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# Community Based Stabilization Grants Program (CBSG) Quarterly Report

FY 11', 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter (JAN-MARCH 2011)

Prepared by Creative Associates International

May 5, 2011

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## **DISCLAIMER**

The author's views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

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## A. CBSG Program Summary

As a deliverable under the Community Based Stabilization Grants (CBSG) Program in Afghanistan, CA No.306-A-00-10-00513-00, Creative Associates International, Inc. is pleased to present the Quarterly Report below to USAID, summarizing program activities and achievements during the months of October to December 2010.

Through Creative, and our partners, ADA, CHA, and COAR, USAID/Afghanistan is working to apply community development and mobilization principles and peaceful community discussion to enable unstable communities which are predominantly a focus of COIN activities, to directly implement small-scale community-level projects. CBSGs will also:

- 1) Support military (PRT, U.S., and ISAF) efforts in communities by helping to “hold” areas after they are cleared;
- 2) Support the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) National Solidarity Program (NSP), the Afghanistan Rural Enterprise Development Program (ARED) and National Area Based Development Program (NABDP) activities by linking GIRoA to communities, thereby building trust between the government and its rural citizens;
- 3) Provide timely support to stability initiatives in an effort to improve security in unstable communities;
- 4) Ensure a rapid response to expressed community development needs through advancing community mobilization strategies and efforts.

The primary objective of the CBSG program is to “hold” communities after military operations have taken place and to insulate unstable communities from further insurgent intrusion. However, CBSG is a flexible grant mechanism that will also provide grant assistance to more stable communities to further enhance community stability and development. To achieve these goals, Creative will award sub-grants to community groups for community-identified projects which provide basic services, such as infrastructure and repair of village structures, and improve security and stability in target areas.

Groups receiving USAID/CBSG grants may include Community Development Councils (CDCs), District Development Assemblies (DDAs), Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) formed associations, farmer associations, women’s shuras, youth groups, groups of displaced persons or newly-returned refugees, etc. We are working closely with our USAID Activity Managers and local implementers to respond to needs and opportunities of the Grantees as they arise.

Grants are limited in size (up to \$25,000 with a phased implementation approach), using the Fixed Obligation Grants (FOG) format with its requirement for clearly-defined accomplishments (outputs or milestones). CBSGs have a clearly established, viable link between the CBO grantee and an identified local GIRoA entity.

CBSG also supports the four principles of the *Afghan First* Policy:

- 1) **Afghan Leadership and Ownership:** Ensures that procurement responds to the needs of Afghans and is accountable to the Afghans it is meant to support.
- 2) **Afghan Participation:** Promote the Afghan private sector in their management and delivery of goods and services while fostering entrepreneurship.
- 3) **Afghan Capacity Development:** Develop the Afghan labor force.
- 4) **Afghan Sustainability:** Over time, local procurement reduces support for the insurgency, makes foreign assistance more effective and ultimately reduces the dependence of development assistance.

## B. Overview of Achievements This Period

- During the quarter, CBSG received 42 grant pre-proposals including 36 from RC-North, 6 from RC-Central and 0 from RC-West.
- CBSG successfully commenced the implementation stage of 139 grant activities – 60 projects in RC-North, 39 projects in RC-West and 40 projects in RC-Central.
- CBSG completed the implementation of 28 projects – 4 in RC-Central and 20 in RC-North and 4 projects in RC-West.

*Table 1: Grants Status as of March 31, 2011*

Grants Status	Cumulative Total Prior to This Reporting Period	Current Reporting Period	Cumulative \$ Amount Prior to This Reporting Period	\$ Amount This Reporting Period	Current Total
Number of Grants Pending Approval	128	42	\$3,066,750	\$1,004,202	170
Number of Grants Approved	68	140	\$1,432,519	\$2,960,382	208
Number of Grants Completed	34	26	\$598,064	\$535,706	60

## C. Progress towards Stability Objectives

During this reporting period, the program continued to impact a variety of drivers of instability and address grievances across its wide area of geographic focus.

### Impacting instability and grievance based on religious division

Many communities feel that important religious figures need to be brought closer to the center of local policy making and practice in addressing local grievances and combating local insurgent activity. To this end, CBSG awarded a grant for The Religious Leaders Peace Promotion Jirga, which was inaugurated 13 February 2011 in Pul-e-Khumri, Baghlan Province and lasted for three weeks until 4 March 2011.

A number of positive resolutions emerged amongst the Ulemas in attendance:

- That the constitution of Afghanistan and all laws approved by the GIRoA must be respected.
- No one should practice or preach discrimination and there should be parity of esteem between different religious and ethnic groups.
- Suicide attacks are anti-Islamic and are forbidden.
- It is the duty of every individual to work for peace and security.
- Ulemas should step forward and assume responsibility for resolving inter-community grievances and disputes.
- Ulemas should play a key role in decision making processes within the Baghlan Province.

The Ulemas, in attendance, were instructed to return home and preach these resolutions to their respective congregations.

### **Impacting instability and grievance based on ethnic grounds**

CBSG is discovering that participants in the insurgency range across a variety of ethnic groups other than the Pashtun community. Their grievances and motivations are largely driven by a sense of being marginalized by GIRoA. Many also perceive local GIRoA officials as being corrupt and displaying bias towards other ethnic groups.

During the reporting period CBSG commenced projects designed to address such grievances which included:

- Two new road gravelling projects for the Uzbek community of Kohistanat District in Sar-e-Pul Province. These projects are designed to address their grievance over corruption and a lack of a GIRoA presence. Their grievances have led to a growth in local men joining the insurgents. The insurgency is highly organized by an outside leadership who are inflaming their anti-government sentiments.
- Two new activities designed to address grievances due to the lack of a GIRoA presence for Uzbek community of Suzma Qala District in Sar-e-Pul Province. The projects are for school furniture procurement and a surrounding wall.
- A new grant activity for Qalai Zal District of Kunduz Province where some members of the Uzbek and Turkmen community's serious disillusion with GIRoA, has led them to become active insurgents. Their sense of grievance was inflamed by insurgent infiltrators who have lately been driven out by local arbaki in coordination with the ANP. The project aims to repair irrigation channels for Safi Kot village.
- Two new CBSG activities in Baghlan-e-Jadid District in Baghlan Province, where clearing operations have recently taken place, is a district that is Pashtun dominated but also plays host to a sizeable Hazara community. The Hazara, unlike many members of the Pashtun community, do not support the insurgency but are nonetheless disillusioned with the GIRoA's limited visibility. These two projects are for two new school classrooms and repairs to the school as well as a bridge reconstruction.
- CBSG also commenced implementation of a 5km canal cleaning project in Ghormach adjacent to Faryab Province. The project was awarded in support of efforts to mitigate grievances based on inter tribal and ethnic conflict between Pashtuns and Uzbeks.

### **Impacting instability and grievance in areas under severe insurgent influence**

CBSG continued to commence implementation of projects in highly conflicted districts and others which are under severe insurgent influence.

Three notable examples during the reporting period were:

- Six projects for highly conflicted Chemtal District of Balkh Province. The projects follow clearance operations which are still ongoing in some parts of the district. These projects are supported by the community who see them as addressing their grievance that there remains a lack of a GIRoA presence which they believe has led to a severe infiltration of insurgents during the last year. The projects include gravel road rehabilitations, school equipment procurements and surrounding wall construction.

- A new project in Chahardarah District in Kunduz Province. The district is under severe insurgent influence and plays host to an ethnically diverse community all of whom are deeply disillusioned and aggrieved at corruption and a lack of visible GIRoA presence. The project is for the construction of six culverts for Disband village.
- Four CBSG projects were completed within the Robot Sangi District of Herat. There is a powerful, locally led group of insurgents who draw support from the strongly held anti-government sentiments of the people who are aggrieved over corruption and a lack of a GIRoA presence in the district.

### **Impacting instability and grievance centered on lawlessness in remote areas**

CBSG also continued to address drivers of instability and grievances centered on lawlessness in remote districts. One notable example was the commencement of a grant activity in Guzar-e-Noor a remote area of Baghlan Province. The community has been aggrieved at the lack of a GIRoA presence in the district, which they feel has significantly contributed to a rise in general lawlessness and banditry. The project is for the procurement of school equipment which was viewed as one of the community's highest priorities.

### **Impacting instability and grievance bases on inter-village rivalry/conflict**

CBSG also awarded a grant designed to address grievances based on inter village rivalry or conflict. The grant will fund conflict resolution training, which will include participants from villages in the highly conflicted Baghlan-e-Jadid District of Baghlan Province. All of the villages have a history of being actively anti-government and some of enmity towards one another. It is hoped that this activity will focus on the latter, a second level driver of instability. By addressing a variety of inter-village grievances it will reinforce stability and contribute to a further decrease in tension created by recent insurgent clearance operations.

## **D. Other Areas of Progress**

### **RC North Stabilization Shura**

CBSG attended the RC North Stabilization Shura held during March 6-7 at Camp Marmal in Balkh Province. CBSG as a stabilization tool was considered in detail and lessons learned from Year One and ways forward for Year Two were discussed. Program tactics and strategies were presented and analyzed including CBSG's strategy for Kunduz Province in Year Two.

### **Liaison with ISAF**

CBSG presented the program to a variety of parties concerned with stabilization programming and practice on the 2 March.

### **DSF Training**

Four CBSG and implementing partner staff attended three days of DSF training conducted by the Counterinsurgency Training Center (CTC) at the US Embassy Compound in Kabul.

## **E. Challenges of Afghan First**

Afghan First presents CBSG with its greatest challenges. During the reporting period CBSG continued to meet the challenges of Afghan First.

### **Improving Implementing Partner Capacity**

The performance and capacity of implementing partners continues to cause concern.

During January and February CBSG successfully implemented a plan designed to improve the capacity of another of its implementing partner that was accumulating a backlog of grant pre-proposals and applications. The plan had previously been enacted with another partner during late 2010. The plan contained a series of improvement performance milestones for clearing the backlog, completion of additional training and fully staffing and resourcing the partner's team dedicated to CBSG.

Further capacity issues related to grants application development, environmental compliance procedures, M&E plus proper accounting and record keeping were addressed with all partners by more training of partner's staff in the field or at their Kabul headquarters.

CBSG is pleased to report that its intensive and progressive training programs appear to be producing a positive impact in partner performance. The quality of their outputs improved significantly during the reporting period and the number of completed grant applications received rose considerably

## **F. Program Impact on Women and Girls**

Between the period of January and March 2011, CBSG continued to work closely with GIRoA officials to encourage the education and empowerment of Afghan women and girls. Projects targeted at female education included school surrounding walls at high schools for girls' and a women's mentoring program. To date, the CBSG beneficiaries have included more than 34,000 girls and women, directly impacting communities and building ties between the local government and a severely underserved population in Afghanistan.

An example of the work with girls and women that CBSG is funding is the Women's Mentoring Program in Baghlan Province. The program will run over a span of eight weeks and mentor thirty women in two phases. Topics covered during the training will enhance the women's knowledge of Islamic issues, women's rights, government regulations, civil rights, conflict resolution and violence against women. The program is being implemented in direct cooperation with the Provincial Directorate of Women's Affairs and will boost ties between women in the community and the local government. The training will play an effective role in bringing stability and bridging the gap between a previously underserved population and the government.

## **G. Collaboration with GIRoA including MRRD**

During the reporting period CBSG continued to work closely in coordination with GIRoA officials working at the provincial and district levels. GIRoA officials continued to lend their support for grant proposals and applications, be present at all opening and closing ceremonies and to rally support for

projects negatively affected by insurgent activity. An example of the latter was district official support for the road gravelling project implemented by the Omakai community in Balkh Province. The project site was attacked by insurgents who planted an IED that killed two workers and blinded a nine year old boy. The District Governor coordinated security actions to ensure the project was completed despite this terrible act of intimidation.

CBSG continued to develop activities in coordination with key MRRD counterparts at the provincial and district level. Specific activities, in particular, were developed for solar panel projects in accordance with their guidelines. These state that solar panel power schemes for households need to comply with minimum standards of 55W power generated per two families. They also require one person be trained in the maintenance of the equipment. Costs for training and any additional maintenance tools and spares also need to be included in the budget. Solar panel schemes that serve general access areas like parks, they recommend should not be considered as many have been stolen in the past. Under CBSG they will only be considered for locations that are under constant protection or supervision.

## H. Status of Activities per Region

### RC-North: Badakhshan, Baghlan, Kunduz, Takhar, Samangan, Sar-e-Pul, Balkh, Jawzjan, Faryab

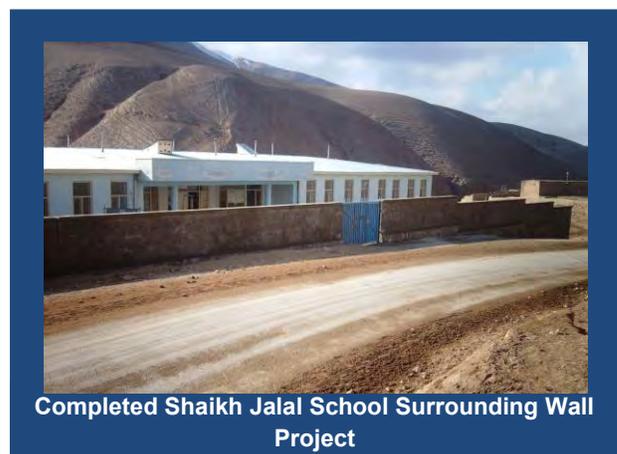
	Badakhshan	Baghlan	Kunduz	Takhar	Samangan	Sar-e-Pul	Balkh	Jawzjan	Faryab	Total
Completed	4	3	3	0	0	0	4	4	2	20

## BAGHLAN

### School Surrounding Wall Construction, Baghlan-e-Jadid District

The community of Shaikh Jalal Village in Baghlan-e-Jadid District, Baghlan, in cooperation with the local Provincial Line Department of Education, requested USAID/CBSG funding for the construction of a 193m school surrounding wall, benefiting 2,831 students. The Shaikh Jalal School Building was constructed by the Afghan Ministry of Education but due to budget restrictions, the school remained without a surrounding wall. The surrounding wall plays an important role in the safety and security of community children. Building the surrounding wall, using USAID/CBSG funding addressed a priority community need. Community member's cooperation with their local government bridged the communication and assistance gap between the community and the government, strengthening stability over time in Baghlan-e-Jadid District.

At the closing ceremony held on 5 April 2011, USAID/CBSG was warmly thanked by the community as well as government officials. In his speech, Mullah Naeem, a Religious Scholar and member of Baghlan Provincial Development Council,



Completed Shaikh Jalal School Surrounding Wall Project

thanked USAID/CBSG for financially supporting the project. He said that today's students will be tomorrow's leaders and providing a better learning environment will cause students to have an investment in their local community and government. He emphasized the importance of joint community-government collaboration in bringing stability to the area and thanked USAID/CBSG for creating the opportunity for this joint collaboration.

### **Hospital Equipment Provision Project, Baghlan District**

Baghlan Provincial Hospital, located in Pul-e-Khumri City, was built by the Afghan Ministry of Public Health in 2005 and consists of four wards: surgical, gynecological, internal medicine and pediatrics. The hospital employs 202 employees including 39 doctors and 48 nurses, serving nearly 390 patients per day. The hospital has a blood bank with no refrigeration or air-conditioning system making the storage of fresh blood impossible. The hospital is the only major health facility in Baghlan serving the 741,690 residents of the area.

The local government, due to a lack of resources, was unable to provide the Baghlan Provincial Hospital with funding for the necessary improvements. The community of Pul-e-Khumri, together with the Provincial Line Department of Public Health, requested a CBSG for the procurement of a refrigeration system to be used for blood storage. The community's project included the procurement of two air-conditioners, two blood donation chairs, one common refrigerator for storage of medicine and cold water, one 50 liter water heater, two electronic stabilizers, one office desk and one swing chair. The community and the Provincial Line Department of Public Health, using USAID/CBSG funding, worked together to solve a primary community grievance of poor public healthcare. The project enhanced the services available at the provincial hospital and improved the relationship between the community and the local government.



## **KUNDUZ**

### **Rehabilitation of Aqueducts, Qalai Zal District**

Qalai Zal District is located in the volatile Kunduz Province. Qalai Zal has turned into a focal point for insurgent activities in Kunduz. Due to the government's limited outreach to the district, the community's grievances have remained unaddressed leading to mistrust towards the local government and feeling amongst the community that they are being deprived of basic services. Insurgent activity in the region has led to the destruction of public infrastructure leaving the

transportation and irrigation systems in disrepair. Due to its increasing instability, Kunduz Province has become CBSG's top priority for the implementation of stabilization projects.

Residents of Safi Kot Village in Qalai Zal District requested USAID/CBSG funding to rehabilitate three existing aqueducts to improve local transportation links to the district center and irrigation systems. The aqueducts prevent roads from washing out during heavy rains, prevent road erosion, and channel water into agricultural fields. The project was implemented by the community, in cooperation with the Provincial Line Department of Rural Rehabilitation and Development.

On 20 February 2011, a closing ceremony for the project was attended by the District Governor, CDC members, community elders and CBSG's representative in Kunduz Province. The project has raised the profile and reach of local authorities, enabling easier access to the community to services provided by the government, and improved their agricultural products.



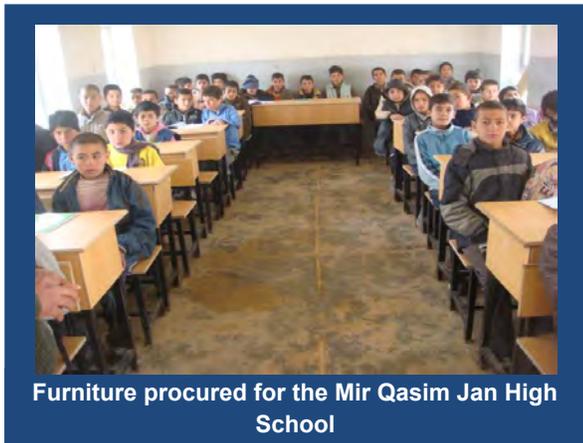
## BALKH

### Provision of School Furniture Project, Chemtal District

Chemtal, is one of the insecure districts in Balkh Province, where large military operations were launched recently with the aim to clear the district of insurgents. Chemtal District has long suffered from the existence of insurgent groups that have disrupted project implementation as well as government's efforts to address community grievances. With the pervasive insurgent influence in the district, local government has not been able to implement projects in most parts of the district leaving various grievances of the district unaddressed.

The Mir Qasim Jan High School in Chemtal District of Balkh Province was constructed in 2006 with financial support from the National Solidarity Program from the MRRD. Due to a lack of financial resources, chairs and desks were not procured for the school at that time. In coordination with the Line Provincial Department of Education, the community of Mir Qasim Jan has requested USAID/CBSG funding to procure furniture for the school.

The Closing Ceremony for the project was held on 28 February 2011 and was attended by the District Governor of Chemtal, the Director of Education for Chemtal District, members of the Provincial Council, CDCs, plus the school principal and teachers, community elders and representatives of the CBSG program. The District Governor of Chemtal stated, "Such projects bolster better relationships between the local government and the communities of unstable areas. They create the feeling amongst the communities that they should look toward legitimate government rather than the insurgency. Seeing the effective impact of a CBSG, more communities have got interested in the program and are asking us for grants to be awarded to them as well." Implementation of this project has improved the local community's confidence in the local government in its ability to address their basic needs and grievances."



Furniture procured for the Mir Qasim Jan High School



Closing Ceremony for the School Furniture Provision Project in Mir Qasim Jan Village

**Road Graveling and Culvert Construction, Balkh District**

Omakai Village in Balkh District, Balkh Province is a highly insecure and unstable village due to the high level of insurgent activities. A primary grievance in the region is that the high level of insurgent activity limits residents’ access to basic government services for long periods of time. Repairing roads from the village to district centers improves residents’ access to government services and markets.

Residents, along with Provincial Line Department of Economy, requested USAID/CBSG funding to improve the infrastructure and roads from Omakai village to the district center and to Mazar-e-Sharif, the provincial capital of Balkh. The project consisted of the construction of four culverts and graveling of a 5 kilometer stretch of road.

On 14 October 2010, while the project was being implemented, a targeted landmine explosion occurred at the project site, killing one and injuring two. Abdul Jabar, an unskilled laborer working on the road project was killed and Rahim Gul, a tractor driver, was seriously injured. A nine year old boy, the son of a laborer, was injured as he fetched water for his father working on the project. However, after the attack, work was resumed and residents and the local government once again reiterated their commitment to the successful completion of the project, at any cost.

The community, using USAID/CBSG funding, graveled a 5km road and constructed four culverts, that now play a vital role in improving the livelihood of 2,660 people. The project has worked to ensure stabilization in the village, facilitating community travel and access to basic services. The road will also allow the local government to have easy access to the village. By implementing this project, the community took steps towards improving its relationship and communications with the local government. The road will also enable ANSF and ISAF to patrol the region for security and work towards strengthening stability, thus preventing insurgent spillover to other districts and provinces in the region.



Omakai Village Road Graveling Completed

## JAWZJAN

### Furniture Procurement Project for Aqcha Girls’ High School No. 2, Aqcha District

Aqcha Girls’ High School No.2 is located in the center of Aqcha District in Jawzjan Province and has 40 teachers and 2,000 students attending the school in two shifts per day. The school building was built by the Afghan Ministry of Education but was not provided with furniture due to budget restrictions. The community, in coordination with the Provincial Line Department of Education, requested funding from USAID/CBSG for the furniture procurement. The funding provided the community with the opportunity to successfully implement the project in close collaboration with the Provincial Line Department of Education. Through this project, 300 sets of desks and chairs for students, 12 sets of desks and chairs for teachers and 6 sets of desks and chairs for the administration office were provided and handed over to the school authorities.

The closing ceremony for this project held on 10 March 2011 at the school premises and was attended by representatives of the Provincial Line Departments of Education and Economy, members of the CDC, the School Principal and teachers and representatives of the CBSG program. In the closing ceremony, the community elders and the School Principal thanked USAID for the CBSG which enabled them to work together, with their local government, to the successful implementation of the project. The head of the CDC said that their children will now have a better learning environment and that the successful implementation of the project would not have been possible without close coordination between the local government and the active contribution of the community. The head of the CDC emphasized the importance of working closely with the local government in bringing positive change to the lives of residents and maintaining stability in the area. The project is an effective tool for encouraging stabilization in the area since it has the potential to overcome and combat the influence of the insurgency whose attitude to education, particularly in relation to the education of girls, is often at odds with that of the local population.



Closing Ceremony of Aqcha Girls’ High School No. 2

	Badakhshan	Baghlan	Kunduz	Takhar	Samangan	Sar-e-Pul	Balkh	Jawzjan	Faryab	Total
Implementation Phase	0	7	1	0	10	4	16	6	16	60

## BAGHLAN

### Conflict Resolution Training, Baghlan-e-Jadid District

Located on the route to the northern region of the country, Baghlan is of a strategic importance for USAID/CBSG. Insecurity in Baghlan affects the overall stability of the region. In continuation of stabilization efforts in the Province, USAID/CBSG is funding a conflict resolution training in Baghlan-e-Jadid District of Baghlan Province.

On 26 March 2011, the opening ceremony for the Conflict Resolution Training was held in the Municipal Hall of Baghlan-e-Jadid, Baghlan Province. It was attended by the Baghlan-e-Jadid Executive Manager, the Head of the Baghlan National Directorate of Security, the Head of the Baghlan-e-Jadid Line Department of Education, representatives from the Baghlan-e-Jadid DDA, representatives of the Baghlan-e-Jadid CDC, Religious Leaders from Baghlan-e-Jadid, former Jihadi Commanders, ASOP representatives, Bakhtar News Agency representatives and the Baghlan CBSG Team.

The training is designed to last a period of one month with 320 participants from all Pashtun, Tajik and Uzbek communities attending the training in 8 groups; each group will train 40 participants over three day trainings. Different sessions of the training program will cover various aspects of conflict resolution; including, peace promotion and security, human rights awareness, women's rights, social justice, freedom of thought, drug trafficking issues as well as other topics.

In his opening speech, Mawlawi Qamaruddin, one of the religious leaders in Baghlan, underscored the importance of such trainings in strengthening peace and stability and improving ways to resolve disputes in a peaceful approach as is described in Islamic law.

The Executive Manager for Baghlan-e-Jadid thanked CBSG/USAID for funding such initiatives, announced his full support for the successful implementation of the training, and hoped that similar initiatives will prevent conflicts in Baghlan Province and contribute to peace and stability in the region as a whole.

Insurgent elements are actively creating problems for ANSF and ISAF in Baghlan Province. There is a real and important need for stabilization efforts in the province to ensure security and prevent the spread of insurgency to neighboring provinces. The Conflict Resolution Training will provide an opportunity for the people of Baghlan to resolve conflicts and disputes that arise and have arisen during years of civil war that contribute to disturbing peace and stability in Baghlan Province.



Opening Ceremony of Baghlan Conflict Resolution Training



Conflict Resolution Training in Baghlan Province

### Women's Mentoring Program, Baghlan-e-Jadid District

As a part of the CBSG efforts to create a link between the community and local government and in order to provide opportunity for their collaboration, USAID/CBSG funded the Women's Mentoring Program in Baghlan Province. The program was officially inaugurated on 8 March 2011 at the Baghlan Provincial Line Department of Women's Affairs. Participants of this opening ceremony included Mr. Abdul Hadi Rafie, Deputy Governor of Baghlan; Mrs. Rahima Zarifi, Director of Provincial

Line Department of Women Affairs, Ms. Alyson McFarland, USAID FPO for Baghlan, Mr. Abdul Qudoos Fahim, Provincial Line Department Director for Information and Culture, General Dawood Dawood, Commander of the 303rd Regional Afghan National Police Zone, Mrs. Nooria Hameedi a leading female member of the Provincial Council, Mr. Shafiqullah Hakimi, CBSG's Regional Manager for the northeast, Mr. Dawood Bakhshi, CBSG's Provincial Manager for Baghlan, Dr. Saeed Mansoor, Provincial Line Department Director for the Education Department plus other representatives from Provincial GIRoA line departments, the Baghlan PRT, guests from local and international NGOs, teachers, students and many local women.

Mrs. Rahima Zarifi, Provincial Line Department Director of the Women's Affairs, while addressing the audience on the celebrations surrounding International Women's Day, thanked all donors present for their generous support to the Provincial Line Department of Women's Affairs. She thanked Ms. Alyson McFarland for her active role in the Province and USAID for implementing essential gender focused projects in the Province and lauded the launch of the Women's Mentoring Program.

In her address, Mrs. Zarifi said, "Such programs are fundamental for the improvement of women and play a vital role in advancing women's knowledge of the world around them." She added, "Women are in dire need of capacity building and such programs play a fundamental role in uplifting and empowering women and improve their self-sufficiency and ability to respond to the needs of their families and communities."

She formally opened the Women's Mentoring Program and invited the Provincial Directors of GIRoA line departments, Mrs. Alyson McFarland and the Baghlan CBSG team to join her in cutting the ribbon. She pledged all possible support for the successful implementation of the program and hoped the international community would launch programs of a similar nature and further advance the skills and knowledge of women in Baghlan.

USAID/CBSG took positive action in supporting the application process and in implementing the Women's Mentoring Program. The program will run for eight weeks in two phases catering to 30 women in each week of operation. A total of 480 women will attend the Women's Mentoring Program for its duration. The program is designed to enhance women's knowledge on Islamic issues, women's rights, government regulations, civil rights, conflict resolution and violence against women. The program will provide support to the Provincial Directorate of Women's Affairs and boost ties between women in the community and local government thereby playing an effective role in bringing stability and bridging the gap between a core population and the government.



Opening Ceremony of Women's Mentoring Program



Participants of Women's Mentoring Program

## Religious Leader's Peace Promotion Jirga, multiple districts

Baghlan is one of the insecure provinces of the northern region where insurgents are actively creating problems for ANSF and ISAF. In a unique initiative, USAID/CBSG is funding a Religious Leader's Peace Promotion Jirga. Initial meetings were conducted by the Provincial Governor of Baghlan, Deputy Provincial Governor of Baghlan and religious leaders.

During opening remarks, the Provincial Governor highlighted the importance of such a gathering and promised all possible support to make the Peace Promotion Jirga happen. He called it a unique opportunity for religious leaders to get together and seek appropriate solutions to the current problems facing Baghlan Province.

The Jirga was held in three phases, with each session comprising 25 religious leaders from all districts of Baghlan Province. The Jirga represented by Religious Leaders of both Shia and Sunni religious communities as well as tribal elders from Baghlan-e-Jadid, Dahna-e-Ghori, Burkah, Nahreen, Gilah, Khost, Pul-e-Khumri, Central Baghlan, Deh Sala, Fering, Tala wa Barfak and Doshi Districts discussed issues pertaining to peace and stability, human rights and violence against women, as well as the fight against narcotics and suicide attacks that contribute to disturbing the peace and stability in the Province.

On 17 March 2011, religious leaders who attended the three-phased Peace Promotion Jirga issued a 12-article final resolution reiterating their commitment towards strengthening peace and stability in their respective areas.

Participants agreed to work towards bringing stability, improving the knowledge of religious leaders on the issues and trying to find appropriate solutions to the current problems facing Baghlan Province. They promised to work closely together with the GIRoA on preventative solutions designed to decrease insurgent influence and an increase in efforts designed to strengthen stability in the Province. Some of the stability-specific items in the resolution read as follows:

Article seven rigorously prohibits committing suicide and suicide attacks that disrupt public order, peace and security calling suicide illegal under Islamic law.

Article ten of the resolution underscores social justice reaffirming that as per Islamic rules, social justice is to be respected in all spheres of life - political, judicial, personal and family. Social justice is the foundation for the achievement of national unity, peace, stability, welfare and human development thus emphasis has been made to strengthen peace and work towards further stability.

Article twelve underlines peace as a factor of well-being and prosperity for human beings and stresses that peace and security guarantee man's prosperity and well being and calls on religious leaders to make utmost efforts to promote peace and stability as their major obligation.

As religious leaders are respected by the community, their support of the local government will encourage the community to start working together with the local government which will eventually contribute to improved stability in the area.



Participants of the Peace Promotion Jirga

## KUNDUZ

### Rehabilitation of the Irrigation Retaining Wall and Culverts, Ali Abad District

In Shir Ahmad Nasiry Village of Ali Abad District, Kunduz Province, residents of the village are reliant on agricultural products as their primary source of income. A primary grievance within the community is that the irrigation system in the village is in need of repair. The local government, due to budget restricts, is unable to repair the irrigation system.

Due to the government's limited outreach to the district, the community's grievances have remained unaddressed leading to mistrust towards the local government and feeling amongst the community that they are being deprived of basic services. In cooperation with the local Provincial Line Department of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, the community requested USAID/CBSG funding for a retaining wall and culvert rehabilitation project. The project will rehabilitate 130m protection wall and reconstruct seven culverts in the Shir Ahmad Nasiry Village of Ali Abad District of Kunduz Province.

The rehabilitation and reconstruction project is a top priority for the community of Shir Ahmad Nasiry Village whose roads to the district center and Kunduz city are poor. The project that will benefit a total of 18,900 beneficiaries and will provide temporary job opportunities for the rural population whose local security and stability has been badly affected by insurgent attacks.

The irrigation system rehabilitation, because it is being jointly implemented by the community and the local government, will increase the reach of local authorities, in addition to addressing a most priority project within the community. Repairing culverts and building a retaining wall will improve road conditions by preventing road flooding and erosion. The project will do much to increase the agricultural productivity of the community and increase local connectivity with district and provincial centers.

The project was warmly welcomed by government authorities and was called a steady step towards strengthening stability in the village. In their addresses, local government and CDC representatives thanked USAID/CBSG for the financial support and promised that they will make utmost efforts to successfully implement the project together. They also reiterated that the project will have great impact on the stability of the village.



### Procurement of School Furniture for Chuqur Qishlaq Girls' High School, Ali Abad District

As an insecure and unstable village, Chuqur Qishlaq has become a priority village in volatile Kunduz Province for CBSG. People in the village have long suffered from the existence of insurgency that has hindered their development and limited their access to government services.

The Chuqur Qishlaq Girls' High School is a state-run institution established by the Afghan Ministry of Education. Due to the growing population of the region, there are 700 students attending the school in three shifts per day. Since established, the school has lacked furniture due to an inadequate budget allocated by the Afghan Ministry of Education. To address the need, the community in coordination with the Provincial Line Department of Education requested USAID/CBSG funding for the furniture procurement.

The project will increase support for the local government in and around the key population center of Chuqur Qishlaq and provide assurance to parents that the local government is working with them to address the community's needs. This project enjoys strong community support because it responds to one of the community's highest priorities of improving the educational facilities for its children. The project is an effective stabilization tool given its high impact and the potential to overcome and combat the influence of the insurgency whose attitude to education particularly in relation to the education of girls is often at odds with that of the local population.



Chuqur Qishlaq Village requested a Furniture Procurement Project

## SAMANGAN

### Road Graveling Project in Lal Khil Village, Darae Suf District

Lal Khil is a remote village in Darae Suf District, Samangan Province where lack of government outreach has left people's grievances unaddressed creating a feeling of mistrust towards the local government. Due to lack of financial resources and the remoteness of the village, the government has remained unable to tackle the priority grievances of the community.

The community, in cooperation with the local Provincial Line Department of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, requested USAID/CBSG funding for a road graveling project as their top priority. The project will enable the community in Lal Khil village to easily travel in all seasons. Implementation of the project will enable the local government to be more engaged and visible in the community.



CBSG Opens the Road Graveling Project in Lal Khil Village

The project is graveling the Lal Khil Village Road, located 35km west of Darae Suf District and 200km from the provincial capital of Aybak. The project will gravel a 3km stretch of road that connects the Lal

Khil village with the district center and the provincial capital, providing easy access to government provided basic services and enables transportation to health facilities and markets in the district center.

The project was warmly welcomed by the residents of Lal Khil village, at an opening ceremony on 31 March 2011. In their speeches, community elders thanked USAID/CBSG for funding which allows them to work towards stability in Samangan Province and promised their full support and cooperation with the local government towards the successful and timely implementation of the road graveling project.

## **SAR-E-PUL**

### **Road Graveling and Culvert Construction Project, Suzma Qala District**

In the village of Bazar Kami, residents are dependent upon agriculture and animal husbandry for income. The roads connecting the village to markets and government services have remained in disrepair due to lack of maintenance. The Provincial Line Department of Rural Rehabilitation and Development lacks the budget to maintain the roads. As a result, there is a growing schism between the community and the local government because the government is unable to provide the basic services needed by the community. In order to facilitate local travel and safe road crossing, the community proposed, in coordination with the Provincial Line Department of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, the graveling of 5km road and the construction of three culverts that will help improve the flow of water into agricultural lands empowering farmers to have adequate amount of water for their lands. Road graveling plays a vital role in facilitating residents transporting goods and seeking government services in the provincial and district centers.

The community will work in partnership with local government, using USAID/CBSG financial support, to implement the road improvement and culvert construction project. The project will encourage community cooperation with the local government and provide them access to government services. The road will also enable ANSF and ISAF to patrol for security and work towards strengthening stability and prevent the spillover of insurgency to other districts and provinces in the region.



### **School Surrounding Wall Construction Project, Suzma Qala District**

Suzma Qala District in Sar-e-Pul Province shares borders with relatively insecure districts where active insurgent groups are influencing the communities. Due to lack of financial resources and the remoteness of the village, the government has remained unable to address the priority grievances of the community. The situation has resulted in the people questioning the legitimacy of local government and joining the insurgents.

The Girls' School in Balibeli Village, Suzma Qala District was constructed by the Provincial Line Department of Education but lacked the budget to construct the surrounding wall, posing a threat to the 450 female students and 22 teachers. The community, in coordination with the Provincial Line Department of Education, has requested USAID/CBSG funding to construct a 187m long surrounding wall. The construction of the surrounding wall will improve the profile of the local government and

pave the way for community-government cooperation bringing people closer to their local government and enhancing the visibility and communication with local authorities. It will create a safe atmosphere and bring greater confidence to parents to send their children to study in a secure environment thus a priority of the community left thus far unaddressed due to lack of resources in the government will be responded to. What is key to USAID/CBSG is the successful implementation of the project through the joint collaborative efforts of the community and the local government.

In a closing ceremony held on 3 April 2011, the Deputy of Provincial Line Department of Education thanked USAID/CBSG for their financial support to the project and emphasized the importance of such projects in bringing the community closer to the local government which in turn contribute to strengthening stability. He added that the local government in general, and the Provincial Line Department of Education in particular, are making utmost efforts to work with the community to address the prioritized grievances being identified by the community. The project was proposed by the community as top priority because the open school yard leaves students and teachers at risk. Parents are concerned about the security of their children and do not feel assured to send their children, especially girls to the school, which created a growing schism between the community and government due to the lack of services provided.



Official opening ceremony of School Surrounding Wall Project in Deragai Village

## BALKH

### Rehabilitation of Chahye Basic Health Center, Dawlat Abad District

The Basic Health Center in Chahye Village, Dawlat Abad District of Balkh Province, is located 15km from district center and 60km from provincial capital. Located between Charbolak and Dawlat Abad Districts, Chahye Village is an insecure village in Balkh Province with limited government outreach that lacks resources and access to the village to address the population's grievances.

The clinic building was constructed by a non-governmental organization in 2003 but due to lack of maintenance, the building sustained considerable damages over time leaving it in a complete disrepair. The building's roof collapsed, the plumbing system



The Chahye Basic Health Center, Chahye Village is in need of rehabilitation

needed overhauling and the overall facility nearly out of service. The clinic will serve the village's population of 21,230 people, as the only health center in the area.

As a result of the implementation of the project by the community using USAID/CBSG funding, the mistrust created towards the local government that has emerged due to the government's inability to address people's grievances will be removed, government's profile will be raised and chances for further cooperation with the government will be increased that will in turn contribute to the stability in the village.

### **Construction of Surrounding Wall, Balkh District**

Balkh District borders the relatively insecure Charbolak and Chemtal Districts and there is the possibility of spillover of insurgents to Balkh District. Close cooperation between the community and local government is necessary to prevent the spillover of insurgents. Community cooperation can be established by addressing the priority grievances of the community collaboratively with local government input.

The Deragai Village School, Balkh District was constructed by the Afghan Ministry of Education. The community requested funding from the Provincial Line Department of Education to add a surrounding wall to school's premises but was unable to secure funding due to budget restraints. The community, in cooperation with the Provincial Line Department of Education, requested USAID/CBSG funding to implement the project. Due to the local security situation, parents were holding their children back from attending school. Community members identified the lack of a safe learning environment as a primary grievance in the area. With the funds provided by USAID/CBSG, the project will be implemented by the community and the local government collaboratively.



**Official opening ceremony of School Surrounding Wall Project in Deragai Village**

The project was welcomed by the government authorities at an opening ceremony held on 23 March 2011 as an important step towards stability and community-government cooperation. In his speech to the participants of the opening ceremony, the Director of the Provincial Line Department of Education thanked USAID/CBSG for the financial support and emphasized the importance of such projects in bringing the community closer to the local government, which in turn will contribute to strengthening stability in the Province. He added that the Provincial Line Department of Education in particular, is working with the community to address the community's primary grievances. The project will also create a safe environment for students and teachers and create temporary job opportunities within the community. The successful implementation of the project through the joint collaborative efforts of the community and the local government will answer a primary community grievance and bring the community closer to the local government which will in turn help to strengthen stability in Balkh.

## **JAWZJAN**

### **2.2km Road Graveling, Khuja Duko District**

Khuja Duko is a relatively unstable district of Jawzjan Province where insurgent elements actively undermine peace and stability efforts. The main road in Arabqarliq Village, Khuja Duko District is in a bad condition and becomes impassable during the winter, isolating the village from its district center,

markets and basic services provided by the local government. ANSF and ISAF cannot patrol the area regularly, contributing to the instability of the area. The community, in cooperation with the Provincial Line Department of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, has requested USAID/CBSG funds to gravel 2.2km of road from Arabqarliq village to markets and the district center.

On 23 March 2011, the project was warmly welcomed by the government authorities as well as community in Arabqarliq Village at an opening ceremony. The Head of the CDC thanked USAID/CBSG for financially supporting the project. He reiterated his commitment to collaborating with local authorities for the quality implementation of this project.

The successful completion of this joint collaboration between the community and the local authorities, with USAID/CBSG funding, will help raise the profile and reach of the local authorities by bringing the community closer to basic services provided by the local government and allow for the government to access a once remote community. Additionally, the road will be used by National and International Forces to patrol the area, allowing for an improvement in stability in the Khuja Duko District.



Opening Ceremony of Arabqarliq Road Graveling Project

## FARYAB

### Canal Cleaning Project, Ghormach District

Qala-e-Kohna, is a remote and insecure village in Ghormach District of Faryab Province, with limited outreach from the local government. The community has long suffered from the presence of insurgent elements, who are posing a threat to villagers' safety and affecting the overall stability of the region. The situation has resulted in the population feeling disconnected from government services and mistrustful of the local government.

The community has requested USAID/CBSG funding to clean 4km of canal which will prevent the roads from washing out improving community access to local markets and government services. The canal project will be implemented by the local community in cooperation with the local government. The cleaning of this irrigation canal will bring positive agricultural and economic benefits enabling farmers to have more harvest than before and improve the community's



Ongoing work on the Canal Cleaning Project in Qala-e-Kohna Village

relationship with the local government. The project is a priority for the community of Qala-e-Kohna Village and addresses a primary grievance, high unemployment, as the unemployed are extremely vulnerable to insurgency recruitment. The canal rehabilitation will raise the profile and reach of the local authorities and bring the communities closer to the government addressing a priority grievance in the irrigation sector.

	Badakhshan	Baghlan	Kunduz	Takhar	Samangan	Sar-e-Pul	Balkh	Jawzjan	Faryab	Total
Pre-proposals	7	3	10	4	0	2	2	8	0	36

## BADAKHSHAN

### High School Infrastructure Repair, Tagab District

Kawrey Katobala High School in Tagab District of Badakhshan was built in 1992 by the Norwegian Afghanistan Committee with a contribution from the community people. The school consists of eight classrooms, two administrative offices, a library and a stock room, accommodating a total of 2,300 male and female students who attend the school in two shifts daily. The building infrastructure is in poor condition and in immediate need of repair.

The school building rehabilitation has been proposed for USAID/CBSG funding as a priority project within the community. Kawrey Katobala is located in a remote area, where the government has limited outreach or communication. The lack of financial resources in the Line Provincial Department of Education has left the school in disrepair, leading to mistrust between the local government and the community. The implementation of this project by the community, in coordination with the local government, using USAID/CBSG funding, will address a major problem in the education sector and provide a proper learning environment for students and an appropriate setting for teachers. The project in turn will bolster relationships between the local government and the local community and create grounds for further community-government cooperation.

### Irrigation Pool Construction, Tagab District

The community, in coordination with the local government, has proposed the construction of a water storage pool in Karz Deh Village, in Tagab District, Badakhshan Province. Karz Deh is a remote village with heavy flooding in spring and drought in the summer that threatens crop integrity. There is a serious need for a water storage facility for the community to be able to have adequate amount of water in summer and channel the water to their agricultural lands. Due to its remoteness, the government has come short of addressing people's grievances in this aspect leaving 370 hectares of land undeveloped.

If approved and subsequently implemented, the construction of water storage will address a priority project of the community members who are reliant on agricultural products for income and who have agreed to a 20% community contribution towards the implementation of the project. Once constructed, the community will have adequate amount of water for agriculture in summer that will bolster crop production and improve livelihoods. The project is fundamental to raising confidence in the local government, bringing people and local authorities closer in addition to boosting agricultural production.

## **BAGHLAN**

### **Conflict Resolution Course, Dahana-e-Ghori District**

Tondara Village of Dahana-e-Ghori District, Baghlan Province has requested USAID/CBSG funding to hold a conflict resolution course. During years of civil war and conflicts, the village like many other villages across the country, has experienced a variety of conflicts over different issues ranging from land disputes, irrigation water to personal hostility between various factions in the community. The local government has been unable to address the conflict in the community due to lack of outreach and the remoteness of the communities. Conflicts amongst community members lead to resentment that requires proper adjudication. Key community members are in dire need of a training that will teach methods of conflict mitigation and help resolve disputes more peacefully.

Once approved, the project would be implemented through a joint collaboration between the local government and the community, using funding from USAID/CBSG, which will improve the safety and security of the community, improving links in the community and creating grounds for the improvement of stability. It will also change the overall behavior of the community members towards each other. The program will consist of an interactive conflict resolution program followed by a community mobilization program focused on youth, in particular. If implemented, the project will not only improve links amongst community people but will also strengthen relationships between the community and the local government leading to a more stable environment.

## **KUNDUZ**

### **Road Gravelling and Culvert Construction, Chahardarah District**

Dawry Rabat Village of Chahardarah District is in one of the most insecure districts of Kunduz Province where lack of government outreach has left the grievances of the community unaddressed leading to a sense of deprivation amongst the people and creating mistrust towards the local government. The community has requested USAID/CBSG funding, to gravel a 3km of road and construct 3 culverts that will enable village access to the provincial capital as well as to the surrounding villages. Currently the water floods the road leaving agricultural lands in disrepair. ANSF and ISAF have remained unable to patrol for security due the poor roads and lack of culverts, which facilitate safe crossing. Once approved and subsequently implemented, the project will enable the community to easily travel and have access to government provided services in the district center, enable ANSF and ISAF to have easy access to the district thereby removing the sense of mistrust towards the government. The project will also address the needs of farmers whose lands have remained in disrepair and improve local agricultural endeavors. This will raise the profile of the local government and bring people and the government closer together, providing for more chances of cooperation that will enable stability over time.

### **Construction of Canal Retaining Wall, Ali Abad District**

Lala Maidan Awal Village in Ali Abad District, Kunduz Province has requested USAID/CBSG funding to construct a canal retaining wall, in cooperation with the local government. The village is geographically located below a hill which causes water to flow down the hill and destroy the village during times of heavy rains and flooding. The village is in a remote and unstable part of Ali Abad District, Kunduz Province where government's limited outreach has left most of the grievances of the community unaddressed causing the community to mistrust the local government. The community cannot financially afford to rehabilitate houses that are damaged by flooding. The community, in cooperation with the local government, has requested USAID/CBSG funding, to construct a canal retaining wall.

The project once implemented will save the houses of 400 families residing in the village. The project will improve community links to their local government and provide grounds for cooperation between the community and the local authorities.

## SAR-E-PUL

### Construction of Two Culverts, Sayad District

Ulqani Qishlaq Village of Sayad District, Sar-e-Pul Province, is located south of Sayad and is 10km away from the district center. The village has a population of 2,000 residents. The community has requested USAID/CBSG funding to construct two culverts, to prevent local roads from being washed out. The project will be implemented by the community and the local government collaboratively. Through this joint collaboration, the community's priority grievance, lack of access to health and government services, will be addressed by the construction of two culverts, which will facilitate access to the district capital. The aim of the project is to improve village-to-district coordination and increase the visibility and reach of the local government in Sayad District. The project will bolster the relationship between the community and the local government and encourage stability in the region.

## BALKH

### Road Graveling Project, Balkh District

Balkh District borders the relatively insecure Charbolak and Chemtal Districts and there is the possibility of spillover of insurgents to Balkh District. The proposed project covers the graveling of 7km road in between Peaz Kar, Alif Sar and Nahri Abdullah Villages in Balkh District, Balkh Province. These insecure villages in Balkh District are in need of a road connecting them with the district center and the provincial capital. Poor roads have hampered the social and economic development in the region. These villages are poor and are in need of many basic health and government services. The proposed road graveling project is located 0.4km from Balkh District and 27km from the city of Mazar-e-Sharif. If implemented, the project will provide temporary employment to 1,200 workers and enable 500 families to have easy access to the district center and the provincial capital.

The proposed road graveling project would be implemented by the community in cooperation with the local government. The villages would gain easy access to markets, health facilities and government provided services in their district center empowering economic growth and stability over time. Due to lack of roads, insurgent groups have influenced the communities, destabilizing the region and undermining the stability efforts. ANSF and ISAF will be able to easily travel to these communities and clear the area of insurgents and address the security grievances of the villagers that have remained unaddressed due to lack of proper road.

### RC-West: Herat, Ghor

	Herat	Ghor	Total
Completed	4	0	4

## HERAT

### Karez Repairing Project, Robat Sangi District

Robat Sangi District, located 70km to the north of the provincial center, is an insecure district located in Herat where insurgents are actively destabilizing local communities. Close cooperation between local communities and the government is key to ensuring and maintaining stability in Robat Sangi District. In order to provide opportunity for close community-government collaboration, USAID/CBSG provided funds for the village of Markaz Robat Sangi to rehabilitate a 220m karez in the center of Robat Sangi District.

After the successful completion of the project, a closing ceremony was held on 31 March 2011 in Markaz Robat Sangi. The closing ceremony was attended by the Deputy District Governor of Robat Sangi, the Director of the Provincial Line Department of Agriculture and Irrigation, the head of the Survey Department of the Provincial Line Department of Economy, members of the CDCs, community elders and representatives of the CBSG program. The government authorities, in their speeches to the audience, stressed the importance of such projects mentioned that the inability of the local government to implement such projects in the past has been the main grievance of the community resulted in a gap between the community and the local government. They showed their satisfaction with the remarkable community contribution, over the course of implementation of the project, which signifies the investment of the community in the success of the project.

The head of the CDC thanked USAID/CBSG for its financial support and the local government authorities for their full support and collaboration, which has made possible the successful completion of the project. The successful completion of this project, through the joint efforts by the community and the local authorities, using USAID/CBSG funding, has brought the communities closer to the local government.



Official closing ceremony of Karez Repairing and Irrigation Project

### Rehabilitation of Clinic Family House, Robat Sangi District

The community of Yaka Darakht of Robat Sangi District, Herat Province requested USAID/CBSG funding to improve the family house used by the community clinic. Lack of a proper place for health personnel to stay overnight in Yaka Darakht Village of Robat Sangi had turned into a major community grievance which had created a gap between the local government and the community as the community blamed the local government for not being able to implement a priority project. Using USAID/CBSG, the project was successfully implemented by the community and the local government collaboratively. The project repaired the family house and constructed a separator wall.

On 24 March 2011, the project was successfully completed and on 31 March 2011, an official closing ceremony was held. The closing ceremony was attended by the Deputy District Governor of Robat Sangi, a representative of the Provincial Line Department of Economy, members of the CDCs, community elders, health clinic personnel and representatives of the CBSG program.

The Deputy District Governor of Robat Sangi thanked USAID/CBSG for providing financial support to the project that addressed one of the priority grievances of the community in Yaka Darakht Village of

Robat Sangi District. The community was very satisfied with the implementation of the project and thanked their local government for their full support and collaboration. The community expressed their readiness to work closely with their local government in the future in order to ensure stability in the area.



**Official Closing Ceremony at the Rehabilitation of the Family House in Yaka Darakht Clinic, Robat Sangi District**

	Herat	Ghor	Total
<b>Implementation Phase</b>	20	19	39

## HERAT

### CDC Surrounding Wall Construction Project, Adraskan District

Adraskan District has remained unstable due to the presence of insurgent groups in the district, as well as in its neighboring districts, posing threat to the residents of the district and their security. Recently, the district has increasingly become a focal point for insurgent activities, targeting schools and the community center when there are gatherings being held.

The village of Deh Sabz in Adraskan District, Herat Province has requested USAID/CBSG funding to construct a surrounding wall around the Community Center, located 47.57km from the district center. The Line Provincial Department of Rural Rehabilitation and Development did not have the financial resources to support the needs of the village causing mistrust to grow between the local community and the local government. The community in Deh Sabz proposed the construction of a surrounding wall for the community center, in collaboration with Provincial Line Department of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, using USAID/CBSG funding. The surrounding wall once constructed by collaborative efforts of the community and local government, using USAID



**Ongoing Wall Construction Project in Deh Sabz Village**

members at times when they conduct meetings, make plans and prioritize the development needs and priorities of the communities and seek ways to solve their problems. In addition, the community

center will serve as a point to hold different ceremonies such as weddings, engagements and funerals.

### **Cleaning of Irrigation Canal, Obe District**

Bedak Village in Obe District, Herat has requested USAID/CBSG funding for the cleaning of 11.5km canal, directly impacting the agricultural products of 2,665 beneficiaries in 200 small family farms within the Bedak Village. Lack of irrigation infrastructure has remained a primary grievance in the area, creating obstacles for the abundance of agricultural products in Bedak village.

Bedak Village is reliant on agricultural products as the prime source of income. The community put forward the irrigation canal cleaning as their top priority project with the aim to improve irrigation and increase their harvest. The community had developed a sense of mistrust towards their local government due to the fact that the Line Department of Agriculture was unable to address the grievances of the community because of budget restrictions.

The canal project is a joint effort between the community and the Provincial Line Department of Agriculture and Livestock, using USAID/CBSG funds. The project will bring the communities closer to their government and address their most priority grievances in the agriculture sector. The irrigation canal will increase the amount of water for irrigation and ensure that reliable irrigation infrastructure is in place for the improvement of agriculture in the village. The project will improve key agricultural lands through community-government cooperation which will increase stability over time.



## **GHOR**

### **Provision of Sports Equipment, Chaghcharan District**

Chaghcharan District is an impoverished area of Ghor Province where the government has limited outreach or ability to assist with the community's grievances thus creating a gap between the people and the government.

The Chaghcharan Sports Association Committee proposed a sports equipment procurement project to encourage youth to participate in sports and healthy activities and prevent them from joining insurgent activities. The project will procure exercise equipment i.e. body building machines, volleyball equipments, football (soccer), boxing, gymnastic club equipment, taekwondo and kung fu equipment in the newly constructed building for Department of Sports. The Chaghcharan Sports Club is attended by 700 members on a regular basis.

The sports equipment will be procured in cooperation with the Provincial Line Department of Sports, using USAID/CBSG funding, and will create community and government communication and cooperation. It is estimated that approximately several hundred people will use the equipment every week creating a positive environment for young people enabling them to channel their energy in a productive and healthy manner. The situation will in turn bring more young people to the sports and encourage community and local government cooperation leading to stability over time.



	Herat	Ghor	Total
Pre-proposals	0	10	10

## GHOR

### Solar Panel Provision Project, Chaghcharan District

Dar-e-Asyabi Village of Chaghcharan City in Ghor Province has requested USAID/CBSG funding for the procurement of solar panels for their community. Chaghcharan is a relatively stable district but suffers from high levels of poverty. The local government is unable to provide the basic services necessary to meet local energy needs. Therefore, the community feels underserved and a communication gap has been created between the community and the local government. The CDC in Dar-e-Asyabi Village identified a lack of electricity as their primary grievance. Providing solar panels to the Dar-e-Asyabi Village would have a transformative effect, enabling children to study at night and decreasing household expenditures on fuel sources, thus freeing up money to be spent on other necessities. The project would be implemented by the community, in cooperation with the local government, addressing an immediate and priority grievance in the community, providing a sustainable solution and creating a positive feeling towards the local government. The project will also have a positive impact on the economic situation of each household in the community. Increased community and government cooperation would decrease the susceptibility of the local population to support insurgents. Once approved, the project will be implemented by the community and the local government collaboratively. Such collaboration will build better relationships between the communities and the local government which will contribute to improved stability.

Seeing the positive impacts of the project after successful implementation, the residents of nearby insecure villages will also be encouraged to start working together with their local government which will increase the stability of the entire district.

### RC-Central: Bamyan, Kabul, Panjshir

	Bamyan	Kabul	Panjshir	Total
Completed	1	3	0	4

## KABUL

### Procurement of Furniture for CDC Center, Bagrami District

The Bagrami Community Development Council (CDC) Center was constructed by the Disbandment of Illegal Armed Groups (DIAG) Program in 2009, but has thus far remained without furniture and equipment. Security in Bagrami is disturbed by the presence of insurgent elements that create problems for the ANSF and ISAF to ensure security and for the International Community to implement stability projects. Due to the absence of government outreach and the lack of financial resources, people’s grievances have remained unaddressed causing mistrust towards the government.

The local Bagrami Community Development Council, in cooperation with the local government, requested USAID/CBSG funding for the procurement of chairs, couches, desks, carpets, curtains, air conditioners, microphones, amplifiers and loudspeakers. The new meeting space has enabled the community to hold weekly, quarterly and monthly meetings, conduct awareness gatherings and come together for peace promotion jirgas. The furniture was procured on 1 March 2011.

The facilities have largely contributed to community members’ gatherings aimed at identifying priority projects, discussing and solving community problems and organizing community activities. The project funded by USAID and implemented through joint efforts of CBSG and the community has improved the image of the local government and contributed to the reduced gap between the community and the local authorities. Bagrami District Governor and CDC warmly welcomed the project calling it a steady step towards stability and promised further cooperation for the implementation of similar initiatives in the district that help bring people closer to their local government.



	Bamyan	Kabul	Panjshir	Total
Implementation Phase	13	22	5	40

## KABUL

### Irrigation Canal Construction, Khaki Jabar District

Shemanzai Village in Khaki Jabar District, Kabul Province has requested USAID/CBSG funding to build irrigation canals to prevent road washout and improve the community’s agricultural infrastructure. Due to the lack of irrigation canals, the water flow is very limited with significant

leakages along its length causing water to divert away from agricultural land. The project will cover the construction of a 410m section of irrigation canal in the Shemanzai Village, which is located 47km from Kabul City. The canals irrigate the surrounding 300 hectares of land which supports a total of 2,046 residents, the majority of whom are farmers.

The local government, due to lack of resources available to them, was not able to address the community's grievance and this had created a gap between the community and the local government. The project was identified by the Shemanzai community as priority project to be completed in cooperation with the local government. Once completed, the project will have a positive impact on the quality and quantity of the community's agricultural produce.

An opening ceremony was held on 8 March 2011 and was attended by members of the District Development Assembly, members of the CDC, community elders and representatives of the CBSG program in the Kabul Province.

This project, as a part of the overall stabilization efforts in Kabul Province will increase and expand agricultural activities in the district, reinforce stability and boost ties between the local community and their government. As a result, the community will start relying on and cooperating with their local government, one of the objectives of CBSG program.



Ongoing work on the Irrigation Canal Construction Project

### **Construction of the Surrounding Wall Project, Char Asyab District**

Malalai Shaheed High School, located in Char Asyab District, is a state-run institute established in 1980 by the Afghan Ministry of Education and accommodates 1,699 students and 37 teachers. The community had previously requested the construction of a surrounding wall from the Provincial Line Department of Education but due to budget restraints, the school has remained without a surrounding wall, posing a threat to students and teachers. A primary community grievance is the lack of security and safety in the area. The community felt underserved by the Provincial Line Department of Education and this created a gap between the community and the local government.

To bridge the gap between the community and the local government, USAID/CBSG is funding a project to construct a surrounding wall around the school, with the aim to bring the community closer to the local government and boost their communication and cooperation.

An opening ceremony on 13 March 2011 was held to inaugurate the construction of the surrounding wall. The ceremony was attended by the Char Asyab District Governor, the Director of Provincial Line Department of Education, the School Principal, members of the CDC, and residents of Char Asyab District Center and representatives of the CBSG program. Speeches by the Director of the Provincial Line Department of Education reiterated the importance of such projects in strengthening stability. The project was officially inaugurated and physical work began on the project.

The project will serve as a line of contact between the community and the local government and will pave the way for further collaboration and cooperation between the community and the local government.

	Bamyan	Kabul	Panjshir	Total
<b>Pre-proposals</b>	0	0	0	0

No proposals were received during the second quarter of the FY11' reporting period.

## I. Operations Update

During this reporting period, CBSG successfully recruited and hired 6 new local staff:

**Table2: Staffing status**

#	Position	Start Date	Location
1	Grants Officer	23-Jan-11	Kabul Main Office
2	Driver	23-Jan-11	Kabul Main Office
3	Driver	24-Jan-11	Kabul Main Office
4	Head Driver	25-Jan-11	Kabul Main Office
5	M&E Officer	1-Feb-11	Mazar-e-Sharif Regional Office
6	Program Engineer	1-Feb-11	Mazar-e-Sharif Regional Office

## J. Indicator Based Summary Performance Report

### Indicator 1:

Location: Region, Province, District	IR 1: Community Based Stability Grants Effectively Administered												
	# of community-based projects successfully completed with USG Assistance	# of people/beneficiaries reached through community grants					# of Person days of employment created through CBSG community based projects (cumulative)			US\$ amount of wages paid out for work on CBSG community projects (USD)			
		Male		Female		Total Beneficiaries	Male	Female	Total man/days of employment	Male	Female	Total Amount of Wages Paid	
		Over 18	Under 18	Over 18	Under 18								
<b>Program Target</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>270,000</b>					<b>300,000</b>			<b>\$1,500,000</b>			
<b>Actual as of 31-Mar-2011</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>21742</b>	<b>28002</b>	<b>4841</b>	<b>29854</b>	<b>84,439</b>	<b>29,397</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>29,437</b>	<b>\$235,924</b>	<b>\$1,200</b>	<b>\$237,124</b>	
North	Badakhshan	13	791	3,883	533	2,929	8,136	1,178	-	1,178	\$12,720	\$0	\$12,720
	Faizabad City	2	322	337	320	263	1,242	108	-	108	\$1,470	\$0	\$1,470
	Raghistan	1	65	161	-	235	461	95	-	95	\$1,170	\$0	\$1,170
	Shahri-Bozurg	4	150	1,588	202	888	2,828	480	-	480	\$4,920	\$0	\$4,920
	Warduj	1	60	385	-	196	641	85	-	85	\$880	\$0	\$880
	Zebak	5	194	1,412	11	1,347	2,964	410	-	410	\$4,280	\$0	\$4,280
	Baghlan	6	1,030	1,635	-	245	2,910	1,244	-	1,244	\$14,183	\$0	\$14,183
	Dahana-e-Ghori	2	55	-	-	-	55	160	-	160	\$1,750	\$0	\$1,750
	Baghlan-e-Jadid	1	560	275	-	125	960	923	-	923	\$8,608	\$0	\$8,608
	Pul-e-Khumri	3	415	1,360	-	120	1,895	161	-	161	\$3,825	\$0	\$3,825
	Balkh	6	5,093	3,920	1,820	2,630	13,463	2,273	-	2,273	\$10,461	\$0	\$10,461

Balkh District	2	3,420	270	250	260	4,200	1,116	-	1,116	\$6,771	\$0	\$6,771
Charbolak	2	1,650	2,650	1,550	1,900	7,750	1,151		1,151	\$3,600	\$0	\$3,600
Chimtal	2	23	1,000	20	470	1,513	6	-	6	\$90	\$0	\$90
Faryab	2	49	1,240	-	-	1,289	-	-	-	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ghormach	1	24	520	-	-	544	-	-	-	\$0	\$0	\$0
Shereentagab	1	25	720	-	-	745				\$0	\$0	\$0
Jawzjan	5	2,564	2,373	76	6,110	11,123	2,489	-	2,489	\$18,840	\$0	\$18,840
Aqcha	3	663	1,200	76	5,710	7,649	522	-	522	\$4,134	\$0	\$4,134
Mangajik	1	1,068	429	-	400	1,897	1,146	-	1,146	\$8,802	\$0	\$8,802
Muradian	1	833	744	-	-	1,577	821	-	821	\$5,904	\$0	\$5,904
Kunduz	4	212	290	90	480	1,072	2,144	-	2,144	\$19,144	\$0	\$19,144
Ali Abad	1	8	-	-	-	8	889	-	889	\$8,014	\$0	\$8,014
Kunduz District	1	40	250	10	450	750	95	-	95	\$950	\$0	\$950
Qala-e-Zal	2	164	40	80	30	314	1,160	-	1,160	\$10,180	\$0	\$10,180
Samangan	1	960	-	-	228	1,188	960	-	960	\$6,918	\$0	\$6,918
Hazrat-Sultan	1	960	-	-	228	1,188	960	-	960	\$6,918	\$0	\$6,918
Sar-e-Pul	1	4,680	-	-	-	4,680	4,726	-	4,726	\$28,746	\$0	\$28,746
Balkhab	1	4,680	-	-	-	4,680	4,726	-	4,726	\$28,746	\$0	\$28,746
Takhar	11	1,866	13,617	1,822	16,435	33,740	615	-	615	\$6,680	\$0	\$6,680
Dasht-e-Qala	1	174	260	238	278	950	55	-	55	\$600	\$0	\$600
Hazar Samoch	1	-	196	-	264	460	55	-	55	\$600	\$0	\$600
Namakab	1	-	390	-	250	640	55	-	55	\$600	\$0	\$600
Taloqan	8	1,692	12,771	1,584	15,643	31,690	450	-	450	\$4,880	\$0	\$4,880

Central	Bamyan	3	498	1,044	500	797	2,839	1,478	40	1,518	\$18,420	\$1,200	\$19,620
	Bamyan Center	3	498	1,044	500	797	2,839	1,478	40	1,518	\$18,420	\$1,200	\$19,620
	Kabul	5	2,664	-	-	-	2,664	2,535	-	2,535	\$20,925	\$0	\$20,925
	Sorobi	3	2,275	-	-	-	2,275	2,485	-	2,485	\$20,525	\$0	\$20,525
	Bagrami	1	362	-	-	-	362	23	-	23	\$184	\$0	\$184
	Dih-Sabz	1	27	-	-	-	27	27	-	27	\$216	\$0	\$216
	Panjshir	2	1,000	-	-	-	1,000	1,270	-	1,270	\$11,270	\$0	\$11,270
	Bad Qul	1	800	-	-	-	800	962	-	962	\$8,585	\$0	\$8,585
	Anaba	1	200	-	-	-	200	308	-	308	\$2,685	\$0	\$2,685
	West	Ghor	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$0	\$0
		0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$0	\$0	\$0
Herat		4	335	-	-	-	335	8,485	-	8,485	\$67,617	\$0	\$67,617
Robat Sangi		4	335	-	-	-	335	8,485	-	8,485	\$67,617	\$0	\$67,617

**Indicator 2:**

Location: Region, Province, District	IR 2: Communities Demonstrate Increased Participation and Ownership in their Development					
	# of CBOs trained in community based project implementation process and procedures	# of Communities producing community contribution		# of Communities who state project has improved stability in their community	# of Communities trained in post-award environmental monitoring	
		Number	USD Value	Number		
<b>Program Target</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>\$1,900,000</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>100</b>	
<b>Actual as of 31 March 2011</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>\$170,002</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>22</b>	
North	Badakhshan	13	13	\$20,070	13	0
	Faizabad City	2	2	\$5,210	2	0
	Raghistan	1	1	\$1,100	1	0
	Shahri-bozurg	4	4	\$8,640	4	0
	Warduj	1	1	\$800	1	0
	Zebak	5	5	\$4,320	5	0
	Baghlan	6	6	\$7,952	6	1
	Dahana-e-Ghori	2	2	\$2,280	2	0
	Baghlan-Jadid	1	1	\$1,947	1	1
	Pul-e-Khumri	3	3	\$3,725	3	0
	Balkh	6	6	\$16,065	6	3
	Balkh District	2	2	\$9,415	2	2
	Charbolak	2	2	\$4,700	2	1
	Chemtal	2	2	\$1,950	2	0
Faryab	2	2	\$2,000	2	0	
Gormach	1	1	\$1,500	1	0	

	Shereentagab	1	1	\$500	1	0
	Jawzjan	5	5	\$11,637	5	3
	Aqcha	3	3	\$6,652	3	1
	Mangagik	1	1	\$2,489	1	1
	Muradian	1	1	\$2,496	1	1
	Kunduz	4	4	\$8,523	4	3
	Ali Abad	1	1	\$1,636	1	1
	Kunduz District	1	1	\$1,100	1	0
	Qala-e-Zal	2	2	\$5,787	2	2
	Samangan	1	1	\$2,484	1	1
	Hazrat-Sultan	1	1	\$2,484	1	1
	Saripul	1	1	\$3,754	1	1
	Balkhab	1	1	\$3,754	1	1
	Takhar	11	11	\$8,922	11	0
	Dasht-e-Qala	1	1	\$906	1	0
	Hazar Samoch	1	1	\$165	1	0
	Namakab	1	1	\$675	1	0
	Taloqan	8	8	\$7,176	8	0
	<b>Central</b>	Bamyan	3	3	\$17,336	3
Bamyan Center		3	3	\$17,336	3	1
Kabul		5	5	\$13,565	5	3
Sorobi		3	3	\$8,230	3	3
Bagrami		1	1	\$2,846	1	0
Dih-Sabz		1	1	\$2,489	1	0
Panjshir		2	2	\$5,536	2	2
Bad Qul		1	1	\$4,251	1	1
Anaba		1	1	\$1,285	1	1
<b>West</b>	Ghor	0	0	-	0	0
		0	0	-	0	0
	Herat	4	4	\$52,158	4	4
	Robat-Sangi	4	4	\$52,158	4	4

**Indicator 3:**

Location: Region, Province, District		IR 3: Communities have greater collaboration with the government			
		# of project meetings involving officials representing GIROA Institutions	# of CBSG activities involving GIROA programs	# of CBSG activities with opening/closing ceremonies involving GIROA representatives	# of CBSG grantees who state project has improved community trust in GIROA
<b>Program Target</b>		<b>1,000</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>1,000</b>
<b>Actual as of 31 March 2011</b>		<b>182</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>North</b>	Badakhshan	16	9	9	9
	Faizabad City	2	2	2	2
	Raghistan	2	1	1	1
	Warduj	2	1	1	1
	Zebak	10	5	5	5
	Baghlan	22	5	5	5
	Dahana-e-Ghori	8	2	2	2
	Baghlan-Jadid	5	1	1	1
	Pul-e-Khumri	9	2	2	2
	Balkh	35	1	4	6
	Balkh District	8	1	2	2
	Charbolak	7	0	0	2
	Chimtal	20	0	2	2
Faryab	6	2	2	2	

	Ghormach	3	1	1	1
	Shereentagab	3	1	1	1
	Jawzjan	25	5	5	5
	Aqcha	14	3	3	3
	Mangagic	5	1	1	1
	Muradian	6	1	1	1
	Kunduz	6	2	2	2
	Qala-e-Zal	6	2	2	2
	Samangan	4	1	1	1
	Hazrat-Sultan	4	1	1	1
	Sar-e-Pul	1	0	1	1
	Balkhab	1	0	1	1
	Takhar	27	11	11	11
	Dasht-e-Qala	4	1	1	1
	Hazar Samoch	2	1	1	1
	Namakab	4	1	1	1
	Taloqan	17	8	8	8
<b>Central</b>	Bamyan	3	1	2	2
	Bamyan Center	3	1	2	2
	Kabul	23	3	5	5
	Sorobi	11	1	3	3
	Bagrami	8	1	1	1
	Dih-Sabz	4	1	1	1
	Panjshir	5	2	2	2
	Bad Qul	2	1	1	1
	Anaba	3	1	1	1
<b>West</b>	Ghor	0	0	0	0
	Herat	9	1	4	4
	Robat Sangi	9	1	4	4

**Indicator AO7:**

<b>AO 7: STABILITY SUFFICIENT FOR BASIC GOVERNANCE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT</b>													
Indicator #	Indicator Name	Disaggregation	Standard Indicator	Indicator Type	Data Source	Unit of Measure	Baseline		FY 2011		FY 2012		DQA
							Value	Year	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	
<b>ASSISTANCE OBJECTIVE 7: STABILITY SUFFICIENT FOR BASIC GOVERNANCE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT</b>													
<b>Sub IR 7.2: BASIC LOCAL GOVERNANCE ESTABLISHED</b>													
7.2b	Number of projects completed with community and GIROA Involvement		N			Number		2009	200	63	800		
<b>SUB IR 7.2.1: COMMUNITIES PARTICIPATING IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT</b>													
7.2.1a	Number of CBOs trained to develop and implement community development projects		N			Number		2009	200	63	800		
7.2.1b	Number of activities with a community contribution		N			Number		2009	190	63	760		
7.2.1c	Number of stabilization activities implemented through grants to CBOs		N			Number		2009	200	63	800		
<b>SUB IR 7.3.1: COOPERATION BETWEEN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND GIROA IN SUPPORT OF TRANSITION FACILITATED</b>													
7.3.1b	Number of project meetings involving GIROA authorities		N			Number		2009	200	219	800		
<b>SUB IR 7.1.1: STAKEHOLDER ABILITY TO PROGRAM AGAINST SOIs IMPROVED</b>													
7.1.1b	Number of stakeholders trained in DSF		N			Number		2009	4	4	6		
<b>SUB IR 7.1.2: COMMUNITY GRIEVANCES ADDRESSED</b>													
7.1.2d	Number of person days of employment created through stabilization projects		N			Number		2009	60,000	29,437	240,000		

## K. Success Stories



# USAID | AFGHANISTAN

## Community Based Stabilization Grants Program (CBSG)

### SUCCESS STORY

# Peace Promotion Jirga Key to Stability

**USAID/CBSG bridges the gap between the people and the Government through a Peace Promotion Jirga**



Photo: USAID/CBSG

*Religious Leaders discussing ways to strengthen peace and stability.*

*Upon completion of the three-phased Jirga, the religious leaders issued a 12 article final resolution reiterating their commitment to strengthening peace and stability in their respective areas.*

U.S. Agency for International Development  
[www.usaid.gov](http://www.usaid.gov)

Like many other provinces, Baghlan has remained a stronghold for different warring factions. The province is also suffering from the intrusion of insurgent elements, which are actively creating problems for ANSF and ISAF, contributing to drug trafficking and launching suicide attacks. The situation requires stabilization efforts to ensure security and prevent the spread of insurgency to neighboring provinces. USAID/CBSG funded a Peace Promotion Jirga, in coordination with the Provincial Governor's Office in Baghlan, to encourage the peaceful resolutions of conflicts in this volatile area.

On 13 February 2011, the Religious Leaders' Peace Promotion Jirga was held in Puli Khumri City of Baghlan Province. Religious leaders of both the Shia and Sunni religious communities, as well as tribal elders from Baghlan-e-Jadid, Dehna-e-Ghori, Burkah, Nahreen, Gilah, Khost, Puli Khumri, Central Baghlan, Deh Sala, Fering, Tala wa Barfak and Doshi Districts met to discuss issues pertaining to peace and stability, human rights and violence against women, as well as the fight against narcotics and suicide attacks, that contribute to disturbances of the peace and stability of the province.

Throughout the Peace Promotion Jirga, these religious leaders promised to work effectively amongst themselves, with the local authorities and their communities, to prevent conflict from being brought into Baghlan and other neighboring provinces by insurgents. Upon completion of the three-phased Jirga, the religious leaders issued a 12 article final resolution reiterating their commitment to strengthening peace and stability in their respective areas.

The Peace Jirga helped bring the government and communities closer together. As religious leaders are respected by the community, their support of the local government will encourage the community to start working together with the local government which will eventually contribute to improved stability in the area.



# USAID | AFGHANISTAN

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

## Community Based Stabilization Grants Program (CBSG)

# SUCCESS STORY

## Stability through Capacity Building

### USAID empowers farmers through capacity building programs



Photo: USAID/CBSG

Members of Bamyan Potato Cooperatives attending the capacity building training.

*“We believe that similar initiatives are fundamental to bringing people and the government closer together and add to people’s trust towards the government...”*

*-Member of the Bamyan Training Cooperative*

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Almost 90% of Bamyan is reliant on potato crops as their primary source of income. The province is well-known for its good quality potatoes countrywide. Farmers in Bamyan, use traditional farming methods to plant their crops. Recently, a potato growing community in Bamyan established the Potato Cooperative Association, with the aim to unify, increase crop outputs and production, and improve their income.

Lack of resources allocated to the Provincial Line Department of Agriculture and Livestock has been one of the reasons the local government has been unable to conduct trainings for farmers to increase their capacity and in turn boost their agricultural products. The community requested USAID/CBSG funding for the training program as a necessary tool to help discuss agricultural issues and increase production.

Four potato cooperatives in Bamyan, in cooperation with the Provincial Line Department of Agriculture and Livestock, began offering capacity training programs with six trainers to the 886 members of the Bamyan Potato Cooperative Association (BPCA). The training programs covered areas such as potato planting mechanisms and procedures, data collection, accounting, record keeping, marketing and literacy to increase the capacity of the BPCA members and develop their skills for better planting, processing and marketing of their harvests. Trainings were completed in January of 2011.

Mrs. Zakia, one of the training participants and the Head of Bamyan Naween Cooperative said, “The training is of significant importance and such programs are vital for raising the awareness of farmers who have long run their businesses in a traditional manner. We believe that similar initiatives are fundamental to bringing people and the government closer together and add to people’s trust towards the government.”



# USAID | AFGHANISTAN

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

## Community Based Stabilization Grants Program (CBSG)

### SUCCESS STORY

# Infrastructure Repairs Bring Stability

#### USAID/CBSG rehabilitates road and irrigation system in Kunduz province



Photo: USAID/CBSG

Completed road crossing in Qalai Zal, Kunduz.

*“This project is of a high importance for us. There was no proper infrastructure. Thanks to the generous support from the USAID/CBSG...we are easily connected with roads leading to the rest of the village and to our district center.”*

*Abdul Qadir, farmer*

Safi Kot Village, Qalai Zal District is located in the volatile Kunduz Province. Qalai Zal has turned into a focal point for insurgent activities in Kunduz. Due to the government’s limited outreach to the district, the community’s grievances have remained unaddressed. The insurgent situation has led to the destruction of infrastructure leaving the transportation and irrigation systems in disrepair. Due to its increasing instability, Kunduz Province has become CBSG's top priority for the implementation of stabilization projects.

Residents in Qalai Zal requested USAID/CBSG funding to rehabilitate three existing aqueducts to improve local transportation links to the district center and irrigation water flow into their agricultural lands. The aqueducts prevent roads from washing out during heavy rains and channel water into agricultural fields. The project was implemented by the community, in cooperation with the Provincial Line Department Rural Rehabilitation and Development, and was completed on 20 February 2010.

The aqueducts were successfully rehabilitated by the community and have raised the profile and reach of the local authorities, brought communities closer to the services provided by the government, and improved their agricultural products. The aqueducts have also enabled the ANSF and ISAF to the district patrol for security thereby creating grounds for stability and for residents of these communities to easily travel in all seasons.

Abdul Qadir, a farmer in Safi Kot stated, “This project is of a high importance for us. There was no proper infrastructure for water to flow into the agricultural lands and thus it was wasted away into roads leaving the lands in disrepair and roads destroyed and unusable. Thanks to the generous support of USAID/CBSG, the implementation of this project has now enabled farmers to get a better harvest with the aqueducts leading water to agricultural lands properly.. We are now easily connected with roads leading to the rest of the village and to our district center.”

## L. Financial Information (Grants Pipeline)

Table 3: Grants Pipeline

Province	Approved	Completed	Canceled	US\$ Value
<b>NORTH</b>				
Faryab	16	2		\$ 359,681
Jawzjan	6	4		\$ 239,560
Balkh	16	4		\$ 413,762
Kunduz	1	3		\$ 74,354
Takhar	0	0		0
Baghlan	7	3		\$ 172,490
Samangan	10	0		\$ 208,704
Sar-e-Pul	4	0		\$ 94,313
Badakhshan	0	4		\$ 87,298
<b>WEST</b>				
Herat	20	4		\$ 524,029
Ghor	19	0		\$ 317,819
<b>CENTRAL</b>				
Bamyan	13	1		\$ 320,839
Panjshir	5	0		\$ 90,946
Kabul	22	3		\$ 598,512
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$3,502,307</b>

## M. CBSG Upcoming Activities for the Quarter

The following activities are planned for the next quarter:

*Grants Table 4: Grants Planned*

Planned Item	Total
Number of new grant applications planned	200
Total value of grants planned to commence during the next quarter	\$4,800,000
Number of grants to be completed	134
Total value of grants planned to be completed by the end of the next quarter	\$ 2,907,535

During the reporting period, Creative CBSG worked closely with USAID on setting a new strategic direction for Year Two. The outcomes will be announced during the next reporting period.

A further seven CBSG and implementing staff will attend DSF training in Kabul.

## N. Key Risks Identified and Mitigation Strategies

Prioritization of backlogged grants by region to meet new strategic direction for Year Two to be finalized during the next reporting period. The prioritization also addresses issues related to the need for CBSG to significantly increase its burn rate.

CBSG produced a series of forecasts and plans that addressed potential matters arising from delays to supplemental funding.

An analysis of grants activities and a review of the overall area of geographic focus were conducted during the second quarter reporting period. Both USAID and CBSG agreed that the results pointed to a need to concentrate the program on areas where instability is highest and to consider moving out of others, where a predicted rise in instability had failed to materialize. It was further agreed that CBSG will draft and seek approval on amendments to the Cooperative Agreement in order to reflect a new strategic direction for Year Two. A new work plan for Year Two will also be constructed based on the outcomes of this process, which will be presented during the next reporting period.