



BRAC Afghanistan Newsletter



Women are working at BRAC Mazar Nursery Project, in Balkh Province

CGAP's Financial Transparency Award:

BRAC Afghanistan has been awarded Merit Recognition for its performance in CGAP's 2006 Financial Transparency Award. This achievement means that BRAC complies substantially with the Award criteria, though further improvement is still needed.

Two hundred and thirty one (231) microfinance institutions in 62 countries entered this year, the highest number to date. The high turnout and the large number of institutions scoring high on the award is good news for microfinance. It paints a very clear picture of where microfinance is headed today. A growing number of institutions are taking financial transparency seriously, and making great effort to comply with international and industry reporting guidelines.

The government recognizes the midwifery training program of BRAC

The Community Midwifery Training Program

of BRAC in Badghis province has been accredited by the Institute of Health Sciences (IHS) of the Ministry of Public Health. A total of 16 midwives have recently been graduated from this training program.

BRAC develops partnership with local NGOs

BRAC has begun its partnership program with several NGOs including Skill Training and Rehabilitation Society (STARS), Association of Defense for Women's Rights of Balk (ADWRB) and Education and Training Center for poor Women and Girls of Afghanistan (ECW) to enhance the capacity of the Afghan local NGOs for running the community based schools.

Institutional Action Plan 2007 for microfinance program:

BRAC submitted the Institutional Action Plan 2007 to micro credit summit campaign. They published Micro credit summit campaign report 2006 in the web site. The 2006 report states that by the end of 2005, 3133 institutions reported

reaching 113 million clients, 82 million of whom were among the poorest when they started micro-finance program.

BRAC bids for health program

BRAC submitted two proposals to European Commission (EC) in a bid to implement the Basic Package of Health Services (BPHS) in Nangarhar and Kunduz provinces.

BRAC submitted the application for the ninth round of the pro-poor innovation challenges:

BRAC submitted a proposal for the Pro - Poor Innovation Challenges (PPIC) award assisted by the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP). The PPIC aims to demonstrate that microfinance can reach larger numbers of poorer people and that services can be designed to decrease their vulnerability and increase their well-being. The PPIC provides awards of \$50,000 each to MFIs that have developed innovative financial products and methodologies to serve very poor or marginalized clients.

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Insemination of Cow under Livestock Program

"Our mission is to work towards a just, enlightened, healthy and democratic Afghanistan free from hunger, poverty, environmental degradation and all forms of exploitation"

BRAC participates the TB Day celebration party

BRAC attended the World TB Day celebration party at Kabul Serena Hotel along with several donors, Italian Ambassador, ISAF delegation, and representatives from the Ministry of Women Affairs, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development and the Ministry of Agriculture. The Program Manager of BRAC Health Program shared the BRAC experience in community based DOTS in the occasion.

MISFA's updated documents:

MISFA has proposed to make updating and modification of the following issues like as contracts conversion from US\$ to AFS, Segmental accounting statement application in MFIs, Bank accounts in Afghanistan, contracts /SOEs, World Bank

modification /SOEs, World Bank procurement assessment, transfer agreement of MFIs contracts from MRRD to MISFA, MFIs fiscal year etc.

Inauguration of School at Mazar

On March 7, 2007, Ms. Qandi Kamal, Director, Women Worker Association inaugurated the school of ADWRB at Mazar-I-Sharif city of Balkh province as partnership program of BRAC Afghanistan Education Program, in presence of Mr. Abdul Kadir, Education Specialist of BRAC Afghanistan Education Program, Mr. Abdul Qader Messba, Representative of Governor, Balkh provinces, and Engineer Ms. Halima Sadat, Deputy Director of Women Association.

Training on Individual Lending:

MISFA organized a training on the Individual Lending

Training for MFI's which is held on the AED-ARIES project office. From BRAC, Mr. Jawid Faizy, Program Organizer, Small Enterprise Project attended in the training.

Survey on the impact of microfinance program:

World Bank accompanying with MISFA started research study on the social and other financial impact of microfinance program in Afghanistan. Based on this, a research team have visited microfinance program at two branches in Kabul. They visited and talked with the active clients and borrowers of microfinance program.

MISFA's fund disbursement to BRAC:

MISFA has disbursed its 5th cycle disbursement against the SOEs submission in microfinance program under the existing contract of 1004.

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