UNITR trains govt officials for capacity building

Kabul: The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITR) has trained more than 175 government and non-governmental officials in capacity building sector since 2003. Sabahuddin Sokoot, deputy training officer of the UNITR in an interview with Afghanistan Times said during launching a seven-month training program in the ministry of telecommunication and information technology the trainees were selected to this project through his office website and introduced by the administrative reforms independent commission based on scientific degree with master and PhD degree and at least BA with the age of 25 to 50.

Having high post in the office is also in the criteria and Mr. Sokoot mentioned that manager of any office who has been trained must train his colleagues. The trainees have learnt management, leadership, strategic plan, communication, organizational development and change, proposal writing in high level, planning and accounting in the seven to eight-month course with six cycles for capacity building purpose of the officials.

Around 50 percent of those officials who have been trained have been hired in the high posts of the government that could bring fruitful changes in their administrations.

The 175 trainees have been selected from 13 ministries including public health foreign affairs, interior, higher education, public works, rural rehabilitation and development, counter narcotics, sciences academy along with around 25 trainees from eight international NGOs.

In response to a question Sokoot said that his office tries to select more government staff than the NGOs. Referring to the new on job training development management attending in a ‘12-day’, three separate workshops will be held in Japan and Singapore by the UNITAR in July and November. The trainees received lectures by some lecturers who have been selected as a team leader from the trainees’ fellowships besides the on-site training as well as distance learning tools inside Afghanistan. The trainees will receive credible certificates and university credit in order to attend to use any scholarships in the entire parts of the world. Sokoot explained that the UNITAR training programs in a wide level for Afghanistan in different sectors in addition to other programs mentioned, saying that the mentioned organization has practically and theoretically trained 10 persons in the cultural heritages protection sector within last years in Hiroshima of Japan.