

# Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief & Development



## ACBAR Yearly Report 2019

1<sup>st</sup> January- 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019

## 1. Introduction

During 2019 there were continued challenges in terms of peace and security. Presidential elections were held at the end of September with a low turnout of voters, largely due to threats and attacks by the Taliban that prevented many polling stations opening and partially due to problems with biometric registration and organisational ability of the Independent Electoral Commission. The tenth round of Taliban and US Government talks were held in Doha in December to finalize the agreement between the two sides and pave the way for withdrawal of US military forces. The agreement was finally signed in February 2020; significantly the Government of Afghanistan has not been included directly in the process.

In their report for 2019, UNAMA documented 10,392 civilian casualties (3,403 killed and 6,989 injured) as a result of the armed conflict, a 5% decrease compared to 2018. Women comprised 12% of casualties and children 30%. INSO recorded 256 incidents against NGOs ranging from theft to abductions; in total 32 NGO employees were killed and 55 wounded, the highest number of deaths since 2015. An attack on Counterpart International in central Kabul in May killed not only the security guards and passers-by in the street but also three staff of CARE in their office nearby. We regret deeply the loss of life of all these colleagues in 2019.

In 2019 the Humanitarian Response Plan coordinated by OCHA reported a total of 6 million beneficiaries were assisted out of a targeted 6.3 million with funds of 463 million USD including some funds received late in 2018 which were carried over into 2019. Clusters provided assistance to 3.9 million drought affected people, 2 million children with malnutrition, as well as 456,000 IDPs, 513,000 returnees from Iran and Pakistan and 323,000 people affected by natural disasters. Access to different parts of the country by road has seen increasing difficulties for NGOs to negotiate access from multiple levels of armed opposition groups (AOGs). AOGs increasingly demand that NGOs register with them in their areas of control and also pay taxes or levies on their goods or activities. The issue has been discussed in different NGO meetings and with the Humanitarian Access Group (HAG) and concerns raised through the UN Humanitarian Coordinator in meetings with the Taliban's Political Commission in Doha. A collective approach to the problem has been attempted with the drafting of the Joint Operating Principles (JoPs), which require all humanitarian actors to follow specific standards of transparency in their work and when dealing with AOGs. The JoPs were formally adopted by the Humanitarian Country Team at the end of the year.

ACBAR continued to lobby and represent on behalf of members with different Government departments on central and provincial levels. At beginning of the year NGOs faced delays in Kabul customs for humanitarian goods. The issue was resolved after intensive lobbying by ACBAR with OCHA and Donors with the Government. The NGO Law was reviewed in several meetings with the Ministry of Justice and Vice President Danesh at the end of the year in preparation for submission to the Cabinet in early 2020. The Ministry of Economy continued regular meetings on preparation of guidelines for implementation of the NGO Law and held quarterly Policy Committee meetings with other line Ministries and NGO coordination bodies to review reporting procedures and standardization of MoUs under their so-called Road Map. The revised NGO Law is more explicit about the responsibilities of both Government and NGOs, so it is hoped that when it is approved, this will result in clearer processes in implementation of NGO programs.

In the October General Assembly, ACBAR members approved a new three-year strategic plan for the organisation covering 2020, 2021 and 2022. Jeremy Wellard of ICVA came to Afghanistan in June to support the preparation of the strategy and discussed with many NGO members and other key stakeholders in Kabul and

Herat. We would like to thank Jeremy and ICVA for this valuable support. As a result ACBAR has revised the mission statement to cover humanitarian, development and peace-building activities by NGO members to better reflect ACBAR's triple nexus approach. The three key pillars on which the strategy is based are: 1) information and coordination, 2) advocacy and enabling environment and 3) capacity building. Please see details of the strategy on ACBAR website: <http://www.acbar.org/upload/1572759755269.pdf>

At the time of finalizing this report in April 2020, we are facing a worldwide pandemic with Covid-19 which is spreading in the region from neighbouring countries. This will have profound implications for all of us in the aid community as we battle to save lives, to protect vulnerable communities and to ensure an impoverished country like Afghanistan does not slip back further in achieving the aspirations of the Sustainable Development Goals.

## 2. Information Coordination Activities

### 2.1 Meetings

ACBAR Meetings, January to December 2019	No of meetings	Average no of participants
Afghan Development Forum (ADF)	5	40
Afghan Humanitarian Forum (AHF)	11	42
OCHA Humanitarian Finance Unit (OCHA HFU)	7	30
Advocacy Working Group (AWG)	5	15
Aid Effectiveness working group (AEWG)	3	13
Human Resource Working Group (HRWG)	4	38
Directors Meetings	3	44
Steering Committee Meetings	10	9
General Assemblies	2	114
Special meetings (presentations, workshops, consultations)	24	22
NGOs coordination meetings in Herat	12	47
Advisory Board meetings in Herat	11	3
NGOs coordination meetings in Jalalabad, Kunar, Laghman	8	25
Advisory Board meetings in Jalalabad	8	4
NGOs coordination meeting in Mazar-i-Sherif, Samangan	14	23
Advisory Board meetings in Mazar-i-Sherif	11	4
NGO coordination meeting in Kunduz, Takhar, Faizabad	8	16
Advisory Board meetings in Kunduz	6	2
NGOs coordination meetings in Kandahar, Helmand	4	20
Advisory Board meetings in Kandahar	7	3
<b>External representation outside Afghanistan:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>February 2019 – ACBAR Advocacy Manager attended ICVA regional advocacy meeting, Bangkok, support by ICVA</li> <li>March 2019 – ACBAR Director attended ICVA General Assembly in Geneva, support by ICVA</li> <li>April 2019 – ACBAR Deputy Director and Capacity Building Manager had an exchange visit to NGO forum in Somaliland, support by ICVA</li> <li>June 2019 – ACBAR Chairman attended panel discussion on hunger and humanitarian action, ECOSOC, Geneva support by Concern International</li> <li>July 2019 – ACBAR Director attended conference on Children in Armed Conflict at NATO, Italy, support by ICVA</li> <li>Nov 2019 – ACBAR Info-Coord Manager represented ACBAR in Asia Pacific Partnership week, Bangkok, support by ICVA</li> </ul>		

- Nov 2019 – ACBAR Director attended IASC OPAG meeting and UNICEF Partners Meeting, Geneva, support by ICVA
- Nov 2019 – ACBAR Director attended DRC Afghan Diaspora Meeting, Copenhagen, support by DRC
- Dec 2019 – ACBAR Advocacy Manager attended UNHCR Global Refugee Forum, Geneva, support by UNHCR

## **2.1 Coordination with Government, UN and other stakeholders**

- Customs – At the beginning of the year NGOs faced problems with customs department of Ministry of Finance which changed its interpretation of the customs law and requested NGOs pay tax on imported goods despite exemptions in the NGO Law. ACBAR, Ministry of Economy, OCHA and donors lobbied and the problem was finally solved by the CEO;
- Ministry of Economy - ACBAR Deputy Director and Director assisted at regular meetings to follow up on Road Map for NGOs and proposed One NGO budget. From October to December regular meetings were held with Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Economy revise the final version of the Law along with other coordination networks - AWN, ANCB, ACSFO, SWABAC and IWA. The Law has now been shared with the committee under the Vice-President for endorsing before going to Cabinet;
- Ministry of Economy - ACBAR and the four other coordinating bodies had several meetings on MoEc regarding the development of guidelines under article 44 of the NGO law in order to explain implementation of the law. Feedback from NGO members were officially shared with MoEc for consideration. The guidelines were approved by the President’s Administrative Office at the end of the year but some revision is still required;
- Ministry of Communication and Information Technology - March 2019: shared list of several NGOs including 10 agency members to pay their overdue on obtained licensed frequencies (HF, UHF, VHF, V-SAT). After several meetings with ATRA, the issue has been solved up to 95%;
- Ministry of Labor - June 2019: asked NGOs to transfer 1 % (healthcare compensation) of staff salary from project funds to a specific account of the Afghanistan Bank. After a meeting with Deputy Minister of Labor, ACBAR is following up with the legal department of MoLSA;
- UN – ACBAR held regular coordination meetings with OCHA at the ACBAR AFH and represented humanitarian NGO members at the UN Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund (AHF) Country Based Pool Fund Advisory Board;
- Representation – ACBAR represented members at the UNHAS Advisory Board, INSO Advisory Board, Pactec Advisory Board, Education Can’t Wait Steering Committee, Afghanistan Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Executive Committee and MoEc Policy Leadership Committee.

## **2.2 Coordination with Members:**

- The Annual and Semi-Annual General Assemblies were held successfully in April and October 2019. A new Chairperson and 14 SC members were elected in April 2019. In total, eleven new applicant NGOs: 1 INGO and 10 NNGOs (GAALO, AFGA, AKAH, AWRO, DHSA, JACK, LKRO, OBTA, OSA, SAF, SWRO) obtained ACBAR membership in both General Assemblies.
- The ACBAR member database for 2019 was updated with maps and excels lists illustrating activities of ACBAR members in 10 sectors in 34 provinces (341 districts). The mapping information was shared with all members through a confidential link on the website to encourage better planning of programmes. The mapping was completed by end June, 2019.
- Info-Coord team paid courtesy visits to 21 existing NGO members (national and international) in March and April and 11 new members subsequently. Info-Coord also visited four Ministries (MAIL, MORR, MRRD, and MOCIT) for a baseline survey under the WHH project.

### **3. Advocacy and Civil Society**

The Advocacy Working Group (AWG) has become a bi-monthly forum for NGO members to discuss the advocacy trends and joint cooperation regarding policy matters, lobby and products. Two taskforces were established to roll out AWG's advocacy strategy for 2019 and 2020. According to advocacy priorities from the annual ACBAR survey, NGO members want to cooperate on 1) Safeguarding humanitarian space; 2) International conference 2020 and; 3) Enabling civil society. A taskforce was not activated for enabling civil society due to lack of participants. The safeguarding humanitarian space taskforce had the idea of the humanitarian scenario planning which was commissioned by Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and was carried out by ACAPS (Assessment Capacities Project).

#### **3.1 Activities**

##### **Conference on Interest for Persons with Disabilities**

In March 2019 there was a conference on "Physical Rehabilitation Services and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities" on behalf of 3 NGO members - Humanity and Inclusion (HI), Norwegian Afghanistan Committee (NAC) and Swedish Committee for Afghanistan (SCA), facilitated by ACBAR. There was a joint follow up on empowering the endeavor for the draft National Disability Strategy and the possible inclusive consultation process for this.

##### **JCMB Open Letter**

For the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board (JCMB) meeting - which was held in Kabul in July – where progress on commitments made at the Geneva Conference on Afghanistan (GCA) were reviewed, ACBAR and its members send a clear message in an open letter that protection of civilians and aid workers should be prioritized by all parties to the conflict and that the Government should ensure that civil society is provided an enabling environment to serve all the people of Afghanistan. The donors appreciated this call.

##### **NGO Press Conference**

Aligned with the open letter to the JCMB, there was a press conference at ACBAR that the NGO community is deeply concerned about the trend in violations of the International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and the increase in attacks on citizens, health care and education facilities. The attack on a hospital of the Swedish Committee for Afghanistan (SCA) was the main focus of the press conference which was well attended by media.

##### **Aid Effectiveness Working Group (AEWG):**

ACBAR has been leading this initiative since the Brussels conference on Afghanistan, there is a wider group of civil society members and an elected Monitoring Board (MB) to steer activities. In 2019 funding was secured by ACBAR (with World Bank support), Integrity Watch Afghanistan (IWA) and the Swedish Committee for Afghanistan (SCA) to commission research on the effectiveness of development activities in the Citizens Charter Afghanistan Project (CCAP). The study should come up with specific recommendations for alignment of CCAP with the needs and priorities of communities. The findings of the study will be used to guide and support an evidence based advocacy for development effectiveness in general and community-driven development in specific. The report will be published in March 2020.

##### **IDP Perspective on National IDP Policy research:**

With funding from Danish Refugee Council (DRC) ACBAR commissioned a research on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) to gather primary data which can be utilized for evidence based advocacy approach. The Advisory Board for this research was composed of ACBAR, Asia Displacement Solutions Platform (ADSP), DRC, and WHH. The aim of the research study is to take stock of the implementation of the National IDP Policy and to

formulate recommendations for an improved implementation of the National IDP Policy from the perspectives of IDPs. The report will be published in spring 2020.

**Advocacy trainings:**

- 1 August and 12 November - introduction to Advocacy and SDGs training was carried out for a selection of members in Kabul
- 23 December - introduction to Advocacy and SDGs training was carried out for members in Jalalabad.
- 30 December - introduction to Advocacy and SDGs training was carried out for members in Kandahar.

**International Representation:**

- ACBAR was represented by the Chairperson of ACBAR at the ECOSOC HAS (Humanitarian affairs segment) side-event “Conflict and Hunger: Implementing United Nations Security Council Resolution 2417 for Humanitarian Impact” on 25 June in Geneva/Switzerland. A position paper was prepared for this.
- Preparation for the (UNHCR) Global Refugee Framework (GRF) conference in Geneva/Switzerland together with Asia Displacement Solutions Platform (ADSP):
  - Provincial round tables on 12 September in Kabul, 16 September in Herat and 23 September in Mazar-i-Sherif with ACBAR members;
  - 16-17-18 December attendance of the Global Refugee Framework by ADSP and ACBAR
- ACBAR was represented at the IASC OPAG meeting in Geneva/Switzerland on behalf of ICVA as a National NGO representative on 7 and 8 November.
- ACBAR attended the UNICEF partner meeting in Geneva/Switzerland to review the NGO partnerships as ICVA member on 11 and 12 November.
- At DRC’s Afghan Diaspora Conference in Copenhagen ACBAR was present to discuss linkages with diaspora in Europe and NGOs in Afghanistan on 14 November.
- ACBAR participated at ICVA’s NGO partners meeting in Bangkok/Thailand to discuss advocacy and representation of national NGOs with international bodies from 26 until 29 November.

**Advocacy Tracking System:** Advocacy issues and follow ups have been incorporated into ACBAR’s advocacy tracking system.

**Working Groups Mapping:** A map with all Afghanistan working groups, led by different NGOs, UN bodies/agencies and government has been updated and put on ACBAR’s website.

**ACBAR’s Website and Social Media:** Website, Facebook and Twitter are updated regularly with relevant publications and op-eds to promote the humanitarian and development work of NGOs. A bi-monthly newsletter is also sent round to NGO members with relevant news and publication lists.

## **4. Regional Offices**

### **4.1 Jalalabad Regional Office**

ACBAR Jalalabad covers four provinces – Nangarhar, Laghman, Kunar and Nuristan. ACBAR has 45 member agencies (20 national and 25 international) in this region. The Advisory Board members for 2019 were YVO, RI, AWRC and SVA. The regional manager’s activities during the year included arrangement of 8 NGO coordination meetings, 8 Advisory Board meetings and attendance at 98 other meetings as well as the manager also visited 52 government departments and member NGOs.

Good relations with Economy Directorate and Government line departments are in place. Line departments have been cooperative certifying NGO reports. Community satisfaction with NGO activities has increased due to good coordination among NGOs.

- NGO staff awareness and capacity have improved through ACBAR training workshops
- Intervention of sectorial directorates in NGOs affairs have been slightly decreased as a result of separate face to face meetings with line department
- NGO Law awareness has been explained for some line departments
- All line departments are visited to have their views and feedback on NGO members
- Advocacy meetings have been conducted to defend NGOs right, provide facilities for their implementation and solve their problems.

#### **4.2 Mazar-e-Sharif Regional Office**

ACBAR Mazar has 41 members with projects in Balkh, Samangan, Saripul, Jawzjan and Faryab provinces (24 International and 17 National). The Advisory Board members for ACBAR Mazar office in 2019 were HALO Trust, SCI, PIN, OHW and AWEC as alternative member. The regional manager's activities included arrangement of 14 NGO coordination meetings (12 in Mazar and 2 in Samangan), 11 advisory board meetings, 60 Government meetings, 31 visits to Government departments, 78 NGO visits, 12 UN members and 1 donor visits as well as support for 11 training workshops by ACBAR Training team.

#### **4.3 Herat Regional Office**

ACBAR Herat covers 4 western provinces - Badghis, Ghor, Farah and Herat and has 45 members (15 international and 30 national NGOs). There are 47 non-member NGOs also participating in monthly coordination meetings and also received trainings under capacity building project. The Advisory Board members this year were DACAAR, RRAA, CHA and ASAARO, and the chairperson of our Advisory Committee was Eng. Abdul Raziq Kiani DACAAR Regional Manager. ACBAR NGOs coordination meetings and Advisory Board meetings were held regularly each month in Herat. In the other province there are fewer ACBAR members with activities but all the members who have sub-offices in Ghor, Badghis or Farah Provinces, also have a base in Herat, so through the Herat offices ACBAR can advocate and solve NGO problems in those provinces. ACBAR is participating in Provincial Development Committees (PDCs), Directorate of Economy meetings and all other Government sectorial departments meetings as invited. ACBAR is also regularly participating in UNOCHA meetings, INSO security round tables, NGOs invitations and any other necessary meetings. ACBAR is doing advocacy for all members and has good support from Directorate of Economy on behalf of NGOs.

#### **4.4 Kunduz Regional Office**

ACBAR Northeast office covers four provinces (Kunduz, Baghlan, Takhar and Badakhshan) and has 58 members (38 International and 20 National NGOs). ACBAR Kunduz had an active advisory board in 2019 composed of representatives from ACTED, RET, HI and SCA. ACBAR Northeast manager conducted 8 NGOs Coordination meeting, 6 Advisory board meeting and two Advocacy meetings and also attended 40 NGO and Government Directorate meetings (including PDC, OCHA-OCT, INSO and sectorial meetings). The manager also visited 58 NGOs and sectorial directorates, established sound relations among NGOs and sectorial directorates, persuaded the Provincial Governor's Office to assist, support and encourage NGOs, facilitated training workshops for NGO staff, linked NGOs with OCHA for IDP meetings and solved problems of NGOs directly at Provincial Development Committee meetings.



#### **4.5 Kandahar Regional Office**

ACBAR Kandahar regional office was opened in July 2019 at the request of NGO members. The Kandahar office covers four provinces; Kandahar, Helmand, Uruzgan and Zabul. There are 33 members (19 international and 14 national) in the region. Advisory Board members for 2019 were WADAN, ANCC, HRDA and LKRO. During this period the regional manager conducted 4 NGO coordination meetings, 7 Advisory Board meetings and attended 45 meetings NGOs, clusters meetings, and HRT and INSO security roundtables including other governmental sector meetings. The regional manager also visited 13 NGOs and sectorial departments to solve problems and obstacles and represent NGO challenges. In addition, the manager attended, facilitated, and coordinated member NGOs for (6) trainings, and maintained close coordination with SWABAC, OCHA and department of Economy, provincial governor offices, and other sectorial departments.

#### **5. Training and Capacity Building Department**

This department aims to strengthen the institutional and service delivery capacities of ACBAR members and civil society actors throughout Afghanistan with capacity development trainings based on needs of NGOs on provincial levels. At the beginning of each year ACBAR members are asked to provide their priorities for training in the annual membership survey and participants in ACBAR trainings are also requested to give feedback for future trainings. In 2019 the top trainings requested by NGO members were: M&E, report writing and proposal writing.

In 2019 ACBAR has conducted 12 trainings on Sustainable Management of Afghan CSOs, Project Design, Monitoring and Evaluation and Sphere project Standards in 11 provinces to develop the capacity of NGOs staff in developing project ideas, matching project ideas to Afghanistan Sustainable Development Goals (A-SDGs), donor communication, funding eligibility, building sustainability of NGOs, strategic planning, conducting SWOT analysis and developing a comprehensive M&E system and data collection. These trainings were conducted under the ACSSI project with funding from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan through a network of 3 Japanese NGOs (AAR Japan, JCV and PWJ) under the title of Afghanistan Civil Society Support Initiative (ACSSI).

ACBAR also conducted 6 trainings on Core Humanitarian Standards (CHS) in 6 provinces to promote quality, accountability, community engagement and developing complaint response mechanisms (CRM) in humanitarian activities. CHS trainings were funded by WHH and German Government, (see Annex for details of trainings).

All trainings on sustainable management of Afghan CSOs were evaluated after one month and the reports are shared with all stakeholders through ACBAR website.

In addition under the WHH project, ACBAR's Policy Officer reviewed 35 key policies with 10 NNGOs through 55 mentoring meetings and technical online support in the second half of the year.

#### **6. ACBAR Twinning Program Department**

The anticipated impact of the Twinning Program is that capacity building of NNGOs contributes to system-wide gains in humanitarian delivery in Afghanistan through increased participation and improved capabilities of NNGOs to implement UNOCHA's Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund (AHF) programs, either individually or in partnership with other NGOs that deliver essential aid and services.

From January through March 2019, the DFID funded ACBAR Twinning Program focused on completing the efforts to increase NNGO's membership in the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund (AHF) partner base and improve the NNGO's abilities to respond to humanitarian crises. Of the 25 NNGOs in the program which started Feb. 15, 2015 and ended March 31, 2019, 22 NNGOs passed UNOCHA Due Diligence and 18 NNGOs passed UNOCHA

Capacity Assessment resulting in their inclusion in the AHF Partner Base. At the end of the program, 4 NNGOs applied for capacity assessments, 3 of them have passed and 1 is still pending, while of 3 NNGOs in the due diligence process, only one of them has passed. In March recognition was given to all the NGO participants including the 13 INGOs that mentored the NNGOs with policy review, joint field visits, training, strategic planning and more. This report summarizes the DFID funded ACBAR Twinning Program 2 progress from January 1st, 2019 – December 31st, 2019.

By the end of the program, 155 NNGOs had been mapped and ACBAR had provided 89 training days, plus 4 additional sessions of multiple days to partners in addition to individual NNGO training provided by the INGOs. Overall, ACBAR and the INGOs both conducted 350 policy reviews for the NNGOs. Additionally, the NNGO twinning partners were awarded 7 AHF projects directly and 4 AHF projects as subcontractors with the INGOs as lead implementers as well as the execution of 34 partnership projects which were carried out between Oct. 1, 2017 and March 31, 2019. Final narrative and financial reporting were completed and accepted by DFID in July 2019.

Due to the success of the first Twinning Program, ACBAR was asked to submit a concept note to DFID for a second phase of the program with improvements using lessons learned. The concept note, budget and related documents were given to DFID for initial review in April 2019. ACBAR worked with DFID from April through July to develop the Twinning Program 2. The cooperative agreement was signed to start August 1, 2019 through March 31, 2024.

Twinning Program 2 is a 4 year and 8 month capacity building program funded by DFID with the aim of building the capacity of 40 National NGOs (NNGOs) through training, mentoring and cooperative activities in partnership with ACBAR's International NGO (INGO) and National NGO (NNGO) members which have been accepted as "Advisors" to the program. ACBAR and the Advisors work to improve the NNGO's humanitarian capabilities through training, meetings, field visits, mentoring and cooperative activities.

Initial steps to start the new humanitarian mentoring program included a Call for Expression of Interest to ACBAR members with specific requirements. By the end of September, 9 INGOs and 3 NNGOs were accepted as Advisors to mentor 19 new NNGOs in the program plus 1 NNGO in December = 20 NNGOs. The twinning team conducted an ACBAR due diligence for the 20 NNGOs and prepared a baseline survey and SWOT analysis were the NNGOs Provincial Activity and their Proposal Information starting from January 2019. After a complete review of all documents qualified twinning partners were invited to join the program; 19 partnerships were started November 1, 2019 and one partnership was started December 1, 2019 for a total of 20 NNGO partners paired with 13 Advisors (INGOs -10 and NNGOs -3) by signing tripartite MoUs between ACBAR, Advisors and NNGOs. The first batch of NNGOs will be under the program for 13 months from 1 Nov 2019 to 30 Nov 2020. The second batch will be from 1 Dec 2020 to 31 Dec 2021.

Additional staff for Twinning Program 2 was recruited; a new Translator and the new Gender Specialist/Remote Manager were hired in October and a new Program Manager started work in mid-November. The former Program Manager shifted to a part-time Twinning Program Advisor position.

Of the 20 NNGOs accepted into Twinning Program 2, 13 have main offices based in Kabul, 7 have provincial main offices, 1 in Balkh, 2 in Bamyān, 2 in Herat, 1 in Kandahar, 1 in Nangarhar and there are over 37 sub-offices in the provinces.

## **7. Finance Department**

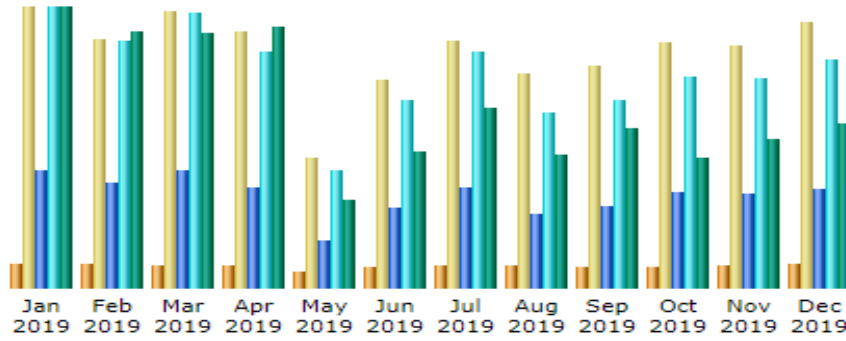
During this period the finance department has carried out activities according to plan. All donor reports were prepared and submitted on time and monthly financial reports have been prepared and submitted to Steering Committee. ACBAR submitted 1<sup>st</sup> and 2nd semi-annual report 1398 to Min of Economy. The annual audit for 2018 was completed in March 2019 and the annual audit 2019 has been tendered through ACBAR's website for a new auditing company in early 2020. During 2019 ACBAR has not faced any financial deficit.

## **8. HR/Admin/Logistics Department**

ACBAR consisted of 50 staff at the end of 2019 (35 men and 15 women) – so women are 30%. During the year 14 new staff joined (7 men and 7 women) while 9 staff left (5 men and 4 women). The department provided advice to ACBAR members on the Labor Law, visa processes, retirement, benefits, compensation leave, and severance payment. The department was also responsible for preparing logistics and stocks reports and inventories to submit to finance department for audits and further processes. In addition to these activities the department and members of ACBAR Senior Management Team revised different organization policies in an ongoing process.

## **9. Website Department**

ACBAR website is the most frequently visited website in Afghanistan due to the well-known job section. During 2019 ACBAR website department has responded to 18,580 inquiries from different stakeholders (member NGOs, non-member NGOs, private sector, Government and Donors) and posted 3,073 RFPs / RFQs and 14,917 job announcements on the ACBAR website. ACBAR received 80,280 USD as income from charges made to subscribers (private sector, non-member NGOs, Donors and UN) for these services. Member NGOs and Government can post jobs/RFQs for free.



Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2019	52,040	585,648	8,233,322	19,539,990	750.56 GB
Feb 2019	49,687	518,917	7,276,461	17,209,962	685.63 GB
Mar 2019	48,610	578,254	8,157,463	19,152,902	680.23 GB
Apr 2019	46,921	535,177	6,998,234	16,474,613	697.59 GB
May 2019	32,631	271,225	3,312,877	8,146,734	234.41 GB
Jun 2019	43,077	434,044	5,577,428	13,042,715	365.87 GB
Jul 2019	46,667	516,924	6,998,364	16,420,670	483.31 GB
Aug 2019	46,639	448,664	5,179,993	12,260,551	357.83 GB
Sep 2019	42,510	463,026	5,686,347	13,039,168	425.34 GB
Oct 2019	43,360	511,583	6,662,287	14,734,664	346.09 GB
Nov 2019	48,180	504,837	6,561,147	14,617,594	398.35 GB
Dec 2019	51,390	553,203	6,897,480	15,943,658	440.98 GB
<b>Total</b>	<b>551,712</b>	<b>5,921,502</b>	<b>77,541,403</b>	<b>180,583,221</b>	<b>5866.19 GB</b>

**Annex 1**

**Training Department Report  
Jan – Dec 2019**

#	Date	Province	Donor	Training Subject	# participants		
					Total	Male	Female
1	27-30 Jan 2019	Herat	PWJ	Project Design ( Proposal Writing Concepts)	30	20	10
2	17-19 Feb 2019	Kabul	PWJ	Monitoring and Evaluation	27	17	10
3	20 & 24 Feb 2019			The Sphere projects (Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards)	22	19	3
4	07-11 July 2019	Parwan	PWJ	Sustainable Management of Afghan CSOs	18	11	7
5	28 July- 01 Aug 2019	Bamyan	PWJ	Sustainable Management of Afghan CSOs	23	15	8
6	25-29 August 2019	Kunduz	PWJ	Sustainable Management of Afghan CSOs	30	22	8
7	14-18 Sept 2019	Badakhshan	PWJ	Sustainable Management of Afghan CSOs	21	4	17
8	13-17 Oct 2019	Balkh	PWJ	Sustainable Management of Afghan CSOs	22	12	10
9	13-16 Oct 2019	Herat	PWJ	Sustainable Management of Afghan CSOs	19	7	12
10	04-07 Nov 2019	Kabul	PWJ	Sustainable Management of Afghan CSOs	25	18	7
11	16-19 Nov 2019	Takhar	PWJ	Sustainable Management of Afghan CSOs	27	11	16
12	23-26 Dec 2019	Kabul	PWJ	Sustainable Management of Afghan CSOs	18	12	6
<b>Total Number of Participants for ACSSI project</b>					<b>282</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>118</b>

#	Date	Province	Donor	Training Subject	# participants		
					Total	Male	Female
1	29-30 April 2019	Nangarhar	WHH	CHS ( Core Humanitarian Standards)	22	17	5
2	25-26 Jun 2019	Bamyan	WHH	CHS ( Core Humanitarian Standards)	21	12	9
3	21-22 Jul 2019	Daikundi	WHH	CHS ( Core Humanitarian Standards)	28	15	13
4	21-22 Aug 2019	Kunduz	WHH	CHS ( Core Humanitarian Standards)	26	22	4
5	18-19 Sept 2019	Kandahar	WHH	CHS ( Core Humanitarian Standards)	18	14	4
6	08-09 Oct	Khost	WHH	CHS ( Core Humanitarian Standards)	21	16	5
<b>Total Number of Participants</b>					<b>136</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>40</b>