




USAID | AFGHANISTAN

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

MEMORANDUM

March 22, 2017

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

FROM: Herbert Smith, Mission Director 

SUBJECT: Mission Response to Draft SIGAR Review Report titled
“Schools in Balkh Province: Observations From Site Visits
at 26 Schools” (SIGAR SP-115A/SIGAR-17-XX-SP)

REF: SIGAR Transmittal email dated 02/24/2017

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

USAID notes that of the 26 schools visited by SIGAR, two were constructed and 24 were rehabilitated by USAID. Of the 24 rehabilitated schools, 11 were non-structural renovations. Following handover, the Ministry of Education (MoE) became the responsible party to operate and maintain these facilities. Each facility was provided a one-year warranty period to ensure latent defects and/or poor workmanship issues would be identified prior to closing out the contract. USAID had no other ongoing commitments to operate or maintain these schools after the handover.

USAID completed the transition of these schools to MoE by 2006 and is no longer building new schools in Afghanistan. USAID continues working with the Afghan government to build a comprehensive, nationwide education system by training teachers, expanding community-based education, supporting institutions of higher learning, and strengthening the ability of the MoE to deliver high-quality education throughout Afghanistan.

USAID will ensure that the MoE is notified of the data issues identified by SIGAR for further analysis, and follow-up as well on the other issues raised in the SIGAR review report.

cc: Robert Clark, Controller, USAID/Afghanistan
Daniel Wartko, U.S. Embassy/Kabul
OAPA Audit