



# SDNRP- Ministry of Mines and Petroleum

## PMU



### UP TO DATE PROGRESS REPORT (November / 2013)

#### Social Issues Progress

- **Organized capacity building program for the relevant staff of the Inspections Department of the Ministry:** : Initiated training of four Inspectors in the Inspections department on important social development issues related to mining sector covering Social Policy for the Mining sector, Socio-Economic Surveys, Social Impact Assessment, Land registration, verification and land clearance, Overview of land acquisition cases in the Ministry of Mines i.e. Aynak Copper Mine, Resettlement Action Plan; planning and development, identification of affected communities, community consultation, resettlement and rehabilitation, compensation and valuation, inventory of lost assets, livelihood restoration etc. The purpose is to enhance understanding of these officials on these important issues so that they can better carry out their inspections.
- **Prepared a report on Community Development activities at Aynak-** Prepared a detailed report on the community development programs initiated under the SDNRP at Aynak. It included activities like Cadastral survey of villages around Aynak, Public Consultation by MoM, Progress of cadastre work and public consultation, Initiation of Expropriation work, Formation of Land Commission, community consultation, Cadastre Survey report & agreement with the villagers etc. The report included chronological details of all these events at Aynak to facilitate better understanding of the resettlement

process at Aynak.

- **Dissemination of ESMF:** Coordinated dissemination of Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) with relevant departments in the Ministry for their inputs and finalization of ESMF. This included coordination with Departments of Policy, Investment Promotion, Legal, Inspections, Cadastre, PMU SDNRP II, Amu Darya project etc. This was also shared with National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA).
- **Dissemination of RAP summary and GRM in Pashto to IRC and local residents:** The resettlement action plan summary and the proposed grievance redressal mechanism were got translated into Pashto and disseminated among the important stakeholders' including local residents.
- **Coordination with Indian Ministry of External Affairs and Indian School of Mines (ISM) for capacity building programs and setting up of Afghan School of Mining:** Coordinated with Indian Ministry of External Affairs and Indian School of Mines for capacity building programs and setting up of Afghan School of Mining at Kabul. The capacity building programs have been started at ISM, Dhanbad from April 2013 and 12 such programs will be conducted by ISM over the next few months. Two such programs on geological exploration and petroleum exploration have been held in April 2013 wherein 30 officials of Ministry of Mines have been trained.
- **Follow up on the Preliminary Social Impact Assessment (SIA) at Hajigak:** The technical proposal submitted by the company, STATT for SIA at Hajigak was examined and finalized. Coordinated with STATT for starting the preliminary social impact assessment at Hajigak and provided background information required for the purpose. The purpose

of the SIA is to get information on existing socio-economic conditions of the people around the mining area to develop an appropriate rehabilitation and community development program

- **Review of GRC Manual of IRC:** The grievance redressal mechanism (GRM) manual prepared by IRC was reviewed in detail and comments were given to make it in line with the resettlement action plan of the Ministry for the five villages at Aynak. I also held many meetings with IRC with regard to capacity building of the local communities at Aynak on the GRM and also coordinated regularly with Aynak Authority in this regard.
- **Follow up of social accountability model:** Apart from GRM. also coordinated with IRC through weekly meetings of the coordination committee on operationalization of other elements of the social accountability model like mobilization of CDCs at Aynak, training programs on hygiene, education, vocational training programs etc for the affected people at Aynak.
- **Follow up on implementation of Aynak RAP:** Held meetings with Aynak Authority on the modalities of the implementation of RAP in particular the issues related to compensation for land and allotment of residential plots at the resettlement site. I also followed up with the authorities on fast processing of compensation cases for PAPs in Aynak and submission of necessary land clearance documents to the court under the Land Management Law. Out of the 11 families who had to be paid cash compensation in the five villages at Aynak, three have been paid. The court verification process has been completed in case of all the 11 families. They had number of problems as the families did not have requisite documentation which court required but it has been resolved now. Deputy Governor Logar has set up Plot Allocation Committee at the

resettlement site comprising of members of all relevant departments and will associate with local villagers.

- **Review of ToRs of School of Rocks:** Reviewed the ToRs of School of Rocks and gave detailed comments with regard to the time frame for the activities of the consultant considering the range of activities, covering technical assistance for the establishment of a laboratory, a school of gemology, and a school of lapidary gems, support for the recruitment and training of human resources and preparing terms of reference for the various positions etc. Rock School could be located at the same place.
- **Coordination for Mining Perception survey:** Provided necessary support in carrying forward the work of the Mining Perception survey being done by Samuel Hall funded by WB in five important mining areas in Afghanistan, including Aynak, Hajigak, Amu Darya, Qarzaghan and Nooraba. I provided all necessary information required by the Team to conduct the survey including the map of the villages at Aynak and Hajigak and reviewed the questionnaires for the Poverty Social Impact Assessment (PSIA) data collection.
- **Coordination for the Hajigak preliminary social impact assessment.** STATT is carrying out the preliminary social impact assessment at Hajigak based on the ToRs prepared under SDNRP. I regularly coordinated with STATT and PMU in this regard and reviewed and gave my detailed comments on social impact assessment- inception report and household survey questionnaire. I also gave comments on the mid- term report prepared by STATT as well as the final report structure.

**Coordination with the Indian Ministry of External**

	<p><b>Affairs (MEA) and Indian School of Mines (ISM) on setting up of Afghan School of Mines:</b> Held detailed discussions in India with MEA and ISM on the draft proposal prepared by Afghan Ministry of Mines on the setting up of the School of Mines at Kabul. We also discussed the need for the team from Ministry of Mines to visit ISM in the near future to discuss the issues related to curriculum etc.</p>
<p><b>Mes Aynak Archeological Progress</b></p>	<p>After last August/September redundancy the team has been reduced down to 12 international specialists. In practice, in October this number was even less. Two staff members (Marek Lemiesz, Rahmatjon Salamov) returned from their leave in late October, however the other three (Paul Murray, Agnieszka Dolatowska, Rahmatsho Mahmadshev) went on holiday. Moreover, due to the Eid al-Adha break the site was closed by the MoIC for 10 days. As a consequence no work was allowed to be conducted and most of MAAP staff was staying abroad on holiday during that period. Finally, due to constant problems with providing bus transportation a number of local laborers has been reduced temporarily to around 60, which means that on each of sites run by MAAP archaeologists we are able to keep between 6 and 10 workers only.</p> <p>Currently the bulk of the staff are Tajik archaeologists, that have continued to excavate their sites. The remainder (ie. the Western staff component) has focused on carrying on post-ex work: completing field records, producing plans, reports, find catalogues, conservation and reconstruction of vessels and other artifacts etc. In view of significantly insufficient staff present in the field it is important to note that the two Afghan graduates previously trained by our archaeologists, presently can continue effective fieldwork and recording respectively on Sites 046 and 052, practically without any supervision. In coming winter months we would like to provide for them some complementary training.</p> <p>A visit from a group of international specialists associated with DAFA and the Kabul National Museum (6/10) was a perfect opportunity for some of our team members to enunciate specificity of their work and achievements as well as to discuss some methodology and capacity building issues.</p> <p>For more effective coordination of the work currently being carried, at the end of October we experimentally changed methodical and essential supervision on the staff.</p>

Above all, progress strategy meetings with MAAP team and with Afghan trainees have been established on a weekly basis and a minutes resume will be each time submitted to Project Manager. Also, Coordinating Archaeologist, Senior Archaeologist supervising desk-based work, a lead of Tajik team and Afghan Project Officer will hold “afternoon tea” briefings to discuss current issues and the next day activities. Finally, regular brief meetings with relevant representatives (head of the team Fareed Haidary and head of conservation section) of MoIC staff deployed to Mes Aynak shall take place at least once a week. Some issues encountered lately (such as permission refused to conduct mapping on Site 032N, precipitate removal of the statues on Site 058 not coordinated with MAAP, as well as - in general - position of our qualified conservator in a conversation with the MoIC counterparts and reasons for their notorious unwillingness to collaborate) must be discussed as soon as possible.

#### **Fieldwork**

- Despite of partial reducing field activities in October (less laborers, site closure during Eid festival – see above) a significant progress has been noticed on **Site 058** (Dr. Dowlatkhoja Dowdy assisted by Mirwais Qaderyor). Excavation was concentrated within Room 30 in the western part of the complex, where the stupa was finally exposed as well as the western entrance and a massive terrace formed by three stone steps. Around the stupa a number of statues or their fragments were revealed. Some of the statues, likely being images of *bodhisattvas*, different in size (originally between 0.40 and 3m high) were found *in situ*, arranged along the northern wall in two parallel rows. Many statue fragments have been lifted from the site by the MoIC, two large Buddha heads have been left as originally exposed in the room. Some Kushan-Sassanid coins found within this specific context can date it to 4<sup>th</sup> c. AD. A wooden shelter has been erected above the room to protect the exposed statues from undesirable weather factors.
- On **Site 045** (Dr. Usmon Eshonzada, assistant: Mohammad Ali Amiri) excavation was carried on within the northern part of the monastery complex. A massive stone wall structure ca. 50m long was revealed, that originally formed a part of the platform. Moreover two further stupas were unearthed. Most of previously exposed sculptures, after preliminary fixing with

chemicals, were collected by MoIC conservators for further conservation processing in the lab. On the southern slope a series of small workings for iron mining and ore crushing was identified and recorded. Additionally, some complementary measurements were conducted in a funeral (pre-burial) building structure to the north of the main complex.

- As in previous months Djumakhon Saydaliyev supervised excavation on **Site 049** on the Kuh-e Aynak hilltop. Another stone wall ca. 2m high was exposed there, that is structurally related to (relatively well preserved) walls of Rooms no. 35 and 36 situated to the east. During exploring the latter 3 unique heads of Buddha clay statues were found as well as further 39 fragments of sculptures.
- **Site 038** (formerly: Site 013S, supervisor: Farrukh Savoyev, assisted by Sayed Hussain Burkhani): in October excavation was continued in the southern and the western part of the complex aimed on completing plan of large residential and utility premises built of combined mudbrick, *pakhsa* and stones. Further two rooms were fully exposed, both with remains of vaulted roofs, *sofa* benches and wall niches. Also a part of rock-cut corridor that probably extends an open-air structure into the hill was exposed in the southern slope. Among a number of small artifacts gained from excavation a scarce silver coin of Sassanid king Narsil (3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> c. AD) with Pahlavi inscription seems to be of a particular interest.
- **Site 004** (Firuza Abdulwahidova): small scale work was continued to complete exposing a *karez* water supply system in the Baba Wali riverbed. Up-to-now revealed section of the tunnel is 27m long, with two small bedrock-cut open reservoirs situated at the opposite ends. To the north of the *karez* remains of a stone tower structure have been exposed lately, however their relation to the drain and a nearby complex 042 should be explained in the course of future excavation.
- On **Site 042** (Dr. Rahmatsho Mahmadoev) fieldwork was completed in the beginning of October and in principle this site can be considered as archaeologically accomplished. An entire plan of the complex has been clearly exposed. Only a short section of the eastern outer wall needs to be still unearthed (work there was abandoned due to a lack of excavator machinery available).

- An initial phase of work begun on **Site 059** (Dr. Rahmatsho Mahmadshev), located on the south-western slope of Shah Tepe. Topsoil has been stripped out and some stone retention (?) structures have been partially exposed.
- After departure of Emre Hakan his former assistant Sultan Masoud Muradi has continued excavation work on **Site 046** by himself. Through reduced number of laborers fieldwork there was focused on exposing the south-eastern corner of the residential complex that surrounds the central tower. Three further rooms were revealed, of them Room 9 is particularly important for well preserved residues of a clay rectangular fireplace on the floor.
- **Site 052** (currently run on behalf of MAAP by a trainee-archaeologist Hussain Ali Haidari): during absence of any archaeologists on the site (August/September) its upper, staircase-like part was accidentally buried by spoil bulldozed from excavation area on the crest of the mountain. Removal of spoil was completed prior to the Eid break. So far more exact excavation work has been mostly limited to Room ctx no. 401, where probably two phases of rebuilding are distinguished.
- Uncoordinated machine work conducted by MoIC team in the central area of the Lower Town (between Sites 028, 032 and 033) caused **serious problem for future removal of the spoil**, that is being currently accumulated around Site 058 and previously on Site 033 too. At the moment the only solution for the nearest future is using machinery for building an embankment and a ramp for trucks.
- From 27/10 Yves Ubelmann & Philippe Barthelemy of DAFA conducted **aerial photography recording** (using a remote drone) on most of the sites. This work was coordinated on the ground with the MAAP (preparing some features for photo recording, providing accommodation and transportation, sharing information on currently ongoing activities).
- **The survey mapping** (Roberta Marziani assisted by Sayedrahim Hussainkhel) was updated this month on Sites 054, 058 and 038. Furthermore, position of fragmented sculptures on Site 058 was recorded with total station before their removal, as well as human remains and some architectural features exposed on Site 054 were recorded with the same technique. A series of geo-rectified photos was also taken on Site 046

to complete those areas that have not been planned yet.

- Rahmatjon Salamov: additional theodolite and hand-made measurements carried out on the **Sites 033W and 038**.

#### Post-ex work

- **GIS, digitizing field plans and production of final site plans** (Roberta Marziani accompanied by Sayedrahim Hussainkhel): current work is aimed on production of final plans for those areas where excavation has been to-date finished. So far plans for following sites have been accomplished: 031, 052, 006. A significant progress was noticed in digitizing Sites 043 and 032 (sections and elevations, several phased plans prepared for further review by Paul Murray upon his return) as well as 042 (the general plan of the complex has been practically completed, currently it is being checked by Rahmatjon Salamov). Also preparing digital plans is ongoing for Site 028 (currently 20 of 39 plans done) and Site 46 (most of 93 field plans have been digitized). Two general maps of Mes Aynak Archaeological Zones were prepared for MAAP Management. Training of Mr. Hussainkhel is still carried. The priority is to make him fully skilled in an entire process of the map production.
- **Site 033** (Agnieszka Dolatowska, current cooperation: Sayed Ali Shah): the site post-ex is close to completion - registration of small finds and coins including a catalogue, photography etc. has been done as well as cataloguing ceramic material from the seasons 2011 and 2012, while pottery from the season 2013 is ongoing (so far 229 of 380 items done). Updating photo register, sample inventory, plan and section registers are completed. Digitizing plans and sections is ongoing, currently ca. 50% has been accomplished.
- Architectural studies (Rahmatjon Salamov): ongoing work on preparing final general plans and phasing study plans of the **Sites 033W and 038**. He is also preparing cross-sections through selected areas of the sites in order to clarify common stratigraphic and structural relations between rooms, courtyards, altars and other architectural features.
- **Basic conservation, dating and attribution of coins** (ca. 100 in October) is being continued successfully by Dr. Dawlatkhoja Dowdy and Farrukh Savoyev as a part of their afternoon duties.
- In addition: preliminary **studies on selected categories**

	<p><b>of finds</b> from Mes Aynak were launched this month (stamped pottery by Agnieszka Dolatowska, arrowheads by Marek Lemiesz) including sorting photo and drawing documentation, work on initial typology etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The <b>detailed report on September and October 2013</b> is being in preparation (Marek Lemiesz) along with a preliminary work plan for the next 4 months, that covers a tentative guidelines/schedule of both further field activity and final preparing some of the sites for future publication.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Conservation</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In October Amanda Watts’ activities on Sites 054 and 058 have taken an absolute priority. Diagnostic ceramics found <i>in situ</i> on Site 054 were wrapped, block lifted and – in spite of some ambiguous objections from the side of MoIC specialists - finally have been transferred to Afghan Camp laboratory along with several boxes of small finds. Over 30 objects were surface cleaned and condition assessment have been completed for them. Furthermore, wood samples from a vestibule plank on Site 054 (Room 6) as well as from the floor in Room 32 were collected as a part of continued effort to prepare some samples for future dendrochronology analysis.</li> <li>- Supervision was provided during excavation carried out within Room 30 on Site 058, where both whole and fragmented mud sculptures were exposed. The overall conservation strategy for Site 045 was discussed with the MoIC. Since 3D scanning session has been suspended, the conservation team will begin to once again focus on removing two sets of statue feet near Stupa no. 11.</li> <li>- In addition, the laboratory was reorganized to make it more user-friendly facility for the team: shelves have been reconfigured to be used as an object processing storage space for active finds. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arranging shipment of chemicals for MAAP conservator and MoIC team – ongoing (see Logistic Progress below).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Policy Support to Ministry of Mines</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The main purpose of the Ministry of Mines is what is mentioned in its vision. It states: <b><i>“To be the leading economic ministry in the Government of Afghanistan, supporting national and local economic development and ensuring optimum revenues for Afghanistan from its mineral</i></b></li> </ul>

	<p><b><i>resources in a responsible manner”</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Still focusing on capacity building process. We have started the discussion at the end of May regarding how to prepare work plan and how to do the assessment of different departments of the ministry and based on what each department needs, we will propose a program or programs for further development of that section with the support of donor/s.</li> <li>• Different donors are focusing on different areas within the ministry. The main issue that has been prioritized is the issue of gender and capacity building process.</li> <li>• The planning and the assessment will be covered during June.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Aynak Compliance Monitoring Project</b></p>	<p>Active discussions continue between the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MOMP) and the MCC-JCL Aynak Minerals Company (MJAM) over the technical issues affecting progress of the project. MJAM, a joint venture company between the Metallurgical Corporation of China Ltd. (MCC), who originally bid for and won the Aynak Mining Contract, and Jiangxi Copper Company Ltd. (JCL), is the holder of the mining license and of the Aynak Mining Contract (AMC).</p> <p>Senior managers of MJAM visited Kabul in early September and His Excellency the Minister of Mines and Petroleum in turn visited Beijing later that month, together with senior MOMP officials. Very constructive discussions were held concerning the available options to progress the project against the obstacles which have to date delayed mine construction in the difficult prevailing environment. The two parties remain in close liaison.</p> <p>The GAF Aynak Compliance Monitoring team continued to work closely with MOMP officials and other experts in providing advice and support during these activities and participated in the meetings in Kabul and Beijing. The team provides the Government with regular reports and advice</p>

	<p>on aspects of the project requiring compliance by both parties, as well as on actual performance.</p> <p>The resettlement village for families displaced by the mine project has been completed. Plots of land have been demarcated and allocated to affected families and agreed compensation packages have been paid. Some families have started to construct their new homes within the complex, which offers superior amenities.</p> <p>Archaeological excavation work continues, benefiting from the mild weather experienced to date. MOMP continues to supply logistical support and the work is conducted in close liaison with the Ministry of Information and Culture.</p> <p>The contract with the landmine clearing company has recently been renewed. The area of the tailings dam sites has been completely cleared. It is reported that a total area of 16km<sup>2</sup> has now been cleared.</p> <p>An area of some 29,000 jiribs (approximately 5,800Ha) covering tailings dam sites 3 &amp; 7 is reported to be clear and is available to the mining company.</p>
<p><b>Environmental Issues Support to NEPA</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical support to NEPA in further strengthening the ESIA procedures continued in this month. The translation of revised ESIA regulation with all the annexes is completed now. A half day in-house consultation meeting to discuss the Annex 1 of the proposed regulation which classifies the projects into two categories is finalized. The regulation will now be presented to the stakeholders for their comments. Technical support to EIA Board of Experts and EIA and SD division of NEPA continued in the evaluation of newly submitted Screening Reports and ESIA reports for NEPA's approval. A glossary of terms on EIA is developed and is being translated to support the revised ESIA regulation.</li> <li>• NEPA advisors developed materials for the 5 day "Training Course on Environmental Management" organized purely for the provincial directors of NEPA in which 19 directors participated. This training started on June 29 and continued till July 3, 2013.</li> </ul>

Feedback from the participants is highly appreciating and the second such training will be held in Mazar-e-Sharrif in the third/fourth week of August 2013. The report of the workshop will be placed in the MOMP web page.

- The draft National Air Quality Management Strategy for Afghanistan is now being translated into Dari and the works on Action Plan for Kabul, Mazar-e-Sharrif and Herat as per the new strategy is being developed.
- Provided technical support to the Environmental Standards Development Committee headed by NEPA DDG and constituted by Afghanistan National Standards Authority (ANSA) in the effluent standards to be discharged for different purposes. Technical support also provided in explaining the concerns shown by Standards Development Council on the proposed vehicle emission standards.
- Coordinated with NEPA and PMU for the organization of the MOMP and NEPA coordinating body, Environment and Social Advisory Board (ESAB) at NEPA on the 12<sup>th</sup> June 2013 to further enhance the good coordination between NEPA-MOMP and PMU and smooth implementation of SDNRPII activities.
- Technical support provided to NEPA in further updating the final draft of the State of Environment Report which could not be published on the World Environment Day and sent back with suggestions to make it more comprehensive.
- Technical support provided to NEPA in completing a detailed questionnaire on Environmental Administration provided by ADB to NEPA which will be used to compare ranking of different countries of the globe on different components of environmental administration. Also provided technical support in the finalization of the National Snow Leopard Ecosystem Priority Protection (NSLEP) for Afghanistan.

**NRRCP “National and Regional  
Resource Corridor Program”**

- Drafted REoI (ARCP’s ARAZI project) and sent it to Afghanistan Land Authority for comment.
- Researched on how mining projects are electrified.
- Conduced preliminary works on infrastructure assessment for minerals in Afghanistan.
- Attending Gas Economics Training in the MoMP.
- Met with President of Afghan American Chamber of Commerce (AACC) and discussed the issues in respect to U.S. investments on mining and natural resources.
- Continuous work on the ARCP recruitment and financing stage.
- Worked on the list of mines from Afghanistan Geological Survey (AGS). Jointly, sorted out the mines with specific coordinate locations and predicted reserves. The next step is to plan basic infrastructure (roads, electricity and water supply) to selective mines after they are categorized.
- Attended the monthly meeting of Regional Economic Cooperation Conference for Afghanistan (RECCA). The form of RECCA can't be filled yet, because it requires information from the Petroleum Authority of the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum. Official letter was sent to the Petroleum Authority requesting information regarding Afghanistan Tajikistan Gas Pipeline (ATGP) and TAPI (Turkmenistan Afghanistan Pakistan India) pipeline;