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AFGHANISTAN

SNAPSHOT

An initiative to fight against corruption in Bamyán

The ACEP Advocacy Committee's initiatives against corruption in Bamyán, caused dismissal of six attorneys in Bamyán Provincial Attorney Office.



Advocacy Committee members meeting Justice Department officials in Bamyán province

Advocacy Committee was successful in identifying corruption cases and advocating for justice.

Afghanistan has gone through many challenges in the past decades. While it had experienced socio-economic and political destructions during the wars, it has been enjoying international community's supports in economic development, education, health and rebuilding of infrastructure. The support of international community provided social-economic opportunities by creating and establishing a conducive environment in order to move the country towards developments, prosperity and self-reliance.

Although resources and efforts are invested to fight corruption nationwide, unfortunately very little has been achieved. In fact, initiatives cannot be effective unless a mechanism of reward and punishments is in place. A society cannot eliminate threats without raising the awareness of its citizens and provide them with opportunities. To tackle the existing challenges in the society's fight against corruption, USAID through its Afghan Civic Engagement program (ACEP) established an Advocacy Committee in Bamyán province.

The advocacy committee is comprised of CSOs representatives, government officials, partner development agencies, provincial council, journalist and influential community leaders. The committee's main aim is to fight corruption and hold government institutions in Bamyán province accountable in their service delivery to the community.

Based on strong evidences and a thorough research, the committee identified several major cases of corruption in the Provincial Attorney's Office of Bamyán province. The committee reported its findings along with evidence to the governor of the province and the Legal Advisor of the Afghan President.

As a result, the governor of Bamyán province suspended duties of six provincial attorneys and referred them to the prosecution authorities.

This particularly work of the advocacy committee helped to reduce corruption in Bamyán province; and improve the relation between citizens and provincial government.