



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**AFGHANISTAN**

Date: March 2011

Public Information Office: +93-(0)70-234-236 x4454

E-mail: [kabulusaidinformation@usaid.gov](mailto:kabulusaidinformation@usaid.gov)

<http://afghanistan.usaid.gov>

# FACT SHEET

## Partnership for Advancing Community-Based Education in Afghanistan (PACE-A)

### OVERVIEW

After years of civil strife many children have not had the opportunity to receive primary grade education, and today the Ministry of Education (MoE) has yet to provide these services in all corners of Afghanistan. The MoE has established schools in all provinces of the country; however full coverage has not been achieved in remote areas or villages in impassable terrain. Thus, expanding coverage to these underserved communities is a top development priority for the government of Afghanistan.

The USAID's Partnership for Advancing Community Based Education in Afghanistan (PACE-A) project expands access to quality learning in community based schools, particularly for girls and women, where MoE schools are not available. PACE-A assists the MoE in its endeavor to strengthen the national formal educational system. The project also supports adult literacy, accelerated learning, and early childhood activities in response to community demand and as a way to strengthen community commitment to educational objectives.

### CURRENT ACTIVITIES

- Expand access to education to underserved areas by working in 1,700 communities across 97 districts in 19 provinces, serving approximately 44,000 students in primary-grade, community-based classes each year
- Increase levels of female participation in education and the community by enrolling girls and involving women in school management activities
- Increase the literacy level of the Afghan population
- Foster community empowerment which leads to project sustainability, e.g. by charging communities with recruiting and compensating local teachers
- Enhance democratic practices through community participation in the education process, e.g. by establishing and training school management committees to manage education activities in their villages

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Established more than 3,000 primary grade classes serving about 85,000 students (63 percent female)
- Established 112 accelerated learning classes serving more than 2,500 students (97 percent female)
- Established 536 adult literacy classes serving about 13,000 students (93 percent female)
- Established 170 early childhood development classes serving 2,800 students (55 percent female)
- Trained 4,150 teachers (36 percent female)
- Formed approximately 1,900 school management committees (37 percent of members are female)