

Funding Opportunity Title: U.S.-Afghan University Partnership with Balkh University in Engineering
Funding Opportunity Number: SCAKAB-13CA-026-05192013
RFGP Questions and Answers

Question 1. . Do you have a contact names in Balkh University?

Answer: Contact information for the Afghan partners will be made available upon award. We are unable to provide their names and contact information in advance.

Question 2. What is the language of instruction in the Engineering College at Balkh University?

Answer: The current language of instruction at the Faculty of Engineering is Dari. However, per Balkh University’s strategic plan, there are plans to change language of instruction at the Faculty of Engineering from Dari to English within the next five years.

Question 3. The appendix reports that six engineering faculty members speak English. What are their fields (civil, electrical, chemical, mechanical, mining, etc. etc.)? What is their level of competence?

Answer: Hydraulic Structures (1); Civil Engineering (2); Mining Engineering (2); and Chemical Engineering (1). Although none of the above faculty members have taken an English language proficiency test, five of the professors have received their Master’s Degrees from universities in Thailand and one in Japan where language of instruction was English.

Question 4. The appendix reports that 22 engineering faculty members have master’s degrees and that 8 have bachelor’s degrees. Do the remaining engineering faculty members hold doctorates? What are the fields of the engineering faculty? What degrees are held by the faculty members in each field?

Answer: There are currently 34 faculty members at the Engineering Faculty- 22 Have Masters, 10 have bachelors and 2 have doctoral degrees. Please see the below breakdown by department and specialty.

Chemical Engineering Department		
No	Degree	Field study
1	Master	General Chemistry
2	Master	Chemical Engineering
3	Master	Chemical Engineering
4	Master	Chemical Engineering
5	Bachelor	Chemical Engineering
6	Bachelor	Chemical Engineering
7	Bachelor	Chemical Engineering
8	Bachelor	Chemical Engineering

Mining Department		
No	Degree	Field study
1	Doctorate	Mining Engineering
2	Master	Refinement of Mineral
3	Master	Mineral process
4	Master	Geo- physics
5	Master	Geo Engineering and Environment
6	Master	RS - GIS
7	Bachelor	Mining Engineering

Civil Engineering Department		
No	Degree	Field study
1	Master	Water Supply and canalization
2	Master	Architecture
3	Master	Construction
4	Master	Earthquake

Hydraulic Structures Department		
No	Degree	Field study
1	Master	Mining Engineering
2	Master	Oil and Gas
3	Master	Construction
4	Bachelor	Mining Engineering

5	Master	Project management
6	Bachelor	Construction
7	Bachelor	Construction

5	Bachelor	Hydraulic structure
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Higher Mathematics Department		
No	Degree	Field study
1	Master	Higher Mathematics
2	Master	Higher Mathematics
3	Master	Physics
4	Bachelor	Mathematics

Technical Subjects Department		
No	Degree	Field study
1	Doctorate	Automobile and Roads
2	Master	Generating
3	Bachelor	Construction

Question 5. Please describe the security situation in Balkh and in Kabul. Is it possible to travel to Balkh at all? Would it be necessary to budget for a private security service to provide secure lodging and/or local transportation in Kabul? In Balkh?

Answer: [Official Department of State guidance on travel in Afghanistan can be found here: http://travel.state.gov/travel/](http://travel.state.gov/travel/). Applicants may include security costs in the proposed budgets.

Question 6. The appendix contains four pages of summary information on the undergraduate engineering curriculum. It appears that two of the pages are duplicates. Is that correct? Is this the complete engineering curriculum? Does the engineering college offer specialized undergraduate programs of study (e.g., in civil, electrical, chemical, mechanical, mining....)? If so, can the curricula for those programs be made available to us?

Answer: The Engineering Faculty has six departments. However, they only offer degrees in four departments: Chemical Engineering; Mining Engineering; Civil Engineering; and Hydraulic Structures. Please see curricula for all for departments attached.

Question 7. We are concerned about equipping an engineering lab at Balkh University and complying with US export controls. Can the US Embassy advise on relevant regulations?

Answer: The Public Affairs Section is not qualified to comment on import/export regulations.