

H.E Canadian Ambassador visits BRAC schools

*BRAC Afghanistan 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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### Deputy Minister of MoPH appreciates the SHARP project in Helmand

KABUL 10.11.2009- The Country Program Head of BRAC Afghanistan and the Program Coordinator of BRAC Afghanistan Health Program met with the Honorable Deputy Ministry of the Afghan Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) to inform the strategy of USAID funded SHARP (Strengthening Health Activities for Rural Poor) project in Helmand province on 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2009 at MoPH. BRAC already started works on implementing BPHS (Basic Packages of Healthcare Services) in Helmand province. The Deputy Minister appreciates BRAC for its benevolent interventions for improving health sector of war ravaged Afghanistan.

### Meeting with Royal Netherlands Embassy

KABUL 05.11.2009- A meeting was held between Mr. Wiesje Elfferich, Deputy Head of Section, Development Cooperation of the Royal Netherlands Embassy and the Country Program Head of BRAC Afghanistan at Royal Netherlands Embassy in Kabul. The discussion was held on the issue of submitted project proposal on prospect of improving education sector and Agriculture sector in Uruzgan province. Mr. Shahbuddin Ahmed, Program Manager of BRAC Afghanistan Education Program also attended the project review meeting. Currently, BRAC Afghanistan is implementing education and Agriculture programs in 12 provinces of Afghanistan.

### Ambassador of Canadian Embassy visits BRAC Schools

KABUL 17.11.2009- H.E William Crosbie, Ambassador of Canadian Embassy in Kabul visits BRAC run Community Based Schools in district 11 of Kabul province on November 17, 2009. During his visit, he was applauded to observe the students' performance in the classroom, teaching method and talked with students, concern teacher, Program Organizer and BRAC officials. He also expressed his great pleasure and satisfaction to BRAC for implementing

such type of unique girls' education program in Afghanistan. Ms. Sue Wiebe, Senior Program Officer, CIDA H.Q, Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed, Program Manager –BRAC Afghanistan Education Program, Mr. Sadequr Rahman Khan, Program Manager, BRAC Training & Resource Center (BTRC) and Mr. Shaki Dad Abrar, Manager MDU-BRAC Afghanistan Education Program are accompanied during the visit.

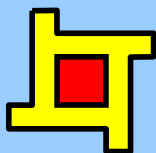
KABUL 18.11.2009- Besides, two international consultants named Mr. Dan Donohue, Country Director, International Projects and Dr. Charlotte Cole, Vice president, Intl. Education - Research & Outreach from sesame-workshop, New York visits also the



BRAC run Community Based Schools in 11 district of Kabul Province. During their visits, they observe the classroom teaching, students' performance and discuss with concerned BRAC Officials regarding the impacts of the BRAC run Girls' Education Program in Afghanistan. They also appreciate that BRAC Education Program contributes a lot for developing and ensuring the quality of education in Afghanistan. Program Manager –BRAC Afghanistan Education Program is accompanied with them during the visit.

### Country Program Head attends conference in Dubai

DUBAI 13.11.2009- Mr. Fazlul Hoque, Country Program Head of BRAC Afghanistan attended a 3 days long conference at Metropolitan Hotel in Dubai on the initiatives of new pilot program in reducing poverty through targeting ultra



poor (TUP) in context of Afghanistan. The conference was organized by IFAD (International Fund for Agriculture Development). CPH shared his experience in ultra poor program in context of Bangladesh and how it can help out on reducing poverty in Afghanistan. BRAC Afghanistan is requested to undertake a pilot project in one province on TUP.

### BRAC signs contract to implement PCH project

KABUL 04.11.2009- A contract agreement was signed between the Honorable Minister Mr. Sayed Mohammad Amin Fatimi, the Afghan Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) and the Country Program Head of BRAC Afghanistan for implementing PCH (Partnership Contract for Health Services) project in 13 districts of Kabul province. According to this project, BRAC will provide health facilities in Kabul province. The project is supported by USAID for 2 years with an amount of US\$ 4,599,839.

### Project review meeting with Oxfam Novib

KABUL 23.11.2009- Mr. Ludger Nieman, Program Officer of Oxfam Novib for Afghanistan had meeting with the Country Program Head of BRAC Afghanistan at BRAC office in Kabul on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2009 to discuss the program performance on BRAC implements Community Based Health Program (CBHP) in Nangarhar and Parwan provinces and Community Based Risk Reduction project in

Samangan province. Mr. Ludger has expressed his profound satisfaction on these above projects and assured support to BRAC. CBHP and CBDRR projects are funded by Oxfam Novib.

### A meeting between BRAC Afghanistan and CIDA

KABUL 13.11.2009- A meeting between BRAC Afghanistan Education Program and CIDA was held at Canadian Embassy, Kabul in presence of Ms. Sue Wiebe, Senior Program Officer, CIDA H.Q, Ms. Lara Natalie, First Secretary-Canadian Embassy in Kabul, Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed, Program Manager and Mr. Siddique Ali, Manager MIS-BRAC Afghanistan Education Program. A detail discussion took place in the meeting on some new inclusions of the Girls' Education Project such as extension of subject based training for the government school teachers of Kandahar province, extension of 1000 Community Based Schools in grade IV and V and the project extension for further four years after the completion of present phase. It was agreed by CIDA that the subject based training extension in Kandahar province and 1,000 CB Schools' extension in grade IV and V will take place with additional budgets.

During the meeting with CIDA officials, it was furthermore discussed that the project extension for further 4 years depends on the evaluation of the existing girls' education project that is expected to take place in March/April 2010.

### Training performance of BTRC

In November, BRAC Afghanistan Training and Resource Center (BTRC) conducted two batches of training on *Project proposal and Monitoring & Evaluation Course* for the officials of

Community Centre for Disabled (CCD). Besides, BTRC also conducted one batch of training on *Monitoring & Evaluation Course* for the officials Departments of Women Affairs (DoWA), and one training course on *ToT* for the staff members of the Shelter for Life (SfL). Furthermore, BTRC also arranged training on General Business & Marketing for the staff members of World Vision in Ghor province. The duration of the courses was six days. A total of 68 participants attended in these courses.

Two MoUs have been signed between BRAC and Swedish Committee for Afghanistan (SCA) and Mine Detecting Centre (DCA) for conducting training on *Financial Management, NGO Management and Proposal writing* for their staff members in December 2009.

BTRC submitted final module on Water Sanitation and Hygiene Practices in Afghanistan to UNICEF for conducting 26 batches of CHWs which is going to be started in Dec.09 and the program is funded by UNICEF Afghanistan."

### Global Fund TB Review Meeting at Provincial level

BRAC Afghanistan Health Program has organized Global Fund TB component review meeting at different Provincial levels. As part of this, 7 provincial review meetings with Medical Doctors and Nurses and 8 provincial review meetings with Lab Technicians in different provinces. Health Program also arranged 2 regional meetings with Health facilitators in Paktiya and Kabul provinces. BRAC Afghanistan has awarded to implement Global Fund project in TB components in all provinces of Afghanistan.

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