



**UP TO DATE PROGRESS REPORT  
(November/ 2012)**

**Social Issues Progress**

**Poverty & Social Impact Analysis (PSIA) for Afghanistan-**

Had many rounds of discussions with PSIA team from WB Washington office regarding conducting PSIA in mining sector in Afghanistan. PSIA is an approach to analyze the distributional impacts of policy reforms on different social groups, particularly the poor and vulnerable.

The issues related to developing an inclusive mining sector in Afghanistan were discussed at length including the new legislation and policies to facilitate inclusive social and economic development in the mining sector in the country. Details with regard to a perception survey to be organized by the PSIA team in some of mine area like Aynak, Hajigak etc were also worked out. PSIA team was also requested to extend this survey to other projects as well like Nooraba & Samti gold mine, Qara Zaghan Gold Mine and Amu Darya project. The questionnaire for the survey was also reviewed and finalized.

**Discussion on Social Accountability Model**

Coordination meeting was held with WB, IRC and Aynak Authority to finalize the modalities of implementation of social accountability model at Aynak. This included issues like mobilizing CDCs at Aynak, capacity building of communities regarding grievance redressal mechanism, finalizing work plan of IRC etc. The Social Accountability Model is under implementation at Aynak from November 2012. Review meetings will be held every two weeks with IRC to assess progress of their work.

**Coordination meeting regarding Community Development Agreements**

Issues related to enhancing capacity of Ministry staff to implement CDAs at mine sites were discussed with WB Kabul

office and ASI. It was decided that a year-long training program covering all important departments of the Ministry will be developed by the Social Department to enhance understanding about CDAs. The training will be imparted in house once a week for 2-3 hours and will be of continuous nature to reinforce these issues among Ministry officials.

#### **Review of ESIA of Amu Darya project**

Social department held meetings with staff of Amu Darya project to discuss important social issues at Amu Darya project like employment of staff from local communities, compensation to those persons whose agricultural land is getting affected by the machinery etc used in the project. It was decided that a joint team from the social department and Amu Darya project will visit the project site in December to get the first hand feel of these issues. It was also decided that the issues related to employment will be taken up with Ministry of Labor & Social Affairs.

Further ESIA of Amu Darya submitted by the company is under review by the Social Department with regard to social development activities and CSR proposed by the company.

#### **Detailed comments prepared on Global Witness report**

Detailed comments were prepared from Ministry's side for Global Witness report on Copper Bottomed. These included progress with respect to resettlement and compensation issues, grievance redressal mechanisms and other issues like CDA's capacity development of the affected communities, civil society outreach to local communities in mining areas etc.

#### **Progress of implementation of RAP-**

Many meetings were held with officials of Aynak Authority to review the progress of implementation of Resettlement Action Plan prepared by the Ministry for 5 villages in January 2012. Payment of compensation amount is underway at Aynak though it is quite slow due to clearance from local courts which is a time taking process. Land at Asa Baba will be allotted to affected families as soon as the proposal is cleared by the ministry of Urban Development which is expected to come through very soon.

	<p>In the meanwhile IRC ha started capacity building of local communities on issues like building safe houses, personal hygiene and health issues, need for education. They have also initiated mobilizing them in CDCs.</p> <p><b>Report of the initial social impact assessment of the closure of illegal coal mines at Bamiyan</b></p> <p>A team of inspectors from the Ministry visited the site of illegal coal mines which were closed by the Ministry in June 2012. Survey covering 150 respondents has been carried out by the inspections department of the Ministry to assess the impact of closure of illegal mines at Bamiyan. The results are being tabulated by the social department and a complete report will be submitted very soon.</p>
<p><b>Mes Aynak Archeological Progress</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Excavation work continues on a total 17 site, 9 areas are completed and need no further work, 2 areas just await provision of chemicals and materials to remove sculptural and architectural elements.</li><li>- A high percentage of sites in the Lower Town area (see attached image 1) are now nearing completion, from this area large amounts of digital data are being collected and a comprehensive digital plan of all the archaeological remains in the Red Zone is being carried out (see attached image 2).</li><li>- Machine excavation of a second terrace on the mid slopes of the mountain has begun and in a second area on the lower slopes a targeted machine operation is underway, to quickly reveals the extent of buildings in this area.</li><li>- Excavation of Peripheral Monastic Sites except for Site 045 (Image 3) is now complete, awaiting arrival of chemicals needed for removal of statuary and stupas.</li><li>- Aerial photograph programme completed.</li><li>- Unfortunately due to the lack of chemicals removal of statues has been delayed.</li></ul>

**Policy Support to Ministry of Mines**

Were undertaken at the request of the Deputy Minister.

- Worked with other members of the Policy and Programs Unit to prepare the Mineral Industry’s statement for the Afghan Policy Framework. This major program is under the direction of the Ministry of Finance.
- Continued review of various training programs at both the executive level and technical skills education. I have been in contact with universities and/or training institutions to provide training to Afghan nationals involved in the minerals industries for:
  - Vocational/technical education,
  - Seminars for the younger administrative staff at the MoM in the technology and economics of the mining industry,
  - Management short course training at the MBA level for the Ministry’s mid- and upper level personnel,
  - Establishment of a formal mining engineering program (4 year college) at one of the local universities.
- A brief meeting was held with the World Bank office to provide a verbal update of progress.
- A short paper discussing the pros and cons of establishing a State – Owned Exploration Company was prepared.
- PMU Policy Advisor along with other members of the Policy and Programs Group prepared a white paper with accompanying questions and answers for the Deputy Minister’s speech at the MENA Mining Conference scheduled to be given in Dubai at the end of October.

**Aynak Compliance Monitoring Project**

The Ministry of Mines has collaborated with the Ministry of Interior to produce a security plan aimed at restoring secure conditions so that mining company personnel may be re-deployed to the site.

MJAM failed to submit the Bankable Feasibility Study (BFS) in October and has now undertaken to do so at the end of November, with the Environmental & Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) to follow in December. The Compliance Monitoring team continues to work with Ministry officials and other consultants to prepare for the BFS & ESIA evaluation and approval process. The World Bank has also committed resources to assist in assembling a team for this exercise. MJAM personnel have returned to site after being absent due to security reasons. Archaeological

	<p>excavations, landmine clearing and resettlement activities continue despite the onset of colder weather.</p> <p>Capacity building in the National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA) continues with technical training of officials, primarily in topics relevant to evaluation of the Feasibility Study.</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. Recent focus has been on review of compliance with MJAM's social obligations in terms of the contract, legal issues and assessment of the supply of coal for the proposed power station.</p>
<p><b>Social and Environmental Issues Support to NEPA</b></p>	<p>Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Adviser (International) to NEPA joined this month to support NEPA in the evaluation of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment reports submitted to NEPA particularly in the Mining Sector.</p> <p>Coordinated with GAF Team of the Aynak Copper Mine Compliance Monitoring Project and NEPA in the continuation of the training to EIA and Sustainable Development Division staffs and staff of other divisions at NEPA on mining industries and environmental impacts. The second round of training from GAF team on "Basics of Mining" for NEPA is started in November and continuing to December 2012.</p> <p>Advisers at NEPA are reviewing the submitted Screening and EIA reports and providing technical support to EIA Board of Experts and EIA and SD division of NEPA in the evaluation of the submitted reports. Checklists for the evaluation of screening report and EIA reports are being developed to facilitate the members of EIA Board of Experts in doing in depth evaluation.</p> <p>In the anticipation of the submission of ESIA report of the Aynak Copper Mine by the proponent, review of the initial screening report, terms of reference issued by NEPA, updated screening report, and comments of NEPA are being reviewed to prepare the checklists for the proposed field trip of EIA Board of Experts and NEPA staffs at the Aynak Copper Mine project site.</p> <p>Committee on the Environmental Standards at ANSA (Afghanistan National Standards Authority) headed by the DDG/Technical of NEPA are working on the standards for mining industries. In order to facilitate the process, the standards drafted earlier by different consultants and the comments received from ANSA are being studied to support the committee in the selection of most suitable standard for mining industries.</p>

	<p>Technical support provided to NEPA in drafting the comments on the ESIA Screening Report of Rogun Hydro Power Project in Tajikistan (Highest Dam in the World) to be discussed among the concerned ministries of Afghanistan. As a riparian country, this project is of concerns to Afghanistan.</p> <p>Technical support provided to NEPA with comments to facilitate the in-house discussion in NEPA on the five Conceptual Notes prepared by the consultants to further strengthen the policy framework on environmental management in Afghanistan including “National Sustainable Development Strategy”, “National Climate Change Strategy”, “National Environmental Education Guideline”, and “Guideline for Environmental Mainstreaming”, and for the development of “State of Environment, Afghanistan”.</p>
<p><b>Legal Issues Support to the Ministry of Mines</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Hajigak legal and commercial advisors continue to provide daily support to the Ministry of Mines on all issues related to the Hajigak Iron Ore Deposit. Positive negotiations continue with both winning bidders and are scheduled to continue in mid-December. The MoM looks forward to concluding two separate Mining Contracts in the next few months following the amendment to the current Mining Law.</li> </ul>
<p><b>NRRCP “National and Regional Resource Corridor Program”</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitated Five days training program on “Corporate Social Responsibility, Community Development and Stakeholders Engagement” 3-7 Nov, 2012 by the ASI Advisors;</li> <li>• Active member of the Working Group on Compensation Handbook with WB having the responsibilities of coordination with Govt. agencies and collecting cases on land acquisition and compensation;</li> <li>• Involved with WB preparing policy not on Community Development Agreement CDA for Afghanistan;</li> <li>• Focal point and member of monitoring group for the IRC’s Aynak Community Capacity Building project funded by the WB;</li> <li>• Working on EIDF, prepared draft chapter on “Land Management”;</li> <li>• Working on SIA of Illegal Mines in Bamyan which are closed by MoM recently;</li> <li>• Preparing to conduct Socio-Economic Survey at Amu-Darya;</li> <li>• Preparing Annual Capacity Building Action plan on Social Issue related to mining for 15-20 MoM’s staff and its</li> </ul>

	<p>implementation plan;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coordination on other social projects around mines, e.g. SIA of Hajigak and Aynak by Samuel Hall (WB contractor);</li><li>• Created a mechanism of how to involve the local business in the procurement opportunities of CNPCIW.</li><li>• Conducted an Half Day Workshop for the construction companies members of ABA and ACCI;</li><li>• Provided comments on the private sector role in the Downstream Section of Extractive Industries Development Framework (EIDF) Outline-Chapter 12, An Industry with Linkage;</li></ul> <p>Development Framework (EIDF) Outline-Chapter 24, Risk Management ;</p>
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