



PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Robert Sauers

Phone: +93 (0) 794 858 501

Email: rsauers@usaid.gov

New Facilities Will Improve Quality of Education at Hirat University

HIRAT, AFGHANISTAN | JUNE 19, 2011 — Today, U.S. and Afghan government officials joined Hirat University faculty and students to celebrate the opening of the USAID-funded digital library, computer laboratory, and new architectural studio.

To expand the university's engineering curriculum, USAID sponsored seventeen Hirat University engineering faculty members who completed graduate programs at the University of Hartford. The professors have subsequently founded an architecture program and updated the university's civil engineering undergraduate curriculum. In order to assist the professors in these endeavors, USAID provided additional funding to refurbish the digital library, computer lab, and architectural studio.

Addressing the faculty and students at Hirat University, U.S. Ambassador Karl W. Eikenberry said, "As I look out at you now, I see the future of Afghanistan in front of me. I believe that together we can create a prosperous and peaceful future for Afghanistan, one that has immense opportunities for your generation and those that follow. The United States will not walk away from Afghanistan. We will not walk away from this region. We have now forged a partnership that is enduring."

USAID will continue to support capacity-building for Afghan institutions in numerous faculties, including engineering.

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