



SDNRP- Ministry of Mines PMU



UP TO DATE PROGRESS REPORT (Date: August / 2012)

Social Issues Progress

- **Framework for the training on social & environmental issues in the Ministry of Mines:**

Training on important social and environment issues associated with mining is planned to be held in September in Ministry for 25 officials from Department of Inspections, Cadastre, Policy, and Investment Promotion. A framework for this training was prepared along with the social team in the Ministry and National Resource Corridor project staff.

The training will cover issues like Social Policy, Social Policy Guidelines, social & environmental impacts of mining, conducting EIAs, SIAs, new land acquisition law, activities under corporate social responsibility by the mining companies, community development agreements for community benefit sharing etc. This training will be conducted by the experts in MoM, MAIL & MoJ. It will greatly enhance the understanding about these important issues among the relevant department sin the Ministry.

- **Community Consultation at Hajigak:** Social team of the Ministry visited Hajigak in end July to initiate a dialogue with the local communities there, village heads, local councils, and NGOs working in the area to assess the existing living conditions in the area, to make them aware of the project coming up and to obtain better understand of the needs of the people in the area which could be addressed through the

project. The detailed report given by the social team was reviewed and discussed with H.E. Minister and relevant officials in the Ministry.

- **Coordination meetings on Aynak Archeology project:** During the coordination meetings on the archeology project in Deputy Minister's office wherein officials from DAFA, Ministry of Culture, PMU etc were present, contribution was made in the discussions on the issues related to time lines for completion of excavation work, need for equipments like ground penetrating radar, need for more archeologists, shortage of chemicals needed to conserve the artifacts once they have been excavated, 3 D scanning for better images of the fragile remains, other logistical updates etc.

Also suggested during the meetings that the local communities need to be fully involved in the project to get their cooperation. The project was requested to compile the list of workers employed in the project along with the details of the villages they belong to reinforce that the project has created employment for local people from the nearby villages at Aynak.

- **Visit to Aynak:** Continuous efforts were made to speed up the process and complete legal formalities for payment of compensation to affected families and their relocation to resettlement site. Senior Social Development Advisor of the Ministry visited Aynak mine site on 12th August along with DM and other officials to take stock of the progress of archeology project interact with workers in the project and to discuss issues related to relocation and resettlement of project affected people.

Coordination with Legal Department: various meetings were held with the Director Legal Department and other officials of the Ministry of Mines to discuss the new proposed Law on land Expropriation. Based on the experience from Aynak and similar laws in other countries

	<p>in the region, detailed recommendations were shared with the Legal Department of the Ministry for the revision of the law from the social development point of view.</p>
<p>Mes Aynak Archeological Progress</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excavation work continues on total 18 sites, 3 areas are completed and need no further work. • Survey and documentation of excavated sites underway in the Lower Town Area, large amounts of digital data are collected and a comprehensive digital plan of all the archaeological remains in the Red Zone is being carried out. • First phase of machining on the mountain top completed, hand excavation of area now underway, coupled with a program of survey which should allow the rapid recording of the remains in this area • Excavation of Peripheral Monastic Sites almost complete, currently undertaking a phase of documentation and survey • 3D scanning team ready to mobilize, a necessary step before removal of the larger relics can begin • Ongoing excavations in the Lower Town Area continue producing numerous smaller relics such as stone carvings, stucco statues, decorative items in bronze • Identification of area associated with ancient metalworking at the base of the mountain, detailed analysis underway. • The evaluation of a large area to the south of the Lower Town has been completed and after initial assessment no further work is deemed necessary.
<p>Policy Support to Ministry of Mines</p>	<p>The month of August. The remaining time was spent on the review of natural gas proposals and contracts. In particular I worked with Mr. Saleque to review and report to the Deputy Minister and the Director General various projected price schedules for gas delivered to the Sheberghan Gas to Power Plant. Mr. Saleque and I also reviewed and provided comments for the ADB sponsored project for the recompletion of eight gas wells in a separate area of the Sheberghan district.</p> <p>We provided the Deputy Minister with an outline of a proposed economic policy framework for Afghanistan. This outline suggested a priority for the sectors for</p>

	<p>economic development for the country. This work is awaiting comments back from the DM.</p> <p>The program for economic discussions for members of the MoM continued during the month. A small job was to edit the English version of the quarterly MoM newsletter, and I also edited one of the presentation papers for the TAPI presentation. I assisted in preparing responses to the goals for the MoM for the Tokyo Framework</p>
<p>Aynak Compliance Monitoring Project</p>	<p>The Aynak Mine site and the access road to the mine has been the subject of a number of recent attacks by insurgents. MJAM has withdrawn its personnel from the site as a safety measure, with the exception of a small contingent carrying out care and maintenance and security duties. Archaeological excavations have not been affected.</p> <p>The Ministry of Mines is working closely with the Ministry of Interior to resolve the security issues.</p> <p>Preparation of the Bankable Feasibility Study (BFS) continues and has not been affected by the withdrawal of personnel from the mine site. It is expected that the BFS will be submitted around the middle of the fourth quarter of 2012, incorporating the Environmental & Social Impact Assessment (ESIA). The Compliance Monitoring team is working with Ministry officials and other consultants to prepare for the BFS & ESIA evaluation and approval process.</p> <p>Capacity building in the Ministry of Mines continues with technical training of officials. The Compliance Monitoring project also includes capacity building in the National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA). A training program for NEPA officials has been approved by that agency and training is scheduled to commence in the first week of September.</p> <p>The Compliance Monitoring team continues to supply the Ministry of Mines with support and advice on all aspects of the Aynak Copper Project. The team has recently reviewed a report by MJAM on the coal resources made available to</p>

	<p>supply a power station intended to provide electricity for the mine, and has made recommendations. The team has also submitted proposals to the Ministry for actions to assist MJAM to accelerate the project to achieve the earliest possible start-up to production.</p>
<p>Environmental Issues Support to NEPA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Besides to my responsibilities in regard to Aynak environmental documents, I have ensured continuously interaction with NEPA/EIA department regarding environmental technical issues. • I am in communication with PMU to finalize and hire the consultancy firm for NEPA regulatory capacity building which is under process. • We are in the process to recruit the two international advisors for NEPA, as it was reported in the last month that we have done the interview and it will soon be finalized to work here in NEPA with us. • I and Mr. Noorzad are in negotiation to facilitate the ground for the first meeting of Environmental Advisory Panel between NEPA and MoM officials. We have prepared the agenda and other necessary arrangements and soon we will have this meeting. • I have been working to find how much the environmental standards process progressed in NEPA, MoM and PMU or in ANSA. Finally I drafted an agenda to discuss this issue (Standards) in the above meeting between NEPA and MoM, to eventually initiate the process of standard development in the mining sector, it is ongoing so far. • During this month, I have reviewed the Afghan Meteorological Authority (AMA) Establishment Plan which was submitted to NEPA by MoTCA. I did it jointly in the assigned committee by NEPA and I have provided my comments and inputs for NEPA.

- In 28 - 29 Aug, 2012 I was assigned by NEPA planning DDG to work with an assigned committee for the preparation of five years development plan based on Tokyo conference, which is submitted by the Ministry of Finance. I have put my inputs and comments for that plan within that committee and submitted our inputs for NEPA.
- I attended technical review meeting of EIA department in NEPA to review the Boost Agricultural Business Park EIA report which is submitted to NEPA for permit and license.
- In 27 Aug, 2012 I have a meeting with Mr. Philips New Environmental Advisor for MoM in PMU office. We discussed some relevant environmental issues regarding to Aynak project as well as regulatory issues of NEPA documents. Currently we have good coordination and information exchange, in near future we will have a meeting with NEPA DDG. After that Mr. Philips will conduct some training sessions for NEPA here in Kabul.
- I have met Mr. Vaughan in PMU office in 27 August, 2012 as well, and we discussed to have his training sessions for NEPA regarding Mining Activities in early September 2012, here in NEPA.
- For two days (26 - 27 Aug, 2012) I have attended the Second Afghan Science and Engineering Scientific Conference in ICT Institute in Kabul, Ministry of Communication. In this conference various papers and presentations presented by professors regarding technologies, engineering, medical and environment.
- Currently I am studying the materials of Aynak reports and documents as well as EIA online training course through World Bank office.

	<p>Therefore, this progress report for the Month of August 2012 is kindly proposed for your further consideration. In case of missing any requirements please let me know.</p>
<p>NRRCP “National and Regional Resource Corridor Program”</p>	<p>The overall progress of NRRCP Secretariat from 15th July till 31st Aug, 2012 is as following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed a paper about sustainable energy resources in Afghanistan • Generating an executive summary about "Final Report: Assessment of the Potential for Gas-Fired Power and Its Contribution to the Resource Growth Corridor" • Review and analysis of the "New Afghanistan National Railway Reporting Outline for Feasibility Study of Torkham-Hairatan Line via Kabul". • Prepared action plan for assessment of building a Rail-Road terminal in the north of Afghanistan. • Developed a short paper on Afghanistan's Civil Aviation. • Prepared second executive summary for the "Railway Development Plan" a report by the WB. • Prepared a detailed action plan for Construction of Railway Terminal in Mazar - e- Sharif • Review and commented Three Reports generated by Altai Consultants on Private Sector Development (PSD), Local Assessment Capacity and Procurement Plan for Amu Darya and Aynak. • Papered Executive Summary of the Private Sector Development (PSD) report. • Prepared a detailed Implementation Plan for the PSD and submitted that to HE Minister, HE Deputy Minister for Programs and Policy and WB.

- Commented on the Fit to Purpose Fact Sheets on Livelihood and Governance prepared by Malcolm Toland.
- Economic Plan and criteria for construction of rail freight terminal at Mazar e sharif.
- Economic Analysis Report on Torkham-hairatan railway prefeasibility study.
- Report on transit and transportation potential of Afghanistan main focuses on trade and transit between central Asia and South Asia.
- Executive summary of Preparing National Transport Strategy.