

TIL UM : 5.3, 5.6, 5.15.3, 5.17.4
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Assistance for Afghanistan WEEKLY UPDATE

Issue No. 283

29 September 1998

1999 Appeal

Representatives of UN agencies, ICRC, NGOs, and the donor community meet in Islamabad on 30 September for a three-day workshop to outline the strategies that will underpin next year's Appeal. The strategies will seek to meet the five objectives listed in the Strategic Framework for Afghanistan: the alleviation of human suffering, the protection and advancement of human rights, with particular emphasis on gender; the provision of basic social services; the empowerment of Afghans, both women and men, to build sustainable livelihoods; and the return of refugees from neighbouring countries.

Afghanistan Programming Body

In the last fortnight, two meetings of the extended Afghanistan Task Force have been held to discuss next steps in implementing common programming. A draft constitution for the Afghanistan Programming Body has been discussed and revised. The first meeting of the APB is likely to be in late October or early November. Its first task will be to approve its own constitution and review the draft 1999 Appeal.

The APB will build consensus on policy issues of concern to the whole assistance community. It will be an advisory body, which makes recommendations, in particular to donors, UN agencies and NGOs. It will support the Appeal mechanism and to promote effective coordination, both in the

field and with headquarters and capitals. It will be supported by a technical secretariat administered by the UN Coordinator's office.

Assistance Update

Central Region

Education, income generation and cultural programmes continued in UNCHS Community Fora in districts 3 and 6 of Kabul. Water, sanitation, building recycling and relief projects are ongoing.

UNHCR Kabul approved provision of shelter for 105 families, recently returned from refugee camps in Pakistan to their places of origin, in Khak-e-Jabar.

A UNHCR-funded vocational training project for 25 visually impaired people.

WHO and UNICEF provided supplies to hospitals and clinics in Kabul.

UNICEF water, sanitation and construction projects are ongoing in Kabul, Logar and Wardak provinces.

Eastern Region

WHO reports that work on the Jalalabad water supply project has now been completed and the project has been handed over to the municipality.

A pilot project to use solar energy to power a health centre in Mohmandara, Nangarhar, is under way.

A study is being carried out in a number of districts in Nangarhar to assess choloroquine's effectiveness against malaria.

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FAO continued to distribute wheat seed to farmers in PEACE Initiative areas in Azro and Tizin.

UNICEF reports that water and sanitation and social mobilization activities are progressing well in Nangrahar, Kunar and Paktia. Basic health and hygiene education activities continue in the eastern region.

Northern Region

Rehabilitation work continues in the areas affected by the 30 May earthquake. The Kuwait Joint Relief Committee reports that it has provided funds to the Pamir Reconstruction Bureau to enable rebuilding of 150 houses in the village of Khurdakan, Shar-i-Buzurg

Southern Region

UNOPS is constructing a bazaar in Dand where entrepreneurs, many of them widows or members of other vulnerable groups, will be able to sell goods -- some of which have been produced with support from UNOPS micro-credit schemes. Also in Dand, a micro-credit scheme is currently supporting a new agro-chemical shop. A village revolving fund is enabling widows to buy five sheep each.

In Bala Buluk district, UNOPS-led work on canals will result in 5,500 jeribs being irrigated.

FAO processed 36 tonnes of wheat seed for PEACE Initiative districts in Kandahar, and monitored activities in PEACE Initiative districts in Dand, and Arghandab.

Western Region

FAO procured 30 tonnes of wheat under the food-for-seed programme and monitored melon fly demonstration orchards in Kushk.

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TIL UM : S.3, S.6, SIS.3, SIF.4
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Assistance for Afghanistan

WEEKLY UPDATE

Issue No. 282

22 September 1998

Environment Workshop

Earlier this year, the Society for Afghanistan Volunteer Environmentalists (SAVE) organised an Environmental Workshop for Afghanistan, with financial support of the Royal Netherlands Embassy in association with UNDP, in Peshawar. The main outcome of the workshop was a series of recommendations that included formulating a national conservation strategy.

SAVE has produced a comprehensive report reflecting the proceedings of the Environment Workshop: Identify Problems, Prioritize and Explore Possibilities for Protection.

Humanitarian Update

Central Region

The recent rocketing of Kabul has killed more than 100 people and shattered a large number of windows. UNCHS is making clear plastic sheeting available so people can repair windows before winter sets in.

A UNCHS water team repaired 30 handpumps in Districts 11 and 15. Some 70 wells were chlorinated and tested in various districts of Kabul over the past week.

The excavation and construction of Hud Khail canal, and the second phase of restoration of Bagh-I-Babur, under the Neighbourhood Action Programme of Habitat are on going.

WFP supplied 500 tonnes of food for institutional feeding and bakery programmes in Kabul.

A joint UNICEF, WHO and MoPH mission visited Logar Province to conducted a social health training programme for female health workers.

Under the UNICEF water supply project, the construction of Chenari pipe water supply system in Bagrami, Kabul, was completed and ten wells were dug and equipped with handpumps, in Logar and Wardak Provinces.

WHO provided supplies to MCH clinics, hospitals, and other health facilities in the central region.

Eastern Region

WFP issued nearly 800 tonnes of wheat flour for bakery, reforestation, road construction, sanitation and water supply projects in Nangrahar and Kunar Provinces. Some 420 tonnes of food have been transported to WFP Kabul.

FAO Crops released 300 tonnes of DAP and fertilizer for its Kabul office, prepared 600 square metres of land in the Shesham-bagh research station of Jalalabad and organized training of community trainers in fruit-growing areas of Khost, Paktia, and Paktika.

Southern Region

A three-day workshop on the PEACE Initiative was held in the UNDP offices in Kandahar.

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Western Region

Two mine awareness teams were deployed to the Ghorroach and Murghab districts of Badghis Province. The priority was to provide mine awareness training in high risk areas to recent returnees from IDP camps in Herat.

FAO Crops procured 25 tonnes of wheat seed via the Food-for-Seed programme.

FAO field staff met with representatives from UNOPS to discuss the use of the UNOPS revolving fund for purchasing wheat seed.

UNICEF donated disposable syringes to the regional hospital of MoPH, constructed latrines and wells, equipped with hand-pumps, in Badghis and Ghor Provinces, chlorinated over 3,000 wells in various districts of Herat and organised a mid-term EPI review workshop in collaboration with the RRD, in the western region.

WFP issued over 26 tonnes of wheat for institutional feeding, training, income generation and shelter projects in Herat.

WHO provided supplies to the Badghis Provincial Hospital.