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AFGHANISTAN

FACT SHEET

Daykundi Province

OVERVIEW

USAID estimated support for Daykundi from January 2002 - June 2011: \$37.2 million

Estimated population: 410,000 (Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Central Statistics Office: Estimated Population of Afghanistan 2008-2009)

Capital: Nili

Note: No PRT



Daykundi, established as an independent province in 2004, has a Hazara majority with a minority Pashtun population. This sparsely populated region has an agriculture-based economy and is widely known for its almonds. Daykundi has been severely affected by drought, and a general lack of water has increased problems for the large number of internally displaced persons returning to the region.

AGRICULTURE

Goal: Increase agricultural sector jobs and income through a) increased agricultural productivity by increasing farmer access to inputs and effective extension services; b) invigorated agribusiness by increasing linkages between farmers, markets, credit, and trade corridors; and c) rehabilitated watersheds and improved irrigation infrastructure. Also, increase Afghans' confidence in their government by increased Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock's (MAIL) capacity to deliver services and promote the private sector and farmer associations through direct budget and technical assistance.

Summary: USAID focuses on preparing farmers to participate in a modern agricultural economy through improved agricultural opportunities.

Current Activities:

- Provide accessible and affordable agricultural inputs – improved seed varieties and fertilizer – and promote the increased production of wheat, while building the capacity of the emerging private-sector seed industry and input supply system

Accomplishments:

- Distributed 97 metric tons of seed and 291 metric tons of fertilizer through a voucher system benefitting 1,940 farmers during the current planting season

DEMOCRACY & GOVERNANCE

Goal: Build the capacity of government institutions to improve the quality of government services to Afghan citizens. Support independent media institutions and advocacy groups.

Summary: USAID supports the justice sector, media, and civil-society in Daykundi Province.



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Current Activities:

- Support one radio station
- Provide capacity building training to civil-society organizations
- Train the provincial council, which will improve professionalism, knowledge, and skills resulting in more effective and transparent leadership
- Train provincial- and district-level civil servants in the five common functions highlighted in the Afghanistan National Development Strategy: financial management, human resources management, procurement, project management, and strategy and policy development.
- Provide institutional capacity development and advocacy support to women-focused Afghan civil-society organizations
- Create district-level governance councils under the auspices of the Independent Directorate for Local Government
- Support accountable municipal governance, improved municipal delivery of public services, and improved generation and management of municipal revenue in provincial capitals
- Provide the provincial governor with operational resources and money for community outreach and micro projects to support his needs and serve as incentive to develop

Accomplishments:

- Supported justice sector development through the publication and distribution of Judicial Reference Law sets, a 17-volume collection of laws, to all 20 judges in the province
- Developed and trained judges and court administrators in the new Afghanistan Court Administration System, a case-management system that improves the courts' ability to manage cases and provide due process, leading to more effective and transparent rule of law
- Supported justice sector development through a one-month Foundation Training Program for 17 sitting judges and a one-year Supreme Court-mandated Stage Judicial Training Program for eight judicial candidates, providing judges with access to the tools necessary to officiate over the courts
- Assisted the Supreme Court in drafting a new ethics code for all judges and provided training for all of Afghanistan's judges in the contents and importance of the code
- Promoted legal and human rights awareness, including women's rights, through public education campaigns in a variety of media, thereby making information accessible even to those who cannot read
- Promoted participation in governance and civic education through civic education programs for 300 citizens, election candidate training, and election monitoring for the 2004-2005 elections
- Supported the 2008 voter registration exercise, assisted domestic and international observation missions, trained political parties and independent poll agents, conducted a series of poll surveys ahead of the elections, and ultimately helped conduct the 2009/2010 elections
- Established one radio station
- Provided on-going capacity building training to three civil-society organizations in this province
- Awarded 36 grants

ECONOMIC GROWTH

Goal: Create a developed business climate that enables private investment, job creation, and financial independence.

Summary: USAID's economic growth program helps the Afghan government develop sound economic governance and works with the private sector to stimulate investment and business opportunities. USAID partners



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with Afghans and the Afghan government to attract investment, generate sustainable employment, and expand market linkages. USAID promotes economic development in Daykundi Province through expanding access to modern banking services and telecommunications.

Current Activities:

- Conduct budget training programs and provide technical assistance to provincial officials in preparing annual budget estimates through support to the Ministry of Finance (MoF) provincial budgeting team and provincial budgeting officers based in the training hub in Kandahar Province
- Hire and deploy two MoF provincial budgeting officers to support provincial budgeting training and coordinate with line ministries
- Promote improved cash management operations with regard to availability and quality of bank notes in circulation

Accomplishments:

- Facilitated the deployment of the first telecom infrastructure ever to exist in Daykundi (in December 2006, Afghan Telecom launched its wireless service, providing voice and dial-up internet services to approximately 2,500 paying customers)
- Connected provincial government offices with Kabul through broadband technology; this Government Communications Network facilitated active, transparent governance by linking federal and local level decision-makers, and is also available for commercial users including non-government organizations and the Independent Election Commission
- Installed eight district communications network centers operated by Afghan Telecom that provide telephones, internet, and copying services to district government officials and the public
- Established one Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB) branch office in Daykundi that operates as the paying agent for the government and disburses all social, payroll, and procurement payments (services such as these increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the social and economic infrastructure of Afghanistan, contributing to the development of the public and private-sectors)
- Installed the Revenue Reconciliation and Accounting database in the Daykundi Mustofiat, which has dramatically reduced processing times of Afghan government revenue receipts, production on revenue reports, and uploading into the consolidated MoF Financial Management System
- Supported the MoF to hold a provincial budgeting training event for 10 Daykundi Province officials, providing information on foundations of public financial management, planning and budgeting practices, and the MoF's public financial management reforms in budgeting, treasury, and aid management
- Supported the accounting and financial management department at DAB Daykundi to prepare for implementation of the Core Bank System, DAB's automated transaction management and accounting system which dramatically improves service delivery, funds transfers, and financial reporting functions
- Promoted economic related information and data collection activities to build DAB regional economic research and analytical functions introduced in DAB zone offices
- Supported the revenue reconciliation team of the Daykundi Mustofiat, focused on accurate revenue collection posting and reporting to center
- Promoted improved cash management operations with regard to availability and quality of bank notes in circulation

EDUCATION



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Goal: Improve the quality of basic education through improved teacher quality and increased availability of primary school textbooks; support community-based education; improve the livelihoods of urban and rural communities through increased literacy and employability instruction.

Summary: USAID supports educational improvements in Daykundi Province through three national education projects. USAID has provided in-service teacher training (INSET), developed in-school teacher support activities, provided radio-based teacher support programs, provided support to local communities through capacity strengthening in partnerships with non-government organizations and Ministry of Education personnel, printed textbooks, and constructed and/or refurbished schools.

Current Activities:

- Continue INSET 2 training teachers
- Develop accelerated learning materials and train trainers
- Conduct school management training 2 (SMT 2)
- Provide radio-based teacher support programs to improve teachers' skills and performance
- Train teachers and school administrators in modern teaching methods through the establishment of district-based teacher training teams
- Support 29 community-based schools for 840 students to expand access and quality of education in areas where there are no formal schools
- Continue textbook support

Accomplishments:

- Completed teacher-training activities through partnerships with non-government organizations for more than 2,800 teachers and approximately 90 trainers
- Broadcasted supplementary radio-based teacher support programs
- Established teacher learning circles in approximately 250 schools
- Developed school improvement plans in 237 schools
- Established 237 school-management committees
- Completed more than 1,400 teacher observations during life of the project
- Established 87 school manager practicum groups for 253 school principals
- Provided school manager and curricula training for 227 teachers and school directors
- Constructed three schools
- Printed more than 498,700 primary education textbooks

HEALTH

Goal: Improve the access to and quality of health services and increase the abilities of individuals, families, and communities to protect their health.

Summary: USAID's principal health investments in Daykundi Province come through nationwide projects, including support for health and family planning products and provision of training courses.

Current Activities:

- Fund the Diseases Early Warning System for 14 routine conditions/diseases in six sentinel sites
- Support social marketing of health and family planning products (such as contraceptives, water purification agents, and oral rehydration salts for diarrhea) through private sector outlets



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- Distribute community awareness materials for tuberculosis, diagnostic, treatment and training packages for tuberculosis including a database information system and maintenance equipment for the database
- Train community health worker trainers and community health supervisors, and orient new non-governmental organization staff, to expand the use of post-partum family planning

Accomplishments:

- Trained 180 pharmacists, shura members, and community health workers on safe drinking water, oral rehydration salts, and birth spacing to increase the quality of preventative healthcare

INFRASTRUCTURE

Goal: Improve infrastructure in order to create licit economic opportunities, promote freedom of movement, and facilitate delivery of government and social services.

Summary: The infrastructure program for Daykundi Province focused on improving the road linkages within the province and with Uruzgan Province, while building the capacity of local road workers and supporting the provincial economy using locally-available materials.

Accomplishments:

- Improved sections of the Chora to Gizab Road to connect Daykundi and Uruzgan provinces and facilitate access to markets and government and social services
- Improved sections of the Daykundi to Tamazan Road
- Improved sections of the Kijran to Nilli Road

STABILIZATION

Goal: Improve stability, extend the reach of the Afghan government, and promote stabilization efforts that lay the groundwork for medium- to long-term development activities.

Summary: USAID creates linkages and builds confidence between communities and the local government through small-scale infrastructure, training, and community-development projects.

Current Activities:

- Support community-level labor intensive programs that improve city infrastructure, support community development priorities, and offer temporary employment (wages earned through these public and community works projects enable the urban poor to support themselves and their families)