AFGA NEWSLETTER

1st Quarter 2026

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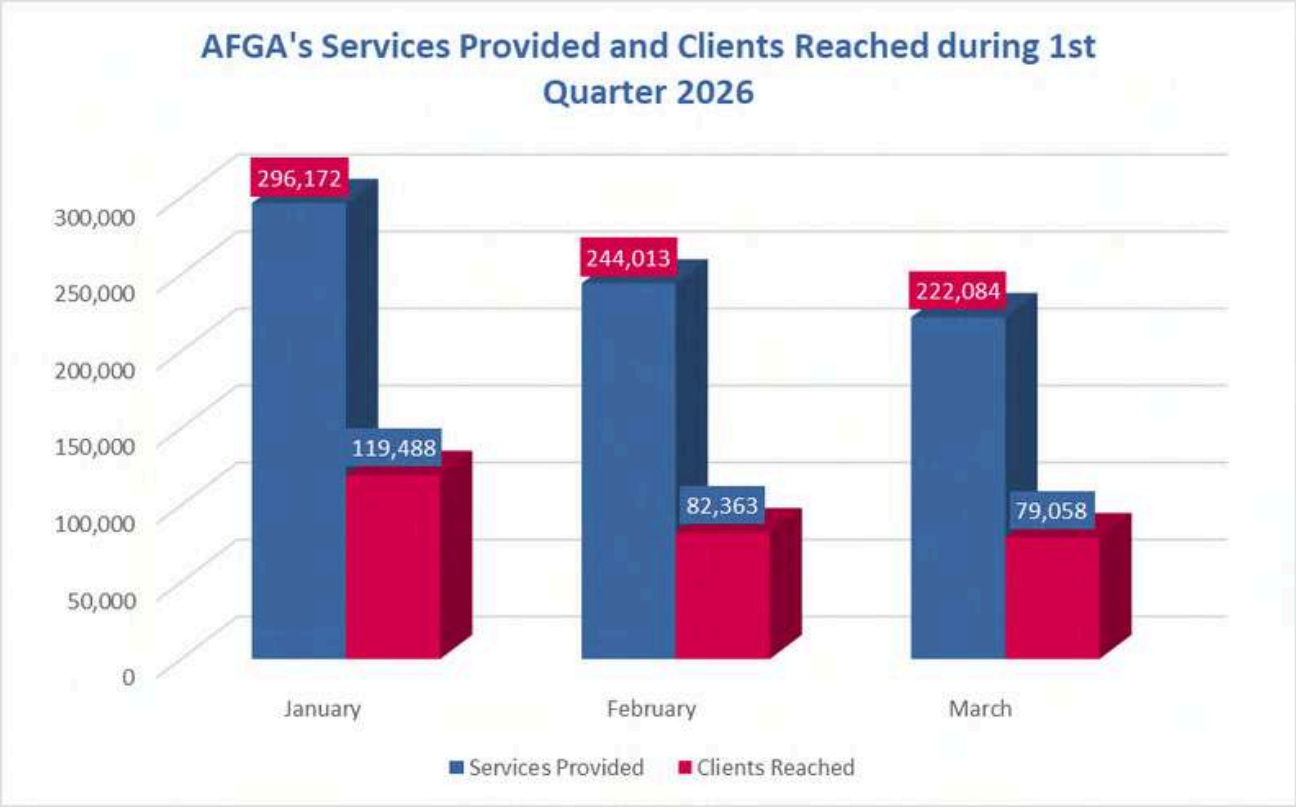
AFGA Achievements during the Quarter



During the first quarter, a total of 280,909 clients were reached, and a total of 762,269 services were provided through 132 Service Delivery Points: 20 Mobile Health Clinics, 10 Static Clinics, 101 FHHs, one Midwifery Helpline (MHL), and one Basic Health Center (BHC), in 14 provinces. The achievements are in line with AFGA's overall annual targets for the year 2026.

Conduction of JSB-4 Closing Ceremony Event

Funded by the Government of Japan through the Japan Supplementary Budget 2024, AFGA started the JSB 2024 project in March 2025 and completed it in January 2026. Through the project, a total of 21 Family Health Houses (FHHs) were funded, with 11 FHHs in Parwan and 10 FHHs in Logar province.

The JSB 2024 project achieved significant milestones; therefore, AFGA organized a closing ceremony on February 9, 2026, in Kabul. In this closing ceremony, AFGA celebrated the successful completion of all planned deliverables of the project and recognized the dedication and hard work of the project team, stakeholders, local health workers, and AFGA management and support teams who contributed to the project's success.

The event started with opening remarks from Mr. Najibullah Samim, the CEO of AFGA. He welcomed the participants, provided background information about AFGA, the JSB 2024 project's main achievements, and its importance. He thanked the community leaders and the local authorities for their support of the project and the midwives for their hard work in achieving the project's goal and objectives.

Further, the program included presentations that showcased the major milestones achieved and lessons learned during the course of implementation. Additionally, the project video documentary was also played to the audience, showcasing FHH's services to the clients in the remote areas.

Dr. Farzana Fani, the Head of the RMNCAH and Family Planning Department of the Ministry of Public Health, gave a speech and appreciated AFGA's efforts and services to the most vulnerable communities through its quality SRH and MCH services. She also thanked AFGA for its support to the MoPH and promised to support AFGA in the future.

Dr. Mohammad Zarak Zeerak, the Logar Province Public Health Director, had a speech about the significant role of AFGA Family Health Houses services to the needy people, especially women and girls. He appreciated AFGA's work in the vulnerable communities and requested the continuation of such beneficial projects.

He further said that the project was implemented in very hard-to-reach areas where the communities needed these services the most, and wished AFGA and the Government of Japan to continue with this useful project. He promised his full support to AFGA.

Mr. Naqib Saber, the M&E Manager of AFGA, presented the project's lessons learned. He said that throughout the implementation of the project, several valuable lessons were learned.

Highlights of JSB-4 Closing Ceremony

AFGA Celebrated 8th March the International Women's Day

On March 8, 2026, International Women's Day was celebrated in AFGA Mother and Newborn Hospital with the participation of AFGA female staff, AFGA Board members, management, and a few provincial AFGA employees online.

The event commenced with the opening remarks from Mr. Najibullah Samim, CEO of the Afghan Family Guidance Association (AFGA). Mr. Samim extended a warm welcome to the participants. He took a significant moment to specifically honor the AFGA female staff, praising their "ceaseless efforts" and unwavering commitment to the organization's mission. In light of the current complex and challenging environment in Afghanistan, he noted that their work is not just professional but, it is a courageous act of service to the community.

On this occasion, two of the AFGA Board members talked about the crucial role of AFGA Youth Volunteers, especially women and girls. They admired the efforts and services that are being provided by AFGA female staff in hard-to-reach areas in this challenging situation.

Dr. Mohammad Younus Alikhil, the AFGA Program Manager, also had a speech on the occasion of Women's International Day and praised the tireless efforts of AFGA Women Employees in the provision of Reproductive Health (RH) services.

Besides, some of the AFGA staff had speeches regarding International Women's Day and the vital role of women in society. After the speeches, the AFGA management presented gifts to all AFGA female staff.

The AFGA female staff appreciated the AFGA management team's efforts and support in organizing the event.

Last Mile Assurance (LMA) Project

During the first quarter of 2026, AFGA continued the Last Mile Assurance (LMA) Project activities through 48 volunteers from Kabul, Herat, and Balkh Provinces. These LMA volunteers were assigned to support the team's effort in the distribution of different kits and commodities, assist in public awareness-raising activities, and assist in stock counts and basic assessments of commodities that might be damaged, expired, or out of stock.

During the period, 48 LMA youth volunteers continued their visits to 80 hospitals, 269 clinics, and 43 Family Health Houses (FHHs) at the central, western, and northern regions, and assessed the distribution of medical supplies to Service Delivery Points (SDPs). They monitored the efficiency of distribution, medicines' expiration dates, and items' quality and quantity, as well as notifying of the discrepancies. Their observations aimed to ensure that essential supplies were reaching the intended beneficiaries effectively and promptly. Additionally, one male volunteer was assigned to assist with eLMIS data entry at the AFGA main office in Kabul.

The volunteers ensured that the distributed items reached the intended beneficiaries and found that the medical supplies were being distributed in a timely and effective manner.

The LMA project's essential purpose is observing the UNFPA Afghanistan supply program to Implementing Partners (IPs), including reproductive health (RH) commodities, modern contraceptives, life-saving maternal health medicines, winterization kits, dignity kits, and adolescents' girls' menstrual hygiene management kits in the hands of beneficiaries who need them the most and etc.

AFGA's SPRINT-IV Emergency Response Project (Kunar)

Kunar province, one of the northeastern provinces of the country, has witnessed relative calm recently. However, on August 30, 2025, around 11:43 p.m., a 6-magnitude earthquake struck the province, causing widespread destruction, particularly in the Noorgal district of Kunar, where entire villages were destroyed. The earthquake caused catastrophic destruction across the eastern region, Nangarhar, Nuristan, Laghman provinces, and especially caused massive destruction in the Kunar province in the Sawkay and Noor Gal districts, leading to significant loss of people's lives, a lot of injuries, and widespread damage to the infrastructure of people's houses. Thousands of families remain displaced in temporary shelters. The earthquake killed 2,200 people, injured at least 4,000, and destroyed 8,000 homes.

The Afghan Family Guidance Association is committed to providing reproductive health services and at minimum initial service packages to all people in the country in any situation, especially in crisis.

Therefore, after the earthquake, the association immediately took action and established two mobile health clinics through the IPPF's SPRINT-IV Emergency Response Project, which has been providing minimum initial health services, counseling, and mental health services to the residents of Sawki and Noorgal districts of Kunar province for the past three months. Each mobile health clinic consists of 5 staff members, including a female MD, a male MD, a PSS Counselor, a Nurse, and a midwife. Furthermore, the project provided services through two equipped ambulances for emergency cases.

Despite many challenges, including the remoteness of these two districts from the city, poor roads, and lack of awareness of the people about hygiene principles and sanitation, the project has been able to provide minimum basic reproductive health services, health counseling services, and necessary health education to the people in the best possible way.

Clients and the community are happy with the AFGA services to the affected people from the devastating earthquake and from the AFGA Emergency Response Team.

Since the beginning of the emergency project until January 10, 2026, a total of 12,657 minimum basic reproductive health and health counseling services have been provided to more than 9,306 residents of these two districts through two mobile health clinics, and these services will continue until the end of the project

Conduction of Health Management Information System (HMIS) Training

During the quarter, AFGA conducted a series of HMIS Refresher Training in collaboration with the Directorate of Public Health (DoPH) and with the financial support of IPPFs NORAD-4 Project, in Kabul, Balkh, and Herat.

In the first batch of training, a total of 39 participants from Kabul, Laghman, Logar, Parwan, Nangarhar, Kapisa, and Paktika attended the training, conducted in the AFGA Head Office. Participants included in-charges and midwives from Family Health Houses (FHHs), Mobile Health Teams (MHTs), and Family Welfare Centers (FWCs). The sessions focused on reviewing HMIS tools, reporting formats, indicators, data verification processes, and the correct completion of monthly reports and registers.

The second batch of training was organized for 21 participants from Balkh and Samangan health facilities service providers in Balkh Province. The third batch was organized for 8 participants from Herat Province, in Herat.

The training aimed to strengthen the capacity of Service Delivery Points in charge of effectively implementing the Health Management Information System (HMIS) across supported provinces.

The training sessions were delivered through interactive presentations, group discussions, practical exercises, and pre- and post-tests to assess knowledge improvement.

The training successfully enhanced participants' technical knowledge and practical skills in HMIS implementation. It reaffirmed AFGA's commitment to improving data quality, strengthening health information systems, and supporting evidence-based decision-making to improve health service delivery outcomes across supported provinces.

Capacity Building Training Programs for AFGA Management Staff

Throughout February 2026, the Afghan Family Guidance Association (AFGA) successfully executed a series of comprehensive capacity-building programs designed to enhance the capacity of its senior and middle management staff to better manage the project implementation and monitoring, and to provide quality services to the vulnerable population.

These initiatives were made possible through the Japan Supplementary Budget (JSB-4) Project, reflecting a continued commitment to organizational development and humanitarian efficacy.

To ensure a robust operational foundation, AFGA conducted three specialized training modules for its workforce:
Leadership and Team Management: A two-day intensive program (February 22–23) attended by 23 employees, focusing on strategic decision-making and collaborative team dynamics.

Monitoring and Supervision: A three-day session (February 24–26) for 25 employees, aimed at enhancing oversight mechanisms and ensuring high-standard project implementation.

Budgeting and Financial Management: A three-day curriculum (February 25–27) for 22 employees, emphasizing fiscal transparency, accountability, and rigorous resource management.

Through these targeted capacity-building initiatives, the Afghan Family Guidance Association continues to strengthen its internal infrastructure and operational excellence. By equipping its personnel with essential skills in leadership, oversight, and fiscal responsibility, AFGA—with the vital support of the Japan Supplementary Budget—is ensuring more sustainable and accountable service delivery for the communities it serves across Afghanistan.

Health Services in Emergency Situation Saved the Life of a Mother

Fatima is 26 years old woman who lives in the Sawkai District of Kunar Province. By the time the earthquake struck this district, she was passing her last days of her pregnancy and was about to deliver her baby. Suddenly, due to fear of an earthquake, her labor pains started, and there was no way to take her to the city hospital for her delivery. Therefore, she delivered her baby at home in a very critical situation, and she didn't feel well.

By the time the AFGA Mobile Team (MHT) funded by IPPF SPRINT-IV Emergency Response Project started its operation in her village. Her husband came to the clinic and asked for help. He said that her wife's health condition is not good and she has severe bleeding.

The AFGA MHT midwife went to Fatima's house along with her husband. After her checkup and screening it was found that she is anemic and has severe hydramnios. Besides, she had a laceration. The placenta was also not fully removed during her delivery.

The MHT's midwife took necessary action and took out the remaining placenta from her body, applied serum to her, and prescribed folic acid, Iron, vitamins, and some other required medicine to her.

By passing hours, she was feeling much better, but still the AFGA MHT midwife spent the whole night with her in her house in order to ensure that Fatima's health condition is getting better and she is not at risk.

Fatima, her husband, and family appreciate the AFGA MHTs staff support, especially the midwife for her unconditional health services to the vulnerable and needy women and families in crises.

Fatima said, "Your services are unforgettable. May Allah bless you. You saved my life."

Afghan Family Guidance Association (AFGA) is committed to providing humanitarian and reproductive health services to the vulnerable and needy families, especially women and girls, anywhere and at any time, so that they can feel some comfort, especially in crises such as Kunar Earthquake, where thousands of people were affected.

Two New Lives, One Safe Delivery in Rural Herat

When 27-year-old Khadija arrived at the Fushkan Family Health House (FHH) in Pashtun Zarghun district, she was already in intense labour, and the contractions were strong. Living in a remote village with limited access to health services, Khadija had never visited a health facility before. This was her first encounter with skilled maternal care, and it came at a critical moment.

Khadija was in her fourth pregnancy and had not received antenatal care. Like many women in rural areas, distance, poverty, and lack of awareness had kept her away from routine check-ups. Khadija and her family were unaware of the danger signs of pregnancy or the risks associated with childbirth without skilled support.

At the Fushkan FHH, the midwife immediately assessed her condition and initiated lifesaving care to prevent complications.

With timely, skilled care, Khadija safely gave birth to healthy twin baby girls. Newborn vaccinations were provided before discharge, and Khadija remained in stable condition throughout the post-delivery observation period.

For Khadija and her family, the experience was transformative. Economically vulnerable and living far from health facilities, they described the safe delivery as a blessing they had never imagined possible. "Saving the mother and the babies is the greatest gift for us," the family shared.

Beyond the immediate outcome, the experience changed Khadija's understanding of maternal health. Receiving professional care for the first time gave her confidence that complications during pregnancy and childbirth are preventable. She also received counselling on the importance of antenatal care, recognising danger signs, and seeking timely medical support.

"I feel safer knowing that a midwife is available within our community. I hope that the clinic will continue operating with the same dedicated midwife so that other women in our village can deliver safely," said Khadija.

Khadija's story reflects how accessible maternal health care can save lives, restore trust, and bring hope to families in even the most remote settings.

Glances

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