

Organization for Research and Community Development Reshaping the future of communities through best practices

2014 Annual Report



Annual report, 2014

Organization for Research and Community

Development

ORGANIZATION FOR RESEARCH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (ORCD)

Contents

Foreword from the Board of Trustees	2
Foreword from CEO	3
Acronyms	4
List of ORCD Projects in 2014	5
Bulleted Accomplishments during 2014	6
HEALTH: Provision of health services to internally displaced population (IDPs) in Nangarhar	7
PROTECTION: IDP Profiling, Monitoring & Assistance	8
Food Security: Emergency Food Aid Program for vulnerable rural households	9
PROTECTION: Non-food items & emergency shelters for refugees from North Waziristan	10
RURAL DEVELOPMENT: Facilitating Partner for Supporting National Solidarity Program	11
WOMEN EMPOWERMENT: Advocacy for the Prevention of Violence Against Women	12
RESEARCH: Impact Evaluation of Marie Stopes International (MSI) programs in Afghanistan	14
Testimonials	15
IICA Project Completion Report	17
MSI Program Evaluation Completion Report	18
Project Completion Report for IPD Profiling, Monitoring and Evaluation	19

Foreword from the Board of Trustees

I am pleased to announce a strong set of results showing improved performance across our non-profit for positively impacting the lives of targeted population in various parts of Afghanistan. FY2014 has been a year of significant change for Organization for Research and Community Development (ORCD).

We have made substantial and rapid progress and this has established solid foundations for the next phase of our strategic plan.

Board of Trustees Organization for Research and Community Development (ORCD)

Foreword from CEO

With great honor, I would like to state that 2014 was a year in which ORCD kept us its momentum for forward movement toward expansion. Going through numerous challenges, ORCD made sure that the year accomplishments are a success. This is not only a honor and previlage for me but all members of ORCD including its management staff, volunteers and trustees who put in place dedicated efforts, expertise and displayed great enthusiasm for having ORCD emerging as a strong Afghan national NGO in the country firmly linked with its sister organizations in Pakistan, Zimbabwe and in the United States pursuing same mission, vision and strategic goals across the world.

In line with our strategic plan that was adopted in 2012, ORCD kept up its momentum and had its all projects aligned with its mission, vision and strategic objectives. ORCD services ranged spanning from health, nutrition, protection, rural development and women empowerment by integrating innovative approaches aimed at addressing complex needs of communities and individuals in different parts of the country especially in rural areas.

Our projects adopted innovative approaches in their efforts to have refine and diffuse innovative community-based development activities, and replicated the best practices ORCD got in different parts of the country.

The projects implemented by ORCD in 2014 were not only contractual obligations with donors but were also part of a social obligation it has established with the target communities. They were not only achieving deliverables set by donors but were also documenting best practices and learning from beneficiaries so that they could be used for better services provision in future.

The dedicated staff of ORCD both at central and field level as well as the generous support of donors such as UN Women, Japanese International Cooperation Agency for Afghanistan (JICA), United Nations Higher Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), World Food Program (WFP), Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) and Marie Stopes International (MSI) made all these achievements possible. Their generous and professional support proved highly crucial in all accomplishments of ORCD during the year 2014. Let me thank you all for your continued support and invite you to continue joining us in working towards improved access to and provision of development services to the needy people across the country.

Sincerely,

Dr. Qudratullah Nasrat, Chief Executive Organization for Research and Community Development (ORCD) Kabul, Afghanistan info@orcd.org.af

Acronyms

BPHS Basic Package of Health Services
CDC Community Development Councils
CDP Community Development Plan

DRRD Department of Rural Rehabilitation and Development

DoRR Department of Refugees and Repatriation

DOT Directly Observed Therapy

ESRP Economically Stressed Rural Population

EVAW End Violence Against Women

GBV Gender-based Violence

IDP Internally Displaced Population

JICA Japanese International Cooperation Agency

MRRD Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development

MSI Marie Stopes International

NFI Non-food items

NSP National Solidarity Program PMU Provincial Management Unit

WFP World Food Program WAG Women Action Group

List of ORCD Projects in 2014

SN	Assignment name/& brief description of main deliverables/outputs	Client Name
1	Advocacy and Prevention of violence against Women in Ningarhar, Laghman, and Kunar provinces: The project has the following three major outputs: (i) mass media (radio and TVs) are mobilize for awareness through broadcasting radio and TV spots; (ii) training 40 CDC members on relevant topics; (iii) training 400 activities and community members on relevant topics	UN Women
2	Provision of BPHS to IDPs in Ningarhar. The project included: A) Provided of BPHS through mobile health teams in the province B) Focused on communicable diseases including increasing TB detection rate, improving EPI coverage. C) Improved reproductive health services. D) Improved drug management and supplies. E) Improved HMIS data quality.	JICA
3	Evaluation of the Health Services Delivery Program of Marie Stopes International (MSI) in Afghanistan: The evaluation involves the review of documents, in-depth interviews, focus group discussion and quantitative assessment of the MSI programs in Afghanistan	MSI
4	Facilitating Partner for the National Solidarity Program in Paktika province. The project is aimed at establishing 75 community development councils (CDCs) in two districts of Paktika province. in addition, they will be assisted to successfully sub-projects designed by them for the development of their villages	MRRD/WB
5	Strengthening Nutrition of Economically Stressed Rural Population (ESRP) in Paktika Province. As part of this project, a total 30,000 people will receive food items through effective community mobilization in four districts of Paktika province	WFP
6	Profiling, Monitoring and Assistance of IDPs in Ghazni, Logar and Maidan-Wardak Provinces. The project is aimed at identifying vulnerable IDP families which are in need of assistance in terms of health services, education, protection, etc.	UNHCR
7	Distribution of Non-food items and Health Education to displaced population in Paktika. The project delivered assistance to a total 6,000 displaced population in Barmal, Urgun and other districts	UNHCR

Bulleted Accomplishments during 2014

- Consideration by the UN for receiving Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of United Nations which invited the representative of ORCD to attend the 2015 Session of the Committee on NGOs due to be held on January 26-February 03, 2015.
- Successful identification of a total 50 community development councils (CDCs) in Janikhail district and assisting them to elect their representative as part of a transparent election process
- Based on the demonstrated outstanding performance, seeking the confidence of Japanese International Cooperation Agency for Afghanistan (JICA) that extended the project titled 'Provision of anti-TB services to Internally Displaced Population (IDPs) living in seven camps of Nangarhar Province. More than 60 TB cases were detected and treated during 2014
- Getting the privilege of partnership with three major UN agencies which include United Nations Higher Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), UN Women and World Food Program (WFP) following due diligence process and standard capacity assessment by these UN organizations
- Effectively utilizing religious leaders as well as mass media for advocating prevention of violence against women organizing a total six round table discussion sessions through local radio in Laghman, Nangarhar and Kunar provinces.
- Profiling a total 7,408 IDP families with 53,784 individuals in Logar, Maidan-Wardak and Ghazni provinces.
- Assist communities in Paktika to level, terrace, fill and pave a total 325,156 meter road connecting several villages as well as cleanse a total 290,2423 meters kariz and canals in four districts of Paktika province.
- Distribution of a total 1022 Metric ton food and required non-food items including emergency shelters to more than 6,000 families in Barmal and Urgon districts of Pakitka province

HEALTH: Provision of health services to internally displaced population (IDPs) in Nangarhar

During 2014, ORCD continued provision of anti-TB services as part of a contract that was competitively awarded by the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

This project was actually a continuation of the JICA efforts that it initiated in 2012 in the seven IDP camps in Nangarhar Province where approximately 70,000 internally displaced population are settled. The project started in May 2013 with initially set duration of 11 months. However, based on the satisfactory performance of ORCD, JICA extended it until the end of December 2014.

Anti-TB Service Delivery through
Mobile Health Team to Internally
Displaced Population in Ningarhar
Province
به د تنگر هار په و لایت کی داخلی بیدایه شویه
لپاره د کرخنده نیم له لیاری د نری رنخ په
ضد د رو غنیایی خدماتو وراندی کون

House to house visit by the medical officer of mobile health team in Nangarhar

The aim of the project was to Realth team in Nangamar strengthen the provision of TB services through active TB screening and comprehensive case management as per the Direct Observed Therapy (DOT) protocol. The overall objectives of the project was to not only screen IDPs to find TB cases but also to offer required treatment as per the DOTs strategy through the mobile team. Provision of other crucial services as indicated in the BPHS was also part of the scope of this project.

The project was aimed at chiefly TB control and the duration of this project was initially been 11



ORCD sought assistance of the country's most experienced specialists for reading X-rays

months, starting from 01 May 2013 and ending on 31 March 2014.

The main strategy for the provision of health services chiefly focusing on anti-TB services through mobile health team. The project was implemented under the stewardship of the Ministry of Public Health in coordination with other stakeholders especially agencies implementing BPHS and EPHS in Nangarhar Province.

The scope and schedule of the mobile team was determined by the rationale of the establishment

of mobile health teams as enshrined in the MPHS document. Targeting communities, which were scattered and had no immediate access to health facilities (or the nearby centers having no female staff), was a priority intervention site in the scope of the planned mobile team.

According to its scope of work, ORCD ensured that the mobile team was establishing a service delivery point that was visited at least nine (9) times a year as per the mobile package of health services (MPHS) policy.

During 2014 alone, the project was able to detect a total 60 TB cases using state of the art digital X-ray and quality sputum smear examination. In addition, the mobilized team was able to screen more than 500 patients. All TB detected cases underwent treatment as per DOTs protocol and got cured.

PROTECTION: IDP Profiling, Monitoring & Assistance

In partnership with the United Nations Higher Commission for Refugees, ORCD started the implementation of this project on 01 April 2014 after a due diligence bidding and assessment process administered by the assigned teams of UNHCR. The fact that ORCD had strong community-based presence and linkages in these insecure provinces with having required expertise, it was selected as a favorable partner for this project.

The intended objectives of the project were as follow:

- To establish a robust monitoring and early warning system for new and old IDPs
- To conduct IDP profiling by gathering information and sharing them with UNHCR and other partners

The project was aimed provision of protection and basic assistance to IDPs in these three provinces under the oversight of UNHCR Kabul Sub Office. ORCD was able to successfully establish a low-profile but effective presence and implemented a range of protection activities. ORCD assigned field staff conducted monitoring of IDPs and played a crucial role in improving IDP's profiling, and providing assistance to them. Through the effective monitoring, displacement trends were easily detectable and which could enable the partners to avoid them to the most possible extent.

Throughout the project, ORCD verified totally **7,408 families with 53,784 individuals** in these three provinces.

Food Security: Emergency Food Aid Program for vulnerable rural households

Funded by the United Nations World Food Program (WFP), the objective of this project was to alleviate food insecurity in Paktika province as well as to improve the resilience of target communities toward drought and floods in this province. The project was also aimed at provision of food items to the refugees from North Waziristan who fled their homeland and settled in Barmal district of Paktika province.

The project which started in May 2014 and ended on 31 December 2015 was implemented in six districts of Paktika which included Sharana, Matta Khan, Yahyakhail and Yousufkhail. The refugee Urgun, Sarubi and Barmal districts.



District Governor & community elders in one of the districts is cutting ribbon for inaugurating the project

The major achievements of this project are summarized as follow:

- The community volunteered a total 325,156 meters road to be levelled, terraced and filled. This was significantly useful for connecting the villages in Sharana, Matta Khan, Yahyakhail and Yousufkhail districts to be connected to the market through eased transportation.
- The target community volunteered to cleanse a total 290,242 meters *kariz* and canals. This activity helped the inhabitants of the above mentioned districts to easily irrigate their farm lands which were suffering shortage of water due to obstructed canals.
- A total approximately 615 metric ton food items were distributed to workers who were directly involved in roads' paving and kariz cleansing activities.
- A total 1024 MT metric ton (MT) food items were distributed to refugees in Barmal and Urgun districts.



Refugees from North Waziristan in ques receiving food items from the distribution point in Barmal

The Department of Refugees and Repatriation (DoRR) in Paktika Province expressed their highest satisfaction about the activities of ORCD activities in this province for the refugees and displaced population in Barmal, Urgon and other districts. Please find attached the appreciation letter ORCD has received from DoRR in Paktika Province.

PROTECTION: Non-food items & emergency shelters for refugees from North Waziristan



ORCD dedicated field monitors during beneficiary verification in the field

Faced with difficulties in transportation and a lack of relief coordination from the local authorities, thousands of families have opted to leave for bordering provinces in Afghanistan. In 2014, approximately 10,000 families were registered as refugees in Paktika province.

Nearly half a million people have been forced out of North Waziristan Agency by an on-going Pakistani military operation there, including nearly 80,000 that have made their way to Afghanistan, a largely unprecedented movement. For those living close to the border, the journey to Afghanistan takes only a few hours, and refugees reported Afghan authorities were

facilitating their movement by offering supplies. Some even report trucks waiting for them at the border.

It was actually a rare reversal of roles for the neighboring countries —Afghanistan and Pakistan. For most of the last three decades, Afghans have fled conflict in their own country and safety in Pakistan. More than 1.6 million registered Afghan refugees are still residing in Pakistan, down from more than three million in 1988.

For ORCD, provision of services to these refugees was not only an obligation but also an excitement because the families of ORCD's CEO and other founding members have also remained refugees and have gone through the suffering of being refugee-life when they were settled in KachaGarai and Nasir Bagh camps during 1980 to 2001.

As an immediate response, ORCD in partnership with UNHCR started distributing tents and other basic relief items to the most vulnerable, in coordination with the World Food Programme (WFP) which supported ORCD in providing food commodities to be distributed to these refugees on monthly basis. These food commodities included sugar, rice, tea, beans and salt.



ORCD Field Distribution staff managing distribution of food and non-food items to refugees in Barmal

It is assumed that the project will continue during the year 2015 because there is no hope insight that these refugees would return to their homeland soon.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT: Facilitating Partner for Supporting National Solidarity Program

In 2014, ORCD continued facilitating the National Solidarity Program in Paktika Provinc. Initially, ORCD was contracted by the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) for this project after a competitive bidding process to implement this project in Janikhail and Dila District and to assist communities to establish at least 75 Community Development Councils (CDCs). While ORCD and the target communities were able to initiate this program in Janikhail, this was not seemingly easy in the later district due to extreme insecurity. The fact that the success of the project substantially rely on the participation of target communities, program could not be started in 2013 and 2014.



Community mobilizers of ORCD have joint consultation meetings with CDC members

Aimed at rural community development, the overall objective of this project is to facilitate implementation of NSP in the remaining communities of Dila and Janikhel districts of Paktika Provinces for two years through 75 communities (25 in Dila, and 50 in Janikhel Districts). Improvement in local governance, enhanced livelihoods, strengthened local level capacity, and establishing a sense of local ownership are the immediate intended outcomes of this project. In long run, reducing poverty and self-reliance are the ultimate longer term impact of this program.

This project is implemented in collaboration with the provincial authorities with the direct involvement of the target communities under the stewardship of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD). The Department of Rural Rehabilitation (DoRR) regularly oversee and supervise the activities of ORCD to ensure that all agreed deliverables are achieved within the set timeline.

During 2014, the project had the following major accomplishments:

- A total 50 communities were identified which received technical assistance in successfully electing their representatives organized in 50 Community Development Councils (CDCs)
- All 50 CDCs were actively assisted by ORCD field staff to set the priorities for the development of their villages. These priorities were organized into individual Community Development Plans (CDPs) which were accepted by the DoRR.
- A total 450 CDC members were trained on CDC-by-law, Performance Rural Appraisal (PRA) and other relevant topics
- A total 26 CDCs developed their sub-projects for the community's block grant which were duly approved by the DoRR through this Provincial Management Unit (PMU).

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT: Advocacy for the Prevention of Violence Against Women

Funded by UN Women, ORCD started this project in June 2014 with the initial duration of 12 months which will be continued until June 2015.

The overall goal of the project is to advocate for prevention of violence against women and girls at home, in their communities and in disaster and conflict situations in Nangarhar, Laghman and Kunar Provinces.

The specific objectives of this project are: (1) To increase awareness of women/girls on human rights, improve and promote the civil, social, and



rolling out project in ORCD

cultural rights of women/girls; (2) To promote youth and men engagement and establish networking in support of Ending Violence Against Women (EVAW) law, the rights of women/girls and contribute in changing unequal gender norms and practices; (3) To increase access to justice systems and advocate for improved enforcement of laws protecting women against Gender-based Violence (GBV).

The target direct and indirect beneficiaries of this project include: community elders, youth and men; religious leaders, victims of violence, Governmental authorities (including enforcement), NGOs working for women, health staff and women rights activists.

The major activities which were accomplished during 2014 as part of this activity were as follow:

- A total six round table discussions were held through local radio stations in all three provinces. ORCD provincial staff moderated these discussions based on pre-prepared discussion guide where influential people such as religious leaders, elders, officials from the department of women affairs and human rights activities.
- A total two Radio spots with message about ending violence against women were broadcast

from Afghanistan National Television as well as Shamshad Private TV which is widely watched in Eastern Region



Women in Laghman during a group work of a training conducted by ORCD trainers

Women Action Groups -the flagship of ORCD in this project

Establishment of Women Action Groups (WAGs) as part of our project in these provinces are actually considered as flagship of ORCD for this project. These action groups are not only useful in promoting awareness among women about their rights but also effective in solving problems women face through the extensive involvement of their families. ORCD is very proud to present this as a model of replication to other provinces.

Overall, ORCD's role is only facilitating and we want them to be an inherent part of the society in resolving problems of women victims or subject to violence against them. The aim is that even if the project ends, the women action groups would be able to continue their functions. More specifically, ORCD has the following roles with regards to Women Action Groups:

Providing training to the members of these action groups in topics relevant for them

ORGANIZATION FOR RESEARCH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (ORCD)

- Providing technical support in terms of assisting them in planning, and monitoring their activities
- Assisting them to maintain an amicable linkage with the male influential members of the society
- Conducting outreach and visiting these women by our community mobilizers at their homes discussing their problems and assisting them to find solutions for them.



A session of women trained on their rights in Nangarhar Province



A group work during a training for women on their rights, Nangarhar Province



During a round table discussion from a local radio in Laghman Province



Kunar Director of Women Affairs delivering speech during a gathering in Kunar province

RESEARCH: Impact Evaluation of Marie Stopes International (MSI) programs in Afghanistan

Background

Following an open competitive process, the Evaluation Team comprising researchers and evaluators from the Health, Rights and Development group at The University of New South Wales (HEARD@UNSW), Australia, and the Organization for Research and Development (ORCD), Afghanistan were selected.

Key evaluation questions and objectives were identified in advance by Marie Stopes International. The methodology and further refinement of evaluation questions were undertaken by the Evaluation team and submitted to MSI and MSIA for approval.

Ethics approval was obtained from both the University of New South Wales and the Institutional Review Board, Afghanistan. Delays with obtaining local ethics approval limited time available for fieldwork and analysis.

Objectives and overview of methods

The Evaluation drew on mixed methods and included review of available literature (both peer-reviewed and grey literature), review and analysis of secondary data, health facility assessments, and collection of qualitative data through key informant interviews and focus group discussions.

Interviews sought to elicit the perspectives and insights of government officials and policy makers (at national and provincial levels), MSI program managers and advisors, MSIA managers and staff, and province-based NGOs and other stakeholders. Focus Group Discussions were held with MSIA staff and MSIA clients who are all women, who utilise their services.

The Evaluation was undertaken in three provinces – Kabul, Herat and Balkh. Limited information in relation to Faryab, the fourth province in which MSIA operates, was available.

Fieldwork in Afghanistan was undertaken by the ORCD team in collaboration with team members from HEARD@UNSW. The latter also undertook a number of interviews over skype, primarily with MSI program managers and related staff, and donor community members.

The specific objectives of this evaluation included the following:

- 1. Assess the effectiveness (access, equity, quality, and efficiency) and capacity of MSIA
- 2. Determine MSIA's progress and achievements against set objectives
- 3. Determine the overall impact of the project from 2009 to present
- 4. Provide recommendations to inform possible options for how family planning services could continue to be provided in MSIA target areas, and on how current programme activities could be improved to achieve this

The findings of evaluation provided useful insight for the improvement of MSI activities in Afghanistan. MSI Afghanistan and its headquarters in UK expressed their highest satisfaction about ORCD's efforts in conducting this evaluation

Testimonials





ORGANIZATION FOR RESEARCH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (ORCD)



JICA Project Completion Report



Japan International Cooperation Agency

08/02/2015

JICA Afghanistan Office From: JICA

HouseNo.179 Shash Darak Main Road Behind Ministry of Defense Kabul Afghanistan TEL: (+93) 7000-95505 Fax: +873-7634-22573 Email: an_oso_rep@jica.go.jp

Letter No..47.....

To: Whom it may concern!

Certificate of Completion for

Implementation of Mobile TB Clinic Project for Internally Displaced Populations in Nangarhar Province by ORCD

This is to certify that in accordance with the requirement of the contract between the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Organization for Research and Community Development (ORCD), the above mentioned project have been implemented from 1st May, 2013 till 31th December, 2014 in Nangarhar Province and completed according to the condition of contract on 31th December, 2014.

Sincerely Yours,

Mr. Hiroaki Takashima Resident Representative JICA Afghanistan Office



MSI Program Evaluation Completion Report



20th January 2015

Organization for Research and Community Development (ORCD) Afghanistan House #356, Street #4, Projai Taimani, Kabul Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

Re: Impact Evaluation of Marie Stopes International's programme in Afghanistan

Dear Dr. Qudratullah Nasrat and team of ORCD Afghanistan and Anthony Zwi and Jessica Bottfield of the University of New South Wales, Australia.

Please accept this letter as confirmation that MSI and MSIA are satisfied with your input and see it as complete.

On behalf of MSIA and MSI, I would like to sincerely thank you all for conducting such a well-informed, quality evaluation and producing a report which is accessible and clearly identifies areas for programme improvement. We appreciated your professionalism, thoroughness, and perseverance throughout the evaluation process. We look forward to exploring the suggestions posed and implementing these where feasible in conjunction with our team, the Government of Afghanistan and donor partners in order to improve our positive impact and reach in Afghanistan.

Yours Sincerely,

Janna Candy Programme Officer

Marie Stopes International

Providing choices in reproductive healthcare

Marie Stopes International 1 Conway Street Fitzroy Square London W1T 6LP United Kingdom

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United Kingdom

Company No 1102208

Chief Executive Officer Simon Cooke

Project Completion Report for IPD Profiling, Monitoring and Evaluation



Afghanistan Country Office House No. 41 Peace Avenue P.O. Box 3232 Kabul Afghanistan

17 March 2015

Ref: 15/OUT/AFG/PRG/012

Subject: Confirmation of Partnership Agreement

To Whom It May Concern;

Reference is made to the letter # 120 dated 16 March 2015 from Organization for Research and Community Development (ORCD), through which the partner has requested UNHCR to confirm the End-year report the organization was submitting to the Ministry of Economy, Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

UNHCR Country Office in Afghanistan hereby confirms the partnership agreement with ORCD in regards to *Profiling, monitoring and assistance of IDPs in Ghazni, Logar and Maidan Wardak provinces.*

The duration of the partnership agreement is from 15-March-2014 to 31-Dec-2014, with a total budget of USD **151,463.00** (One Hundred and fifty one Thousand Four hundred sixty Three USD), of which USD **151,463.00** has been transferred to the partner in three installments.

The partner reported expenditure of USD 146,475.80 until end of Dec 2014 to this office, the reported expenditure has been verified and the project has been successfully completed. It is to be noted that an amount of unspent balance USD 4,987.20 was refunded back to UNHCR by the partner.

Since

Yumiko

Afghanistan Deputy Representative (Operations)
UN High Commissioner for Refugees

Takashima

ORCD Donors and Partners

