

A preliminary assessment test conducted to introduce Ministry's employees to the private universities to continue their higher education.

Scholarship and Fellowship Management Unit of Afghanistan Institute of Rural Development, with the support and commitment of the ministry in building the capacity of its staff, conducted a preliminary assessment test of the ministry's employees to introduce and continue their bachelor and master studies private higher education institutions.

Engineer Javed Ahmad Ministry's Advisor, Mohammad Noor Katawazai Human Resources Director and Abdul Munir Wakili Acting Exective Director of AIRD were members of the Examination Committee.

In the test, about 250 qualified male and female employees participated and 25 of them will be introduced by AIRD to number of private universities and institutes for their bachelor and master education.



Afghanistan Institute of Rural Development, as a rural think-tank is planning to build professional working groups in the fields of (economics, sociology, law, literature, engineering and agriculture) along with its formal organizational structure. Which will help AIRD to accomplished its missions effectively and efficiently, which are to deliver the services to the MRRD and other relevant sectors by the implementation of a survey, research, information dissemination, promotion of rural technologies and capacity building of staff and community development councils.



31st Academic Seminar

The appropriate and compatible model in rural development "was the title of Academic seminar which was held at the Afghanistan Institute of Rural Development. Dr. Amanullah Fasihi, Author, Researcher and University lecturer was the speaker of the seminar.

In this seminar, Dr. Fasihi discussed about the components of a model or a program, planning methods and models that have ever been experienced in Afghanistan and brought examples from the villages of the country in tangible and objective terms.

He also discussed about the appropriate rural development model in accordance with environmental conditions to be essential in the first place, and emphasizes the role of administrators, beneficiaries, controllers and decision makers, and then generally he introduced three planning models.

1. **Top-down model:** The model is relatively old and planned from top to bottom and ways to achieve the objectives through the top down. For example, Afghanistan as a whole planning domain, headed by a government leadership, and then planned at the level of the zones, provinces and local plans.
2. **Bottom-up:** In this model, method of planning, defining objectives and ways to achieve them through the bottom up. First, relatively close targets at lower level. The planning begins from the villages and extend to the provincial level and become a national pattern.
3. **Integration of the up and down model:** In this model, the planning is down and monitoring is done from the top side.

Dr. Fasihi said "The most important factor in rural development is human development, that is the development of individuals and residents through the change in their attitudes and behavior and we need to teach them the skills of life and the use of facilities."

Abdul Manir Wakili, Acting Executive Director of AIRD talked at the beginning of the program and said "The development model varies from country to country and from village to village, so we must first know and understand the development of the village".

The Scholarship and Fellowship Management Unit of Afghanistan Institute of Rural Development, conducted the entry test for the KOICA Scholarships Program 2019 at the AIRD's Conference Hall on 4th March 2019.

In the exam, more than 30 civil employees of provincial and central directorates of the Ministry participated in the four rural development related fields of study:

- Agriculture Engineering
- Agriculture Production
- Agriculture Economics
- Community Development



Finally, the 8 employees who have passed the written test and interview will be introduced to the KOICA.

