



German Cooperation with Afghanistan

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Monitoring and Evaluating National Development Projects: Afghan Ministry of Economy and the Afghan German Cooperation Continue Joint Efforts

Kabul, 12th February 2020 – Yesterday, the Afghan Ministry of Economy (MoEc) and the Afghan-German Cooperation's programme Monitoring, Evaluation and Communication (MEC) signed a Cooperation Agreement for 2020. In attendance were representatives from the MoEc including Deputy Minister of Policy and Technical Affairs at the Ministry of Economy Mr Ismail Rahimi, the German Embassy and the Afghan-German Cooperation. Since 2015, joint efforts aim at strengthening the MoEc's capacities for monitoring and evaluating Afghan national development projects. These capacities ensure that projects are efficient, effective, relevant, sustainable, and are beneficial to the Afghan citizens. The budget for cooperation amounts to a total of more than AFN 9.7 million.

Mr Ismail Rahimi said, 'The online system helped us to transfer our paper work to a digital and web-based system. The system has been a success and allows other line ministries to access data on the progress and impact of development projects. The system data is now being used by the council of the ministers and the Economic High Council for decision making.'

The MoEc is responsible for tracking and monitoring the progress and results of national development projects. Mr Ismail Rahimi has highly appreciated the support of the Afghan-German Cooperation since 2015 and the planned efforts for 2020. These efforts include building the MoEc's capacities in monitoring and evaluation, developing and improving monitoring and reporting systems for projects on central and provincial level as well as conducting impact evaluations of national development projects.

Mrs Bettina Horstmann, Head of Development Cooperation at the German Embassy in Kabul said, 'I am impressed by this great work by the cooperation between MoEc and MEC. It is important to report on the progress and impact of development projects for further planning of national policies, but also to jointly monitor our progress towards the GMAF (Geneva Mutual Accountability Framework) indicators and other frameworks. Germany is committed to continue its support with the Afghan government.'

The highlights of this year's cooperation will be the further development of the reporting system Central/Provincial Monitoring and Reporting System (CMRS/PMRS), which allows the Afghan government to efficiently track the progress of national development projects. These projects will be evaluated in order to understand the changes brought about and to learn from past experiences.

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH implements the programme Monitoring, Evaluation and Communication (MEC) on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the German Federal Foreign Office (AA). The programme collects and processes data on measures and results of the German Cooperation with Afghanistan and informs the general public and decision makers based on sound, gender-specific data. It aims to improve the monitoring and evaluation skills of the Afghan Ministry of Economy (MoEc), so it can independently document, assess and report on national development projects. Since 2013, 350 MoEc employees have participated in courses on monitoring and evaluation systems and 1,400 Afghan journalists have attended press events on the German Cooperation with Afghanistan.