Project Title and Code: SIGAR LL-02: Lessons Learned from Aid Coordination in Afghanistan

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Interviewees: [Redacted]

SIGAR Attendees: Grant McLeod, Subject Matter Expert / Consultant

Location: Kabul, Afghanistan

Purpose: [Redacted]

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Summary of Key Discussion:

- There are 61 priorities are from London paper Realizing Self-reliance, including short, medium and long term; The refreshed TMAF will include deliverables from the 61 priorities; The donor emphasis for TMAF priorities is different than the government; Realizing Self-reliance indicated that clusters would be revived in relation to NPPs; The NPPs are still alive, but the cluster groups are not meeting; Some NPPs will be eliminated as they are consolidated; MOEC is supposed to lead the consolidation;
- Coordination currently takes place on many levels, most importantly the Technical Working Groups; the Heads of Agencies; 5+3; and JCMB; Effective for the London preparations, but India and China were left out, resulting in India and China working with the government bilaterally; US is good at consensus building;
- The internal coordination of the Afghan government needs improvement; GIROA needs to coordinate neutrally; The line Ministries were confused and not clear on what their role was; NPPs have never been translated; Most clusters were poorly managed; MOEC writes reports, but ANDS is not getting the info; ANDS had responsibility to look at donors; There is no common definition of alignment; Donors were aligning to the NPP level, but not the sub-component or deliverable level; Still go direct to Ministries;
- Since the London Conference, the ANDS and aid coordination has really been with the President's Office; President's Office has initiated a donor portfolio review, but much of the information requested already exists;
- Common incentivization is required so that common conditions exist without the need to meet different conditions from different donors; Donor side accountability needs to be incorporated;

Follow-up:

- [Redacted]