



Expansion of the National Digital Telephone Network

Project Description:

Phones to the People aim to provide the people of Afghanistan with tangible benefits of the telecommunications infrastructure. National Telecom Network is established for government users and the public. This network supports the development of administration and security improvement it also expands CDMA wireless & wired digital telephone and increases the capability of switching network for providing new services to the customers advanced payment charging system (by IN network) providing by other capabilities like SMS VAS. The project will rapidly roll out telecommunications access across the country, benefiting Afghan people in all provinces. *This project will be implemented in the following two parts, the copper cable network in five major provinces: Kabul (104000 lines) Kandahar (13000), Mazar (15000 lines), Kunduz 10,000 lines, and Jalalabad (10,000 lines) and the second part will be implementing the Full Mobility throughout the country.*

A. Copper Cable Network

MCIT is presently providing Fixed-Line-Based-Telephone facilities in limited Provinces of Afghanistan by using Fixed Line Technology based Network Equipment of Huawei-China and ZTE-China. The existing Network capabilities need to be expanded in 05 Major Cities of the country, with prepaid functionalities and the Centralized Call Center facilities. The expansion of copper cable for 150,000 lines started in year 2006 which is ready to provide services since 2008. The copper cable also expended to the 7 other major cities of Farah, Ghazni, Khost, Parwan, Baghlan, Pulkhumri, and Takhar with the total number of lines equal to 25000. This expansion will be complete by the end of 2011

B. Expansion and upgrade of wireless Digital Network

MCIT is presently providing Telephone and limited Data facilities in all the 34 Provinces of Afghanistan by using CDMA Technology based Network Equipment of Huawei-China and ZTE-China. The existing Network capabilities need to be expanded to have Full Mobility (Roaming throughout the Country) and the Pre-paid/VAS facilities. Thus, the contract for full mobility was signed with ZTE China and Huawei China in 2007 for around 10.5 million USD which is completed in mid 2008.

Project Cost and Funding:

Starting Date: 2007
Ending Date: 2008
Required Budget: 50.5 Million USD
Funding Agency: MoF

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