field staff and the communities.

SCF has completed the implementation of Grant 54 (\$16,000) in Nangarhar province. This funding complemented the World Food Program inputs of wheat for an emergency food-for-work program to repair earthquake damage in Momandara district. A total of 675 houses in four villages were repaired and 750 meters of flood control structures located in two villages were constructed. The final narrative and financial reports are expected in the near future. In December, RAP monitors visited the project site of Grant 54.

SCF's Grant 12, completed in 1990, has been fully liquidated.

## 12. Solidarites Afghanistan

Solidarites Afghanistan, a French organization, has been implementing projects with RAP funding since 1988. Seven projects have been approved totaling over \$1.3 million. Two of these proposals, both in Wardak province, were approved in 1991, though implementation of one has not begun due to the ban. Solidarites have submitted final reports for a project begun in 1990 but completed in 1991, and for a project completed at the end of 1990. Two karez repair proposals for Oruzgan and Bamiyan provinces were also submitted.

Implementation of Grant 30 (\$79,235) in Kundahar province was completed at the end of 1990, and the final report was submitted in 1991. At the beginning of this year, RAP monitors had planned to inspect the project site of Grant 30. However, the trip was not made as arrangements were not finalized when RAP's expatriate monitoring staff were required to leave Pakistan for security reasons. The area also became inaccessible due to flooding.

Grant 37 (\$84,334) in Wardak province was completed in 1991. Solidarites submitted their final report and project funds were fully liquidated. An estimated 2,450 families living in Jaghatu, Sayed Abad and Chakh districts benefitted from the rehabilitation of 68 karezes.

The first Solidarites proposal funded in 1991 was a road repair project in the Sanglakh Valley of Maidan district of Wardak province. Grant 50 (\$58,122) proposed to build 38 culverts and three retaining walls to improve irrigation and prevent erosion along 24 km of road. Before the project was suspended, due to lack of funds resulting from the ban, the following was achieved:

- construction of two retaining walls;
- partial construction of one retaining wall;
- construction of one wash-crossing;
- construction of 31 culverts;
- partial construction of four culverts; and
- repair with gravel of 40% of the road.

Unfortunately, 13 of the completed culverts were damaged by trucks using the road too soon after the work was completed. A stronger agreement has been reached with the local authorities to ensure that the road remains closed for the period required to properly carry out the repairs.

Due to the ban, Solidarites experienced difficulties with the community because work could not progress. Sections of the road had been excavated but the culverts could not be built. This made the road condition worse than before the work had begun. In an attempt to continue the project, some of the community members loaned funds to Solidarites. As the ban continued, Solidarites sought funds from alternate sources and repaid these loans to maintain their credibility in the community.

Although the USAID ban has been lifted, completion of the project cannot take place immediately. The weather is too cold for cement work to be successful and the remaining work will have to be carried out in the spring.

RAP monitored Solidarites' activities in Wardak province in November. The project sites of Grants 31 (completed in 1990), 37 and 50 were visited. Solidarites' field office was well managed and organized with record systems in place. The monitors verified the difficulties Solidarites reported they had experienced with the community as a result of the ban. Grant 31 achievements, as stated in the final report, were also verified by the monitors.

Funding for Grant 58 (\$81,757), irrigation repair in Wardak province, was approved towards the end of 1991. Solidarites propose to construct 100 meters of retaining wall and four dams to improve irrigation to 800 jeribs of land and provide water to an additional 200 jeribs. Due to the ban, funds have not been released and implementation has not begun.

Solidarites has submitted two proposals for karez repair in Tirin Kot district of Oruzgan province and Shiber district of Bamiyan province. Both proposals are currently under review.

#### D. OTHER PVOs

The last two years have witnessed a dramatic increase in the number Afghan PVOs wishing to be involved in reconstruction activities inside Afghanistan. In addition to the five Afghan PVOs funded by RAP (CoAR, CHA, ESAR, FRF and RAFA), 23 other groups have contacted RAP seeking support for their projects. (This does not include the numerous verbal contacts made by many organizations seeking RAP support.) These organizations range from recently formed PVOs which are seeking their first funding, to those which have successfully implemented projects in Afghanistan and are wishing to increase their activities.

In an effort to better understand the nature of these groups, and to help formulate a RAP policy on how to deal with Afghan PVOs, RAP commissioned a two month study of Afghan PVOs in October. At the time of the study, more than 100 Afghan PVO's were found to be in existence. As RAP does not have the capacity to deal with this number of PVOs, a recommendation of the study was that RAP adhere strictly to eligibility criteria that would enable RAP to concentrate its attention on a limited number of Afghan PVOs rather than deal with a large number.

(See Annexure 6 for a description of RAP's involvement with some of these Afghan PVOs during 1991.)

## VI. FUTURE DIRECTIONS

During the coming year, RAP will continue its efforts to strengthen cross border assistance programs by helping RAP-funded PVOs improve the quality of their project proposals, reports, and monitoring. Most of these efforts will be focused on Afghan PVOs, as RAP increasingly looks to them to achieve its objectives in Afghanistan.

In order for the potential of Afghan PVOs to be fully realized, it is necessary to strengthen their administrative and technical capabilities. RAP's Training Unit will provide courses to upgrade the skills of PVO staff to fulfill this aim. During 1992, RAP plans to offer some of its training courses inside Afghanistan in order to meet the training needs of PVO field staff more effectively.

During the coming year, RAP's priorities will continue to be to encourage more sustainable projects, to increase assistance to under-served areas and under-served populations, and to try to more accurately assess the impact that projects are having in target areas. All of these priorities will have to be addressed within the context of the difficult working conditions in Afghanistan which are exacerbated by the fluid political and security situation. One of the advantages of providing assistance through small scale, short-term PVO projects is the flexibility it provides RAP to adapt and respond to changing conditions in Afghanistan. As the existing RAP program continues to develop, it is essential that it does not lose the flexibility necessary to operate in a changing environment.

PROJECT PROPOSAL REVIEW DURING 1991

Annexure 1

AFGHAN PVO's	QUARTER				C	D	P	REMARKS	NON-AFGHAN PVO's	QUARTER				C	D	P	REMARKS
	1	2	3	4						1	2	3	4				
AAA			*		x			Not eligible for RAP funding	AFGHANAID			*				x	Approved by USAID
ADA		*			x		x	Reviewed; awaiting revision	AFRANE	*						x	Approved by USAID
			*				x	Reviewed; awaiting revision		*						x	Rejected by RAP
AFITAR			*		x		x	Rejected; not eligible for RAP funding		*						x	Rejected by RAP
ARA			*		x			Eligibility under consideration	MCI	*						x	Approved by USAID
ARO			*		x			Eligibility under consideration	MERCY FUND	-						x	Approved by USAID
AWDA			*		x			Not eligible for RAP funding	SCF-US	-						x	Approved by USAID
BURC			*		x			Eligibility under consideration		-						x	Approved by USAID
CBR		*			x		x	Approved by RAP		*						x	Approved by USAID
			*			x		Under discussion	SOL. AF.	-						x	Approved by USAID
			*			x		Under discussion		*						x	Approved by USAID
CoAR	-						x	Approved by USAID				*				x	Reviewed; awaiting revision
	-						x	Approved by USAID				*				x	Reviewed; awaiting revision
			*				x	Rejected by USAID									
CHIA	*						x	Approved by USAID		10		1	2			13	PROPOSALS FROM NON-AFGHAN PVO's
EMAR			*		x			Eligibility under consideration									
ESAR		*			x		x	Approved by USAID									
			*				x	Rejected by RAP									
FRT	*				x		x	Approved by USAID									
HAFO	*				x		x	Approval pending with USAID									
JCE		*			x		x	Rejected; not eligible for RAP funding									
KAG		*			x		x	Approval pending with USAID									
KNF			*		x		x	Rejected by RAP									
			*				x	Rejected by RAP									
			*				x	Reviewed; awaiting revision									
LRO			*		x			Eligibility under consideration									
PRB			*		x			Eligibility under consideration									
RAIA	*						x	Rejected by RAP									
	*						x	Rejected by RAP									
		*					x	Rejected by RAP									
		*					x	Rejected by RAP									
		*					x	Approved by USAID									
RCCA			*		x			Not eligible for RAP funding									
RDA	*				x												
			*				x	Rejected by RAP									
RDW			*		x		x	Rejected; not eligible for RAP funding									
SJAWO		*			x			Eligibility under consideration									
START	*				x												
	*						x	Rejected by RAP									
			*				x	Under discussion									
SWFAO	*				x												
	*						x	Rejected; not eligible for RAP funding									
TPRPA			*		x		x	Rejected; not eligible for RAP funding									
WRC	*				x		x	Rejected; not eligible for RAP funding									
	6	6	6	7	23			PVO's CONTACTED RAP DURING 1991									
			3		3			PROPOSAL CONCEPTS UNDER DISCUSSION									
	9	8	9	2			28	PROPOSALS FROM AFGHAN PVO's									

- \* - QUARTER IN WHICH ACTIVITY OCCURRED
- - PROPOSALS SUBMITTED END 1990, DEALT WITH IN 1991
- C - PVO CONTACTED RAP
- D - PROPOSAL CONCEPT UNDER DISCUSSION
- P - PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO RAP

PROJECT MONITORING DURING 1991

Annexure 2

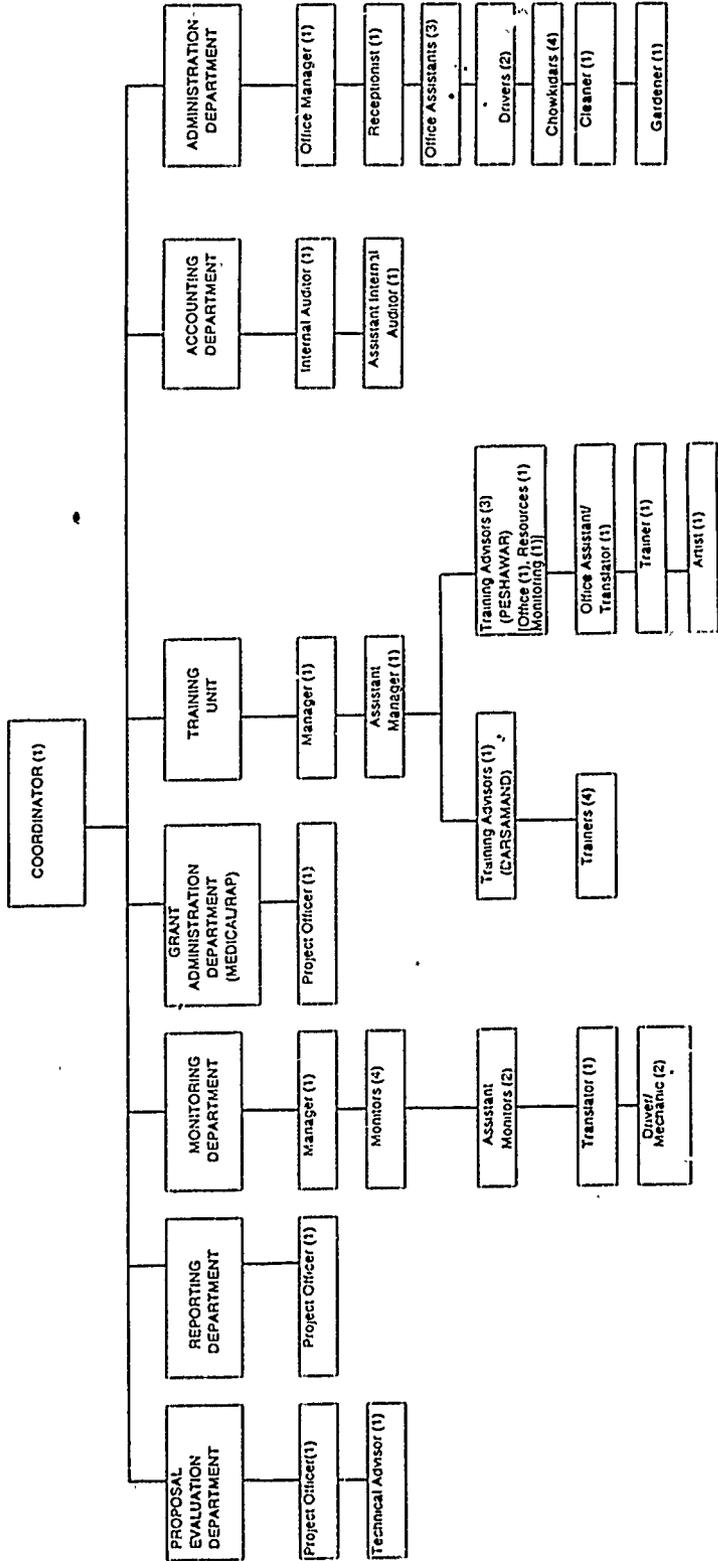
GRANT	PVO	LOCALITY	MONTH	REMARKS
#30	SOL. AF.	KANDAHAR	JANUARY	CANCELLED - PLANNING INCOMPLETE DUE TO EVACUATION OF STAFF
#16	AFRANE	KANDAHAR	*	CANCELLED - PLANNING INCOMPLETE DUE TO EVACUATION OF STAFF
#46	MCI	KANDAHAR	MARCH	CANCELLED DUE TO FLOODING
#47	MERCY FUND	PAKTIKA	MAY	SUCCESSFUL
#47	MERCY FUND	PAKTIKA	AUGUST	FOLLOW-UP - SUCCESSFUL
#56	ESAR	PAKTIKA	*	SUCCESSFUL
#24	AFRANE	LOGAR	SEPTEMBER	*
#42	CHA	FARAH	SEPT/OCT	*
#43	CHA	FARAH	*	*
#41	CoAR	WARDAK	NOV/DEC	*
#51	CoAR	WARDAK	*	*
#31	SOL. AF.	WARDAK	*	*
#37	SOL. AF.	WARDAK	*	*
#50	SOL. AF.	WARDAK	*	*
MEDICAL CO-FIN.	GAC	WARDAK	NOV/DEC	*
#48	SCF	NANGARHAR	DECEMBER	*

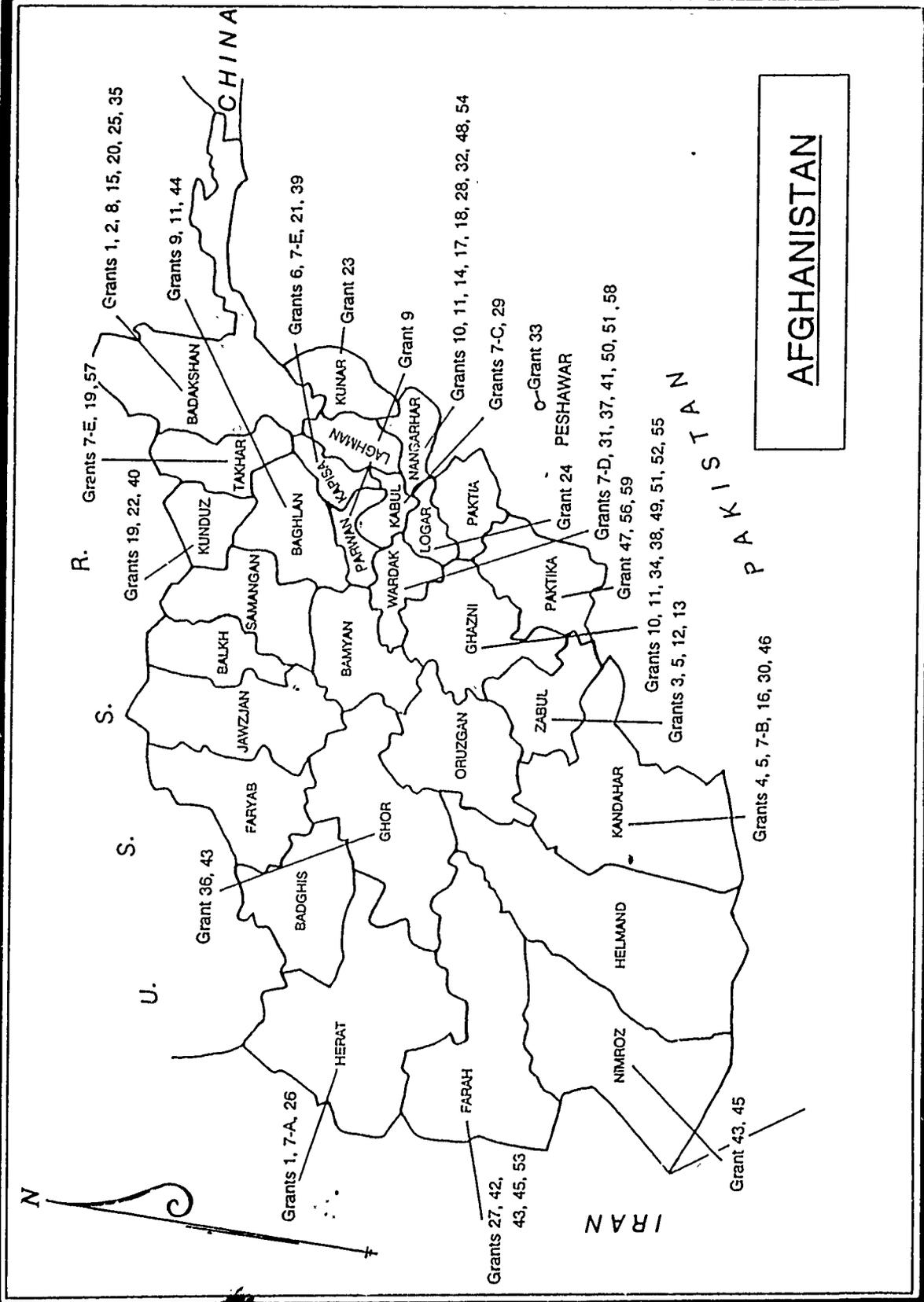
## TRAINING UNIT ACTIVITIES DURING 1991

### Annexure 3

COURSE	DATE	DURATION	PARTICIPANTS	LOCALITY
IN-SERVICE TRAININGS	WEEKLY SINCE THE TU'S INCEPTION	3 HOURS	8 RAP TRAINERS	TRAINING UNIT, PESHAWAR
MONITORING TECHNIQUES AND DATA COLLECTION	APRIL - JULY	5 WEEKS	6 RAP MONITORS	TRAINING UNIT, PESHAWAR; FIELD TRIP TO AFGHANISTAN; DARSAMAND TRAINING CENTER
PROPOSALS WORKSHOP	SEPTEMBER	ONE DAY	25 PVO STAFF	TRAINING UNIT, PESHAWAR
COURSE DESIGN	"	ONE WEEK	8 RAP TRAINERS	TRAINING UNIT, PESHAWAR
ACCOUNTS WORKSHOP	OCTOBER	TWO DAYS	20 PVO STAFF	TRAINING UNIT, PESHAWAR
ACCOUNTS WORKSHOP	"	ONE DAY	5 PVO STAFF	QUETTA
COMMUNICATION TECHNIQUES WORKSHOP	"	TWO DAYS	6 PVO STAFF	TRAINING UNIT, PESHAWAR
ADMINISTRATION/MANAGEMENT	DECEMBER	TWO WEEKS	8 PVO STAFF	DARSAMAND TRAINING CENTER
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION	"	TWO WEEKS	8 PVO STAFF	TRAINING UNIT, PESHAWAR
DISCUSSION/SEMINAR	"	HALF DAY	60 MEMBERS OF THE PVO COMMUNITY	TRAINING UNIT, PESHAWAR

INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE  
RURAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (Sept. 1991)





**1. Afghan Aid Association (AAA)**

AAA contacted RAP in July for funding consideration. RAP was unable to fund this group as they work in the medical field, an area which RAP does not fund.

**2. Afghan Development Association (ADA)**

ADA submitted two proposals to RAP during 1991. The first of these, submitted in April, was for irrigation repair in Wardak province. After reviewing this document RAP requested ADA to make amendments to the proposal. A revised proposal was submitted but it was still deficient in some areas. RAP's requirements were further clarified with ADA and changes to the proposal were requested. A further response from ADA was not forthcoming.

ADA submitted another proposal in November for integrated rural development in Kandahar, Oruzgan and Zabul provinces. The proposal was reviewed and required adjustment. RAP is awaiting ADA's response to these required changes.

**3. Ariana Female Technical Training for Afghan Refugees (AFTTAR)**

In July, AFTTAR submitted a proposal to RAP for a technical training project for refugee women in Pakistan. The project was not within RAP's scope and could not be funded.

**4. Agriculture Rehabilitation of Afghanistan (ARA)**

RAP held initial discussions with ARA in December.

**5. Afghanistan Rehabilitation Organization (ARO)**

ARO approached RAP in October for funding of rehabilitation projects in Afghanistan. ARO's eligibility for RAP funding is currently under consideration.

**6. Afghan Womens Development Association (AWDA)**

RAP was approached by AWDA in October for possible funding of poultry and goat projects in Nangarhar province. AWDA did not satisfy RAP's eligibility criteria.

**7. Bakhtar Unity Reconstruction Council (BURC)**

During September, BURC contacted RAP to gain support for their proposed irrigation rehabilitation projects in Oruzgan and Parwan provinces. The criteria to be satisfied by PVOs before RAP can consider funding a project has been communicated to BURC. As yet these requirements have not been satisfied.

**8. Consultant Bureau for Reconstruction (CBR)**

Discussions between CBR and RAP regarding possible funding for projects have been taking place since the middle of 1991. CBR plans to operate in Badakshan, Kabul, Kapisa, Kunduz and Takhar provinces in the fields of irrigation rehabilitation and road repair. Consequently, CBR submitted a proposal for rehabilitating six canals in Taloqan district of Takhar in June. After several revisions RAP approved the three month \$49,078 project. The proposal will soon be forwarded to USAID for funding consideration.

Two other proposals from CBR for road repair in Takhar province and erosion control in Badakshan province are presently under discussion.

#### 9. Engineering Management for Afghan Reconstruction (EMAR)

EMAR approached RAP in October for funding of rehabilitation projects in Afghanistan. RAP is currently determining EMAR's eligibility for funding.

#### 10. Helping Afghan Farmers Organization (HAFO)

In February, HAFO submitted a proposal for irrigation repair in Kandahar province. After several revisions RAP was satisfied with the proposal. HAFO proposes to rehabilitate six karezes and construct five flood embankments in Shahwalikot district at a cost of \$57,420. In November, the proposal was forwarded to USAID for funding consideration.

#### 11. Jihad Consulting Engineers (JCE)

JCE approached RAP in May to fund a survey of irrigation systems requiring repair in Baraki Barak district of Logar province. RAP was unable to consider this proposal.

#### 12. Khorasan Assistance Group (KAG)

KAG first contacted RAP in May with a proposal for irrigation repair in Ghazni province. After much discussion and several revisions of the proposal, RAP was satisfied with KAG's proposed project. KAG proposes to clean and repair 56 karezes in Qarabagh district of Ghazni for \$47,088. This proposal was submitted to USAID in December for funding consideration.

#### 13. Koh-i-Noor Foundation (KNF)

KNF was formed in June 1991. KNF's eligibility to receive RAP-funding has still not been determined. In July, KNF submitted three proposals to RAP for funding consideration.

Two proposals were for emergency assistance. One of these projects proposed to distribute food to internally displaced people in Wardak. The other project intended to pre-empt food shortages resulting from expected military activity in Nangarhar province. RAP rejected both of these projects because the need could not be adequately justified and the USAID ban, in force at the time, precluded transportation of commodities across the border.

The third proposal submitted by KNF was for irrigation rehabilitation in Ghazni and Wardak provinces. After reviewing the proposal, RAP communicated to KNF its' recommendations for revision. Further action on this proposal will depend on whether it is determined that KNF is eligible to receive RAP funding.

#### 14. Laghman Rehabilitation Organization (LRO)

LRO approached RAP in September for funding of rehabilitation projects in Laghman province. RAP is currently determining LRO's eligibility for funding.

#### 15. Pamir Reconstruction Bureau (PRB)

In October, PRB approached RAP regarding funding possibilities for rehabilitation projects in northern Afghanistan. RAP's eligibility criteria for PVOs was given to PRB. As yet, PRB does not satisfy all of RAP's requirements.



06