

## New Highway Bridge Taking Shape on Arghandab River in Kandahar

Through its National Area-Based Development Programme (NABDP), the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) is constructing a 180 meters long bridge on Arghandab River in the village of Chargholab in Kandahar province. It is one of NABDP's biggest infrastructure projects in the province, with the cost of \$876,910 being funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).



The construction work on the bridge began in February 2007 and will be completed in August of this year, creating 3000 labor days of employment for local people. This is a six-meter wide, one-lane highway bridge which will not only connect the western areas of Arghandab District with the city of Kandahar, but also connect the eastern areas of Arghandab with the District of Khakriz, benefiting 8,570 families.

Khan Aqa 40, a farmer from Village Chargholab said, "We are looking forward to the completion of the bridge, as it will enable us to take our agricultural produce to the market in Kandahar and beyond."

The bridge is being built in such a way that it will slow down the water flow in Chargholab area, where floods often damage agriculture land.



MRRD is working to rebuild rural Afghanistan through its national programmes such as the National Solidarity Programme (NSP), National Area Based Development programme (NABDP), Rural Water and Sanitation Programme (RUWATSAN), National Rural Access Programme (NRAP), and Micro-Finance Facility for Afghanistan (MISFA).