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ENGINEERING SUPPORT PROGRAM (ESP)

JULY 2016 – JULY 2019

\$125 MILLION

OVERVIEW

The Engineering Support Program (ESP) will assist the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in providing architectural and engineering services to improve infrastructure related to energy, transportation, drinking water and sanitation, health, education, and agriculture.

ESP will provide resident architect and engineering services to USAID, while at the same time, train Afghan government staff as well as technicians working in the national power utility, Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat (DABS).

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- **Energy Sector Support:** Contribute to Afghan-led growth by supporting the power sector. Roughly half of ESP efforts will involve assistance to DABS and facilitating private sector investment in power generation. ESP will support planning, design, improved national procurement processes, and construction quality assurance on electric power transmission and generation projects throughout Afghanistan.

- **Transportation:** ESP will provide third-party construction management and quality assurance oversight services for critical road projects, including both repair and new construction. ESP will provide training to the Ministry of Public Works personnel and new Afghan transportation institutions.
- **Critical Building Construction Support:** ESP will provide architectural, structural, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing design reviews; technical support; and construction oversight to education, health, and other critical Afghan government facilities supported by USAID.
- **Technical Services:** ESP will provide technical reviews and assessments of proposed construction activities, including irrigation and hydro-power schemes, to inform U.S. government negotiations with Afghan partners on such collaborative efforts.
- **Capacity Building:** ESP will provide training and professional advancement opportunities for its Afghan staff to build national engineering and construction management capacity. ESP will employ and hone the skills of over 100 Afghan engineers in project management, computer-aided design (CAD), the application of international building codes, technical writing, and leadership.
- **Empowerment of Female Engineering & Architecture Students:** Gender empowerment is a USAID core development objective, fundamental to an effective and sustainable future in Afghanistan. An ESP internship program will provide fourth-year female engineering and architecture students direct experience in the operations of an engineering firm including construction oversight, shop drawing review, technical presentation practice, and computer-aided design.
- **Media Assistance:** Sustainable development in Afghanistan requires communicating effectively with the people of the country. USAID will task communications professionals at ESP to help with mass media and social media outreach efforts, sharing information about current projects to the in-country audience.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Ensure quality results for the over \$1.2 billion in USAID-supported infrastructure construction in Afghanistan.
- Train Afghan partners to operate, maintain and expand USAID-supported infrastructure after U.S. government support ends.

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