A photo exhibition focusing on Afghanistan’s history and specifically aimed at schools throughout the country has opened in Kabul.

The exhibition, “Afghanistan in Ancient Pictures”, was co-funded by the Swiss Government at the initiative of Paul Bucherer-Dietschi, Founder and Director of the Swiss Afghanistan Institute. The opening took place at Amani High School in Kabul on Wednesday, July 14, 2010 in the presence of H.E. Ghulam Farooq Wardak, the Minister of Education, and H.E. Werner Hans Lauk, the German Ambassador in Kabul.

In his opening speech, H.E. Farooq Wardak, the Minister of Education, said: “History is one of those subjects that do not benefit from adequate learning materials for students to understand it easily. The photo exhibition will help teach them the wealth of our values and the history of Afghanistan through pictures.”

The opening of the photo exhibition was also attended by officials from the Ministry of Education, school teachers and students, and representatives of the international community, including Switzerland, Germany, India and Iran, among others.

The exhibition was sponsored by the governments of Germany, Switzerland and Liechtenstein, the Lottery Funds of Canton Basel-Landschaft, Alakozay Tea and the Swiss Afghanistan Institute. The Ministry of Education is in charge of taking the photo exhibition on tour at schools throughout the country.

A book entitled Black and White funded by the Government of Liechtenstein and with a wide variety of pictures highlighting the history of Afghanistan and promoting the same goal as that of the exhibition, was launched at the same time. The book, which has a print run of 10000 copies in the Dari and Pashto languages and was compiled by Mohammad Naeem Qudrat, will be distributed to libraries throughout Afghanistan.

The exhibition is comprised of a set of five wooden towers, each displaying about 60-80 photos in various sizes. Each province will receive at least two sets of towers for photo exhibits aimed at students. The exhibition has photos ranging from 1747 to 1973.
Habiba Surabi: Bamyan should become a model for other provinces

Bamyan, located in the central highlands of Afghanistan, is viewed as one of the most secure provinces in Afghanistan. For this issue of our newsletter, we have interviewed Habiba Surabi, Governor of Bamyan and the only woman governor in the history of Afghanistan. A discussion about the progress of development in Bamyan and the challenges this province is facing:

Are you satisfied with the development work carried out so far in Bamyan?

So far, development work in Bamyan has generally been effective. Over the past three years, we have recorded sound progress and improvements in education, such as enrolment of 120,000 students in schools, and of these 43% are girls. As for health, one provincial hospital, three district hospitals, and over 60 health facilities have been established. We have also made significant improvements in rural development and infrastructure. The road construction work that started two years ago gives us a hope for a promising future. The road from the center of Bamyan to Yakawolang and the only national park of Afghanistan, Band-e-Amir, is under construction. Construction of the road from Bamyan to Parwan through Ghorband district and also the road from Bamyan to Doshi are under way. The Shaher-e-now (new city) city plan is also one of our most important projects. Despite all this, in no way can we say they are enough for the province. We need more infrastructure projects. For the Shaher-e-now, we need paved roads, a transportation system, clean water supply and electric power, which are a city’s basic and primary services.

What are the challenges in developing Bamyan?

The main challenges are still human resource capacity building. For instance, if we want to prepare a project proposal, we need technical and professional people to draft the documents. We need professional human resources for building water dams, a power system, and roads. The second challenge is convincing donors. The international community focuses less on the provinces that enjoy good security conditions like Bamyan. Furthermore, as security is one of the main priorities for the government and international community, they focus more on provinces that have security challenges, to improve security conditions there.

What do you think of the projects funded by SDC?

I would like to clearly state that we appreciate every penny spent for the people of Bamyan and each project, even a small-scale one, is of high value and is acknowledged by the people of Bamyan. Through Helvetas, SDC supports various agricultural and infrastructure activities, including the management of the watersheds located in Kahmard district.

As Bamyan has an economy based on agriculture, this project is very important for this province. The Swiss House of Science provides considerable support to the University of Bamyan for capacity building as well as organizing academic and cultural events. The House of Science is not only useful to the university but also to the local government and people of Bamyan.

What is your view regarding the new project, Sustainable Land Management Institute (SLMI), funded by SDC?

The Institute will be established by Helvetas with the cooperation of the Agriculture Department and University of Bamyan. The project includes management of watersheds and other agricultural areas, which really helps to prevent runoff from Bamyan’s natural waterways. The project is also very useful for greening Bamyan and for the research conducted by the Faculty of Agriculture. This project has been designed in close collaboration with the local government in Bamyan and we really appreciate it.

Is there any plan for the promotion of tourism in Bamyan?

Bamyan province has a lot of capacity for promoting the tourism sector. It is not only a historical province it also has beautiful scenery. Luckily we were able to start a project with funds from New Zealand Aid and which is being implemented by the Aga Khan Foundation. The aim of the project is to promote eco-tourism in Bamyan in order to give the local population, not only investors, the chance to benefit from it.

What is your request from the international community?

Since Bamyan is a peaceful province, my request is that it become a model for other provinces so that they can also try to build up the economy and security of their provinces and, as a result, be rewarded or become a model. If the international community works a lot in provinces that are not safe, however, they might get a wrong perception and it might be a negative reward for them. It might also persuade others to create problems in their provinces in order to get more funds and attention from the central government and the international community.

About us:
The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) is Switzerland’s international cooperation agency within the Swiss Foreign Ministry. The Government of Switzerland established the Swiss Cooperation Office Afghanistan in 2002 with a view of supporting the processes of political stabilization and reconstruction of the war torn country. Today, the Swiss Cooperation Office Afghanistan is running and supervising a broad development and humanitarian program.

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نمايشگاه عکاسی "افغانستان در تصاویر کهن" در کابی گشاپش یافت

نمايشگاه عکاسی "افغانستان در تصاویر کهن" به هدف شناسایی تاریخ افغانستان به شاگردان مکاتب در سراسر کشور، بیان 14 جوئی 2010 در کابی گشاپش یافت.

این نمايشگاه به انتکاب پایان بیمارسی قبیله، بیانی گذار و رئیس استینیوت سوئیس-افغانستان بوده و با مساعدت مشترک دولت سوئیس و افغانستان به راه ادامه شده است. در مراسم گشایش این نمايشگاه گاجامب دانک فاروک وزیر معارف و وزیر هنر لارک سفیر کشور آلمان در کابل، اشراف داشتند.

نمايشگاه دانک فاروک وزیر معارف در مراسم گشایش این نمايشگاه گفت: "تاریخ از جمله مضمونی است که می‌توانی کافی ندارد تا شاگردان بتوانند آنرا به آسانی بیاموزند. این نمايشگاه عکاسی کمک می‌نماید تا ارزش های ما را عینی تاریخ افغانستان از طریق تصاویر به شاگردان کردیس کرد.

در مراسم گشایش این نمايشگاه سویسیون و متسویین وارت معارف، تقدیم از معلمان و شاگردان مکاتب، نمایندگان جامعه جهانی بیمه، کشور سوئیس، آلمان، ایران و هندوستان در جمع سایر مهمانان اشراف داشتند.

این نمايشگاه در پنجم گردی دری و در گردی گردیده است که هر بیور که ۶۰ تصویر در سایر های مختلف می‌باشد.

در ولایت افغانستان دو مجمع این نمايشگاه را جهت مکاتب به دست می‌آورد. عکس های این نمايشگاه سالهای ۱۷۴۷ تا ۱۹۷۴ را تحت پوشش قرار داده است.
حریه سرایی: بامانی پایه نموده باشد برای سایر ولايات

بامانی که در مرکز افغانستان قرار دارد از جمله ولايات باین، فراه، تخار، پهلوانی و پنگین ولی زند به ترتیب در مرکز افغانستان انجام داده است. از روش‌های جدیدی که برای پیشگیری از واگذاری و سهمیه‌گذاری در حالی است که هر دو چنین مسئولیتی در این مورد به همسر شایانی و نه به رئیس بامانی و نه به رئیس و فرمانداری و نه به رهبری و نه به رئیس جمهوری و نه به رئیس‌جمهوری و نه به رئیس‌جمهور، دقتی نه گرفته است.

آیا پیشگیری‌های که تاکنون در ولايت بامانی صورت گرفته است مورد

بحث نشده است؟

کارهایی که تاکنون در ولايت بامانی صورت گرفته است مجموعه قبیل

ویژه‌ی بوده است. در جریان سال‌گذشته که برخی از جهات و ورزش و

بنابراین بدحال به یکی از این موضوعات که در میان برخی از یکی از مسئولان

هوشمندی است. پیشگیری‌هایی که در محافزونه و تحقیق در این مورد

از این است که نباید تحقیق در این مورد

برزه نشود. در حالی است که هر چیزی که در این مورد

به شیوه‌های مختلفی در این مورد

نظر به آن گرفته است.