



Agency Coordinating Body of Afghan Relief and Development (ACBAR)

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ACBAR Holds Afghan Development Forum with Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyrs & Disabled (MoLSAMD)

The Afghanistan Development Forum (ADF) serves as a platform for NGOs and Government bodies to discuss development issues and challenges, National Program Priorities (NPPs), coordination with the Government, and national policies.

On 5th January 2016, the director from MoLSAMD National Skills Development Programme (NSDP) joined ACBAR's monthly ADF. The NSDP is one of the National Priority Programs and aims to contribute to the socio-economic recovery of Afghanistan through 1) the provision of skills training for decent work and 2) supporting the development of national Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) system.

Achievements under Component-1 (Increasing Access to Skill Training and Employment support) include:

- 54,200 unemployed/underemployed Afghans Men and Women Received Employable Skills Training.
- 86% employment rate with reasonable Income (25% sample across every skill area. Approx. 70 skill areas)

Achievements under Component-2 (Supporting TVET System building):

- Contribute to ANQF, ANQA, and awarding boards.
- Developed total system approach to CBT.
- Developed Skills Development Framework (SDF)
- Capacity building of TVET providers (Private, public, and NGOs) (600 Trainers from 35 TPs in CBT
- Provision of TOT for 1650 trainers on BDS in 20 provinces.

Strategic documents have also mandated NSDP to train 100,000 unemployed/under-employed Afghan men and women within 3

years. These are: NPP1-Human Resource Development Cluster, NSDP Program Document based on Presidential Decree 45, MoLSAMD 3 Years Strategic Plan, Social Protection Strategy of Afghanistan and NSDP Revised Strategy (Draft).

The Number of National Occupational Skills Standards (NOSS) which have been developed by MoLSAMD in each Sector is as following; Business/Commerce 44 Standards, Building Construction 43 Standards, Services 36 Standards, Agriculture 23 Standards, Industry 12 Standards, Mining 8 Standards, Railway 8 Standards and Social Work 4 Standards. There has also been the development of social work standards with a focus on child protection supported by UNICEF and implemented by Hunter/Boston College.

In 2014 the World Bank agreed with MoLSAMD to run a project called of Non-Formal Approach for Training Education and Jobs in Afghanistan (NATEJA) NATEJA started in April 2014 and will be completed December 2018. NATEJA is being co-financing by 3 donors as the World Bank with \$15 million contributions for 5 years, Italian Embassy/IDCO with €3 million contribution and MoFin with \$3 million contributions.

The aim of the project is to increase the potential for employment and higher earnings of targeted young Afghan women and men in rural and semi-urban areas through non-formal skills training. Three components of this project include:

Component 1 - Improving the Quality of Non-formal Training and the Labor Market Outcomes of Trainees. MoLSAMD will map, register and sign MoUs with 192 NGOs working on skills training in Afghanistan.

Component 2 - Project Management, Capacity Building of MOLSAMD and M&E. This component covers, the Capacity building in the area of, Procurement, Financial Management, LMIS, M&E and Entrepreneurship Development through recruitment of national international experts, Supporting LMIU under the DG Manpower and Labor Regulation for conducting the Labor Market Information studies, Establishment of the 3 Employment Service Centers in Kabul, Balkh and Nangarhar, Building Management Information System for NATEJA/ NSDP, Operation and staff salaries for implementation of the project.

Component 3 - Supporting Entrepreneurship among Unskilled and Illiterate Young Afghans. This includes:

1- Encouraging Rural Employment (Euro 396,662) for provision of skills training for 1500 SGs in Herat, Bamyán, Nangarhar, Balkh and Parwan provinces.

2- Promoting Entrepreneurship among Afghan Youth for provision of \$500 grant for 2520 businesses managed by youth (25% for existing and 75% for new businesses) in Nangarhar, Kabul & Balkh

ACBAR Members Elect Advisory Committees in Mazar, Jalalabad and Herat

The role of these advisory committees is to plan and co-ordinate activities in the region or province concerned in accordance with ACBAR's Statutes of Operation and other guiding documents approved by the General Assembly and or Steering Committee.

According to ACBAR's statutes and the revised regional advisory committee policy, elections were held in January in Herat and Mazar and in early February in Jalalabad for the regional advisory committees. Each advisory committee consists of four elected members to support and guide the regional manager and to help him address NGO issues and improve coordination with local government, UN agencies and other provincial stakeholders. The chairperson is the member with the highest number of votes. The results were as follows:

Western Region: Herat

	Name	Agency	Position	Votes	Position
1	Abdul Khaliq Stanikzai	SDO	Regional Manager	14	Chair
2	Wida Sharifi	AWEC	Provincial Manager	13	Member
3	Moh- Shakib Herayzad	DRC	Deputy Area Manager	12	Member
4	Eng.Ab-Khaliq Kiani	DACAAR	West Regional Manager	10	Member

Northern Region: Mazar

	Name	Agency	Position	Votes	Position
1	Ms. Hafiza Merzaye	AWEC	Provincial Manager	14	Chair
2	Mr. Khalil Ahmad	ACTED	Mazar Base Manager	13	Member
3	Dr. Mari Abdi	CARE	Senior Provincial Representative	12	Member
4	Dr. Zia Formuly	DCA	Regional Program Manager	10	Member

Eastern Region: Jalalabad

	Name	Agency	Position	Votes	Position
1	Eng. Shahwali Allokozai	NPO/RRAA	Regional Manager	22	Chair
2	Mr. Sabirullah Memalawal	JVC	Deputy Director	19	Member
3	Ms. Mary Quraishi	AWRC	Acting Director	14	Member
4	Eng. Abdul Ahad	SCA	Regional Manager	13	Member

Thank you to all those candidates who stood for the elections and congratulations to the successful advisory board members.



ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS FROM MEMBERS

AFRANE: 35 years of action in Afghanistan

AFRANE (Amitié Franco-Afghane) has a long story of cooperation and action in Afghanistan. It was created in 1980 that is to say that this year we are celebrating 35 years of presence in the country. Since 1996, we dedicated our attention to education. Our goal is to offer a decent learning and teaching environment as well as to improve the quality of teaching. Our action encompasses construction and rehabilitation of schools, library and laboratory's equipment, teachers' training, inception and diffusion of teaching tools.

We are active in a network of 32 governmental schools in five provinces: Kabul, Parwan, Nangarhar, Bamyan and Herat. More than 65 000 students benefit from our action.

It's important for AFRANE to engage the communities in our activities. That's why we work closely with the headmasters and teachers to better understand their needs. Local communities through the Shuras and students' parents are fully involved in the development of our projects. They participated, providing materials or labor to each and every construction we ran.

Our pedagogical activities:

AFRANE trains teachers in Kabul, Charikar and Jalalabad in Dari, Pashto, Mathematics and natural science in partnership with the CNS. Seminars are followed by regular assessments of the teachers by AFRANE's pedagogical team.

In Waras, in Bamyan province, three-month winter training is organized every year for school teachers. In 2015, more than a hundred teachers will benefit from an academic compensatory in Dari, Pashto and Mathematics.

For the fourth year, AFRANE decided to help students to get higher education. Preparatory classes to the university entrance examination are organized in Jalalabad, Charikar and Waras. Hundreds of students participate, mostly girls, and its success rate is quite important.

AFRANE develops pedagogical material widely used in our partnering schools. We also provide seminars for teachers of other NGOs, as Womanity or ADRA for example.

AFRANE also supports French language teaching in 4 schools (3 in Charikar and 1 in Jalalabad); with 7 teachers (AFRANE provides indemnities and a pedagogical support from our FLE coordinator in Kabul).

Our equipment, rehabilitation and construction work

A good education system means well-trained teacher but also a good learning environment. That's why we help with library and laboratory equipment's, school rehabilitations and building constructions.

This year we achieved the construction of a female dormitory inside the Faculty of Education of the University of Nangarhar in Jalalabad. This building will allow 100 girls to attend university in good conditions.

ACTED Afghanistan

ACTED Afghanistan Presence: 22 years Current projects: 25 National staff: 750 International Staff: 10

Provinces: 9 (Kabul, Faryab, Jawzjan, Balkh, Kunduz, Baghlan.



ACTED was founded in Afghanistan in 1993, when the country was attempting to recover from more than 15 years of conflict. Emergency response operations started in Kabul with the distribution of flour to bakeries for the provision of bread, and quickly spread to the North where, due to harsh winter conditions, people were in dire need of coal. ACTED has been working continuously in the country ever since, including implementing a wide range of emergency response programs to assist communities throughout the civil war and Taliban periods, as well as after natural disasters such as earthquakes and landslides. Post-2001, ACTED shifted to a long-term development strategy while still continuing to respond to rapid-onset emergencies.

ACTED's Approach in Afghanistan

ACTED strategy in Afghanistan is based on our three Global Pillars:

To respond to emergencies and build disaster resilience, through mitigation measures (construction and rehabilitation of community assets), preparedness and DRR mainstreaming, and the timely provision of emergency and recovery assistance in the forms of in kind, voucher or cash distribution as well as transitional shelters

To strengthen civil society, effective governance and social cohesion,

By building the capacity of local Civil Society Organizations, training provincial line departments, District Development Assemblies, and Community Development Councils, on transparency, social audit, and participatory monitoring and planning.

ACTED also supports peaceful and inclusive interactions in communities, and youth empowerment through youth facilities, sport and cultural activities.

To promote inclusive and sustainable growth, with a focus on women economic empowerment, through skill development, literacy and numeracy classes and the creation of Self Help Groups, and on farmers and rural households, by supporting licit crops cultivation, through access to training and inputs as well as by promoting improved social water management, vaccination campaigns and cooperatives good governance.

ACTED uses a community development approach, working with Afghanistan's Community Development Councils (CDCs) to focus on capacity building and the creation of community assets. ACTED's four main large-scale community development programs include:

The Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development's National Solidarity Programmed (NSP), the nation's flagship local governance initiative. ACTED has been an implementing partner since 2004, and has been involved with the conception of CDCs in over 2,230 communities in the North.

To increase incomes and strengthen livelihood assets, ACTED is currently carrying out its third phase of Royal Norwegian Embassy-funded Sustained Rural Development Programme (SRDP) in Faryab province.

To enhance access to services and livelihood opportunities, ACTED is implementing a KfW-funded Stabilization Programme for the North of Afghanistan, focusing on district-level infrastructure projects and capacity building of sub-national and district level governance in the Northeast.

To empower marginalized girls in Afghanistan, ACTED is an implementing partner of DFID's 'Girls Education Challenge' in Faryab province, aiming to get 2,400 girls in school.