

6-MONTHS SCHEDULE FOR THE ARTF STRATEGY GROUP¹

JULY TO DECEMBER 2015

The table below outlines a 6-months schedule for the Strategy Group, assuming an average of one meeting per month between July and December 2015. The schedule takes into account topics suggested by donors.

While some of the outlined topics can be covered in normal meetings, others might require a half-day workshop to allow more detailed discussions and ensure the issues are properly covered and discussed.

Following feedback from Strategy Group members, the Administrator will aim to leave more time for discussion by limiting the number of issues on the agenda and shortening presentations.

For each meeting we will schedule 10 minutes at the end for “any other business” to allow participants to bring up ad hoc questions and issues for discussion. Following Gender Working Group (GWG) meetings, a donor representative from the GWG will brief the Strategy Group on issues discussed.

A meeting on Public Financial Management will be set up when the government’s new PFM Roadmap has progressed and new developments are ready to be shared with donors. This could take place over the coming 6 months or early in 2016.

The Strategy Group will also discuss what issues should be brought to the Steering Committee for discussion and/or endorsement.

In addition to Strategy Group meetings each of the ARTF’s individual projects will set up donor briefings during their biannual Implementation Support Missions to discuss project specific issues. The Strategy Group will be invited to those meetings. The Strategy Group is encouraged to inform the Administrator of which ARTF projects they are interested in to ensure resources are not wasted on meetings no donor would be interested in attending.

¹ At the ARTF Steering Committee meeting on December 1, 2013, it was agreed that the World Bank would draft a schedule outlining issues for discussion in the ARTF Strategy Group during the first 6 months of 2014. This would allow Government and donors to input on the agendas for upcoming Strategy Group meetings and prepare accordingly. The 6-month schedule was first implemented from January to June 2014 and was successful in providing donors clarity on upcoming issues for discussion and MoF and the Bank sufficient time for proper preparation. The 6-months schedule will therefore be continued from July to December 2014.

Timing	Topic	Focal Point	Format
July	Ramadan and Summer leave		
August	<p>1. Incentive Program: MoF and the Bank will provide an update on the new Incentive Program and discuss with donors the new design and the different components.</p>	MoF and World Bank	2-hour meeting
	<p>2. Programmatic Approaches: Following the agreement in the new Financing Strategy to move towards more programmatic approaches, this meeting will provide Government with an opportunity to present their vision on programmatic approaches. A discussion will then be facilitated on ARTF progress on programmatic approaches within key sectors.</p>	MoF and World Bank	2-hour meeting
September	<p>1. ARTF Results Workshop: The ARTF Results Workshop will be structured around the findings of the ARTF Scorecard 2015 (published around September 1, 2015) and will serve to inform the annual review of the ARTF Financing Strategy. Agenda and timing to be determined based on the ARTF Scorecard. Agenda items could include: (i) ARTF focus on poverty alleviation; and (ii) Publishing ARTF results.</p>	MoF, line ministries, Donors and World Bank	Full day workshop
	<p>2. Gender: Proposals for topics to be suggested by the Gender Working Group</p>	Donors	2-hour meeting
October	<p>1. World Bank's Systematic Country Diagnostic In preparation for its new Country Partnership Framework (CPF) for Afghanistan, the World Bank is carrying out a diagnostic exercise. The World Bank will provide a brief to the Strategy Group on the key findings and next steps in the CPF exercise.</p>	The World Bank	2-hour meeting
	<p>2. Update on the next phase of NSP/rural development:</p>	MoF, MRRD and the World Bank	2-hour meeting

	Government and the World Bank will provide Donors with an update on the status and thinking on the next phase of the <u>National Solidarity Program (NSP)</u> .		
November	<p>1. Fraud and Corruption: Briefing from the World Bank Integrity Vice Presidency (INT) and discussion with government and donors on their experiences and investigations of corruption issues.</p> <p>2. Review of the Financing strategy:</p> <p>a. Based on agreements made at the ARTF Results Workshop and ongoing discussions with Government on their strategy and priorities, the ARTF Financing Strategy will be reviewed and revised as necessary.</p> <p>b. Update on the TA Project included in the new FS 1394-1396 as well as the Research and Analysis Program (RAP)</p>	MoF and the World Bank	2-hour meeting
December	<p>ARTF Monitoring Framework: A presentation on the ARTF monitoring framework, including Government's key role, the Bank's role and that of third party monitoring. This will include a specific focus on beneficiary feedback and citizen engagement monitoring.</p>	MoF, line ministries and the World Bank	2-hour meeting