



SECTOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS: 2015-2016

AGRICULTURE

USAID's partnership with the Afghan Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) resulted in the following:

- USAID has helped 55,591 households through agricultural training and alternative development interventions in targeted areas.
- USAID support for farms and agribusinesses has resulted in \$30.55 million of sales.
- USAID has helped 254 agriculture-related enterprises.
- USAID has assisted 9,911 assisted farmers to grow high-value crops and earn higher incomes.
- USAID has helped to provide water to over 38,000 hectares of farmland through the operationalization of 112 irrigation canals that cover 510.3 kilometers.

ECONOMIC GROWTH

USAID's partnership with the Afghan government and the private sector resulted in the following:

- USAID supported Afghanistan's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO). USAID worked closely with the Afghan government and the private sector to guide Afghanistan through the lengthy, complex journey toward WTO Membership – a process that drives broad legal and institutional reforms to improve a country's business enabling environment and competitiveness.
- USAID is supporting the nationwide roll out of electronic payment of customs duties, called E-Pay, beginning with Kabul and Mazar-I Sharif in 2015 and expanding to other locations in June 2016.
- USAID helped over 5,977 Afghan enterprises obtain \$52 million in loans to expand their businesses. USAID also provided business development services to support the growth of 400 small-to-medium enterprises.
- In order to demonstrate the feasibility and benefits of mobile money, USAID assisted in six pilot projects serving 27,176 patrons in four provinces. mMoney services have included social support payments, micro-loan payments, payment of electricity bills, and salary payments for Ministry of Finance employees.
- USAID co-invested in 284 Public Private Alliances with manufacturing companies, totaling over \$261 million. 87 percent of this funding was provided through in cash and in-kind investment by Afghan enterprises.
- International buyers placed \$4 million of orders at the USAID sponsored the Afghan Carpet Conference and Expo in Dubai, which was attended by 27 carpet exporters and 18 buyers from Europe and North America.
- USAID helped to place more than 20,000 Afghans in permanent jobs. USAID also organized job fairs in Mazar and Herat, which attracted 10,000 job seekers and more than 100 companies

from the information and communications technology (ICT), construction, project management, marketing, and agribusiness sectors. 600 job seekers found immediate employment through the fairs.

INFRASTRUCTURE

USAID's partnership with the Afghan government resulted in the following:

- USAID is enhancing the ability of Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat (DABS), Afghanistan's national power utility, to implement power projects and collect revenue. With USAID support, DABS created their first Operations and Maintenance (O&M) plan for power generation, transmission and distribution and prepared a plan for an automated meter reading system.
- USAID partnered with the Department of Defense (DOD) to facilitate the DABS Power Purchase Delivery Agreement, which will leverage \$200 million in international assistance over the next 3 years to greatly increase electricity supply in Afghanistan, make energy more affordable to average Afghan citizens, reduce diesel pollution, and contribute to long term development and security.
- In January and February 2016, insurgents blew up a number of transmission towers that import power from Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan. Showing their prowess in operations and maintenance and without international assistance or funding, DABS made emergency repairs to the transmission lines within 24 hours in all cases except one, where more time was needed for the Afghan Army to secure the area. To compensate for the lost power, DABS dispatched power from Tarakhil Power Plant, at nearly full capacity, to keep the lights on in Kabul.
- USAID is supporting DABS to connect power from Kabul to Kandahar by helping DABS to handle the procurement of construction contracts to build more than 500 kilometers of transmission lines and seven substations. The upper half of the line, extending 110 kilometers from Kabul to the city of Ghazni, is nearing an on-time completion by December 2016, with hundreds of tower erected and conducting cable being strung currently. The entire \$437 million project is scheduled to be completed in December 2018. The transmission line will provide sustainable power to roughly 1.1 million Afghans in Kandahar and hundreds of thousands of residents in areas along the Highway 1 economic corridor.
- USAID is supporting DABS to complete the installation of a 3rd turbine at Kajaki Dam. Upon its expected completion in September 2016, the Kajaki Hydropower Plant will provide Kandahar and Helmand with increased access to clean, low cost, renewable energy.
- USAID completed the final stretch (remaining 25 kilometers) of the 101-kilometer Gardez-Khost highway in December 2015. This new highway will promote economic growth along the corridor and greatly improve the lives of many communities along the way by linking villages to schools and health clinics.
- USAID has supported the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) to improve the quality and availability of care beyond Kabul. The transfer of two new major hospitals (100-bed and 20-bed) in March 2016 in rural Paktiya and Paktika provinces was celebrated by the Ministry and local residents, who experienced significant delays in receiving treatment from the previous facilities. With these two major new facilities, USAID has supported the building and renovation of over 619 health facilities since 2008.
- USAID is building a 200-bed women's dormitory for AUAF, a proven way to increase young women's access to quality higher education. The design phase is currently approaching completion and construction is scheduled for completion in August 2017.
- Based on international best practices, USAID is helping to shift road maintenance in Afghanistan from public sector management and financing to a self-supporting commercialized system. In June 2016, Afghanistan's Special Representative of the President for Reforms and Good Governance; representatives from five Afghan ministries (Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Justice,

Ministry of Public Works, Ministry of Urban Development, and Ministry of Transportation); The Independent Directorate of Local Government; and the Independent Administrative Reform and Civil Service Commission officially endorsed the USAID-supported initiative to create three new institutions to manage Afghanistan's road sector including a Road Authority, a Road Fund, and a Transportation Institute. Once established, these entities will improve the accountability and efficiency of road-user fees in order to better fund and manage road operations and maintenance.

DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE

USAID's partnership with the Afghan government and civil society resulted in the following:

- With USAID support, the Third Afghanistan-Pakistan Civil Society Conference was held in Islamabad in January 2015, which enabled civil society members from both countries to identify opportunities for bilateral cooperation and trust building and to prioritize short-term and long-term measures on priority issues by developing a joint action plan.
- USAID helped to develop the first Afghanistan National Youth Policy.
- USAID supported the Special Election Reform Commission (SERC) in its efforts to identify key shortcomings in the credibility of past elections and to formulate a comprehensive set of reform recommendations for the National Unity Government.
- USAID worked with the General Directorate of Municipal Affairs to establish a National Municipal Network, the first step towards the establishment of a National Mayor's Association and towards enhancing oversight mechanisms in 20 partner municipalities. This effort is now being replicated at the provincial level.
- USAID supported the discussion, deliberation and voting on 10 key draft laws, treaties and agreements, including the Bilateral Security Agreement (BSA), the ministerial confirmation process, National Budget 1394, the Banking Law, the Tax Management Law, the Anti-Money Laundering Law, and the Countering the Finance of Terrorism Law.
- USAID enabled the Provincial Women's Policy Advocacy Groups (PWAGs) to build strategic alliances and partnerships with key institutions, such as the Ministry of Women Affairs, the Women's Commission of Parliament, and provincial government leaders, to promote women's participation in government and decision making processes.
- USAID supported the creation of the Parliamentary Anti-Corruption Caucus (PACC), resulting in anti-corruption pledges from President Ghani, CEO Abdullah, and 24 of 25 government ministers as well as a Whistleblowers Protection Law that will be submitted to parliament. USAID, in conjunction with the Afghan government, developed Provincial Anti-Corruption Working Groups in Herat and Balkh; an effort that USAID plans to replicate in Kandahar, Helmand, Nimroz, Samangan, Logar, and other provinces.
- USAID supports the Independent Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (MEC), the lead anti-corruption body in Afghanistan, to conduct vulnerability to corruption assessments, make recommendations for reform and monitor the implementation of recommendations.
- USAID in cooperation with the Afghan government supported the provision of immediate assistance packages to 4,122 families affected by the ongoing conflict in Afghanistan.

HEALTH

USAID's partnership with the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) resulted in the following:

- USAID provided high level technical support to the MoPH to develop the National Health Strategy 2016-2020, which lays out the future trajectory for health programming in the country.
- USAID, in support of global donor agreements, joined with Canada and the European Union to pool funding under the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund to be managed by the World Bank under SEHAT (System Enhancement for Health Action) with the aim to strengthen the MoPH to integrate their health services contracting unit and develop uniform performance monitoring.
- Over 2,000 facilities are supported nationally through the World Bank administered SEHAT program, which provides basic primary health care to the country. By pooling donor resources, MoPH has centralized and strengthened efforts to contract out health service provision. USAID began contributing to SEHAT in 2015.
- USAID funded Afghanistan's first ever Demographic and Health Survey (AfDHS), which provides MoPH and other stakeholders with a baseline of high quality, reliable, nationally representative data for future planning. AfDHS indicators for 2015 will be comparable to other countries worldwide.
- USAID expanded the Disease Early Warning System (DEWS) from 424 to over 2,000 health facilities.
- USAID supported the first joint Ministry of Education and MoPH public health campaign to reduce anemia among girls 10 to 19 in schools which was rolled out in Parwan province 2016
- USAID's HEMAYAT project is supporting the global Call to Action to end preventable maternal and child deaths. In partnership with the MoPH, USAID worked to add chlorhexidine (newborn umbilical cord care) and misoprostol (prevention of Postpartum Hemorrhage) to the essential medicines list. HEMAYAT developed national scale-up plans for their availability and use through public healthcare providers throughout the country.
- To ensure that pharmaceuticals in Afghanistan are subject to international standards, USAID partnered with the MoPH to establish the first National Medicines and Health Products Regulatory Authority. A safe, reliable supply of medicines can be the difference between life and death for many Afghans.
- In May 2016, a \$75 Million dollar contract was awarded to implement the Initiative for Hygiene, Sanitation and Nutrition (IHSAN) project to support the Government of Afghanistan to improve the nutritional status of women of reproductive age and children less than five years old.

EDUCATION

USAID's partnership with the Afghan Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Higher Education, and education institutions resulted in the following:

- Through the UNICEF Community-Based Education (CBE) program, USAID supported the establishment of 912 community based schools, ensuring 43,650 children have access to education and providing employment to 705 teachers. USAID supported the establishment of 71 Accelerated Learning Centers in four provinces, with 1,693 girls and 1,485 boys registered in 4 out of 13 provinces. USAID helped over 2,000 girls to study in residential schools run by Aid Afghanistan for Education (AAE). 479 science, math teachers and lab technicians in remote schools in Khost, Badakhshan and Kandahar are applying knowledge and skills acquired through USAID training. Students in these schools have demonstrated a 5 percent increase in their average scores on physics, biology, chemistry and math.
- USAID trained 154,699 teachers through the In-Service Training package. 54,145 of those teachers (35%) are female. USAID trained 17,184 school principals and administrators in School Management, 3,437 of those principals and administrators (20%) are female. USAID procured and distributed 35,122,121 textbooks. USAID furnished 24 schools with lab equipment. USAID trained 310 (191 female) Science and Math teachers and 20 (6 female)

- lab technicians. USAID printed and distributed 6,000 training books to Math and Science teachers.
- USAID continued its support for the American University of Afghanistan (AUAF), the first private, independent, non-profit university in Afghanistan. AUAF graduated 60 MBA and 52 undergraduate students, raising the total number of AUAF graduates to 371 undergraduate and 96 graduate students. AUAF enrolled 60 females in their Nangarhar, Mazar, Herat and Kandahar Professional Development Institutes (PDI) offering internationally recognized certification programs in IT, accounting, project management, English language, and other essential fields. Through an agreement between USAID and the Department of State, 20 Afghan women are studying under scholarships at the American University of Central Asia and AUAF. USAID supported the design of 32 new, market oriented, Associate, Bachelor's, and Master's degree programs at four Kabul based and regional universities. Overall, 11 universities are receiving technical and financial support from USAID's University Workforce Development Program (USWDP). Through USWDP, USAID is helping young men and women find jobs that match their skills by engaging potential employers through the organization of Public-Private Partnership events, seeking private sector commitment, conducting labor market surveys, and developing internship activities.
 - In July 2016, USAID partnered with the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID) to help sustain a teacher apprenticeship program in Afghanistan for adolescent girls. The program will enable students to utilize their newly learned skills to move directly into careers as teachers, and educate the next generation of Afghan girls.

GENDER

USAID's partnership with the Afghan government and civil society resulted in the following:

- In June 2016, USAID launched the Promote Scholarship Program, which will provide scholarships to 720 Afghan girls over the next five years. The scholarships will enable the participants to complete their Bachelor's degree at private universities in Afghanistan. Promote is USAID's flagship women's empowerment program in Afghanistan.
- In May 2016, USAID's Women's Right Groups and Coalitions (Musharikat) program hosted nearly 300 female civil-society representatives from 33 provinces for a national summit to identify issues preventing Afghan women from exercising their rights and fully participating in Afghan society. From these issues, summit delegates selected the final three highest-priority issues, formed broad coalitions, and developed initial action plans to tackle these key challenges which included access to education, violence against women, and access to economic opportunities.
- Since the launch of the Promote Women's Leadership Development program, 1500 young women have benefitted from leadership training, internships and mentoring.
- In June 2016, Women in Government and Women's Leadership Development interns started working at the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development.