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AFGHANISTAN

BEFORE & AFTER

Recovering Flood Damaged Farmland

Intake and protection wall allow recovery of cropland

Situated at the convergence of the Kabul and Alinghar rivers in Laghman Province, Qarghayi District has enjoyed a long tradition of agricultural productivity, supported by an extensive network of canals. However, decades of war left the canal system in a state of disrepair. Floods quickly eroded the canal walls and farmers in the area lost thousands of hectares of arable land, resulting in a shift to subsistence agriculture and a state of enduring poverty.

In November 2010, USAID's Community Development Program (CDP) embarked on a project to repair 29 critical sections of canals and protection walls. As of March 2011, more than 20km of canal has been repaired, creating short-term employment for more than 2,000 local residents.

In the end, this project will recover more than 2,000 hectares of parched land--enough land to support an additional 4,100 families.



[Photo: USAID/CADG]

BEFORE Flooding destroyed much of the remaining canal system in the Qarghayi District of Laghman Province, leaving farmers unable to channel water from the Kabul River to their own fields.



[Photo: USAID/CADG]

AFTER USAID worked with 2,086 villagers to reconstruct more than 20 kilometers of canals and protection walls, channeling water to more than 2,000 hectares of parched land.