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**AFGHANISTAN WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**



**AWDP/CTTC Jalalabad
2nd Round Graduation Report**

132 Mid-level Job Seekers Receive Training Certificates Including 20 Women

Sunday **August 4th 2013**, 55 (mid-level employees) celebrated their graduation ceremony and received Course Completion Certificates after finishing USAID/AWDP funded training program “Construction Trainings for Mid-Level Workers” in six different occupational areas of construction in Jalalabad, Nangarhar. This was a market demand driven program conducted in Jalalabad by Champion Technical Training Center (CTTC) supported by USAID-Afghanistan Workforce Development Program (AWDP). The project duration is nine months and three construction trade training sessions were held for two months each. This was the third group of graduates trained with AWDP/USAID construction training funding in Jalalabad. Two groups of 55 men and 20 women respectively have been awarded with certificates in six various trade occupations. The number of graduates under AWDP/CTTC training now totals 132 including 20 female painting trainees.

The AWDP/CTTC Placement Program has placed 101 individuals (out of 130 trainees) including 18 women in private and public entities in Jalalabad, and developed a successful partnership with a number of construction companies. To date this program has achieved an average of 95% placement rate as its target. AWDP/CTTC was successful in getting a new woman owned Construction Company started and staffed with 18 women.

“The idea of helping my Afghan sisters came to my mind when I worked ... in Lahore,” says Bakhtanai (Business Owner) “On my return, I was unhappy with the economic and social conditions Afghan women faced. I wanted to help them gain better skills to make them employable.”

Her idea is a reality. As the owner of the year-old painting company, Afghan Karyan, Bakhtanai was asked by Champion Technical Training Center (CTTC) to help design the curriculum to train women to become house painters. This CTTC training initiative is funded through the USAID-supported Afghanistan Workforce Development Program (AWDP), which increases employment and improves private training firms’ curriculum.

With a focus of increasing employment and creating growth and developing additional jobs, key expansion can be completed through this program.



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Guests including heads of construction companies, representatives of governmental directorates and other local NGOs, and INGOs were invited at this event.

Abdurrahman (trainee) opened the program by recitation of verses from The Holly Quran, Dr. Abdul Nasir (CTTC HR Manager & AWDP program POC) introduced the event and welcomed the participants.

Harvey Kidman (CTTC Director of Special Projects) and Mr. Mohammad Zaman Rezai (CTTC General Director) made speeches and encouraged graduates on their successful class completion and benefits of the training and the value of their certificates.

The aim of AWDP/CTTC project is to improve training in construction trades by placing training graduates into private sector employment opportunities in the construction sector, through the issuance of grants to private companies/organizations. Following the training program, graduates will be introduced back to their respective companies with a confirmation of salary increase and/or promotions.