

ILAB TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT TITLE	Building the Capacity of the Afghan Labor Ministry to Increase Knowledge of the Labor Code and Basic Worker Rights
REGION/COUNTRY	Afghanistan
GRANT NUMBER	IL-17821-08-60-K
PROJECT DURATION	October 1, 2008 – March 31, 2010
FUNDING LEVEL	\$650,000 (FY2008)
PROBLEM TO BE ADDRESSED	<p>In 2006, the Government of Afghanistan completed a new labor code for Afghanistan, but Parliament only enacted three of the 42 regulations contained within the code. While the labor code has not yet been passed into law in its entirety, it is provisionally in effect under a stop-gap Presidential decree. The complete labor code is expected to be enacted by the end of 2009. Enforcement of the provisional code is a challenge. Judges are not yet fully aware of the provisions of the new labor law, which has put the labor ministry in a difficult enforcement role during several recent cases alleging violations of the labor code and child labor laws. There is also a need to raise awareness among the general public, including worker and employer organizations and employers and employer organizations of internationally-recognized core labor standards and their rights and responsibilities under the new labor code.</p>
TARGETS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyrs, and Disabled (MoLSAMD)• Judges• Workers• Employers
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	Increased knowledge and awareness of the new labor code and internationally-recognized core labor standards among judges, workers, and employers.
SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluating Afghan labor laws for compliance with internationally-recognized core labor standards and providing recommendations for any labor law reforms, as appropriate.• Assisting MoLSAMD to develop and implement an information dissemination strategy to educate workers and worker organizations and employers and employer organizations on internationally-recognized core labor standards and their rights and responsibilities under the new labor code.• Assisting MoLSAMD to develop and implement a training program for members of the judiciary responsible for enforcing labor laws on internationally-recognized core labor standards and the provisions of the new labor code.
PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS	The Asia Foundation
CONTACT INFORMATION	Office of Trade and Labor Affairs Division of Trade Agreement Administration and Technical Cooperation (202) 693-4900
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