

# WORKING GROUP III

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

Chairmen: Dr David Dichter and Mr. Mian Zakyullah

# Members of Working Group III

## Members:

- Engr. Taj Muhammad Afridi (FATA),
- Dr Bashir Ahamd (FATA)
- Dr. M Ishfaq Khan (Bannu)
- Faisal Shahzad (Swat)
- Engr. Khurram Shahzad (Sarhad University)
- Zahoor Ahmad (Ministry of Education)
- Bakht Muhammd (Dargai)
- Prof. Dr. Galal Hassan (Director, Desert Research Institute, Cairo, Egypt)
- Mr Arjun Kumar Thapa (Under Secretary, Government of Nepal, Environmental Protection)
- Tufail Ahmad (Red Crescent)
- William Kilby (USDA)
- Wajid Ali (NCEG)

# Introduction

- The members of Working Group III express the desirability of engaging the Pashtun tribal men from the “Demonstration Area” in a series of labor-intensive work programs. Their activities would be principally aimed at improving watershed management and land rehabilitation conditions in the region, although they might become involved in other worthwhile efforts including the construction of farm-to-market roads and other useful endeavors. The Pashtun tribesmen participating in these work activities would either be self-selected and/or be recommended by the leaders and elders of the communities they belong to.

# Recommendations:

- It is recommended that cash be offered for labor rather than an in-kind contribution such as food.
- The Pashtuns taking part in this program would be organized in separate working groups so that their progress could be compared and measured.
- Each group shall have a maximum of ten members, led by a team leader (supervisor).
- The workers shall be paid according to their skills (supervisor to decide about the skill level of the individuals):
- The unskilled laborer shall be paid a maximum of Rs 350 for his efforts.
- The skilled laborer however shall be paid Rs 600.

# Recommendations:

- The supervisor shall be paid Rs 800.
- Work time shall not exceed 6 hours / day.
- Age limit for the workers shall be 18-55.
- The ratio of the working groups and the overseers shall be 1:10.
- Work should be carried out within 5-8 km of their village.
- It is estimated two months time would be allocated for the completion of each work activity.

# Recommendations:

- Each work activity to be undertaken shall be discussed in advance with key members of the community and these negotiations are not expected to exceed more than 2 weeks.
- The community shall be responsible for the selection of the supervisor. Various social institutions like hujra, mosque (jummat) and jirga can be used as the focal point for forming such community groups. Most members in Working Group III felt that other Community Based Organizations would not be recommended.
- The supervisor shall be responsible for separating an individual from the community working groups if necessary.
- The project secretariat shall have an MOU with a community representative, which again shall be assigned by the community themselves.
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- Also recommended by members of Working Group III is that environmental awareness become an important part of any training conducted including educating the people about the project and addressing their reservations if any.
- If at all possible the project shall also involve educated individuals belonging to the area.

# Recommendations:

- It is recommended that selected individuals from Gomal University, Dera Ismail Khan and other Agricultural experts from the immediate area of Tank (DA) shall be involved as working partners.
- All the activities shall start with disadvantaged / less privileged sections of the community.
- It was agreed that the consensus of the community people is very important for carrying out any project activities in the area and therefore, they shall be consulted before any work is undertaken.
- Local plant species like *Capparus Aphylla*, *Acacia sp.*, and other species like *Melia Azaderacht*, *Alianthes sp.* *Delbargia sissoo*, *poplar*, *salix sp.*, shall be cultivated to increase canopy cover and shrubs, herbs, forbs and grasses for increasing ground cover.

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Thank you