



Tech-Serve Quarterly Progress Report No. 1 (July-September 2006)

Tech-Serve Staff

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Technical Support to Central and Provincial Ministry of Public Health Project (Tech-Serve)

Quarterly Progress Report No. 1
July – September 2006



Tech-Serve, a USAID-funded associate award through the Leadership, Management and Sustainability Program, is implemented by the Afghan Ministry of Public Health and Management Sciences for Health.

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(Tech-Serve)

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List of Acronyms/Abbreviations

BPHS	Basic Package of Health Services
CCM	Country Coordination Mechanism
CGHN	Consultative Group on Health and Nutrition
CHW	Community Health Worker
DOTS	Directly Observed Therapy, Short Course
DG	Director General
GD	General Directorate
EC	European Commission
EOP	End-of-Project
EPHS	Essential Package of Hospital Services
FFSDP	Fully Functional Service Delivery Point
GCMU	Grants and Contracts Management Unit
GF	Global Fund
HMIS	Health Management Information System
HRD	Human Resources Development
JHU	John Hopkins University
LDP	Leadership Development Program
LQAS	Lot Quality Assurance Sampling
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MIS	Management Information System
MOPH	Ministry of Public Health
MSH	Management Sciences for Health
MSP	Management Support to Provinces Initiative
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NRVA	National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment
PHA	Provincial Health Advisor
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
PPA	Performance-Based Partnership Agreement
PPC	Performance-Based Partnership Contracts
PPG	Performance-Based Partnership Grants
PPHCC	Provincial Public Health Coordination Committee
PPHD	Provincial Public Health Directorate
PPHO	Provincial Public Health Office
PQI	Performance Quality Improvement
QA	Quality Assurance
PRR	Priority Reform & Restructuring
REACH	Rural Expansion of Afghanistan's Community Based Healthcare Program
SBM	Standard Based Management
SSP	Service Support Project
TA	Technical Assistance
TB	Tuberculosis
TAG	Technical Advisory Group
TDY	Temporary Duty
Tech-Serve	Technical Support to the Central and Provincial MOPH Project
TOR	Terms of Reference
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WHO	World Health Organization

PPG NGO GRANTEES

AADA	Association for Assistance and Development of Afghanistan
ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
AHDS	Afghan Health and Development Services
AKDN	Aga Khan Development Network
BDF	Bakhtar Development Foundation
CAF	Care of Afghan Families
CHA	Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance
Ibn Sina	
IMC	International Medical Corps
Medair	
Merlin	Medical Emergency Relief International
MOVE	Move Welfare Organization
NAC	Norwegian Afghanistan Committee
SC/US	Save the Children US
SDO	Sanayee Development Organization
STEP	STEP Health and Development Organization

Introduction

Building on the accomplishments of the previous USAID health project in Afghanistan, REACH (Rural Expansion of Afghanistan's Community-based Healthcare), Tech-Serve works with the central MOPH to build its capacity to perform its primary function of guiding the health system by establishing national health objectives that address national health priorities while ensuring equity and fostering sustainability. Tech-Serve provides on-going technical assistance in key public health technical areas and engages both central and provincial managers in developing their management and leadership skills. This includes working directly with the MOPH's Deputy Ministers, Director-Generals, Grants and Contracts Management Unit (GCMU) and Provincial Public Health Directors. Tech-Serve helps MOPH to focus on health results while developing management skills and practices among managers at all levels. This will lead to provincial health directors and their teams being able to effectively articulate their health strategies, plan their activities, and mobilize resources to support their plans. This project was launched in July 2006 by Management Sciences for Health under Associate Cooperative Agreement No. 306-A-00-06-00522-00 with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The three intermediate results of the project are:

1. Improved capacity of the central MOPH to support the delivery of BPHS and EPHS services, primarily through NGO service providers;
2. Improved capacity of the thirteen Provincial Public Health Offices of the MOPH to support the delivery of BPHS and EPHS services; and
3. Developed management and leadership capacity of the MOPH

As the first quarterly report of Tech-Serve, a number of project's activities revolved around start-up of the project. Transition of selected staff between REACH and Tech-Serve was smoothly done as well as transition of property and office equipment between the two projects. Despite continued security concerns and normal difficulties associated with start-up of projects, Tech-Serve was able to implement nearly all planned activities in support of its objective and intermediate results.

The structure and frequency of submission of Tech-Serve progress reports were revised in September 2006, based on instructions given by the Tech-Serve CTO at USAID/Afghanistan Mission. Accordingly, the report consists of three main sections:

1. Key achievements of Tech-Serve. This highlights the major achievements whereas the third section of the report provides the details of all achievements compared to the workplan. A table updating progress of the Performance Monitoring Plan is also included at the end of this section.
2. Other achievements beyond the workplan. This section highlights major accomplishments that were not planned in the project workplan. Tech-Serve's involvement in these activities has been the result of MOPH or USAID requests, or project decisions based on other situational factors.

3. Progress to-date compared to the workplan planned activities and associated constraints. This section provides the workplan with the status of each activity provided as well as any constraints encountered.

Key Tech-Serve Achievements

The major achievements during this period:

- Tech-Serve initiated development of its strategy for building the management capacity of Provincial Public Health Offices in developing its Management Support to Provinces Initiative (MSP). Rapid assessment of Provincial Public Health Offices was conducted in 10 of 13 USAID-funded provinces. Based on the rapid assessment findings, seven provinces were selected as priority provinces: Badakhshan, Takhar, Faryab, Bamyan, Ghazni, Khost, and Herat. These provinces will have a Tech-Serve Provincial Health Advisor (PHA) seconded to them for providing hands-on, day-to-day management support to the Provincial Public Health Directors and their provincial team.
- In order to improve the management and leadership capacities of Provincial Public Health Offices (PPHOs) in USAID provinces, a team of Tech-Serve and MOPH core facilitators were trained on Leadership Development Program (LDP). This team will be mentoring the PPHOs in leadership and management practices. An in-service management and leadership training, using LDP methodology, was conducted for PPHO staff of Kabul Province.
- In this reporting period, Tech-Serve provided significant assistance to MOPH in managing grants for providing quality BPHS and EPHS services. Progress was made in hiring and seconding consultants to Grants and Contracts Management Unit (GCMU) of the Ministry. The Tech-Serve supported Performance Partnership Grants (PPG) Team of GCMU continued to manage 27 BPHS and EPHS Grants valued \$49.6 Millions (these grants started in May 2006 under REACH and now continue). The PPG Grantees serve nearly 1.25 million clients: 870,000 clients through over 360 USAID-supported clinics and 5 provincial hospitals and an additional 380,000 clients served through the supported health posts during the months of May and June 2006. The PPG team also made progress in design and implementation of mechanisms for grants management, financial management, coordination and monitoring for PPG grantees.
- Tech-Serve distributed almost \$ 1.7 million of essential drugs, contraceptives and TB medications to 23 NGOs and 3 PRTs for distribution to health facilities and CHWs. A drug order valued at \$ 1.99 million was also developed and is pending approval of a waiver from USAID/Washington and USAID/Afghanistan before it is formally placed with International Dispensary Association (IDA).
- Tech-Serve enhanced the management and leadership ability of MOPH Deputy Ministers and Director-Generals by conducting a Management Support Workshop for the senior staff of the Ministry and key partners. The workshop resulted in a vision and plan of action which was then further followed up by Tech-Serve

advisors in one-to-one meetings with Director-Generals and also technical task forces.

- Tech-Serve pursued REACH's efforts to strengthen the capacity of the central MOPH through active participation in a number of key stakeholder and technical committees and taskforces. Highlights of these initiatives included support to Provincial Support Coordination Task Force to make preparations for Provincial Public Health Directors (PPHD) Semi-annual Coordination Workshop, and Monitoring and Evaluation Advisory Board for developing the MOPH 5-year Strategy for Health System Performance Assessment.
- Tech-Serve kept the momentum created by REACH in Hospital Management Improvement by supporting the improvement of hospital management capacity of MOPH in this reporting period. The Department of Curative Services was assisted in conducting a hospital management workshop for management staff of the five provincial hospitals in the MOPH Hospital Reform Project.
- Tech-Serve facilitated the MOPH re-starting and reconstituting its very important Health Financing and Sustainability Task Force. To this end, the project assisted the MOPH in updating the Task Force's Terms of Reference and initiating the development of a workplan for the Task Force.
- Tech-Serve assisted the Monitoring and Evaluation Department of the Ministry in the rollout of the National BPHS Monitoring Checklist. Focal points from 13 provinces (12 USAID-funded provinces and 1 non-USAID province) received training. Tech-Serve also assisted this department along with other partners in updating the National Health Fact Sheet. Tech-Serve also provided significant assistance to the process of developing a 5-year strategy for National Health System Performance Assessment.
- As a result of the synergistic effort between Health Management Information System (HMIS) Departments of the MOPH and Tech-Serve, generation, flow and aggregation of data in National HMIS continued to move on smoothly. During the second quarter of Shamsi Calendar (July-September 06), HMIS data submission rate was almost 100% by PPG facilities and the submission rate nationally stood at 75%.
- Tech-Serve supported MOPH Communicable Disease Control efforts through Country Coordination Mechanism (CCM) for Global Fund (GF). Assistance was provided to CCM in making decisions regarding the structure of CCM, recruitment of technical consultants and distance learning for staff of National Tuberculosis Program (NTP).
- Tech-Serve provided support to the Human Resources Development Department was pursued in this quarter by providing database guidance and supervision to the MOPH Human Resources Database Unit. Over 2,000 additional health workers including all the central Ministry staff were registered in the database in this reporting period.

- Completion and approval of the first project year workplan, the performance monitoring plan and first year budget were developed and negotiated with USAID during this reporting period.
- In order to coordinate its activities with MOPH and other partners, Tech-Serve held a number of meetings with Senior MOPH staff where the first annual project workplan was discussed and the Ministry provided inputs. Meetings were also held with SSP management team on the workplans of both projects to improve collaboration and avoid duplication of efforts

Table 1 provides the progress made in the first three months of Tech-Serve against the indicators of the Performance Monitoring Plan. It shows good progress has been made in the initial months of the project despite having to undertake many project start-up activities.

No major constraints affecting program implementation were reported during this reporting period. Security was not mentioned as a constraint affecting project implementation in this reporting period though increasing violence in parts of the country may have some impact on ability to fully implement Tech-Serve activities in all 13 provinces in the coming months. Lack of logistics or control over logistics at the Provincial Public Health Offices has been mentioned as a future constraint for some of Tech-Serves activities in provinces.

Table 1 - Tech-Serve Achievements on Selected Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP) Indicators

Indicator	Target (September 2007)	Status (September, 2006) (% achieved)
No. and total amount of BPHS grants awarded and managed under the PPG mechanism (cumulative)	22 \$ 48.9 Million	22 (100%) \$ 48.4 Million (99%)
No. and total amount of EPHS grants awarded and managed under the PPG mechanism (cumulative)	5 \$1.4 Million	5 (100%) \$1.2 Million (86%)
\$ amount of pharmaceuticals distributed to the PPG NGOs ¹ by Tech-Serve (cumulative)	\$ 2 Million	\$ 1,173,074 (58%) ²
No. of MOPH General Directorates or Deputies with a functioning Leadership Development Program (LDP) teams reporting improved, collaboration and communication on at least one new priority issue each year	2	0 (0%)
No. of Provincial Health Teams with a functioning LDP teams reporting improved, collaboration and communication on at least one new priority issue each year	3	0 (0%)

- 1- This indicator excludes the contraceptives and TB drugs that are provided to Tech-Serve as in-kind contribution by USAID and WHO, respectively. Contraceptives and TB drugs distribution constituted an additional \$492,096 in this reporting period.
- 2- This value includes drugs distributed to NGOs between July 1 and September 30, 2006. Management of the warehouse, however, was handed over to Tech-Serve by REACH on August 20, 2006. The amount of pharmaceuticals distributed in the first quarter seems unexpectedly higher because of front-loading of winterization supplies and necessary drugs for NGOs located in areas cut-off during the winter months due to winter conditions.

Other Achievements beyond the Workplan

The Tech-Serve workplan is a document produced each project year as a consultative process between MOPH, USAID and Tech-Serve. Its purposes are

1. to establish priorities for the project that reflect the needs of MOPH,
2. to clearly identify the objectives to meet MOPH's goals, and
3. identify the strategies and activities to implement those priorities and objectives.

While the workplan is a living document that is not static, there are often strategic and urgent issues that MOPH or USAID or the Tech-Serve team finds are priorities that must be addressed immediately as part of the capacity building effort to MOPH. In these instances, Tech-Serve undertakes activities not identified in the workplan but which often are just as important because of changing or emergency circumstances. This section identifies some of those key achievements by Tech-Serve which are not reflected in the matrix of the next section that shows progress in achieving the workplan results.

- Avian influenza: Tech-Serve provided technical assistance and assessments for a comprehensive strategy to control Avian Influenza in Afghanistan. In partnership with MOPH, Communicable Disease Control (CDC) and UNICEF, Tech-Serve helped develop a funding proposal for the Department of Health and Human Services for the control of this disease.
- Control of an outbreak of pertussis in one of the districts in Badakhshan: Tech-Serve provided technical assistance to MOPH Emergency Epidemiologic Preparedness Response (EEPR) Department in investigation and control of an outbreak of pertussis in Kuran-wa-Menjan District of Badakhshan province.
- A proposal for an EPI campaign for reduction of measles and neonatal tetanus: Technical assistance was provided to MOPH in development of a proposal for Measles and Neonatal Tetanus reduction Campaign to the EPI Department.
- Five-year strategy of MOPH Health System Performance Assessment (HSPA) Directorate: Tech-Serve, along with EC and JHU, assisted MOPH HSPA Directorate in drafting a five-year strategy. The assistance, during this reporting period, included provision of input to a concept paper, development of a plan and timeline for the strategy formulation process and helping in recruiting an international advisor to help with the process.
- Training of a major NGO, Aga Khan Development Network, on proper management of drug supplies: ordering and purchasing, receipt of drugs, distribution from central warehouse to clinics, timely ordering, effective management of stocks, and proper inventory accounting and controls. This will enable this NGO to better manage pharmaceuticals that are necessary for providing quality care in the BPHS facilities of this NGO.
- As a first step in preparing a five to ten year national health plan, Tech-Serve, at the request of MOPH, prepared an outline defining the Afghan health system, its current state, its goals, its policies, its strategies for meeting national health objectives, and its targets and indicators. This may serve as the basis for development of a full

national health plan as Tech-Serve works with the MOPH Deputy Minister for Technical Matters and his Health System Development Working Group.

- A major assessment of the pharmaceuticals needed for 2006-2010 by NGOs funded by USAID through WHO for provision of BPHS and EPHS services in the 13 USIAD-funded provinces. This analysis, Pharmaceutical Management and Financial Challenges and Issues for the USAID PPG Grant Program, documented a major shortfall in resources available for purchasing the needed drugs and that all existing resources for drugs would be totally expended in less than half way through the project life.

Progress To-Date Compared to the Workplan Planned Activities and Associated Constraints

	Activities	Outputs/Deliverables	Timeline												Status by September 06	Constraints		
			2006						2007									
			Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun			Jul	Aug
IR 1: Improved capacity of the central MOPH to support the delivery of BPHS and EPHS services, primarily through NGO service providers.																		
1.1 Improve capacity of MOPH to award and manage grants for providing quality of health care services.																		
1.1a	Development and approval of staffing plan for Tech-Serve staff to be seconded to the GCMU, development of job descriptions, job posting, interviews, selection, and hiring.	Twelve staff hired and seconded to coordinate and manage the PPG program					X	X										Job description for PPG grants consultant, finance consultant, M&E consultants, and admin assistant were developed and the positions were announced by MOPH. Tests were developed for screening the applicants. The selection of candidates should be completed by November.
1.1b	Finalize BPHS and EPHS outcome and output indicators and methodology for target setting, target setting meeting with NGOs, and finalization of each MOU's targets.	Each MOU has clear and achievable targets.	X															1. Formats and instructions for output and outcome indicators/targets for BPHS grants were developed with full coordination of MOPH HMIS, Monitoring and Evaluation Departments, and Tech Serve. The formats and instructions were shared with PPG NGOs. 2. A Target setting workshop, on output and outcome targets for BPHS, was organized with PPG implementing NGOs. The NGOs with active participation of PPHDs, GCMU, and Tech Serve set and agreed on their project(s) targets till Oct 31, 2007. 3. As the EPHS grants were just extended for 6 months to April 30, 2007, indicators are being drafted for these five provincial hospitals.
1.1c	Assist GCMU and WHO with issuance of modifications of 27 BPHS/EPHS MOUs. .	All modifications ensuring BPHS and EPHS grants are fully funded and have all relevant terms and conditions are complete.	X		X													Modification #1 and #2 of the Basic Package of Health Services (BPHS) Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) were issued for 21 Basic Package of Health Services (BPHS) clusters. There were 21 modifications, extending the BPHS, till end of April 2008; while, the five EPHS grants are going to be extended till end of April 2007. But, the Kabul city BPHS grant is ending October 31, and the grant is not going to be extended.
1.1d	Conduct Quarterly PPG Meetings (NGOs, MOPH, SSP, Tech-Serve, USAID) including technical roundtables if needed.	The NGOs as a group meet at least quarterly with all the program components.	X			X			X			X			X			Tech-Serve assisted MOPH in organizing a quarterly PPG meeting with NGOs, SSP, WHO, USAID, and MOPH on August 6 at the Institute of Health Sciences--MOPH Hall. In the meeting, the role and responsibility of each stakeholder were explained; grants implementation issues were explored, prioritized, and discussed and

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	Activities	Outputs/Deliverables	Timeline															Status by September 06	Constraints	
			2006						2007											
			Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep			
1.1o	Assist GCMU with reviewing 27 NGO financial reports	Financial reports processed each quarter.		X			X				X				X				Financial reports were reviewed and corrected with the respective NGOs. The reports were then forwarded to WHO for approval and release of the quarterly NGO payment. Initially there were delays on the part of WHO but with assistance from Tech-Serve the issues were quickly resolved so payments could be made to NGOs in a timely manner so delivery of health services by the NGOs would not be adversely affected. NGOs received the cash in October. There were three NGOs whose financial reports had many miscalculations and mistakes; with several face to face to meetings we could revise their financial reports. These NGOs were SDF, Medair, and IbnSina. We plan to conduct a financial monitoring of their offices in the coming months.	
1.1p	Assist GCMU with reviewing of 27 NGO narrative technical reports and Project Data Sheet	Reports reviewed each quarter.		X			X			X				X				Completed for this quarter. See 1.11		
1.1q	PPG Grants summary activity reports prepared and distributed to GCMU, MOPH, WHO, and USAID	Quarterly PPG Activity Summary Reports				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
1.1r	Coordinate with SSP with technical assistance needs assessments and provision of technical assistance to BPHS and EPHS NGOs.			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		In the coordination meetings, the PPG newsletter and the first NGO capacity building needs assessment workshop, and NGO needs were discussed and the PPG newsletter and the date and the content of the workshop were agreed upon.	
1.2	GCMU Strengthened to prepare for the GOA to receive USAID funds directly																			
1.2a	Design a GCMU capacity building plan to meet USAID eligibility criteria to receive direct funding	Capacity building plan for GCMU to be completed by July 2007													X	X	X			
1.3	Provision of essential drugs and contraceptive supplies is improved.																			
1.3a	Estimation of NGO drug needs and forecasting quantities of drugs to be procured			X			X			X				X			X		NGO drug needs were forecasted and costed out for life-of-Tech-Serve project. Previous pharmaceutical consumption basis and rationale for increased funding for drugs was presented in a report to USAID (see Paul Ickx's trip report for further reference).	

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	Activities	Outputs/Deliverables	Timeline																		Status by September 06	Constraints
			2006									2007										
			Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep					
1.3b	Procure pharmaceuticals for BPHS and EPHS NGOs	Two pharmaceutical orders placed		X	X	X				X	X	X						X	X	X	One pharmaceutical order was processed and submitted to IDA for quotes. Once prices are certified as less than 50% of costs of procuring from US firms, waiver from USAID/Washington and Kabul will be processed in October to purchase order from International Dispensary Association (IDA).	
1.3c	Receive pharmaceutical consignments, clear through customs and properly warehouse	Pharmaceuticals are cleared within 3 weeks of coming to Kabul					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
1.3d	Distribute pharmaceuticals to 27 BPHS and EPHS NGOS	Distribute drugs valued at \$2 million in year 1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Drugs with a value of US\$ 1,665,169 were distributed to NGO grantees this quarter. This included US\$ 1,173,074 of essential drugs, US\$ 478,365 of contraceptives and US\$ 13,730 of TB medications.	
1.3e	Manage warehouse facilities, systems and staff to ensure pharmaceuticals are made available to NGOs	Orders for drugs filled and drugs delivered to NGOs within 30 days of receipt	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23 NGOs and 3 PRTs were supplied with drugs. Average lead time for delivery was reduced from 47 to 29 days from receipt of request to supplying of drugs to NGOs. If the few difficult orders are excluded, the lead time for the majority of pharmaceutical orders was only 15 days from receipt to supplying of the drugs.	
1.4	Enhance the ability of MOPH Deputy Ministers and Director-Generals to effectively manage their work and staff																					
1.4a	Conduct Tech-Serve Management Support training for senior MOPH management staff to enable them to improve management practices in the health sector	2 Tech-Serve Management Support workshops conducted with 20 participants trained			X					X											A Tech-Serve training and Senior Stakeholder Alignment Meeting was conducted from 25-27 Sept at MOPH for 45 senior MOPH staff including all three Deputy Ministers, the 8 Director-Generals, many department heads and MOPH partners, including USAID, EC, WHO, SSP and COMPRI-A. Expectations of various partners were explored and a shared vision of leadership and management in MOPH was developed. See Joan Galer trip report and the workshop report of Senior Stakeholder Alignment Meeting for further information.	
1.4b	Promote coordination and planning of MOPH by conducting regular meetings with all 3 Deputy Ministers and 6 Director Generals to identify management and leadership gaps and provide TA to improve MOPH management	One G-D has an agreed upon workplan that is being implemented and monitored. Two semi-annual progress reports				X								X						X	It was determined that the General-Directorate that Tech-Serve will work with intensively is the Provincial Public Health General-Directorate as this G-D is the most willing to participate and willing to commit to an active development process of its staff. Its selection is also the most consistent with the overall capacity building mission of Tech-Serve. In addition, nineteen meetings were held with all the MOPH Deputy Ministers and Director-Generals to discuss and plan the Tech-Serve Year 1 workplan	

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			2006						2007												
			Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep				
1.9d	Train MOPH Staff on LQAS methodology	20 members of central and provincial MOPH trained on design, conduction and analysis of LQAS household surveys												X	X	X					
1.9f	Assist MOPH in applying LQAS methodology for BPHS outcome measurement in PPG provinces	22 PPG Grants develop Household Survey Plans for October 2007 survey													X	X	X				
1.9g	Collaborate with JHU in the analysis of follow-up findings of NHSPA with special emphasis on PPG Provinces	2 meetings is organized between Tech-Serve, SSP, USAID, and PPG NGOs where JHU data in PPG provinces is discussed, analyzed and decisions are made for corrective actions.	X										X							NHSPA 2005 (National Health System Performance Assessment) findings were analyzed in July with a focus on USAID provinces. The information was disseminated and discussed with USAID, SSP and REACH in a one hour seminar on July 16.	
1.10	National HMIS is maintained and institutionalized within the MOPH and compatibility with the project's M&E requirements is ensured																				
1.10a	Provide TA to MOPH in maintaining and updating the national health facilities database	All health facilities in receipt of a unique facility ID code from the MOPH; updated information on the facilities available	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						Assigning unique facility IDs for newly constructed facilities and updating health facilities information is taking place at MOPH on a daily basis. Summary of this data is being disseminated on a weekly basis among GCMU, WHO, SSP and Tech-Serve.	
1.10b	Provide TA to MOPH so that it can manage a decentralized HMIS Database at the provincial level	Functional HMIS database at Provincial level in PPG Provinces. Over 90% of PPG facilities and 70% of BPHS facilities nationally submit HMIS reports.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	HMIS reports of the second Shamsi calendar were successfully synchronized. 97% of PPG facilities and 75% of BPHS facilities nationally submitted their HMIS reports.	
1.10c	Assist Central MOPH in maintaining HMIS Database Main HUB.	Functioning HMIS main hub at the MOPH.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	HMIS database main HUB has been maintained in a good condition and on weekly basis the system is getting updated virus definitions.	
1.10d	TA to the MOPH in the rollout of EPHS HMIS	5 PPG Provincial Hospitals report EPHS HMIS on a quarterly basis		X			X			X			X				X			Database and analysis tools for extracting the information were developed for EPHS HMIS. Tech-Serve and MOPH also trained the HMIS officers from 34 provinces on how to use the new features of the database. Five Provincial Hospitals that belong to Hospital Reform Project of MOPH--Kunduz, Takhar, Baghlan, Ghor and Zabol--have been submitting their EPHS HMIS reports since April 2006.	

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			2006						2007													
			Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep					
1.10e	Assist MOPH in developing a regular national HMIS indicators update	2 HMIS indicator updates at the national level developed and disseminated			X								X							X	An HMIS indicator update was developed and presented by head of MOPH HMIS Department to the Deputy Minister and Director-Generals in September.	
1.11 Strengthen MOPH's capacity for proper planning for equipment maintenance in hospitals.																						
1.11a	Assess the actual requirements and needs for hospital equipment maintenance in 5 provincial hospitals.	Report on assessment on hospital equipment maintenance completed by 31 May 07									X	X	X	X	X							
1.11b	Develop recommendations for USAID and MOPH on requirements and needs for hospital equipment maintenance.	Recommendations on equipment maintenance made to USAID and MOPH by 31 July 2007													X	X	X					
1.12 Strengthen MOPH's ability to undertake national planning health system development																						
1.12a	Support the Technical Deputy Minister to develop a plan for health system development	Actively participate in Health System Development Working Group meetings				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Two Tech-Serve staff, the Chief of Party and Technical Director, were appointed to the seven member MOPH Health System Working Group that is chaired by the MOPH Technical Deputy Minister. The Tech-Serve staff developed for the MOPH an outline of the assessment of the Afghan Health System which was adopted by the working group in September. Work will continue on this for the coming year.	
1.13 Support MOPH Communicable Disease Control efforts																						
1.13a	Active participation on the Country Coordination Mechanism (CCM) of the Global Fund for the national control of malaria, TB and HIV/AIDS	Record of CCM meetings	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Tech-Serve is an active member of the CCM. It has been a part of the key decisions and outcomes of the CCM during this quarter including: (1) review of CCM functions, structure, and membership with the decision to change the structure of the CCM, (2) initiation of the recruitment for two consultants in Community DOTS and Advocacy, (3) enrollment of two National TB Program staff in a distance learning Masters of Public Health course.	
1.13b	Support MOPH on promoting quality DOTS expansion	Training modules developed for quality DOTS expansion				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							Development of training modules for doctors, nurses and lab technicians with the support of a working group consisting of Tech-Serve, WHO, National TB Program and Global Fund staff	

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	Activities	Outputs/Deliverables	Timeline																		Status by September 06	Constraints	
			2006						2007														
			Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep						
1.16b	CGHN		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	All CGHN meetings were attended by Tech Serve staff and TA .			
1.16c	Provincial Support Coordination		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Tech-Serve attended regularly the meetings and TA was provided to the meetings on weekly basis. The Coordination body made preparation for the MOPH Provincial Public Health Directors' (PPHDs) semi-annual coordination meeting.			
1.16d	Community-Based Health Care		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Ongoing			
1.16e	Telemedicine						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Regularly attended the meetings and reviewed the assessments results and provided necessary recommendations. See 1.5e			
1.16f	Country Coordinating Mechanism		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Ongoing (see 1.13a)			
1.16g	Health Financing and Sustainability Task Force		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	TA provided to the Task Force and Health Care Financing Department			
1.16h	Health Systems Development Working Group		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Ongoing (see 1.12a)			
1.16i	Hospital Management Task Force		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Ongoing			
1.16j	HMIS Task Force		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Ongoing			
1.16k	M&E Advisory Board		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Ongoing			
1.16l	MCH Task Force		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Ongoing			
1.16	Pharmaceutical Affairs and Essential Drugs		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
1.16n	TB Task Force		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Ongoing			
IR 2: Improved capacity of the thirteen Provincial Health Offices of MOPH to support the delivery of BPHS and EPHS services.																							
2.1	Develop a strategy for Tech-Serve building the management capacity of Provincial Public Health Offices																						
2.1a	Have joint MOPH-Tech-Serve rapid assessment visits to provinces to assist with the Tech Serve strategy for working with provinces	10 provincial visits. Strategy for Tech-Serve provincial management support completed by Oct 31, 06	X	X	X	X																Rapid assessments were conducted in 10 provinces (Bamyan, Takhar, Baghlan, Jawzjan, Faryab, Ghazni, Paktia, Paktika, Khost and Badakhshan). Allocation of the seven Provincial Health Advisors to be located in Provincial Health Offices were determined based on the assessment. See the assessment report for further reference.	
2.2	Improve the management capacities of Provincial Public Health Departments (PPHDs) in USAID funded provinces to effectively plan and manage the delivery of BPHS and EPHS																						
2.2a	Strengthen MOPH capacity at the provincial level in the effective coordination of partners through PHCC support by Tech-Serve	Regular attendance at PHCC meetings in 7 provinces				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	During the Rapid assessment visits (see 2.1a) PPHCC meetings were attended in Takhar and Bamyan Provinces.	

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2.4c	Undertake one PQI assessments at each of the 5 provincial hospitals.	PQI assessment of 5 provincial hospitals completed by July 31, 07			X	X											X	X								Awaiting USAID decision as to whether Tech-Serve will continue this work begun by MSH under REACH
2.4d	Adapt and update the PQI database (cross reference to 4.1d)	Updated PQI database containing PQI assessment findings				X	X	X				X					X							X		
2.5	Encourage greater communication and problem solving among Provincial Health Directors																									
2.5a	Develop network of PPHDs to share solutions to common problems, strategize on how to have an active voice in the central MOPH that represents PPHDs.	1 networking meeting for 5 PPHDs held by July 31, 07															X	X								
2.5b	Public health update and shared learning meetings for PH Directors	Technically and financially support one MOPH meeting of PPHDs									X	X														
2.6	Provision of assistance to MOPH in improved planning for construction and maintenance of health facilities and provincial health offices in 13 selected provinces																									
2.6a	Conduct assessment of MOPH Provincial Health Offices and make recommendations for renovation or construction of the provincial health offices	Report on recommended renovations of Provincial Health Offices ready by June 30, 05				X	X	X								X	X	X								
IR 3: Improve the leadership and management skills of senior managers at central and provincial levels of MOPH																										
3.1	Developed planning, management, supervision, monitoring and evaluation and leadership capacity of the MOPH.																									
3.1a	Provide Leadership and Management Development Program for senior MOPH managers --cross reference with activity 1.4a for specifics and resources	Conduct one LDP workshop for Central MOPH by Sept 30, 06			X																					The Tech-Serve training was conducted from 25-27 Sept at MOPH for 45 senior MOPH staff including all three Deputy Ministers, the 8 Director-Generals, many department heads and MOPH partners, including USAID, EC, WHO, SSP and COMPRI-A (see also 1.4a). In addition, selected chapters of the hand book "Managers Who Lead" were translated from English into Dari and Pashto.

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3.1b	Provide Leadership and Management Development Program for provincial public health departments-- <i>cross reference with activity 2.2b for specifics and resources</i>	Conduct LDP training in 7 provinces by Sept 30, 07			X		X		X		X		X		X	X	An initial LDP scanning workshop was conducted for 24 staff of the Kabul Provincial Public Health Department in September as a "trial-run" and training basis for doing this training in the Provincial Public Health Departments in the 13 USAID-funded provinces. The main topics were analyzing the situation and prioritizing activities of the Provincial Public Health Department. They will work on their priority actions with supported from Tech Serve.		
Tech-Serve Cross-cutting Areas																			
Area 4: Monitoring and Evaluation																			
4.1 Program information and service statistics from Tech-Serve/SSP MIS are available for monitoring and decision making																			
4.1a	Conduct refresher training on modified HMIS forms/guidelines	60 MOPH and NGO staff are trained on modified HMIS forms and guidelines			X					X							Because of conduction of a training on modified HMIS forms and guidelines in June 2006 for 55 participants (24 from USAID grantees and 31 from PPHOs and non-USAID NGOs), the Ministry asked Tech-Serve to postpone this workshop.		
4.1b	Conduct refresher training on modified HMIS Database and update NGO HMIS replicas.	27 PPG NGOs and 34 PPHOs receive the updated HMIS replica including EPHS module				X		X		X									
4.1c	Support MOPH HMIS department and PPG Grantee NGOs to successfully implement database cloning process (cross reference to activity 1.10b)	HMIS data of acceptable quality is received regularly at the HMIS department of the Ministry	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	HMIS database is now run smoothly by all PPG grantees and according to the needs TA is provided. Tech-Serve initiated the recruitment of two additional HMIS Specialist staff to be hired and seconded to the Ministry for supporting this activity. See also 1.10b.		
4.1d	Assist SSP and Tech-Serve in maintain a Quality Assurance Database (cross reference to 2.4d)	Two data entry people are trained, needed routine report templates generated and integrity of data with other components of Tech-Serve/SSP Management Information System maintained			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	QA database consisting of FFSDP and PQI was presented internally to SSP and Tech-Serve. This database will serve as a source of evidence for provincial exercises of Leadership Development Program and provincial planning.	Inclusion of additional Hospital Standards to PQI database is pending on the final arrangement between SSP and Tech-Serve for supporting provincial hospitals.	

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4.1e	Develop additional routine reporting templates for Tech-Serve Management Information System	Additional routine reporting templates in Tech-Serve/SSP MIS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	The following templates have been developed for routine reporting purposes. 1.PPG service statistics summary report showing services provided by PPG grantees every month. 2. PPG active facilities showing current PPG active health facilities on a weekly basis. 3. PPG active health posts showing number of active health posts currently providing services under PPG on a bi-weekly basis.		
4.1f	Ensure integrity of MIS reference files, including unique coding systems for facilities and staff	Integrated MIS is maintained	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Common files database has been updated for all other linked databases on a monthly basis		
4.1g	Support PPG NGOs and PPG Provinces PPHOs in creating a sustainable and fully functional HMIS (HMIS provincial rollout)	Seven provincial HMIS officers receive necessary hands-on training on HMIS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Tech-Serve assisted the MOPH in conducting a workshop in August for 34 provincial HMIS officers from 34 provinces. The topics covered included HMIS database new features, data generation and analysis in pivot tables. The workshop was conducted with financial support of MOPH/UNICEF and technical support of Tech-Serve in Tech-Serve office.		
4.1h	Maintain SSP/Tech-Serve Training Database	Updated Training Database		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Data collection forms from Tech-Serve and SSP training activities were evaluated and revised. Administrative assistants from both projects were oriented to the forms. Information from workshops conducted in the first quarter were entered.		
4.1i	Maintain USAID GeoBase	Four quarterly updates to the GeoBase				X					X			X				X				
4.2	Regular planning activities are coordinated across the various program areas of the project.																					
4.2a	Develop Tech-Serve first year workplan	First year workplan	X	X	X															First year project workplan was finalized.		
4.2b	Develop Tech-Serve PMP including key targets	Tech-Serve PMP		X	X															Project Performance Monitoring Plan was finalized.		
4.3	Program information is analyzed for regular and ad hoc reporting, taking into account Tech-Serve targets and non-Tech-Serve information.																					
4.3a	Develop regular and ad-hoc MIS reports	15 monthly PPG HMIS Summary Reports	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Three monthly sets of routine reports including summary of service statistics and coverage maps, weekly routine reports on no. of active facilities and health posts were developed.		
4.3b	Conduct annual evaluations of Tech-Serve program implementation approach	One Tech-Serve internal evaluation sessions held on the project implementation approach													X							
4.3c	Develop annual Tech-Serve target achievement updates	One PMP target achievement update														X						

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4.4	USAID and other clients are provided with program information in a timely fashion																		
4.4a	Provide quarterly, semi-annual and annual reports to USAID/Kabul	Two quarterly reports, one semi-annual reports and one annual report			X			X			X			X					
Area 5: Coordination with MOPH and other partners																			
5.1																			
5.1a	Conduct consensus building meetings with the MOPH, SSP and other partners as appropriate to coordinate the first year workplan activities	Common understanding between various partners on workplan activities/Final first year workplan	X	X	X													Three coordination meetings were held with SSP. Two coordination meetings were held with MOPH. One briefing/coordination meeting was held with Provincial Health Directors from 13 USAID supported provinces.	
5.1b	Conduct a joint evaluation of the implementation approach with SSP and USAID (cross reference to 4.3b)	Cross reference to 4.3b												X					
5.1c	Hold regular meetings with USAID and other partners to coordinate project direction				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		

Annexes

1-Short Term Technical Assistance visits

The following TDYs began during this three-month period:

Name	Scope of Work	Dates in Country
Joan Galer	To provide technical assistance to Tech-Serve and MOPH teams on future Leadership Development Program implementation in Kabul and 13 provinces	September 14-28
Morsy Mansour	To provide technical assistance to Tech-Serve and MOPH teams on future Leadership Development Program implementation in Kabul and 13 provinces	September 14-28
Paul Ickx	To help MOPH and M&E build their capacities and continue ongoing activities with the MOPH and in MIS development and health information use and with the Tech Serve DMU	September 15-October 8

2-Documents Available for Further Information

Trip reports for TDYs completed during the reporting period were submitted by Joan Galer and Morsy Mansour.

Other technical documents:

- Report of Leadership and Management Development Workshop # 1 (Scanning), Kabul Province
- Tech-Serve Partners Senior Alignment Meeting Report
- National BPHS Monitoring Checklist Workshop Report
- Tech-Serve Report: Pharmaceutical Management and Financial Challenges and Issues for the USAID PPG Grant Program
- Dr. Paul Ickx's PowerPoint presentation, "Tech-Serve Pharmaceutical Management"
- Report of "Rapid Assessment of Management Capacity in Provinces and Identification of Priority Provinces for Tech-Serve"

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