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Public Information Office: +93 (0)70-234-236 x4015

E-mail: kabulusaidinformation@usaid.gov

<http://afghanistan.usaid.gov>

FACT SHEET

Renovation of Men's Dormitory and Computer Sciences Building and Construction of Dining and Laundry Facilities at Kabul University

OVERVIEW

At Kabul University, USAID is funding the renovation of the Men's Dormitory and Computer Sciences buildings and the construction of the new dining and laundry facilities. These projects represent USAID's continuing support of Afghanistan's education sector through the Ministry of Higher Education, and continue USAID's support to Kabul University that began in 2009 with the completed renovations to the Women's dormitory. This program aims to provide Afghanistan's flagship university with new and renovated residential and academic facilities that are safe, energy efficient, low maintenance and that will function for many future generations of Kabul University students. The Men's Dormitory was originally constructed in the 1970s, and the complex consists of four residential wings that are connected to a central service core. As a result of overcrowding, inadequate maintenance, and the three decades of war, the building's interior finishes, exterior envelop, plumbing and electrical systems are seriously deteriorated. In order to minimize the impact on the university housing stock, the renovation plan salvages the intact building structure, and renovates two wings, while the other two wings remain occupied. In 2010, USAID turned over to the university the renovated Computer Sciences Building. In September 2011, USAID turned over to the university two of the four residential wings of the Men's dorm, and the dining and laundry buildings. In early 2012, USAID expects to complete the remaining two wings of the Men's dormitory complex, which will complete the program and add valuable assets to the Kabul University campus and Afghanistan's Higher Education infrastructure.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

- Men's dormitory renovations that include: asbestos removal; repair of building envelope and windows; replacement of electrical power and lighting systems; replacement of plumbing systems for toilet and shower rooms; replacement of central heating plant, hot water piping and radiator systems; renovation of the common core areas; replacement of the roofing systems; re-finishing of all ceilings, floors, and walls; and construction of new fire doors and barrier free access ramps
- The locally based General Contractor employs a daily average of 35 Afghan skilled/unskilled laborers, 15 Afghan professionals, and seven Afghans for administrative and logistical activities

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Handed over the renovated Computer Science Building to the Kabul University
- Handed over the new the dining hall and laundry buildings to Kabul University and Kabul University students occupied the renovated Men's Dormitory B and D wings
- Provided four engineers from different fields (civil, electrical, water supply, and administration) to build capacity of the Ministry of Higher Education
- Ensured sustainability by providing Operation and Maintenance (O&M) training for designated Kabul University facilities staff on the new electrical, plumbing, and mechanical systems