



Certificate to Gazi Mard CDC for New Micro Hydro Power in Samangan Province

Editing Panel

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Inside this issue:

- Country Program Coordinator meets with the Education Minister 1
- Meeting with the Chairman of Afghan NGO Department 1
- Health Program short listed by MoPH to submit Project Proposal 1
- New Micro Hydro Power inaugurated under BRAC NSP 2
- Outstanding Performance of BRAC NSP Program in Samangan Province 2



Country Program Coordinator meets with the Education Minister of Afghanistan

The Country Program Coordinator of BRAC Afghanistan met with Mr. Faruk Wardak Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Education of the Government of Afghanistan in his office on 28th December, 2008 to discuss the strategy of BRAC implemented Community Based School (CBS) program under CIDA supported girls' education project and new collaboration with the Ministry. The Education Minister requested Country Program Coordinator to facilitate scholarships for female students of Afghanistan in the Asian Women University, Bangladesh.

Meeting with the Chairman of Afghan NGO department

The Country Program Coordinator of BRAC Afghanistan had a meeting with Mr. Sayeed Hashim Bassirat, Chairman of Afghan NGO department and the officials of Afghan Ministry of Economy regarding tax issues on 26th December 2008. The discussion was held to expedite for ways to attain certificate from NGO department about tax exemption on BRAC runs projects in Afghanistan.

MFIs meeting with MISFA Sharia Advisor

MISFA (Micro Finance Investment Support Facility for

Afghanistan) organized a consultative meeting with all MFIs (Microfinance Institutions) in Afghanistan to introduce the Microfinance operations in the way of Islamic set of laws on 24th December 2008 at MISFA office in Kabul. MISFA already recruited Sharia Advisor to discuss the various view of Islamic microfinance implementation. The Country Program Coordinator of BRAC Afghanistan attended the panel discussion and discussed various issues of microfinance activities.

BRAC Afghanistan Health Program short listed to submit project proposals

BRAC Afghanistan Health Program has been short listed by MoPH (Ministry of Public Health) for submitting proposals for 8 clusters in Kabul, Jawzjan, Badakshan, Hirat, Ghazni and Khost provinces under Partnership Contracts for Health Services (PCH) by USAID. Besides, the Health Program has also been sort listed by MoPH for submitting project proposals for 8 provinces i.e Balkh, Badghis, Nimroz, Saripul, Samangan, Helmand, Wardak and Farah provinces under Strengthening Health Activities for Rural Poor (SHARP) which will be funded by the World Bank. Regarding this, a Project

Development Team (PDT) has been formed and started the process of writing the project proposals. The PDT members include; Mr.Taufiqur Rahman, Program Manager of BRAC Afghanistan Health Program, Dr. Sher Shah Amin Dr.Daoud Khuram, Dr.AGM Mashuqur Rahman and Shah Asad Ahmed.

Meeting with the Director of Basic Education Department

The Country Program Coordinator had meeting with Ms.Hamida Nizami, Director of Basic Education Department, Afghanistan at BRAC central office on December 4, 2008. The discussion on meeting was the present status of girls' education program and other issues which were related to strengthen the basic education department of Afghanistan in context of the community based education. Mr. Shahbuddin Ahmed, Program Manager of BRAC Afghanistan also attended in the meeting.

Extension of period in CBHP Project

The Community Based Health Program (CBHP) of BRAC Afghanistan in Parwan and Nangarhar provinces has been extended for next 36 months. The contract has been signed between BRAC Afghanistan and Oxfam-Novib on Dec 7, 2008.

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.

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Meeting with the Officials of HLP

Dr. Karl Kaiser, Mr. Willie Ernhert and Mr. Noor Akbari, officials of HLP (Horticulture and Livestock Project) had a meeting with the Country Program Coordinator of BRAC Afghanistan and Mohammad Mukhtadir Hosain, Sector Specialist of BRAC Afghanistan Agriculture and Livestock Development Program on 3rd December 2008 at BRAC Afghanistan central office. The Country Program Coordinator briefed the current status of BRAC Afghanistan Agriculture & Livestock Development Program and its future expansion plans in this sector. The officials of HLP discussed their strategy and operation plan in Afghanistan and expressed interest to work with BRAC particularly to take support in training & capacity building and technical inputs to accelerate the Horticulture sector development as well as livestock development approaches. HLP launched their project in the year 2006 in Afghanistan with financial support of the World Bank.

BTRC hosts special workshop for Govt. School Teachers

The Ministry of Education organized a workshop on “*Mathematics workshop*” for the Government school teachers at BRAC Afghanistan Training and Resource Centre in Kabul in the month of December and it was funded by UNESCO. A number of 10 government school teachers from different government schools attended the workshop as participants.

BTRC organizes the Monitoring and Evaluation course

A 11 day long course on “*Monitoring and Evaluation*” was held at BRAC Afghanistan Training

and Resource Centre in Khusal Khan Campus in December 2008 for the officials of Asia Foundation. The course was implemented as a part of the series of courses funded by USAID. A total of 15 participants attended the course.

Training program organized by BTRC

In December 2008, BRAC Afghanistan Training and Resource Centre facilitated 9 different courses for the staff members of the government, national, international organizations and BRAC Afghanistan. A total of 151 participants attended the courses in which out of them 103 were women participants.

Need Assessment Workshops

BRAC Afghanistan Training and Resource Centre organized a “*Need Assessment Workshop*” for the staff members of Rights & democracy, an international organization and a number of government school teachers under the Afghan Ministry of Education. A total of 27 participants attended in the courses.

BRAC officials attend workshop in Kabul

Md. Arif Hasan Bhuiyan of BRAC Microfinance Afghanistan and Mohammad Habibullah, Monitoring & Evaluation unit of BRAC Afghanistan participated a workshop on “*Result Based Management*” during December 16~18, 2008 at the conference room of MRRD in Kabul. The workshop was conducted by Prof. Nipa Banerjee, Globalization & International Development Program, University of Ottawa, Canada. A total of 25 participants from selected MFIs and officials of MRRD were attended the workshop.

New Micro Hydro Power inaugurated under NSP

BRAC Afghanistan completed the construction of new Micro Hydro Power (MHP) project under National Solidarity Program with the financial assistance of the Afghan Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation & development in Khura Wa Sarbagh district of Samangan province. The project is inaugurated by the Engr. Jawid, director of RRD. Mollah Hafiz, district governor, Engr. Niser of PMU, Manager of ARCS, CDC members, religious leader, community peoples and provincial manager of BRAC NSP Samangan were attended the ceremony.

Outstanding performance of BRAC NSP Program

BRAC Afghanistan has been implementing National Solidarity Program in Samangan province since 2004. It has covered 329 villages and established 219 Community Development Councils (CDC). BRAC Afghanistan as a facilitating partner of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development of Afghanistan has been implementing 702 sub-projects where 507 are infrastructural and 195 are human capital development (HCD) projects. Most of the HCD projects are for the women in the same communities. BRAC completed 377.7 km gravelling road, 445 kandas and some stream water reservoirs which are benefiting 23,478 families and provided training to a number of 6,476 women on Sheep rearing, carpet weaving and tailoring. BRAC has also completed a total of 26 Micro Hydro Power (MHP) projects.