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Dr. Jennings and Prof. Ryan in a discussion on the evaluation of Education Program

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WFP Country Director visits Nursery Project

The Country Director of United Nations World Food Programme in Afghanistan Mr. Rick Corcino visited Mazar Nursery Project on June 28, 2007 and expressed his satisfaction on the activities of this project. He was accompanied by the WFP Head of Area Office at Mazar, donors from Food for Peace Mr. Metwis Nims, Ms. Kathy Seckhin and other High Officials of WFP Mazar, Department of Forestry Rangers (Ministry of Agriculture) and BRAC.

Education Project Evaluated

With the objectives to find out the social impact on the Education Program in Afghanistan which is run by BRAC and supported by SIDA, a two member evaluation team comprising of Dr. James Jennings, USA, freelance Consultant and Prof. Anne Ryan, Head of department of Adult and Community Education were assigned. They have carried out a 12 day-long

evaluation from June 2, 2007 to June 14, 2007. During this period, the team had discussion with different levels of beneficiaries and stakeholders. On the final day, the team expressed their profound satisfaction for the tremendous achievement of the project and recommended to take effective measures to adopt new policies for generating new projects or extending the project in future.

Inauguration Ceremony of NABDP

On June 19, 2007, the inauguration ceremony of NABDP (National Area Based Development Program) was held at Tribal Center in Jalalabad of Nangarhar Province. Director of RRD, Program Coordinator of BRAC Afghanistan, Director of Education, Director of Tribal Affairs, Regional Coordinator of NABDP, Parliament Members, Provincial Council Members, Representatives of Provincial Governor, Representative of Border Security Force, and

Representatives of other Ministries, District Administrators of Nangarhar Province, National and International NGOs and other distinguished guests were present at the ceremony. The speakers expressed the importance of NABDP, specially the formation of District Development Assembly (DDA) and developing the District development Plan (DDP).



Inauguration ceremony of NABDP

Microfinance registration with AISA:

In June BRAC Afghanistan Microfinance completed all the formalities related to the registration of Microfinance activities with Afghanistan Investment Support Agency (AISA).

The mission of BRAC Afghanistan is to work towards a just, enlightened, healthy and democratic human society free from hunger, poverty, environmental degradation and all forms of exploitation based on age, sex, religion and ethnicity.

Workshop on School Improvement Initiative

A one day workshop on *School Improvement Initiatives: Ideas and Views of Stakeholders* was held at Presidency of Education in Balkh province of Mazar-I-Sharif on June 17, 2007 to identify the training needs for the Government School Teachers and Principals on Education Management Course. A total of 26 persons attended that workshop.

IMCI Training

BRAC arranged training on Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) for 23 Medical doctors and Supervisors of Badghis and Nimroz provinces from 3rd to 14th of June 2007 in Herat in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health. The objective of the training was to ensure quality services for IMCI.

New partners - BTRC

In June, 2007 twenty local NGOs have been primarily selected as new partners under the Local NGO Capacity Building Project funded by NOVIB. Through this project local NGOs will be provided training and non training interventions for their capacity development.

Meeting with MISFA officials:

A meeting was held on June 24, 2007 at BRAC premises, presided by the Program Coordinator, BRAC Afghanistan. MISFA officials Mr. Amjad Ali Arbab, Managing Director and Mr. Amit Brar, Technical Adviser attended the meeting. They had discussed about the issues such as ARIES Fund, Interest payment, security related incidents, the provinces where BRAC has faced security related problem for the first time in last six months, update on operations in Kandahar and Helmand and branch-wise data as of May 2007.

BRAC TB program appreciated

UN representative, WHO TB Officer and NTP Deputy Manager visited BRAC TB Program in Parwan province. The delegation team appreciated BRAC's introduced TB DOTS through Community Health Workers.

Submission of BRAC proposal:

BRAC has submitted project proposal to implement microfinance programs in six designated provinces which are remote, with

high poverty levels and have very limited access to financial services through the financing by MISFA Ltd. The selected provinces are Ghor, Urozgan, Farah, Nimroz, Daikundi, Badghees.

Workshop of Health Program

From June 3, 2007 three days workshop was held on target and achievement plan on different indicators for each project of Health Program.

New Contract agreements of NSP

BRAC has signed 2 contract agreements for new 183 communities in existing four districts of 2 provinces and 942 existing communities as follow up on NSP Year IV in 21 districts of 5 provinces with MRRD.

Midwifery-Training School

On June 13, 2007 an agreement signed between BRAC and Spanish PRT of Badghis. Through this agreement BRAC will run Midwifery training program and Spanish PRT will pay 70 percent fund for this training program.

MF Borrowers product exhibition:

BRAC Microfinance

organized a handmade product exhibition on June 17, 2007 in own premises. The products of active clients of Microfinance program were displayed there. Ms. Helena Bahar, MISFA attended the exhibition and collected some products for Canadian Embassy to show the items. Later, the embassy people may place orders and the clients can produce more. The samples of different products were jewelry box, Beads, Candles, Oils, carpet weaving, wood made materials, handbags and embroidery.



Exhibition at Canadian embassy

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*Thanks to everybody
who have assisted to
develop this newsletter.*

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