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FACT SHEET

NATO/JAPAN COOPERATION IN AFGHANISTAN OCTOBER 2008

Background

In January 2007, the former Japanese Prime Minister Abe made a historic address to NATO's North Atlantic Council (NAC), during which he pledged to enhance concrete co-operation between Japan and NATO, with a particular focus on Afghanistan. This initiative was very warmly received by the NAC, particularly in the context of the decisions taken at the Riga Summit to meaningfully enhance concrete relations with key Contact Countries, like Japan. In March 2007, Japan formalized its assistance by providing up to 2 billion yen (around USD 20 million) of financial support for humanitarian projects in Afghanistan. Priority is given to primary healthcare and education projects, as proposed by the International Security Assistance Force's (ISAF) Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs), in coordination with the NATO Senior Civilian Representative's (SCR) Office. In a further step, the Japanese Embassy in Kabul appointed a Liaison Officer to the SCR Office who will be devoted full-time to assisting in the screening of potential projects and the administration of those approved.

Guiding Principles

Funding is made available through the Japanese Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Projects (GAGP) scheme.

- In principle, projects should be in the area of primary education, vocational training, health and medical care, or water and sanitation, which promote the achievement of human security.
- Projects will be proposed by ISAF PRTs through the SCR Office and approved by the Japanese authorities, but must then be implemented by NGOs or local government authorities which control their own budget, meaning that projects cannot be implemented directly by PRT staffs.
- The geographical area for assistance projects is decided on a case by case basis, taking into account the priorities of the Government of Afghanistan, Government of Japan and NATO, with a view to strengthening the objectives of Afghanistan Compact and Afghan National Development Strategy, while avoiding duplication of effort.
- According to the guidelines for the GAGP the amount per project is under 10 million yen (around USD 90,000) in principle. Larger projects can be considered up to a maximum amount of 100 million yen (around USD 900,000) as appropriate.
- Under the condition that mutually suitable projects are identified, it is possible for Japan to provide up to two billion yen of assistance in the course of several years.

PROJECTS FUNDED TO DATE

As of 2 October 2008, the following 29 projects are being taken forward through this framework (projects agreed this quarter in bold):

Province	District	PRT	Project Title	Budget (US\$)
Ghor	Lal-o Sarjantal	Chagcharan	Project for Female Literacy	80,486
Ghor	Chagcharan	Chagcharan	Project for Vocational Training	79,963
Ghor		Chagcharan	Project for Eradication of Tuberculosis	85,820
Ghor	Lal-o Sarjantal	Chagcharan	Construction of Shinia Safed Aw Primary School	85,884
Ghor	Lal-o Sarjantal	Chagcharan	Construction of Nawe Dangak Middle School	85,991
Ghor	Lal-o Sarjantal	Chagcharan	Construction of Aigal Middle School	85,765
Ghor	Lal-o Sarjantal	Chagcharan	Construction of Koshk Primary School	85,765
Panjshir		Panjshir	Poultry Elevation training program	84,258
Samangan	Aybak	Mazar-e Sharif	Construction of Kokjar Girls' Secondary School	85,910
Samangan	Aybak	Mazar-e Sharif	Construction of Joi Zhouwandon Girls' Secondary School	85,818
Samangan		Mazar-e Sharif	Construction of Karta-i-mamuren Primary Girls' School	85,994
Samangan		Mazar-e Sharif	Construction of Takhti Rustam girls and boys secondary school	85,594
Samangan	Aybak	Mazar-e Sharif	Construction of Aybak Center Secondary School	85,953
Badakhshan	Feyzabad	Feyzabad	Women's empowerment programme	80,000
Paktya	Gardez	Gardez	Teacher Training College Infrastructure Upgrade	181,000
Baghlan	Pul-E-Khumri	Pul-E-Khumri	Income generation vocational trainings for EVIs and returnees	86,000
Baghlan	Pul-E-Khumri	Pul-E-Khumri	Literacy program and basic education on hygienic for EVIs and returnees	86,000
Laghman	Mehterlam	Mehterlam	Construction of qalai Shaikhan primary school for girls	85,938
Laghman	Mehterlam	Mehterlam	Construction of Eshaq Nangyal primary school for boys	85,938
Badakhshan	Zeebak	Feyzabad	Construction of basic water supply and sanitation	167,000

Laghman	Mehterlam	Mehterlam	Construction of Pera Baba primary school	85,986
Laghman	Mehterlam	Mehterlam	Construction of Pera Baba primary school	85,986
Kunar	Noorgai	Kunar	Construction of Chowki primary school	85,964
Samangan	Daraisof Pain	Mazar-e Sharif	Construction of Char Awlia school	85,888
Samangan	Hazrat Sultan	Mazar-e Sharif	Construction of Daola Abad girls's elementary school	85,926
Samangan	Roi do ab	Mazar-e Sharif	Construction of Roi Girls' Secondary School	85,986
Samangan	Daresofe Bala	Mazar-e Sharif	Construction of Bayanan primary school	85,243
Samangan	Roi do ab	Mazar-e Sharif	Construction of Madrak Mix Secondary School	85,986
Samangan	Roi do ab	Mazar-e Sharif	Construction of Retaining Walls for Sare Konda Village	85,885

Total Funding to Date : USD 2,647,927

The Japanese authorities are considering the eligibility of a further 39 project proposals at this time.