

The Pace of Reconstruction Steps Up in Uruzgan

In the last five months, 12 infrastructure projects have been completed by MRRD's National Area-Based Development Program (NABDP) in Uruzgan. The 12 projects include the construction of two roads, a water intake, a canal, five retaining walls, a siphon and a school building in various districts of the province. In addition, a 40-meter long bridge was built in Tirin Kot, capital of Uruzgan.

These projects, 10 of which were financed by the Netherlands and the remaining two by Belgium, benefited 28,580 residents of the rural districts of the province. A total of \$1,421,779 was spent on these projects.



Furthermore, earlier this month, Muhammad Ehsan Zia, the Minister of Rural Rehabilitation and Development signed for nine more development projects with Community Development Councils in Uruzgan. These projects will be directly implemented by the communities while being monitored by the newly established District Development Assemblies (DDAs).

These new projects are also funded by the Netherlands and will benefit 2922 families in Dehrawut, Choori and Tirin Kot districts of Uruzgan Province. While under construction, the projects will generate 8764 labor days, and should be completed within two months. In addition to the Dutch contribution worth 100,000 USD through MRRD, the communities involved will also contribute to the implementation of these projects in the shape of labor. Through NABDP, the paving of a four-kilometer long road will also begin soon in Dehawat District of Uruzgan Province, connecting nearby districts and improve access for rural residents. Since NABDP Phase II began in 2006, a total of 21 infrastructure projects have been completed in Uruzgan.