
Transitional Urban Support Program (TUSP)
Final Programmatic Report – CHF International, Inc.



United States Agency for International Development
Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance
January 31, 2005

1. INTRODUCTION

Since the fall of the Taliban the urban population in Kabul has doubled as a result of an influx of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and returnees to the capital city seeking shelter and better employment opportunities. The existing infrastructure and housing, already heavily damaged due to long years of conflict, was unable to accommodate their arrival. Many returnee and IDP families had no access to land. As a result, the existing houses, many in disrepair and lacking the minimum requirements of a secure shelter, were shared between the host/owner family and extended IDP or returnee families. Even those land-owning families could not undertake shelter construction or repair activities because of economic constraints.

2. PROGRAM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Transitional Urban Support Program (TUSP) set out to address the immediate housing and livelihood needs facing Kabul's returnee, IDP, and host families, while contributing to the development of a sustainable, long-term housing and economic development strategy.

TUSP's original objectives were as follows:

Objective 1: Stabilize living conditions by providing flexibly designed physical improvements to meet the particular needs of migrating populations, consisting of urban upgrades and shelter assistance to over 42,000 individuals.

Objective 2: Build community-based capacity among local institutions and other stakeholders to engage in the planning and provision of long-term shelter needs within the target area.

Objective 3: Maximize the economic benefits of TUSP through aggressive use of local business, laborers, program participants and other local resources and inject at least \$1.35 million directly into the local economy.

3. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

TUSP kicked off in mid-February 2004, and was scheduled for completion on June 30, 2004. The project received two no-cost extensions. The first extension was granted through August 15, 2004¹; the second was granted through October 31, 2004, and included a modification of scope, which utilized project savings for the construction of additional Transitional Shelters (TS).²

3.1 Project Setup

TUSP activities started rapidly in February: international and national staff recruitment; commencement of the District 7 survey; establishment of communication systems; site offices and warehouse/distribution point set up in District 7; presentation of the project to the relevant Afghan Government Ministries and *Wakils* (local community leaders); and coordination with UN agencies and international NGOs involved in similar projects. The main concentration of TUSP assistance targeted District 7; District 3 beneficiaries received only Shelter Repair (SR) packages.

3.1.1 Selection of Beneficiaries

TUSP target beneficiaries were families owning homes with modest to significant repair needs and families arriving in Kabul without host family connections. A District 7 survey was begun as soon as the TUSP project and its beneficiary selection criteria were introduced to the *Wakils*. *Wakils* and their representatives were involved in the beneficiary survey process. Lists of selected beneficiaries were distributed to the respective *Wakil* of each *Gozar* (sub-district) for public announcement. The selected beneficiaries were then required to collect their package distribution coupons at the CHF site office.

The first beneficiary survey did not reflect a great need for TS assistance; less than 50% of the targeted beneficiary family numbers were selected. Selection criteria considered property ownership as an essential factor for assistance qualification. Many of the surveyed families, although highly qualified in terms of vulnerability, were informal settlers. The need for TS assistance started to change in June with an increase in the number of

¹ This period will be referred to as Phase One throughout this document.

² This period will be referred to as Phase Two throughout this document.

returnees from both Iran and Pakistan to District 7. In response to this influx, a second survey was conducted among the new arrivals in District 7 to identify families qualifying for SR and TS assistance. This survey reflected a far greater need for TS packages than SR packages. Shelters of returnee families had been damaged beyond repair over more than two decades of war and negligence. A survey of District 3 started soon after to identify additional families qualifying for SR packages.

3.1.2 Selection of Materials Suppliers

Survey of the local market and available suppliers took place parallel to the first beneficiary survey. Suppliers were identified through a call for quotations by sealed bids. All procurement was done through local suppliers and a large percentage of the materials were produced or manufactured in Afghanistan. All materials delivered to the CHF warehouse were subject to a technical quality control inspection.

3.2 Packages Composition

Distribution of assistance packages started directly after completion of survey data analysis and beneficiary selection. The assistance packages distributed were divided into three types:

Shelter Improvement Support (SIS) packages included basic non-food items needed for a vulnerable Afghan household.

Shelter Repair (SR) packages included items to weatherproof an existing room by constructing or repairing a roof.

Transitional Shelter (TS) packages consisted of construction materials for a living space of 24.5m². TS packages were further divided into Category A and Category B packages. Category A were more comprehensive packages for beneficiaries whose homes were completely destroyed; Category B packages were for beneficiaries whose homes still had standing walls.

Table 1: Contents of Assistance Packages

Shelter Improvement Support			Shelter Repair			Transitional Shelter		
1	Camp Gas Burner	1 pc	1	Window	2 pcs	1	Window	2 pcs
2	Pressure Cooker	1 pc	2	Door	1 pc	2	Door	1 pc
3	Quilts	2 pc	3	Mosquito Nets	4 m	3	Mosquito Nets (0.9m)	4 m
4	Blankets	4 pc	4	Wooden Strips	3 pc	4	Wooden strips	3 pc
5	Mosquito Nets	8 m	5	Nails 1/2"	1 kg	5	Nails 1/2"	1 kg
6	Plastic Jerry Cans	2 pc	6	Saw	1 pc	6	Saw	1 pc
7	Wooden strips	12 m	7	Hammer	1 pc	7	Hammer	1 pc
8	Nails	1 kg	8	Plastic Sheeting	15 m	8	Plastic Sheeting (2m)	15 m
9	Saw	1 pc				9	Nails 2"	4 kg
10	Hammer	1 pc				10	Nails 6"	2 kg
11	Plastic Sheeting	3 m				11	Chicken Wire (1.2m)	20 m
						12	Tying Wire (1mm)	4 kg
						13	Wooden Poles (4m)	30 pcs
						14	Wooden Boards (2m)	48 pcs
						15	Bamboo Poles (6m)*	18 pcs

* Distributed to Category A

3.3 Package Distribution

Significant adjustments were made to initial package allocation over the course of the project, as reflected in the following table. These adjustments were made based on survey results and savings realized on procurement of assistance packages.

Table 2: Allocation of Assistance Packages

Package Type	Initial Distribution Targets (Families)	Post-Survey Distribution Targets (Families)	Modification of Scope Distribution Targets (Families)
SIS	Combined 5,950	3,500	6,500
SR		2,500	1,832
TS	1,050	1,000	1,380
Total	7,000	7,000	9,712

Surveys of District 7 reflected a higher need for SIS packages than SR packages. More than 80% of the surveyed families were IDPs and returnees, the majority of who did not have access to land. Most of these families were living temporarily with host families. As a result of this impermanence, their preference was to receive portable SIS packages.

Great savings were realized on SIS assistance packages through an adjustment to their contents and a competitive bidding process. To better address seasonal needs of beneficiary families, SIS packages were tailored to include year-round, rather than winter-specific, items. (Please refer to Table 1.) This modification, in addition to a highly competitive bidding process, reduced the SIS package price to 49.60 USD from an originally estimated 114 USD. Beneficiaries were content with these packages; a rough survey of bazaars close to District 7 showed no sign of package resale. Savings on SIS packages were used to provide additional SIS and TS packages in District 7.

3.4 Staff

More than 90 staff were employed during the first phase of TUSP, and approximately 60 during the second phase. 20% of the staff members were females, an acceptable figure given the construction nature of the project.

CHF staff working on TUSP received training from the Community Liaison Manager, an Afghan national with extensive social work experience in the Afghan context, on beneficiary social assessment surveys. Staff workshops were led by the CHF/Afghanistan Director of Finance and Administration and TUSP Project Director on asset management, material in- and out-flow administration, distribution operations, methods of earthquake resistant shelter construction, and construction monitoring and reporting. Tasks were assigned to staff contingent upon their expertise with an emphasis on the staff having a clear idea related to their responsibilities to avoid duplication of work and conflict.

3.5 Coordination

Throughout the project, the CHF/TUSP team coordinated with different area agencies. TUSP staff attended shelter coordination meetings held by UNHCR, UNHABITAT and the municipality of Kabul. CHF staff also regularly attended the joint District Governors-*Wakils* weekly meetings. During these meetings issues raised during project implementation were discussed. Challenges were resolved by the participation and direct involvement of the *Wakils*, representing the community and the district governor representing the municipality of Kabul. The most critical issue faced was land ownership, which the *Wakils* resolved by voting to apply the customary practice of land ownership attestation³. This method was not favored by the municipality, out of fear that *Wakils* would manipulate the practice and allow construction in informal areas. Despite this hesitation, the customary method was used, providing a locally acceptable solution for families living in formal areas without written proof of land ownership.

³ Customary practice of land verification: *Wakils*, with witnesses from the neighborhood, state that the family in question lives in the stated area. Acceptance by inhabitants of the neighborhood certifies that the family owned the land for generations.

4. TARGETS ACHIEVED

The following targets were achieved:

- More than 58,200 individuals (9,712 families) received direct TUSP assistance, exceeding the originally proposed target by 16,200 individuals (2,712 families). As of October 31, 2004, 98.62% of TS construction was completed and 84.49% occupied. (Please refer to Annex 3.)
- Coordination with local community leaders, government and NGOs, in addition to UN bodies, to find solutions to problems facing shelter rehabilitation and construction in Kabul.
- Approximately 1,800,000 USD were injected to the local economy through material supply contracts, local labor, local staff employment and transportation.
- Introduction of simple construction techniques to reinforce shelter resistance to seismic loads using local materials. (Please refer to Annex 1.)

Additional important achievements:

- Training of more than 70 staff on: social surveys; seismic resistance construction of non-engineered structures using existing local materials and improving upon local construction methods.
- Female staff participation in the construction monitoring process.
- Participation and involvement of the local community leaders throughout the duration of the project.

5. ECONOMIC IMPACT

TUSP injected 1,880,330 USD into the local economy. This exceeds the proposed 1,350,000 USD by more than 500,000 USD. The following tables detail TUSP's immediate economic impact:

Table 4: Immediate Economic Impact of TUSP

Money Injected into Local Market

			Notes
1	Packages	\$1,186,050	Procurement of materials
2	TUSP national staff salaries	\$205,000	
3	Contracted labor by beneficiaries for TS construction	\$502,230	Money is paid by beneficiary to laborers. On average, 1 skilled laborer (11 USD/day) and 3 unskilled laborers (5 USD/day) for 14 days were required for each house
4	Contracted labor by beneficiaries for SR construction	\$40,304	Money is paid by beneficiary to laborers. On average, each house required 1 skilled laborer (11 USD/day) for 2 days.
5	Material transportation paid by beneficiaries	\$28,800	
TOTAL		\$1,962,474	

Person Days Generated

			Notes
1	Number of person days for labor working on TS and SR	80,944	
2	Number of person days for CHF employees and contracted labor	12,300	
3	Number of person days generated producing supplies	6,500	Carpenters for doors and windows, brick makers, quilts weavers, transportation, etc.
TOTAL		99,744 person days	

TUSP also conducted an economic impact survey of families who received TS and SR packages in Districts 3 and 7. Direct economic impact on the families was related to savings on rent payments. Targeted families, given their current socio-economic capacity, expressed the need for a longer period of time before being able to utilize their shelter for income generating activities. (Please refer to Annex 2.)

6. CHALLENGES

A number of difficulties were encountered on the project, related to the environment and the intervention itself. The most significant challenges were:

- **Land Ownership**

Land ownership had the potential to be a major delay on the project. Fortunately, *Wakils* and the district governor resolved the issue of missing land ownership documents within the formal areas by reverting to the customary land attestation practice.

Land ownership issues in informal areas were not resolved by this method. District 7's municipality, under the instruction of Kabul's main municipality, still refuses to take any action to fix the problem. Due to the high need for housing in Kabul, construction continues in the informal areas despite the municipality's restrictions. Extremely vulnerable IDPs and economic migrants are the primary occupants of these areas, which lack basic infrastructure and law and order.

- **Resistance to New Construction Ideas**

TUSP introduced basic construction methods that improve the seismic resistance of beneficiary-built shelters. On-site technical assistance was provided to all targeted beneficiaries by TUSP staff. Even so, many families did not use the materials in the instructed manner, preferring to use the additional materials to cover more shelter area rather than to reinforce their shelters. Others refused to use smaller windows, only 30cm less in width than the standard Afghan window.

- **Beneficiary Mobility**

Problems were rapidly encountered with the distribution of SR packages. 230 beneficiary families, mainly IDPs, moved without leaving contact information. CHF was not able to locate them without knowing whether or not the families still lived within the targeted districts.

- **Corruption**

Unfortunately, corruption in a post-war context like Afghanistan is often widespread and becomes an obstacle facing any development process. TUSP strove from its beginning to involve staff of the ministry of planning and local municipality as part of the capacity building component of the project. The assigned staff were only interested in receiving a daily allowance without real involvement, without visiting the CHF office or accompanying TUSP staff in the field.

Complaints were often received that *Wakils* asked for money from the beneficiaries to add their names to the vulnerable families list. Some *Wakils* used their authority to attest land ownership of informal land.

- **Security**

The security situation in Kabul remained volatile for the duration of the project. District 7, home to a political party opposing the presidential elections, was a particularly sensitive area. TUSP adhered to CHF/Afghanistan's rigorous security policy to ensure the safety of its staff and beneficiaries.

7. LESSONS LEARNED AND RECOMMENDATIONS

TUSP was successful in achieving its objectives. There are a number of recommendations and lessons learned generated by TUSP's work that are important for future work in Kabul and the urban housing sector:

- Establishing and training community construction assistance groups can shorten the building period and ensure the construction of safer structures.
- Public awareness campaigns should accompany the introduction of new construction ideas in order to encourage the beneficiaries to adopt new construction practices.
- Female labor in dense urban areas can be tapped to mobilize community-based upgrading of infrastructure projects. Women in a conservative society have a strong interest in upgrading the conditions of their habitat and immediate surroundings where they are obliged to spend most of their life.
- Unless resolved, access to land will continue to hinder any attempt toward regulated urban development in Afghanistan. The Afghan government must assume responsibility and take action toward establishing policies and legislation that facilitate access to land. The policies have to be realistic in order to ensure their implementation.

Annex 1: CHF/Afghanistan Presentation to USAID/Kabul, November 2004

Annex 2: TUSP Economic Impact Report

Annex 3: TUSP Completion Report Through October 31, 2004

ANNEX 1

CHF/Afghanistan Presentation to
USAID/Kabul
November 2004



Transitional Urban Support Project (TUSP)

Funded by: **OFDA**

Implemented by: **CHF International**

Target Areas: **Districts 7 & 3, Kabul**

Time Frame: **March – October 2004**



Target Groups

- **Host Families owning homes with modest to significant repair needs.**
- **Families relocating to Kabul without host family connection.**

Project Summary

- 9712 beneficiary families received assistance .
- 40% IDPs and Economic Migrants.
- 27% Returnees.
- **58,272** beneficiaries directly affected by TUSP.
- **80,000** days of employment generated by TUSP.
- **1,754,310 USD** injected into the local economy.
- **98.6%** completion rate of shelters through October 31st, 2004.
- **84.4%** occupation rate of shelters is through October 31st, 2004.

Summary by Project Component

**I. Shelter Improvement Support packages (SIS):
6500 beneficiary families.**

**II. Shelter Repair packages (SR):
1832 beneficiary families.**

**III. Transitional Shelter packages (TS):
1380 beneficiary families.**



Shelter Improvement Support Packages (SIS):

Basic non food items needed for a vulnerable Afghan household.

- **2** Quilts
- **4** Blankets
- **2** Water Jerry Cans (15 liters)
- **1** Cooking Gas burner
- **1** Pressure Cooker
- **6** m² Plastic Sheeting
- **12** m Wooden Strips
- **1** Saw
- **1** Hammer
- **1** Kg ½” Nails
- **7.2** m² Mosquito Screens



Shelter Repair Package (SR)

Items to weather- proof an existing room with a roof.

- **2 Windows**
- **1 Door**
- **30m² Plastic Sheeting**
- **1Kg ½” Nails**
- **1 Saw**
- **1 Hammer**
- **3.6m² Mosquito Screens**
- **6m Wooden Strips**



Transitional Shelter Package (TS)

Construction materials for a living space of 24.5 m².

Category A : from foundations

Category B: from walls

- **18 Bamboo Poles** (circumference 10-15 cm)
- **4 Kg Tying Wire** (1mm)
- **24 m² Chicken Wire**
- **30 Wooden Beams** (circumference 40-45cm)
- **4 Kg 2" Nails; 2 Kg 6" Nails; 1 Kg ½" Nails**
- **48 Wooden boards** (1x20x200)cm
- **30 m² Plastic Sheeting**
- **1 Hammer**
- **1 Saw**
- **2 Windows** (120x150) cm
- **1 Door** (100x200)cm
- **3.6 m² Mosquito Screens**
- **6 m Wooden Strips**

Factors Affecting Urban Shelter Assistance

- I. Earthquakes and need for seismic resistance construction.**
 - II. Land ownership issues.**
 - III. Poor construction practices.**
 - IV. Corruption.**
 - V. Security.**
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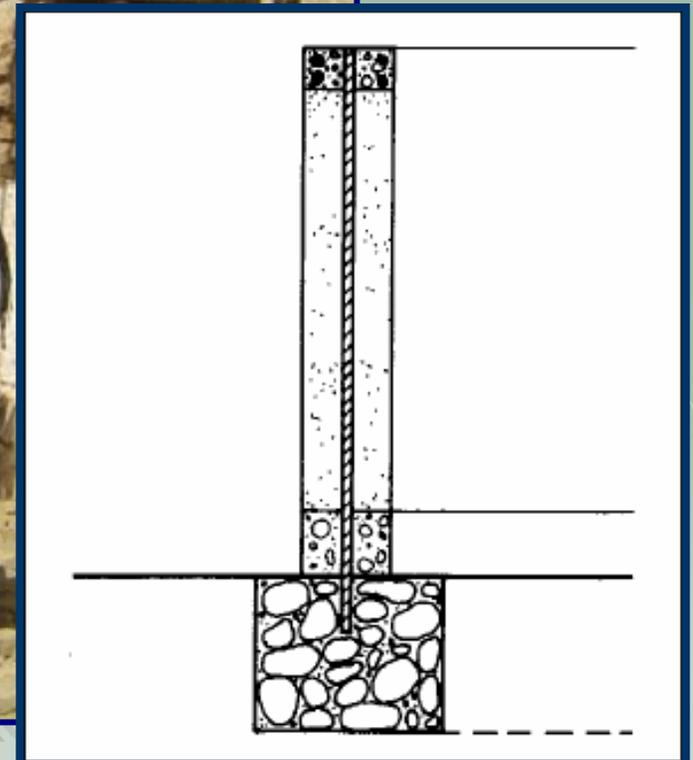
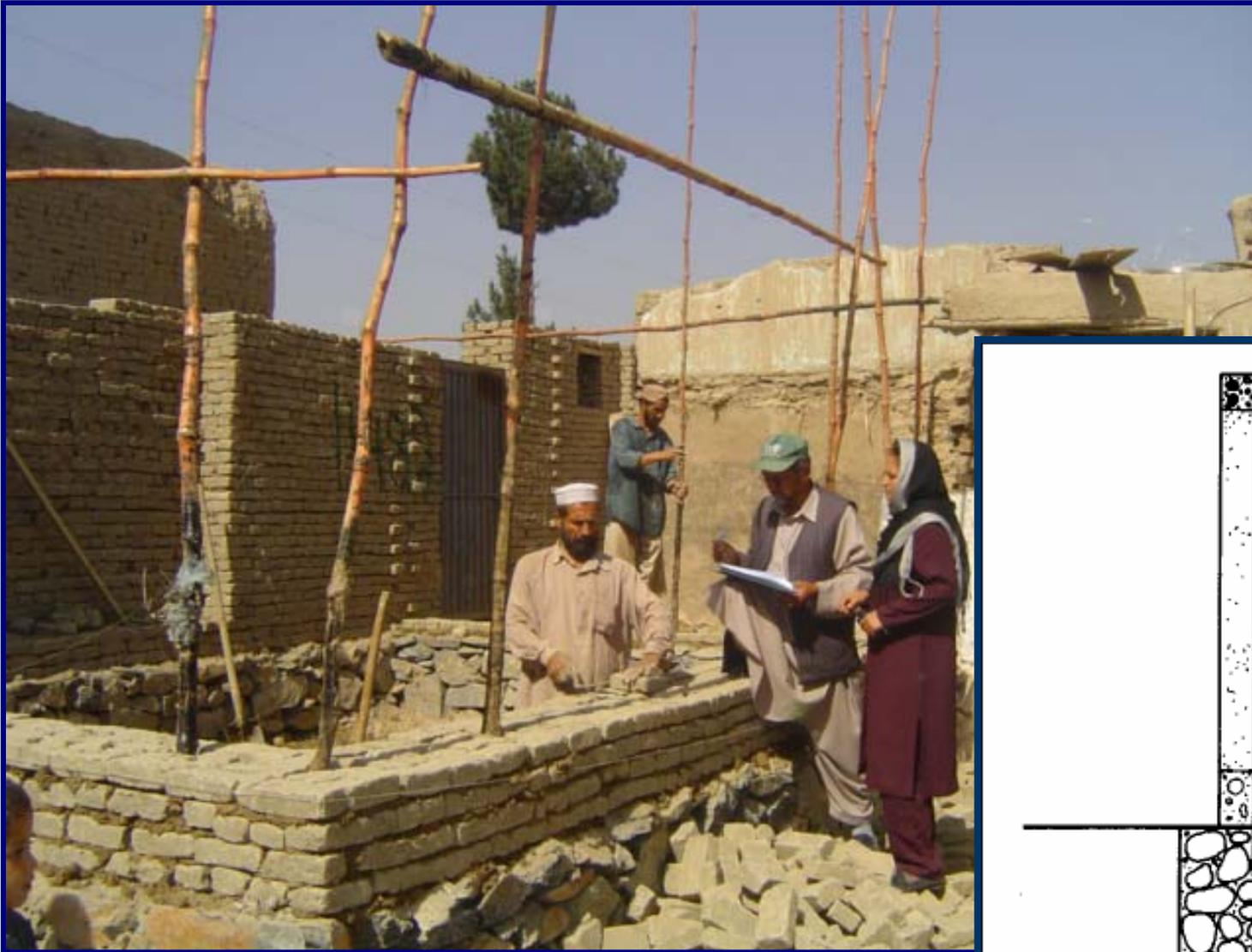
Main Causes of Shelter Failures during Earthquakes in Afghanistan

I. Materials used.

II. Construction practices.

Construction methods and materials used by TUSP to reduce the effect of earthquakes

Vertical connection between foundation and ring beam using bamboo (Category A)

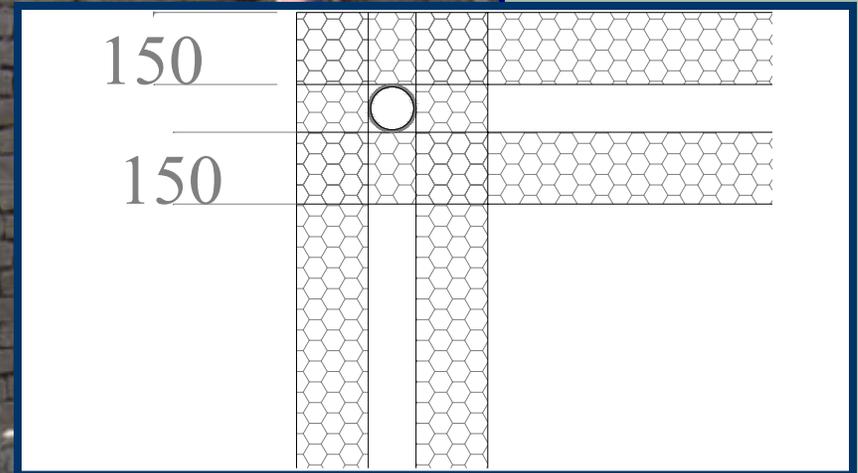


Vertical connection between foundation and ring beam using bamboo (Category A)

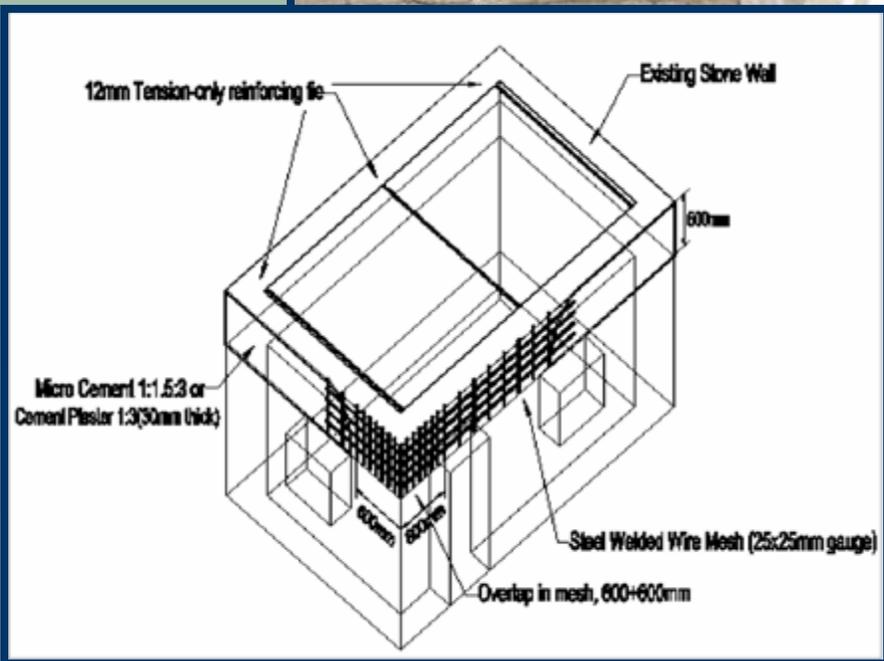
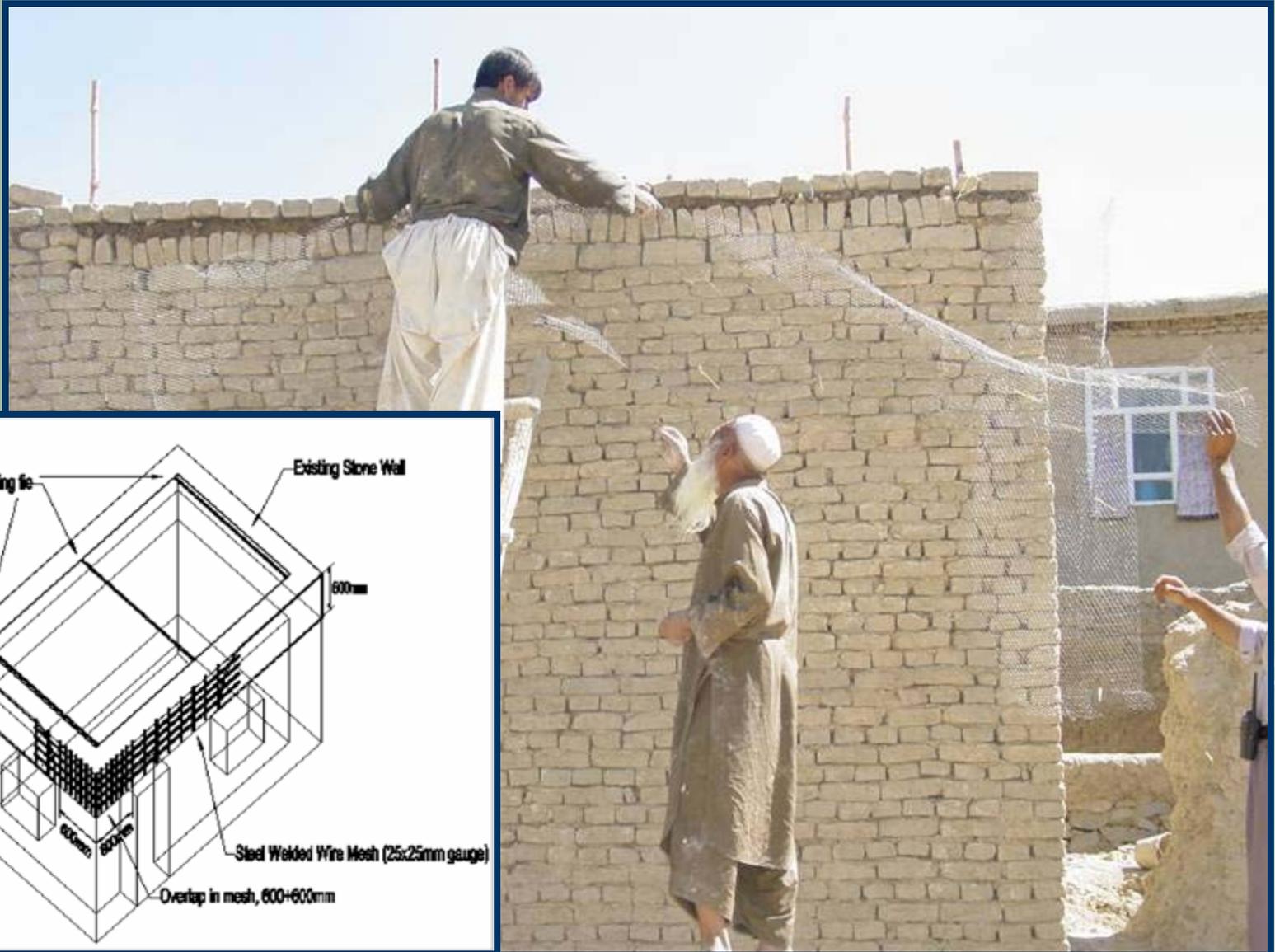


10-5 Fixing of ring beam

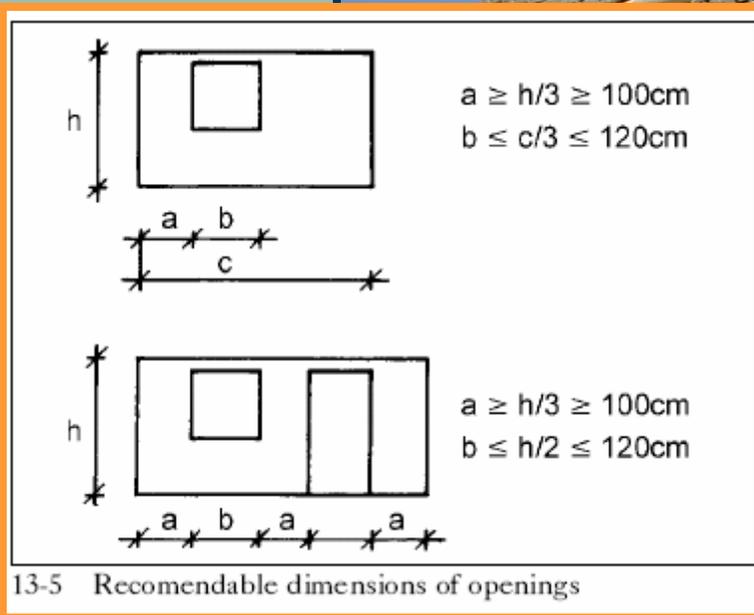
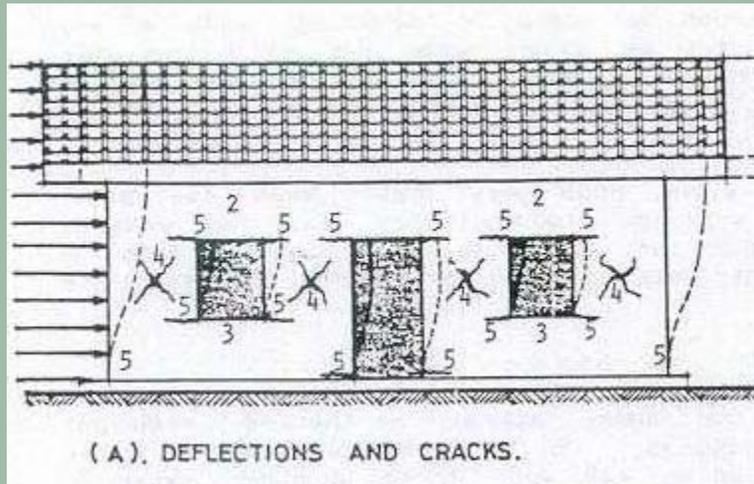
Horizontal reinforcement of walls using chicken wire



Tying of the upper part of the walls and reinforcing the corners using chicken wire



Openings



It is important to note that none of the practices introduced will prevent the collapse of the shelter in cases of severe earthquakes.

The aim is to delay the time of structural collapse to allow people to leave their shelter.

Land Ownership Issues

- I. **Absence of legal documentation:**
Families who own the land but do not have legal documentation.

- II. **Occupation of urban informal areas:**
Economic migrants and IDPs who occupy open, unregulated urban areas with no legal entitlement.

Substitution for Legal Documentation

Certification of ownership written, signed and stamped by elected local community leaders or Wakils.

(Authority of the Wakils is based on customary practice)

Factors Affecting Recognition of Certification by Wakils

- Degree to which the municipal authority recognizes the customary practice.
- Political agenda of the municipal authority.
- Degree of municipality willingness to assume responsibility for land ownership issues.

Situation in Informal Areas

- Uncontrolled growth/ urban sprawl.
- Lack of basic infrastructure.
- Absence of municipal authority or law enforcement.
- Controlled by warlords.

Population of Informal Areas

- IDPs
- Economic Migrants

Requirements for Working in Informal Areas

- Government's development of applicable policies and regulations.
- Government's willingness to assume responsibility to implement these regulations.
- Clear division of responsibilities between the different government bodies involved (i.e. Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Urban Development and Housing, Municipality of Kabul and sub districts municipalities).
- Community involvement and participation of the marginalized groups.

**New Urban
Policies**

**Involvement of
Local Authorities**

**Involvement & Acceptance of
Targeted Communities**

Housing Solutions for Informal Areas

- **Building or upgrading basic infrastructure**
 - labor intensive projects that would employ local residents.

Housing Solutions for Informal Areas

- **Parceling land and selling parcels to occupants**
 - Income will assist these people to put a down payment on their land.
 - Down payments will contribute to the administrative and legal costs of the ministries concerned.

Poor Construction Practices

- Self help, unskilled labor.
- Resistance to new construction ideas.
- No paid labor assistance.
- Focus on immediate space needs versus safety of structure.
- Construction delays.

Lessons Learned

- Access to shelter or housing is closely linked to access to land.
- Legal access and entitlement to land requires clear and applicable policies and legislation.
- Enforcement of land ownership and land use policies and regulations in informal areas.
- Access to safe and adequate shelter can be achieved through forming and training 'construction help groups' within the community.
- Introduction of new construction ideas has to be coupled with public awareness campaigns.
- A basic infrastructure can be constructed through labor intensive projects that employ the targeted community.
- Female involvement plays an important role in mobilizing the community.

CHF Survey Teams Conduct Beneficiary Assessments



SIS Packages Distribution



Shelter Materials



Women Involvement in Shelter Construction



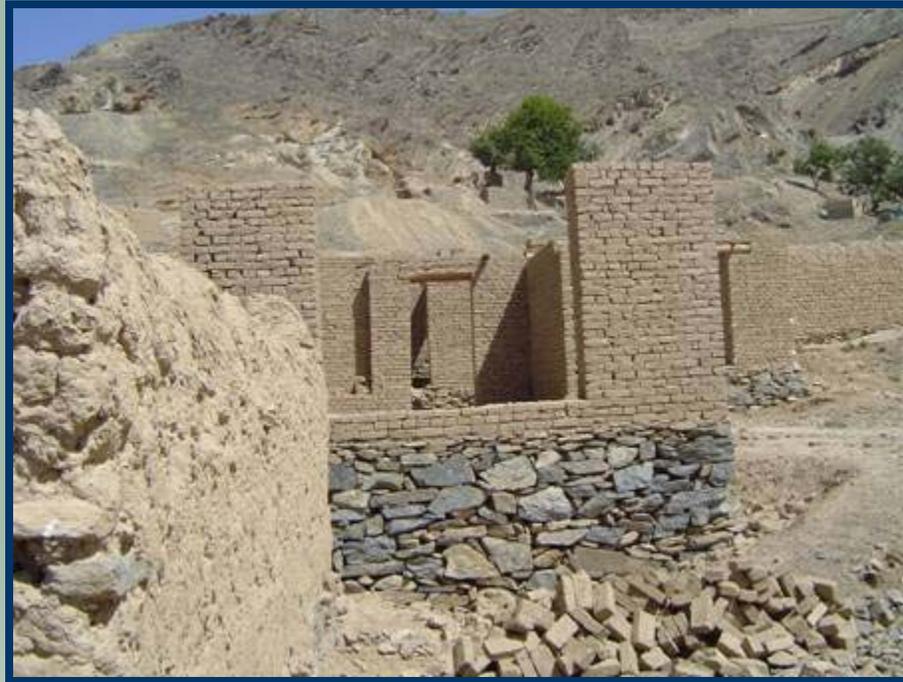
Before



After



BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE

AFTER



Before

After



Before



After



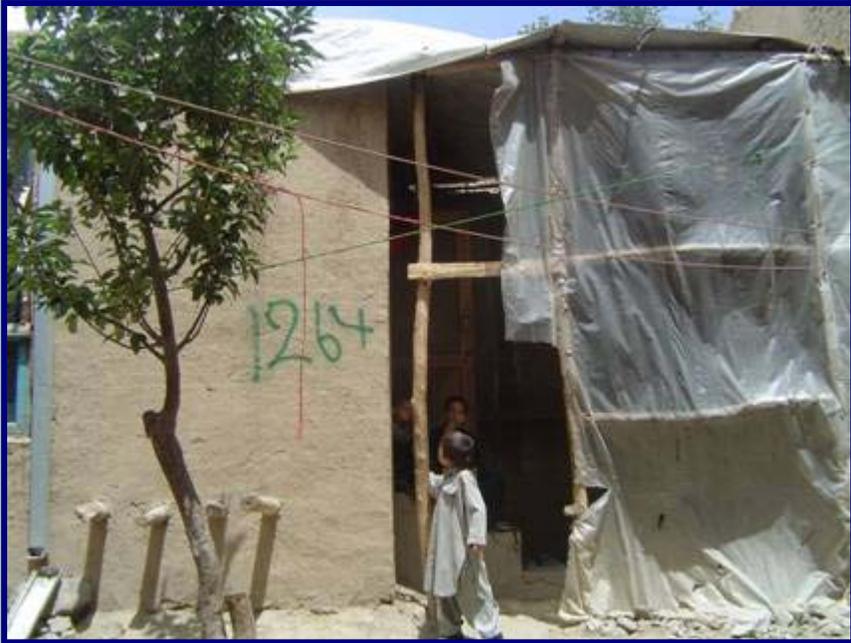








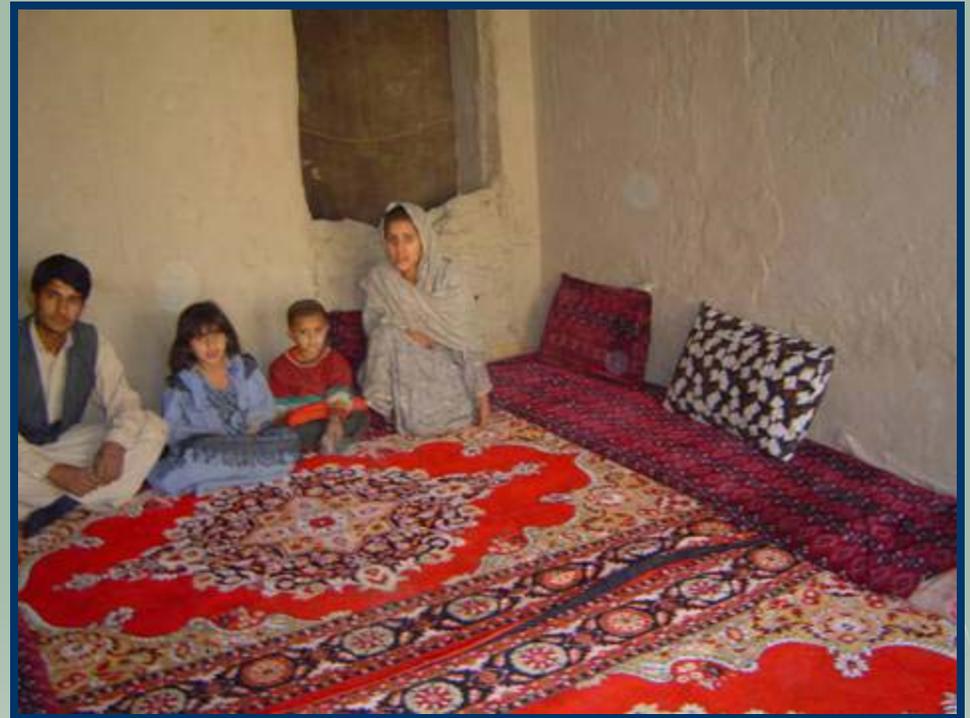




Before



After



ANNEX 2

TUSP Economic Impact Report

Administered by: ACHR

Project implemented by: CHF International/Afghanistan

Funded by: OFDA

1. INTRODUCTION

CHF awarded the Afghanistan Commission for Human Rights (ACHR), a national NGO, a sub grant to carry out an economic impact survey in Districts 3 and 7. ACHR was selected through a competitive bid process during which another five national NGOs submitted their proposals.

The survey, focused on beneficiaries who received Transitional Shelter (TS) and Shelter Repair (SR) packages, started on September 30, 2004 and ended on October 24, 2004. During that period ACHR surveyed a total of 2,021 beneficiary families in both districts.

The survey was conducted by five teams of two field surveyors (one male and one female). CHF assigned five supervisors to assist ACHR in locating the assisted families and to monitor the progress of work.

2. PROJECT PERFORMANCE

The survey focused on families who received SR packages and TS packages because these interventions are easier to track than Shelter Improvement Support (SIS) packages. The total number of families assisted with TS and SR packages was 3,212 families. Given the spread of the project over a large geographical area and its crowded urban context, the target was to cover at least 50% or 1,606 beneficiary families. By the end of the survey the total number of surveyed families was 2,342 or 72%.

2.1. District 3

926 of 1,832 families who received SR packages CHF were surveyed in District 3:

- 546 families completed the repair of one or two rooms.
- -207 families constructed new shelters, although they only received an SR package.
- 158 families received the materials but had not started their repairs. Delays in progress stem from their economic situation and lack of free time for construction, due to the need of the head of family to earn money for food.
- 13 houses were locked and unoccupied at the time of the survey. The reason behind their desertion is unclear, and neighbors would not provide the surveyors with any information. The location of the houses at the top of a hill, far from water access might be one of the causes for their vacancy.
- Two beneficiary families living with a host family had moved, taking the materials with them.
- The average number of beneficiary family members per household in District 3 was 5.7 persons.

2.2. District 7

The number of families who received TS assistance in District 7 was 1,380. 1,093 of them were surveyed:

- 724 houses were newly constructed.
- 40 houses repaired.
- 320 houses were under construction.
- 7 houses were uninhabited.
- 2 houses were locked.

A total of 6,516 persons lived in 1,084 transitional shelters. The total number of rooms in those shelters was 2,710, with an average of 2.5 rooms per shelter. On average, 1.5 rooms were built using the materials provided by TUSP. The remaining was the beneficiary family's contribution.

3. FINDINGS RELATED TO THE POPULATION

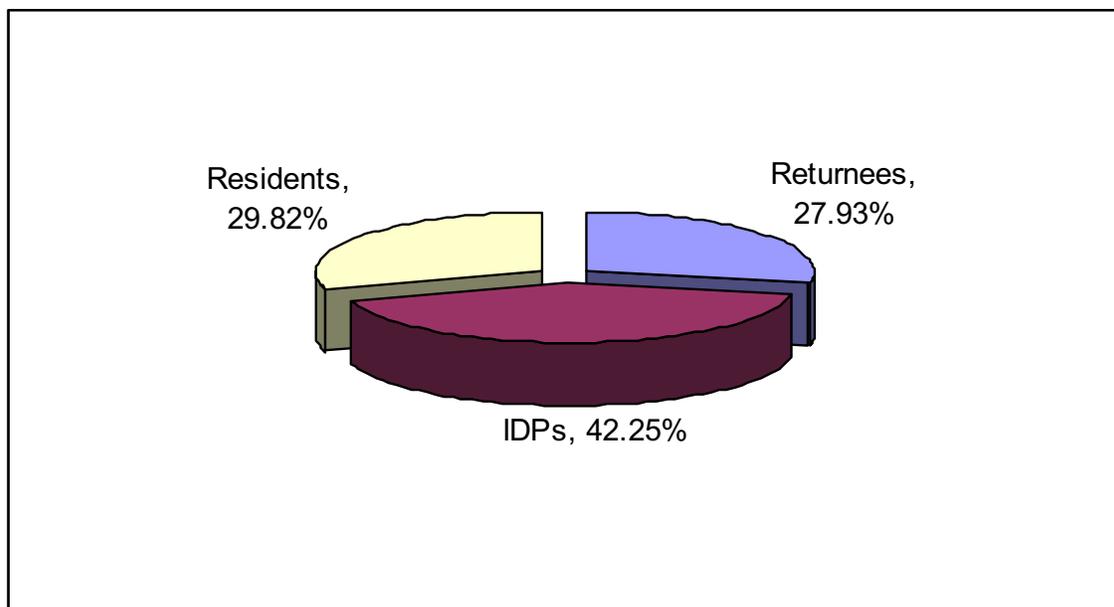
According to 2002 statistics the total population of District 7 and District 3 was 87,520 and 78,000, respectively. These figures have increased since then as a result of the continuous influx of returnees, IDPs and economic migrants to the capital city.

The majority of the surveyed beneficiary families agreed that their living conditions were better following TUSP assistance. The materials provided to them by TUSP contributed to their sense of shelter security.

3.1. Status of the Families Assisted by TUSP

For the purpose of this survey, beneficiary family status was divided into three groups:

- **Residents:** families whose shelters suffered damage or destruction during the war, but who remained in Kabul.
- **IDPs:** families originally from other provinces who moved during the war for security reasons and currently continue to live in Kabul for security and economic reasons.
- **Returnees:** families originally from Kabul who fled the country during the war and had recently returned.



Graph 1. Surveyed Beneficiary Family Status in Districts 7 and 3.

It was noticed, however, that 46% of the families assisted in District 7 were IDPs, in comparison to 38% in District 3. At 23.3%, District 7 had a lower percentage of assisted resident population compared to 26.9% in District 3. This is attributed to District 7's location: it was on the front line during the civil war and suffered more damage. All assisted returnees were either from Pakistan (66.6%) or Iran (33.4%).

The highest percentage of IDPs came from rural areas. 46% of the IDPs in District 3 and 40% in District 7 chose to stay in Kabul for security reasons. Most of them initially moved to Kabul during a period of conflict, and are not welcome back in their land of origin because their ethnicity is considered a minority there or their political affiliations conflict with the ruling party or militia.

52.6% in District 3 and 55.6% in District 7 chose Kabul for economic reasons. The livelihood of the majority of these families in their areas of origin was destroyed by armed conflict and continuous drought.

3.2. Age Composition

Districts 3 and 7 are characterized by their young and booming population. This may be due to the current relatively stable security conditions, or the improvement in medical services (i.e. child vaccination campaigns and an increase in number of women accessing health services). In addition, family planning is still not a widespread concept in a culture where the number of children, especially males, is a source of pride.

The following statistics were determined from the survey:

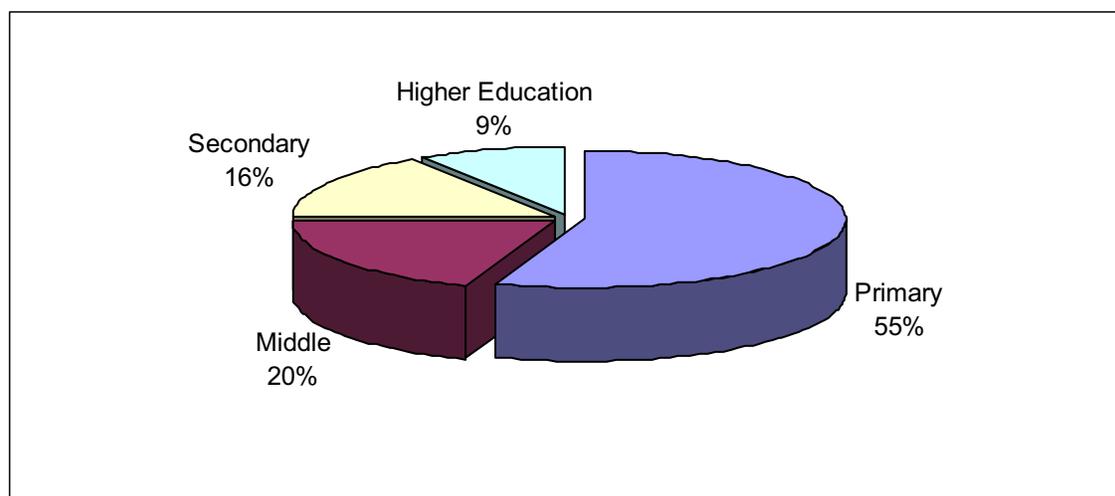
- 74% of the beneficiaries were less than 30 years old.
- 36% of the population was 0-12 years old.
- 18% of the population was 18-30 years old.

3.3. Level of Education

The education of two generations was interrupted by 25 years of war. Most of the educational institutions were destroyed by armed conflict. The illiteracy rate is very high, particularly among females. The majority of the literate population received only a primary school education, providing them with basic writing and arithmetic skills.

Table 1. Illiteracy Rate and School Attendance

	Illiteracy Rate	Illiteracy Rate by Gender		Current School Attendance by Gender	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
District 3	74.8%	45.1%	54.9%	62.6%	37.4%
District 7	68.9%	46.9%	53.1%	62.6%	37.4%



Graph 2. Surveyed Beneficiary Education Level

3.4. Income Status

The majority of the income earners of the targeted beneficiaries work in the informal sector. Those who have formal employment are all working in the public sector. All families denied receiving any financial assistance in addition to their jobs. Apart from the few who have rented out their shelters, none have yet used their shelters for income generating activities.

The average monthly salary of formal employees is divided as follows:

- Government Employees 1,700 Afs /person.
- Teachers 2,200 Afs/person.

- Military 2,800 Afs/person

The average monthly income of the informal sector:

- Laborers 3,000 Afs/person
- Other 1,000 Afs/person

3.4.1 District 3

Of 918 working individuals in District 3, only 200 or 21% are employed in the formal sector as public workers, teachers and military. 718 or 79% are informally employed as daily labor, plumbers, mechanics, and carpenters.

The average monthly income of the 911 surveyed families in District 3 is 2,345,311 Afs or 52.12 USD. This implies that the average monthly income of the assisted families is 57.2 USD. Moreover, 34.1% of the employed persons work in District 3.

3.4.2 District 7

Although the salary of formal employees is the same in Districts 3 and 7, it was noticed that the average monthly income in District 7 is higher. 26% of income earners in the surveyed families are employed in the formal sector. The remainder work in the informal sector.

The average monthly income of the 1,084 families is 3,577,817 Afs or 79.51 USD. The average income per family is 73.3 USD. This indicates that families have another undeclared source of income, perhaps with informal employment or through financial support from relatives living in or outside of Afghanistan. It is unlikely that this considerable supplemental income was received from another agency, since at the time of implementation CHF was providing the largest intervention in both districts. This implies that either the formal employees supplement their income with informal employment or the families receive some financial support from relatives living in or outside Afghanistan.

4. CONSTRUCTION OUTPUT

4.1. District 3 (SR Intervention)

- Total number of rooms in assisted households: 2,260.
- 977 rooms (43.2%) repaired by TUSP's intervention.
- Average square meters (m²) per shelter covered by TUSP's package: 14.3.
- On average, each family secured 1.07 rooms or 16m².

4.2. District 7 (TS Intervention)

- Total number of rooms in 1,084 assisted households: 2,706.
- Average m² per shelter covered by TUSP's package: 24.5.

5. RENTED SHELTERS

The percentage of shelters rented out was very low and the occupancy rate was high, reflecting the real need of assisted families for shelter.

5.1. District 3

Only 1.2% or 11 shelters of the 911 surveyed shelters were rented out. The remaining shelters were owner-occupied.

5.2. District 7

Only 1.7% or 18 shelters out of 1,084 surveyed were rented out.

6. TUSP'S ECONOMIC IMPACT

The economic impact of TUSP's intervention is divided into: direct impact on families who received assistance, and overall impact on the local economy.

6.1. Direct Economic Impact on Assisted Families

The economic survey was administered between the end of September and the end of October. Some families were still working on their shelters. Others had just moved in and started settling down. When asked if they were using their shelter for an income generating activity, the answer of all surveyed families was negative. When asked why, they mentioned that their income hardly covered their day-to-day living expenses, making it difficult for them to invest in any income generating activities. Some said they needed time to settle down before they ventured into any investment. When asked if they owned any assets that could contribute to income generating activities, most beneficiaries were reluctant to disclose information. All surveyed families in both districts denied receiving any external financial assistance, and also expressed their fear of being excluded from any future assistance.

The immediate direct impact of the shelter rehabilitation and shelter construction in Districts 3 and 7 was the rent saved by becoming a homeowner. 209 of 911 surveyed families in District 3 managed to save 1,540 Afs or 34.2 USD. 242 of 1,084 surveyed families in District 7 saved 1,580 Afs or 35.1 USD.

A very small percentage of assisted families (please refer to Section 5) rented out their houses for an average monthly rate of 55.5 USD. Apparently, these families owned houses outside Kabul and used the shelter assistance as a means for extra income.

6.2. Overall Economic Impact

As for the direct impact on the overall economy of Districts 7 and 3, TUSP generated approximately 460,000 USD and 76,460 person days from direct labor employment in the construction of 1,380 shelters and the repair of 1,832 shelters. TUSP also generated direct income for wheel barrows, taxis, mini vans and pickups rented by the beneficiary families to transport their materials from CHF's warehouse to their houses during the materials distribution period. Several food vendors set up carts around the site to cater to beneficiaries and CHF site office staff.

The impact on the larger Afghan economy was also significant. All materials were procured through local companies; many of the materials were produced in Afghanistan. For example, all distributed doors (3,212) and windows (6,424) were fabricated in Kabul by a carpenters' cooperative run by the supplier. Plastic jerry cans (13,000) were all manufactured in a factory in Kabul. Quilts (13,000) were all hand made by Afghan women working from their homes in different parts of Kabul.

7. SOCIAL IMPACT

TUSP's impact was not only limited to the economy. The social impact it had on the urban areas in which it operated was remarkable. The living conditions of the families before and after the intervention changed dramatically: families paying rent with fears of being evicted at any time; families sharing crowded accommodation with host/extended families, feeling they had overstayed their visit; and families living in tents next to their destroyed houses with fears of the approaching winter, all agreed on feeling more secure by rebuilding their shelters. This sense of increased security was expressed by many beneficiaries who revisited the CHF site office to express their gratitude for now having a roof over their heads.

Another notable impact of the project was the female participation and involvement in the project. This was not limited to the involvement of CHF female staff in the construction monitoring process (often a male domain, especially in the Afghan context). Beneficiary women assumed the responsibility of collecting the various distribution packages from the CHF warehouse. They were also involved in the production of mud bricks, the common material used for wall construction. This local material production led to a savings of 250USD per shelter.¹ The involvement of Afghan women in such activities, especially the collection of construction

¹An average 14,000 mud bricks are needed for the construction of a 24.5m² shelter. Bricks in the local market are sold for 0.8Afs (0.017USD). Beneficiaries made bricks for free from available soil on their land.

materials, is not a traditional practice. Many factors could have contributed to this change of gender roles such as: the urban context of the project; the need for the male head of the household to work during the daytime, when TUSP activities took place; the exposure of many of the returnee women to neighboring cultures that allow relatively more freedom to women in regards to work; and the rural background of many of the IDP women, where women assist their husbands and sons in land cultivation.

8. CONCLUSION

TUSP's intervention has successfully addressed the issue of shelter security in Districts 7 and 3. However, this intervention should be looked at as a first step towards recovery, not as the only necessary intervention for a permanent solution. Beneficiaries, mainly IDPs and returnees, need time to settle and reintegrate. Livelihoods security, closely linked to the existing economic and social capacities of the targeted population, will be the next step.

ANNEX 3
TUSP COMPLETION REPORT THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2004

CHF- International

Transitional Urban Support Program (TUSP)
 Completion Figures (October 31, 2004)

Total Number of T.S.	Category A	%	Category B	%
1380	137	9.93%	1243	90.07%

OVERALL PROJECT ACHIEVEMENT SUMMARY	Transitional Shelters			SIS Packages		Shelter Repair District 7*		Shelter Repair District 3*		Total Number of Beneficiary Families
	Selected	Completed	Occupied	Selected	Distributed	Selected	Distributed	Selected	Distributed	
TARGET	1380	1380	1380	6500	6500	1832				9712
Through October 31, 2004	1380	1361	1166	6500	6500	803		1029		9498
Percentage	100.00%	98.62%	84.49%	100.00%	100.00%	43.83%		56.17%		97.80%
						100%				

* After adjustment of packages figures

CHF- International

**Transitional Urban Support Program (TUSP), PHASE ONE
SHELTER MONITORING REPORT SUMMARY: DISTRICT 7**

No	Gozar	Wakil	No. of Coupons Distributed	Category A						Category B				Cat. A & B	No. of Shelters Cancelled
				Category A	No. of Transitional Shelters Started	Foundations Completed	Walls Completed	Roofs Completed	No. of Transitional Shelters Completed	Category B	No. of Transitional Shelters Started	Roofs Completed	No. of Transitional Shelters Completed		
1	12.48		57	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	47	47	46		
2	CHELSETOON	PADSHA MIR	141	16	16	15	15	14	14	125	124	122	121	4	
3	12.48		41	3	3	3	3	3	3	38	38	38	41		
4	12.48		60	2	2	2	2	2	2	58	58	58	57		
5	12.48		25	4	4	4	4	4	4	21	21	21	22		
6	12.48		17	5	5	5	5	5	5	12	12	12	12		
7	12.48		32	6	6	6	6	6	6	26	26	26	31		
8	12.48		19	5	5	5	5	5	5	14	14	14	19		
9	12.48		15	3	3	3	3	3	3	12	12	12	12		
10	12.48		41	5	5	5	5	5	5	36	36	36	41		
11	12.48		107	12	11	11	11	11	11	95	95	95	100	1	
12	12.48		40	4	4	4	4	4	4	36	36	36	40		
13	12.48		73	8	8	8	8	8	8	65	65	65	70		
14	12.48		40	4	4	4	4	4	4	36	36	36	40		
15	12.48		8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
16	12.48		8	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	8	8	8		
17	12.48		47	7	7	7	7	7	7	40	40	40	46		
18	12.48		16	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	16	16	16		
19	12.48		69	9	9	9	9	9	9	60	60	60	68	1	
20	12.48		14	5	4	4	4	4	4	9	9	9	13	1	
21	12.48		28	11	11	10	10	10	10	17	17	17	27	1	
22	12.48		80	6	6	6	6	6	6	74	74	74	80		
23	12.48		7	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	7	7	6		
24	DOGH ABAD	M/NAIM	25	7	7	7	7	7	7	18	16	16	23	2	
TOTAL			1002	132	130	128	128	127	127	870	868	867	939	10	

Total Number of T.S.	Category A	%	Category B	%
1002	132	13.17%	870	86.83%

CHF- International

Transitional Urban Support Program (TUSP), PHASE TWO

SHELTER MONITORING REPORT SUMMARY: DISTRICT 7

No	Gozar	Wakil	No. of Coupons Distributed	Category A						Category B				Cat. A & B	No. of Shelters Cancelled
				Category A	No. of Transitional Shelters Started	Foundations Completed	Walls Completed	Roofs Completed	No. of Transitional Shelters Completed	Category B	No. of Transitional Shelters Started	Roofs Completed	No. of Transitional Shelters Completed	No. of Transitional Shelters Occupied	
1	0		18							18	18	18	18	6	
2	CHELSETOON	PADSHA MIR	44							44	44	44	44	30	
3	0		28							28	28	28	28	20	
4	0		18							18	18	18	18	18	
5	0		8							8	8	8	8	7	
6	0		10							10	10	10	10	8	
7	0		12	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	11	11	11	3	
8	0		18							18	18	17	17	10	
9	0		21	4	4	4	4	4	4	17	17	15	15	10	
10	0		8							8	8	8	8	2	
11	Qalai Ghaiby/Tani Kot		35							35	35	34	34	21	1
12	0		7							7	7	7	7	6	
13	0		35							35	35	35	35	24	
14	0		19							19	19	19	19	4	
15	0		7							7	7	7	7	6	
16	0		26							26	26	25	25	15	
17	0		9							9	9	9	9	9	
18	0		11							11	11	11	11	3	
19	0		8							8	8	8	8	4	
20	0		4							4	4	4	4	3	
21	0		12							12	12	10	10	6	2
22	0		2							2	2	2	2		
23	DOGH ABAD	M NAIM	18							18	18	18	18	12	
TOTAL			378	5	5	5	5	5	5	373	373	366	366	227	3

Total Number of T.S.	Category A	%	Category B	%
378	5	1.32%	373	98.68%