



Government  
of Canada

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du Canada

# CANADA'S ENGAGEMENT IN AFGHANISTAN

QUARTERLY REPORT TO PARLIAMENT  
FOR THE PERIOD OF APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 2010



Canada

## **Library and Archives Canada Cataloguing in Publication**

Canada's engagement in Afghanistan - quarterly report to Parliament for the period of April 1 to June 30, 2010

Quarterly.

Text in English and French on inverted pages.

Title on added t.p.: L'engagement du Canada en Afghanistan - rapport trimestriel au Parlement pour la période du 1<sup>er</sup> avril au 30 juin 2010

Available also on the Internet.

ISSN 1918-2732

1. Afghan War, 2001- —Participation, Canadian. 2. Canada—Foreign relations—Afghanistan. 3. Canada—Canadian Forces—Afghanistan.  
4. Canada—Military policy. I. Canada. Privy Council Office. II. Title. L'engagement du Canada en Afghanistan - rapport trimestriel au Parlement pour la période du 1<sup>er</sup> avril au 30 juin 2010

DS371.412.S47

958.104'7

C2008-980202-0E

Cover photo: Delivering basic services, such as potable water, to Afghans.

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## Foreword

In accordance with the motion passed by the House of Commons on March 13, 2008, we are honoured to place before Parliament this ninth quarterly report on Canada's engagement in Afghanistan. This report addresses the period from April 1 to June 30, 2010.

As observed by the Special Committee on Canada's Mission to Afghanistan following its visit to Afghanistan in late May, "The single biggest challenge, beyond the establishment of a secure environment, is the requirement to connect government to ordinary Afghans and connect them to their government." This connection is especially evident in the ability of the Afghan government to deliver basic, essential services such as education, health care, jobs and clean water to its citizens.

Our report for this quarter focuses on progress that has been achieved on Canada's six priorities and three signature projects in Afghanistan, with particular attention to how each priority and project supports the delivery of basic services that in turn builds the confidence of the Afghan people in the future of their country.

Advancements on Canada's objectives in this quarter in Afghanistan took place within a deteriorating security situation and high casualties among NATO forces. But this quarter also saw the start of important preparations for September's parliamentary elections, and further witnessed the Government of Afghanistan deliver on its promise to host a Consultative Peace Jirga, which was held in June and attended by Afghan citizens from all walks of life, representing both a symbolic and substantive step in the peace process.

Building on the Peace Jirga and on the commitments of the London Conference held in January, President Hamid Karzai hosted the Kabul Conference on July 20. Attended by more than 60 partner nations including Canada, the conference, as outlined in the communiqué, represented a decisive step toward greater Afghan leadership to secure, stabilize and develop Afghanistan. We especially welcomed the conference as a key step toward the transition of responsibility for Afghanistan's security to the Afghan leadership.

Among other important developments in Afghanistan since the end of the reporting quarter, this current quarter saw a further surge of U.S. military forces into and around Kandahar City. As a result, in June Task Force Kandahar turned over military control of the Zhari and Arghandab districts to U.S. forces, doubling the number of coalition forces in these volatile areas. Moreover, Canada's military area of operations was further concentrated, allowing the Canadian Forces to reinforce security and stabilization efforts in key districts remaining under its command.

Progress in Afghanistan is only achieved through the resolve of our Canadian Forces and civilian personnel, who so bravely commit to the advancement of stability, security and democracy in Afghanistan. On behalf of all Canadians, we honour the memory of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in this service, and those who have been injured, as well as their families.

Our next report will cover the period July 1 to September 30, 2010.



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The Honourable Lawrence Cannon  
Minister of Foreign Affairs



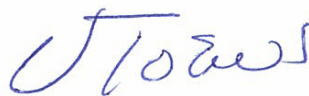
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Minister of Veterans Affairs and  
Minister of State (Agriculture)



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The Honourable Peter MacKay  
Minister of National Defence



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The Honourable Vic Toews  
Minister of Public Safety



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The Honourable Beverley J. Oda  
Minister of International Cooperation

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## Summary

- Canada continued to make progress on its six priorities and three signature projects in this quarter, in the face of increasing insurgent violence. Two more 2011 targets were achieved: the amount of land released as free of mines surpassed 500 square kilometres; and remaining infrastructure projects at Sarpoza prison were completed.
- Building the capacity of Afghan institutions to deliver basic, essential services to the Afghan people is pivotal to the country's future. Canada further advanced its first signature project, the repair of the Dahla Dam and its irrigation system to provide a secure supply of irrigation water to Kandaharis, by removing over 52,000 cubic metres of silt.
- Canada progressed on its second signature project, to build, repair or refurbish 50 schools in key districts of Kandahar by 2011, by completing another three schools. Twenty-four schools are under construction and contracts are in place for the remaining seven schools.
- Canada continued to implement its third signature project, focused on the eradication of polio. More than 390,000 children in Kandahar received vaccinations during the quarter.
- The Emergency Micronutrient Initiative funded by Canada aims to reduce nutritional deficiencies and health complications among pregnant women and children under the age of five: 140,000 children received packets of multiple micronutrient powders, while 78,000 pregnant or lactating women received iron and folic acid supplements.
- Afghan and coalition forces, together with rule of law, governance and development experts from the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team focused on the development of Hamkari (cooperation), an Afghan-led effort to enhance the presence of the Afghan government across Kandahar province and enable the provision of basic services that are essential to building the confidence of Afghans in their institutions.
- The Afghan National Army (ANA) security forces doubled in the district of Zhari, increasing its capacity for security operations. The Canadian-supported ANA Junior Staff Officer Course graduated 47 students, using ANA instructors mentored by the Canadian Forces.
- The Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team Training Centre provided basic training to 87 Afghan National Police (ANP) officers; 19 officers graduated from its Leadership and Management Course; and an additional 19 officers graduated from a train-the-trainer course.
- In Kabul, the Canadian-supported Afghan Customs Academy graduated another 45 students and the new Canadian-supported Afghan Border Police Faculty was inaugurated in June.
- Canada remained active in supporting preparations and electoral reform for the September 18 parliamentary elections, and supported a UN program addressing the needs of female parliamentary candidates.

# I. Introduction

Throughout the second quarter of 2010, Canada continued to progress on its six priorities and three signature projects in Afghanistan. Given Afghanistan's increasingly volatile security situation, such progress is only achieved through the unflagging dedication of our military and civilian personnel, the ongoing commitment of our international partners, and the courageous efforts of the Afghan people as they endeavour to rebuild a nation that will one day be safe, secure, democratic and self-sufficient.

Thirty years of conflict, political instability and economic hardship have decimated Afghanistan's infrastructure and institutions, and diminished the confidence of the Afghan people in their government. Rebuilding this confidence is largely dependent on increasing the capacity of the Afghan government to deliver basic, essential services such as education, health care, roads, job creation, irrigation, clean water and electricity.

This quarterly report, covering the period April 1 to June 30, 2010, describes progress made on our six priorities and three signature projects through the lens of Canada's efforts to assist the Afghan government in developing its capacity to deliver these services, all of which, in turn, improve the lives of the Afghan people.

One year ago, we introduced fuller reporting in the Appendix on progress-to-date for each benchmark, in order to show results since 2008 alongside the quarter-to-quarter results. These progress-to-date results will appear in our reports once per year; they are included in this report and form the second annual report of overall progress.

## II. The Quarterly Context

This quarter was marked by a deteriorating security situation in Afghanistan, with increasing insurgent violence and intimidation targeting civilians, the assassination of several officials from Afghan government institutions and civil society, and an early escalation of the fighting season.

This quarter saw a further surge of U.S. military forces into and around Kandahar City. As a result, in June Task Force Kandahar turned over military control of the Zhari and Arghandab districts to U.S. forces, doubling the number of coalition forces in these volatile areas. Moreover, Canada's military area of operations was further concentrated, allowing the Canadian Forces to reinforce security and stabilization efforts in key districts remaining under its command.

### The Development Context

Decades of conflict and political instability in Afghanistan have nearly wiped out basic infrastructure, and left it as one of the poorest countries in the world. A government that is unable to provide its citizens with access to clean water, education, health services and economic opportunity cannot engender confidence or foster long-term peace. For this reason, Canada places a high priority on increasing the Afghan government's ability to deliver basic services to Afghans.

The escalation of fighting tragically resulted in the largest number of casualties among NATO forces in a single month (June) since the beginning of the conflict, and saw suicide attacks on three NATO bases including Kandahar Airfield, the base of Canadian operations. There was a notable increase in insurgent violence and intimidation throughout Task Force Kandahar's area of operations as insurgents attempted to regain influence in the key districts surrounding Kandahar City. Operations in this quarter focused on maintaining the influence of the Afghan government and the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) within a growing ring of stability around Kandahar City and surrounding districts.

Yet, in the face of rising violence, positive measures were taken by the Afghan leadership and the international community in this quarter, in an ongoing effort to establish stability and sustainability in Afghan security, governance and development, all of which serve to support the development and delivery of essential services to the Afghan people.

A Peace Jirga was held in Kabul from June 2 to 4, and went ahead despite an attempted attack that was repelled by Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) during President Karzai's opening remarks. Some 1,600 Afghan participants, 20 percent of whom were women, attended the three-day meeting to discuss ways forward to a sustainable peace in Afghanistan. The Jirga resolutions proposed the establishment of a High Level Peace Council to provide leadership for the peace process, and the development of a Peace and Reintegration Program.

Afghan and coalition forces, and the international community, focused on the development of Hamkari (cooperation) in this quarter. Hamkari is an Afghan-led, coordinated effort between the Government of Afghanistan and its international partners that focuses on the stabilization of Kandahar City and surrounding districts in the province.

Facilitated by the ongoing surge of U.S. civilian expertise and the support of military security, Hamkari seeks to enhance the presence of the Afghan government across Kandahar province, while increasing security in targeted areas to allow the government to better provide essential services. This objective poses a number of challenges: sustaining stable security conditions; putting in place appropriate human resources; effectively addressing the problems of corruption and abuse of power; and developing much needed basic infrastructure.

### **III. Canadian Priorities: Reporting Progress**

Canada's engagement in Afghanistan is defined and guided by six specific, but interrelated, priorities as announced in mid-2008: enable the ANSF in Kandahar to sustain a more secure environment and promote law and order; strengthen Afghan institutional capacity to deliver basic services; provide humanitarian aid to extremely vulnerable people; enhance border security with facilitation of Afghan-Pakistani dialogue; help advance Afghanistan's democratic governance; and facilitate Afghan-led political reconciliation.

Canada's priorities were developed on the basis of Afghanistan's stated needs, and on the experience and expertise that Canada can deliver. They are linked together in many direct and indirect ways. Whether focused on security, the provision of aid, the strengthening of borders, the advancement of democracy or reconciliation and the peace process, each contributes to the



capacity of the Afghan government to deliver sustainable basic services, and to build the confidence of the Afghan people in their nation's institutions.

***Priority 1: Enable the Afghan National Security Forces in Kandahar to sustain a more secure environment and promote law and order.***

The Afghan National Security Forces include the Afghan National Army (ANA) and the Afghan National Police (ANP). Both the ANA and the ANP demonstrated progress in this quarter when measured against Canada's objectives. Advancing the capabilities of Afghanistan's own security forces clearly supports progress in the capacity of the Government of Afghanistan to deliver basic services to its people.

Canada's 2011 objective for the Afghan National Army is that the ANA in Kandahar will demonstrate an increased capacity to conduct operations and sustain a more secure environment in key districts of Kandahar, with support from ISAF allies.

In this quarter, ISAF developed a new tool for assessing the capacity of the ANSF, based on both quantitative and qualitative measures, in an attempt to standardize assessments. This new tool, known as the Commander's Unit Assessment Tool, has replaced "Capability Milestones" and will be applied when reporting against our benchmarks.

With respect to the ANA, its security forces more than doubled in the district of Zhari, to the west of Kandahar City. While the overall capability of the ANA remained unchanged from last quarter, the ANA remained active in essential "hold" operations.

Canada supports the ANA Junior Officer Staff Course, which is designed to help build ANA capacity to conduct operations and instruct its own junior officers. The third class of the Staff Course graduated 47 students (including four ANP officers) in April, and used Canadian-mentored ANA instructors instead of ISAF instructors.

With respect to the ANP in this quarter, the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team Training Centre provided basic training to 87 ANP officers and graduated an additional 19 officers from its six-week Leadership and Management Course—an important accomplishment that will facilitate the influx of ANP officers to Kandahar during the summer months.

Canadian civilian police also delivered a three-week train-the-trainer course in Kabul, which graduated 19 ANP officers as police trainers.

Canadian progress continued with correctional training programs at Sarpoza prison. The training of new prison staff was turned over to newly certified Afghan trainers, a measure of Canada's success in supporting a sustainable training system. Correctional Services of Canada officers continued to provide on-site mentoring.



Canada is helping Afghans assume responsibility for ensuring their own security through training and mentoring the Afghan National Security Forces, including the Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police.

Canada also continued to provide mentoring for Kandahar's provincial justice officials in this quarter, as well as funding for specialized training on juvenile justice, human trafficking and anti-corruption for Kandahar lawyers, judges and prosecutors. Canada also provided funding for legal aid organizations, including legal aid groups for women, and training in family law and judicial ethics. However, the staffing of justice positions in Kandahar remained a challenge, given ongoing intimidation and attacks against officials.

***Priority 2: Strengthen Afghan institutional capacity to deliver core services and promote economic growth, enhancing the confidence of Kandaharis in their government.***

The Canadian objective for this priority is that, by 2011, Canada expects that Kandahar's provincial administration and core ministries of the Afghan government will be better able to provide basic services to key districts of Kandahar province.

Canada's approach to this priority is thus based on the need for Afghanistan to become self-sufficient in the delivery of core services, including the dependable provision of education, health care, sanitation, road infrastructure, and clean water for homes and farmland.

In this quarter, Canada further advanced its first signature project in Afghanistan, the rehabilitation of the Dahla Dam and its irrigation system. Part of a larger project that seeks to rebuild sustainable agriculture in the Arghandab Valley—a region that once produced enough food crops to feed the entire country—the repair of the Dahla Dam and rehabilitation of the system of irrigation canals will provide a secure supply of irrigation water to the majority of the Kandahari population.

Despite daunting security challenges, ongoing physical work on the Dahla Dam project resulted in the removal of more than 52,000 cubic metres of silt (which would fill 21 Olympic-sized swimming pools). Kandahar's farmers have indicated that work on the dam to date has already resulted in increased water flow to the southern part of the irrigation system.



The repairs to the Dahla Dam and its irrigation system will allow farmers and their families to grow feed and have crops to sell at local markets.

### **Dahla Dam: Fix It, Share It, Use It**

The Dahla Dam is the main source of water for the Arghandab Valley in Kandahar province. The area used to be called Afghanistan's bread basket because it produced enough fruits and vegetables to feed the entire nation. Built in the 1950s, the dam and its canals have been damaged by decades of war and lack of maintenance. Leaks and extensive sedimentation mean farmers cannot rely on the dam for irrigation.

Canada's support to the Arghandab Irrigation Rehabilitation Project aims to restore this region as a productive agricultural area, which will assist in alleviating rural poverty by providing sustainable food security and economic growth. There are three main components to this project:

***Fix the system:*** Canada is supporting crucial repairs to the dam and its irrigation canals (our signature project). The work is complex: actual physical work on the dam structure (such as repairing the gates) can only take place during dry periods—roughly 120 days every year—when there is no water in the canal. Before water can flow through the system, silt and other debris must be removed, and over 250 kilometres of canals and sub-canals need to be dug and reshaped to very specific requirements. Jobs will be created in the immediate term from construction and repair work, while the bulk of jobs will come toward the end of the project, as the agricultural sector is revitalized.

***Share the water:*** Canada is also supporting Afghan efforts to establish an Arghandab Sub-Basin Agency, farmers' associations and water users' associations, critical steps toward community-level involvement in making decisions about water use.

***Use it well:*** To ensure our efforts are sustainable, Canada is investing in areas such as water management skills and technology, agricultural education, crop experimentation and alternative irrigation training. Current resources such as the agricultural lands at Tarnak Farms and the students at Kandahar University are being leveraged to advance sustainable improvements for Kandahar's agricultural economy. Canada is also supporting capacity-building efforts in the Afghan Ministry for Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock.

The delivery of basic services in Afghanistan is confronted by the twin challenges of a dangerous security situation and a lack of sufficient resources—human or other.

Nonetheless, the delivery of these services is fundamental to Afghanistan's stability and economic growth, both nationally and in the provinces. This is why Canada takes a multi-faceted approach in supporting basic services, building capacity through national, provincial and community-based programming.

Nowhere is this more evident than in our work on education. Canada continues to make positive changes in access to, and quality of, education in Afghanistan, despite a security environment that places Afghan officials, teachers and students and our implementing partners at risk of threats and intimidation. Canada is also launching a program that will provide additional training

on core teaching skills to all teachers across Kandahar province. This training is part of the core curriculum developed by the Afghan Ministry of Education to improve the quality of teaching.

With respect to Canada's second signature project in Afghanistan, to build, repair or refurbish 50 schools in key districts of Kandahar province by 2011, three additional schools were completed in this quarter, bringing the total to date to 19. Another 24 schools are under construction and contracts are in place for the remaining seven schools.

Canada is the lead donor on the Afghan-led Education Quality Improvement Program (EQUIP), which since 2005 has supported the construction or refurbishment of more than 800 schools across Afghanistan, and has funded the training of more than 110,000 teachers and principals. EQUIP is highly active at the community level. Canada has helped to establish over 9,500 community-based School Management Committees that serve as a voice for community development in education.



With Canada's assistance, more children—especially girls—have access to education.

Since 2002, Canada has supported the establishment of over 4,000 community-based schools across Afghanistan, enabling access to education for girls, and for students living in more remote areas of the country.

While playing a lead role in Afghanistan's education policy development at the national level, Canada also works closely with the Afghan Ministry of Education to support the advancement of technical, management and policy-making skills. For example, Canada funded the attendance of 20 Afghan officials from the Ministry of Education at a five-month education administration and management training program in Bangladesh. This activity is among many that contribute to the much needed strengthening of institutions in Afghanistan's education sector.

Canada also continued to work with programs that provide business development support for women, through training, skills development and access to small loans. For example, Canada's support for the Afghan-led Microfinance Investment Support Facility for Afghanistan has, since 2003, provided microfinance services to some 430,000 clients, 60 percent of whom are women. Access to credit in turn enables low-income households to purchase basic goods like food and clothing or the necessary start-up capital for a micro-enterprise. Women borrowers in particular greatly benefit from microfinance loans, as this assistance enables their participation in the local economy through activities such as selling poultry or dairy products, making crafts to sell at markets or operating tailor shops.

***Priority 3: Provide humanitarian assistance for extremely vulnerable people, including refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons.***

For this priority, Canada's 2011 objective is for humanitarian assistance to be accessible to the most vulnerable people, including Afghan refugees, and to returnees and internally displaced persons in Kandahar and nationwide.

Canada continues to work with the Afghan government, UN partners and local non-governmental organizations to ensure Afghan communities and agencies are able to respond effectively to mitigate the impact of conflict, natural disasters and ill health.

In this quarter, Canada continued to implement its third signature project, the eradication of polio at the national level, using a network of more than 45,000 volunteers nationwide. Only five new cases of polio were reported in this quarter, bringing the total to 12 for 2010, mostly in remote southern districts in Helmand, Uruzgan and Kandahar provinces. This suggests that the virus has not regained a foothold in areas of northern Afghanistan which are now deemed polio-free.

Despite the dangers posed by the security situation, the Afghan Ministry of Public Health, with Canada's support, oversaw two polio vaccination campaigns in May and June, reaching over 390,000 children in each campaign.

Canada also made advancements in this quarter on the provision of new health measures for two highly vulnerable groups: pregnant women and children under the age of five. The Emergency Micronutrient Initiative funded by Canada aims to reduce nutritional deficiencies among these groups: 140,000 children under the age of five received packets of multiple micronutrient powders, while 78,000 pregnant or lactating women received iron and folic acid supplements. These interventions help reduce maternal mortality, complications during pregnancy and birth defects, and can prevent developmental delays in children.

Significant progress was also made in mine clearance. This quarter an additional 112 square kilometres of land were released to the community as free of mines and explosive remnants of war, bringing the total amount of released land to 574 square kilometres. This surpasses Canada's target of releasing 500 square kilometres by 2011. In addition, more than 40,000 people—40 percent of whom were women and girls—received mine-risk education in this quarter. Since 2007, over 520,000 people in Kandahar province have received mine-risk education.

Canada supported UN agencies, non-governmental organizations and Afghan authorities in relief efforts following flash flooding in a number of regions and an earthquake in the north of the country. Emergency shelter, food, water and health services were provided to those affected. Canada further supported humanitarian refugee operations, assisting the return of over 77,000 Afghans from Pakistan.



Afghan de-miners play a vital role in removing landmines and making land available for use. With Canada's support, 574 square kilometres of land have been released to Afghans as free of mines and explosive remnants of war, and more than 520,000 people in Kandahar province have received mine-risk education.



***Priority 4: Enhance border security, with facilitation of bilateral dialogue between Afghan and Pakistani authorities.***

The Canadian objective for border security is that, by 2011, Afghan institutions, in cooperation with Pakistan, will exercise stronger capacity to manage the border and foster economic development in the border area.

This priority links directly to the provision of basic services in Afghanistan, given the massive movement of people and goods that can be enhanced by a more secure border. In this quarter, Canada supported a number of steps in achieving progress toward its 2011 objective.

The new Afghan National Customs Academy, which opened in January, graduated its second class of students in this quarter, bringing the total number of graduates to 93. In addition, the new, Canadian-supported Afghan Border Police Faculty was inaugurated at the National Police Academy in Kabul in June. The Faculty will provide additional training capacity for the Afghan Border Police, particularly for senior ranking officers.

Progress was made in this quarter on the recently announced Afghanistan Pakistan Border Region Prosperity Initiative. Launched at the G8 Foreign Ministers Meeting in March, the initiative aims to facilitate the delivery of targeted projects essential to fostering trade between Afghanistan and Pakistan. Canada continues to work with their national governments, with international financial institutions and with our G8 partners to develop two initial projects: a Jalalabad-Peshawar expressway; and a study to determine the feasibility of a rail link between these two major centres.



Canada, Afghanistan and Germany inaugurate the Border Police Academy in Kabul.

***Priority 5: Help advance Afghanistan's capacity for democratic governance by contributing to effective, accountable public institutions and electoral processes.***

By 2011, Canada expects that national, provincial and local institutions, particularly in Kandahar province, will exhibit an increasing capacity for democratic governance in the deliberation and delivery of public programs and services, and in carrying out democratic elections.

This priority focuses on building Afghan local governance capacity—particularly at the provincial and local levels—which is key to stabilization efforts in Kandahar province and to the provision of basic services to the Afghan people. For example, the Canada-supported Afghanistan Sub-National Governance Program has enabled the Independent Directorate of Local Governance to hire 120 advisors to serve in provincial and district governors' offices, providing advice in areas such as engineering, project design and local economic development.

Visible measures targeting corruption are also pivotal to the support of core services, as they can build trust in government among the Afghan people. In this quarter, Canada was active in the international effort to create the Monitoring and Evaluation Committee, an independent, joint

Afghan-international body that monitors progress on anti-corruption measures. An initiative of the January London Conference, the committee also follows the efforts of the High Office for Oversight, which is responsible for coordinating efforts to combat corruption within the Government of Afghanistan.

In this quarter, while Afghanistan's electoral process continued to face challenges, preparations commenced for the September 18 parliamentary elections, including candidate registration, candidate vetting and voter registration processes. Canada remains active in monitoring and supporting election preparations and in pressing Afghanistan to undertake electoral reforms, building on the lessons learned from the flawed elections of 2009.

As part of its commitment under this priority, Canada supported a United Nations Development Fund for Women program, establishing campaign training and regional helplines, which provide support and advice, for female parliamentary candidates.

***Priority 6: Facilitate Afghan-led efforts toward political reconciliation.***

Canada's objective for this priority is that, by 2011, there is a lead authority in place to move the reconciliation process forward. In addition, this includes building the capacity of the Afghan government to communicate with Afghans about reconciliation.

In this quarter, the construction, equipping and staffing of the Canadian-funded Government Media and Information Centre in Kandahar was completed. The centre will enable the Afghan government to communicate more effectively with its citizens by sharing information about national and provincial programs, policies and objectives for reconciliation.

As noted earlier in this report, the Government of Afghanistan held a National Consultative Peace Jirga in Kabul from June 2 to 4 to discuss a unified approach to a durable peace in the country. A number of recommendations were brought forward in the Jirga resolution, including the establishment of a High Level Peace Council. Canada's Ambassador to Afghanistan, William Crosbie, attended the Jirga as an observer.

## **IV. Conclusion**

Throughout the second quarter of 2010, Canada continued to demonstrate resolve in the face of sacrifice in Afghanistan. As our contribution to Afghanistan's security and stability continues, and as progress continues to be made on development, Canada is ever mindful of the pivotal role that basic services play in the lives of the Afghan people, and of the need for Canada and the international community to help advance the ability of the Government of Afghanistan to deliver these services. They are core to the foundation of Afghanistan's future.

# Appendix

## Vision:

A more secure Kandahar that is better governed and can deliver basic services to its citizens, supported by a more capable national government that can better provide for its security, manage its borders and sustain stability and reconstruction gains over the longer term.

## Priorities:

- Training and Mentoring Afghan National Security Forces
- Basic Services
- Humanitarian Assistance
- Border Security and Dialogue
- Democratic Development and National Institutions
- Political Reconciliation

To support this vision and the priorities laid out in this report, the Government of Canada has identified a number of benchmarks and progress indicators that will help to:

- gauge levels of progress being achieved, or not, as the case may be;
- identify if and when adjustments to its approach are required, given the complex environment; and
- report results frankly to Canadians.

Benchmarking in Afghanistan is a difficult task with reporting dependent on gathering information while operating in a conflict zone.

- *Benchmarks* are reference points that help assess progress in specific priority areas. The benchmarks are in some cases quantitative, providing numerical targets, and in other cases qualitative, for instance gauging public perception or assessing the implementation of policies and programs.
- *Progress indicators* provide more specific information on how work is proceeding against those reference points. The challenge with progress indicators is in the ability to regularly report against them on a quarterly basis.
- *Baselines* refer to the status of developments associated with the progress indicators, are a fixed point, and will not change over time.
- *Targets* are the level of progress that we hope to achieve by 2011. Some targets have already been met.



## Training and Mentoring Afghan National Security Forces

**Context:** Benchmarks to measure Afghan National Army (ANA) progress are very precise and consistent with NATO's overall ANA training initiatives. To strengthen the policing, justice and corrections sectors, our benchmarks include both quantitative and qualitative indicators. A number of external factors will affect our ability to make progress in these areas. Insurgent violence deliberately targeting Afghan police has resulted in high rates of death, injury and desertion, which degrade police effectiveness and limit our ability to track trained police officers. Canada is one of many actors contributing to rule-of-law reform. Afghan ministries are leading this process and key international partners are playing critical roles.

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**Benchmark:** *Increase in the number of ANA kandaks (army battalions) in Kandahar capable of conducting near-autonomous security operations, and increase in the capability of their brigade headquarters.*

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
The number of ANA kandaks (and their brigade headquarters) capable of planning, executing and sustaining near-autonomous operations.	One of the five ANA kandaks is fully capable of planning, executing and sustaining near-autonomous operations (June 2008).	To have four of the five ANA kandaks (and their brigade headquarters) fully capable of planning, executing and sustaining near-autonomous operations.	No assessments were conducted in this quarter.  <i>Progress to date: The ANA has maintained the performance of one kandak and raised two more kandaks, as well as the brigade headquarters, to the highest capability milestone.</i>

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**Benchmark:** *Increase and/or maintain the effective strength (troops trained, ready and available for operations) of Kandahar-based ANA kandaks and their brigade headquarters.*

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
The effective strength of the Kandahar-based ANA kandaks (and their brigade headquarters).	One of the five ANA kandaks has an effective strength of 67% and the remainder currently have an effective strength of over 80%. The ANA brigade headquarters has an effective strength of 77% (June 2008).	To sustain the level of effective strength of the Kandahar-based ANA kandaks (and their brigade headquarters) at 70% or higher.	The brigade headquarters and two kandaks had an effective strength of 70% or higher.  <i>Progress to date: Although the effective strength of ANA kandaks and their brigade headquarters has fluctuated from quarter to quarter, total overall strength is just below the 2011 target.</i>

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**Benchmark: Progressive increase in the security burden shouldered by the ANA in the Area of Responsibility (AOR) of the Canadian Forces.<sup>1</sup>**

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
The percentage of total security operations in the Canadian Forces AOR that are executed by the ANA.	45% of total security operations in the Canadian Forces AOR are executed by the ANA (April 2009).	65% of total security operations in the Canadian Forces AOR are executed by the ANA.	<p>Due to the massive influx of coalition forces in Kandahar province, as well as the transfer of two high-performing kandaks out of the AOR, there are now proportionately fewer ANA forces available to conduct partnered operations. ANA forces executed 39.6% of total security operations.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: The percentage of ANA-executed operations has decreased over the past year as the Canadian AOR decreased in size, and as the proportion of coalition forces wanting to partner with the ANA meant less ANA were able to partner with the Canadian Forces.</i></p>

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<sup>1</sup> “Total security operations” include ANA operations, ANA operations with international coalition forces and operations undertaken by international coalition forces without ANA participation. “Executed” means operations in which the ANA participated. “Led” means operations that were planned by the ANA and in which ANA forces participated.

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
The percentage of total security operations in the Canadian Forces AOR that are led by the ANA.	45% of total security operations in the Canadian Forces AOR are led by the ANA (April 2009).	65% of total security operations in the Canadian Forces AOR are led by the ANA.	<p>Due to a reorganization of Canadian OMLT teams to mentor at the brigade and battalion headquarter level this quarter, it was not possible to evaluate the number of ANA-led operations.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: The percentage of ANA-executed operations has decreased over the past year as the Canadian AOR decreased in size, and as the proportion of coalition forces wanting to partner with the ANA meant less ANA were able to partner with the Canadian Forces.</i></p>

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**Benchmark:** *To increase the number of key districts where the ANA are perceived by the majority of the population to be a professional and effective force that contributes to their well-being in key districts of Kandahar province.*

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
The number of key districts where the ANA has an approval rating of 85% or more. <sup>2</sup>	In four of the six key districts the ANA has an approval rating of 85% or more (June 2008).	To maintain and/or increase the number of key districts where the ANA has an 85% approval rating.	<p>The ANA had an approval rating of 85% or better in one of the six key districts.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: Progress has been mixed when comparing across quarters.</i></p>

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<sup>2</sup> Approval rating for the ANA is defined as being perceived as a professional and capable force.

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**Benchmark:** *Increase in the number of key districts of Kandahar province where there is a perceived improvement of security conditions.*

<b>Progress Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2011 Target</b>	<b>Quarterly Result</b>
The number of key districts where the majority of Kandaharis perceive security as improving.	In zero of the six key districts, a majority of Kandaharis feel secure or perceive security as improving (June 2008).	The majority of Kandaharis in all six of the key districts feel secure or perceive security as improving.	A majority of Kandaharis perceive security as improving in one of the six key districts.  <i>Progress to date: There has been an increase in security perceptions when compared to the baseline. There have also been noticeable increases in the perception of security in several of the key districts, though not breaking the majority threshold.</i>

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**Benchmark: Increased Afghan National Police (ANP) capacity to provide effective police services in key districts of Kandahar.**

<b>Progress Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2011 Target</b>	<b>Quarterly Result</b>
The number of ANP trained in Kandahar.	25% of the ANP in key districts have completed Focused District Development (FDD) training (August 2008). <sup>3</sup>	80% of key district ANP forces will have completed Focused District Development (FDD) training.	FDD training was completed by 420 ANP in the key districts this quarter, for a total of 2,820 officers.  <i>Progress to date: Current ANP in the key districts total 2,588, of which approximately 50% have received FDD training against the 2008 target of 80%. Since 2008, however, 2,820 ANP members have received FDD training. Many have since been killed or wounded in action, left the ANP or moved elsewhere, highlighting the difficulties the ANP has faced in retaining numbers. Accordingly, while more ANP have been trained than was initially planned, training will continue in order to achieve the full 2008 target.</i>
<b>Progress Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2011 Target</b>	<b>Quarterly Result</b>
The number of ANP forces in key districts assessed at Capability Milestone 2: capable of planning, executing and sustaining near-autonomous operations. <sup>4</sup>	0% of ANP forces in key districts are capable of planning, executing and sustaining near-autonomous operations (August 2008).	80% of ANP forces in key districts are capable of planning, executing and sustaining near-autonomous operations.	6 of 15 police units in key districts, or 40%, are assessed as “effective with assistance.”  <i>Progress to date: The number of ANP forces assessed at Capability Milestone 2 has steadily increased in the past year.</i>

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<sup>3</sup> Focused District Development (FDD) is a six-phase police reform program that involves retraining, equipping and mentoring district police forces as consolidated units, over six to eight months (but generally lasts longer).

<sup>4</sup> In April 2010, ISAF developed a new tool to assess the capacity of the Afghan National Security Forces, based on both quantitative and qualitative measures. This new tool, known as Rating Definition Levels, has replaced Capability Milestone assessments. The ANP will be judged to have met the Capability Milestone 2 progress indicator if they are assessed as being “effective with assistance,” defined as “capable of enforcing [the] rule of law, providing security in their area of responsibility and sustaining operations with limited partnering assistance.”

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
The number of ANP infrastructure and equipment projects completed in Kandahar.	Five permanent substations have been constructed and equipped in key districts (August 2008).	15 new infrastructure projects, such as construction of substations or checkpoints, and 15 upgrades to existing ANP facilities are completed in key districts in Kandahar province. All 15 new facilities built by Canada in Kandahar province are provided with basic equipment required to run a functioning police unit.	<p>One new infrastructure project was completed this quarter.</p> <p><b>UPGRADE TARGET ACHIEVED:</b> Twenty-one upgrades have been completed to date.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: A total of 10 infrastructure projects and 21 upgrades to existing ANP facilities have been completed.</i></p>

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**Benchmark: Improved detention facilities in Kandahar that support the work of the Afghan National Police (ANP).**

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
The number of infrastructure and equipment projects completed in Sarpoza prison and the Afghan National Directorate of Security (NDS) detention centre in Kandahar.	Immediate repairs were made in the wake of the attack on Sarpoza prison. Detailed needs assessments for ongoing infrastructure upgrades at both NDS and Sarpoza have been completed and project plans have been developed in consultation with the Afghan government (August 2008).	<p>19 planned infrastructure projects, such as repairs to security infrastructure and refurbishment of prisoner quarters, are completed in Sarpoza prison in keeping with international standards and best practices.</p> <p>12 planned equipment purchases, such as communications equipment, uniforms and office furnishing, are delivered to Sarpoza prison in keeping with international standards and best practices.</p>	<p><b>TARGETS ACHIEVED:</b> Two infrastructure projects and one equipment purchase were completed this quarter.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: A total of 19 planned infrastructure projects and 13 planned equipment purchases have been completed, meaning that the 2011 target has been achieved.</i></p>

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
The number of corrections officials trained and mentored in Kandahar.	23 corrections officers (30%) and one senior manager (50%) have successfully completed initial corrections training; and two senior managers (100%) are participating in management training (August 2008).	100% of corrections officers and managers will have successfully completed their initial and advanced training programs.	<p><b>TARGET ACHIEVED:</b> 100% of corrections officers have been trained, and “sustainment training” for new recruits continued to be delivered by Afghan trainers under Canadian mentorship. Specialized training courses were delivered by experts from Correctional Service of Canada.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: The 2011 target has been achieved.</i></p>

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**Benchmark: Improved justice sector: a working court system in Kandahar City with competent judges, prosecutors, defence lawyers and administrative personnel in place.**

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
The number of training programs in place for justice officials Kandahar.	There are no current training programs for justice officials in Kandahar (August 2008).	Four training programs for justice officials in Kandahar are made available for those practising law and those involved in administering the legal system.	<p>Three courses in Family Law, Judicial Ethics and Juvenile Justice-Human Trafficking-Anti Corruption were provided to justice officials in Kandahar this quarter.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: A number of courses have been held over the past year to improve the ability of those practising law and administering the legal system. All courses have helped advance three of the four training programs identified in the 2011 target.</i></p>

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
The number of justice sector infrastructure and equipment projects completed in Kandahar.	Minimal judicial infrastructure exists. The Attorney General and Ministry of Justice building requires repair. In Kandahar City, there is one courthouse which is in disrepair and housing for judges and prosecutors is inadequate. In the other districts, there are only three courthouses, all of which require upgrading.	Five justice facilities, including the ANP Prosecutor's Office, Attorney General's Office and High Court are built or rehabilitated to support the formal justice system in Kandahar City. Three justice facilities, including the Land Registry Office (Cadastre), ANP Prosecutor's Office and High Court are equipped to support the formal justice system in Kandahar City.	<p>No infrastructure projects were completed this quarter.</p> <p><b>EQUIPMENT TARGET ACHIEVED:</b> A total of three justice facilities have been equipped to support the formal justice system in Kandahar.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: A total of three infrastructure projects have been completed on five justice facilities, and three justice facilities have been equipped to support the formal justice system.</i></p>
Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
Improved Ministry of Justice capacity to draft, revise, translate and promulgate laws passed by the Afghan government.	Afghan Ministry of Justice's legislative drafting unit lacks the required capacity, processes and infrastructure to draft, revise, translate and promulgate legislation in an effective and timely manner (August 2008).	The Afghan Ministry of Justice's legislative drafting unit achieves improved capacity.	<p>The Canadian Technical Advisor established a Legislative Drafting Committee to review procedures in law-making.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: The Canadian Technical Advisor has delivered a number of training programs over the past year, all of which have increased the Legislative Drafting Unit's capacity.</i></p>

## Basic Services

**Context:** A number of benchmarks have been established under this priority, though some are less tangible than others as they are based on Afghan perception and will be measured against findings from public opinion research. It is important to note that polling in a complex environment like Kandahar is challenging and results may not always be reliable.

In the case of the Dahla Dam signature project, some key indicators have been established relating to the area of land irrigated and number of jobs created.



**Benchmark: The Dahla Dam and its irrigation and canal system rehabilitated, generating jobs and fostering agriculture. \*Canadian Signature Project\***

<b>Progress Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2011 Target</b>	<b>Quarterly Result</b>
Progress in the rehabilitation of the physical structures of the Dahla Dam and its irrigation components.	Access road completed and bridge nearing completion (March 2009).	Completion of all planned rehabilitation activities in accordance with the project plan.	<p>An additional 52,000 cubic metres of silt were removed from the canal, improving water flow along the system and to the district.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: A number of planned rehabilitation activities took place over the past year, including the removal of 137,500 cubic metres of silt from the canals, improving water flow along the system.</i></p>
<b>Progress Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2011 Target</b>	<b>Quarterly Result</b>
Number of jobs created by the Dahla Dam project.	Project plan is in development and will be finalized in the fall of 2008.	10,000 seasonal jobs created by the project.	<p>700 jobs were created this quarter.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: A total of 1,911 seasonal jobs have been created, mostly related to construction.</i></p>
<b>Progress Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2011 Target</b>	<b>Quarterly Result</b>
Number of hectares of land benefiting from improved irrigation and water management.	20,000 hectares of land currently have access to irrigation (to varying degree and quality) via the Dahla Dam and its irrigation system	30,000 hectares in total benefiting from improved irrigation and water management.	<p>Up to 1,800 hectares of land have benefited from improved irrigation this quarter.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: Over 5,300 hectares of land have benefited from improved irrigation.</i></p>

**Benchmark: A total of 50 schools built, expanded or repaired in Kandahar. \*Canadian Signature Project\***

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
Number of school projects (built, expanded or repaired) in key districts.	19 school projects contracted and one school project completed (June 2008).	50 schools built, expanded or repaired.	Three schools were completed this quarter.  <i>Progress to date: 19 schools have been completed, another 24 schools are under construction and contracts are in place for the remaining seven.</i>

**Benchmark: Local and provincial institutions able to meet and implement the objectives of the National Education Strategic Plan for Afghanistan.**

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
Number of teachers trained in Kandahar.	No teachers trained as yet through Canadian programming (June 2008).	3,000 trained teachers.	Although teacher training continued to be delivered during the quarter, full reporting data has not yet been received. Results will be included next quarter.  <i>Progress to date: Teacher training has reached over 1,472 participants in the past year. Some participants may have benefited from more than one training session.</i>

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
Number of people receiving literacy training, vocational education and skills development.	More than 5,000 individuals have received literacy training. Some 735 individuals have received vocational training (2007).	20,000 additional individuals to receive literacy training. 1,070 additional individuals to receive vocational training.	<b>TARGET ACHIEVED:</b> A new literacy course began in April and an additional 836 individuals received vocational training this quarter. <sup>5</sup>  <i>Progress to date: Over 23,500 and 5,900 individuals completed literacy training and vocational training respectively. The 2011 target has been achieved.</i>

<sup>5</sup> Quarterly result to be confirmed once the World Food Programme submits its quarterly report.

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**Benchmark: Provincial institutions and community groups able to identify and implement infrastructure projects.**

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
Percentage of communities in key districts that have completed infrastructure projects undertaken by the locally elected bodies.	60% of communities in key districts have completed infrastructure projects (December 2007).	75% of communities in key districts have completed infrastructure projects.	72% of communities in key districts have completed infrastructure projects.  <i>Progress to date: There has been a steady increase in the number of communities completing infrastructure projects.</i>

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**Benchmark: Kandaharis have confidence in the ability of the government in Kandahar to deliver basic services, particularly education and water, and job-oriented economic growth.**

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
Percentage of Kandaharis who perceive an improvement in dependable delivery of services.	75% of Kandaharis polled indicate they are satisfied with efforts of provincial and local-level government to improve quality of life. 64% of Kandaharis polled are somewhat or very satisfied with provision of education. 39% of polled Kandaharis indicated they are satisfied with employment (February 2008).	To maintain and improve on perception of service delivery.	59% of Kandaharis polled are satisfied with the Afghan government's efforts to improve the quality of life in their communities, 62% are satisfied with the provision of education and 62% are satisfied with employment in their communities.  <i>Progress to date: There has been mixed progress over the past year when comparing quarter-to-quarter results. Satisfaction with education has increased since last year, and satisfaction with employment has generally increased over the baseline.</i>

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**Benchmark: New economic opportunities created in key districts for Kandaharis.**

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
The number of business enterprises and cooperatives operating in key districts.	206 agricultural cooperatives registered (April 2006) and 72 small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) operating (July 2008).	Steady expansion of the number of enterprises in key districts.	<p>55 new businesses registered during the period January to March 2010. No reporting has been received for the period April to June.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: There has been a steady expansion in the number of enterprises in key districts, with over 1,155 businesses registered to date.</i></p>
Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
The number of microfinance and savings clients served.	30 microfinance loans provided to clients in Kandahar (March 2008).	Loans for 500 clients in Kandahar through the Microfinance Investment Support Facility.	<p><b>TARGET ACHIEVED:</b> Due to difficulties in collecting data in a conflict zone, as well as the process of validating results, some clients were not reported in previous quarters. As of March 2010, over 3,500 clients in Kandahar have been provided with microfinance services.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: Over 3,500 clients in Kandahar have been provided with microfinance services, meaning that the 2011 target has been achieved. Approximately 60% of the clients are women.</i></p>

## Humanitarian Assistance

**Context:** The first benchmark in this priority includes a series of quantitative and qualitative measures, as no single indicator is comprehensive enough to provide a complete picture. Considered together, they will help to provide an assessment of progress.

The challenges for this priority are not in the indicators themselves, but in the ability to report against them on a quarterly basis given that evaluations and assessments are undertaken across longer time frames. The evolving nature of security can challenge humanitarian access and limit the ability to report publicly on some efforts below the national level. It is also important to note that with some information, such as mine victims, officially reported numbers are only estimates given that many accidents go unreported.

**Benchmark: Achievement of polio eradication in Afghanistan. \*Canadian Signature Project\***

<b>Progress Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2011 Target</b>	<b>Quarterly Result</b>
The number of children receiving the polio vaccine during each of the multiple national campaigns conducted annually—multiple vaccinations are required to stop transmission of polio.	In 2007, approximately 27.7 million vaccinations were administered to 7 million children during four national campaigns (2007).	Eradication by vaccination by 2009.	<p>An estimated 390,000 children in both May and June were vaccinated in Kandahar, representing 97% of the targeted children reached in each campaign.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: Over 7.2 million children across Afghanistan have been vaccinated against polio. Although eradication has not been achieved, the percentage of children reached despite the volatile security situation has steadily increased.</i></p>
<b>Progress Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2011 Target</b>	<b>Quarterly Result</b>
The number of polio cases reported.	17 cases reported nationally (2007).	Eradication by 2009.	<p>Five new cases were identified this quarter, bringing the 2010 total to 12 cases.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: The number of polio cases reported at the same time in 2009 was 13. New cases in 2010 are largely found in the remote southern districts, suggesting that the virus has not regained a strong foothold in the polio-free areas of northern Afghanistan. Insecurity and cross-border transmission continue to challenge eradication efforts and the mobility of vaccination teams.</i></p>

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**Benchmark: Public institutions able to plan and coordinate emergency assistance and support to vulnerable populations in Kandahar.**

<b>Progress Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2011 Target</b>	<b>Quarterly Result</b>
Quantity of humanitarian food aid delivered in response to need.	6.7 million Afghans (approximately 21%) supported with food aid, representing 214,000 tonnes of food against an identified need where 30% of the Afghan population were considered chronically food insecure (January-December 2007).	Maintain and/or improve the number of Afghans receiving food assistance in proportion to need.	<p>During the quarter, Canadian funding helped the World Food Programme provide over 15,000 tonnes of food nationally to over 2.2 million Afghans.<sup>6</sup></p> <p><i>Progress to date: There has been a steady improvement in the number of Afghans supported with food aid in proportion to need, suggesting an improvement in the reach of humanitarian assistance.</i></p>
The capacity of the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) and Provincial Disaster Management Committee (PDMC) to put in place effective disaster preparedness plans.	The PDMC and United Nations in Kandahar developed a comprehensive contingency plan for a severe winter in 2007 and anticipated spring floods. Two training sessions were provided for the PDMC on disaster management.	By 2011, PDMC will have developed comprehensive strategies and coordination mechanisms for responding to disasters.	<p>During the quarter, the PDMC, humanitarian agencies and line ministries in Kandahar established an “emergency committee” as a mechanism to facilitate emergency responses to crises in Kandahar province.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: The ability of the PDMC to respond to disasters in Kandahar has steadily increased over the past year as new mechanisms and strategies have been developed.</i></p>

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<sup>6</sup> Quarterly result to be confirmed once the World Food Programme submits its quarterly report.

<p><b>Progress Indicator</b></p> <p>The access that vulnerable populations—women, children, disabled persons, returnees and internally displaced persons—have to essential quality health services.</p>	<p><b>Baseline</b></p> <p>111 health care staff have received training (June 2008).</p>	<p><b>2011 Target</b></p> <p>500 health care workers trained.</p>	<p><b>Quarterly Result</b></p> <p><b>TARGET ACHIEVED:</b> During this quarter, five provincial supervisors, 50 health facility personnel and 200 community health workers were trained.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: Over 1,455 health care workers, including doctors, nurses, midwives and community health workers have been trained. The 2011 target has been achieved.</i></p>
<p><b>Progress Indicator</b></p> <p>The amount of land released and made available for communities as a result of survey and clearance of mines and Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) nationally and in Kandahar.</p>	<p><b>Baseline</b></p> <p>From March 2007 to March 2008, 180 square kilometres of land were released and made available nationally.</p>	<p><b>2011 Target</b></p> <p>A cumulative total of 500 square kilometres of land released and made available.</p>	<p><b>Quarterly Result</b></p> <p><b>TARGET ACHIEVED:</b> Over 112 square kilometres of land have been released nationally and made available this quarter.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: Over 574 square kilometres of land have been released to communities as free of mines and ERW. The 2011 target has been achieved.</i></p>
<p><b>Progress Indicator</b></p> <p>The number of people receiving mine awareness education in Kandahar.</p>	<p><b>Baseline</b></p> <p>From March 2007 to March 2008, 33,500 individuals were provided with mine-awareness education.</p>	<p><b>2011 Target</b></p> <p>200,000 individuals provided with mine-awareness education.</p>	<p><b>Quarterly Result</b></p> <p><b>TARGET ACHIEVED:</b> Over 28,300 individuals received mine-risk education this quarter.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: Since March 2007, over 520,000 individuals have received mine-risk education. The 2011 target has been achieved.</i></p>

## Border Security and Dialogue

**Context:** Border security and dialogue are ultimately contingent on strong relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan and on the resolution of some long-standing issues. Canada's benchmarks for this priority include qualitative and quantitative progress indicators to assess the effectiveness of Afghan and Pakistani border management efforts, including bilateral cooperation. As the border is long, its terrain difficult and its infrastructure underdeveloped, obtaining baseline information and establishing targets are challenging. Canada has already begun to work with the Afghan and Pakistani governments to identify infrastructure, training and other needs. This information will be essential to refining Canada's baselines and targets in the future.

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**Benchmark: Regular discussions on border issues.**

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
Increased dialogue between Pakistani and Afghan officials through mechanisms including Canadian-sponsored workshops.	Three Canadian-sponsored workshops have been held to date. Key mechanisms for discussions were suspended by Afghanistan in July 2008 (August 2008).	Sustainable mechanisms for regular and substantive discussions across a broad array of issues are in place and operating for senior officials.	<p>The third Dubai Process Joint Working Group meeting took place in April. Progress continues on the implementation of the Dubai Process Action Plan.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: Under the Dubai Process, Pakistani and Afghan officials have conducted regular meetings and worked together to manage a number of shared border issues. Continued progress is dependent on the political will of both sides.</i></p>
Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
Increased cooperation at Kandahar-Baluchistan border.	Regular Canadian-facilitated discussions at Kandahar-Baluchistan border are continuing.	Mechanisms at border in place for regular and substantive discussions across a broad array of issues.	<p><b>TARGET ACHIEVED:</b> Several meetings under the auspices of the Border Coordination Centre took place this quarter across a broad array of issues.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: As the Border Coordination Centre provides a mechanism for regular and substantive discussions, the 2011 target has been achieved.</i></p>



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**Benchmark: Better managed border crossings on the Kandahar-Baluchistan border.**

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
Training completed by border officials.	No training provided to date (August 2008).	<p>A tailored training curriculum for new recruits in international customs procedures and a senior management development program for Afghan Customs will be developed by September 2009.</p> <p>150-200 Afghan Customs officials and 3 or 4 Afghan Customs trainers trained by 2011.</p>	<p><b>TRAINING CURRICULUM TARGET ACHIEVED:</b> Personnel from the Canada Border Services Agency are implementing the curriculum at the National Customs Academy, along with Afghan and international partners.</p> <p>During this quarter, 45 customs officers graduated from the Academy, for a cumulative total of 93.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: A tailored training curriculum for new recruits at the National Customs Academy has been developed and an increasing number of customs officers have been trained.</i></p>

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
Key infrastructure projects completed, including procurement of equipment.	Assessment of infrastructure needs not yet complete; some equipment purchases underway (August 2008).	Construction completed of a Joint District Coordination Centre (JDCC) in Spin Boldak. Infrastructure and equipment improvements completed at Weish border crossing in Kandahar, based on the results of a feasibility study to be completed in March 2009.	<p><b>JDCC TARGET ACHIEVED:</b> The Joint District Coordination Centre has been completed and opened.</p> <p>Discussions on the development of the border facility at Weish continued this quarter. The construction is expected to begin in late 2010. Although Canada's contribution to the project is expected to be completed by 2011, full construction of the border crossing will not be completed until after 2011.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: Construction of the Joint District Coordination Centre has been completed and, although delayed, planning for the Weish border facility continues.</i></p>

## Democratic Development and National Institutions

**Context:** Given the nature of the first benchmark, measures will include quantitative data such as internationally recognized Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) assessments in addition to qualitative assessments of ministry-specific evaluation activities and public perception assessed through polling.

The Government of Afghanistan intends to hold two elections before 2011: a presidential election and provincial council elections in 2009, and the election of parliament and district councils in 2010.

Canada will actively contribute in this area but it is important to recall that Canada is one of many actors. The Afghan government is leading, with support from the international community.

**Benchmark: Key Afghan government institutions able to plan, resource, manage and maintain the delivery of services including at the subnational level.**

<b>Progress Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2011 Target</b>	<b>Quarterly Result</b>
Provinces have established long-term provincial strategic plans that are aligned with Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS) objectives.	Zero provinces have completed a provincial strategic plan (PSP) (March 2009).	All 34 provinces have completed a provincial strategic plan.  Kandahar will have demonstrated progress in implementing its strategic plan against identified timelines.	Nothing new to report since last quarter.  <i>Progress to date: Although no PSPs have been completed to date, seven of 34 provinces are in various stages of PSP development.</i>
<b>Progress Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2011 Target</b>	<b>Quarterly Result</b>
Effective planning and budgeting mechanisms in place.	The difference between planned and actual government spending is 9.7% (April 2008).	The difference between planned and actual government spending should be less than or equal to 5%.	During the quarter, the Afghan government identified effective planning and budgeting as key program components of its governance reform agenda.  <i>Progress to date: The difference between planned and actual government spending on the operational budget for the fiscal year ending March 2010 was 9%. Compared to this time last year, the difference has increased slightly.</i>
<b>Progress Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2011 Target</b>	<b>Quarterly Result</b>
Better government monitoring and reporting mechanisms in place to ensure transparency.	Comprehensiveness of budget execution and financial reports, frequency and public access to them (PEFA rating): 3 (April 2008).	Comprehensiveness of budget execution and financial reports, frequency and public access to them (PEFA rating): 3+.	PEFA results are produced only every two years. A PEFA assessment for Afghanistan is anticipated in late 2010.  <i>Progress to date: It is difficult to establish progress trends as PEFA results are produced only every two years.</i>

**Benchmark: Afghanistan's ability to manage upcoming elections.**

<b>Progress Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2011 Target</b>	<b>Quarterly Result</b>
The establishment of a national voter registry.	Pilot voter registration process carried out in three selected provinces (April 2008).	<p>Update of registry completed in a four-phased approach, in advance of 2009 presidential elections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 14 provinces registered in phase I;</li> <li>– 10 additional provinces registered in phase II;</li> <li>– 6 additional provinces registered in phase III; and</li> <li>– 4 additional provinces including Kandahar registered in phase IV.*</li> </ul> <p>*The target was updated as the Government of Afghanistan's plan for voter registration was finalized.</p>	<p>There is nothing to report as voter registration for the parliamentary elections only began in mid-June.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: The voter registry was completed in accordance with the four-phased approach in advance of the 2009 presidential elections. Voter registration for the 2010 parliamentary elections has just begun.</i></p>
<b>Progress Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2011 Target</b>	<b>Quarterly Result</b>
The number of registered voters nationally.	Approximately 12.6 million voters in the existing registry (2005).	Two million new registrants added to the current registry in advance of the 2009 presidential and provincial council elections; 500,000 new registrants added to the 2009 registry in advance of the 2010 parliamentary and district council elections.	<p>There is nothing to report as voter registration for the parliamentary elections only began in mid-June.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: Over 4 million voters were added to the registry in advance of the 2009 presidential elections. Voter registration for the 2010 parliamentary elections has just begun.</i></p>
<b>Progress Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2011 Target</b>	<b>Quarterly Result</b>
The percentage of voter turnout.	70% of registered voters participated in the last presidential elections; 51.5% of registered voters participated in the last parliamentary and provincial council elections.	70% turnout for men; 40% turnout for women. These targets are consistent with figures currently being used by the UNDP ELECT project.	<p>Nothing to report as parliamentary elections have not yet been held.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: Voter turnout during the 2009 presidential elections was confirmed at 38.7% of eligible voters.</i></p>

Progress Indicator	Baseline	2011 Target	Quarterly Result
The establishment of an independent electoral complaints commission.	An independent electoral complaints commission does not currently exist (August 2008).	Establishment of an independent electoral complaints commission.	<p>By the end of June, the Electoral Complaints Commission (ECC) had opened provincial offices in all 34 provinces. 428 complaints had been adjudicated during the parliamentary candidate nomination period.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: The ECC's Provincial Offices have a stronger mandate for the 2010 parliamentary elections compared to the 2009 presidential elections.</i></p>

## Political Reconciliation

**Context:** Ultimately, only the Afghan government has the authority to pursue political reconciliation; Canada and other international partners will play supporting roles. Progress indicators to measure this benchmark include the identification of Afghan institutions and officials responsible for moving reconciliation forward, as well as the establishment of a transparent and effective process for reconciling insurgents.

Afghanistan cannot secure peace or realize its governance and development objectives by military means alone. An Afghan-led, internationally supported reconciliation process can serve to foster sustainable peace.

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**Benchmark: The Government of Afghanistan increasingly able to promote reconciliation among Afghans.**

<b>Progress Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2011 Target</b>	<b>Quarterly Result</b>
The Afghan government identifies the institutions and officials responsible for promoting Afghan reconciliation and a national reconciliation process is established.	A clear institutional focal point and process have yet to be identified (August 2008).	A lead authority is moving the reconciliation process forward.	<p>Following the National Peace Jirga, the Government of Afghanistan committed to establish a High Level Peace Council to provide political leadership for the peace process.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: Progress may not be identifiable until a lead authority has been formally established and the reconciliation process moves forward. A timetable for a national reconciliation strategy will depend on decisions to be taken by the Afghan government.</i></p>
<b>Progress Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2011 Target</b>	<b>Quarterly Result</b>
The Afghan government is better able to communicate with Afghans about reconciliation.	The Government of Afghanistan's ability to share information about its programs, policies and objectives in a timely manner is limited (August 2008).	The Government of Afghanistan is actively sharing information, at the national, provincial and district levels, regarding its programs, policies and objectives for reconciliation.	<p>Construction, equipping and staffing of the Canadian-funded Government Media and Information Centre in Kandahar were completed this quarter.</p> <p><i>Progress to date: A Government Media and Information Centre opened in Kabul and a second centre in Kandahar has been constructed, equipped and staffed.</i></p>