



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**AFGHANISTAN**

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# FACT SHEET

## Local Governance and Community Development (LGCD)

### OVERVIEW

Launched in October 2006, the Local Governance and Community Development (LGCD) project was established to set the stage for USAID Afghanistan's medium and longer term development efforts. The objectives of LGCD are to 1) assist the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIROA) to extend its reach into unstable areas and engage at-risk populations; 2) create an environment that encourages local communities to take an active role in their own stability and development; and 3) address the underlying causes of instability and support for the insurgency. With closeout scheduled for August 2011, LGCD has scaled down in geographic reach to focus its interventions entirely in Kandahar City and Maywand District.

LGCD works closely with USAID field staff, military units, GIROA officials, non-governmental organizations, and a host of other stakeholders to plan and execute projects that promote stability within a U.S. Government counterinsurgency context. The project meets its objectives through the implementation of strategically integrated activities related to the following technical focus areas:

- **Component 1 – assess (shape):** Assess community grievances and design cost-effective solutions to address those grievances and assist military units with shaping activities
- **Component 2 – local stability initiatives (clear):** Conduct quick impact stability initiatives to meet recovery needs in priority communities
- **Component 3 – community development and mobilization (hold):** Address priority grievances of at-risk populations through integrated community development projects

### CURRENT ACTIVITIES

- Provide technical support to GIROA, USAID field staff, International Security Assistance Force, and other partners (assessments, surveys, engineering support, subject matter experts)
- Strengthen linkages between GIROA and communities through small stabilization grants, improving perceptions of GIROA legitimacy and service delivery
- Implement small-scale infrastructure projects such as foot bridges, road repair, light rehabilitation, drainage construction
- Support the extension of Pashto-language radio and television broadcasting in rural areas by constructing communications towers, radio studios, and production facilities

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed more than 2,500 community-stabilization projects, representing an investment of \$109 million
- Generated immediate short-term employment totaling 1.5 million employment days through cash-for-work and sub-projects
- Provided winterization kits to approximately 2,700 families in need of humanitarian assistance
- Completed significant and lasting improvements in rural infrastructure, including gravel roads, footbridges, and irrigation systems
- Strengthened citizen participation in community development and support for government in insecure areas, resulting in greater stability