

AIDE MEMOIRE

Capacity Development Workshop for Afghanistan CIOs: Utilizing Modern e/m Technology and Existing Best Practices to Advance Public Administration 11-14 December 2012, Almaty, Kazakhstan

I. BACKGROUND

During last 10 years Afghanistan made a progress in building stronger governance and public administration institutions. According the US Department of State serious gains have been achieved during since 2002, including:

Democracy and Governance:

- Since 2006, the U.S. has funded \$1.8 billion in rule of law and counternarcotics programs.
- The Justice Sector Support Program (JSSP) has trained over 14,000 Afghan investigators, prosecutors, defense attorneys, and judges since the program began in 2004.
- Twenty seven percent of seats in the Parliament, one governor, three cabinet, and 120 judicial positions are now held by women,
- In 2001, there was one state-owned radio and television station. Now there are over 75 television stations and 175 radio stations, with all but two privately owned.

Yet, Afghanistan experience severe shortage in experienced administrators at all levels of government – from national and provincial levels to city and local levels. There is to design a program to develop training and re-training programs for capacity building in Afghanistan in public administration and e-governance. According to the United Nations e-government Survey (2012) Afghanistan was at 184th position (out of 190 countries surveyed) in e-government development index.

This project, which targets capacity building on e/m-governance and public policy, combines both an innovative combination of on-line Internet learning and traditional face-to-face seminars. It aims to provide the basic core competencies and practical skills required of development practitioners and government policy-practitioners at different levels of government (local, regional, national) in e/m-governance. Government officials need to learn about e/m-governance, public policy, public policy analysis, public policy planning, the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and other governance and sustainable development issues from some of the world's best-known development experts, through combination of pre-taped lectures, live on-line sessions and discussions and seminars.

II. OBJECTIVES

- a) This project is designed to improve capacity building efforts in training Afghan government officials at local, regional and national levels; focusing on the training of CIOs (Chief Information Officers);
- b) It will help to utilize the unique educational know-how (UNPOG expertise in cooperation with the expertise of Columbia University, USA) by delivering training from Korea, Kazakhstan and other leading countries in ICT to Afghanistan;
- c) The advantage of this project for public administration of Afghanistan is that an advanced training on e-Government is developed to address the urgent need for training and retraining of CIOs and other government officials in Afghanistan utilizing existing program and

capacities of UNPOG in Central Asia. The workshop will focus on emerging issues of e-Government policy including best practices, leadership, and management change, and discussion of the proposed programme, needs assessments and will tune up details, schedules and timelines for the project. Afghan government officials, mostly CIOs, from public administrations in Afghanistan will also be identified. The team will tailor the training program for needs of the government officials.

III. IMPLEMENTATION

- a) The project's preparation stage (November – December 2012): The team will summarize all findings and recommendations from all possible partners and interested parties and it will develop training program, program procedures, schedule, etc.
- b) Workshop (11-14 December 2012): The team will share expertise on e/m-Government with Afghanistan government officials and train them in partnership with government of Kazakhstan and experts.
- c) Following up training programme: The team will seek for means to keep enhancing capacity of Afghan government officials on e/m-government.

IV. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The execution of this workshop programme will lead to several important outcomes:

- a) Capacity building in the field of training of CIOs and other government officials in e/m-governance;
- b) Strengthening governance based on e/m-governance;
- c) Further development of the New Silk Road (supported by U.S.)

V. WORKSHOP STRUCTURE

The workshop will be a 4-day programme with following proposed agenda.

Day 1 - 11 December 2012 (Tue)

- Registration
- Opening session
- Session I: e-Governance Trends and Challenges
- Session II: e-Government Strategies and Leadership

Day 2 - 12 December (Wed)

- Session III: Emerging issues in e-Government
- Session IV: Emerging issues in e-Government

Day 3 - 13 December (Thu)

- Session V: Korean experience and m-Government
- Session VI: e-Governance education and training
- Closing session

Day 4 - 14 December (Fri)

- Study tour

VI. PARTICIPANTS

Approximately 100 participants are expected. Participants include government officials, scholars, and experts from international organisations and private sector.

VII. DATE AND VENUE

- Date: 11(Tue) to 14 (Fri) December 2012

- Venue: International IT University, Almaty in Kazakhstan

VIII. LANGUAGE

The workshop will be conducted in English.

IX. ORGANISER

The government of Kazakhstan in cooperation with UNPOG/UNDESA and in participation with MDP/Columbia University

X. CONTACT INFORMATION

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XI. SUMMARY

Title: Capacity Development in Afghanistan: utilizing e/m technology and existing best practices to advance public administration

Content: to design a pilot program to deliver education and training services and capacity building through an innovative combination of on-line Internet learning and traditional face-to-face seminars - aims to provide the basic core competencies and practical skills required of a development practitioner and government policy-maker in the area of e/m-governance.

Language of Instruction: English

Date: 11-14 December 2012

Budget justification: TBD