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Infrastructure Program Overview

Best Practices and Lessons Learned from Afghanistan

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Infrastructure Program Objectives in Support of Counter-Insurgency Efforts

- Demand-driven, field-based infrastructure mechanisms to support counterinsurgency efforts and deny terrorists a safe-haven
- Increase public support for the Afghan Government
- Provide essential public services -justice, education, health, infrastructure
- Build Afghan capacity
- Secure the population
- Reduce corruption
- Create jobs





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Priority areas of focus

- Road
- Power
- Water
- Vertical Structures (buildings)
- Engineering Service
- Energy and Water utility reform





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Roads

- Develop economic corridors to link producers to markets, population centers, regional markets, & international trade routes
- Rehabilitated more than 3,300 km of regional and national highways that will promote security, trade, government power, labor – intensive
- Building over 2,000 km of national and rural roads to connect regions, improve commerce, and increase access to government services;
- Working through Ministry of Public Works to build capacity and maintain the roads build



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Power

- Built Afghan capacity to generate and import power for 7 million Afghans
North East Power System (NEPS) & South East Power System (SEPS)
- Tarakhel Thermal PP (105 MW)
- Providing clean power to 1,000,000 rural Afghans
- Building Afghan institutions for operations and cost recovery
- Rehabilitating Darunta hydropower plant (12 MW)
- Rehabilitating Kajakai hydropower plant (33 MW)
- Installing Turbine 2 at Kajaki (18.5 MW)
- Feasibility study of Kajaki Phase II
- More Technical Advisors
- Watershed assessments
- Feasibility study Sorobi II
- Feasibility study of Dahla Dam





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WATER

- **Objective:** Strengthen Afghan capacity to expand access to potable water (from 23% to 63% by 2010 ANDS goal); manage trans-boundary issues; and govern the water sector
- **Key activities:** Commercializing water utilities in 4 cities; rural water and sanitation to serve 500,000; Kabul water program
- **Our partnerships:** PRTs and platforms nominate sites
- **Coordination:** GIRoA through SCW (USAID fund secretariat) inter-ministerial coordination
- **Recent focus:**
 - Helping form Trans-boundary Working Group
 - Kabul 2nd National Water Conference



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Afghanization of Infrastructure

Building Institutions, Training Skilled Workers

- Afghan-led development ensures that Afghans lead, not follow
- Build capacity of Afghans - on-the-job training for design and construction to international standards
- Employing 58,000 Afghan workers and engineers
- Coordination by inter-ministerial working groups with technical advisors
- Afghan First Initiatives -encourages local procurement of goods & services
- Afghan Highway Authority will assume Road Maintenance Unit and performance-based contracts for the 3,500 km of roads
- Improving operations, service, and cost recovery
- Policy experts provided to Ministries



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Future Emphasis

- Continue to engage GIRoA
- Promote integrated long-term sustainable development in priority districts
- Develop a strategy to engage donors in funding parts of Afghanistan critical infrastructure projects
- Improve Strategic Communications – Tell Our Success Story
- Strengthen interagency cooperation on ongoing programs
- Align priorities with the Kabul Conference outcomes
- Incorporate capacity development in all projects
- Strengthen Engineering Support Services
- More focus on farm to market roads
- Ensure Afghan counterparts lead





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Our programs help

- Connect Government to the people, decrease corruption & abuse of power, and increase the accountability of Government services
- Protect and empower communities to pursue economic development
- Reduce poverty- employ thousands of Afghans
- Improve health and quality of life
- Extensive capacity building





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Development Challenges

- Lack of infrastructure
- Security
- Poverty: unrealistic expectations –results in 12 months
- Governance and Management
- Education: Technical capacity and managerial expertise limited in Ministries and utilities
- Poor quality of engineering education
- Afghanization and corporatization versus lack of experienced/qualified national companies and individuals
- Trans-boundary implications
- Data: Demographic, hydrological, hydro-metrological, etc.
- Population Growth, enormous demand for service



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Development Challenges

- Process more important than the results –building Afghan institutions and Afghan Government credibility
- Rapid turnover of staff –PRTs, USAID
- Population Growth, enormous demand for services
- Funds: Donors & CERP funding limited for infrastructure
- Operation & Maintenance
- Services poor, cost recovery low
- Coordination among donors
- Transition to Afghans by 2014





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Thank You!

Questions?





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Lessons Learned

- Issue sector-specific Indefinite Quantity Contracts with multiple holders
- Oversee design and construction with qualified engineers
- Assess local labor skills and implementation capacity during design
- Train USAID staff in preparing Scopes of Work and Independent Government Costs Estimates
- Implement incentives to attract and retain qualified staff
- Conduct Independent Quality Assurance/Quality Control