United States Marine Corps
Female Engagement Team

1stLt Zoe Bedell
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USMC FET Background

- FET roots in Iraq operations: Lioness, Iraqi Women’s Engagement Program
- Began in Afghanistan in early 2009
  - Initially Lionesse-type mission; quickly evolved
  - Ad hoc
- First permanent FET arrived in Afghanistan (RC(SW)) March 2010
- British FET (in RC(SW)) began October 2010
Mission

• FETs engage Afghan men and women in order to influence the population in accordance with the commander’s objectives and in support of GIRoA.
FET Employment

• Concept of Support:
  – Teams comprised of 2 Marines
  – Augmented with female medical personnel and female linguists when available
  – Teams placed in direct support to battalion and company commanders

• Capabilities:
  – Engagements → Develop Influence
  – Passive Information Collection
  – Information Dissemination
  – Medical Outreach and Education
  – Facilitate Civil Military Operations
  – Security Support
    • Female searches
    • Engagement support to clearing operations
Key Lessons Learned

- FETs engage with women AND men
- Employment driven by the commander
- Effective in all phases of COIN operations
- Full-time FET
- Most effectively employed…
  - …when integrated into planning from the beginning
  - ….as part of a larger female engagement strategy
FET Impact -- Qualitative

- Held women’s shuras in all districts with extended FET presence
- Provided valuable information on the community, including enemy activity
- Disseminated messages in order to educate and influence

- Supported clearing operations and provided security and searching support
- Conducted medical outreach and education events
- Supported governance and development projects directly affecting women (women’s centers, microgrants)
FET Impact -- Quantitative

• Data collected at the RC level
• Collected monthly, quarterly

• Indicators Measured:
  – Types of Engagements:
    • Community Relationship Building
    • Health
    • Education
    • Economic/Employment Opportunities
    • Women’s Governance
    • Enemy Activity Information
  – Types of Missions:
    • Women’s Shuras
    • Medical Outreach Events
    • Security Missions
DEPLOYMENT TOTALS
BY MISSION TYPE

- Health/Hygiene Education Outreach Events (128) 13%
- Women's Shuras (62) 6%
- Security Missions (165) 17%
- Other (617) 64%
DEPLOYMENT TOTALS

BY ENGAGEMENT TYPE

Health: 463
Education: 396
Women's Governance: 285
Enemy Activity Information: 197

Oct 2010-Mar 2011
UNCLASSIFIED//FOUO

TYPES OF MISSIONS
QUARTERLY COMPARISON

WOMEN'S SHURAS: Oct-Dec 2010 - 24, Jan-Mar 2011 - 38
SECURITY MISSIONS: Oct-Dec 2010 - 60, Jan-Mar 2011 - 105

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TYPES OF ENGAGEMENTS
QUARTERLY COMPARISON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Oct-Dec 2010</th>
<th>Jan-Mar 2011</th>
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TYPES OF ENGAGEMENTS
MONTHLY COMPARISON

- Health: Jan-11 77, Feb-11 54
- Education: Jan-11 86, Feb-11 88, Mar-11 277
- Women's Governance: Jan-11 56, Feb-11 44, Mar-11 134
- Community Relationship Building: Jan-11 22, Feb-11 6, Mar-11 7
- Enemy Activity Information: Jan-11 45, Feb-11 41, Mar-11 55
TYPES OF MISSIONS
MONTHLY COMPARISON

Health/Hygiene Education Outreach Events
- Jan-11: 31
- Feb-11: 36
- Mar-11: 32

Women's Shuras
- Jan-11: 11
- Feb-11: 12
- Mar-11: 15

Security Missions
- Jan-11: 36
- Feb-11: 34
- Mar-11: 35
# ENGAGEMENT ASSESSMENT TRACKER

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Engagement Type</th>
<th>Oct-Dec</th>
<th>Jan-Mar</th>
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# OVERALL MISSIONS

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*Figures represent the number of engagements or missions conducted in the specified periods.*
Questions