



Chairperson meets with staffs of BRAC Afghanistan main office

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BRAC Afghanistan

Newsletter

A view of Salang Pass

Chairperson and DED visited Afghanistan

Mr.Fazle Hasan Abed, the Chairperson and Mr.Aminul Alam, Deputy Executive Director (DED) of BRAC visited Afghanistan during 26th and 29th April, 2008. They had meeting with the senior officials' at the central office during this visit. The Country Coordinator and Program Managers attended in the meeting.

DED meets with Microfinance Officials

Deputy Executive Director attended to a meeting with Senior Microfinance officials in the central office on 28th April 2008. The DED discussed different outstanding issues and provided instructions and directions to implement microfinance program in different provinces in Afghanistan.

International Journalist visits BRAC School

On 6th April, Mr. Imtiaz Gul, Bureau Chief of *Jaag Broadcasting Systems (Pvt) Ltd*, Pakistan visited BRAC Community Base School in Kabul province. During the visit, he talked to both teacher and students and observed their performance. He also expressed his profound satisfaction and valuable comments on BRAC contribution in Afghanistan for playing significant devel-

opment in Education sector. BRAC officials also accompanied the journalist to this visit.



Completion of SIDA Funded Education Project

SIDA funded education project successfully accomplished by BRAC ensuring the opportunity and access on the education of Afghan Children. During the project period, a total of 34,047 students graduated where 89% were girls. BRAC implemented 1,212 community base schools of which 670 for Basic Education of Older Children (BEOC) and 542 Feeder schools.

Global Fund Round 8 for Tuberculosis

Prof.GR Khaitri, consultant invited by BRAC for the development and designing of the TB proposal for the Global Fund Round 8. He arrived on 25th April in Kabul.

BRAC submitted Expression of Interest (EOI)

BRAC submitted the *Expression of Interest (EOI)* to the Ministry of Public

Health (MoPH) on 23rd April for Principal recipient of Global Fund under Tuberculosis & Malaria Component Round 8.

BRAC offered different training courses

In April 2008, BRAC training and Resource centre (BTRC) facilitated 15 different courses for the staff members of government, national, international organizations and also BRAC Staffs. A total of 272 participants attended in the courses where women participants were 131.

Meeting with DAI team

A high-level team from Development Alternatives Inc. (DAI) visits BRAC office and met with the BRAC officials for a new enterprise project and willing to explore the possibility of future partnership.

Exhibition of MFIs products in Independence Day

In the celebration of the Independence Day of Afghanistan on 27th April, Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) had arranged



Handicrafts for Exhibition

BRAC firmly believes and is actively involved in promoting human rights, dignity and gender equity through poor people's social, economic, political and human capacity building.



JICA team visits Nursery Project

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an exhibition of MFIs products. All MFIs including BRAC could exhibit different products produced by the members of MFIs. BRAC has sent handicrafts weaved by many beneficiaries of BRAC's microfinance program.

Meeting with WB officials

High officials of World Bank had meeting with BRAC officials on 26th April at World Bank office in Kabul. The main objective of the meeting was to explore opportunities for Value Chain Development in the horticulture sector and expressed their interest to share experience of BRAC in this sector.

MFIs meeting regarding Tax issues

Afghanistan Microfinance Association (AMA) organized a consultative meeting with all MFIs regarding Tax issues on 23rd April, 2008 in Kabul. Director of KPMG International (an international audit firm) also attended the meeting. The discussion was held to quest for ways to achieve tax exemption on microfinance project.

Extension of NSP in 2 new districts

BRAC NSP intervention has been extended in two new districts i.e Nad Ali and Washer in Helmand province. The contract agreement has been signed between Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development(MRRD) and BRAC on April 02, 2008 for the duration of 2 years.

JICA Team visited Nursery Project

A high profile JICA team visited BRAC Afghanistan operated Mazar Nursery project on 16th April 2008. The Team led by Ms. Nishimoto Yoko visited the

Takhtapul and Community Nurseries at Nahri Shahi district. During the visit, the team discussed various issues on nursery activities, women empowerment issues, similar project initiation and probable input support to the existing project.

JICA team expressed their satisfaction for the initiatives of nursery project being taken by BRAC and expected future long term success of GAIN (Green Afghanistan Initiatives) throughout the country.

BRAC Afghanistan Creates an Opportunity to Poor women



"BRAC has given me hope..... meaningful development has come I am now able to look after my family in a sustainable way and take part in the development" said Ms. Farzana, 23 years poor Afghan woman working in BRAC operate Women Training and Production Center (WTPC).

Ms.Farzana has been making handicrafts and tailoring for the last two years and joined with the team of WTPC since 2007. Before return back to Afghanistan, she along with her family consists of 7 members

lived in Tehran for eight years during the Taliban regime.

Her family now stayed in Kabul province permanently since 2006. Farzana's father was died 21 years ago and her mother has lost hope to meet the daily expenses and Farzana was really worried about her family necessities. She was searching alternatives financially support to improve living condition and found BRAC initiatives WTPC project in Afghanistan, starting with 13 women in the year 2007.

Farzana joined with the team in the year 2007 and took training from BRAC and gain confidence and learns skills to become self-reliant.

BRAC has a WTPC program to help the poor women. Numbers of women are now engaging them in tailoring and hand waived.

Now her income per month near about 6000 Afs and give financial support and look after her families in better way. She is very happy and grateful to BRAC and deeply believes that such kind of activities play a crucial role in development and poverty alleviation, especially for women because there is no work available for them. Only through this type of facilities, women will be able to earn some extra money.

Now Farzana, encourages the neighbor's women to become self confident and has improved their living condition generating activities.