



**Independent Joint Anti-Corruption
Monitoring & Evaluation Committee**

SUMMARY OF THE VCA ON THE LAND DISTRIBUTION PROCESS FOR REPATRIATES

1. Background

A Presidential Decree was issued in 2005 to allocate housing to repatriates due to a lack of shelter. As a result, the Ministry of Refugees and Repatriates was assigned to distribute shelter with the support of MoI, MAJLS, MoRR, MoPH, MoE, MoUD, Kabul Municipality and secondary budgetary units in the provinces. To date, MoRR has distributed more than 54,782 pieces of shelter within 62 residential towns throughout the country and intends to distribute and provide around 500,000 pieces of residential shelters in more than 100 residential towns to deserving repatriates across the country.

2. VCA Findings

Findings of the VCA show that since 2005 the MoRR has not implemented any effective initiative to address the issue or enhance the process. Extensive vulnerabilities to corruption, such as bribery, refusing to perform duties, forging documents, lack of conformity to the code of conduct in personal behavior with customers, nepotism, misuse of duties, and embezzlement are some of challenges that the process is facing. In addition, many deserving repatriates have tried for up to eight years without getting a result in their cases, the distribution of a piece of land to more than one person, pressure on recipients to award building contracts of residential towns to companies belonging to middle ranking employees of the ministry and provincial directorates of refugees affairs, illegal issuance of ownership documents, interference of high ranking officials in the work of refugee's affairs directorates in order to divert land distribution.

3. Vulnerabilities to Corruption

The VCA shows that the process suffers from a weak legal framework and lack of written procedures. There is low capacity of employees, a lack of equipment, absence of purposeful appointments, low wages, a lack of punctuality, long term absences, lack of professional, committed and honest personnel, lack of control over the process, illegitimate, complicated and meaningless bureaucracy, interference of land mafias in working affairs of staff members, engagement of staff in personal business unrelated to the process, political activities of the land distribution commission, scattered information management system, lack of performance management for staff are all issues highlighted through the report.

4. Recommendations

Recommendations are focused on the development of policies, procedures, and regulations at the ministerial level regarding the land distribution process, appraisal of employees and identification of competent and professional individuals against corrupt members of staff, recruitment based on competency, development and implementation of training programs for capacity building, fair salaries to staff members, development of a monitoring mechanism for land distribution, simplification working procedures, correcting the current archive system,



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expanding electronic information management system and establishing a one stop shop system to limit the contact points between staff and recipients and determination of timeline for processing petitions.

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