

Afghanistan Water Emergency Relief Project (P179311) (TFC1926/TFC1927)
Implementation Support Mission, October 26 – 30, 2025

Technical Note

1. A World Bank (WB) team¹ carried out an Implementation Support mission during the period October 26 – 30, 2025 Water Emergency Relief Project (WERP). The objectives of the mission were to i) conduct a review of the implementation progress of the project, including technical, fiduciary, environmental, social, and gender aspects, and ii) address any potential implementation challenges. The mission also included meetings with members of the Afghanistan Water Platform (AWAP), the AWAP Technical Working Group (AWAP-TWG), and other water sector stakeholder to exchange information and discuss AWAP's progress to date (*list of participants is provided in Annex 3*). In addition, the team carried out a field visit to Badakhshan to see project activities on the ground and interact with beneficiary communities and Implementing agencies.
2. This Technical note summarizes the main mission findings and recommendations from the meetings held on October 26 and 27, 2025, at the World Bank Country Office for Afghanistan with the Project Implementation Units (PIUs) of the Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) and its Project Implementing Entities (PIEs) and the PIU of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). The mission wishes to thank the PIUs of AKF and its Project Implementing Entities (PIEs) including ActionAid Afghanistan (AAA) and Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees (DACAAR), as well as the PIU of UNOPS, for their timely reporting and excellent discussions and for organizing a field visit to Badakhshan to see project activities. As agreed with the PIUs, this Technical Note will be classified as a public document under the World Bank's Access to Information Policy.
3. **Table 1. Key project data**

Key Project Data			
Approval	June 28, 2023	Closing	Dec. 31, 2026
Signing	July 5, 2023	Amount (US\$)	US\$100 M.
Effectiveness	July 5, 2023	Disbursed (US\$)	50.53 million (51%)

Table 2: Project ratings

Project Ratings	June 2025	October 2025
Progress toward Project Development	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory

¹ The mission was composed of: Tesfaye Bekalu (Senior Water Resources Management Specialist, Task Team Leader); Abdul Hamid Quraishi (Senior Energy Specialist, Co-Task Team Leader); Olivier Lavinal (Sr. Social Development Specialist); Mir Ahmad Ahmad (Water Resources Management Specialist); Najumuddin Najum (Agriculture Specialist); Alphonse Emadak (Sr. Environmental Specialist); Mohammad Yasin Noori (Senior Social Development Specialist); Nazia Shuja (Social Development specialist); Faizullah Mohammadi (Environmental Specialist); Rahimullah Wardak (Sr. Procurement Specialist); Muhammad Ishaq Zahwal (Financial Management Analyst); Janardhanan Ramanujam (Operations Officer); Abdullah Sharifi (Consultant); and Mr Sheikh Javed Ahmed (Sr. Irrigation Rural Infrastructure Engineer, FAO-CFIB). Sharon D. C. Faulkner (from Washington DC) and Shamsulhaq Hairan (from Kabul) were supporting the mission.

Overall Implementation Progress	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory
Component 1: Provision of emergency water	Moderately Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Component 2: Improved surface water	Moderately Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Component 3: Technical training and public	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory
Component 4: Implementation support	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory
Project Management	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory
Financial Management	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Procurement	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory
Monitoring and Evaluation	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Environmental and Social Standards	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory

Summary of Implementation Progress and Key Issues

4. The project has made encouraging progress since the last implementation support mission (June 2025) across several areas. Under Component 1, progress was reported in the construction of water supply schemes. To date, 18 water supply schemes have been completed, benefiting more than 19,581 people and creating over 9,771 jobs.
5. Similarly, activities under Component 2 are progressing well, with six Private Energy Services Companies (PESCs) deployed under Energy-as-a-Service (EaaS) model to develop solar-based irrigation systems.
6. Project disbursement has reached US \$ 50.53 million (51% of total funds), and the project remains well positioned to complete all planned activities by the closing (December 31, 2026). Hence the project's overall progress toward achieving its development objectives continues to be rated as Moderately Satisfactory (MS).
7. However, delays in obtaining access letters from the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD), particularly for the monitoring agent, remain a challenge. As field activities accelerate and more schemes enter the construction phase, it is essential that the third-party monitoring teams receive uninterrupted access to project sites. This access is critical to ensure compliance with the principled approach required for all ARTF-supported activities in Afghanistan.

Component 1: Provision of Emergency Water Supply in Identified Rural Areas

8. This component supports the rehabilitation and construction of small and medium-scale, climate-resilient water supply systems across 120 districts in 20 drought-affected provinces. The objective is to improve access to basic water services and enhance household and community resilience to drought and other climate-related risks. The Aga Khan Foundation (AKF-USA) serves as the lead implementing agency for this component and hosts the Project Implementation Unit (PIU). Field activities are carried out by three implementing partners: Aga Khan Foundation - Afghanistan, ActionAid – Afghanistan (AAA), and the Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees (DACAAR).
9. A total of 449 sub-projects has been identified for implementation, including 37 of them for rehabilitation in selected communities. By October 30, 2025, 18 sub-projects have been completed, delivering 1,399 water points that benefit 19,581 rural residents. In addition to feasibility studies and detailed engineering designs, implementation has involved several key steps, including the establishment of 412 Community Representative Groups (CRGs), the development of over 365 Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs), and the completion of various preparatory and compliance activities. Sub-project implementation mainly the construction aspect has also generated 9,771 jobs (1,954 skilled and 7,817 unskilled positions).

10. However, despite the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development's (MRRD) initial commitment to support the project, several administrative processes are taking longer than anticipated. These include delays in the verification of design packages, issuance of commencement letters to contractors, inspection and clearance of materials and equipment, and handover of completed sub-projects to beneficiary communities.
11. The most pressing challenge remains the lack of access letters for the Monitoring Agent (MA), which has halted critical on-the-ground verification activities. Without the monitoring agent's ability to physically and financially monitor project progress, implementation and reporting could be adversely affected. This issue requires urgent management attention to ensure that project monitoring and compliance mechanisms remain effective.

Component 2: Improved Surface Water Irrigation Using Solar Technologies in Selected Rural Areas.

12. This component supports the provision of off-grid solar systems and energy-efficient equipment to improve availability of surface water for irrigation in selected areas. A key principle reaffirmed throughout the mission is that the implementation of this component follows a Learning-by-Doing model, ensuring that institutional capacity, operational experience, and sustainability are built through practical implementation, field iteration, and shared technical problem-solving.
13. The component is piloting the EaaS model by contracting PESCOs to construct, install, and handle the operations and maintenance of solar-powered irrigation pumps and associated equipment and services. As of October 27, 2025, After going through different layered preparation (including sensitization, and training of private companies, call for proposals, short listing and evaluation) under Phase 1, Six Private Energy Services Companies (PESCOs) were selected, and grant support agreements were signed, covering 19 sites across 14 communities, with a total cost of USD 4.8 million and a co-investment of USD 1.3 million from the private companies. The private companies and beneficiary communities represented by community Representative Groups (CRG) have agreed to a 17% agricultural produce as tariffs, and two sites have commenced physical work in the field. In addition, 10 Community Representative Groups (CRGs) have been established, and 28 voluntary land donation agreements have been signed. Under the second call for proposals, an additional 7 PESCOs were selected, covering 10 sites across 8 communities, with a total cost of USD 5.5 million.
14. Construction of 100 check dams along selected surface water courses were planned under WERP, which 30 in Kabul and the remaining 70 within 14 provinces, of which designs for 52 have been completed and 10 are currently under procurement after going through the various review process both by MRRD and UNOPS -IPMG.
15. UNOPS has started analytical work to see the economics of additional batteries to expand the sale of excess energy to communities (for lighting, cold storage, small businesses and other users). There is a growing demand for these additional services to use energy produced when it is not needed for irrigation, but this requires a backup battery for storage. The purpose of the analytics is to see the incremental changes because of the battery and see its impact on cost and subsequent tariffs.

FIDUCIARY COMPLIANCE

Financial Management

16. Both implementing agencies like AKF-USA and UNOPS have maintained adequate FM arrangements, with no overdue audit reports or IUFs, and have made good progress on agreed actions from the last ISM. Key actions include submission of the FY2024 audit report along management letter, rollout of the finance and audit log module in the MIS system, and progress on completion of internal audit and internal control assessments by AKF under Component 1. UNOPS has documented expenditures in Client Connection, submitted the internal audit for the extended period ending Dec 31, 2024, and certified the

FY2024 annual financial statement. Third-party monitoring arrangements (TMPA) for both entities are in place, and monitoring is proceeding as per agreed protocols. Therefore, the FM performance rating is retained as Satisfactory (S) and FM risks as Substantial (S).

17. Both entities report accrued interest in their quarterly IUFs. As of June 30, 2025, total accrued interest income stands at US\$722,320, comprising US\$566,649 under UNOPS and US\$144,671 under AKF. Utilization of this interest in project purposes will be mutually agreed upon between the Bank and the respective agencies.
18. However, the overall disbursement and budget utilization remain low across both entities. Total project disbursement stands at US\$50.53 million (51% of available financing), with actual utilization at US\$23.6 million (24%). UNOPS has disbursed US\$30.6 million and spent US\$13 million, while AKF has disbursed US\$19.93 million with expenditures of US\$10.6 million as of Sep 30, 2025. For FY2025, UNOPS' budget burn rate is 26% (US\$5.15M of US\$19.9M), and AKF's is 13% (US\$6.2M of US\$46.7M). Delays are attributed to strategic implementation of blockages and lengthy coordination and approval processes. Nonetheless, progress has been made in resolving these issues and streamlining the implementation progress with both entities advancing contract awards and projecting additional expenditures of US\$5 million (UNOPS) and US\$13 million (AKF) in the last quarter of FY2025, followed by an accelerated disbursement and utilization pattern in subsequent periods.
19. UNOPS and AKF are revising the FY2026 budget and will share revised budget with the Bank after necessary adjustments. AKF's internal audit for the semester ending June 30, 2025, has been submitted and currently it's under Bank review. Internal control assessments for AKF and PIES by TMPA are in progress, with final reports expected by November 30, 2025. AKF is also working with the Bank and TMPA to resolve a questionable expenditure of US\$60,187 identified during SOE reviews (3, 4, and 5), primarily related to salary costs. The mission noted delays in SOE verification and certification and agreed to convene a tripartite meeting between the Bank, TMPA, and Project PIU/PIES to address bottlenecks. Additionally, Action Aid one of the PIES, has begun filling its recently vacated FM Coordinator position.

Procurement

20. The mission noted that 299 activities are added to the Procurement Plan (PP) by AKF-USA, with contracts signed for 157 and 79 other activities are at various procurement stages. Additionally, the project completed 18 contracts. UNOPS PP includes 127 activities with an estimated cost of USD \$32,232,812. Out of which 61 contracts have been signed, totaling USD \$10,071,313.70, and contractors have received payments of USD \$7,581,005. Additionally, UNOPS procures all the materials for solar irrigation systems. Solar panels, Inverters, Cables, Pumps, Pipes, Valves, Fittings, and Structural steel.
21. However, there is delay in signing the contracts by both the implementing agencies. There are 68 Request for Quotation (RFQ) activities which were planned to be signed by the ISM but there is delay in the signature of the contract. Furthermore, in accordance with the agreed PP, UNOPS had planned to sign contracts for 34 activities during the period; however, contracts were signed for 11 activities. Both the implementing agencies agreed to expedite the procurement and sign contracts for the planned activities by next ISM. Details of the progress is below.

Aga Kahan Foundation (AKF):

22. The PP for AKF-USA includes 299 activities valued at USD 30,007,529. Out of which contracts for 157 activities have been signed. There are 79 other activities that are at various procurement stages.
23. Challenges: The project team faced several issues, including a shortage of procurement experts. The Mission indicated that the bank would not object should DACAAR and AAA wish to hire an additional procurement expert each. The mission reported that DACAAR asked the bank to appoint a new procurement expert. The bank agreed but assigned internal staff rather than hiring externally. DACAAR's

procurement team currently lacks the experience needed for the bank-financed project. As a result, DACAAR must suspend staff payments and report all payments made to procurement personnel so far.

24. The mission observed a delay in uploading data to STEP, which presents a risk and does not show the actual procurement progress under the project. The mission recommends updating STEP with documentation at the same time as actual procurement actions.
25. Procurement training by the Bank: The procurement team from the World Bank conducted training for all PEs procurement and evaluation committee members on bid evaluation and recent changes in the Bank's procurement procedures. A total of 21 staff members from PEs and PIU attended the session.

United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS):

26. UNOPS PP includes 127 activities with an estimated cost of USD \$32,232,812. Out of which 61 contracts have been signed, totaling USD \$10,071,313.70, and contractors have received payments of USD \$7,581,005. Additionally, UNOPS procures all the materials for solar irrigation systems. Solar panels, Inverters, Cables, Pumps, Pipes, Valves, Fittings, and Structural steel. However, in accordance with the agreed PP, UNOPS had planned to sign contracts for 34 activities during the period; however, contracts were signed for only 11 activities.
27. Private sector engagement in project procurement. The mission observed that AKF-USA awarded all 138 project contracts to local suppliers, contractors, and consultants, creating 9,771 jobs and supporting the local economy. The mission encouraged continuing this approach in future procurements.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Environmental Risk Updates

28. The environmental performance under the WERP project has been assessed, and the performance rating under the project remains moderately satisfactory (MS). Both AKF and UNOPS teams have provided updates since the last ISM. In terms of previously agreed actions, Component 1 of the project under AKF has completed all agreed actions. However, for Component 2 under UNOPS, the agreed actions are not yet clear, as they indicated that the required documents and instruments were shared with the Bank through a shared drive. The E&S team, however, has no access to the folder and has requested that the documents be shared via email.
29. E&S Instruments Status: Both implementing agencies have made progress in developing E&S instruments:
 - Key instruments—including the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP), Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), Security Risk Management Plan (SMP), SEA/SH Prevention and Response Action Plan, Grievance Redress Mechanism Manual (GRM), and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)—have been cleared and are functional.
 - To date, 362 Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) have been developed, with 32 more under development. Under Component 2 of the project, a total of 115 sites have been screened (58 irrigation, 57 check dams) since the last ISM, with ongoing monitoring to ensure compliance with ESF standards.
30. Occupational Health and Safety (OHS): OHS risk management is fully integrated into project activities, with issues for workers and communities addressed during E&S screening and mitigation measures adopted according to the ESCP and ESMF. Staff and contractors receive regular training in OHS, fire safety, PPE, and first aid, and compliance is monitored through toolbox safety sessions and on-the-spot inspections.

31. Incident and Security Risk Management: Under Component 1 of the project, two OHS incidents were managed with prompt medical response, transparent reporting, and corrective actions such as refresher training and PPE reinforcement. The Security Risk Management Plan has been updated, and field missions are supported by security awareness training. However, the AKF security specialist position remains vacant, with the environmental specialist currently covering security risk management responsibilities, which does not align with ESCP requirements.
32. Water and Energy-Related Environmental Impacts: A total of 449 sub-projects have been identified, focusing on water infrastructure and green energy for rural development. The E&S assessment checklist for check dams has been recently reviewed, with recommendations to add questions and mitigation measures related to ponded water and altered flow regimes that may impact vegetation and species migration. Waste management protocols, stakeholder consultations, and ongoing monitoring are in place to mitigate water and energy-related risks. It has also been agreed that solar panels should be installed at least 50 meters from riverbanks to prevent flood-related damage, as most rivers do not have riverbank protection measures in the country.

Social Risk Management

33. The social performance rating remains moderately satisfactory (MS). Both implementing agencies (IAs)—UNOPS and AKF—have made some progress in implementing the agreed actions from the previous mission. Environmental and Social (E&S) instruments are in place for each of the subject projects. The IAs have continued to submit Voluntary Land Donations (VLDs) for prior approval. They also reported ongoing efforts to strengthen the capacity of E&S focal points and other relevant entities. However, there are areas highlighted below that require further attention.
34. E&S staffing. Both IAs presented their organizational charts with names and positions. AKF's chart showed that the GRM Officer and Security Specialist roles required by the approved ESCP are vacant. It is recommended that AKF request the Bank's NoL to fill these positions. If AKF's current E&S staff can take on these duties, it should request an ESCP update through an exchange of letters signed by both the World Bank and AKF project representatives, as per the approved ESCP. UNOPS has identified a dedicated GM Officer who will join soon; all other E&S positions required by the ESCP are filled. Each PIE has also appointed E&S focal points and allocated sufficient resources. Both IAs should update their organizational charts to include all E&S staff, including those within each PIE and PESC.
35. Voluntary Land Donations (VLDs). The AKF PIEs—including AKF-A, DACAAR, and AAA—have received prior approval from the World Bank for a total of 738 VLDs: 453 for AKF-A, 152 for DACAAR, and 133 for AAA. These parcels were required for developing springs, installing and laying water pipes, and constructing water reservoirs and water points as part of the project to improve community water access. During the recent mission, it was agreed that AKF will prepare and share a consolidated list of all donated parcels with the World Bank for recordkeeping. Separately, UNOPS has submitted 34 VLDs to the World Bank for prior approval. Of these, 14 have already been approved, as their documentations meet all criteria specified in the VLD guidelines. The remaining 20 cases are currently under review. All land donors will directly benefit from the project through improved access to water infrastructure and related services.
36. Training and Capacity Building. Both IAs have provided training for their staff, CRGs, GRCs, and PESCs. The AKF PIEs trained 412 CRG and GRC members (both male and female), focusing primarily on the GRM procedure and the roles of CRGs. On-the-job training was also conducted for PIEs and contractors. UNOPS offered training to its focal points and PESCs on several topics, including the VLD process, GRM procedures, E&S screening, and ESMP implementation. However, both agencies have identified a need for further training on E&S risk management. To ensure the effectiveness of future training, the mission recommends that, prior to conducting additional sessions, both IAs should conduct a rapid training needs assessment for relevant staff and individuals from PIEs, CRGs, GRCs, and PESCs. This assessment will help

identify specific requirements and strengthen the E&S training modules. Based on the findings, an action plan should then be developed to address gaps in training content and delivery.

37. GRM. AKF has established separate male and female GRCs at 412 sites. The AKF PIEs have received 11 grievances in total: 3 from AKF-A, 2 from DACAAR, and 6 from AAA. The main issues reported were employment (3 cases), land or asset impacts (2 cases), and design concerns, including requests to expand potable water access (6 cases). All grievances have been resolved, resulting in a 100% closure rate. The UNOPS GRM is accessible through multiple channels. Since January 2024, UNOPS has received 107 RFIs, 2 suggestions, and 6 grievances. All 6 grievances have been addressed. However, UNOPS has not specified the types of these grievances. It is recommended that future progress reports to the Bank include details on grievance types. The overall number of reported grievances remains low, likely due to limited beneficiary awareness. Both IAs are encouraged to increase dissemination of GRM information in project areas. A standard GM poster should be designed and displayed on construction site information boards. These boards should also feature other essential E&S information, including information on child labor, CoC, OHS, and SEAH/SH.
38. SEA/SH: the project treats this as a critical compliance area, with mechanisms in place for comprehensive tracking and response. Two SEA/SH-related incidents have been recorded and are currently under investigation. The project emphasizes the importance of robust reporting, investigation procedures, and ongoing training for staff and partners to prevent and address SEA/SH concerns.
39. While significant progress has been made in implementing SEA/SH-related activities under WERP, several key reports and data sets remain pending or require updating and disclosure to the World Bank. Timely submission of these deliverables is essential for continued compliance with Bank requirements and for effective monitoring and support of project outcomes. The next ISM will review progress on these action items and follow up on any outstanding submissions
40. Training on the World Bank's Environmental and Social Incident Response Toolkit (ESIRT) for SEA/SH incidents is planned but has not yet been delivered. The Bank expects this training to be completed by 20th Nov 2025, and this is a key action point for both AKF and UNOPS

Stakeholder engagement and inclusion.

41. Stakeholder Engagement. Stakeholder engagement is an ongoing part of standard operating procedures. Separate meetings are held for males and females, who then share discussion points and may also conduct house-to-house visits. As part of public awareness efforts, AKF has reached 41,316 males and 22,656 females (36%), representing increases of 18% and 25% respectively since June 2025. Both agencies have conducted awareness sessions for beneficiaries and stakeholders to ensure gender-inclusive participation in subproject decision-making. Both organizations plan to expand awareness raising activities, especially for the workforce and beneficiaries, focusing on various E&S topics. The mission recommends that both IAs develop tailored awareness materials—including posters on GRM, child labor, OHS, and working hours—to be displayed on information boards at each project site.

Gender:

42. AKF: the project demonstrates a strong commitment to inclusion, with female participation in decision-making processes highlighted across provinces. Notably, 47% of beneficiaries receiving safe drinking water services are female, with a projected increase to 51%. Female-headed households account for 3.4% of the total, and there is significant female involvement in public awareness activities (12,120 females at the provincial level and 7,422 at the district level). Additionally, 356 out of 1,731 stakeholders trained at provincial and district levels are female, and 12 female interns have been recruited under Component 3.2. Gender inclusion is also integrated into project monitoring and evaluation, with ongoing efforts to disaggregate data by gender and ensure equitable access and participation.

43. A total of 412 CRGs have been formed across implementing agencies: 217 for AKF-A, 147 for DACAAR, and 48 for AAA. AKF confirmed that each CRG now demonstrates gender balance, with equal numbers of male and female members. However, given the access constraints highlighted above, compliance with this ECA could not be independently verified by the TPMA. The next steps for CRGs include ensuring their active engagement in project monitoring and decision-making, providing capacity-building support, establishing clear reporting and feedback mechanisms, and planning for their sustainability beyond the project lifecycle.
44. UNOPS: UNOPS and TPMA agreed final adjustments on the monitoring of the CRG-related ECA which are due to specific activities of CRGs under WERP as compared to CRLP. Three CRGs have been established for irrigation sites with gender-balanced participation. For the five CRGs for check dams, female participation has been challenging. UNOPS is working on an action plan to address the situation and will share the same with the Bank by November 30, 2025. Given the access constraints highlighted above, compliance with this ECA could not be independently verified by the TPMA. UNOPS continues to aim for including women across all types of consultations and will include respective updates and numbers in future updates. 207 women have been consulted for the needs and skills mapping assessments under Component 3 and UNOPS will share the respective template by November 30, 2025, and the assessments as they become available.

Summary of meeting with Afghanistan Water Platform (AWP),

45.

46. The Afghanistan Water Platform (AWAP), established by the World Bank Country Office in Afghanistan and launched in February 2024, is chaired by the World Bank and co-chaired by the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA). AWAP serves as a collaborative platform to enhance coordination and synergy among national and international partners in the water sector. The platform comprises four thematic sub-groups: WaSH, Irrigation, Water Resources Management, and Transboundary Water, chaired by UNICEF, FAO, the World Bank, and UNAMA, respectively. AWAP's overarching goal is to maximize the impact of water-related development and humanitarian assistance in Afghanistan through coordinated investment programming and evidence-based planning.
47. The third AWAP members meeting provided a critical opportunity to review progress, discuss ongoing and planned initiatives, and agree on the next steps to strengthen coordination and collaboration across the water sector. The meeting highlighted the strong collaboration and commitment of all partners towards improving water sector outcomes in Afghanistan. During the meeting, efforts were made to expand the platform's membership to include additional organizations actively engaged in Afghanistan's water sector, which were not previously part of AWAP. These organizations include: AAH, AKAH, CARE, CWS, CWW, GIZ, ICRC, IMC, MEED, NCA, NRC, PU-AMI, REHA, SF, SI, IFRC, NAC, SDC, and WVI. These entities will be integrated into the relevant sub-groups in coordination with the respective co-chairs, further strengthening coordination, inclusivity, and active participation in sub-group activities. In addition to the AWAP members meeting, a meeting with the stakeholders including technical level representatives from ITA ministries of Water and Energy (MEW), Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), and Urban Water Supply and Sewage State-owned Corporation (UWSS-SoC).
48. The meeting reaffirmed AWAP's role as a key platform for harmonizing water sector interventions, promoting collaborative planning, and ensuring that both development and humanitarian efforts are efficiently aligned to achieve maximum impact for communities across Afghanistan.

Annex 1: Agreed action during this mission (October 2025)

No.	Agreed actions	Responsible	Target date
1	Submit updated technical design templates and scheme selection criteria and convene a joint FAO-UNOPS-WB technical working session.	UNOPS	Nov. 30, 2025
	Environmental Risk		
2	Update E&S checklists for check-dam projects to include mitigation for ponded water and habitat fragmentation	UNOPS	Nov. 30, 2025
3	Continuing regular site inspections and staff training on waste management and OHS	AKF	Ongoing
4	Recruit a security specialist for Component 1 to ensure alignment with ESCP	AKF	Jan. 2026
	Social Risk and Gender		
5	Fill the vacant positions as required by the approved ESCP.	AKF	Jan. 30, 2026
6	Share a consolidated list of all VLDs with the World Bank.	AKF	Dec. 31, 2025
7	Assess current E&S training modules to identify gaps and develop action plans to enhance their content and delivery.	AKF and UNOPS	Jan. 15, 2026
8	Provide standardized awareness materials- for project site information boards.	AKF	Dec. 31, 2025
9	Share action plan on female participation in check dam CRGs	UNOPS	Nov. 30, 2025.
10	Share regular updates on inclusion of women in consultation activities in project reporting.	UNOPS	Nov. 30, 2025.
11	Share template for needs and skills assessment	UNOPS	Nov. 30, 2025.
	Financial Management		
12	Submit the revised Annual Budget and Annual Work Plan for FY 2026	AKF & UNOP (PIU)	Nov. 30, 2025
13	Complete the development of the beneficiary expenditure tracking and monitoring module in the UNOPs MIS system	UNOPs (PIU)	Dec. 31, 2025
14	Resolve the outstanding questionable expenditure of US\$ 60,185	AKF (PIU)	Dec. 15, 2025
15	Continue to collaborate with the TMPA to complete the verification and certification of the SOE on a timely manner	AKF-PIU	Continue
16	Fill the Finance Coordinator vacancy under the Action-aid	Action-Aid (AKF-PIU)	Dec. 15, 2025
17	Finalize the interventions and its implementation with regards to the support for O&M PECS tariffs and include the PIM	UNOPs (PIU)	Nov. 30, 2025
	Procurement		
18	Upload all documents and dates to STEP for each activity.	AKF AFG, DACAAR, &	Concurrently
19	Award contracts for the remaining 23 activities	UNOPS	

Annex 2: Results Framework indicator progress (October 30, 2025)

RESULTS

**COUNTRY: Afghanistan
Water Emergency Relief Project**

PDO Indicators by PDO Outcomes

Improve access to safe drinking water in selected rural areas								
Indicator Name	Baseline		Actual (Previous)		Actual (Current)		Closing Period	
	Result	Month/Year	Result	Date	Result	Date	Result	Month/Year
Revise People provided with access to safe drinking water services/of which are females (Number)	0.00	Sep/2022	0.00	17-Jan-2025	19,581	30-Oct.-2025	800,000	Dec/2026
	Comments on achieving targets		The number of beneficiaries receiving access to safe water sources in Component 1. Safe drinking water services is defined as drinking water from an improved source within no more than 30 minutes of roundtrip collection time and is free from fecal and priority chemical contamination.					
Revise Of which female (Number)	0.00		0.00		0.00		400,000	
	Comments on achieving targets		Same as parent indicator.					
Revise Percentage of water sampled that complies with Afghanistan National Standards Authority water quality standards for biological, physical and chemical quality (Percentage)	0.00	Sep/2022	0.00	17-Jan-2025	52	30-Oct.-2025	80.00	Dec/2026
Improve access to irrigation water services in selected rural areas								
Indicator Name	Baseline		Actual (Previous)		Actual (Current)		Closing Period	
	Result	Month/Year	Result	Date	Result	Date	Result	Month/Year
Revise Number of beneficiaries gaining access to irrigation water services/of which are females (Number of people)	0.00	Aug/2023	0	17-Jan-2025	0	30-Oct.-2025	10,000	Dec/2026

Revise Of which are females (Number of people)	0		0		0		1,500	
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Intermediate Results Indicators by Components

Component 1: Provision of emergency water supply in identified rural areas ^{Revised}								
Indicator Name	Baseline		Actual (Previous)		Actual (Current)		Closing Period	
	Result	Month/Year	Result	Date	Result	Date	Result	Month/Year
Revise Number of new constructed and rehabilitated water points and schemes/ networks (HH Connections) (Number)	0.00	Jul/2023	0.00	17-Jan-2025	1,399	30-Oct.-2025	58,510	Dec/2026
Contribution to UN Basic Human Needs Indicator 2.1 (Percentage)	0.00		0.00		0.00		50.00	
	Comments on achieving targets		Contributing to UN Basic Human Needs Indicator 2.1: percent of female beneficiaries reached with basic human needs assistance disaggregated by type of service/sector/ women HH					
Revise Number of latrines constructed at health/schools and public centers (Number)	0.00	Jun/2023	0.00	20-Sep-2024	0.00	30-Oct.-2025	2,073	Dec/2026
	Comments on achieving targets		Number of Latrines constructed at the communities, schools and health services centers. The target is set approximately 80 percent of the value.					
Component 2: Improved surface water irrigation using solar technologies in selected rural areas ^{Revised}								
Indicator Name	Baseline		Actual (Previous)		Actual (Current)		Closing Period	
	Result	Month/Year	Result	Date	Result	Date	Result	Month/Year
New Number of beneficiaries benefiting from improved water resources management (Number)	0	Dec/2024			0	30-Oct.-2025	70,000	Dec/2026
New Of which female (Number)	0	Dec/2024			0	30-Oct.-2025	10,000	Dec/2026
New Number of beneficiaries with access to multi-purpose energy services (Number)	0	Dec/2024			0	30-Oct.-2025	5,000	Dec/2026
New Of which female (Number)	0	Dec/2024			0	30-Oct.-2025	1,000	Dec/2026

Revise Private energy service companies engaged in new operations and maintenance contracts in the water sector in drought-affected regions (Number)	0.00	Dec/2022	1	17-Jan-2025	2	30-Oct.-2025	4.00	Dec/2026
Contribution to UN Basic Human Needs Indicator 3.1 (Percentage)	0.00		0.00		0.00		40.00	
	Comments on achieving targets		Percentage of women led organizations who confirm that they were consulted in developing/implementing/monitoring the basic needs programming.					
Component 3: Technical training and public awareness campaigns ^{Revised}								
Indicator Name	Baseline		Actual (Previous)		Actual (Current)		Closing Period	
	Result	Month/Year	Result	Date	Result	Date	Result	Month/Year
Revise Number of people provided awareness on water conservation and hygiene (Number)	0.00	Dec/2022	27,500	17-Jan-2025	27,500	30-Oct.-2025	204,480.00	Dec/2026
Revise Of which female (Number)	0.00	Dec/2022	9,675	17-Jan-2025	9,675	30-Oct.-2025	102,240.00	Dec/2026
	Comments on achieving targets		Same as parent indicator					
Revise Number of stakeholders, community members, faculty students (interns) and water technical people got awareness and trained (Number)	0.00	Jun/2023	1,197	17-Jan-2025	2,851	30-Oct.-2025	2,400.00	Dec/2026
Component 4: Implementation support ^{Revised}								
Indicator Name	Baseline			Actual (Current)			Closing Period	
	Result	Month/Year		Result	Date		Result	Month/Year
New Percentage of grievances received which are resolved (Percentage)	0	Jul/2023		100	30-Oct.-2025		70	Dec/2026
	Comments on achieving targets		Percentage of grievances received which are addressed timely					

Annex 3: Afghanistan Water Platform (AWP) meeting – List of participants

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