



## Road Update

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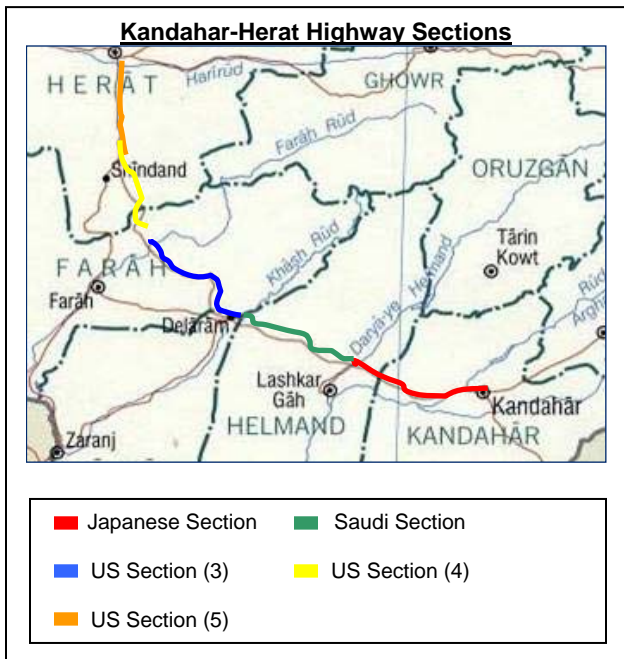
### KANDAHAR-HERAT HIGHWAY

The Kandahar-Herat Highway stretches 557 km linking southern and western Afghanistan. This highway is part of a larger road network, the “Ring Road,” that is critical to developing Afghanistan’s economy. Japan is contributing to 116km of Section 1, and Saudi Arabia is responsible for 115 km of Section 2. USAID funds construction on 326 km of the highway for Sections 3, 4, and 5 and the security, de-mining, design, and construction management of the Saudi section.

### PROGRESS TO DATE

As of January 2007, **Sections 2, 3, 4, and 5** comprising 441 kilometers of the Kandahar-Herat Highway are complete and the road is open to traffic. The final 400m bridge at the entrance to Herat was completed in January 2007.

Work on **Section 1** (km 0- 116) was stalled due to security concerns. Construction of 49km of this section started again in January 2007, under a new contract. Construction of the remaining 65km will begin at end of March 2007, and all road work of the Kandahar-Herat Highway will conclude by the end of 2008, as stipulated in the Afghan Compact.



### SOUTHERN STRATEGY ROADS

In the summer of 2006, a new dimension was added to the roads construction strategy: connecting district capitals in the southern provinces with their province capitals and those capitals with the Ring Road.

USAID will initially focus on the construction of three roads: Kandahar to Bikah (Segment 1), Shinkay to Bikah (Segment 2), and Spin Boldak to Bikah (Segment 3). UNOPS is responsible for construction of Segments 1 and 2 whereas U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for construction of Segment 3. Each of the 3 District Centers of Shinkay, Shamulzayi and Atghar will receive about 2kms of paved roads. Segment 3 is all gravel.

### PROGRESS TO DATE

**1. Segment 1 (94km asphalt)** – Construction started November 2007 with 7 kilometers of paving has been completed to date.

**2. Segment 2 (64km of which 58 km are gravel and 6kms of paved within the District Centers)** – The design package for the construction of Shinkay District Center Road and the link to Shinkay village has been completed. Construction is delayed due to a washout a bridge on the Qalat-Shinkay road that is preventing construction equipment and materials to reach Shinkay.

**3. Segment 3 (68km)** – This section is under design and demining is underway. AED now predicts the award date for the construction contract as Jun 7, 2007.





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USAID employs Afghans in road reconstruction to develop their technical skills. Training of Afghans is a principal component of development and reconstruction assistance. During this period, over 80 percent of the project's employees were Afghan nationals

### PROVINCIAL ROADS HIGHLIGHTS

*Security conditions continue to threaten work.*

**Kabul-Gardez Road (125 km)** – Completed September 2006.

**Pul-e Alam to Ring Road (35 km)** – Completed May 2006.

**Jalalabad-Asmar Road (124 km)** – The Jalalabad-Asmar road is well on its way to completion. The first 51kms of the road have been completed and paved. The estimated completion date is April 2007. 101km of first layer of DBST surfacing completed; 51km of the 2<sup>nd</sup> layer complete. All stone masonry work complete.



*Pul e Alam Road, Logar, 2006.*

**Panjshir Road (70 km)**–The Panjshir road was issued a Substantial Completion (SC) Certificate in January 2007. Once a road is issued the SC certificate, it is considered to be complete. The contractor is carrying out repairs to DBST surface treatment and slope protection works. The second layer of DBST will be completed as soon as temperatures permit.

**Farah-Ring Road (70 km)**–Completed June 2006.

**Lashkar Gah-Ring Road (49 km)**–Completed June 2006.

**Ghazni-Sharan Road (57.5 km)**–Completed November 2006.

### Guide for the Non-Road Engineers: Construction Flow

