



# German Cooperation with Afghanistan

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## Improving Teaching Quality: 100 Teachers Benefit from Kindergartens at School

**Mazar-e Sharif, Balkh, 11<sup>th</sup> February 2018** – The Afghan-German Cooperation's programme for regional capacity development (RCD) handed over kindergartens to two schools in Balkh's provincial capital Mazar-e Sharif. About 100 schoolteachers can now leave their children at the new facilities during classes. Balkh's Department of Education initiated and implemented the activity to improve teaching quality. The Afghan-German Cooperation financed the facilities' construction at a total cost of about AFN 2.3 million.

Speaking at yesterday's inauguration ceremony, the Department of Education's director, Mr Sebghatullah Mostaqim, said, "Our teachers will have more concentration when teaching, because their children will, thanks to the the Afghan-German Cooperation, be in a very good environment (in new kindergarten)".

Many teachers at the Mir Wali and Gowhershah Begum schools have small children. In the past, they had to leave them at home when going to work. That made it difficult for the teachers to concentrate on their classes, impairing teaching quality. Addressing this issue has been a priority of Balkh's Department of Education.

One of the teachers remarked, "the new kindergarten reminds me of the times when I used to be in class but thinking about my baby at home. In future, I can fully concentrate on teaching my students".

The construction works started four months ago. The facilities offer two rooms, one kitchen, and a toilet. They are further equipped with furniture and games suitable for children. The staff will take care of about 180 children. Now, the schoolteachers can do their work with a peace of mind and less absences, improving education quality for the students.

*On behalf of the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit implements the Regional Capacity Development (RCD) programme since 2010. RCD aims at enabling Afghan provincial and district administrations to carry out administrative tasks independently and to provide public services adequately. Thus, so far, RCD has organised more than 730 professional or job-specific training courses for almost 39,000 public servants, government employees and provincial council members. To increase the population's trust in local administration bodies, the project has also organised 345 public awareness events on local government activities that benefitted an approximate 50,000 citizens.*