



MONITORING REPORT OF
COMMUNITY RESILIENCE-PEACE INTERVENTION,
LIVELIHOOD, WOMEN PEACE & SECURITY AND
RENEWABLE ENERGY (CRPILWPSRE)

Afghan Development Association

Taking Pride in Development & Rebuilding of
Afghanistan; Where We Put People First”



Monitoring Mission Conducted By:
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Internal Audit Unit Head Main
Office Kabul

Date of Submission
31st March 2015

Introduction:

The Afghan Development Association (ADA), M&E and Internal Audit Unit planned to monitor all ongoing projects across the target provinces during 2015 on regular bases. According to this plan, a mission had been carried out to monitor the Community Resilience-Peace Intervention, Livelihood, Women Peace & Security and Renewable Energy project being implemented in Uruzgan province.

Monitoring Team:

The monitoring team consisted of the following staff:

- Mr. A. Malik Rahmani, Monitoring, Evaluation and Internal Audit Unit Head
- Mr. Ghulam Sakhi Ludin, Agriculture and Livestock Sector Head
- Mr. Saifullah Saifi, Capacity Building and Trainings Sector Head
- Mr. A. Haleem Himat, Peace building project manager/Master Trainer Peace Building

Objectives of the Mission:

The main objectives of the mission were:

1. To recruit project staff for the field office
2. To conduct orientation sessions for project staff
3. To hold meetings with Agriculture Cooperative
4. To visit project site, selected on-farm structures for construction

Methodology of Monitoring:

The following steps were followed during the monitoring mission:

1. Review of project documents and action plan
2. Individual meetings/interviews with officials and beneficiaries
3. Site visits

Summary of the Mission:

The mission started from Kabul on 25th March 2015 to Uruzgan province (Tirinkot) by air and completed on 29th March 2015. According to the plan at 11:00 am of the first day of the mission, a meeting was held with Provincial Manager (Mr. Ajmeer Safi) and other provincial staff at ADA Uruzgan office and shared the mission objectives with them and prepared an action plan for project staff recruitment, interview with candidates, site visits and conduction of project orientation session.

During the mission the monitoring team had separate and joint meetings with provincial staff, Cooperative Head and beneficiaries on 26th, 27th and 28th March 2015. The aim of the meetings were to hear about the progress of project activities, coordination with local authority, challenges against the project implementation, plan for field visit Demo plots, green house and site selection for on-farm structures.

Project Background:

Afghan Development Association (ADA) has been implementing different projects funded by NCA in Uruzgan province, the current projects "Community Resilience-Peace Intervention, Livelihood, Women Peace & Security and Renewable Energy" started from 1st January 2015 and is the continuation of women empowerment, livelihood, climate change and literacy projects being implemented in Uruzgan from the past two years. The current project is one package that covers five different components which includes: Conflict mitigation, women skills, livelihood, climate change mitigation (renewable energy) and literacy.

The overall objective of the project is "**Sustainable development and peace in Afghanistan is promoted by building resilient communities**" which will be achieved by the end of year 2015 through proper implementation of the activities mentioned in the proposal.

Activities performed during the monitoring mission:

- 1- **Meetings held:** On the first day of the monitoring mission, a meeting was held with ADA Uruzgan provincial manager and managerial staff dated 24 Mar 2015. The agenda points of the meeting were to finalize the project monitoring plan, staff recruitment, security situation in the province after the assassination of Uruzgan province Security Commander (General Matiullah Khan) and other challenges against the project implementation during the coming days:
 - **Security situation:** Security situation was deteriorated compare to the situation before the assassination of Police Commander. Most residents of the city were calm and looked worried about the unknown future of the province. According to the ADA security policy, the participant decided to reduce and limit the movement to essential only in the area until the security situation gets better in the province.
 - **Update on loan re-payments from women empowerment project beneficiaries:** As part of the Promoting livelihood through self-help groups, skills training and livelihood project in Uruzgan ADA paid a loan amount of 8550 AFN to 80 women each last year. The loan was revolving in nature and the beneficiaries were supposed to repay the loan amount to ADA for further disbursement. In this connection ADA had signed MoU with each beneficiary (borrower). But according to the last update on 25th of March 2015 only 46 beneficiaries re-paid their loan to ADA) and collection of the remaining loan will be followed and collected.
 - **Follow up of nurseries established in the past:** During 2013 ADA established two fruit tree nurseries under the NCA funded livelihood project (one in Tirinkot and another in Dehrawod). The purpose of the nurseries establishment was to increase orchards and improve fruit production through good variety of saplings. This year (2015) the nurseries were uprooted and distributed to the farmers for plantation.
- 2- **Recruitment of qualified staff:** According to the plan on the second day of the mission the team conducted interviews with selected candidates for literacy, poultry, agriculture and peace building components. As a result, candidates for the most of the key positions identified and selected. ADA provincial manager and project manager are closely following to fill rest of the positions.
- 3- **Project orientation session:** According to plan separate orientation sessions were conducted for provincial and project staff by related sector head (Sakhi Ludin, Saifullah Saifi and Haleem Himat) in Uruzgan Provincial Office. Mr. Rahmani discussed the overall and general issues regarding projects implementation such as selection of suitable and eligible beneficiaries, follow up and monitoring of the project activities by provincial staff, on time reporting (financial and narrative), presence of staff at field, attending all coordination and governmental meetings, team work and supporting each other, which is the key element of success.
- 4- **Meeting with Agriculture Cooperative Head and Members:** Meeting was held with Agriculture Cooperative Head and members and discussed about their current status, challenges and disbursement of USD 7000 to Bare foot Solar Engineers (BSEs) through Agriculture Cooperative. During the discussion with cooperative members and based on our analysis of the current situation in Uruzgan province, we found that it will be difficult to ensure the repayment of the disbursed loans.

5- Site Visit:

During the mission, sites visits have been conducted on 26th and 27th March 2015:

26th of March 2015:

On 26th of March, a greenhouse and four demo plots have been observed in Ghulaman village. Sardar Wali, the owner of the greenhouse was happy from his greenhouse production had plan to cultivate tomatoes in greenhouse. He also suggested that ADA should consider the height of the greenhouse as per climate and weather condition of Urozgan for the next phase of greenhouses establishment. During the visit of two demo plots of wheat it is observed that the results were not good as we expected because of the less attention given by the farmers.

27th March 2015:

On 27th of March the team visited selected on-farm structures and a wheat demo plot in Charemgar village. All the selected structures were proposed by the community and located along with Charemgar main canal. It is observed that the results of Nassibullah's demo plot were not good as expected.

Observations: The following are the key points observed during the monitoring visit:

1. The results of demo plots were not good and were not according to the expectations.
2. 46 beneficiaries re-paid their loan to ADA and rest of the beneficiaries is yet to pay.
3. Unexpected cold weather in winter had negative impact on vegetable because of greenhouse height in Ghulaman village.
4. Finding qualified staff in Uruzgan province was another challenge that the team faced while recruiting and interviewing the staff.
5. Agriculture cooperative new members belonged to one or two families and some of them were aged less than 15 years.

Recommendations and suggestions:

- The current demo plots should be followed properly until harvest time and in future all the demos should be established and followed according to proposed plan, proper shape and design. The farmers should be mobilized and closely followed to adopt new techniques and methods to achieve the desired results.
- Re-payment (collection) of loan from women must be the top priority and needs a regular follow-up.
- In future height of the greenhouse should be according to the local weather and temperature to avoid damage of unexpected cold winter.
- ADA provincial staff should try their best to find out local qualified staff and give them priority if not available then alternative ways should be worked out.
- ADA Head Office should work on the policy for agriculture cooperative management to avoid the above-mentioned problems in future.

Monitoring Mission Pictures, Uruzgan



A view of Head Office Team meeting provincial staff, Tirinkot, Uruzgan



A view of ADA Senior Staff meeting Cooperative Management, Tirinkot



A candidate being interviewed for the position of trainer in Tirinkot, Uruzgan



Project staff being oriented on project objectives, activities and action plans



A view of selected water divider for construction in Charamgar canal



A view of selected site for protection wall along on Charamgar canal

Pictures of Follow-up Activities of 2014 Project, Funded by NCA



A view of wheat demo plot of Mr. Sardar Wali, Charamgar, Tirinkot, Uruzgan



A view of wheat demonstration plot, Tirinkot, Uruzgan