

Executive Summary

The Presidential Instruction on Self-Reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework (SMAF) and the National Anti-Corruption Strategy (2017) require Afghan government ministries which generate revenue and make policy to put forward anti-corruption plans. Further, these ministries must report on their progress in implementing their plans to the public. As an independent joint body established to monitor national and international anti-corruption efforts in Afghanistan, the Independent Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (MEC) has undertaken the review of the Anti-Corruption Plan (ACP) of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD).

The MEC's aim for conducting this review is to identify the shortcomings of the MRRD's ACP development and implementation and to provide recommendations for overcoming them. The review found that the MRRD had not conducted a risk-assessment to identify the vulnerabilities to corruption and create a comprehensive plan which would mitigate all identified risks. In addition, the MRRD committee that was assigned to develop the ACP was too small; and most of the key directorates were not involved in the process. Furthermore, MRRD has not communicated the ACP with lower-level employees since many of them did not have information about it. During the review, it was also observed that the Ministry has not assigned a management team to monitor implementation of the activities of the ACP, identify implementation gaps and report findings to the leadership of the Ministry. The MRRD Anti-Corruption Plan has four objectives and nine activities among which three are fully implemented, three others are partially implemented, and the remaining two are not implemented. There are some activities in the ACP that have been implemented in previous years, yet they are included in the ACP during the current year. Meanwhile, there are some activities that are implemented but are not documented.