

Activities under ECO Fund for Reconstruction of Afghanistan (2002-2018)

ECO Fund for Reconstruction of Afghanistan:

1. At the 12th Meeting of the Council of Ministers (COM¹) on October 12, 2002 in Turkey, the idea to establish an ECO Fund for Reconstruction of Afghanistan emerged with a view to shouldering the government of Afghanistan in its reconstruction efforts. The idea was further supported by the Heads of the Member States in the 7th ECO Summit Meeting at Istanbul in 2002.
2. Foregoing in view, a Plan of Action (2003-2007) was approved by the 13th COM held on June 11, 2003 at Bishkek in order to devise a mechanism for rationalizing the ECO's efforts towards the infrastructural revival in Afghanistan. The "Modality for the Establishment and Operationalization of ECO Fund for Reconstruction of Afghanistan" were developed by financial experts of the Member States and approved by 14th COM in Dushanbe on September 12, 2004 followed by establishment of the perceived Fund in October 2004.
3. During the 9th ECO Summit and 16th COM Meeting on May 4-5, 2006 in Baku, the Member States expressed receptivity towards the implementation of the framed action plan, reiterating further support to Afghanistan. The 'Plan of Action' was extended by 17th RPC in Tehran on February 19-22, 2007 until the formation of a new line of action in preference with the developmental priorities of Afghanistan.

Financial pledges by the ECO Member States:

4. Total pledges made by the Member States to the formerly established ECO Fund for Reconstruction of Afghanistan stood at US\$ 11.150 million, comprising US\$ 5 million (Pakistan), US\$ 5 million (Turkey), US\$ 1 million (Iran) and US\$ 0.150 million (Azerbaijan).
5. Out of the total committed amount, contributions of US\$ 3,550,000 were materialized including US\$ 2 million by Pakistan, US\$ 1 million by Iran, US\$ 0.4 million by Turkey and US\$ 150,000 by Azerbaijan.

Project Implemented under ECO Fund for Reconstruction of Afghanistan

¹ Paragraph 30 of the 12th COM Report: *"The Ministers supported the establishment of a Special ECO Fund to assist early implementation of the reconstruction projects in Afghanistan keeping in mind the technical and financial capabilities of the member states and priorities of the Afghan government. In this respect, they noted that the Afghan government had identified Transport, Trade, Agriculture, Education, Health and Telecommunications as priority areas."*

6. Subsequent to the establishment of the ECO Fund for Reconstruction of Afghanistan and receipt of contributions, the following four projects were approved by the Council of Permanent Representatives (CPR):

A. Construction of Dehmazang Public Park and Maintenance of Kabul Zoo Project:

The project was completed by the Afghan Construction Company; total budget of the project was US\$ 1.3 Million, about US\$ 1.105 Million was transferred to the contractor and the Secretariat vide its Note Verbale 1027 Dated 27th June 2012 which has been sent to the Afghan Embassy in Tehran marked this project as completed. (Completed)

B. Construction of The Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) Training and Research Center (Block A) Project:

The project was completed by the Kotwal Construction Company; total budget of the project was US\$ 0.6 Million. (Completed)

C. Construction of a 50-Bed Maternity Hospital Project in Faryab Province:

The project was completed by the Kohsar Sharq Construction Company; about US\$ 0.859 Million was paid to the contractor. (Completed)

D. Construction of Naswan Zargaran 8-Classroom School Building Project in Bamian Province:

The project was awarded to the Style Construction Company but yet to be completed, budget of the project was US\$ 0.15 Million and US\$ 35,249 was transferred to the contractor. (25% completed, no progress report received).

~~**E. Reconstruction of Dr. Rafiqi Kamil Urga Sanatorium Hospital of Kabul Medical University:**~~

~~Turkey committed to make direct funding for the project of “Reconstruction of Dr. Rafiqi Kamil Urga Sanatorium Hospital of Kabul Medical University”, costing approximately US\$ 5 million.~~

~~The 236th CPR Meeting held on February 4, 2019 considered and approved the proposed project under the Modalities for the Operation of ECO Fund for Afghanistan as the ECO project to be executed by Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) and directly funded by the Government of Turkey.~~

~~The project’s contract and its latest implementation status, sought by the Secretariat vide Note Verbale No. ADM/AFG/2019/815 dated September 30, 2019, is yet to be received from Turkey.~~

~~The 31st RPC Meeting requested the Republic of Turkey to provide with a detailed information as regards the implementation of the project titled “Reconstruction of Dr. Rafiqi Kamil Urga Sanatorium Hospital of Kabul Medical University. The Republic of Turkey informed the Council that the tender~~

~~document for the Dr. Rafiqi Kamil Urga Maternity Hospital Project has been prepared and an agreement has been reached between TİKA and the Ministry of Higher Education of Afghanistan on the protocol text. The Republic of Turkey also informed the Council that Tender will be made for the project once the protocol has been signed and Turkey will provide detailed information to the ECO Secretariat and relevant authorities of The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.~~

Actions to be followed:

- ~~7. The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan is expected to share the latest status of the Construction of Naswan Zargaran 8-Classroom School Building Project in Bamian Province project.~~