



**Donors' Activity Workshop  
Report  
9<sup>th</sup> December, 2013  
Serena Hotel-Kabul**

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*"All donors and partners are talking about how much money and fund has been spent and will be spent in the future but let us also talk about the achievements NGOs local and foreign have had since 1980. We need more cooperation and coordination among ourselves and more development of national NGOs in Afghanistan." NGO*

## Agenda

- Welcome and explanation overall; First secretary Mr. Roux, French Embassy
- Afghanistan reality; Mr Tomas Muzik, Director INSO
- ECHO presentation, Mr. Rousselle, Head of Office DG ECHO Afghanistan
- Canadian presentation, Mrs. Taslim Madhani First Secretary, Development / Mr. Zahid Hamdard
- DIFID presentation, Ms. Mary-Kate Thomson, Deputy Head, Joint Programme and Results Group
- Belgium presentations, Mr. Arnout Pauwels, Belgium Ambassador
- OFDA presentation, Mrs Melanie Manson, Humanitarian Senior officer
- OCHA presentation, Mr. Dominic Parker Deputy Head of OCHA, Mr. George Petropolous
- Swiss Development Cooperation presentation, Mrs Marianne Huber, Director of the cooperation Swiss Cooperation Office
- Norway presentation, MS. Nina Hal Head of development affairs/ Sabir Nasiry at the Royal Norwegian Embassy
- Sweden presentation, Mr Anders Öhrström, Head of Development Cooperation Embassy of Sweden
- European Union presentation, Mr Milko Vangool, Head of cooperation EU
- German presentation, Mr. Christian Hendrik HEUSERMANN, Economy counselor Embassy of the Fed. Rep. of Germany
- Conclusion
- Next workshop

The workshop which was funded by the French Embassy in Afghanistan and organized by ACBAR in 9<sup>th</sup> December in Serena Hotel-Kabul aimed to bring together a large number of donors to give a brief update to the Non Governmental Organization (NGO) community of their current and future plans.

ACBAR was created in August 1988 and has been providing the framework within which NGOs and civil society, the Afghan Government, the United Nations (UN) and bilateral donors can exchange information, share expertise and establish guidelines for a more coordinated, efficient and effective use of resources providing humanitarian and development assistance to the Afghan people. ACBARs activities have focused heavily on information sharing with its members and to the aid community in general; coordination of activities at the national and regional levels and advocacy on a variety of humanitarian and development issues.

Afghanistan has embarked upon a challenging process of state-building and has witnessed many achievements in diverse sectors including agriculture, education, health, governance and infrastructure. However the positive impact of these achievements is put at risk by the threat of deteriorating security conditions, a complex and enormous humanitarian situation and the possible reduction in volume of international aid. The ongoing security deterioration in the country, there are detrimental consequences for the Afghan population's access to basic services and ability to exercise their rights, particularly for the most vulnerable such as women, children, IDPs or people with disabilities.

### **New aid context: impact of transition process on NGO; a better coordination is needed**

The context in which NGOs will now operate is a context of transition of the aid policy. According to the new Aid Management Policy <sup>1</sup> (AMP), analysis suggests that this transition will entail a gradual decrease in the volume of aid toward and beyond 2014, which, combined with the departure of international forces, will likely cause a major economic downturn. The New Deal Framework for Engagement in Fragile States and specifically for Afghanistan, the Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework (TMAF), which secured total pledges of \$US 4b / year of development aid from the international community from 2012 through 2015, may suggest a short-term period of stability and predictability.

At the international level, declining aid is partly caused by Afghanistan's position in the competing domestic and international priorities of donors and by the persistence of the global financial crisis. At national level, the withdrawal of foreign military forces and a reduction in local spending may increase overall levels of insecurity. By 2020, all combined government operation and maintenance costs are projected to be twice the size of domestic revenues.

Afghanistan will thus face increasing budget constraints over the coming years and have to reprioritize and rethink its strategies. Furthermore, the implementation of the Aid Management Policy also brings many changes in the aid context in which CSOs<sup>2</sup> will operate. The AMP implements the New Deal and focuses on using the government structures, and moving towards government-owned and leading development initiatives.

Clearly an increase in the use of government structures means use of operating budget for implementation of development priorities. AMP further states that, as the transition progresses, the aim is to progressively channel 80% of the development assistance towards supporting the implementation of the National Priority Programs (NPPs), and that anything that falls outside this framework will not be endorsed and thus funded. Currently, the NPPs collectively embrace the majority of development activities of most CSOs.

Humanitarian aid is currently *off budget*<sup>3</sup>. But as the New Deal progresses, it is highly likely that consultations with donors and the government will also tend to get humanitarian aid under government control. Clearly, this further

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<sup>1</sup> AMP

<sup>2</sup> CSOs: Civil Society Organization ( NGO, Organization register to Ministry of Justice or community group)

<sup>3</sup> Off budget: Out of Afghan governmental budget.

adds pressure on the CSOs to align themselves with the government. They will follow closely the next NPPs and advocate for maintaining independent funding for humanitarian activities, as it is essential to maintain the neutrality of humanitarian actors in the current afghan context of a non-international armed conflict. Apart from the new aid context that will be at play and which will impact CSOs financially and operationally and more security uncertainties to the risky environment in which CSOs operate.

This meeting aimed to understand the strategies of donors for the year or years coming. Each Country/Donor agency has its own strategy to help Afghanistan and it is important that these strategies are explained and discussed with NGOs, in order for them to understand how they will be implemented. This will in return help NGOs and the development and humanitarian community as a whole to have a better response to the many needs of the population in a complex and uncertain country as Afghanistan.

Whilst very general, the meeting highlighted some interesting points and went some way to setting the ground work/trust for future meetings of this kind. The speakers attended were the French Embassy, ECHO, Belgian Embassy, Norwegian Embassy, Canadian Embassy, DIFID, OFDA/USAID, Swiss Development Cooperation, Swedish Embassy, German Embassy, EU (the representative could not attend but shared their presentation) OCHA and INSO.

SIDA picture



## **French Embassy (Mr. Roux, First secretary)**

According to the new Aid Management Policy (AMP), analysis suggests that the transition process will entail a gradual decrease in the volume of aid toward and beyond 2014, which, combined with the departure of international forces, will likely cause a major economic downturn.

In that context, it appears that it is important to coordinate in order to improve the effectiveness of the aid, even though this aid has already been better structured over the years. Therefore, we regard as useful to present France's strategy in humanitarian and development aid for Afghanistan and our perspective of the future.

### 1. A globalized strategy

With the withdrawal of the French troops in 2013, the strategy of the French Embassy has recently evolved on a more global approach. Since France had some troops involved on the ground in the province of Kapisa and in the district of Surobi, the strategy was to support directly the population in those provinces by funding programs in the agriculture, health, education, justice sectors as well as in the electrification of the province. Since the withdrawal of the French troops, there is no special focus on Kapisa any more, even though we still have a close relationship with this province.

From now on, programs are aimed to be implemented in Afghanistan as a whole, depending on the needs of the local population and in a coordinated manner with all international and local actors concerned.

### 2. An "Afghanisation" of the aid

At present, the necessity of an "afghanized" aid is particularly reinforced in the context of ISAF troops' withdrawal. On one hand, considering insecurity prevailing in the country, which spreads in its intensity as much as geographically, the international NGOs increasingly hand over their activities to their afghan counterparts in order to allow an effective implementation of the programs. On the other hand, local NGO are becoming crucial operators of State actions, especially in the sectors of health and education because of the difficulties faced by the Afghan State to implement national programs. The Tokyo Conference underlines the increasing role played by the civil society. At present and in the future, those actors will become unavoidable interlocutors to construct development on the long term.

### 3. The strategy of the French Embassy

#### A. Humanitarian needs and response

France puts the needs of vulnerable people at the heart of its strategy, among them conflict affected people like IDPs. UNHCR reports about 59 000 newly displaced people in 2013. Afghanistan faces number of protection challenges and humanitarian needs. In this regard, we advocate for the improvement of IDPs livelihoods through better infrastructure, services and income generating activities.

France equally takes into consideration the needs of natural disaster affected people. As an example, a recent drought has affected the province of Ghor and compelled many households to leave their homes for survival. To respond to this food security issue, we have supported the emergency food security project of Afghan aid to respond to the needs of about 1000 families. We particularly put emphasis on food needs, considered as one of the most acute humanitarian need. The country has been hit by several shocks, such as conflicts and extreme weather. About 2.2 millions of persons in Afghanistan are considered to be severely food insecure and other 8 million victims of food insecurity.

We support each year food security interventions through a food aid fund. It is available via the Comité Interministériel de l'Aide Alimentaire in connection with France's commitments to the London Convention on food aid. Each year, Afghanistan has been receiving funds to support projects focused on food security. The objectives are to contribute to save and preserve lives, to protect livelihoods, to strengthen the resilience of affected populations threatened by crisis, in the respect and promotion of humanitarian principles of humanism, impartiality, neutrality and independence. UN agencies and INGOs are eligible. The CIAA meets in Paris twice a year (in January and June) to decide on the allocation. However, the Sahel zone and Syria are more and more considered as priorities in the programming of French aid. Funds allocated to Afghanistan have thus decreased but are still channelled adequately. In 2013, two programs have been funded by the CIAA: Afghanistan Demain to support direct food distribution to vulnerable families in the poor area of Demazang in Kabul and Afghanistan as mentioned previously, in Ghor.

We put as well emphasis on malnutrition. There is a risk of acute malnutrition amongst the population in Afghanistan. Considering the limited human resources and expertise of nutrition actors, France supports efforts to respond to malnutrition and calls for the need to develop updated statistics.

France is equally aware of the needs regarding WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) problems, particularly in the Kabul Informal Settlements. The access to clean water and the hygiene are particularly taken into account. We are financing hygiene projects through Afghanistan Libre with the implementation of health trainings for women in Panjshir.

In General, facing humanitarian and emergency needs has been more and more linked to development actions as illustrated by the example of WASH. It is therefore important to bridge the gap between emergency humanitarian aid a long-term development aid in full coordination and collaboration with local authorities.

France is willing to strengthen its support to NGO, local and international, to respond to the needs of vulnerable persons in Afghanistan, however preoccupied by the increasing reduction of the humanitarian space, particularly after the recent murder of 6 local ACTED employees in Faryab. Afghanistan leads in absolute number of attacks against humanitarian actors in 2012, according to the aid worker security report of 2013.

## B. Development actions

### - The Social Development Fund (SDF)

Funded by the French Government is an instrument which aims to build up the capacity of the afghan civil society through development projects. Its aim is to provide aid to the vulnerable people (especially women and young people) through professional trainings and literacy projects implemented by local NGOs mostly.

We also emphasize the importance of emancipation of Afghan NGO to become more effective and competent in project implementation.

### - Development programs according to sectors

For the Health sector, the French Medical Institute for Children (FMIC) is the most emblematic program the French Embassy is supporting. The French Embassy is providing social welfare to the most indigent people coming from the whole country. Alongside with the FMIC, the French Embassy is supporting the program "La maison des enfants" which allows the children who need medical care to be hosted during the time of the medical intervention. The children are coming from all over the country.

Because of the special link France is having with the Kapisa province, the children coming to "la maison des enfants" from that province have their medical expenses covered by the French Embassy. For the coming year, an extension of the building is planned and will be financed by the French Embassy.

For the educational sector, the French Embassy is having a program in education as well, mainly based on the training of professors, the construction of schools in the Kapisa province and the supply of scholar stationeries.

In agriculture, the French Embassy provided some agricultural equipment to the Kapisa province alongside with the development of cooperatives in the province. The irrigation program in the province

At last, the access to electricity is one of the main demands of the population. The electrification of the Kapisa province is certainly one of the biggest achievements of the French Embassy. It links the province in electricity from the north to the south and will be effective soon, answering a demand of the local population.

### Conclusion

The French Embassy is having a strategy which aims at strengthening the Afghan civil society, particularly Afghan NGO, supporting their programs in various sectors, taking into account the needs of vulnerable people, in the respect of a gender policy.

UKAID picture



### **Afghanistan reality; Mr Tomas Muzik, Director INSO**

INSO briefly presented on general NGO safety and security trends 2013.

**Question referred to INSO:** How do you define NGOs as you mentioned the risk levels on them and what other NGOs are there who you are contacting with?

**Answer:** NGO have different approaches to their security management, but in general, see their security management as an integrate part of their project cycle management. INSO defines NGOs as non profit, nongovernmental organizations. To register with INSO NGO and INGO have to be register with MoECON and provide additional evidence of NGO status.

There are 290 NGOs registered with INSO who receive information on the daily basis. We are keen to involve other NGOs to promote their self sufficiency and security management using our services.

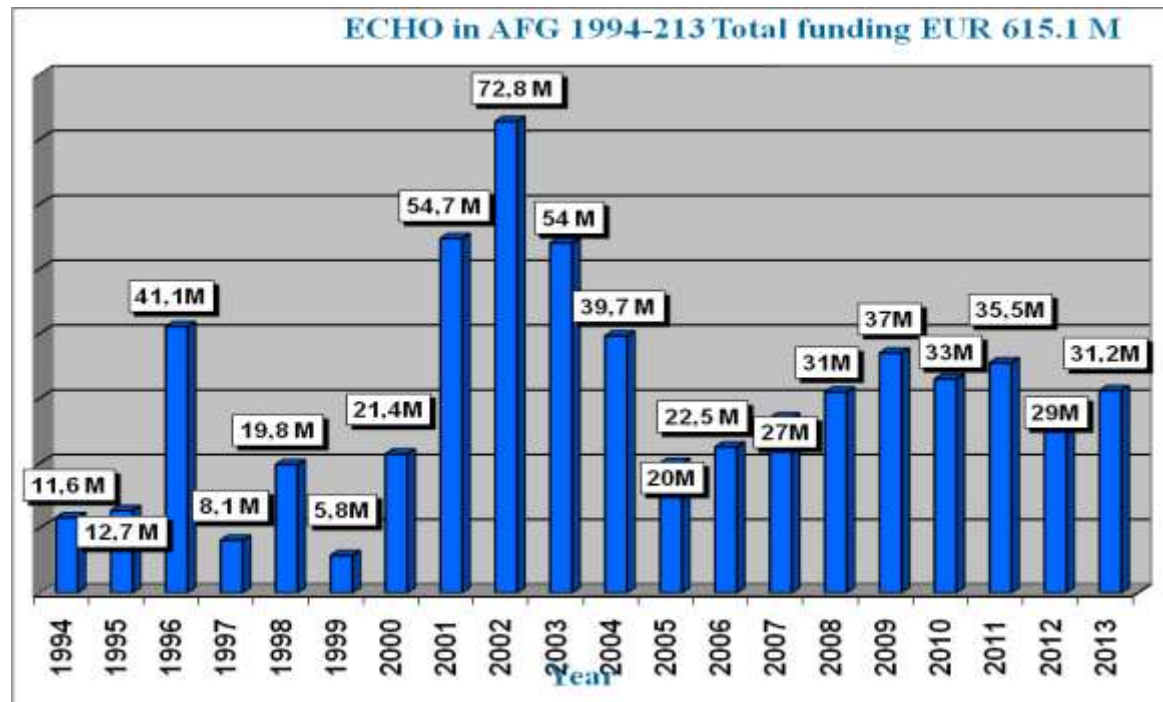
## ECHO (Mr. Olivier Rousselle, Head of Office DG)

ECHO's Humanitarian Implementation Plan (HIP) for 2014 amounts to M28.5€. The main target populations are IDPs (conflict or natural disaster affected). ECHO also covers all sectors including Health, Shelter and Food Security.

**Question referred to ECHO:** As you mentioned two types of assessments in December and January in your presentation, are there any rules or regulations for the new NGOs to become partner of ECHO and part of your assessment in January, 14? Second, all donors talked about local and international NGOs but not the foreign NGOs who convert to local NGOs?

**Answer:** To access the ECHO funding, there's a specific mechanism by which partners initially should apply for framework partnership agreement. One of the conditions is to have an office in Europe with three years of existence and internal audit. Then the FPA will be issued by ECHO to that organization. ECHO could also sign the contract with local NGOs through partners who already have an FPA. Regarding the second question, there is no difference in funding different types of NGOs as long as they have a good financial and audit system in place.

They also want to address acute emergencies not chronic and have developed the Emergency response mechanism with some partners to prepare aids for people affected by drought, earthquake, flood, avalanches and other natural disasters including mainstreaming resilience into all work.



- Emergency Decisions still possible for large-scale disasters outside programme
- Possibilities to use the epidemics decision and the small-scale decisions
- DIPECHO 8<sup>th</sup> action plan (End of 2014)
- HIP 2014 officially published on October 29<sup>th</sup>

A strong emphasis is made on 1/ coordination through the funding of OCHA, a number of cluster as well as between ECHO Partners and on 2/ access via the funding of INSO, PACTEC, a Project Support Group (media campaigns, behavior changes...) and innovative programming. ECHO only fund partners doing direct implementation and where direct monitoring is possible. Resilience and gender have to be mainstreamed in all proposals.



## Embassy of Canada (Mrs. Taslim Madhani, First Secretary)

**Question referred to Embassy of Canada:** Canada is one of the donors that have covered all Afghan Provinces except Maidan, Wardak and Urozgan, why is that so?

**Answer:** Actually there is no specific reason behind rather it is because the embassy has not found suitable projects and programs or partners to be implemented in the mentioned Provinces so far. But in the near future we might have projects there.

Mrs. Madhani gave an overview of development and humanitarian assistance, Canada's Commitments, thematic priority areas, and Canadian disbursements by theme. In terms of future planning during 2011-14 (three fiscal years) funding cycle, she mentioned the commitment of: \$300M from 2011-12 to 2013-14 and from 2014-17 Tokyo commitment is \$227M.

Current focus of the government of Canada is on sectors like education, health, human rights, empowerment of women and girls, governance, rule of law, regional diplomacy, security, humanitarian assistance, linking relief and recovery with development.

**Table 1: 2012/2013 (SY 1391): Disbursements**

Government of Canada Sector	Government of Afghanistan Sector	Disbursements
Education	Education	\$ 32,498,825
Health	Health and Nutrition	25,389,221
Human Right, Empowerment of Women and Girls	Human Rights	6,882,740
Sustainable Economic Growth	Private Sector Development and Trade	5,363,114
Governance, Rule of Law, Regional Diplomacy	Governance	3,323,199
Security	Security	658,904
Environment	Non-sector Specific	2,504,746
Non-sector Specific (including ARTF)	Non-sector Specific	11,875,163
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>\$ 88,495,911</b>
Humanitarian Assistance	Social Protection	13,847,347
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 102,343,258</b>

On health sector the highlights were annual polio vaccination of more than 7.8 million, children construction of the new Bamyan provincial hospital, training for midwives and capacity building of community workers in and nutrition. On education sector the highlights were 670 newly recruited teachers trained in basic education skills, 2,800 teachers trained in advanced pedagogy and enhanced literacy skills, 727 outreach, accelerated learning and adult

literacy classes established in remote and rural areas of 12 provinces and improved access/quality to particularly female students.

In terms of human rights, empowerment of women and girls sector the highlights were support to AIHRC for implementation of 2010-2013 Strategic Plan, establishment of Family Support Hotline with MoWA and AGO and Training for 40 human rights and women's rights focused NGOs.

In terms of the humanitarian assistance sector / linking relief and recovery to development the highlights were ongoing food assistance to more than 6.5 million vulnerable people, Capacity building of the Afghan Red Crescent Society and 54,819 m2 land cleared on mines/UXO, another 740,889 m2 identified.

Regarding governance, rule of law, regional diplomacy sector the highlights are Capacity building of AGO, Supreme Court and human resources directorates. 50 female lawyers trained to support women's rights and complete assessment of customs procedures at Torkham border crossing. Canada also had some activities on security sector highlights such as Creation of permanent MoI Ministerial and Policy Unit along with development of the Curriculum for ANP elections support and security.

**Table 2: 2012 /2013 (SY1391) Alignment with NPPS**

Government of Afghanistan Sector	Aligned	%	Non-aligned	%	Total
Education	\$ 32,349,345	99.5%	\$ 149,479	0.5%	\$ 32,498,825
Health and Nutrition	25,379,221	100.0%	10,000	0.0%	25,389,221
Human Rights	6,671,431	96.9%	211,309	3.1%	6,882,740
Private Sector Development and Trade	2,853,371	53.2%	2,509,742	46.8%	5,363,114
Governance	772,906	23.3%	2,550,293	76.7%	3,323,199
Security	372,759	56.6%	286,145	43.4%	658,904
Non-sector Specific – Environment	0	0.0%	2,504,746	100.0%	2,504,746
Non-sector Specific – Other, including ARTF	10,000,000	84.2%	1,875,163	15.8%	11,875,163
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 78,399,033</b>	<b>88.6%</b>	<b>\$ 10,096,879</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>\$ 88,495,911</b>
Humanitarian Assistance	0	0.0%	13,847,347	100.0%	13,847,346
<b>TOTAL – Including Humanitarian Assistance</b>	<b>\$ 78,399,033</b>	<b>76.6%</b>	<b>\$ 23,944,225</b>	<b>23.4%</b>	<b>\$ 102,343,258</b>

Their Future Planning is to maintain current sectors of focus with strategic adjustments as required, to promote Health (maternal, newborn and child health; polio; nutrition), to develop education (basic education; teacher training), to improve rights and empowerment of women and girls (VAW; political participation) and to increase linking Relief and Recovery to Development (capacity building; DRR). Canada has pledged during 2015-17 an amount

of \$330M sustainment of ANSF. Canada also renewed cooperation and political leadership by GIRoA on substantive issues relating to poverty alleviation and sustained growth.

Consideration of challenges enhances the rights, participation and advancement of women and girls in society, enabling their resilience to post-2014 environment. Gender equality is a cross-cutting theme. On-going challenge regarding security and access remains. Limited modalities for smaller funding requests is seen. Move to larger and fewer projects and centrally managed application system.

UKAID picture



## **DIFID: (Ms. Mary-Kate Thomson, Deputy Head, Joint Programme)**

DIFID covered four areas in its presentation; Firstly on UK aid resources and how to work with NGOs in Afghanistan, second on DIFID overall objectives in Afghanistan, third on the perception of transition post 2014 and fourthly on lessons learnt during working with Afghan implementers since the last decade from development angle and military involvement in Afghanistan.

### **DIFID's budget:**

- £178 million bilateral programme budget
- £47 million Girls' Education Challenge Fund
- Other central funding (Global Poverty Action Fund, multilateral contributions)

### **More than 50% bilateral funding through multi-donor trust funds**

- Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund (ARTF)
- Afghanistan Infrastructure Trust Fund (AITF)

### **Bilateral programme commitments:**

- 50% through the Government systems
- 80% aligned to the Government's priorities (NPPs)

### **DIFID is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest Donor in Afghanistan (OECD World Bank report 2010-11)**

On UK aid resources and how to work with NGOs in Afghanistan, DIFID has annual bilateral programs here with 178 million British Pound equivalents to USD 248 million. They have significant focus on women and girls' education with 47 million Pound fund allocation for them. DIFID funds the global poverty reduction programs and multilateral organizations. More than 50% of their bilateral funds go to multi lateral trust funds, the majority of which are ARTF (Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund) and also provide fund through AITF (Afghanistan Infrastructure Trust Fund). DIFID is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest Donor in Afghanistan

The overall objectives of DIFID would remain the same during the transition period and they commit until 2017 and there are three aims; first to support peace security and political stability, second to promote economic stability and third to help basic services as whole. The first objective is translated in that DIFID helps the systems which strengthen the civil society organizations in Afghanistan like TAWANMANDI.

Besides, it is the political participation of women in elections, supporting emergency and humanitarian aids. In terms of economic stability, they focus on creating jobs and sustainable employment especially in Agriculture, Business and infrastructure Development, private sectors and revenue generation fields. The third objective on basic services delivery is translated as reducing corruption, increasing capacity on public financial management.

DIFID's overall objectives are set out in Operational Plan:

Supporting peace, security and political stability, strengthening support for civil society, increasing political participation, improving trust in the state and providing emergency humanitarian aid in insecure and unstable environments are the main priorities for them. DIFID has in plan to improve economic stability, growth and jobs, to support large scale infrastructure development, agriculture and business development, to improve conditions for private investment (including the extractives sector) and to help increase government revenue collection and job opportunities.

DIFID Afghanistan is thinking about transition:

- **Facets of transition:** political, security and economic
- **Long term commitment:** DFIDA's programme will continue at its current level (£178 million per annum) until 2017

### **Question referred to DIFID:**

According to your presentation, more than 50% of the bilateral funds are channeled through government namely they are on budget. Is there any mechanism available through which you could monitor and inspect the spent of your money?

**Answer:** DIFID has got a strategy group and the SC in several teams for the ARTF who make sure how the money is delivered to the right people. We focus on the result impact and change being made to the beneficiaries.

- **New Deal:** UK is a lead for the implementation of the aid effectiveness agenda enshrined in the New Deal and we will continue to work with the Government on it.
- **Mutual accountability is central to our relationship with the Afghan Government:** Continue to implement TMAF reforms. Ensuring the Government (and International Community) deliver on commitments.
- **Core work will continue:** Project and financial management (including stakeholder engagement), working with NGOs and understanding reality on the ground.

Also they focus more to help the state deliver, improved services, to provide support to basic service delivery, to reduce corruption, and to improve Afghan civil service capacity including the public financial management.

EU picture



### **Embassy of Belgium (Mr. Arnout Pauwels, the Ambassador)**

Belgium is one of the modest donors in Afghanistan since this country has less historical links with Afghanistan and second Belgium works with 18 partner countries excluding Afghanistan in the world which has been selected by Law and is difficult to change. Another aspect of low level of Belgium contribution relates to difficulty of work with less budgetary line. Only one budget line remains through MoFA to support some limited NGOs in Afghanistan which are either registered in Belgium or local NGOs with direct inspection of Belgian financial staff. According to Mr. Pauwels, this Embassy may manage and grant smaller projects. They have worked with UN international organizations and Red Cross for humanitarian purposes. As mentioned before since Afghanistan is not part of their bilateral countries, they cannot sign such contracts here. The Belgian Embassy is working with its MoFA to create a framework within which they can continue working with local NGOs on Gender Equality and Women's empowerment but considering the abovementioned constraints. This Embassy will remain open maximally for two or three more years.

**OFDA/USAID (Mrs Melanie Manson, Humanitarian Senior officer)**

Most of their funds are allocated to refugees, migration, returnees and IDPs. They also give fund to NGOs like ICRC. The USAID office has a Department for Food Security which helps NGOs and financially supports UNICEF. Their funds are according to the humanitarian needs and evidence based. OFDA often work with CAP or the CHAP because of the general agreement available in terms of more coordination USAID can make for this process. They don't design the programs but ask the partners what the needs are how they address them. OFDA operate separately from USAID with separate budget. OFDA/USAID also support conflict hit population. For the past several years they have been assisting the national civilians led natural disaster management mechanism. This works based on three factors namely verification, assessment and coordination. Therefore, OFDA funds their partners to contribute and participate in this mechanism. She ended her presentation by asking two questions; first: how can donors increase their support to conflict affected population apart from IDPs, those who want to stay in their cities and homes? Second, How to move to this long term development shift?

EU picture

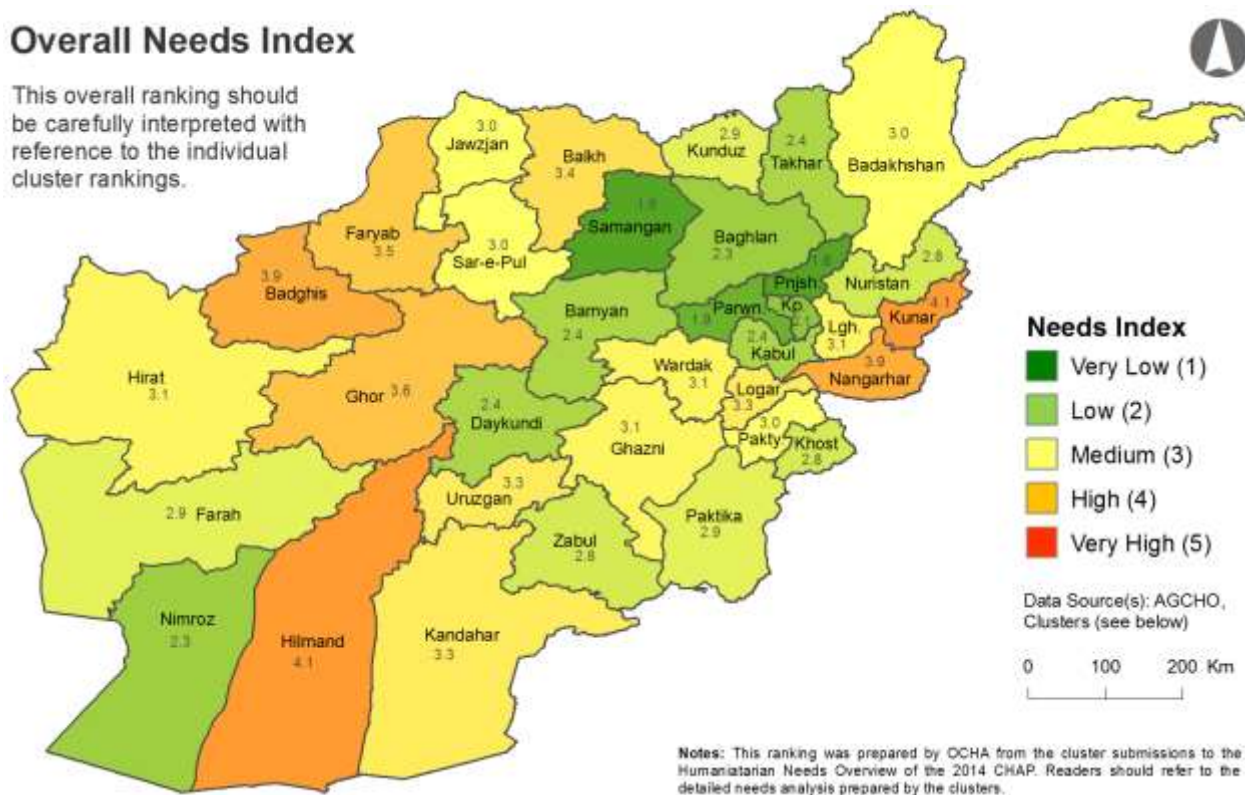


## UN-OCHA

Mr. Dominic Parker Deputy Head of OCHA and Mr. George Petropolous Humanitarian Affairs Officer gave a briefing about Common Humanitarian Action Plan and Common Humanitarian Fund 2014. NGOs were encouraged to correct information in the CHAP next year. 10-20% of the CHAP will be for CHF roughly \$40-48m

### Overall Needs Index

This overall ranking should be carefully interpreted with reference to the individual cluster rankings.



Their Strategic Priorities include providing emergency health care, prioritizing access to critical services, responding to conflict IDP and returning refugee needs, preventing protection infringements and responding to natural disasters.

Overall Purpose: Civilians are protected. Lives are saved, injuries are treated, and suffering is reduced among affected people.

Total Appeal: \$406 Million

Approximately 9 mil people identified in need of aid (33% of total). Approximately 5 mil people targeted for assistance (18% of total, includes 135,000 IDPs, 210,000 Refugee Returnees).

Focuses on humanitarian needs from conflict are in 2 parts: Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and Strategic Response Plan (SRP) which include cluster evidence-based needs and response analyses with cost estimates. Second, risk profile will highlight high-risk areas so as to guide prioritisation of interventions and to identify and list sectorial assessments.

Afghanistan Common Humanitarian Fund replaces the Emergency Response Fund (ERF) as a larger, more flexible funding instrument supporting timely, coherent humanitarian operations. 10-20% (\$40-80 million) of overall CHAP appeal expected for CHF.

Global Objectives ensures that funding is allocated to priority humanitarian needs, to strengthen the leadership of the HC and reinforce the CHAP.

Allocation Strategy directly linked to CHAP 2014 Strategic Objectives / prioritization. First allocation expected in 2nd quarter (2 annual standard allocations), and reserve allocation. Initial Partner Pool with capacity assessments for all partners to follow.

Clusters will have integral part in the strategic and technical review of project proposals. Web-based process will minimize delays and assist information management and reporting (database under creation). Humanitarian Funding Unit (the CHF secretariat) will be based in OCHA Kabul. Advisory Board will include NGOs, contributing donors and UN Agencies (to be constituted). Donor contributions are expected in the coming weeks.

German picture





**SDC (Mrs. Marianne Huber, Director of the Swiss Cooperation)**

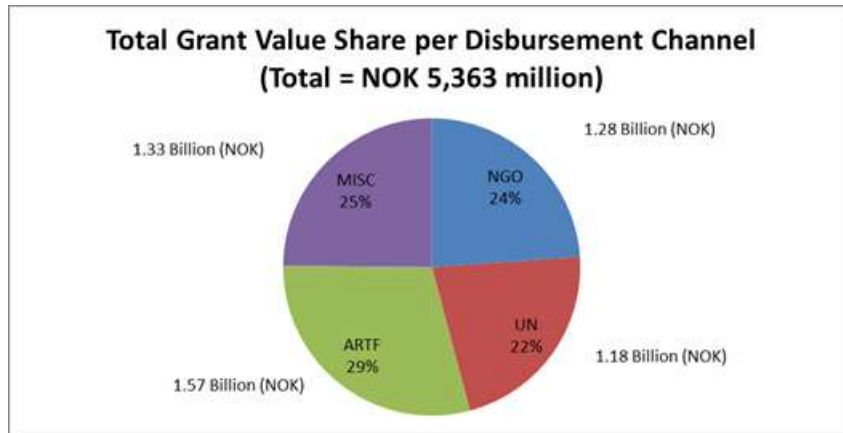
SDC stands for Swiss Development Cooperation namely they are the governmental development agency. They have been active since 2002 in Afghanistan with humanitarian goals and also to some development projects. SDC has bilateral modalities of cooperation which are involved in supporting institutional build up of sub national governance in Provinces and Districts. They have cooperation with UNDP and Human Rights Commission and civil society organizations. In bilateral cooperation, they have mandated to work in vulnerable and most vulnerable areas for long term with the partnership of two international NGOs and one Afghan NGO. The framework strategies for humanitarian and development aids in Afghanistan are always set for long term 10-15 years in Swiss. SDC is fond of listening to NGOs and their priorities. They also have flexibility to small grants and support for humanitarian emergency need. In terms of their geographic focus, they are mostly active in South, East and Central Highlands Bamyan, Samangan, Takhar for livelihood programs, disaster risk reduction, strengthening CSOs and sub national governance. 2015-18 strategy is being developed now.

SIDA picture



## Embassy of Norway (MS. Nina Hal, Head of development affairs)

General principles for Norwegian Engagement are State building = main focus for civilian contribution to Afghanistan, important to involve and support civil society in state building – service deliverers and as watch dogs. Norway is in Afghanistan based on long term commitments. Pressure to focus portfolio - few people - large amounts of money– tougher requirements for following up grants = fewer number of agreements and partners.



Level of Norwegian development assistance to Afghanistan reaches to Approx. USD 125 M yearly total including USD 20 M humanitarian aid.

Current focus area: education, governance, rural development, humanitarian aid and strong focus on gender – cross cutting.

**Question referred to Embassy of Norway:** I would like you to give us a highlight on the concern MoFA in Norway had in terms of human rights and corruption in Afghanistan and the link to your contribution of USD1, 5 Million to these sectors.

**Answer:** the amount given in the statement has been recently approved by the parliament in Norway for development budget for Afghanistan. Of course this issue has affected this money which 7 % of the mentioned total budget was cut. The final budget for the year 2014 is not yet known.

Current and future plans for support entered into new 3-year agreements with a number of Norwegian and international NGOs - partners in afghan civil society, Support to TAWANMANDI and to Aga khan culture initiative and finally, Norway will most likely still seek a balance between support to civil society, ARTF and UN system.

## SIDA (Mr Anders Öhrström, Head of Development Cooperation Embassy of Sweden)

A detailed presentation on how to enable people living in poverty, particularly women, girls and young people, to enjoy better living conditions in a peaceful, democratic and legally secure society.

### ■ Development Cooperation Strategy 2012-2014

The overall objective of Swedish Development Cooperation in Afghanistan is to enable people living in poverty, particularly women, girls and young people, to enjoy better living conditions in a peaceful, democratic and legally secure society.

Aid effectiveness objectives and priorities are programme-based approach to be applied to at least 50 % of Sweden's contribution portfolio by the end of the strategy period. Improved donor coordination including a stronger role for UNAMA and more effective coordination in EU-circles. Strengthened coordination structures in northern Afghanistan based on inclusive local ownership.

### ■ Forms of development cooperation:

- ARTF, other multilateral organisations with non earmarked support.
- Well-integrated concentrated portfolio with a limited number of major initiatives which then can be supplemented by smaller, innovative, strategic initiatives.
- Support based on mutual responsibility
- Democracy, human rights, gender equality
- Education

Additional focus in the north (four provinces) is Local governance, Rule of law, Private sector development, Women and children and Around 620 million SEK 2013 and also Approximately 1/3 in the north.

General dialogue issues are that Sweden is to maintain an intensive, focused dialogue on human rights and gender equality, in particular the ability of women and children to enjoy their human rights. The dialogue should focus on gender-related violence and the ability of women to enjoy their economic and political rights.

Afghan strategies are Afghanistan National Development Strategy and National Priority Programs.

Programs and sectors include Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund (World Bank), National Solidarity Program, Education program EQUIP, Afghanistan Rural Enterprise Development Program, 40 % of the total Swedish development budget for Afghanistan goes to the ARTF, also on-budget.

Swedish Committee for Afghanistan (core support – national) consist of Education program with the main objective to support all Afghan children's right to education by promoting equal access to quality education through a sustainable education system in the country (see pictures next slide) and a master program for teacher trainers. Reproductive health and child health, complementing the program on Basic Package of Health Services in Samangan, Sar-e-Pul, Laghman and Wardak and with the aim to improve the health systems and reduce morbidity as well as decrease maternal and child mortality. Rehabilitation of Afghans with disabilities.

Swedish Committee for Afghanistan – Northern Rural Project (regional): Support to capacity development projects within Community Development Councils and local communities in Dehdadi, Chimtal and Chahar Bolak districts in Balkh and in Fayroz Nakhchir and Hazrat-e Sultan in Samangan (see pictures in the next slide). The project is based on the model of the National Solidarity Program, follows similar principles but complements it by making available funding for other projects on the Community Development Councils' priority lists.

UNICEF – basic education and gender equality (thematic support): to reduce the disparities in education, to increase enrolment and retention, especially for girls, boost female literacy rates and to provide quality education and ensure schooling during emergencies

UNICEF – Basic Education and Gender Equality North (regional)

The same objectives as above, but aimed at the four northern provinces.

UNICEF has built around 45 Sida-funded schools in the four northern provinces (see pictures from school inauguration in Sar-e-Pul in the next slide).

UNOPS’ Rural Accessibility Improvement Program and Rural Access Infrastructure Support Fund (regional) contribute to reduction of poverty in rural areas, bridge disparities between urban and rural areas and support the Government of Afghanistan’s efforts towards equitable growth. Construction and maintenance of roads and smaller infrastructure projects (roads, bridges, water and sanitation, irrigation and agriculture, small power schemes, repairing of buildings for social purposes, market places or commercial buildings – see pictures in the next slide). Support to women’s productive employment.

UNDP’s Afghanistan Sub national Governance Program (regional) support the establishment of an effective, more accountable and more representative public administration at the national and sub-national levels, with improved delivery of services in an equitable, efficient and effective manner.

UN Women (national) aimed at strengthening the government of Afghanistan’s capacity to implement the national action plan for women of Afghanistan and the Afghanistan national development strategy’s gender cross-cutting strategy. To promote women as peace-builders. Eliminate violence against women and to strengthen women’s livelihood opportunities.

■ The future – the transformation decade 2015-2024

In terms of Tokyo mutual accountability framework, Sweden has made a ten-year commitment for approximately 850 million SEK/year.

New strategy process (Sida/MFA) just started for the period 2015-2019.

Five Es :

- Empowerment
- Education
- Employment
- Enterprise
- Economic Integration

EU picture



## European Union (on slide presentation)

### ■ Development Cooperation: how does EU work?

Two basic documents for development cooperation: Country Strategy Paper (CSP), and a Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP). CSP and MIPs are formally agreed with the Government of Afghanistan.

These agreements are further implemented through Annual Action Programmes (AAP) and Financing Agreements. To highlight the stability and poverty reduction, it is important to support the rural development, food security, governance, infrastructure and health. Currently CSP 2007-2013 and MIP II 2011-2013 are project approach and aligned with Government strategies. Most of the funds are implemented through Multi-donor Trust Funds (MTDFs) and commitment under MIP II amounted to € 586.5 million.

Fields of action are rural development like Local development and Agriculture. Social sectors like health and social protection. Governance and Rule of Law like police reform, sub-national governance and Public Administration Reform (Capacity Building for Results) and justice reform.

### ■ Agriculture & Rural development:

80% of the Afghan population rely on agriculture and livestock.

EU objectives: To increase the contribution of agriculture and rural development to the national economy, to Increase food security, to Improve participative development processes and increase institutional capacities. Investment in water and natural resources management, planting material and animal production are crucial for them. Rollout of national priority programmes as well as contributing to strengthening governance at national and sub-national levels. The EU commitment in focal area allocated for the period 2011-2013 amounts €191.5 M

Khanabad irrigation scheme: irrigation serving 50.000 Afghans. Rehabilitation and modernisation of the river's main barrage and secondary canals to be implemented. Irrigation is provided to 35,000 hectare of land serving an agricultural population of 50,000 people. Risks and damage caused by unregulated flows are reduced.

Water resource management improved

### ■ Governance and Rule of Law:

Their objectives in this regard are to improve the functioning of the state through improved governance and reform, to foster the rule of law to improve stability and security (including border security), to increase revenue collection and improve economic growth through trade and to address corruption in the government. The EU's substantial contribution to the funding of the ANP through lotfa gives it a significant voice in discussions over police strategy and reforms. National justice programme is also part of the objectives.

### ■ Working with the Civil Society:

Civil society organisations (including NGOs) –

- Improved dialogue with the EU (essential partners)
- Civil society organisations / Non-State Actors: not only implementing partners ;
- Share responsibility with the state on poverty reduction and democratisation
- Increase country's ownership of development policies.

Regular calls for proposals: particular focus (in Afghanistan) on supporting the active role of women and other under-represented groups in the development agenda; Human rights and democratic governance.

Specific instruments promote the involvement of civil society organisations in development. European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) and non-State Actors – Local Authorities (NSA-LA)

EU will continue future cooperation in 2014 to 2020 to work in agriculture and rural development, health, policing and rule of law, democratisation and accountability (focus on elections, civil society and public financial management). In Tokyo, the EU committed to continue supporting Afghanistan at the current levels.

EU picture



## Embassy of the Fed. Rep. of Germany (Christian Hendrik HEUSERMANN , Economy Counselor):

Principles and alignment of the Country Strategy for Development Cooperation (BMZ) are full alignment to Afghan development goals (National Priority programs and mutual agreements), Support to Afghan leadership and coordination, Mutual accountability: Tokyo commitments are the base for further co-operation, e.g. for the choice of instruments, Governmental performance, reducing corruption and human rights as core principles and Continuous support through significant financial allocations and advisory services.

In Need of a secure environment, development cooperation is not capable of pacifying districts or provinces or even stopping hostilities. Rather, it requires a secure environment in order to become an effective instrument towards stabilization. Security of staff (national and expatriate) is paramount .After Transition: Afghan authorities are now responsible to provide a secure environment for development activities. Adaptation of project-types according to the environment is necessary. A strategy of acceptance remains the key towards implementation

Regional focus is in North East and beyond nationwide through national programs, technical assistance and trust funds. Regional programs are through dedicated programs in the six north-eastern provinces Badakshan, Baghlan, Balkh, Kunduz, Samangan and Takhar. To improve Kabul through capacity building and advisory services at the national level (Government of Afghanistan and other Institutions) as well as dedicated projects.

Implementation modalities are financial cooperation (FC grants, through KfW) and Technical Cooperation (TC, through GIZ), Afghan National Programs through trust funds (ARTE, EQUIP, National Polio Eradication Program and possibly others).General budget support is currently not foreseen. To Support to NGOs and political foundations.

Cross-cutting issues consist of Gender namely to incorporate the needs and interests of women and girls, commission dedicated modes of implementation where needed and appropriate. In terms of peacebuilding, they consider the contribution to a non-violent solution of disputes; encourage participation and inclusion, non-discriminatory implementation of projects and to contribute to stabilization.

### Next steps:

- Existing draft will be revised and amended according to our discussion
- Final draft will be presented during a high-ranking policy dialogue in Berlin in March 12-13
- High-ranking Afghan Participation envisaged, invitation to follow
- Final Country Strategy will be the foundation for new commitments from 2014-2017

German picture



**Question referred to Embassy of Germany:** In what mechanism do you monitor the transparency of your money consumption while you channel the funds through on budget process?

**Answer:** Firstly we have got low on budget rate and besides most of our on budget money goes through the ARFT in which we have strong monitoring mechanism. Some Donors monitor their on budget money via World Bank.

## Conclusion of the Workshop:

### I. The main challenges for Donors in Afghanistan

- To understand the global context (political, humanitarian, security and human) and link donor action development or security with this global context.
- To impose conditionality on donor fund Vs ARTF taking the lead and 'monitoring' all programs and co charring with MoFIN the impact done by them.
- To follow up AMP and TMAF constraints Vs internal politics of Country donor or their own agenda, and reducing the numbers of active monitoring Cf. World Bank lead (as one responsible).

### II. The Aid has to be done on multiyear contract and on clear and applicable conditions.

#### ▪ Service delivery and humanitarian access

A key theme for the New Deal is the effort to boost the Government's legitimacy and credibility by enabling and supporting its ability to deliver services to its people. This puts a significant emphasis on the Compact making a material difference in the lives of communities, and requires the right programs to be implemented in the right places the right way. This could well undermine the space for humanitarian agencies to deliver humanitarian assistance to those who need it and according to internationally recognized humanitarian principles, including impartiality, neutrality and independence. These principles and the space for humanitarian actors to operate within must be respected and protected.

**Comment:** Member NGOs led by ACBAR had interesting advocacy initiative in Tokyo conference and had conversation on on going conflict affecting NGOs operation and access to needy people. This of course more or less affects the donors' contributions in Afghanistan and also causes a push for fewer contracts with more money that leads NGOs to governmental fund channels. Providing more bilateral support to the party to the conflict with such conditions might not be the best approach for continuing services. This problem to be taken in to account.

**Comment:** NGOs who do both Humanitarian and Development projects and those who implement through BPHS or NSP must come together and have clearer Access strategy on the ground in order to save their reputation and prevent casualties. Donors are looking for larger projects with fewer implementing partners but at the same time they want to build Afghan local NGOs and CS capacities which seem contradictory. Donors find it difficult to fund all Afghan NGOs and more difficult it is when they require fewer implementing partners. Hence, channeling the funds to most international NGOs make Afghan NGOs dependent to them.

**Comment:** trust and peace is the base of success and therefore donors are required not to forget traditional sensitivities and trust while performing their programs in Provinces and Districts of Afghanistan.



After this first workshop fund by the French embassy, ACBAR will make another one in June 2014 on:

## I. Monitoring & Results Mechanisms

The AMP underlines the role of NGOs as critical in aid harmonization, and supporting monitoring and results mechanisms for aid effectiveness. This is an area for donors to support and protection NGOs by focusing attention of the Government on monitoring & evaluation, at a central level, but also as an independent process for NGOs – who need to remain independent and neutral from the government. As such, agreeing on the need for reinforced M&E and results-based mechanisms, while protecting the humanitarian space for NGOs to achieve their mandate outside of government influence, but with government coordination.

## II. Constructive and accountable donor participation

For Afghanistan to successfully transform the lives of ordinary Afghans under the New Deal, donors must stay actively engaged in the process. They should ensure that their considerable financial investments are effectively and transparently distributed and used and provide technical support as necessary.

The lead donor must ensure effective coordination between donors supporting or engaged in New Deal priorities and reach out to other donors to ensure effective coordination with those working outside of the New Deal framework.

Donors have a key role in championing space for civil society engagement in compact mechanisms, facilitating this engagement- particularly where the Government is resistant to this engagement.

- Transparency of the Aid from the GoA Vs sanction from the donor
- Real monitoring on the field for GoA activity/ projects
- Real conditionality of Aid from donors
- Security of sub contractor ; political engagement from donor and GoA
- Mapping of development activity can occur vs no safe area
- Clear counterpart of the fund from the GoA ex; Training police but they have to start a real hierarchy and sanction system inside of the Police / ANA (Martial court)

