CORRUPTION AND CONFLICT

INTEGRITY WATCH AFGHANISTAN

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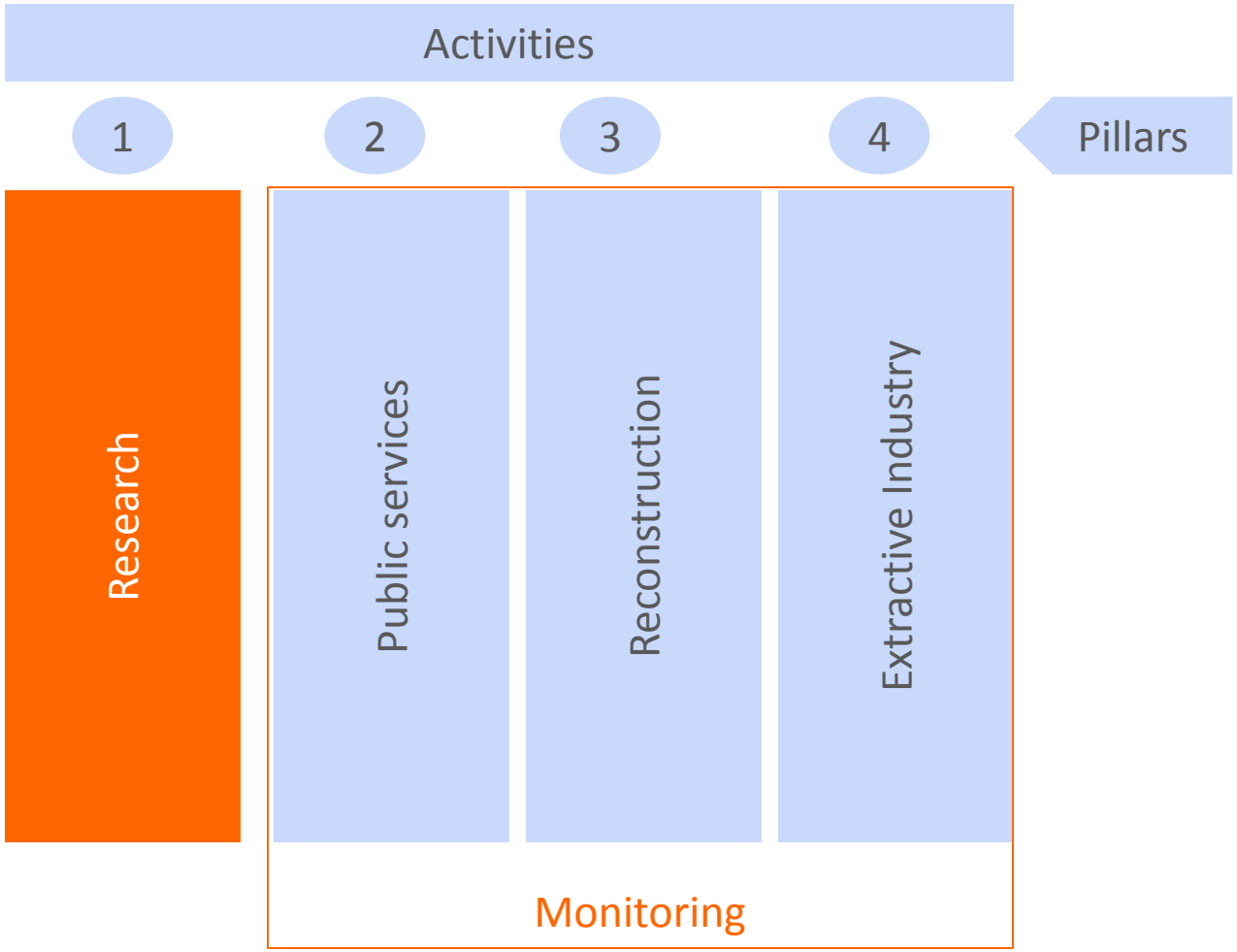
دیدبان اصالت افغانستان
Integrity Watch Afghanistan

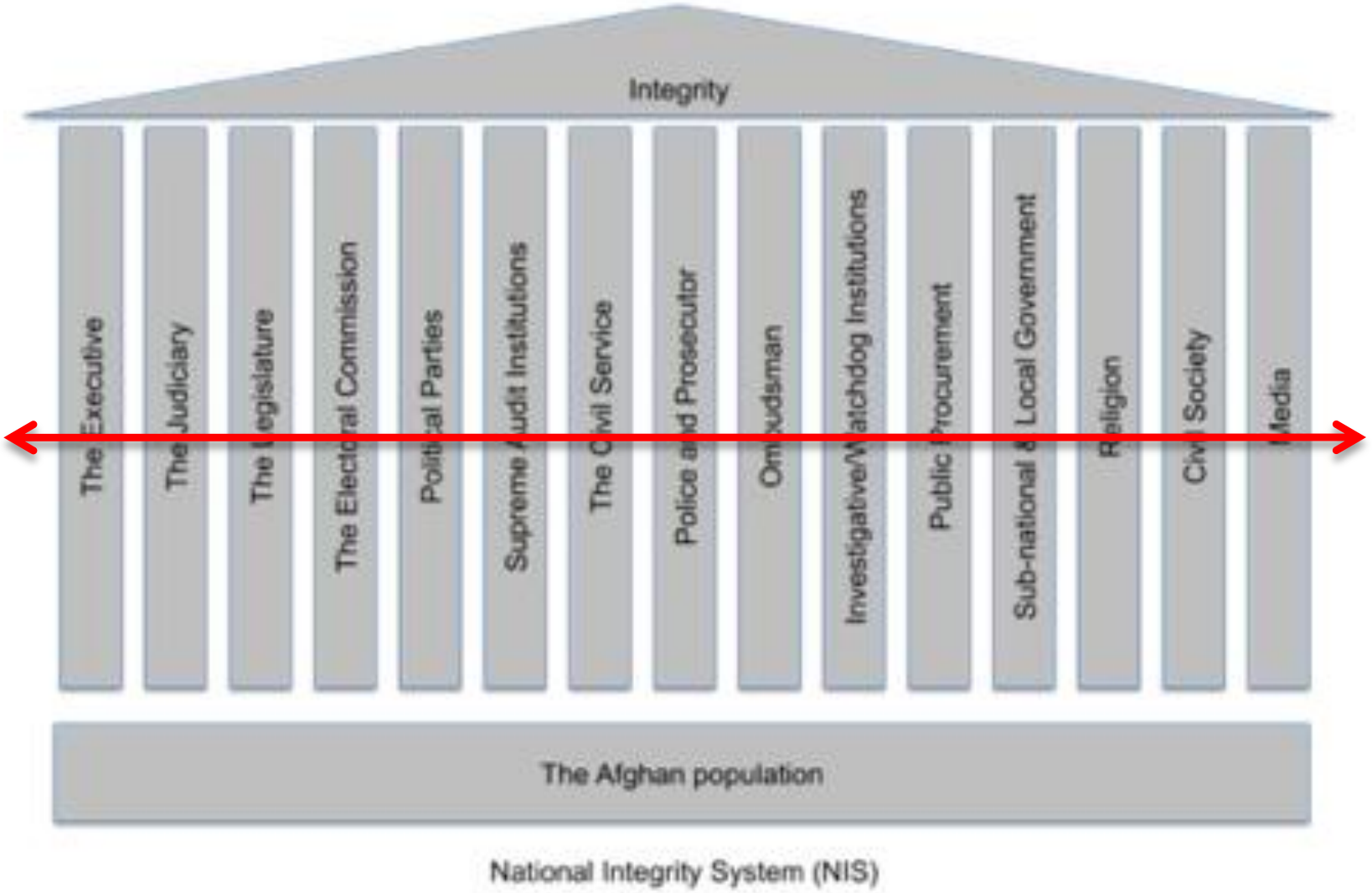
ABOUT IWA



Quick facts:

- Afghan NGO created in 2005
- 32 employees
- Working across Afghanistan
- Donors: Norway, Tiri, UNDP, WB, IBP, OSI, USIP
- Budget in 2010: 420 000 USD

CONFLICT AND CORRUPTION: INTEGRITY INSTITUTIONS



CONFLICT EFFECT ON INSTITUTIONS

During conflict

Public services tend to disappear
State presence is challenged by parallel institutions
Less qualified civil servants
Polarisation of public services (political, factional)
Wealth tend to get concentrated around few actors

Reconstruction phase

The system of governance is closed, new players are slow to emerge and it is difficult isolate spoilers or corrupt individuals. Incentive should be created to move them:

-Economic interests
-Social pressure
-Tackling illicit money circulation outside Afghanistan
-Build integrity islands in Afghan institutions (in particular in strategic area for the future of the country (mining, revenues…)

CORRUPTION EFFECT ON CONFLICT

① Corruption is an easy argument for the insurgency to disqualify the official government

② Legitimate state does not emerge

③ Power is maintained in the hand of a limited number of persons

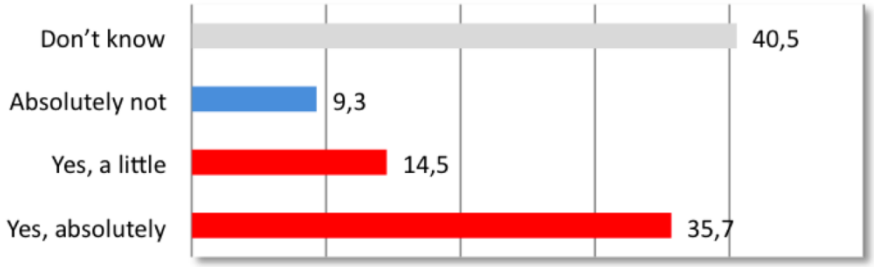
④ Alternative to the status quo are rare

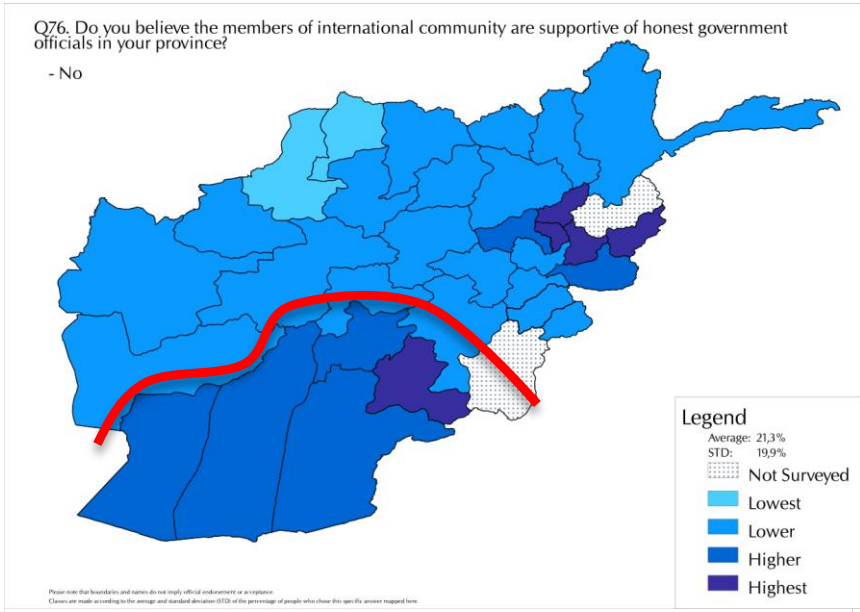
⑤ Corrupt networks have an interest in limited rules / low intensity conflict

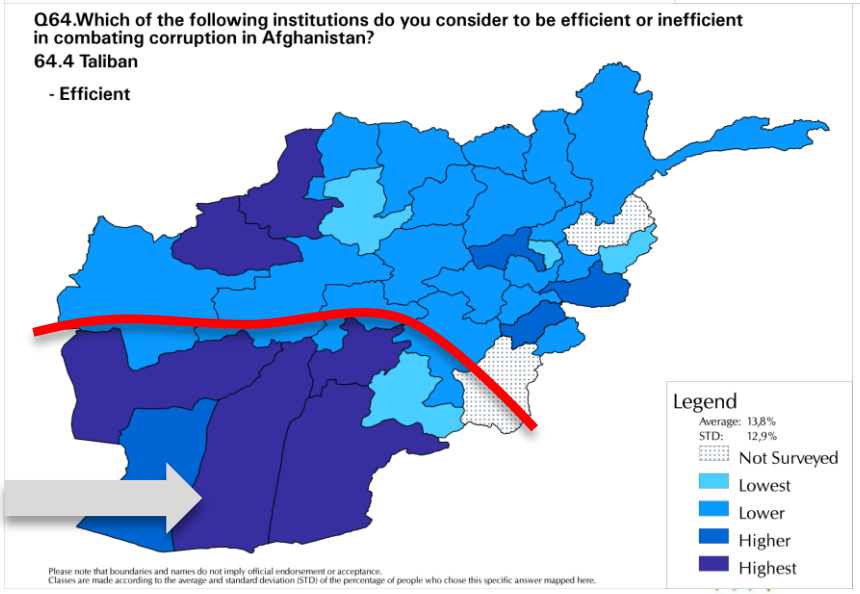
⑥ Complaints against the “establishment” takes the shape of anti-government support, because reliable official channel are lacking

CORRUPTION EFFECT ON CONFLICT SOME FIGURES

Q62. In your view, is corruption within the state helping the expansion of the Taliban?







Short term stability:

Key actions since 2001	Consequences on corruption
Use of warlords	Revitalization of local networks prior to the taliban area in the provinces
Division of State positions across factions	Accountability within the government cannot be achieved, lack of coordination
Election quickly organized	Legitimization of state spoilers and not governance structure to counter balance state grabbing
Accountability not a priority until 2008/2009	Easy to make quick wins
Large amounts of money flows without monitoring	Creation of a elite with enough resources to buy the State

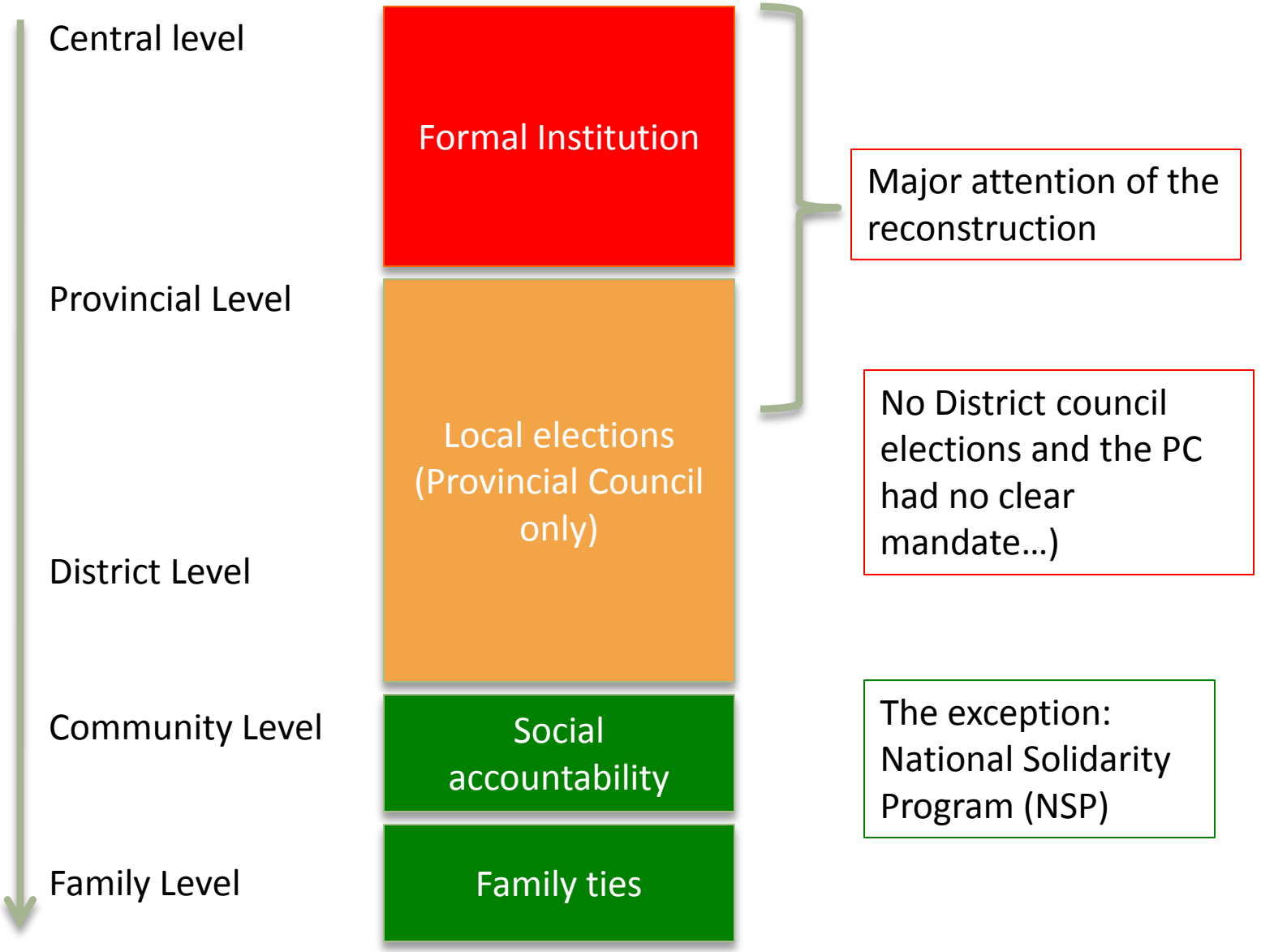
PRO INTEGRITY ACTIONS: WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Initial approach in Afghanistan: *Top down approach*	Current situation: *Very limited progress*
Set-up- AC agency	AC institution is not really working, set-up of AC institution monitoring system (MEC)
Try to target the corrupt individuals (the judicial approach)	Judiciary system is not working, corrupt individual are still running and arresting them has high political risks (stability, political manipulations…)
Improve State services (customer interface)	Some slow changes but need customers oriented baseline to measure the impact of the reforms…

… And the social accountability?

And civil society?

AFGHANISTAN WHICH AREAS ARE INTACT FROM THE CONFLICT



Information flow

From the ground-up

1	2	3	4
Legitimating process on who and how the data are collected Involvement of Communities, beneficiaries of public services, aid or development projects	Collection of data, can be several steps Survey Field visits Citizen's reporting Internet database search	Centralized data are shared with key stakeholders' board Use of multi-stakeholder representative forum i.e: State ministries, Provincial Shuras, Local monitors;, Private sector, media	Key stakeholder take their responsibility publicly and their actions are monitored Make sure that stakeholders understand that there is public pressure

Characteristics of the issues to be monitored

- Non political
- Changes to be brought must directly impact the beneficiaries
- Must generate a common consensus among users/ communities
- Must be measurable
- Beneficiaries should be involved in the changes to be brought
- Changes should be publically monitored

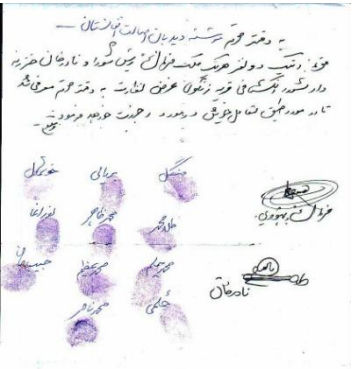
EXAMPLE IN PRACTICE: CITIZENS' INVOLVEMENT

Community based monitoring from the ground-up

From the ground-up

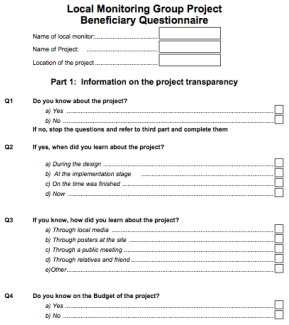
1 2 3 4

Legitimating process on who and how the data are collected



Collection of data, can be several steps

Survey



Local Monitoring Group Project
Beneficiary Questionnaire

Name of local monitor:
Name of Project:
Location of the project

Part 1: Information on the project transparency

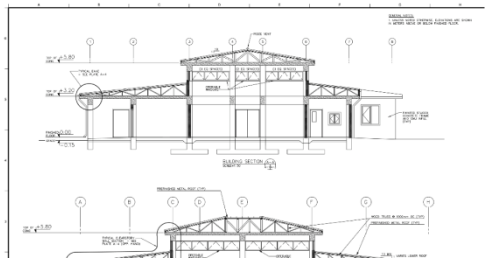
Q1 Do you know about the project?
a) Yes
b) No
If no, stop the questions and refer to third part and complete them

Q2 If yes, when did you learn about the project?
a) During the design
b) At the implementation stage
c) On the time was finished
d) Now

Q3 If you know, how did you learn about the project?
a) Through local media
b) Through posters at the site
c) Through a public meeting
d) Through relatives and friend
e)Other:

Q4 Do you know on the Budget of the project?
a) Yes
b) No

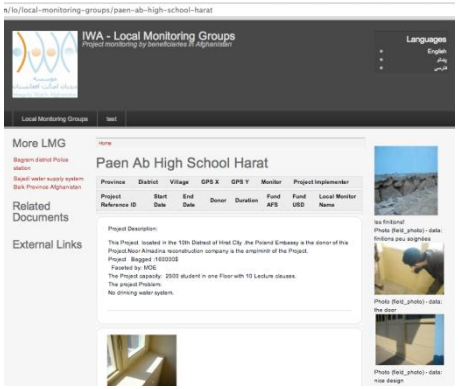
Formal documents



Photos of the project

Centralized data are shared with key stakeholders' board

Centralized in a website and **reports are shared with the communities**



Key stakeholder take their responsibility publicly and their actions are monitored

Provincial monitoring board

- Heads of provincial ministries' departments
- Governor's office
- Members of the provincial councils
- Local monitors
- Media

MEASUREMENT OF PROGRESS

① Perception survey

② Citizen report cards in major urban area and in provincial capitals

③ Use of citizen data inputs to improve the public services and external actors accountability

RECOMENDATION

Concentrate on certain areas before moving forward:

① Give greater role support civil society create to condition that will make civil society able to generate accountability

② Improve access to information

③ Do not limit AC to a top-down approach, make sure that bottom-up is also used

Areas to focus:

① Revenue generating

② Large number of users

③ Area were political will is there (ministers that are motivated, military expenditures…)

CONTACT

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