

## FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION

**FORM REGISTRATION NO: 17**

### 1. Moderator's and Taker

1.1	Facilitator's name:	Roya Mahtabi
1.2	Note taker's Name:	Sherin Mullah Ayar
1.3	Date of the FGD:	12/7/2012
1.4	Report Number:	2

### 2. Area Information

2.1	Reintegration site Name:	Alice Ghan
2.2	Site Number:	1
2.3	Returnees: (Yes, No)	Yes
	Non -Returnees: (Yes, No)	
2.4	Gender (Male, Female, Mixed)	Male
2.5	GPS (Yes, No)	Yes
	If No see code.	
2.6	GPS location	
	Latitude:	34 49 454
	Longitude:	69 14 590

### 3. FGD Outcome

3.1	FGD Completed ( Yes, No)	Yes
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3.2 FGD team Notes use to take note any special observation:

The participants eagerly attended in this focus group discussion. They correctly responded to our question. We recorded their own views which were real facts of their environment. All of them expressed the real and common problems of their society.

4.Data Management Information (Internal Use Only by Database Entry Team)							
4.1 Date of Interview	12 /7 /2012						
4.2 Interviewer's number	Male Interviewer	C-5	Female Interviewer	C-1			
Supervisor's number	C-14	Regional Supervisor's number		C-13			
4.5 Date of office editing	13/7/12						
4.6 Office editor's code	C-14						
4.7 Date of data entry	9/ 26 / 2012						
4.8 Data entry officer code	10						

List of Participants in Focused group discussions (F.G.D)	
Province	Kabul
District	Qara Bagh
Site Number	1
Village	Alice Ghan

No	Name	Position	Occupation	Contact No	Age
1	Khowaja Mohammad		Member of Shura		75
2	Khowaja Padshah		Member of Shura		50
3	Agha Mohammad		Member of Shura		58
4	Ahmadullah		Member of Shura		27
5	Khaibar		Member of Shura		21

## **Preface**

This focus group discussion was fulfilled by assistance of Alice Ghan head of Shura. We performed the interview with the participants at the office of the Shura. Five participants eagerly participated in the interview. The participants were randomly selected for the interview. The participants keenly responded to the questions. We didn't face with any problem during the interview. It was an effective interview which was successfully performed. Facilitator of this focus group was Roya Mahtabi and note taker was Sherin Mullah Ayar. By cooperation of each other we successfully concluded the interview.

## **Section A: General and Specific Concerns**

### **Part A: Education**

#### **Q1- What are your concerns regarding education for returnees?**

**P1-** We have a lot of problems in field of education. In addition to education we have also problems in field of potable water. I don't know what the reason is that no one wants to help with us.

**P2-** Our school doesn't have teachers, potable water and a regular teaching method for the students.

**P3-** At the present, there are about 1020 households in our region that about 100 households are very poor. We blame our selves that why we came from the Iran to Afghanistan. Due to absence of school and academic centers in Afghanistan our children are illiterate. High ranking officials do not serve to the public because they are assigned based on reference. We are not aware that where and when all these donations of foreign countries were expensed. We haven't been donated by any organ since we have repatriated from the Iran. If we knew that the government plays game with us under the name of repatriation we will never return to Afghanistan because we are faced with major problems here in Kabul. We became borrower when we returned to Afghanistan. We are faced with a lot of problems in areas of livelihood.

**P4-** Afghanistan has been engaged in battles due to uncertain reasons for more than three decades. If we knew that the government doesn't cooperate with us, we would never return Afghanistan. One of the major problems of these residents is lack of water because without water life is impossible.

**P5-** There are only four teachers in our school so the most of the residents are very concerned and they have to leave toward areas where there are schools and academic centers.

### **Part B: Health Services**

#### **Q1- What are your concerns regarding access to health services for the returnees?**

All of the participants said that they are faced with major problems in this field because there is not a clinic or hospital in their village so they have to take their patients to the Kabul city.

### **Part C: Access to drinking water**

#### **Q1- What are your concerns regarding access to potable water for the returnees?**

All of the participants said that the residents of this area utilize the water like oil because the people are faced with lack of water. Water is provided by the tankers in the reservoirs which doesn't have a good quality.

#### **Part D: Access to Food/ Market**

According to the statements of all participants that the residents of this area do not have access to the market so they travel to either Qara Bagh district or Kabul City in order to purchase their necessary items.

#### **Part G: Access to employment opportunities**

All of the participants said that the residents of this area do not have access to employment opportunities so they have to travel to other provinces in order to get a job and earn money for their family.

#### **Part L- Security**

All of the participants mentioned that they themselves have maintained security situation of their region. The local residents of Qara Bagh district do not have a good behavior with us because they blame returnees on usurpation of their lands. We are in minority so most of the donations are distributed to the local residents of the area because services are not equally provided for whole of the residents.

#### **Q2- Do you believe that returnees and non-returnees have equal access to services and resources?**

All of the participants said that both returnees and non-returnees have equal access to services and resources. But donations are not equally distributed among the returnees. They enumerated water, electricity and lack of schools as their prior major concerns of Alice Ghan town.

### **Section B: Governance and Participation**

#### **Q1- How effective is the government?**

All of the participants said that the government is not effective because we have not been exploited from the donations yet. So when the government doesn't pay attention to us then we also don't cooperate with them. Some of the returnees were donated lands but other villagers however they were deserved but still they have not been donated shelters yet.

**P3-** The government should pay attention to our problems. We should inform other immigrant to give up from decisions regarding repatriation to Afghanistan.

**P4-** When other countries are faced with a problem first of all the high ranking officials pay serious attention to the following sections for returnees and IDP such as transportation, drinking water, school, animal clinics, human clinics and electricity.

**P4-** The current government of presidents Karzai is not able to bring justice in the region because most of the high ranking officials are living in the palaces but the returnees and poor people are drowned in their problems in various fields. Most of them do not have shelters so we blame the government for all of these problems.

All of the participants once again went to say that the government should pay attention to poor and needy people but the current government has not paid attention to the needy people but instead of that they poor people have been trampled. If the government doesn't resolve our problems we will block the road of Alice Ghan.

**Q2- Since the government has been elected what changes have you observed in areas of livelihood?**

**P1-** I have four sons. I have sent them to my sister's home to Kabul in order to study their lessons at one of schools.

**P4-** Before the establishment of Karzai's government there were more employment opportunities than today. At the present the investors have decreased the employment opportunities. Economic condition of returnees has worsened than before.

**P5-** We have not been witness of positive changes in areas of livelihood since the establishment of the current government. Living condition of returnees has worsened than the past because their children are very backwarded in field of education due to absence of school in their village. The government of Karzai has worsened living condition of the people. When the vehicles of foreign courtiers cross from the streets the civilians are not allowed to drive their cars. They block the roads on civilian as long as the vehicles of ISAF cross from the road. In such conditions most of the patients are died because of the road blockage on civilians. We had equal access to services like citizens of Pakistan while we were in Pakistan. The government of Taliban was much better than the current government because during the Taliban regime the security situation and employment opportunities was better than today.

**P3-** Since the establishment of the current government the people are deprived form the access to drinking water.

**Q3- Are the women consulted on important issues? If yes, what issues? How are they?**

**P3-** Today I came after consultation with my wife. Whole members of our family consult with me regarding different issues.

All other participants also added that they consult with their women on different issues because the life is going on very well based on consultation with each other.

**Q4- How do people get access to information? Regarding rights, laws, policies and national institutions?**

All of the participants said that they get information from the radio, TV, local shura and tribal Jirga.

## **Section C: Access to livelihood, social and economic security**

### **Q1- How do you feel about the land was allocated to the returnees?**

All of the participants said that they are very pleased from the allocation of lands for the returnees. Because they lived in the rental houses but now their problem regarding access to shelter has been resolved. A school was also built for the residents of the area. In spite of that a vehicle has also been dedicated by the UNDP in order to transfer the villagers from Alice Ghan to Kabul City. The residents of the area had opened grocery shops along the Bagram road but residents of Qara Bagh district didn't allow them but finally their dispute was resolved by the residents of Alice Ghan and now they running their shop keeping without fear and tension.

### **Q2- Were there problems because some non-returnees didn't have access to land?**

**P3-** When the land was allocated to me I went to the ministry of repatriation and immigrants to receive the documents of my land but the employees at the mentioned ministry didn't give me the documents because they wanted to receive bribe from me but then one of the employees who was a little honest he completed formal registration of my land's documents and then submitted them to me.

**P4-** The government is involved in different types of problems. The government is founder of bribe and corruption. When I wanted to complete the formal procedures of my land's documents while referring to governmental employees they asked me to pay them bribe many times. It is the issue that annoys me a lot.

### **Q3- Does the community have problems with crime? If yes, what types of crime?**

All of the participants said that they haven't been witness of any criminal action yet. One of the obstacles against our progress is lack of water which has been imposed by the residents of Qara Bagh district. A girl has eloped with boy from the Laghman district and resided in our region but when we got information regarding this issue we decided to expel the eloped boy and girl from our region because we have reputation and prestige.

### **Q4- How do people get access to information regarding rights, laws, policies and national institutions? Who typically commit the crimes? ( Probe: men, youth and women) Who typically are the victims of crimes?**

All of the participants said that they got information regarding rights, laws, policies and national institutions from the Shura and religious scholars of the region. Generally the men perpetrate most of the criminal actions and the victims of their crimes are women. For example in case of murdering the women are generally sacrificed under the name of Baad because she is submitted to the family of the murdered person.

**Q5- Is unemployment higher among returnees than non-returnees? For example food for work and food for cash projects?**

**P2-** said that employment of the local residents is higher than returnees because the local residents have enough experience. For example in the construction projects returnees are not employed because they don't have enough experience in this field.

**P3-** The owner of the companies employ his relative for implementation of the projects.

**P1-** Some while ago a culverts construction project in the region. The project was nearly completed but still some work was remained but they stopped the project due to the cold weather. The implementers of the project gave us the responsibility of the project to the villagers. At first we accepted the mentioned responsible but then when we considered that we didn't have proficiency in this field we rejected their proposal and gave up from the responsibility of the mentioned project.

**Q6- Do the community members have more skilled workers than the returnees?**

All of the participants had similar answer so they said that everyone has different skills and professions. For example returnees do not have experience in construction fields however the local residents of the region have more experience and proficiency in this field.

**Q7- Do you believe that returnees and non-returnees have equal access to services and resources? If no, please give examples.**

All of the residents including returnees and non-returnees have equal access to services and resources. For example, donations of the donated organs are equally distributed for all of the residents.

**Section D: Justice and Rule of Law**

**Q1 Are there differences in the way the community functions now that returnees are living in the community? For example**

**A. The way the community interact among themselves.**

All of the participants in response of this question said that the residents of this region have good interaction with each other.

**B. The way the community builds and maintain relationships and trust**

Opinions of all participants: In response to this question they said that the people build trust and maintain relationship with each other. For instance when one of the households goes somewhere his neighbor protects his home. Sometimes when a person moves outside the village his neighbor looks after his family members.

**C. The way the community support each other during difficult economic times**

**P4-** If necessary then the residents of the area support each other during difficult economic times for example some while ago one my neighbors who was baker faced

with loss of money so I lent him some money in order to compensate his loss and once again revive his private business.

**P3-** I am about 10000 AF borrower of shopkeeper whose shop is located in Charikar district but I haven't paid his dept yet. When we lend money to person then we don't ask him to pay his loan immediately because we know that all of the villagers are very poor.

**P2-** Our neighbor are related to Hazara tribe who are very good neighbors for us. They don't spare lending us money every time that we want. They have always helped with us in different fields.

#### **D. The way the community resolve disputes among returnees and non-returnees?**

All of the participants said that all of the disputes are resolved within the village by assistance of the villagers. It is citable that the disputes are resolved without charge and for free.

#### **E. The way the community share resources**

According to the statements of the participants that all of the residents of the area share their resources with each other for instance, they participate in all ceremonies of the one another. In addition they share their home appliances such as dishes with each other as well.

#### **Q2- How safe is for women and girls to move around the community?**

All of the participants said that there is not any problem against the women and girls regarding their movement around the community.

**P5-** Some nights ago there was a wedding ceremony in our village. A woman along with her children who had participated in the mentioned ceremony returned from the wedding to her home during the night by herself and her children but there wasn't any kind of threat against them.

#### **Q3- What do you think would improve safety of women and girls in this community?**

Views of all participants: The coordination between the villagers, members of the Shura and security organs can improve safety of women in our society. Besides, women and girls should also participate in improvement process of security.

**Q4- Is it safe for men to travel outside the community during the day? Is it safe for men to travel?**

Views of all participants: It is very safe for men to travel both during the day and night especially in Qara Bagh district but they only problem is lack of transportation vehicles. All of the villagers have experienced very bitter moments during the past regimes so they are very happy from the current conditions. they don't have fear from the fights because they have been familiarized with battles.

**Q5- Which group is the biggest threat to safety and security?**

**P1-** Malik of Qarabagh district called Anwar Khan wants to deteriorate safety and security situation of the region. In addition he wants to increase his influence among the villagers in order to worsen unity of Alasghan villagers. But the residents of our village are united and will never let him to implement his ominous objectives.

**Q6- What can the community do to improve the safety and security of the community?**

All of the participants aid that they only way that can improve safety of our region is the unity among the people.

**Q7- Have there been benefits to returnees relocating to your community? What are they? Are there any problems? What are they?**

Views of all participants: One of the benefits of returnees for their relocation is good weather of Alice Ghan. Its weather is not polluted like the weather of Kabul City. Besides, the residents of this area do not pay monthly fare because there aren't rental houses but they are still faced with major problems in fields of clinic, electricity, an asphalted roads.

**Section E: Gender based violence****Q 1: without mentioning any names or indicating anyone specific, Can you tell me what kinds of incidents of violence against women and girls take place in the community?**

**P3-** One day a youngest boy who had came as guest to our neighbor's home kissed the hand of our neighbor's daughter on the lane. When I approached to them, I slapped him on his face and asked him regarding his behavior with our neighbor's daughter. He told me that he was her cousin. I censured him a lot and told him not to commit such unlawful actions on the lanes. He also pled himself guilty about his action and apologized from me.

All of the villagers try to inspect the security situation of the region and want to improve safety of their village.

**P4-** Illegal and unlawful actions are always prevented by the villagers.

**Q 2: Who are the perpetrators? (Probe: Family member, people in authority)?**

Views of all participants: We haven't been witness of a sexual attack yet. They added that the mentioned case between their neighbor's daughter and her cousin was due to lack of social suavity and propriety.

**Q 3: How comfortable are women and girls in seeking help from services providers?**

Views of all participants: All of the women first of all seek assistance of their families about all issues. In addition in the second step they refer to the local Shura of women where there problems are resolved as soon as be possible. Mrs. Hanifa is head of the women Shura.

**Q 4: If a girl suffers violence, is she likely to report it? If yes to whom, If no why?**

Whenever any incident of violence occurs against a girl a summit is held by the local Shura and try to resolve the violence as soon as be possible. They get information regarding the case either from the affected girl or from her neighbors. In addition, members of the mentioned Shura continually inspect supervise from the different areas and get information about the violent acts in the region.

**Q5- If a wife suffers violence, is she likely to report it? If yes, to whom? If no, why?**

P3- Members of Shura resist against perpetrators of violent acts based on Islamic rules. No one is allowed to enter to someone else home without permission from the members of the household. In addition, everyone is determined to cooperate with the mentioned Shura for instance I as an elder of the village never allow anyone enter to someone else home without permission but he did so , then he is prosecuted by me.

**Q 5: How would a perpetrator of sexual or gender based violence be punished?**

At first the perpetrator of sexual attacks should be prosecuted and then they should be punished based on Islamic rules and regulations.

THE END