



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

AFGHANISTAN

SUCCESS STORY

Awareness Raising at the Community Reduces Child Labor and Enhance Literacy.

With the Awareness About Dangers of Children Working in Mines, Elders of Qubi Village Pledge that Their Children Will Not Work at Coal Mines.



HRRAC AMANAT PROJECT

Zarb Ali, a local leader speaks about why their children worked on mines and not going to school. Samangan Province.

“If it were not for HRRAC’s awareness raising programs, we would have been unaware of the consequences of children working in coal mines and not going to school”

Zarb Ali, a local elder from Qubi village in Afghanistan’s Samangan Province states that the residents of Dara-e-Suf District are largely poor people and mostly remained unaware of the benefits of schools. They preferred to employ their children to work in mines with them so they can help their families in earning bread and livelihood.

By participating in HRRAC’s awareness raising sessions, funded through USAID’s AMANAT program, we now know that the children are not meant to work in mines, but rather go to school. But there are no schools for boys, let alone girls, in the nearby vicinity. Understanding the importance of the schools and education of the children, but unaware of the formal process. The local elders requested HRRAC to help them process their application for approving a school in their village. HRRAC helped us in drafting the application, then shared the application with the concerned government departments. The application is under process and we are hopeful that inshallah the government will approve a school for boys and girls to our deserving community. All community members pledge that they would not send their children to work in mines, but rather send them to school for their better future. This would help in eradication of child labor to a great deal and underage mine workers will reduce significantly.

More than 300 local community members, and 3 local CBOs have been trained to act as watch dogs in their communities and report any case of irregularity, and corruption in the extractive sector. This has raised the awareness level of the communities to a great extent and the communities now demand fair distribution of mine revenues.