



From  
the People of Japan

**CASE STUDY**

**Community Road Project Ends Historical Hostility in Nahri Shahi District, Balkh**

*Written by: Engineer Gholam Sakhi "AKHGER"*

A total of 3,150 families in Adalat cluster community live 15km away from South West of Nahri Shahi District in Balkh Province. This cluster CDC comprises of 5 multi-ethnic CDCs:

Qizilabad CDC with 300 families (Hazara), Qala Qolmohammad CDC with 400 families (Tajik), Gormar CDC with 600 families (Pashtun), Kamp-sakhi CDC with 850 families (Hazara), and Aliabad CDC with 1,000 families (Hazara). Majority of this cluster community residents are poor farmers working in their farms, and returnees. For many years, they have been suffering from isolation and poor services such as the lack good road networks.

UN-HABITAT, with support from the Government of Japan, started the *Peace-Building in Afghanistan through Consolidation of Community Solidarity* (PACCS) project in March 2010 in Balkh province.

During initial community action planning process for the cluster CDC, Gormar didn't show its interest to attend because they had a historical a conflict with Qizilabad CDC.

*- During the Taliban attack around 80 Pashtun and Hazara people of Gormar were killed -*

Since then, relationships between these CDCs have been bad. They distrusted each other, and did not travel into each



others' villages. After a series of convincing efforts and influence from neighborhoods, they agreed to participate in the planning process for the PACCS project. The cluster CDCs selected Mr. Safdar Hazara (Chairperson), Mr. Qahar Tajik (Assistant), Mr. Qasim Pashton (Cashier) and other members through a democratic decision-making process. They selected *Adalat Community Road Project* as their top priority. The key outputs of the project are construction of 20 culverts, side ditch excavation of 8km and road gravelling of 12km.

As a result of successful completion of the project, the area has become more accessible and safer. About 3,000 person day worth of job were created which provided community members with the much needed employment.



Stability and peace now prevail in the 6 CDCs particularly between Qizilabad and Gormar villages who put behind their 13 years of conflict. Their relationship has become very good now, they are familiar with each other, and they can go to their neighborhood villages anytime.



*Photo of Mr. Safdar (Qizilabad) and Mr. Qasim (Gormar)*