

# BRAC Afghanistan



October 2006

Volume 06

*The shrine of Hazrat Ali. This was founded in the 12<sup>th</sup> century and rebuilt in 1481.*

## **BRAC signs an agreement with Ministry of Education**

BRAC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Education of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan on September 20, 2006 to develop the capacity and increase the enrollment of girls. The H.E. Minister Mr. Hanif Atmar and the Country Head of BRAC Afghanistan Mr. Jalaluddin Ahmed signed the agreement.

## **CIDA officials visit BRAC School**

Mr. Ginette Lebreton, Communication Advisor, CIDA Head Quarter and Ms. Linda J Libront, First Secretary of the Canadian Embassy visited in the BRAC Darach Kocha down BEOC school at Kalai Zaman Khan in Kabul. During the visit, they talked with teachers and students and observed the students performance. They expressed their profound satisfaction from BRAC schools program.

## **DED visits BRAC Afghanistan Program**

Deputy Executive Director of BRAC, Mr. Aminul Alam paid his visit to Afghanistan from 14 to 17 September 2006. During the period, he reviewed all BRAC Afghanistan programs with the key officials as well as

with the field staff. He provided precious suggestions for the improvement and extension of programs and provided direction for the future.

## **Country Head attends meeting in Cairo**

Mr. Jalaluddin Ahmed Country Head of BRAC Afghanistan attended in the National Tuberculosis Control Program managers meeting held in Cairo, Egypt from 4 - 6 September 2006. The meeting was organized by Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office, World Health Organization (EMRO, WHO). He shared his experience in community TB, DOTS program in Afghanistan in the meeting.

## **World Bank mission visits BRAC**

World Bank mission visited PPA NGOs in September 2006. Mr. Benjamin Loevinsohn, Lead Public Health Specialist, Human development Unit, South Asia Region, met with BRAC in Coordination meeting to review the project performance of the PPA NGOs. BRAC explained its PPA activities in 3 provinces (Balkh, Badghis and Nimroz) and also shared the experience of community based DOTS performed by CHWs. Mr. Benjamin also visited PPA Balkh to supervise the activities of BRAC.

## **Ministry of Public Health appreciates BRAC no cost expansion proposal**

No cost expansion proposal for SM province is appreciated by the Ministry of Public Health. BRAC Health program consulted with Provincial Public Health Directorate of the provinces (Parwan, Panjsher and Kapisa) and accordingly made a plan for the training schedule for additional 160 CHWs and establishing 80 Health Posts. BRAC will start CHW training from October 2006 as per schedule.

## **Handing over process of trained community health workers began**

BRAC started the handing over process of the 620 trained Community Health Workers in 3 MoPH-SM provinces (Parwan, Panjsher and Kapisa) to the Ministry of Health.

## **NPO/RRAA hands over Health Facilities to BRAC PPA Project in Badghis**

Two health facilities were handed over by NPO/RRAA (Norwegian Project Office/ Rural Rehabilitation Association for Afghanistan) to BRAC PPA project in Badghis. With these additional health facilities, BRAC is currently running a total of 23 health facilities in Badghis province.



*MISFA delegates meet with BRAC officials*

### **Special points in this page:**

- BRAC signs an agreement with...
- CIDA officials visit BRAC school
- DED visits BRAC Afghanistan Program
- Country Head attends meeting in Cairo
- World Bank mission visits BRAC
- Ministry of Public Health appreciates...



BRAC Afghanistan Bank receives License

## Expansion of BRAC TB Control Program

BRAC TB control Program is now expanded to Jalalabad in Nangarhar province. The project is being implemented by the community health workers through the community based DOTS program.

## MRRD conducts Retreat Workshop on Rural Enterprise Development

A 2 days long workshop was held from 17<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> September 2006 by MRRD regarding the Rural Enterprise Development in Afghanistan. The Program Coordinator of BRAC microfinance program attended in the workshop and presented a summary of BRAC interventions and opportunities for enterprise development in Afghanistan.

## BRAC Afghanistan Bank receives License

BRAC Afghanistan Bank received license for Commercial Banking Operation from Da Afghanistan Bank (Central Bank of Afghanistan) on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2006. The Governor has awarded the formal Banking license to the CEO & Managing Director, Mr.

Ehsanul Haque. Deputy Governors and other high officials of DAB, Representative of IFC, Country Head of BRAC Afghanistan and officials of BRAC Afghanistan Bank were present in the occasion. The occasion was covered by the media in befitted manner. Honorable Chairman of BRAC, Mr. Fazle H Abed will inaugurate the banking operation of BRAC Afghanistan Bank on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2006.

## BTRC organizes program for women focused NGOs

As a part of capacity development of local women headed NGOs, ten training courses were organized at BTRC. A total of 140 participants from different sectors attended the course.

## BRAC signs an MoU with STARS for developing Gender Policy

Skills Training and Rehabilitation Society (STARS) signed an MoU with BRAC for developing Gender Policy. BRAC supports STARS in developing their Gender Policy under the Capacity Development Initiative for Afghan Women Headed Local NGOs. BTRC is facilitating the process.

## MRRD deputy minister meets with BRAC NSP staff in Nangarhar

The H.E. deputy minister of MRRD Mr. Asif Rahimi, Mr. Haytullah Fazel NSP Coordinator, Eng. Ahmad Wali Planning Director of MRRD and Provincial Relation Director visited Jalalabad on 7<sup>th</sup> of September 2006. He held a meeting with BRAC NSP team and RRD staff.

## Meeting with MISFA consultants on budget approval

A meeting was held at BRAC central office presided by the Country Head of BRAC Afghanistan with the Managing Director of MISFA. A delegation team including Mr. Amjad Arbab Managing Director, Mr. Amit Brar Technical Advisor, Mr. Steve Rasmussen, Senior Private Sector Development Specialist of World Bank; Mr. Mohsin Ahmed, General Manager of Pakistan Microfinance Network attended in the meeting. The participants acknowledged with in-depth knowledge regarding the different functions of BRAC Microfinance program and its positive effects and progress in the country.

### Special points in this page:

- Expansion of BRAC TB control Program
- MRRD conducts Retreat Workshop...
- BRAC Afghanistan receives License
- BTRC organizes program for women..
- BRAC signs an MoU with STARS...
- MRRD Deputy Minister visits with...

### Editing Panel

Coordinated by  
**Jalaluddin Ahmed**

Edited by  
**Abdullahel Hadi**

Designed by  
**Maiwand Akbarzai**

For further information please contact @

### **BRAC Head Office**

BRAC Center  
75 Mohakhali, Dhaka 1212  
Bangladesh  
Tel: (88-02)-882-4180  
Email: [brac@bdmail.net](mailto:brac@bdmail.net)  
Website: [www.brac.net](http://www.brac.net)

### **BRAC Afghanistan**

House #45, Road # 4  
Baharistan, Karte Parwai  
Kabul, Afghanistan  
Tel: 070276530  
Email: [jalaluddin.a@bracafg.org](mailto:jalaluddin.a@bracafg.org)  
Website: [www.bracafg.org](http://www.bracafg.org)