



SIGAR

Office of the Special Inspector General
for Afghanistan Reconstruction

September 8, 2017

The Honorable Mark Green
Administrator
U.S. Agency for International Development

Dear Administrator Green,

I am writing to request information regarding USAID's Kandahar Food Zone (KFZ) program. USAID launched the \$45.4 million KFZ program, a counter-narcotic effort, in July 2013 to help rural farmers in targeted districts of Kandahar province, Afghanistan earn legitimate incomes from activities other than growing heroin-producing poppy. USAID initially awarded International Relief and Development, Inc. (IRD) a 3-year contract to implement the KFZ program, and the program has since been extended to run through August 2018.

USAID designed the KFZ program to create licit economic opportunities by providing small grants for infrastructure projects and alternative livelihood training for local farmers in Kandahar province. The KFZ program is also intended to strengthen the capacity of the Afghan Ministry of Counter Narcotics to promote licit alternatives to opium production through the implementation of alternative livelihood programs and piloting successful models of alternative development. In November 2016, USAID reported that the KFZ program has been successful in rehabilitating irrigation infrastructure, enhancing water management capacity, improving crop yields, and managing greenhouses efficiently.¹

Given the tens of millions of U.S. taxpayer dollars USAID spent on KFZ, and the importance of counter-narcotics efforts to Afghanistan's reconstruction, I am seeking additional information concerning the completed infrastructure projects and KFZ program activities. Please provide the following:

- 1) A list of all completed and ongoing infrastructure projects constructed through the KFZ program (including irrigation canals, greenhouses, and any other structures), along with:
 - a. Project status (completed or ongoing);
 - b. Completion or anticipated completion dates;
 - c. GPS coordinates and names of associated villages for each project (or the most detailed location information available for each project);

¹ USAID, *Kandahar Food Zone Program (KFZ) Status Report*, November 2016.

- d. Funding levels for each project.
- 2) Copies of all prime contracts and contract modifications with implementing partner(s) for the KFZ program.

I am asking that you provide a response to this request and all requested documentation no later than September 22, 2017. I am submitting this request under the authority of Public Law No. 110-181, and the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended. Should you or your staff have any questions about this potential project, please contact Mr. Mathew Dove, Director of Special Projects, at (703) 545-6051 or matthew.d.dove.civ@mail.mil.

Sincerely,



John F. Sopko
Special Inspector General
for Afghan Reconstruction




USAID | AFGHANISTAN

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

MEMORANDUM

September 18, 2017

TO: John F. Sopko
Special Inspector General for
Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR)

FROM: Eric Milstrey, Acting Office Director
Office of Agriculture 

SUBJECT: Mission Response to SIGAR Inquiry Letter on USAID's
Kandahar Food Zone (KFZ) (SIGAR SP-182/SIGAR-17-
64-SP)

REF: SIGAR Transmittal email dated 09/08/2017

This letter refers to Special Inspector General Sopko's September 9, 2017 letter regarding USAID's Kandahar Food Zone (KFZ) program.

In its letter, SIGAR requested USAID to provide no later than September 22, 2017 information and documents pertaining to KFZ program implementation. USAID has assembled and is providing the requested information and documents accompanied by this letter explaining the nature and scope of the documents assembled at SIGAR's request. Please see the explanation below.

SIGAR Request:

- 1) *A list of all completed and ongoing infrastructure projects constructed through the KFZ program (including irrigation canals, greenhouses, and any other structures), along with:*
- a. *Project status (completed or ongoing);*
 - b. *Completion or anticipated completion dates;*
 - c. *GPS coordinates and names of associated villages for each project (or the most detailed location information available for each project);*
 - d. *Funding levels for each project.*

U.S. Agency for International Development
Great Massoud Road
Kabul, Afghanistan

Tel: 202-216-6288 / 0700-108-001
Email: kabulusaidinformation@usaid.gov
<http://afghanistan.usaid.gov>

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USAID's Response:

USAID Afghanistan has provided two Excel files that include all the information that has been requested; one addresses the irrigation canals and the other addresses the greenhouses. Please note these greenhouses are impermanent structures and can and have been moved; by definition impermanent structures are not classified as infrastructure.

SIGAR Request:

2) Copies of all prime contracts and contract modifications with implementing partner(s) for the KFZ program.

USAID's Response:

KFZ is a Cooperative Agreement, not a contract. USAID Afghanistan has provided the basic agreement and all modifications to date.

Attachments:

- 1) Question # 1:
 1. KFZ Canal Rehabilitations;
 2. RFI KFZ greenhouses;

- 2) Question # 2:
 1. Award AID-306-A-13-00008, Kandahar Food Zone;
 2. Modifications ## 1 through 22 to the Kandahar Food Zone award.

- 3) SBU Enclosure Letter for submission of non-redacted copies of the contractual documents requested by SIGAR.

cc: Ravindral Suaris, Controller, USAID/Afghanistan
Joanie Simon Bartholomaus, U.S. Embassy/Kabul
OAPA Audit