

National Area Based Development Programme (NABDP)



Technical Assessment at the construction site of the Chimtal Bridge in Balkh Province

Project ID:

00011012 (DEX)

0011020 (NEX)

Duration:

PHASE I 1 July 2002 – 31 Dec 2005

PHASE II 1 Jan 2006 – 31 Dec 2008

Component:

PROMOTION OF LIVELIHOODS

Total Budget (PHASE II):

US\$ 182.2 million

Unfunded (PHASE II):

US\$ 139.9 million

**(1 July – 30 September 2006)
Third-Quarter Report**

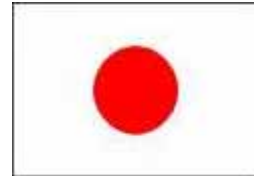
NABDP Donors



Belgium



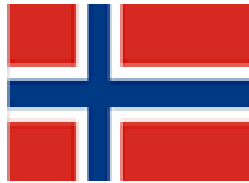
USAID



Japan



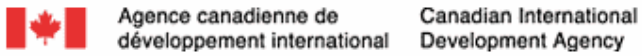
UNHCR



Norway



New Zealand PRT



Canada/CIDA



Italy

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Abbreviation Key

AIRD	Afghanistan Institute for Rural Development
ANDS	Afghanistan National Development Strategy
CLDD	Community Led Development Department
CF	Combined Forces
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
DDA	District Development Assembly
DDP	District Development Plan
DEX	Direct Execution
DFID	UK Department for International Development
DIAG	Disbandment of Illegal Armed Group
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
JS-DRC	Joint Secretariat for Disarmament & Reintegration Commission
LPAC	Local Programme Appraisal Committee
MoAAH	Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry
MoEc	Ministry of Economy
MoRR	Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation
MRRD	Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
NABDP	National Area Based Development Programme
NEX	National Execution
NSP	National Solidarity Programme
NSS	National Surveillance System
NZDF	New Zealand Defence Forces
PCM	Project Cycle Management
PDC	Provincial Development Committee
PMA	Provincial Management Advisor
PRRD	Provincial Rural Rehabilitation and Development Directorate
PRT	Provincial Reconstruction Team
QCC	Quality Control Committee
RED	Rural Enterprise Development
RurWatSan	Rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion
RRERS	Regional Rural Economic Regeneration Strategies
SSPSRL	Support to Strategic Planning for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods
ToT	Training of Trainers
UNAMA	United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
USAID	United States Agency for International Development



BACKGROUND OF THE PROGRAMME

In the National Development Framework, the Afghan Government commits to an integrated and programmatic approach to building human and social capital. One large-scale government programme using this approach is the National Area-Based Development Programme (NABDP). The NABDP aims to promote urgent recovery and longer-term development in priority areas while building the government's capacity to lead and coordinate participatory approaches to development in all provinces. The first phase of NABDP was launched in April 2002. The programme focused on three main components: i) immediate recovery support; ii) capacity development; and iii) macro-economic regeneration.

The design of NABDP Phase II began in late 2004. Based on the recommendation of the Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) and through extensive consultations with the Government of Afghanistan, donors and other key stakeholders, the programme management team revised the key components and developed the conceptual framework for Phase II. An international expert was also hired to assist with writing up the new project document which was finally approved at the LPAC meeting of 12 February 2006.

The project document NABDP Phase II was signed between the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on 22 February 2006.



PROJECT OVERVIEW

NABDP Phase II aims to contribute to the sustainable reduction of poverty and improvement of livelihoods in rural Afghanistan, by empowering communities, through community institutions, to articulate and address their needs and priorities, and by helping to enable the Government of Afghanistan to support community-based rural rehabilitation and development in an integrated, people-focused, inclusive and participatory manner. The programme works toward this goal by supporting the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD), in line with the Afghanistan National Development Strategy, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the UNDP Country Programme. The overall strategy is to support the establishment of an integrated planning and implementation framework for a comprehensive (multi-sector, multi-level and multi-agency), coordinated, pro-poor and pro-growth approach to rural development.

Towards this purpose, NABDP-II will focus on producing the following **outcomes**:

- 1) Communities empowered to articulate and address their needs and priorities in relation to poverty reduction and livelihoods improvement through participation in comprehensive rural development planning and implementation processes and through expert inputs in regional economic regeneration strategies.
- 2) A well-established institutional capacity and technical capability in MRRD to fulfill its mandate of promoting rural regeneration and livelihoods and supporting the implementation and management of comprehensive rural development strategies/plans in a participatory, coordinated and sustainable manner.

This will be achieved through the following interlinked **programme support components**:

- 1) **Community Empowerment:** Participatory and consultative mechanisms established at district/provincial level resulting in integrated rural development planning processes.
- 2) **Economic Regeneration:** Capacity in MRRD/Government established to formulate and regularly update comprehensive regional economic regeneration policies & strategies, identifying viable interventions for economic investment, poverty reduction and improving livelihoods.
- 3) **Institutional Development:** Institutional capacity and technical capabilities of MRRD and strategic partners strengthened to fulfil its mandate of promoting rural regeneration and livelihoods.
- 4) **Implementation Support:** MRRD's implementation capacity strengthened, private and public resources mobilized, and implementation arrangements among partners/stakeholders coordinated to deliver economic regeneration and rural development projects.

Particular attention will be directed towards the inclusion and benefit of farmers dependent on poppy cultivation, disarmed militias, returning refugees, IDPs and the rural vulnerable, including the Kuchi population. Partnerships will be established with UNHCR, UNICEF, ANBP and others to ensure the mainstreaming of the Reintegration Programme, the Disbandment of Illegal Armed Groups Programme, alternative livelihoods initiatives and other priority programmes into the broader framework of comprehensive rural development under the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS). All activities will be undertaken on the principle of (1) maximizing consultation and the participation of

stakeholders and beneficiaries, (2) coordination and synergies with other programmes and initiatives, and (3) sustainability of results and outcomes.

NABDP is currently implemented through two different execution modalities:

- 1) Direct Execution (DEX) by UNDP, and
- 2) National Execution (NEX) by the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development.

All the programmes and projects implemented under the overall NABDP framework are listed in the table below.

<i>NABDP MRRD-related Projects</i>					
Thematic Categorization	Project Number	Project Title	Donors	Implementing Agencies	Implementation Modality
NEX Core	11020 (AFG/02/011/01/99)	NABDP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Empowerment • Economic Regeneration • Institutional Development • Implementation Support 	Canada, Belgium, Japan, USAID	MRRD	NEX
Water & Sanitation	11020 (AFG/02/011/01/99)	Water for IDP/Refugees	UNHCR	MRRD WatSan Dept	NEX
		Rural Water Sanitation	USAID	MRRD WatSan Dept	NEX
Reintegration	11020 (AFG/02/011/01/99)	IDP & Refugee Reintegration	UNHCR	MRRD Reintegration	NEX
	11020 (AFG/02/011/01/99)	Durable Solutions for IDP's Project	UNDP-BCPR	UNDP/MRRD Reintegration	DEX
<i>NABDP UNOPS-executed Projects</i>					
Thematic Categorization	Project Number	Project Title	Donor	Implementing Agencies	Implementation Modality
Rural Infrastructure Support*	11012 (AFG/02/005/01/34)	Recovery Support Project	Italy/Malaysia	UNOPS	DEX
		Winterization	USAID	UNOPS	DEX
	11025 (AFG/02/U24/JA/31)	Shamalan Canal/Feeder Roads (Integral part of NABDP)	Sweden	UNOPS	DEX
PRT	11012 (AFG/02/005/01/34)	NZ-PRT Immediate Recovery Support Project	New Zealand	UNOPS	DEX
	11020 (AFG/02/011/01/99)	USAID PRT Quick Impact Projects	USAID	UNOPS	NEX

*All activities under these projects were completed in 2005. The project closure process is currently on-going.



THIRD-QUARTER ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Activities and Achievements Summary Matrix

Programme Intended Outcomes (2006-2008)	2006 Output Targets	Achievements in the 3rd Quarter of 2006
<p>Communities empowered to articulate and address their needs and priorities in relation to poverty reduction and livelihoods improvement through participation in comprehensive rural development planning and implementation processes and through expert inputs in regional economic regeneration strategies.</p>	<p>Comprehensive rural development plans developed, based on community development processes and economic regeneration assessments and strategies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 69 District Development Assemblies (DDA) have been established and District Development Plans (DDPs) has been formulated. • About 100 men and 50 women have been participating in the DDA process in Kandahar • The DDA process has begun in Zabul, Ghazni, Khost, Daikundi, Farah, and Faryab. • Over 2,700 participants attended the provincial and district orientation and awareness meetings. • DDA process was launched in three DIAG districts in Takhar and one district in Kapisa
	<p>Rural development policies developed and adopted by Government and other relevant stakeholders, providing frameworks for viable interventions for economic regeneration, poverty reduction and improving livelihoods.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRRD signed the contract for the RRERS study with GRM International in July and the RRERS project was officially launched in August. • GRM team arrived in August and its national and local partners were mobilized. • An Inception Workshop of RRERS Project was held on 30th August • The Steering Committee and the Expert Committee of the RRERS Project were established.
	<p>Strengthened management and implementation capacity of MRRD and relevant partner institutions to address rural development and economic regeneration needs and priorities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies and procedures for hardship and DSA allowances have been developed and implemented. • Draft employee policy manual for national contracted staff was submitted for approval. • Initial assessments of MRRD key departments such as Planning Department and Community led Development Departments have been accomplished. • ToRs for short-term Institutional Development Consultants were drafted and submitted for NABDP management approval. • The PDC Orientation trainings were conducted in 12 provinces, 603 participants from governmental and non-governmental organizations attended the training.
<p>A well-established institutional capacity and technical capability in MRRD to fulfill its mandate of promoting rural regeneration and livelihoods and support the implementation and management of comprehensive rural development strategies/plans in a participatory, coordinated and sustainable manner.</p>	<p>High-quality and sustainable community-led rural development and economic regeneration investments that reduce poverty and improve livelihoods.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 69 infrastructure projects were implemented in 23 provinces under NABDP Core. • 217 water points and 915 latrines were constructed under the USAID-funded WatSan project and 130 water points and 37 latrines were constructed under the UNHCR-funded WatSan Project. Over 59,000 people received hygiene education. • The bidding documents were prepared in Dari and English for 5 CIDA projects in Kandahar, and the bidding announcements were made.



NABDP Core Components

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

Establishment of DDAs: The Community Empowerment Unit has led the process of establishment of District Development Assemblies (DDAs) and formulation of District Development Plans (DDPs). During the 3rd quarter, 69 DDAs were established, out of which 23 DDAs in NSP covered districts and 46 in non-NSP covered districts. All 69 districts have formulated their DDPs. During the reporting period, the process of establishment of DDA and planning has been undertaken the remaining province in the southern region and gradually expanded to the provinces of Zabul (South); Ghazni and Khost (South East); Daikundi (Central); Farah (South West); and Faryab (North).

Despite the prevailing security problems in the Southern and Western provinces of the country, the NABDP teams for DDA/DDP exercises received support and protection by the government and the communities. It is encouraging to see the courage and determination of communities to participate in week-long workshops amidst strong warnings of suspected Taliban militias against community members associated with or participating in governmental and international assistance.

Government officials and communities actively participated in provincial and district coordination for the DDA/DDP process. Over 2,700 participants attended the provincial and district orientation and awareness meetings. However, only less than 10% of them were women. Participation of women is indeed a challenge to development workers and the government due to the prevailing cultural restrictions on women's involvement in social and economic sectors.

Cooperation among government departments present in the provinces have been remarkable, particularly with Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Women's Affairs, not to mention MRRD. Representatives from the line ministries attended every DDA election as observers. To date, about 143 government officials participated in the DDA elections as observers.

After a several months of experience with the DDA/DDP methodology, NABDP decided to launch partnership with NSP Facilitating Partners (NSP-FP). A test-run on the methodology was conducted in a district in Kunduz province with a select number of FPs working in the priority provinces of the Northern Region. The test-run exercise provided the 5 FPs hands-on experiences on the methodology that would enable them to prepare quality proposals for future partnership.

Currently, the DDPs are being reviewed and translated into English. These DDPs will be recorded in an automated computer database, which will be readily accessible to relevant stakeholders and interested parties for legitimate purposes.

Support for Disbandment of Illegal Armed Groups (DIAG): NABDP has been supporting MRRD and the Disarmament & Reintegration Commission in developing the framework for implementing development projects in the communities where illegal armed groups are



disbanded. The community consultation exercises were conducted through DDA/DDP exercises in three districts in Takhar province and one district in Kapisa.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Senior Economic Development Advisor assumed his duties in the first week of July to lead the activities of the NABDP Economic Regeneration Unit. During the reporting period, the Unit managed the inception phase of the Regional Rural Economic Regeneration Assessment & Strategies (RRERS), which aims at providing practical strategies and recommendations on social and economic infrastructures, commercial services, production systems, linkages with local and international markets. The Unit also regularly provides technical assistance for MRRD's rural enterprise promotion activities, such as offering inputs and support for the MRRD Rural Enterprise Development (RED) Policy Workshop held on 17-18 September.

Launching of the RRERS Study: After the competitive bidding and negotiations, MRRD signed the contract with GRM International to conduct the study for "Regional Rural Economic Regeneration Assessment & Strategies (RRERS): A Framework for Comprehensive Rural Development Planning" on 12 July 2006. Consequently, the RRERS study was officially launched on 14th August, 2006.

A comprehensive workplan describing the activities to be carried by the RRERS project was prepared and discussed with RRERS/GRM team. The Steering Committee of the RRERS Project was established to regularly monitor the progress. The committee meets every two weeks and discuss various issues. An Expert Committee for RRERS Project, comprised of the members from NABDP, MRRD, Afghanistan Institute for Rural Development (AIRD) and external experts and stakeholders, has been set-up under the chairmanship of MRRD Deputy Minister- Programmes. The Expert Committee will evaluate the various reports submitted by the RRERS study team of GRM.

RRERS Inception Reports: The Inception Workshop of RRERS Project with Regional Teams, and NABDP Heads of the Unit, was organized on 30th August, 2006. The Workshop was inaugurated by MRRD Deputy Minister-Programmes. The major objective of the Workshop was to consult all relevant partners and have brainstorming discussions on the project approach and activities during the inception phase.

A comprehensive database of relevant RRERS literature materials, such as project reports and working papers, maps, secondary data, has been collected. Preliminary database for provincial profiles of 25 provinces across country have been prepared. The provincial profile reports highlight potential opportunities in each province which can be utilized for sustainable rural development strategies and economic regeneration. The reports also analyze the key potential development opportunities to provide a good basis to characterize the Afghanistan into geographically identified agro-economic zones.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Institutional Development (ID) Unit: Senior ID Advisor and International ID Advisor were recruited in August 2006. The Unit formed an ID working network with the NABDP



international and national advisors and other advisory institutions for institutional development within MRRD, such as GRM consultants and the Canadian Strategic Advisory Team.

Support for Human Resources (HR) Management: NABDP/MRRD Human Resource Advisor has been supporting to establish an effective function and operation in HR management of both MRRD and NABDP. A system for managing CVs, and timely follow-up and documentation of recruitment and hiring has been in place. The HR policies and procedures for hardship and daily allowances for national staff have been developed and implemented. Furthermore, the payroll process has been streamlined. Draft employee policy manual for national contracted staff was submitted for approval. Also, a system and procedures to control recruitment of national contracted staff, including a table of authorized national contracted staff positions, are developed. Detailed specifications for combined MRRD/NABDP HR database have been written, and data collection and entry into new system has been initiated. HR management reports and procedures for database maintenance were designed.

Support for Procurement Management: To assess the status of the procurement operations of MRRD and NABDP, several discussions were held with the Director for the MRRD Procurement Department, the members of the bid evaluation committee and the NABDP Procurement staff. It was found that the MRRD procurement procedures for works, goods and services contracts are not exactly consistent with the provisions made in the Afghanistan Law of Procurement and international guidelines. It was noticed that there are no systematic process for proper documentation on procurement and no definite procurement plans has been prepared and followed.

To establish appropriate systems and procedures and strengthen procurement management in MRRD, several documents on procurement quality plans and bidding process were prepared in line with both Afghan Law of Procurement and UNDP guidelines. These documents have been discussed with the relevant departments and staff and submitted to the MRRD senior management for their approval. Several meetings were held with the MRRD Procurement Director and staff, and a couple of workshops were organized for training of the evaluation committee members in MRRD on systematic evaluation based on the Afghan Law of procurement.

Utilizing new procurement systems and procedures, NABDP Procurement Advisor has provided technical assistance to the MRRD Procurement Department to proceed the procurements with of NABDP major projects, such as the 5 CIDA projects in Kandahar, bid selection of Facilitating Partners for Comprehensive Rural Development, and the Chintal Bridge in Balk Province.

Support for MRRD Key Departments and Project Management Cycle: Through the strategic planning workshop held by MRRD, in which all NABDP national and international advisors participate, it became evident that restructuring of the MRRD will affect all departments and staff. The ID team members undertook the first steps to assess the current ID situation within MRRD. The first assessment report with diagnostic analyses was drafted, which now used as a basis for further more detailed assessments on possible interventions.



During the reporting period, the Institutional Development Unit focused on the several departments to initiate the institutional development process in the Ministry, which include Planning Department, Community Led Development Department (CLDD), Rural Energy and Livelihood Department and Afghan Institute for Rehabilitation and Development (AIRD)

Initial assessments for the Planning Dept. and CLDD have been conducted. ID advisers took part in the finalization of the organisational structure of the Planning Department. The ID team conducted interviews with the directors and staff of these two departments and assess the staff capacity of the departments. The ID team also carried out regular meetings with the senior management of the Planning Department to discuss issues and challenges that the department faces during the restructuring process. Through those exercises, the directors of both departments have designed new organisational structures by selecting appropriate employees to fill the new positions.

Through the assessments for establishment of the Project Cycle Management (PCM) process in the MRRD, problems and weaknesses in MRRD's project management were identified. A first draft of "ideal" project cycle management has been prepared. It is proposed to establish the Quality Control Committee (QCC) with key departments and units in order to find solutions for problematic projects and develop more effective project management mechanisms. The Terms of Reference for the QCC have been drafted and submitted for approval to Deputy Minister for Programmes. Furthermore, several meetings of the QCC have been held, discussing problematic projects and identifying practical strategies to resolve the issues as well as to take preventive measures.

Support for PDCs' Establishment and Capacity Development: Two teams of trainers from MRRD and the Ministry of Economy (MoEc) conducted PDC Orientation workshops (Phase 1) in 12 provinces: Kandahar, Balkh, Nangarhar, Kunduz, Paktia, Herat, Kabul, Khost, Zabul, Ghazni, Daikundi and Bamyan provinces. Preparations for the workshops were made in consultation with the relevant Provincial Rural Rehabilitation and Development (PRRD) Offices and MoEc's Provincial Offices. Meetings were held with either Governors or Deputy Governors and they were informed of the Orientation workshops and the importance of PDCs for development activities in the provinces. The provincial authorities promised full support for the PDCs. Several meetings were held between NABDP Advisors and MoEc to discuss MRRD's support to the PDCs. Furthermore, preliminary meetings were also held with UN-HABITAT to discuss possible short and long-term collaboration for the PDC trainings. Although the UN-HABITAT submitted their proposal to NABDP, their proposal was very ambitious and it was decided to explore another facilitating partners. Consequently, Afghan Institute of Training and Management (AITM) submitted their proposal, which is currently under consideration. In addition, the initial Terms of Reference for the PDC Phase-II Trainings was drafted for further discussions.

The draft of the Memorandum of Understanding between MRRD and MoEc on PDCs was revised based on comments received from the MRRD Minister and MoEc. Also, a meeting with the new Minister of Economy was held to discuss the MRRD's support to the PDCs.

It is decided that the PDC database, which will be developed in-house in MRRD and later will be replaced by a more advanced and comprehensive database that may be donated by the



Ministry of Agriculture of the Islamic Republic of Iran. To this end, the Iranian team will visit Kabul in October 2006.

Support for ANDS and sub-national governance mechanisms: MRRD and NABDP have had several discussions with Afghanistan National Development Strategies (ANDS) to link up with MRRD programmes and activities, especially for creation of awareness on the ANDS at sub-national levels. The ID team took part in the series of discussions with ANDS Directorate to design an agenda for joint ANDS/MRRD workshop on ANDS Sub-national Consultation Mechanisms. The agenda was finalized in participatory way and accepted by ANDS Directorate leadership. The workshop on ANDS Sub-national Consultation Mechanisms was held on 20 and 21 September with representatives from the various government offices and multilateral stakeholders. Also, NABDP participated in an inception workshop on UNDP's Afghanistan Sub-National Governance Programme to strengthen collaboration between two programmes.

IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT

Implementation of Rural Infrastructure Projects: During the reporting period, NABDP continued the implementation of 69 sub-projects in 23 provinces. These sub-projects cover a range of interventions in the following sectors:

- **Water supply & sanitation (5 projects):** construction of water wells, hand pumps, and piped systems;
- **Education (26 projects) :** construction of schools;
- **Irrigation (6 projects):** construction and rehabilitation of canals/karez, check-dams, and retaining walls;
- **Public facilities (17 projects):** construction and maintenance of community centres, government buildings;
- **Energy (3 projects):** construction of micro-hydro plants & instalment of wiring heating system, installation of heating systems, and bio-gas
- **Public health (2 projects) :** construction of health clinics;
- **Transport (10 projects):** rehabilitation of roads and construction of culverts and bridges; and

Out of these 69 projects, 14 projects were newly started in Ghazni, Ghor, Kabul, Takhar, Wardak, Kapisa, Panshir, Baglan, Jawjzan, and Paktya during the third quarter. These projects include six projects for school construction, two projects for water wells, two projects for transport, two projects for construction of government buildings, a project for water reservoir construction and a project for electric wire installation.

Integrated Alternative Livelihoods Programme-Kandahar (IALP-K): Interviews for the CIDA financial officer based in Kandahar were conducted and a person selected for the work. Interviews with the CIDA National Program Officer were also carried out and the selected candidate will assume his duties in October. An international advisor for Alternative Livelihoods was also identified and the advisor will start working with MRRD in November.

MRRD and NABDP made a series of consultations with the DDAs and line departments to draft a proposal for the IALP-K Steering Committee, which includes recommendations about



their role in the process, funding streams, sectoral emphases, and project identification. This proposal will be presented when the Steering Committee meets in October. In the meantime, it was decided to bring together DDA representatives from high poppy cultivation districts and interested parties to examine the underlying causes and issues of poppy cultivation and design development packages that will address ways to promote alternative livelihoods and licit economies in the region.

High Impact Projects in Kandahar: The amendment of the donor agreement with CIDA to support the six projects proposed by the Provincial Council in Kandahar was duly signed in August.

Technical designs for five projects, three projects for bridge construction, a project for road rehabilitation, and a project for construction of check dams, were drawn and approved by the MRRD engineering department. The design for the bridge in Arghandab district proved too expensive and was referred back to the Kandahar Regional office for further investigation. A special meeting of the Provincial Council and the Arghandab DDA was called. All agreed that the proposed site is preferable because of the road system and it was suggested that a system of wing walls be constructed to reduce cost. An engineer was assigned to look into this possibility and to report back to the MRRD engineering department, which is currently verifying the findings.

Announcements of the bidding process for the remaining 5 projects were published. It was agreed that the PRRD at Kandahar would distribute the bid documents and collect the tendering documents, which will be opened in Kandahar and then sent to Kabul for evaluation. Copies of the Invitation for Bid were distributed to the Provincial Council and announced in a large public meeting to which District Shuras were invited and the Governor also attended.

PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

Steering Committee Meeting: The Second Steering Committee Meeting was held on 19 September, chaired by Mr. Asif Rahimi, MRRD Deputy Minister for Programmes. In the meeting, the activities and achievements during the 2nd and 3rd quarter were reported to the Committee members. Also, the serious concerns on equity in fund availability for provinces were raised and the intensive discussion was made on this issue. The Committee agreed to continue to look into this matter.

Recruitment of Staff: It is a great loss that Mr. Soroush Javadi will leave the position of the Programme Manager, but the Programme managed to identify his successor in a timely manner, which ensures smooth transition of the NABDP leadership. Mr. Lionel Laurens is appointed as new Programme Manager and will assume his duties in October.

The Head of the all four Units were in place. Under the leadership of each Head, the restructuring of the Unit structures is in progress.

Office Space: To alleviate severe shortage of office space, the programme has rented an office building in Shar-e-now. Currently, the Economic Regeneration Unit and the RRERS/



GRM team as well as Community Empowerment field teams are based in the Shar-e-now Office.

Donor Relations: The donor joint field mission was conducted on 20 July. The representatives from CIDA, the Japanese Embassy, the Norwegian Embassy, UNDP and MRRD visited the NABDP and MRRD projects in Parwan Province.

During the 3rd quarter, the following funds were pledged or received:

CIDA: CAN\$3 million (US\$2,654,867) for Kandahar specific projects

Norway: NOK3.5 million (US\$566,343) for Fayab province. Additional NOK8.5m was pledged

Japan: JPY3.2 billion (US\$21,830,414) for Kandahar, Nangahar, Balkh, Bamyan provinces

Water and Sanitation Projects

PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS SUPPORTED BY THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID)

The implementation of the projects continued in the following 13 of the planned 18 provinces: Paktia, Nimroz, Helmand, Kandahar, Urozgan, Zabul, Maidan-Wardak, Kabul, Logar, Kapisa, Dai-Kundi, Nuristan and Kunar. During the reporting period, the projects were completed in Ghazni, Paktika, Laghman, Nangahar and Khost and 217 water points were constructed. Construction of 15 water points has been on-going. A total of 915 latrines were completed and work on 83 latrines is under progress. A total of 8,532 families (59,724 individuals) received hygiene education. The hygiene education for 115 families (805 individuals) is under progress.

The contracts for construction of 87 bore-whole wells in Kapisa province, 60 wells in Logar province as well as one pipe scheme in Kabul province were signed. The implementing partner for construction of 2 piped schemes in Nooristan province was selected the contracts will be signed shortly. Another piped scheme project in Kabul province is under tender procedure.

The outputs of these projects achieved during the third quarter are summarized in the table below:

Summary of Progress of USAID WatSan Project:

Sector	Unit	Completed in the third Quarter 2006	On-going	Total Completed to date
Water Supply	Water Point	217	15	2116
Pipe Schemes	No.	0	1	12
Water Reservoir	No.	0	0	18
Sanitation	Latrine	915	83	8,190
Hygiene Education	Beneficiaries (Individuals)	59,724	805	534,975

The training sessions for Water & Sanitation engineers, conducting by DACAAR since June 2006 have been on-going. To date, 251 persons received trainings on various subjects related to water and sanitation engineering and project implementation. The types of proposed training courses and the number of trainees are listed below:

Summary of training outputs:

Subject	Proposed No. Courses	Proposed No. of trainees	Total No. of impl. courses to date	Total No. of trainees to date
Tube Well Construction	5	94	4	70
Introduction in piped scheme design	5	94	4	61
Geographic Information system GIS	4	74	2	47
Project Management Circle	4	74	0	0
Hygiene and Sanitation Promotion	1	50	1	41
Social Aspect of WatSan Project	4	74	3	32
Total	23	460	14	251

PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS SUPPORTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR)

WatSan Projects with Year 2006 Contribution: Through this project, approximately 61,250 individuals particularly in the areas affected by a large number of returnees are expected to benefit. During the reporting period, the procurement of project contracts and services were completed in accordance with the government law. Compared with previous years, the contract procurement was processed in a more efficient and shift manner. As a result, 12 private companies and six local NGOs have been identified through competitive bidding and all have started the implementation of the project. In the third quarter, the construction of 99 water points reported as completed, and work had been on going on 122 more water points. The detail is as indicated on the table below. The progress rate of the year 2006 projects, especially hardware components, has been remarkably higher than the previous years.

Summary of Progress of UNHCR 2006 WatSan Project

No	Province	Planned WPs	Works had been on going	Completed in the 3 rd Q
1	Baghlan	23	4	7
2	Faryab	30	5	5
3	Kunduz	57	34	0
4	Helmand	7	0	7
5	Kandahar	15	2	8
6	Zabul	8	0	8
7	Paktya	14	0	7
8	Khost	16	6	0

9	Nangerhar	44	9	27
10	Laghman	16	8	0
11	Kunar	20	8	3
12	Farah	20	9	6
13	Ghor	15	0	0
14	Badghis	20	0	0
15	Logar	35	18	12
16	Kabul	35	19	9
	Total	375	122	99
Completion rate against initial plan			33%	26%

WatSan Projects with Year 2005 Contribution: The WatSan department has been conducting final project monitoring and verification for the remaining projects of year 2005 projects. Final verification and monitoring has conducted on Daikundi province project and it is reported that 25 water points out of 30 and 37 latrines out of 47 planned were completed. Also, final verification has been carried out for the projects in Sari-pul and Baghlan provinces for the second time.

Support for the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) Reintegration Unit

Mission to Baghlan Land Allocation Site: A Joint Monitoring team visited the land allocation site in Baghlan province, where the progress stage of the land allocation schemes is most advanced among the targeted sites. The main objectives of the mission were: (1) to monitor the progress made by the project; (2) to observe the provincial coordination mechanism on land allocation in the area; (3) to meet the beneficiaries and relevant stakeholders to discuss problems and analyse their expectation for the Land allocation Scheme (4) to asses transparency of the beneficiary selection process in the site. At the end of the three days missions, the report on findings and recommendation was submitted to all stakeholders for their further action.

Preparation of Progress Report Format on Land Allocation Scheme:

In coordination with Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation (MoRR), UNDP, UNHCR and donor agencies, the Reintegration Unit developed a format for the Progress Report on the Land Allocation Scheme activities. The report format will help the Government of Afghanistan and donor agencies to determine the fund allocation and identify financial gaps.

Preparation for Winterization: The Unit prepared the list of IDPs/Returnees living under tents with support from stakeholders as part of a preliminary assessment for winterization assistance. The Unit also prepared the list of the most vulnerable people and provide inputs for preparation of the winterisation appeal.



United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) Direct Execution Projects

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT-PROVINCIAL RECONSTRUCTION TEAM PROJECT (USAID-PRT)

The final report for this project is being prepared and will be released in early 2007.

NEW ZEALAND PROVINCIAL RECONSTRUCTION TEAM IMMEDIATE RECOVERY SUPPORT PROJECT

The final report is being prepared and will be available soon.



CHALLENGES

During the reporting period, the programme faced several challenges which have been carefully assessed and analysed in order to determine the necessary measures to address them in the coming months.

Rapid pace of programme expansion: During the third quarter, the scope and coverage of the programme activities has expanded very rapidly. As soon as the programme launched its pilot exercises to test methodologies and process, it received high demands for expanding the activities both from the government and donors. Although this can be seen as an indication of appreciation of the NABDP activities, it is a quite challenge for the programme to develop systematic mechanisms to implement the activities while carrying out the actual activities to meet such expectations. One of the staff described this situation as “building a boat while sailing.” Although the NABDP advisors and officers have been making every effort to meet such a challenge, documentation and reporting of the on-going activities tend to be neglected. The programme expected that the Ramadan and the up-coming winter season may slow down the pace of implementation of some activities, which allow the programme staff to devote more time to work on establishment of effective implementation procedures and processes.

Collaboration with relevant actors for sub-national planning exercises: NABDP is now seen as one of the powerful vehicles to carry out development planning exercise with communities and deliver tangible results to achieve a national development plan, such as the ANDS. Subsequently, the scope of the programme activities has been extended to sub-national level and across sectors. Collaboration with relevant actors is very important, but because so many organizations have been already involved in the sub-national planning process with different approaches, establishing a coordination mechanism for sub-national planning is extremely difficult. Working closely with the government and UN agencies, NABDP will make sure that the programme activities will be designed and carried out based on participatory consultation.

Unequal availability of funding for provinces: Although NABDP Phase II has received relatively affluent contributions from the donors for year 2006, many of these contributions are earmarked for certain provinces. This creates high inequity between the provinces which succeed in attracting donor support and the ones which do not. There is an urgent need to secure funding for project implementation in the provinces where the DDAs have been established without any further support for implementing identified projects in order not to lose a momentum of district development planning. This issue was intensively discussed in the Steering Committee Meeting held in September. NABDP will continue to advocate support for the provinces which have not received any external assistance yet and explore new funding sources.



FINANCES

The table below reflect expenditures made by NABDP during the second quarter of 2006 (1 July – 30 September 2006), as recorded in UNDP's ATLAS system. As this is a quarterly statement, some of the figures below are provisional and subject to change.

Table 1: Activity wise expenditure report 1 July to 30 September 2006 (all figures in USD)

Activity Description	Donors	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	Obligations	Total
Capacity Development	BELGIUM	2,400		120,265	150,000	272,665
Capacity Development	CIDA	250,460	520,176	(30,228)	130,000	870,408
Capacity Development	ITALY	20,699		(27,386)		(6,687)
Capacity Development	JAPAN		357,516	268,759		626,275
Capacity Development	USAID	468,074	445,192	110,002		1,023,268
Capacity Development-Sub Total		741,633	1,322,884	441,413	280,000	2,785,930
Community Empowerment	BELGIUM	44,706	7	103,549		148,262
Community Empowerment	CIDA	4,962		(4,955)		7
Community Empowerment	USAID	91,681	(14,206)	20,854	582,154	680,483
Community Empowerment-Sub Total		141,349	(14,199)	119,448	582,154	828,752
Immediate Recovery Projects	BELGIUM	5,892	421,672	697,884	4,404,928	5,530,376
Immediate Recovery Projects	CIDA	154,379	448,259	511,215	3,028,808	4,142,661
Immediate Recovery Projects	JAPAN		1,700	30,049	570,080	601,829
Immediate Recovery-Sub Total		160,271	871,631	1,239,148	8,003,816	10,274,866
Programme Management	BELGIUM	3,872	19,731	210,631		234,234
Programme Management	CIDA			411,886		411,886
Programme Management	ITALY			89,409		89,409
Programme Management	JAPAN	36,101	146,930	985,985		1,169,016
Programme Management	USAID	203,618	16,331	497,087		717,036
Programme Management-Sub Total		243,591	182,992	2,194,998	-	2,621,581
UNHCR Reintegration	UNHCR	2,280	17,165	3,972		23,417
UNHCR Water Supply	UNHCR	460,756	193,089	55,525		709,370
USAID Water Supply	USAID	1,196,453	732,404	666,010		2,594,867
Special Projects-Sub Total		1,659,489	942,658	725,506	-	3,327,653
Facilities and Administration (3%)	BELGIUM	1,706	13,242	33,970		48,918
Facilities and Administration (5%)	ITALY	621		3,101		3,722
Facilities and Administration (5%)	JAPAN		10,776	64,240		75,016
Facilities and Administration (5%)	UNHCR	13,891	6,308	2,975		23,174
Facilities and Administration (5%)	CIDA	22,295	55,768	44,396		122,459
Facilities and Administration (5%)	USAID	97,991	58,986	64,698		221,675
Facilities & Admin. (UNDP GMS)-Sub Total		136,504	145,080	213,379	-	494,963
GRAND TOTAL		3,082,837	3,451,046	4,933,892	8,865,970	20,333,745

Table 2: UNOPS USAID-PRT Project

Activity Description	Donors	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	Obligations	Total
USAID PRT Project	USAID	2,762,234	1,587,678	2,454,673	600,000	7,404,585



CONCLUSION

During the third quarter, the programme has geared up for full-scale implementation, making tangible achievements in its four components. More than 60 DDAs were established with strong support from the communities and local authorities. The initial phase of the regional economic development studies was launched and a draft inception report is expected to be produced in October. The Implementation Development Unit has set up and NABDP advisors have been providing technical assistance to MRRD's key departments. Also, the PDC Orientation Workshops were conducted in 12 provinces. The implementation of rural development projects continues with more attentions and efforts for quality control of project implementation.

As the Programme is gaining a momentum, establishment of an effective and efficient institutional structures and mechanisms within the programme become a pressing need. Also, unavailability of external assistance to particular provinces prevents the programme from expanding the activity coverage in a strategic manner.

The programme has already started taking concrete steps to overcome these challenges. Considering the achievements made during the third quarter, NABDP is very confident that the programme will continue to expand its activities with more quality outputs in the fourth quarter.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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