

# WEEKLY BULLET POINTS

## Farah Province

- On October 1<sup>st</sup>, media training was provided to 30 youth association members from Pusht-e Rod and Khak-e-Safayd Districts. By the end of the training, participants learned about media relations, interview techniques and how to write press releases. The youth will use the training to broadcast their activities. The training was part of the Pusht-e Rod Youth Association communications plan.
- The Pusht-e Rod Youth Association, in-line with its communications plan, held a meeting with farmers and the District Governor on October 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss the dangers of poppy cultivation. Farmers and youth asked the DG to help them stop poppy cultivation and find alternative crops.
- Five-day Project Management training was provided to 20 members of five CDCs from Bala Boluk and 10 members of three Pusht-e Rod CDCs from October 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Training on Stability Analysis Mechanism (SAM) and Conflict Resolution was provided to 11 PST and four DRRD staff on October 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Twenty three labor intensive grants, including building water dividers and refurbishing community centers, are ongoing in Bala Boluk and Pusht-e Rod Districts. Four projects are currently on-hold due to security issues and six projects were canceled with the funds placed back into the District Budget.
- Six motor-bike repairing, embroidery and tailoring vocational trainings in Bala Boluk, three Health Education training and seven literacy courses in Pusht-e Rod Districts are ongoing.



Youth Association members draft press releases during media training.



Laborers work on Dehzak community center refurbishment project in Bala Boluk District.

## Badghis Province

- To improve community engagement the Qadis District Governor monitored the carpentry vocational training course in Jawaleq Sofla village on October 1<sup>st</sup>. “We are grateful and thank the government for providing these opportunities,” said a community representative.
- The tailoring training course in Arbab Sarwar, quilt making in Qurbanha and embroidery training in Chaproadha villages in Qadis District and the tailoring courses in Zargarha and Cheshma Dozak villages in Muqur District were inaugurated.
- The Qadis Youth Association, in-line with its communications plan, organized a meeting with 41 community elders, the Qadis District Governor and government officials on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Youths shared the association’s activities and



A tailoring training course was inaugurated for 25 local women in Arbab Sarwar village in Qadis District.

achievements. “Youth have significant role in bringing stability in the community,” said the DG’s representative and appreciated their activities in Qadis District especially the anti-addiction and education campaigns.

- Two separate five-day Project Management trainings were kicked off for 33 members of 9 CDCs from Muqur and 45 members of 12 CDCs from Qadis District on October 5<sup>th</sup>.
- The Muqur *Ulema* and Tribal Engagement meeting was held with participation of 33 people on October 6<sup>th</sup> to resolve the tribal conflict between Tajikha tribe over the murder of one person and the conflict between Zad Ali and Andari tribes which resulted in deaths of 10 persons. Eight people have been chosen to follow up the conflict between Tajikha and a team of 30 people were assigned to work on the conflict between ZadAli and Andari tribes.
- The weekly coordination meeting with the DRRD was held on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The DRRD was briefed on the last week activities including the project management trainings in Qadis and Muqur.
- Two six-month motorbike repairing vocational training courses for 30 men, two-six months tailoring trainings for 40 women in Muqur and two six-month carpentry training courses for 30 men in Jawaliq community in Qadis District are ongoing.
- Twenty labor intensive grants, including aqueduct and culvert construction, are ongoing in Qadis and Muqur Districts.



Students practice motor-bike repairing in Cheshma Dozak Sofla in Muqur District. Following the six-month training, 15 students will have the skills to start a business.

## Herat Province

- The Shindand District Governor along with the National Department of Security, DRRD, DDA and CDC representatives monitored the carpet weaving vocational training course in Qala Rahmdel village on October 7<sup>th</sup>. “These projects will help poor and marginalized women to have better life and stable economy,” said the District Governor.
- The Pashtun Zarghun District Governor held a public meeting with 60 influential leaders and Afghan Local Police (ALP) on October 7<sup>th</sup> to build stronger relation between government and community residents. The DG and ALP talked about the importance of establishing security checkpoint in the district and villages. This issue will be shared with the provincial authorities.
- On October 6<sup>th</sup>, a meeting was held with the Pashtun Zarghun District Governor to address the security concern for the road construction project in Taqcha village. The DG briefed the SIKA-West staff on the progress of the discussion with the community leaders and said 50 community leaders met with him and committed to provide security for the technical staff. The District Governor will also establish a security checkpoint to guarantee the implementation of the project.
- Project Management training was kicked off for 12 members of three CDCs from Pashtun Zarghun District on October 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Following commitment letters received from Kushk Rabat-e Sangi District Governor and community residents, SIKA-West resumed its activities on October 5<sup>th</sup>, following three week withdrawal of staff. The DG and the residents pledged to provide security escort to staff during project implementation.



The Shindand DG monitored the carpet weaving vocational training course in Qala Rahmdel village on October 7<sup>th</sup>

- The weekly coordination meeting with the DRRD was held on October 5<sup>th</sup> and an overview of the previous week's activities and challenges were shared with the DRRD.
- Eight labor intensive grants, including construction of a protection wall, school refurbishment, road rehabilitation and culvert construction are ongoing in Pashtun Zarghun, Shindand and Kushk Rabat-e Sangi Districts.
- Five carpet weaving vocational trainings for 125 women and five literacy courses for another 125 women in Shindand District, and five tailoring vocational trainings for 100 women in Pashtun Zarghun District are ongoing.

## Ghor Province

- As an extension to the SIKA-West baseline survey conducted in April and May 2013 in Herat, Farah, and Badghis, SIKA-West started surveying community members in two target districts of Ghor province (Chaghcharan and Shahrak) on October 7<sup>th</sup>. During the week, 15 men were interviewed from Akhta Khana village in Chaghcharan District.

## WHAT'S NEXT...

- **Farah** Bala Boluk and Pusht-e Rod Tribal Conflict Resolution Committees (TCRC) will receive conflict resolution training on October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.
- **Badghis** Qadis Tribal Engagement meeting will be held on October 8<sup>th</sup>.
- **Badghis** Muqur DG will organize a meeting with farmers to share the government activities on October 9<sup>th</sup>.
- **Herat** Shindand DDA and CDCs members will receive conflict resolution training on October 8<sup>th</sup>.
- **Herat** Kushk Rabat-e Sangi DSC meeting will be held on October 13<sup>th</sup>.
- **Herat** The first program update meeting between the DGs and the PG will be held at the Herat PG's compound on October 9<sup>th</sup>. These meetings have been facilitated by SIKA-West to ensure that there is greater coordination between district and provincial entities. The DGs have been supported in preparing material for this meeting.
- **Ghor** Chaghcharan DDA members will receive Stabilization training on October 8<sup>th</sup>.