WVA Monthly Management Report

1. Project Profile

Project name	**Learning for Life (LFL)**
Project goal	LFL is a pilot project with the aim to provide cost-effective, life-saving, life improving and non-formal education for vulnerable children and their families in isolated areas via mobile technology.
Project outcomes	**Outcome 1:** Increasing access to Learning through Interactive Voice Education System (LIVES) for insecure and isolated communities. **Outcome 2:** Developing non-formal educational material and providing access for target communities through LIVES. **Outcome 3:** Establishing the project, approach, its impact and cost effectiveness, through statistical evidence.
Reporting period	February 1 to 28, 2017
Changes in security situation	NA
Accessibility issues	N/A
Reported by	Mohammad Fahim Tabesh, Project Manager
Date submitted	28th February 2017

2. Monthly achievements versus planned

Output 1.1: Establishing LIVES infrastructure in the target community

Output target

1.1.1 Signing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with relevant government sector and service provider (Completed on Dec 12, 2016)
1.1.2 Launching a start-up workshop
1.1.3 Conducting consultation and discussion with Ministry of Communication and mobile service providers.
1.1.4 Providing in-country technical support on LIVES.
1.1.5 Transferring LIVES technology to Herat.
1.1.6 Facilitating the payment of server-based out-going calls.

Planned activities:

- Continue consultation with ATRA of Ministry of Telecommunication and mobile companies for the deployment of LIVES system in Herat.
- Ensuring that LIVES approval and PRI/IVR license is obtained from ATRA.
- Communicate with procurement department to negotiate cost and hire a quality telecommunication company for the project.
- Communicate with the program officer about PAC teams visit to Afghanistan.
- Facilitate the transfer of LIVES technology to Afghanistan.

Achieved activities:

Activity 1.1.3

- The project manager submitted an application for PRI/IVR system to ATRA on Jan 30th. He was told to wait until the National Security Office (NSO) processes the application and calls him for an interview. The current reporting month was spent on waiting and following-up NSO's status on the project's application. The project manager contacted Mr.Rahmanzaie, from ATRA, two times and checked about the availability of the application. The response was no, ATRA did not receive any news back from NSO. Mr. Rasouly, from the security department, used his personal connections to track the project application with ATRA. Yet, no result was achieved. Meanwhile, the project manager requested Mr.Suhail to pay a visit to ATRA and NSO branch office in Ministry of Telecommunication and obtain and issue number for the project application. Mr.Suhail after visiting ATRA office on Feb 26th came with a happy message. ATRA requested the project manager be present in Kabul for meeting on March the 5th.

Activity 1.1.5

- The transfer of LIVES technology to Afghanistan was postponed one more time because of delay in obtaining a license from ATRA office. Meanwhile, the project consultant, Ms.Martha, did have a communication with PAC team regarding discount about their consultancy fee. The team apologized for not being able to give a discount for the project and insisted that $20,000 was a reasonable free for the LIVES technology consultant.

If you did not achieve any (or at all) activities planned for this output give explanation why:

- The project could not obtain a PRI/IVR license from ATRA because of the slow work process with NSO. The project manager will visit Kabul on March 5th and will follow-up on the rest of the process.

- The project was not able to continue its negotiation with the telecommunication company of its choice because it is waiting to receive its PRI/IVR approval from ATRA.

Output 1.2: Target community are sensitized about learning opportunities through LIVES

Output target

1.2.1 Facilitate community (religious and tribal leaders) and Shura mobilization based on the type and purpose of the project.
1.2.2 Conduct community and other stakeholder reflection meeting about the progress and challenges of the project.
1.2.3 Follow up each section's pre-and post-test completion results of the participants.
1.2.4 Identify the progress of each participant through the recorded results.

Planned activities:

- NA

Achieved activities:

- NA

If you did not achieve any (or at all) activities planned for this output give explanation why:

- NA

Output 2.1: Developing and adapting literacy, maternal and child health, and nutrition & wash modules.

Output target:

2.1.1 Develop/adapt literacy module in collaboration with Ministry of Education (MoE)/Department of Education (DoE)
2.1.2 Develop/adapt MCHN and WASH module in collaboration with WVUS and WVA health team.
2.1.3 Printing literacy guide books for target groups.
2.1.4 Printing educational materials for target groups who learn through traditional learning.

Planned activities:

- NA

Achieved activities:

Activity 2.1.2

- The project conducted a three-day workshop on the development of *mothers and child's health* content for mobile phone system. This workshop took place on Feb 15, 16 and 19 in the National Office meeting room with 11 participants. Ms.Martha, Mr.Sarwarzada and Mr.Tabesh from LFL; Ms.Soraya Faez, Zahra Hussaini, Parisa Mohmand, from Takeda Project; Mr.Faizurahman Shaikhulislami and Khatera Fayeq from CHF; Dr.Shakib Popal, the senior health technical specialist; Naday Taraki, Jaghartan Clinic Midwife and Zahra Sada, Mula Ali Clinic Midwife were the participants of the project.

  Ms.Marth along with the LFL project manager designed and developed the workshop content and Dr.Shakib Popal led the project for three days. The outcome of the project was fabulous. The health team participated in various brainstorming sessions and came up with detailed information about the content that can be incorporated in MCH modules. The team identified the key areas that should be addressed for module development, addressed danger signs, wrote behaviour statements and finally identified the barriers that prevent community members from their practices. At the end of the workshop, each participant wrote a few stories for the project. Thus, after the completion of the project, the participants, Takeda colleagues, continued on writing more stories. So far, the workshop participants submitted 19 stories to the project. The following people wrote the following

number of stories: Parsia Mohmand 6, Soraya Faez 5, Zahra Hussaini 3, FaizuRahman SaikhulIslami 1, Nadia Taraki 2 and Zahra Sadat 2.

If you did not achieve any (or at all) activities planned for this output give explanation why:

- NA

Output 2.2: Translating and transferring developed modules into global mobile system format.

Output target:

2.2.1   Translation of four modules into Dari.
2.2.2   Audio recording of the four modules into GMS format
2.2.3   Setting up the modules into the LIVES.

Planned activities:

- NA

Achieved activities:

Activity 2.2.1

- NA

If you did not achieve any (or at all) activities planned for this output give explanation why:

- NA

Output 3.1: Collecting the evidence about the project results.

Output target:

3.1.1 Baseline survey
3.1.2 Target community members will receive reading sessions on the developed educational material

Planned activities:

- Ensure that the final baseline report is submitted for the project.
- Communicate with procurement team and procurement committee about KSU's late payment.
- Facilitating the payment process for KSU.

Achieved activities:

Activity 3.1.1

- The project manager was in constant communication with KSU about the submission of the final baseline survey. After Mr.Anley returned from his leave and submitted his comments to KSU on Feb 4th, he proposed Feb 8th as the final day of the report submission, but the report was not submitted on the due date. The project manager contacted KSU on several occasions and received a few deadlines, but the deadlines were not met. The final package related to the final baseline report was received on Feb 28th.

If you did not achieve any (or at all) activities planned for this output give explanation why:

- KSU failed to deliver its baseline report according to its deadline, which was December 25th 2016. According to the procurement policy, each day of lateness comes with 5% of penalty fee. Whether KSU should be charged for his penalty or not depends on the quality of its work and comments from the technical staff of M&E team. Once the final report is submitted, the quality of work is evaluated and necessary and relevant comments are collected from the team, the project manager will begin the payment facilitation process to KSU. He will also negotiate with procurement committee about the possibility of getting late-fee-charge waived.

Output 3.2: Preparing effective analysis and impact report.

Output target:

3.2.1   Final evaluation
3.2.3   Conducting provincial and national workshop on the results of the project
3.2.4   Designing a report for publishing

Planned activities:

- NA

Achieved activities:

Activity 3.2.1

- NA

If you did not achieve any (or at all) activities planned for this output give explanation why:

- There has not been any activity planned for the current output. This output will be activated at the end of the project life cycle and after the main project activities are implemented.

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3. Project budget status

Major Successes and Reasons for Success

NA

Major Shortcomings/Challenges and Reasons

Current project budget status is on underspend. The project was not able to fully utilize its allocated funds due to postponed activities because of late MoU approval and pending documentation about employment of a telecommunicate company for LFL. The current budget status summarizes as follows.

		Total Allocation	Total Spending
Total Budget		$300,000	$15,451 (5%)
Year 1 budget		$196,354	$15,451.41 (7.87%)
1, 2	Oct + Nov 16	$48,090	$8,011.55 (16%)
3	Dec 16	$10,370.50	$2,591.02 (25%)
4	Jan 17	$15,853	$4,848.39 (31%)
1st Quarter (Oct – Dec 16)		$58,460.60	$10,603 (18%)

Future actions to address the challenges:

Most project activities are delayed because the team is waiting to obtain license from ATRA department in order to hire a telecommunication company and begin the main activities of the project. The work related to this bottle neck is in progress.

Once the project obtains its license from ATRA and begin its main activities the project will be able to improve its budget status.

Planned activities ⭐

- Supervising the development process of the database.
- Assessing the functionality and the practicality of the database in regards to project needs.
- Putting the databases into test and measuring its functionality in regards to actual expectations of project requirements.

4. Other Information

- The work of database development continued through month of February. The capability of the system was improved during this month and new functionalities were also added. The project manager also suggested to add an activity tracker and a budget tracker section to the databases. These new capabilities will enable the database to provide more accurate and update information for project stakeholders.

- Now the project manager has access to LFL database. He was able to put the database into use during the reporting period and suggest some improvements for its improvement. Now the database can perform basic tasks such as filtering beneficiaries

by location, type of phone number and study type. It also locks date and time when a new update post is added to its status.

- The database will continue its test mode phase for the upcoming month. Although some improvements were added and new functionalities were introduced, it still requires more technical attention until its capability for use, by other parties, is proven effective.

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5. Plan of activities for the upcoming month

Output 1.1
- Following-up on PRI/IVR application with ATRA and participating in its interview on March 5th.
- Following up IVR license obtaining work and other required processes.
- Facilitating the transfer of LIVES technology to Afghanistan.
- Facilitating the process of conducting a start-up work.
- Deciding about the employment of Telecommunication Company for the project.

Output 1.2:
- No planning is possible for this output at this stage of the project work. Activities related to this output strictly rely on the outcome of its preceding activities. Once the preceding activities are implemented and satisfactory results are obtained, a thorough plan will be developed for this output.

Output 2.1
- Documenting MCH content into a soft format and preparing them for further processing and module development.
- Checking MCH stories and preparing them for the next stage of module development.

Output 2.2
- No planning is possible for this output at this stage of the project work. Activities related to this output strictly rely on the outcome of its preceding activities. Once the preceding activities are implemented and satisfactory results are obtained, a thorough plan will be developed for this output.

Output 3.1
- Ensuring the full receipt of the final baseline report.
- Collecting the reviews and the comments of the technical staff and interested parties about the quality of the final baseline survey.
- Facilitating the payment process for KSU.
- Negotiating with procurement department and procurement committee about the implication of the penalty fee on KSU.

Output 3.2
- No planning is possible for this output at this stage of the project work.

Output ⭐ (Details will be provided in the *point 4, other information* section)

- Continuing supervision on the development of the database.
- Ensuring that the budget and activity tracker capabilities are added and active.
- Testing various features of the database and suggesting improvements.
- Identifying new requirements and features for the database.