



Promoting Afghanistan's Development Finance Sector

Meeting with the Governors of Parwan and Nangarhar provinces

To proceed with the top down approach of raising awareness of the local government authorities and attract their support, AMA organized two separate meetings with the Governors of Parwan and Nangarhar provinces.

The first meeting was held with Mr. Mohammad Asem Asem the Governor of Parwan on July 18, 2016. Representatives of the MFIs accompanied AMA's Central Regional Coordinator in this meeting.

The sector representatives briefed the Governor on Development Finance Sector operations, its challenges and issues, and requested him for his support through issuance of a letter to all concerned government departments to support AMA and MFIs.

Mr. Asem warmly welcomed the sector representatives and thanked them for their efforts in reducing poverty and creating job opportunities for the residents of Parwan province through provision of financial services. He promised his full support and appointed a focal point for MFIs for any future support they need and advised the focal point to immediately respond to MFIs when needed. The Governor also issued an official letter of support to all concerned government departments to intensify their support and cooperation with MFIs operating in Parwan province. MFIs are now using the supporting letter as a useful tool.

The second meeting was held with Mr. Salim Khan Kunduzi the Governor of Nangarhar on August 04, 2016. After briefing Mr. Kunduzi on the sector activities and achievement, the sector representatives also discussed the challenges and issues and requested him for extension of his support through issuing a supporting letter addressing all concerned government departments in Nangarhar.

Mr. Kunduzi promised his full support and appointed his Secretary as the focal point for MFIs for any future support they need. Further Mr. Kunduzi requested the MFIs to expand their operations in Nangarhar province.



Program and Legal Awareness Meeting in Parwan

In line with its focus on lobby and advocacy for the sector, AMA organized a Program & Legal Awareness Meeting on July 28, 2016 in Parwan province. Including the Governor, the Chief of Police and Mayor, 55 representatives from the local government authorities and AMA member organizations participated in the meeting.

The purpose of meeting was to raise awareness of the local government authorities of Parwan province on the microfinance program and to attract their support for smooth running of the program in this province.

Mr. Mohammad Asem Asem had a speech during the meeting informing the participants about the importance of the microfinance program and its impact on economy of the country. He also advised all concerned government departments and community leaders to support the program.

Information about evolution of microfinance sector, AMA and MFIs operations were provided and the legal advisor of MISFA talked about the legal responsibilities of each stakeholders particularly local government authorities towards the success of the microfinance program. Issues and challenges that the MFIs are facing in Parwan provinces were discussed in details and responses to questions raised by the participants were provided accordingly.

The meeting resulted in positively changing the perspectives of most of the Government authorities in this province, particularly the Mayor who was not previously supportive, and their support was attracted towards the sector.

“It is a golden chance for the people of Parwan to use the facilities created by the MFIs through provision of financial services for small business holders to expand their business. As the Governor of Parwan province I fully support the program and urge all relevant Government departments and community elders to extend their support and cooperation with MFIs operating in Parwan.”

Asem Asem,
Governor of Parwan



Kabul International Ag-Fair

The Agricultural Credit Enhancement (ACE-II) Program will be supporting a series of presentations in the Knowledge Center at the Kabul International Ag-Fair, which takes place at the Ag-Fair grounds in Badam Bagh, Kabul during October 20-21, 2016. The program for the presentations is as follows:

October 20, 2016:

- 10am to 11am: Session 1 - Access to Credit for Farmers and Agribusinesses, by ADF/ACE II.
- 11am to 12pm: Session 2 - Export and Marketing, by CHAMP.
- 02pm to 05pm: Session 3 - Business to Business Sessions and Presentations on Requirements & Quality Improvements to Reach Markets, by RADP-S.

October 21, 2016:

- 10am to 11am: Session 1 - Saffron Production and Value Chain, by MAIL Extension Directorate.
- 11am to 12pm: Session 2 - Access to Credit for Farmers and Agribusinesses, by ADF/ACE II (part 2).
- 02pm to 03pm: Session 3 - Presentation on Cold Storages, by GIZ.
- 03pm to 04pm: Session 4 - Wheat Seed Production, by MAIL Extension Directorate.

The third AMA Client Success Stories Competition took place during AMA Annual General Assembly Meeting on August 24, 2016 in Kabul. Top four successful clients – two men and two women, from four MFIs; IIFC Group, FINCA Afghanistan, Mutahid DFI, and Hand in Hand Afghanistan, were rewarded with cash prizes and certificates. Relevant loan officers were also rewarded with gifts and certificates for their hard work with their clients.

A total of 19 stories from 7 organizations were received. The selection committee which was set up at AMA consisting representatives from MISFA and AMA reviewed and selected the success stories as per the agreed criteria. The rewarded clients and Loan Officers thanked AMA for recognizing their success and hard work which motivates them and their peers to do even better in the future.



USAID's FAIDA Project Extends its Support to AMA

USAID's Financial Access for Investing the Development of Afghanistan (FAIDA) project extended its support to AMA for another 2.5 months starting from October 01, 2016. AMA signed the grant agreement with USAID's FAIDA on October 01, 2016.

Under this agreement, AMA will organize workshops on access to finance for renewable energy sector, access to finance for Youth, and access to finance for women entrepreneurs in Kabul. FAIDA has been supporting AMA through provision of grants and technical assistance during last five years.

AMA Donor:



AMA Collaborators:





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