

EITI conducts a three days workshop in Kabul

Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) a global standards has been implemented in Afghanistan since February 2010. AEITI Afghanistan has established formal Multi-Stakeholder Group which consists of Government Representatives, Civil Society members and private sector representatives. Currently the total number of the MSG is around 30 people. To build the capacity of the Multi-stakeholders Group (MSG) Members in Transparency of Extractive Industries, AEITI Afghanistan with the technical and financial support of the World Bank conducted a three days workshop on 28-30.2011 in the ministry of Finance (*Training on EITI Report Analysis, Communication and Validation for EITI stakeholders in Afghanistan*).



To get advantage of the experience of the countries that have already implemented the EITI and are now compliant, two trainers from Kyrgyz Republic and Mongolia were invited to the Workshop. They joined the workshop and share their valuable experiences in their contexts with the participants. Mr. Anwar Rawat and Ehsanullah Shamsi from World Bank shared its broader and Global knowledge of EITI with the participants.

Figure 1 Kyrgyz and Mongolian Speakers



Figure 2 Mongolian and Kyrgyz Trainers and World Bank



During the first day of the Workshop in addition to the Opening and welcome speech, Mr. Bashir Khan explained the EITI implementation status in Afghanistan. He added “we have completed certain steps toward our goal which is to get Afghanistan validated; now we are in the process of preparing Reporting Template, for which we have taken considerable steps. He added we have organized several meetings with government entities to agree on a unique Template with the presence of civil society members and private sector. We (AEITI, Ministry of Finance, and Ministry of Mines) have worked on creating special codes for the revenues coming from the extractive industries which should be different than other codes.



Mr. Anwar Ravat from World Bank on his turn asked the participants for their expectations from the Workshop. The participants expressed their views about the workshop and said they would learn from the experiences from Kyrgyz and Mongolian Republics and will help them during the implementation phase in Afghanistan. Similarly Mr. Ravat explained the EITI process globally and illustrates the benefits of the EITI to a country.

From Kyrgyz Republic, Mr. Karybek Ibraev, Head of EITI Secretariat gave an overview on the implementation of EITI in his country in the first day of his presentation. During the second day, he spoke about how they hired reconciliation company in their country and how they published final EITI Report. He talked in detail about validation process in his country.

Similarly from Mongolia, Mr. Sh. TSolmon EITI National Coordinator also presented an overview of the EITI implementation in his country during the first day of the workshop. On the second day, he talked about EITI communication and public outreach program in his country. On the third day of his presentation, he spoke about the validation process and gave the opportunity to the participants to ask questions.



In the question and answer session, civil society organizations submitted a list of questions to Mr. Ehsanullah Shamsi from World Bank, a speaker for the Workshop. These questions were discussed in detail. Some of the participants suggested as it is a learning session, therefore there are some issues to be decided in the MSG meeting.

