



Afghanistan Community Resilience and Livelihoods Project (ACRLP)



**Q3 (July-August-September), 2022 Progress Report
Kabul, Afghanistan | As of 14 November 2022**



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List of Acronyms

ACBAR	Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief
ARTF	Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund
CDC	Community Development Council
CRLP	Community Resilience and Livelihoods Project
CTG	Committed to Good - Humanitarian Enablers
DFA	De Facto Authorities
ECA	Entry Criteria for Access
ESF	Environmental and Social Framework
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
GA	Gozar Assembly
FM	Financial Management
FP	Facilitating Partner
LIW	Labor Intensive Works
MoEc	Ministry of Economy
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoEc	Ministry of Economy
MoF	Ministry of Finance
PIU	Project implementation Unit
POM	Project Operations Manual
RFP	Request for Proposals
RFQ	Request for Quotations
TPMA	Third Party Monitoring Agent
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
WB	World Bank

PROJECT INFORMATION

Official Project Title		Afghanistan Community Resilience and Livelihood (CRL) Project	
UNOPS Project ID	23455-001	Donor	The World Bank
Start Date	4 May 2022	End Date	30 April 2024
ARTF Project Financing	USD 265 million	Grant Budget	USD 100 million
Total funds received	USD 45,494,475	Fund balance	USD 43,600,214.83

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Key Achievements

The project was signed on 4 May 2022. This report is for the 2022 3rd quarter (1 July to 30 September). In order to provide the latest information for WB and ARTF donors, this report also covers the latest available information up to submission of report and thus also covers partial 3rd quarter (1 October to 14 November) and is marked with **'In Quarter 4'** or **'Q4:'** to indicate as such.

- **Human Resources:**
 - All of the CRLP personnel have been recruited, onboarded and trained.
- **Third Party Monitoring Agent (TPMA):**
 - **Q4:** The TPMA protocol was developed and the forms were revised and finalised.
- **Project Operations Manual (POM):**
 - The POM was completed, translated and published.
- **Q4:** The first payment for the three contractors was processed and wages/salary payments were made to the labours in Kabul;
- **Q4:** The tripartite agreement between UNOPS, AIB, and FPs has been completed, and escrow accounts for Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4 have been established.

1.2 De Facto Authorities

- **Kabul Municipality:**
 - On 7 June, UNOPS had a meeting with the Kabul Mayor who offered support and wrote and sent letters to all districts in Kabul. This was then retracted and UNOPS entered a protracted period of negotiation with the Kabul Municipality. This was resolved in a **9 August meeting with Director of Planning and Policy (and KM's focal point for CRLP), and Donor Coordination Manager A** when the KM once again agreed to support and reissued the letter to all districts.
 - Several follow up coordination meetings were held with KM. The project progress, plans, key issues and challenges were discussed.

- **General Director of Municipalities (GDM)**
 - **19 July meeting with GDM**, and others. The GDM agreed to communicate formally to the Mayor and to the Governor of each of the other 7 cities and the letters were collected from the GDM the following day. These letters opened the door to discussion in each of those cities and effectively enabled UNOPS to proceed with CRLP implementation.
 - **By early August**, the UNOPS Lead Construction Management Engineers had conducted successful meetings with Mayors and Governors for each of the 7 targeted cities (Kandahar, Jalalabad, Khost, Herat, Kunduz, Mazar-e Sharif and Bamyan) and, in each case, the Mayors and Governors have shown support and offered focal points for any assistance that may be required. Kandahar was the first to commence engagement with communities and scoping for subprojects, with other cities following soon thereafter.

- **Ministry of Finance:**
 - **27 July meeting with the Deputy Minister** and a large team from the Ministry of Finance. UNOPS presented a detailed introduction to the CRL Project and the MoF shared a series of questions and recommendations and confirmed their support for the project.
 - Further meetings were held in August for UNOPS to introduce the four selected NGOs for lots 1, 2, 3 and 4. The deputy minister said he would provide his full support for smooth implementation.

- **Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD):**
 - **27 July meeting with the Deputy Minister** where a meeting was agreed to be scheduled for when the Minister returned to Kabul from Haj/Eid/other travel.
 - **23 August meeting** with MRRD Deputy Minister and his team for UNOPS to introduce the selected NGOs. MRRD expressed some expectations and concerns about their role in CRLP. It was agreed that UNOPS would provide a written summary of the project and roles and MRRD would consider the NGOs and get back to UNOPS. UNOPS provided the written summary on 17 October 2022.
 - On 11 September 2022, a coordination meeting was held with the Deputy Minister of Finance. The two FPs (Agha Khan and Afghan AID) were introduced to MoF.
 - **Q4:** After several follow up coordination meetings at the technical level, MRRD issued a letter and introduced the Facilitating Partners to PRRD and Provincial Government.

- **Ministry of Economy (MoEc):**
 - On 11 September, a fruitful meeting was held with the MoEc Deputy Minister. UNOPS introduced the CRL Project, the two selected NGOs and requested the Deputy Minister's support to accelerate the introduction process from Kabul to the provincial level so field activities could begin as soon as possible. UNOPS support to the people of Afghanistan, particularly the CRLP job creation activities.
 - The Ministry of Economy was instructed by the PM's office to act as the focal point for UNOPS and the CRL Project overall, and to coordinate between UNOPS and the DFA. In September, a meeting was held at MoEc, attended by MRRD, Kabul Municipality (KM) and Directorate General of Municipality (DGM) and MoEc, to discuss the CRL Project and coordination between UNOPS and ITA. KM and DGM provided positive feedback and MRRD representatives shared their expectations from UNOPS. MoEc will invite UNOPS representative to the next meeting with MRRD, KM and DGM

- **Herat:** On 12-14 September, 2022, UNOPS visited Herat and held meetings with Herat municipality Mayor and with the provincial Governor of Herat Province, they appreciated CRL-Project and they said it is very vital and useful project for people of Afghanistan, and that they would provide their full support for smooth implementation of the project

2. PROGRESS ON COMPONENT 1: RURAL

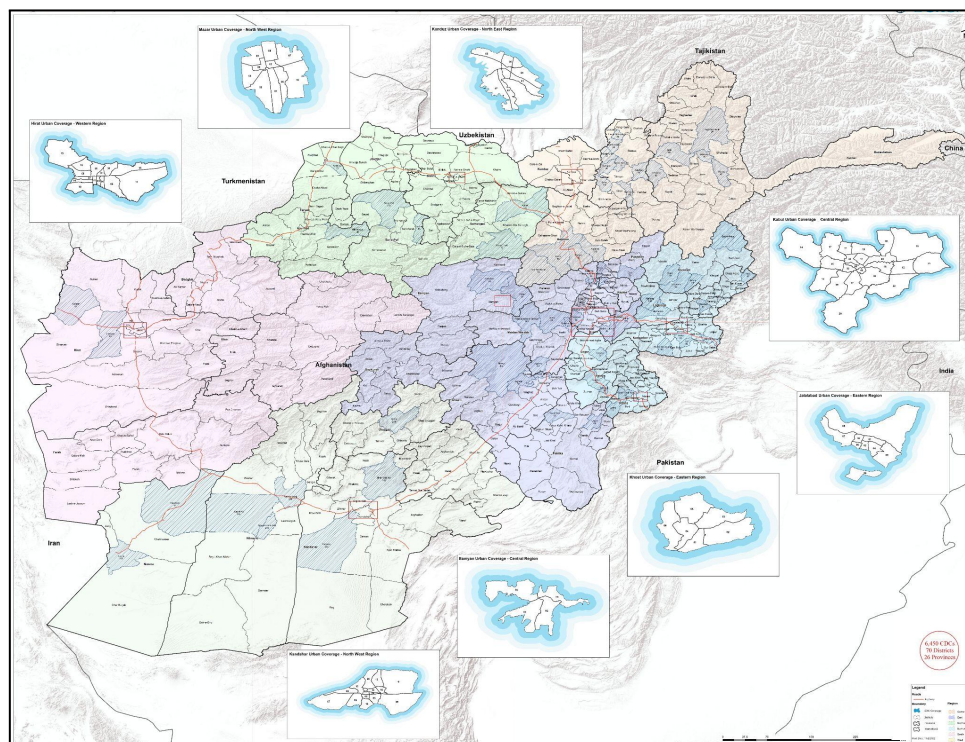
1.3 Facilitating Partners

- **Signing of contracts with Facilitating Partners (FP):**
 - Lot 1 (North East) was signed on 14 September 2022
 - Lot 3 (North West) was signed on 14 September 2022
 - Lot 4 (South) was signed on 27 September 2022
 - **Q4:** Lot 2 (Central) was signed on 4 October 2022
 - Lot 5 and 6 are still ongoing
- **Training of FPs:**
 - Training for key and non-key field-level staff was held from 25 September.
 - The Project Operations Manual (POM) and Step-by-Step Guidelines were completed. All forms are completed and adjusted in the system.
 - A payment schedule for FPs was completed.
 - Formats for the FP inception report and quarterly reports were prepared and shared with partners.
- **Coordination with stakeholders:**
 - Meeting conducted with UNICEF nutrition team for further preparation.



Training for ACRLP's facilitating partner, Aga Khan in NorthEast, September 28- October 04, 2022

3. PROGRESS ON COMPONENT 2- URBAN



1.4 Update across stages for Labor Intensive Works (LiW)

No.	City	Community Consultation Completed	No. of Projects Scoping completed	No. of Projects Design Completed	No. of Projects Procurement Complete	No. of Projects in Construction	No. of Project Completed (0 - < 25%)	No. of Project Completed (26 - < 50%)
1	Kabul	88	80	44	5	5	3	2
2	Khost	11	9	4	1	1	0	0
3	Bamyan	13	13	0	0	0	0	0
4	Kunduz	17	17	3	1	1	1	0
5	Mazar	23	18	11	4	4	4	0
6	Jalalabad	28	23	16	5	5	3	2
7	Kandahar	39	37	16	5	5	2	3
8	Herat	21	19	8	3	3	3	0
		240	216	102	24	24	16	7

1.5 Progress across cities

1.5.1 Kabul (200 or 40% of CRLP subprojects)

Despite the delay in securing access to Kabul, the team has now caught up with the schedule and the project plan. As of 13 November 2022, achievements include a) community consultation and scoping completed for 88 and 80 sub projects respectively, b) design and procurement/contract award completed for 44 and 5 sub projects respectively, c) physical works commenced for all 5 contracted sub projects; three invoices were submitted to the finance department for further processing and wages paid to labourers started in three project sites.

On the average, around 175 labourers (skilled and unskilled) and 10,000 labour days are expected to be generated for each of the ongoing sub projects under C2. As such the total of labourers and labour days for Kabul is estimated $175 \times 5 = 875$ and labour days are 50,000 respectively. The actual number of labourers and labour days will be reported upon the completion and handover of the sub projects.



Rehabilitation of Plum Concrete surface street of Imam Baqir Mosque with 630 M length in District -1 of Kabul City on Sep. 05, 2022

Q4: Data collection has also started for the watershed management projects in the hilly areas of Kabul City.

1.5.2 Kandahar (75 or 15% of CRLP sub-projects)

- **25 July meeting with Kandahar Mayor.** UNOPS' lead engineer delivered the GDM's letter to the Mayor who extended support to CRLP and circulated the letter to all relevant municipality departments.

- **26 July Director, Sectoral Department of Municipality** delivered letters to all 15 districts of Kandahar, requesting cooperation with UNOPS for the CRLP.
- **26 July meeting with Chief Engineer, Engineering Department of Municipality** Mr. Abdul Nabi, who extended his support and assistance. **Head of Department, City Governance of Municipality**, responsible for all matters related to GAs and CDCs, shared a full list of GAs and CDCs, including the contact details of the heads of CDCs and GAs and other related data.
- **Head of Department, GIS Department of Municipality** shared GIS maps of all GAs in Kandahar City with their boundaries and other details.
- **A Coordination Committee** was formed by the Sectoral Director, to include the heads of all relevant municipality departments and the UNOPS Kandahar team lead, to ensure proper coordination for the implementation of the CRLP and to meet as required to solve problems that may arise.
- **27 July meeting with the Governor of Kandahar** who extended his support and emphasised project quality in Kandahar. UNOPS presented the GDM's letter and a response letter was prepared and received.
- As of 13 November 2022, achievements for Kandahar include a) community consultation and scoping completed for 39 and 37 sub projects respectively; b) design and procurement completed for 16 and 5 subprojects respectively; c) physical works started for 5 sub projects; 3 invoices were submitted to the finance department for further processing and wages paid to labourers are started in three project sites.
- On the average basis, around 175 labourers (skilled and unskilled) and 10,000 labour days are expected to be generated for each of the ongoing sub projects under C2. As such the total of labourers and labour days for Kandahar is estimated $175 \times 5 = 875$ and labour days are 50,000 respectively. The actual number of labourers and labour days will be reported upon the completion and handover of the sub projects.

1.5.3 Herat (70 or 14% of CRLP sub-projects)

In Herat, UNOPS Construction Management Engineers met with Gozar Wakils and received the list of LIW projects recommended by the community. The engineers visited five LIW project sites and scoped the project according to the scoping template requirements.

- **3 August meeting with Herat Mayor**, who welcomed the project, offered his willingness to support and introduced a focal point, to accompany UNOPS to meet the Herat Governor.
- **4 August meeting with Herat Governor** who received the GDM's letter, welcomed the project and instructed the focal point of Herat Municipality to cooperate with the UNOPS team.
- **5 August:** Herat municipality issued letters to all 15 districts to cooperate in the community engagement.
- **In August**, the UNOPS community mobilizers presented the project, handed over the municipality's letter to the district heads and requested them to gather the community. Meetings were then held to discuss the project objectives, types of project, the role of the Gozar wakils and the community, the beneficiaries and job creation opportunities, the criteria and positive list for sub-projects. The UNOPS team asked them to list projects that meet the project selection criteria.
- **The UNOPS Team received the lists of the LIW projects** recommended by the community. UNOPS construction management engineers visited the sites and scoped the project as per the scoping template requirements.
- As of 13 November 2022, achievements for Herat includes a) community consultation and scoping completed for 21 and 19 sub projects respectively; b) design and procurement completed for 8 and 3 sub projects respectively. Following the signing of the contract for 3 subprojects, physical works have started and are progressing very well.
- On the average basis, around 175 labourers (skilled and unskilled) and 10,000 labour days are expected to be generated for each of the ongoing sub projects under C2. As such the total of labourers and labour days for Herat is estimated $175 \times 3 = 525$ and labour days are 30,000 respectively. The actual number of labourers and labour days will be reported upon the completion and handover of the sub projects.

1.5.4 Jelalabad (50 or 10% of CRLP sub-projects)

- **1 August meeting with the Mayor** and Sectorial Director. The Mayor of Nangarhar promised that Nangarhar Municipality will provide any needed assistance and support, and assigned the sectorial director and a representative from the Municipality Board Members as focal points for further coordination.
- **2 August meeting with the Nangarhar Provincial Governor**, the **Deputy Governor, Mayor and the Sectorial Director**. UNOPS introduced the CRLP, the governor welcomed the project, committed to provide support and assistance including security personnel if needed, and appreciated the emphasis on labor intensive work for the vulnerable families of Afghanistan.
- **7 August orientation session with Jalalabad Municipality 9th Nahai heads, Gozar Wakils and CDC heads** in the Municipality conference hall was organized. The municipality expressed commitment to support the project activities as per the rules and regulation of the donor agencies, they emphasised transparency, accountability, quality and on time implementation of the subprojects and added that unemployment has increased.
 - The aim of the meeting was to introduce and provide general information regarding the CRL Project. Please note that most of the GA heads were the CDC (CCAP, NSP, UNHABITAT) heads as well except for three of them.
 - As Jalalabad city is composed of CDC and Non CDC areas, only three CDC heads who were not GA heads participated in the session.
- **In August, a number of meetings were held with Nahya Heads and GA Heads**, who committed to support the project and also introduce the most vulnerable people to the project. UNOPS/CRLP Nangarhar team outlined the CRLP project's objectives, criteria, subproject selection, areas of responsibility and subproject implementation and requested the GA's support for the project. The Guzar Heads made recommendations about community training, livelihood and construction needs in their areas and committed to supporting the project. Participants recommended projects.
- As of 15 November 2022, key achievements include a) community consultation and scoping completed for 28 and 23 sub projects respectively, b) design and procurement completed for 16 and 5 sub projects respectively. Following signing contracts for 5 subprojects, physical works started and progressing well.
- On the average basis, around 175 labourers (skilled and unskilled) and 10,000 labour days are expected to be generated for each of the ongoing sub projects under C2. As such the total of labourers and labour days for Jalalabad is estimated $175 \times 5 = 875$ and labour days are 50,000 respectively. The actual number of labourers and labour days will be reported upon the completion and handover of the sub projects.



Jalalabad Municipality, in District 7-Head of Guzar assemblies met to discuss projects proposed by the community



Head of Jalalabad Municipality District 2 shared information with the CRLP team and GA Heads on 24 August, 2022 in Nangarhar

1.5.5 Mazar-e-Sharif City, Balkh Province (45 or 9% of sub-projects)

- **2 August meeting with the Mayor of Mazar-e-Sharif.** UNOPS briefed the Mayor on the CRLP and its four components, particularly component 2. The Mayor extended his support, assigned the Infrastructure and Engineering Services Manager as focal point, committed to write to the heads of city in the 12 districts inviting their support for the CRLP and requested the focal point to arrange these meetings.
- **3 August meeting with Balkh Governor** . UNOPS presented the GDM's letter and introduced the CRLP. Agreement was reached for the next coordination meeting with the head of city districts and GA, and the Governor offered to send an introductory official letter to the city districts.
- **4 August meeting with Mazar Acting Mayor, Deputy Mayor, municipality department heads, heads of 12 districts, municipal engineers and Gozar representatives.** A large coordination meeting was held with Mazar Municipality and District Heads where UNOPS introduced the CRLP and participants expressed their support and willingness to cooperate.
- **7 August meeting with Mazar's Infrastructure and Engineering Department Head and the Head of Governance.** The Mazar CRLP team discussed data collection for the subproject distribution mechanism indicators. Some data was provided and a subsequent meeting scheduled for the remaining data required.
- As of 13 November 2022, key achievements for Mazar include a) community consultation and scoping completed for 23 and 18 sub projects respectively; b) design and procurement completed for 11 for 4 subprojects. Following signing contract for 4 subprojects; physical works have been started and the physical progress is between 0-25%;
- On the average basis, around 175 labourers (skilled and unskilled) and 10,000 labour days are expected to be generated for each of the ongoing sub projects under C2. As such the total of labourers and labour days for Mazar is estimated $175 \times 4 = 700$ and labour days are 40,000 respectively. The actual number of labourers and labour days will be reported upon the completion and handover of the sub projects.
- **Non-CDC areas were identified** and UNOPS community mobilizers began social mobilisation in non-CDC areas; they were able to establish five consultative groups in communities where there were no CDCs or GA.
- The technical team began assisting communities, particularly in non-CDC areas, to select their subprojects; approximately **15 non-CDC communities had chosen their subprojects by end-September**. The construction management engineers also began subproject scoping and sending to the design team.



Community consultation session in Mazzar-e- Sharif in September 2022

1.5.6 Kunduz (35 or 7%) of CRLP sub-projects)

- **2 August meeting with the Governor and Mayor of Kunduz.** The Governor gave his full support for implementation of the project in the province and assigned an engineer as the Focal Point to facilitate CRLP implementation in Kunduz City.
- UNOPS consulted with the GA and met with the target communities in eight districts to identify subprojects; 423 sub projects were proposed and signed by CDCs, Mosque committees and attested to by GA and city district heads.
 - The eight (8) city districts of Kunduz are categorised as CDC and non-CDC areas. The 423 sub projects were the list prepared after a preliminary assessment.
 - During the community consultation session, the elders who represented the same districts shared a long list of subprojects, which were covering both (CDC and non-CDC areas).
 - As a matter of priority and to commence the project activities in Kunduz, the project team started screening and scoping from the proposed subprojects lists in the Non CDC area.
 - During Q4 - mid November, Agha Khan Foundation mobilised and initiated the ECA assessment in CDC area of Kunduz City. Pending confirmation by AKF regarding the ECA assessment result, the urban team will initiate the project scoping, design, procurement and implementation at the CDC areas in Kunduz.
- Most of the GA areas had more than 40 percent women’s participation. Thus as per WB guidelines, the consultation was carried out in non-CDC areas by UNOPS.
- Identification of LIW subprojects progressed well in Q3 and technical assessments were made. Subproject scoping documents were prepared and reviewed by the Design Department; environmental and social screening are ongoing.
- As of 13 November 2022, key achievements for Kunduz include a) community consultation and scoping completed for 17, b) design and procurement completed for 3 and 1 sub projects respectively. Following the signing of the contract for 1 subproject, the physical works have commenced and are progressing well.
- **Q4:** The urban team also held a series of meetings with the Facilitating Partner’s field staff to make them ready for assisting UNOPs team in subproject development in CDCs area of Kunduz City.
- On average, around 175 labourers (skilled and unskilled) and 10,000 labour days are expected to be generated for each of the ongoing sub projects under C2. As such the total of labourers and labour days for Kunduz is estimated $175 \times 1 = 175$ and labour days are 10,000 respectively. The actual number of

labourers and labour days will be reported upon the completion and handover of the sub projects.



ACRLP Kunduz Male Community Liaison in August 2022

1.5.7 Khost (15 (or 3%) of CRLP sub-projects)

- **2 August meeting with Advisor to the Mayor** Kamayb Sahlib, the Acting Mayor , M&E Head and the Head of Municipal Governance.
- **3 August meeting with Khost Mayor.** The CRLP team explained the CRLP objectives and implementation mechanisms and the Mayor welcomed the project.
- **3 August meeting with Khost Deputy Governor:** The Khost Mayor and CRLP team visited the Deputy Governor who expressed full support for the CRLP activities.
- **4 August meeting with Khost municipality representatives for all districts and Gozars:** UNOPS introduced the project and the role of Gozars and communities in the selection and implementation of the projects and briefed them on the types of projects, women's participation and community labor selection. The Gozar representatives welcomed the project and assured collaboration.
- **In a series of meetings in August,** the UNOPS team conducted separate meetings with representatives of Gozars and CDCs and informed them about the type of the projects they could request and the role they had in selection and implementation.
- **12 August to 16 September.** Consultation meetings with GAs for the seven non-CDC project areas were conducted. Scoping (technical field survey) was conducted on the seven projects and submitted to the design department.
- As of 15 November 2022, key achievements for Khost province include a) community consultation and scoping completed for 11 and 9 sub projects respectively, b) design and procurement completed for 4 and 1 sub projects respectively. Following signing a contract for 1 subproject, the physical works have been started and progressing well.
- On the average basis, around 175 labourers (skilled and unskilled) and 10,000 labour days are expected to be generated for each of the ongoing sub projects under C2. As such the total of labourers and labour days for Khost is estimated $175 \times 1 = 175$ and labour days are 10,000 respectively. The actual number of labourers and labour days will be reported upon the completion and handover of the sub projects.



Earthquake response:

A 5.9 magnitude earthquake struck the Southeastern Region of Afghanistan on 22 June 2022, devastating Paktika and Khost provinces. UNOPS deployed a team of CRLP engineers on a mission (30 June to 5 July, 2022) to the earthquake-affected areas in Gayan district of Paktika Province, along with partner agencies under a Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan (STFA) mission. Reports and presentations were shared with the World Bank and the UN Country Team. The STFA subsequently announced they would not be funding an earthquake response as initially envisaged.

UNOPS also deployed a team of engineers to the earthquake-affected area again on 9-11 August at the request of the World Food Programme to survey the Khost to Spera Road, which is one of two supply routes for the supply and delivery of commodities, materials, etc to Spera District and connects earthquake-affected villages in Spera District and Khost Province.

1.5.8 Bamyan (10 or 2%) of CRLP sub-projects)

- **2 August meeting with Mayor.** UNOPS presented the project and the mayor promised his and the Bamyan municipality personnel's full cooperation and support to the project and assigned Mr. Hadi Akbari as focal point to support the project team.
- **3 August meeting with Bamyan provincial governor,** UNOPS presented the DMG's letter and the details of the CRL project and development objectives.
- **3 August consultation meeting with Gozar Wakils** and Bamyan municipality staff in Bamyan municipality office. They welcomed the project and promised full cooperation and support to the subprojects selection and implementation based on the CRL project criteria. They also recommended that the sub-projects should be selected as soon as possible because the weather conditions will soon change in Bamyan city and project implementation will be problematic during the cold season.
- As of 13 November 2022, the community consultation and scoping has completed for all the planned 13 subprojects. During the winter break, the design and procurement of all sub projects are planned to be completed. The physical works will be started in late March 2023.

1.6 Plan For Next Quarter - Component 2

No.	City Name	Community Consultation	Scoping	Design	Procurement	Implementation	Handover
1	Kabul	63	63	43	38	37	8
2	Khost	4	4	4	4	4	8
3	Bamyan	0	5	6	6	0	0
4	Kunduz	13	13	6	6	6	3
5	Mazar	18	12	11	11	11	2
6	Jalalabad	13	13	13	13	13	7
7	Kandahar	26	26	13	13	13	8
8	Herat	26	20	15	13	13	3
	Total	163	156	111	104	97	39

4. ENTRY CRITERIA FOR ACCESS

Component 1 - Rural

- **Lot 1- Agha Khan (North-East)**
 - Agha Khan Foundation conducted ECA assessment for 39 CDCs in three provinces namely Takhar, Baghain and Badakhshan. As reported, 37 CDCs out of 39 met the ECA criteria. **Lot 3 - Afghan Aid (North-West)**
 - Following the resolution of the issue with MRRD in early November, the Lot 3 FPs (Afghan Aid, CHA and RRAA), initiated the mobilisation in the North-Western region. The FPs conducted ECA assessment for 152 CDCs in four provinces namely, Saripul, Samangan, Faryab and Herat. As of 22 November 2022, the ECA assessment for all 152 CDCs out of 727 CDCs confirmed that the criteria were met. **Component 2 - Urban**
- **Khost Province**
 - As agreed with the World Bank, the CRL Social Organizers initiated the ECA assessment for the CDC area. As of 22 November 2022, nine (9) CDCs were assessed, whereby all 9 CDCs met the ECA criteria. **Nangarhar Province:**
 - The CRL Social Organizers conducted ECA Assessment for two CDCs . Both CDCs met the ECA criteria.
- **ECA Assessment by the FPs in Urban CDC area**
 - Until 22 November 2022, the ECA assessments have not started yet in Kunduz, Mazar, Herat , Bamyan and Kandahar cities. It is expected that the FPs will start with the ECA assessment in most of the mentioned cities by the end of November or early December 2022.

5. PROGRESS ON COMPONENT 3- SOCIAL GRANTS

- Nothing to report in this quarter

6. PROGRESS ON COMPONENT 4- STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS

- Nothing to report in this quarter

7. PROGRESS ON COMPONENT 5- UNOPS IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT

7.1 M+E, MIS, GIS

- The MIS assessment for the CRL project was completed.
- The Google Cloud (GCP) server is set up for MIS and website hosting.
- The project domain (www.acrlp.org) has been registered.
- The MIS system is developed and ready for data capture of comp1 (F1,F2,F3,F4,F5) and comp3 (F8).
- The MIS system for comp2 is under development.
- The MIS system was successfully deployed on GCP for testing.
- A one-page website was launched as the official domain of the CRLP (<https://www.acrlp.org>) and continues to be under development. All materials will be developed in three languages.

7.2 HUMAN RESOURCES / STAFFING

- ACRLP personnel completed an orientation training 17-21 July, delivered by the World Bank and UNOPS. Most participants gathered together in person in Kabul, trainers were present in person and online.
- Seven positions were recruited in the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) in Q3: National Partnership Advisor, Rural Component Assistant, GIS Associate, a Finance Specialist and two Finance Officers and a Procurement Specialist (Contract Management). See Annex C.
- The ACRLP E&S/safeguard team has been recruited which includes 1) Environmental Safeguard Senior Associate, 2) Social Safeguard Senior Associate, 3) HSSE Analyst, 4) Diversity and Inclusion Associate (Gender) and 5) GRM Senior Associate.
- **Q4:** The 'Start-up team' (head of project, procurement advisor, finance advisor) transitioned and handed over to replacements for the duration/rest of the project.

7.3 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- **IUFR** produced for the period ending 30 September 2022
- **Interim Financial Statement** produced as of 30 September 2022
- Budget revisions were completed.
- **Q4:** Fund Flow analysis for 'the last mile distributions' was completed for further considerations.
- **Q4:** Designated escrow accounts in Afghanistan International Bank (AIB) for cash disbursement to beneficiaries have been established for Lots 1,2 and 3.

7.4 COMMUNICATION

- The Project Operations Manual (POM) was finalised between the World Bank and UNOPS, copy-edited and sent for translation.
- Communications products were developed, including ACRLP project briefs and presentation slides.
- A Communication Strategy was drafted and shared with the WB.
- A website was launched and updated with the latest news from the field.
- A photographer was recruited

- **Q4:** POM translation into Pashto and Dari. Social media pages/platforms are under development.
- **Q4:** Facebook page created for the ACRLP.

7.5 Quality Control and Quality Assurance

- The project Quality Assurance Plan was developed and in place;
- The contractor's QC Plans were reviewed and endorsed;
- Several site visits were conducted, issues were identified and corrective actions were applied;
- The contractors' testing laboratories were assessed and certified;
- Various works quality tests were conducted and documented;

7.6 PROCUREMENT

7.6.1 CRLP Components 1, 3 and 4

- Five of the 6 FP contracts were signed, Contract for Lot was signed on 28 November.
- One FP contract is being reviewed by HQ Contracts Committee.

7.6.2 CRLP Component 2

- Several meetings held with CRLP urban personnel in preparation for RfQs (including the process of raising requisition, providing the technical package, including design certificate from UNOPS IPMG, to provide the method statement (including, the work plan, Health, Safety, Social and Environmental plan, Quality Management Plan etc) along with the technical package to be used in the RFQ).
- Q3 2022 - July-September: 1 works contract was signed;
- Q4 2022 - October - 13 November: 23 Works contracts signed;

7.7 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT & GENDER

Key Achievement

- The Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) was disclosed by UNOPS on 13 July 2022 and on the UNOPS Afghanistan page on 14 July 2022. Training on the ESM Framework and standards, on gender related and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) requirements and Grievance Response Mechanism (GRM) requirements was delivered to all CRLP personnel on 28 July 2022.
- During the project scoping, the project team conducted Environmental and Social Screening. The potential risks have been identified and the appropriate mitigation measures have been proposed. As of 13 November 2022, total 216 screening was completed from which 109 ESMPs have been prepared.
- The ESMP is part of the RfQ and works contract. The project safeguard team conducted several site visits and monitored the HSSE to ensure the mitigation measures are in place and effective;
- The safeguard team also delivered three trainings to Agha Khan, Afghan AID and ACTED on 3-4 October 2022, 10-11 October 2022 and 24-26 November 2022 respectively;
- The safeguard training was conducted for 24 contractors under C2. Total 150 Contractors' personnel received the training;
- Five (5) site visits were conducted during the reporting period. No significant challenges were identified;
- Training materials were prepared and shared with the WB safeguard team for review and comments. The safeguard document process (screening checklist, ESMP, HSSE Plan...etc) is ongoing for each subproject. The training materials are attached to this report under separate cover;

During the reporting period, five (5) site visits were conducted in Kabul. The ESMF requirements were inspected at the project sites. The physical works were progressing in compliance with the ESCP, ESMF (SEP, LMP, SEA/SH).

- The simplified ESMP was in place and effective. The contractor staff were well aware of the ESMF requirement.
- The contractor put in place mitigation measures for all risks identified in the simplified ESMP. The construction sites were isolated for unauthorised access. Various site safety sign boards were installed and the solid waste was managed properly.
- The contractors' engagement with the community was in line with the CRL Project Stakeholder Engagement Plan;
- The GA Representatives assured their cooperation toward the smooth implementation of the projects.
- During the site visits it has been noticed that the project sites were tidy and clean, for the sake of management and response to an emergency.
- The contractors' documents were reviewed at the site. The UNOPS and contractor staff provided toolbox talks to the labour on various activities such as excavations, scaffolding, concrete works, workplace management;
- The labours were equipped with required safety PPE such as hard hat, safety shoes, vest ...etc;
- For protecting underground services, the excavated sites were surrounded with high visible safety tape.
- The traffic management was in place and satisfactory. The contractors hired female traffic management personnel at the site.

ESMPs Completed

S/N	Provinces	Number of ESMPs Completed
1	Bamyan	3
2	Khost	5
3	Kunduz	10
4	Nangarhar	10
5	Balkh	10
6	Herat	8
7	Kandahar	20
8	Kabul	43
	Total	109

7.7.1 Environmental and Social Commitment Plan

Activities and progress of this section is prepared in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) and Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP). Without limitation to the foregoing, the ESCP sets out material measures and actions that UNOPS shall carry out or cause to be carried out, including, as applicable, the timeframes of the actions and measures, institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements, grievance management. The ESCP also sets out the environmental and social (E&S) instruments that shall be adopted and implemented under the Project, all of which shall be subject to prior consultation and disclosure, consistent with the ESS, and in form and substance, and in a manner acceptable to the World Bank.

Material Measure and Action	Progress
Monitoring and Reporting	

Regular reporting/Quarterly to the WB	As agreed with the WB, ESCP quarterly report shall be prepared and submitted to the WB as part of the overall CRL Project Progress Report. As such, this section has been added to the Quarterly Progress Report.
Incident Report	During the reporting period, no incident was recorded
Contractors & FPs Quarterly E&S Reports	The Quarterly Report template for FPs and Contractors have been prepared. Nothing to report for this Q3 22
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS	
Organisational Structure	<p>PIU Safeguard staff recruitments completed, following positions are on boarded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Safeguard Senior Associate • Social Safeguard Senior Associate • HSSE Analyst • GRM Senior Associate • Diversity and inclusion Associate (Gender). <p>8 E&S focal points have been assigned for C2 (Kabul, Kandahar, Nanagarhar, Bamyán, Khost, Kunduz, Herat & Mazar).</p>
E&S Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental & Social Screenings/Assessment of sub-projects are ongoing (216 sub-projects have been screened. The potential risks have been identified and proper mitigation measures have been proposed. - Total 109 Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) are prepared and added to the works contract for contractors
Management of Contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - E&S requirements have been incorporated in all bidding processes, on an ongoing basis. - 24 safeguard orientation training (Environmental & Social Management, Health and Safety, GRM & Gender) for contractors staff (Male & Female) in C2 is ongoing. Total 159 contractors' personnel were training on the ESMF and ESMP requirements (24* 5 contractors' staff for each project = 120 people) - Regular inspections for ESMP implementation are ongoing, 5 E&S inspections were conducted during the reporting period. The UNOPS standard forms for monitoring the works HSSE has been used;
ESS 2: LABOUR AND WORKING CONDITIONS	
Labor Management Procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Labour management procedures were included and disclosed as part of the ESMF, and they are included in the Simplified ESMP and added as an Annex in bidding documents for C2 contractors and disclosed prior to signing of contract between UNOPS and implementing NGO/contractors. - Training session on Labor Management Procedure conducted for 3 FPs (Agha Khan, Afghan Aid and ACTED) and 24

	<p>Contractors, this process is ongoing for the remaining FPs and Contractors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Code of conduct prepared and approved by WB for CRLP workers (Direct workers, contracted workers, primary supplier and community worker). - Code of Conduct is translated into local languages (Dari & Pashto). - CRL staff have signed Code of Conduct and this process is ongoing for FPs and Contractors staff and workers. - Safe working environment is provided for females at the project site and they are assigned to light works such as (cleaning, traffic management, water spray etc).
Occupational Health & Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - OHS measures were included and adopted as part of the ESMF and its Generic ESMP. - Mitigation Measures included in the Simplified ESMP and Health and Safety Management Plan and disclosed prior to signing of contract between UNOPS and implementing NGO/contractors. - All Labourers at the project sites are equipped with proper PPE Health and Safety toolboxes that are conducted on a daily basis to labourers before work commencement. - First Aid Kit and fire extinguisher are available for each sub-project site.
Grievance Mechanism for Project Workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GRM Manual has been prepared and approved by WB. - Training on GRM was conducted for 3 FPs (Agha Khan Afghan Aid and ACTED) and 24 Contractors, and this process is ongoing. - Grievance Registration form, GRM logbook and GRC list is shared with Contractors and are available at project sites. - GRCs are established at project sites. - GRM forms have been established in the MIS.
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT	
Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention & Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mitigation Measures included in the Simplified ESMP and disclosed prior to signing of contract between UNOPS and implementing NGO/contractors. - Waste is treated or disposed of from the site to the designated Landfield on a regular basis. - Contractors provided waste bins in contractor site camp.
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY	
Community Health & Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The community Health and Safety risks were identified, appropriate mitigation measures included in the Simplified ESMP; - The Health and Safety Management Plan was disclosed prior to signing of contract between UNOPS and implementing NGO/contractors. - Training Presentation on community health and safety delivered to 3 FPs and 24 Contractors.

<p>Traffic & Road Safety</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traffic and road safety measures prepared and adopted as part of the Generic ESMP in the ESMF. - Mitigation Measures included in the Simplified ESMP and Health and Safety Management Plan and disclosed prior to signing of contract between UNOPS and implementing NGO/contractors.
<p>SEA/SH Risks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SEA/SH Action Plan prepared and adopted as a separate document from the ESMF, Upon WB request, the SEA/SH Action Plan has not been disclosed. - Mitigation Measures for SEA/SH included in the Simplified ESMP. - Code of Conduct is prepared and signed by UNOPS - CRL staff, it will also be signed by FPs and Contractors staff and labores. - Training sessions on GBV/SEA/HS conducted for UNOPS staff, and also for 3 FPs and 24 Contractors as part of the inception training, this process is ongoing for the remaining FPs and Contractors. - 2 Sites inspection is conducted by Diversity and inclusion Associate (Gender) and this process is ongoing.
<p>Security Management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Security risk management measures included and adopted as part of the ESMF. - FPs and Contractors are responsible for the security of their staff and assets.
<p>ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE</p>	
<p>Chance Finds</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chance Find Procedures prepared and adopted as part of the ESMF and included in simplified ESMP.
<p>ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</p>	

<p>Stakeholder Engagement Preparation and Implementation</p>	<p>Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) is prepared, adopted and disclosed on WB, UNOPS and CRLP websites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ESMF was prepared and disclosed on WB, UNOPS and CRLP websites. - ESMF is currently under translation process into the local languages (Dari & Pashto) and translated versions will also be disclosed on mentioned websites upon completion. - The Stakeholder Engagement Plan is translated into the local languages (Dari & Pashto) and translated versions will also be disclosed on mentioned websites. - ESMF and SEP are shared with FPs to manage their projects and engage stakeholders accordingly. - Information disclosure and consultations with communities and other stakeholders are ongoing.
<p>Capacity Support (Trainings)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental and Social management training materials and capacity-building agenda was prepared and approved by WB. - Training on the ESM Framework and standards, on gender related and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) requirements and Grievance Response Mechanism (GRM) requirements was delivered to all CRLP personnel. - Trainings for 3 FPs (Agha Khan, Afghan AID & ACTED) were and around 105 staff of mentioned FPs trained on (ESS, ESMF, E&S Screening process, Stakeholder Engagement, Labor Management and working conditions, Community Health & Safety, Occupational Health & Safety, Incident/Accident, GBV/SEA/SH/Gender & GRM). Safeguard Orientation Training for 24 Contractors were conducted and around 120 personnel of the contractors trained on E&S requirements, ESMP implementation, labour management procedures, GRM, health and safety, and GBV/SEA/SH. - Induction and toolbox talks are ongoing by contractors for their Labours.
<p>Project Grievance Mechanism</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A GRM Manual has been prepared, training presentation on GRM for stakeholders has been prepared. - The GRM Manual is equipped to receive, register, and facilitate the resolution of SEA/SH complaints.

7.7.2 Gender

- **A Gender Action Plan** has been developed for the project. The project's dedicated Gender Associate is recruited and the Gender Specialist (50% to the project and 50% to the country office) is in the final stages of recruitment.
-

7.7.3 Grievance Redress

- The UNOPS Afghanistan manages Inter-Agency Information and Accountability Centre (IAIAC) known as Awaaz Afghanistan is an inter-agency call centre (a two-way communication and accountability mechanism) that responds to the information and communication needs of affected populations in Afghanistan and allows affected populations to shape their own relief and recovery. Based in Kabul and functioning as a toll-free humanitarian helpline, Awaaz Afghanistan is a link to the partnership between those who wish to assist and those who need assistance and is accountable to both constituencies.

Supported by the Humanitarian Country Team, with current funding from the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund (AHF) and the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), Awaaz's primary objective is to promote two-way communication between affected populations.

AWAAZ is one of the uptake channels for receiving and registering the complaints. The AWAAZ will be linked with the CRL Project MIS system, in which all the complaints will be registered, processed and the feedback will be provided accordingly.

- A meeting with UNICEF was held on 8-Sep-2022 regarding the 7575 SMS number to receive the grievance. UNICEF is keen to provide support and provide user access to their 7575 SMS system, UNICEF would like to formalise this with an MoU with UNOPS.
- The Terms of Reference (ToR) for the National Grievance Redress Committee (GRC) and GBV/SEA/SH has been prepared. These GRCs will address the grievances with high priority and do trend analysis of the grievances.
- A dedicated email address for Grievance Redress has been developed as one of the grievance uptake channels. Those citizens which have access to the internet can register their grievances through the GRM official email address (crl.shekayat@unops.org).
- The GRM manual was drafted and the World Bank's comments incorporated in the final version.. The manual will be translated into Dari and Pashto languages. The initial English version of the manual is shared with Facilitating Partners. Pending the final review of the GRM Manual by the WB, it will be reshared with the FPs.

7.8 SECURITY

- Security training was provided to all UNOPS personnel on 21 July, as per UNOPS requirements and the Project Operations Manual.
- The UNOPS Security Officer prepared for the security assessments that will need to be conducted with the Facilitating Partners.
- Q4: Four Field Security Associates were recruited and deployed to the regions;

7.9 Monitoring Findings

During the reporting period a total of six monitoring visits conducted to two subproject sites¹ in Kabul, the major findings are as following:

1. The contractor used uncalibrated survey and testing equipment. Contractor was instructed to remove the uncalibrated equipment from the site. The contractor took corrective action, calibrated the equipment and provided the equipment calibration certificate on 25 October 2022.
2. Issues with the concrete mixing, slump test rate, no presence of contractor technical team at the site and low workmanship in stone masonry works have been observed which the contractors are advised and rectified immediately.

¹ Upgrading of Infrastructure for Sidewalk of Block 3 Ahmad Shah Mena, District 12 and Upgrading of Ibnisina Hospital to Darwaza Lawoori Sidewalk, District 1 of Kabul City

7. KEY CHALLENGES

- Issue #1 - Cold weather will affect the overall CRL Project implementation plan: In most urban and rural areas, winter season has started. The construction activities will be suspended in most of the areas due to cold weather in December 2022. However, in a few urban and rural areas, the construction works will continue.
 - The cold weather has a significant impact on the concrete works. To minimise the impact of cold weather, the project will plan the implementation of sub-projects without concrete works, for instance the gravel surface road, canal cleaning, snow cleaning...etc.
 - The sub-projects which include concrete works, the “cold weather concrete works methodology” will be developed and shared with the contractor. The methodology will include adding antifreeze admixture to the concrete, warming up the water, steam curing (if required), and covering concrete works overnight and/or at the time the temperature goes below 4 C;
 - UNOPS QA/QC Team will conduct regular inspection of the concrete works during the winter season to ensure the works quality is within the tolerance specified in the project technical specifications;
-