

Rebuilding The Roads of Afghanistan



Photo: USAID/Jennifer Lindsey

“Now my children can walk safely and easily to school. The cars move faster and the drive is smoother. Now it’s much easier for me to take my fruit and vegetables to the market. This paved road is very good.”

- Sultan Mohammad and his six children, walking along the road from their village of Andar to attend a wedding in Shahkabal, Wardak Province.

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has completed Phase I paving completion of the 389-kilometer (243 miles) Kabul to Kandahar highway - this portion of the so-called Ring Road links Afghanistan's two largest cities, Kandahar and Herat to Kabul. The road suffered considerable deterioration and destruction during nearly two-and-a-half decades of civil war and from lack of infrastructure investment. The road was originally constructed in the 1950's during the Eisenhower Administration.

In total, more than 1,000 kilometers of rural roads have been rehabilitated or constructed in Afghanistan through USAID support. Rehabilitation of the road is expected to lead to increased access to clinics, hospitals, schools and markets, and provide farmers with greater opportunities to move their products to market. To date, the project has employed over 2,000 Afghan construction personnel.

For more information, please visit www.usaid.gov.

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