




MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 23, 2016

TO: John F. Sopko
Special Inspector General for
Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR)

FROM: Herbert Smith, USAID/Afghanistan Mission Director 

SUBJECT: Mission Response to Draft SIGAR Review Letter titled
“USAID-Supported Health Facilities in Badakhshan”
(SIGAR 16-XX-SP)

REF: SIGAR Transmittal email dated 06/10/2016

USAID thanks SIGAR for the opportunity to comment on this Review Letter.

USAID welcomes the feedback that the 29 facilities that SIGAR visited provide health services to their local communities in a manner that meets or exceeds the expectation of the community members interviewed. This finding is consistent with the monitoring information we receive from the World Bank and shows that our resources continue to provide effective access to healthcare in even the most remote corners of Afghanistan.

USAID has helped the Afghans receive critical health services over the past decade and is committed to continuing those efforts. The USAID Partnership Contracts for Health (PCH) project, which ended in June 2015, provided support to the Afghan Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) to deliver basic health services to more than one million Afghans every month. The World Bank-administered System Enhancement for Health Action in Transition (SEHAT) program continues this effort.

USAID would like to highlight that the health facility identification numbers provided to SIGAR are not unique USAID identification numbers, they are the Ministry of Public Health's facility identification numbers.

The health facilities in Badakhshan province that were previously funded under the PCH program, including those visited by SIGAR, are now being funded through the World Bank-managed SEHAT program. USAID notes SIGAR's observations that some of these government-owned clinics have maintenance issues. SIGAR's recognition of maintenance concerns have been shared with the MoPH and the World Bank.

cc: U.S. Embassy/Kabul Coordination Directorate