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Friends and colleagues,

The lingering challenges to reconstruction of Afghanistan have surfaced yet again in the past year, and they speak volumes about the fragility of the situation in Afghanistan and all that remains to be done. While Afghanistan enjoyed a steady progress from the fall of Taliban well up to the end of 2005, the year 2006 saw many of the endemic problems resurface.

The most daunting of these, of course, is the revitalized insurgency, but the problems also extend to widespread unemployment, loss in popular confidence, official corruption, and slow pace of reconstruction. A recent report released by the US think-tank Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) measuring Afghanistan's progress found that notable decline has occurred in all but two indicators of progress. Similarly, other recent surveys and reports by organizations such as the Asia Foundation and the Senlis Council document decline in progress and in people's confidence over the past year. While these are undeniably discouraging signs for all of us in the reconstruction community, they should serve to galvanize all actors (donors, government, and nongovernment sectors) into action. More importantly, while the challenges have overshadowed the progress, they have not been able to roll back many of the achievements made. Afghanistan retains its democratically elected government and legislature, the country's constitution has successfully weathered tests, and our friends in the international community have increased their commitments to Afghanistan. It is our belief, however, that the people of Afghanistan remain the most important constituency of the reconstruction process and its true beneficiaries. Their trust and confidence in the process should be retained. This can only be done when the actors in the assistance community deliver on their promises, and implement projects that bring real, tangible changes in the quality of people's lives.

To this end GRSP has continued to work with the many communities that it serves under the National Solidarity Program (NSP). The NSP program continues to be the flagship reconstruction project for the international donor community, the government of Afghanistan, and its many NGO partners. It also epitomizes the many benefits that can be reaped from fruitful public-private, and government-nongovernment partnerships. The success of this example illustrates that with their long record of service and experience in reconstruction and aid delivery, NGOs remain an indispensable partner in the reconstruction process.

This report documents some of GRSP's reconstruction and aid delivery activities over the past year. Besides detailing GRSP's role in implementing NSP projects in the north, the report also chronicles projects implemented in other provinces, and in sectors ranging from rebuilding infrastructure to income generation, health, and education projects. Lastly, the report also contains an independent outside audit of our finances. As before, we continue to count as our greatest asset the relationship we enjoy with the communities that we work with. Our model of community-centered, participation-based development is based around our organizational motto: "Help Afghans Help Themselves." In the end, we hope that with time the assistance community will have an increasingly minimal role in Afghans' lives, and that the people of Afghanistan will achieve self-reliance.

Regards, M. E. Zeerak Executive Director

# Organizational fact sheet

Ghazni Rural Support Program (GRSP) is a non-governmental, non-profit, and non-partisan Afghan organization established in 1993 by a dedicated group of Afghan professionals experienced in humanitarian activities with the sole objective to carry out such activities in rural Afghanistan. Focusing its efforts primary in rural areas of Ghazni province, with time GRSP expanded its area of operation to include other provinces and some cities in Afghanistan.

It is GRSP's goal to promote community participation and stimulate sustainable integrated rural development in Afghanistan by empowering the people, thus the organizational motto "Help Afghans Help Themselves". This GRSP does through a grass-root level mechanism of encouraging community participation in all levels of implementation; planning, executing, and monitoring. To this end GRSP has utilized the village level "Shura" formations in carrying out most of its projects.

GRSP recognizes the role of women as a very vital and effective social force as a part of Afghan civil society. GRSP continues to encourage the participation of women in its socio-economic developmental and income generation projects. In doing this GRSP strives to keep in line with the commanding cultural and religious values of the society.

GRSP remains committed to national and international values, as well as its time-honored organizational values of efficiency, transparency, and accountability.

Furthermore, GRSP considers issues as Human Rights, gender equity, and environmental concerns as key principals for its intervention.

GRSP is an active member of ANCB, and is registered with UNOCHA. It is also re-registered with the Ministry of Planning of Government of Afghanistan, and with the Provincial Authority of Ghazni Province.

The organizational structure of GRSP is comprised of a Board of Directors, an Executive Board, an Advisory Board, and the Office of Executive Director.

The governing Board of Directors. Project planning, implementation, and coordination are carried out through the Executive Board overseen by the Executive Director. The Advisory Board is comprised of non-employee Afghan experts who advise the Executive Board on matters pertaining to GRSP's Technical/administration and implementation of its projects.

#### Objectives

- Stimulate Sustainable integrated rural development in Afghanistan
- Eradicate Poverty
- Eradicate Outside Dependency
- Promote Community Participation and create a sense of ownership and responsibility
- Promote peace, stability, and repatriation, and empower Afghans to create a socio-economic infrastructure
- Mobilize natural and human resources by implementing sustainable projects

#### Mission

To stimulate sustainable integrated rural development in Afghanistan by empowering the people and encouraging community participation in planning, implementing, and monitoring development.

Our mission is well stated in our organizational motto: "Help Afghans Help Themselves".

#### Vision

A prosperous and peaceful Afghanistan free of outside dependence and on the way to sustainable development.

## WORKING SECTORS

GRSP has narrowed its sectors of operation to answer the basic community needs and priorities. So far GRSP has implemented projects in areas of:

- Agriculture / Animal Husbandry
- Irrigation /
- Income Generation
- Emergency Relief
- Education/ Training/ Community Development
- National Solidarity Program (NSP)

# THANKS TO OUR DONORS:

On behalf of the beneficiaries of GRSP's numerous projects we would like to extend our heart felt thanks and sincere appreciations to all our donors, partners and individuals who have generously assisted us in our cause. Because of their continuous support and assistance GRSP has been able to help thousands of Afghans.

The following chart shows GRSP's sources for funding during year 2006

#### Photo for this

## PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES:

Projects implemented by GRSP during year 2005 generally fall into the following categories:

- Education
- Capacity Building
- Income Generation
- National Solidarity Program( NSP)

# **EDUCATION**

During year's civil war and conflict Hundreds of thousands of people have lost their, socially and economically lives, as well as education foundations have been utterly disrupted. The youths and children in particular, have been the innocent victims of these conflicts, which have consequently deprived them of their fundamental rights. The youth are denied from access to the skills and knowledge necessary for the gainful empowerment and full participation in their societies

State provision of educational facilities in Afghanistan has traditionally been poor and limited largely to cities and larger districts. Even before the war, in the more remote rural areas, informal schooling by home schools and Madrassas surpassed formal schooling by governmental institutions. Often the students from smaller villages who wanted to obtain formal education had to travel far distances from their home villages. Many were not willing to do this. Also the increased unwilling on the part of families who in the first place did not view female education favorably, and then did not let female students undertake such educational ventures further restricted female education. The present gap in the literacy rate among women and men in Afghanistan can be attributed to this among other factors.

Efforts to build and rebuild schools were taken up as early as back during the Soviet invasion. International aid organizations, NGOs and UN agencies as UNICEF were on the forefront of this rehabilitation movement. Their efforts were mostly targeted to the more educationally deprived rural areas not directly affected by the government's policies on education.

With the recent upswing of reconstruction efforts on all fronts, the field of education has also been given more attention by aid organizations. Realizing the importance of education in the long term reconstruction of the country, GRSP considered conducting a number of projects related to education during 2001 to 2006.

In collaboration with partner agencies as MRRD, NCA and CWS, GRSP was able to implement a number of projects in this field. In the Following pages you will read details of the education programs of GRSP during 2006.

## **Arya Education Academy**

## (AEA)

West part of Kabul is the most over crowded and populated part of the city. The majority people living there are returnees mostly from Iran or Pakistan or IDPs who come from many provinces to search of job and a better living. A survey by a GRSP literacy teachers showed that there was a need for some institutes to assist youngsters in English language and computer training. However there were many centers already active in the area but not capable of accepting the increasing number of students. Taking this into consideration GRSP initially established a small literacy center with financial help from NCA where students were only thought basic reading/ writing of *Dari and arithmetic*.

Later on feeling the intense need and the interest of the local community GRSP thought of expanding the center. Now the AEA is in its third year with at least 1300 male and female students enrolled at different levels and in various subjects. The center is running based on student's contribution Paying fee and small private contribution by GRSP Director. Scholarships are awarded to deserving students based on certain criteria. Presently the academy is considered to be one of the best of it is kind in the area. Three departments of Computer, English Language, and sciences are thoughts by 24 senior teachers and center Manager and her assistant taking care of the center

#### Fotoes to be place

#### Table Bellow shows the details for AEA:

No	Subject	No of	No of	Graduated
		Students	teachers	
1	Literacy	180	5	180
2	English	910	20	100
3	Computer	120	4	10
4	Science	150	3	0
	Total	1360	32	290

Project Title: Jaghuri Literacy Program

Project Reference: GRS 01/2006

Project ID: X13322

Type of project: Education /Training

Number of beneficiaries: 300 students
Project starts: January 2006
Duration of project: 12 months

Project end: Dec.31, 2006 + (one month Extension)

# Background and description

The background for this program is the wide spread war destruction, extreme poverty due to chronic man-made and natural disasters that have been prevailing in the country since many years. , specially girls and women been restricted to go to schools for years during Taliban, many people forced to leave their villages and flee to the neighboring countries particularly to Pakistan, Iran and other countries ,

To facilitate a literacy program through 10 centers in Jaghuri district we applied to NCA and fortunately received financial support and sympathy

### **Beneficiaries:**

- 1. The direct beneficiaries are 300 female students
- 2. teachers 10
- 3. All the inhabitant of the focused area is the indirect beneficiary.

Project title: Literacy and peace building

Project Reference: GRS 02/2006

Project ID G13015

Location of agreed project: Meramor district Daikondi Province

Number of beneficiaries: 665students
Project starts: 1<sup>st</sup> July 2006
Duration of project: 9 months

Project end March 31, 2007

Maramore district is 400 Km from Center of Kabul located in north of Dikondy province with a total population of 86,000 and area of 4653 Square Km. There are 598 villages and sub villages in this district.

Illiteracy is the underlying cause for many problems that rural people face in communities like Meramor and it is a big barrier on women's access to many opportunities and resources. Also it is widespread in Daikondi specially Meramor district almost 90% of women and young girls are illiterate the peace for women and girls living in Daikondi province is threatened by violence, tribal and inter-villages and inter family conflicts, and poverty so this project provides literacy courses for young's and adults rural women's and girls for the first time in Meramor district of Daikondi province.

While giving literacy teaching, the project focuses on peace and Hygiene as well. The effort to fight violence and to resolve conflict starts with families and with women. Also the project will work with women to learn constructive ways of resolving conflict and mediation between the two sides of the conflict in the villages and etc

#### **Beneficiaries:**

- The direct beneficiaries are 665 female students (12- 30 years old)
- teachers and program staff
- All the inhabitant of the focused area is the indirect beneficiary.

## Capacity Building:

Currently one of the most active and engaged NGOs among almost 2000 organizations registered with the Ministry of Planning of Government of Afghanistan, GRSP owes the quality of its work and its achievement in the field of reconstruction /rehabilitation and development in large part to the dedication of proficiency, professionalism, and capacity of it is personal.

Since the quality and competence of human resources is an important organizational attribute of GRSP we are constantly trying to maintain important advantage. Periodical capacity building workshops/trainings for the purpose of training and empowering staffs, target communities, CDC s, and MRRD scanted staff is an important tool to this end. In the last year, employees of GRSP have participated in the training workshops conducted either by the organization's more seniors personal or with aid of other institutions.

Further to that GRSP have conducted different training for huge number of CDCs , communities representatives and Government staff

The table bellow shows the detail of training programs of GRSP during 2006

# Table bellow shows the details of the training programs of the GRSP in the year 2006

	No of	Conducted		Date / No
Training / Workshop Title	Training / Workshop Title Participant(5)		Location	of Days
Literacy	24	GRSP	Kunduz	4
NSP Techinical Training	2	NSP OC	OC office	2
Financial Report	3	OC Mazar	Kunduz	2
			Kunduz and	
Operation Manual	120	GRSP & OC Kabul	Kabul	39
Public Outreach & Media	4	OC Kabul	Kabul	5
Quick Book	6	GRSP	Kabul	4
NSP Information &				_
Procurement	376	GRSP	Kunduz	8
NCD Tackinian Manual	20	GRSP & OC	IZ al	20
NSP Techinical Manual	32	Kunduz GRSP & OC	Kunduz	38
Procurement	306	Kunduz	Kunduz & Mazar	125
Gender	13	RRD	Kunduz	60
Gender	13	INID	Kunduz &	00
Procurement & Accounting	235	GRSP	Baghlan	122
Techinical Manual 2 <sup>nd</sup> Round	5	OC Kunduz	Kunduz	2
ToT	2	GRSP	Kabul	6
Do No Harm	2	GRSP	Kabul	6
Peace	2	GRSP	Kabul	6
Health	2	GRSP	Kabul	6
Techinical Manual Version 3	2	PMU	Kunduz	2
Development Appoaches	1	CWS Pakistan	Murree	6
PRA, Cummication and				
Mobilzation	21	GRSP	Baghlan	3
NSP Phase 1	15	GRSP	Baghlan	2
Proposal Writing	18	GRSP	Baghlan	1
Proposal Writing &				
Procurement	16	GRSP	Baghlan	2
CDC's By Law	21	GRSP	Baghlan	1
NSP Phase 3	13	GRSP	Baghlan	3
Operation Plan making	19	GRSP	Baghlan	1
NSP Phase 4	30	GRSP	Baghlan	5
NSP Phase 5	32	GRSP	Baghlan	5
Human Rights	2	Women's Office	Baghlan	2
Repordactive Health	6	BRAC & GRSP	Kabul	5
Women in Development	1	BRAC	Kabul	4
Water Supply Sanitation	2	OC Office	Kabul & Kunduz	8
Management	2	Women's Office	Baghlan	4
Total	1335			489

# **INCOME GENERATION**

Severe general economic depression of the country resulting from more than two decades of war and five years of drought has shaken the financial ability of average family in Afghanistan to the very foundations. In such circumstances, to alleviate the needs of a needy family, one way is through emergency programs and food distribution. This method, effective as a short term remedy, is not expected to affect the food security and income base of a family over the long run.

For the family to become self-sustainable and decreasingly reliable on aid, it ought to seek alternative sources of income. In the absence of micro-credit loan companies and credit banks in the country, NGOs can come to play a very important role in this regard. By implementing pilot profitable projects, and income generation projects involving teaching of skills to the beneficiaries at the same time of taking care of their immediate needs, families can be provided with a reliable source of income.

GRSP first started its income generation projects in 1996 in the form of a quilt making, tailoring project in Kabul. The immediate aim of the project was to provide a means of income earning for those needy families who had unemployed female members barred of working outside the house by the authorities.

After the completion of this experimental quilt making project, GRSP launched with assistance from NCA an income generation project in the year 1997. This was a carpet weaving project in Kabul, again targeting as its direct beneficiaries women who had no other source of employment at the time -having been confined to their houses.

As the second phases of the project, it was to expand to other areas with populations in need of alternative sources of income. However the situation been changed, and women could move out side, the project is now in a small scale running by women in Malistan

**Project Title:** Qarabagh Carpet weaving

**Project number:** GRSP/CWS 0106

Type of project: Education / Training

**Project agreement signed:** July first, 2006

**Location of agreed project:** Qarabagh district, Ghazni Province

**Number of beneficiaries:** 48 women for carpet weaving 150-180

through literacy

**Duration of project:**Nine Months **Project started date:**July 2006

**Project end** March 31, 2007

The background for this program is the wide spread war destruction, extreme poverty due to chronic man-made and natural disasters that have been prevailing in the country since many years. specially girls and women hade rare chance to go to school, or work in offices, the situation for the already impoverished civilian was worsted, as a result thousands of people were forced to flee to the neighboring countries particularly to Pakistan, Iran.

By restoration of country again people got the hope and begin to repatriate back, but they still did not hade better chance of employment and going to school, based on this GRSP designed this project and approached CWS financial contribution By implementing of this project therefore, aims to reduce the suffering participants to make them able to read and write and to train them in carpet weaving so for. Indeed the project would assist the trainee to use their skill as their income after completion of the project

#### **Beneficiaries:**

A: direct beneficiaries are 48 weaver, 150-180 literacy students and 19 project staff B: indirect beneficiaries are the whole resident of district

# **Project impact:**

- Reduction of people suffering
- Assistant to socioeconomic development in the area
- The project support the Gender sensitivity and human and women right

#### **Nation Solidarity Program (NSP)**

In July 2003 GRSP was accepted as an NSP partner organization and soon afterwards started preparing for launching its reconstruction projects under this program in Kondoz province. This development came in view of GRSP's recognition as a prolific, efficient, and transparent Afghan NGO, and because of its long-standing partnership in the process of reconstruction and development in Afghanistan.

Supported by the World Bank, the National Solidarity Project (NSP) aims at strengthening local governance and providing the communities with the resources to undertake reconstruction and development projects. The extent of community involvement in these projects range from community participation in the planning stages down to its implementation that may either be carried out by the communities themselves or by the private sector. The Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) plays a significant role in the process by providing oversight, setting standards, and financial management of the funds.

.... Since all NSP projects emphasize on maximizing community participation in the process of implementation, GRSP has held training workshops to train its new employees specifically employed for this program, and many of its regular staff. These workshops focus on improving the staff's community mobilization and communication skills. Some of these training workshops have been conducted in collaboration with BRAC Afghanistan, UN-Habitat and many internal training workshops on various topics.

The implementation of NSP projects by GRSP in Kondoz province is assessed to be going smoothly and without any difficulties so far. In this regard, the relatively safe security condition in Kondoz province and cooperation of local community and authorities is of particular significance. At the completion of first of year NSP, GRSP has been evaluated successful and efficient by certain Independent Consulting Agencies\*.

	NSP Year 3 Roll out Priority (2006)								
S/No	Province	District	Code of District	Cycle 2+	Cycle 2	Cycle 1	Total		
1	Kunduz	Qala-e-Zal	1403	49			49		
2	Kunduz	Khan Abad	1406	95			95		
3	Kunduz	Khan Abad	1406		18		18		
4	Kunduz	Char dara	1404		60		60		
5	Kunduz	Kunduz Center	1401		25		25		

6	Kunduz	Char dara	1404			20	20
7	Kunduz	Kunduz Center	1401			60	60
8	Kunduz	Ali Abad	1405			40	40
9	Baghlan	Baghlan Jadid	1312			40	40
10	Baghlan	Khawaja Hijran	1316			40	40
,	Total			144	103	200	447

#### Altai reports to be added

#### Management in Kabul

Awareness regarding NSP at the Kabul level is excellent. Management in Kabul seems to be very interested in community development process. The motto of GRSP is "Help Afghan people to help themselves".

#### **Provincial Level**

At provincial level, the management team has very good knowledge about NSP and seems to know 'by heart' the Operational Manual. The goals of NSP the quote spontaneously are community mobilization (self-help), election education, and ethnic unity.

#### **Local Facilitators**

Local facilitators are perfectly aware of the procedure and have a good knowledge of NSP goals. They quote spontaneously unity building, development, capacity building. Link with government and community driven development were also cited once.

#### Over all understanding

Generally speaking, awareness regarding NSP is rather good in the villages.

As a 'challenger' in this program GRSP showed that with out possibility of relying on a big structure, external funds, or even extensive knowledge of community- driven development, as local NGO can be more efficient on facilitating the NSP than a lot of bigger once.

Table bellow shows a detail of proposed and completed projects of NSP in Kundoz province section wise:

# Table below showing NSP sub projects in Baghlan & Kunduz provinces

		NSP Implementat ion Status								
District	Cycle	Number of FP staff employed	Number of communities mobilized	Number of registered CDCs	Number of completed CDPs	Number of sub-project proposals submitted	Number of sub-project proposals approved	Number of sub-projects being implemented	Number of sub-projects completed	Amount of block grant disbursemen ts received in CDC bank accounts (Afs)
Kabul		10								
Baghlan		11								
Kunduz		15								
Khan Abad	2+	5	95	95	95	187	173	27	100	167,544,073
Qal-e- Zal	2+	6	49	49	49	39	35	3	18	28,055,664
Khan Abad	2	5	20	20	20	29	25	5	9	17,107,648
Chardara	2	11	60	60	60	109	108	38	24	74,117,449
Chardara	1	12	14	14	14	12	9	1		710,130
Kunduz Cen.	2	3	25	25	25	55	49	15	28	32,523,711
Kunduz Cen.	1	17	64	64	64	79	77	6		45,775,348
Ali Abad	1	19	40	40	40	69	33	1		38,152,763
Sub-total		93	367	367	367	579	509	96	179	403,986,786
Baghlan Jadid	1	17	40	40	40	63	61			30,445,214
Khawaja Hijran (Jelga)	1	21	40	40	40	40	37			9,388,278
District 3										
Sub-total		38	80	80	80	103	98			39,833,492
Grand Total		167	447	447	447	682	607	96	179	443,820,278
Total amount of block grants that communities are eligible to receive:										70,815,0

Is it necessary mention the Altai Consultants?

# **ACRONYMS:**

ACBAR Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief

ANCB Afghan NGO's Coordination Bureau

AEA Area Educational Academy

CWS Church World Service

FP Facilitating Partner

IDPs Internal Displaced Persons

MRRD Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation & Development

NCA Norwegian Church Aid

NSP National Solidarity Program

OC Oversight consultant

RAMP Rebuilding Agricultural Markets Program Afghanistan

UNHCR UN High Commissioner for Refugees

WFP World Food Program