

PRESS RELEASE

United Nations Development Programme

Afghanistan Country Office, Shah Mahmood Ghazi Watt, Kabul



Afghanistan



Japan Contributes US\$ 15 Million to NABDP for DIAG Development Initiative

Kabul, 31 January 2006 - The Government of Japan has contributed \$15 million to fund the activities under the Afghan Government's National Area Based Development Programme (NABDP). These funds will be particularly utilised for community development projects in conjunction with Disbandment of Illegal Armed Groups (DIAG) programme.

In the National Development Framework, the Afghan government commits to an integrated and programmatic approach to building human and social capital. The NABDP, which is executed by MRRD and supported by UNDP, was selected as one of the partner programmes to support implementation of the DIAG Development Initiative. The NABDP aims to promote urgent recovery and longer-term development in priority areas while building the government's capacity to lead and coordinate participatory approaches to development in all provinces.

The Japanese government has been a regular contributor to development projects implemented by UNDP in Afghanistan. Also, the Japanese government acts as a focal point for the Government of Afghanistan and the international community for the DIAG programme, which is a priority programme in the areas of security and sustainable development of Afghanistan.

Japan has donated over US \$91 million to the Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR) Programme, where Japan is the lead nation in its support to the Government of Afghanistan. In addition to this, the Japanese contribution to voter registration, elections and mine clearing projects has totalled over \$22 million in 2004 and 2005.

For more information:

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