



# USAID | AFGHANISTAN

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## FACT SHEET

### Ghazni Province

#### OVERVIEW

USAID estimated support for Ghazni from January 2002 - June 2011: \$284.7 million

Estimated population: 1,092,000 (Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Central Statistics Office: Estimated Population of Afghanistan 2008-2009)

Capital: Ghazni

Note: U.S.-led PRT



The southern province of Ghazni is strategically located on the route between Kabul and Kandahar. It was once the center of the Ghaznavian Empire, which ruled much of India, Central Asia, and Persia. One of the more densely populated provinces of Afghanistan, Ghazni's majority population is Pashtun with Tajik and Hazara minorities. Although not as volatile as neighboring provinces, Ghazni's development has been hindered by political instability and the presence of the Taliban. This mountainous province has also seen a number of natural disasters in recent years, including both severe drought and flooding.

#### 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 prepares farmers to participate in a modern agricultural economy through improved agricultural opportunities, road rehabilitation, and training.

#### Current Activities:

- Provide technical assistance and technical training to area farmers
- Providing technical assistance to farmers to enhance their capacity for orchard management
- Train Kuchi leaders in peace and negotiation methods and conflict resolution
- Improve the quality of grapes through vineyard trellising

#### Accomplishments:

- Provided three village-based seed enterprises, six greenhouses, and 30 demonstration farms to strengthen commercial agricultural opportunities
- Funded the construction or rehabilitation of more than 120 km of farm-to-market roads and rehabilitated a bridge connecting Ghazni-Hazarajat market centers to decrease transport time for farmers and provide employment and training for local workers (farm-to-market transportation is key to promoting agricultural growth)
- Improved women's economic opportunities through assistance to a feed mill program and a women's poultry project that assisted more than 3,600 women with poultry production, egg marketing, and business skills while promoting sustainable agriculture



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- Identified new markets for agricultural enterprises in the P2KG region (Paktya, Paktika, Khost, and southeast Ghazni)
- Established the Ghazni farm service center that provides agricultural inputs and services to the farmers and has produced sales of \$14.9 million, created 44 full-time equivalent jobs, and trained 3,607 farmers in agriculture related activities
- Contributed to the development of a rangeland law
- Conducted a rangeland survey
- Institutionalized three rangeland management technologies within MAIL
- Established 200 hectares of new orchards and provided training on land preparation, layout, and planting techniques for 895 farmers

### 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 democracy and governance in Ghazni Province through activities including legislative strengthening, electoral support, justice sector reform, media, and civil-society development.

#### Current Activities:

- Provide capacity building training to civil-society organizations
- Support radio stations
- Provide training to the provincial council, which will improve professionalism, knowledge, and skills resulting in more effective and transparent leadership
- Build the capacity of the mayor and municipal staff to respond to citizen needs and provide essential public services such as power, water, sanitation, safe roads, waste management, and youth activities
- 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
- 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
- Develop the human and institutional capacity of the courts, increasing access to justice particularly for women, developing and implementing a case tracking system including professional training for judges and administrators on the system
- Provide institutional capacity development and advocacy support to women-focused Afghan civil-society organizations

#### Accomplishments:

- Supported justice sector development through the publication and distribution of Judicial Reference Law sets, a 17-volume collection of laws, to all 39 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



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- Supported justice sector development through a one-month Foundation Training Program for 23 sitting judges and a one-year Supreme Court-mandated Stage Judicial Training Program for 16 judicial candidates, providing justices 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
- Constructed a provincial court and an administration building for prosecutors and Ministry of Justice personnel
- 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 through civic education, election candidate training, and election monitoring for the 2004-2005 elections
- Awarded small grants to non-government organizations and civil-society organizations to promote women's rights, human rights, and community mediation and conflict analysis
- 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
- Provided capacity building training to 11 civil-society organizations
- Established three radio stations
- Awarded 21 grants
- Trained 323 civil servants in the Afghanistan National Development Strategy

### 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 with Afghans and the Afghan government to attract investment, generate sustainable employment, and expand market linkages. USAID promotes economic development in Ghazni Province through micro-lending, expanding access to telecommunications, and automating banking services.

#### Current Activities:

- Support the Ministry of Finance's (MoF) provincial budgeting team and provincial budgeting officers based in the Jalalabad training hub to conduct budgeting training programs and provide technical assistance to provincial officials in preparing annual budget estimates

#### Accomplishments:

- Facilitated and launched the Afghan government effort to connect provincial government offices with Kabul through broadband technology to facilitates active, transparent governance
- Installed nine district communications network centers and seven village communications networks, operated by Afghan Telecom, that provide telephones, internet, and photocopying services to district government officials and the public
- Expanded, refurbished, and fully automated two provincial branches of Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB) that operate 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



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infrastructure of Afghanistan, contributing to the development of the public and private-sectors; the branch staff received 240 hours of on-site training)

- Installed the revenue reconciliation and accounting database in the Ghazni 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
- Implemented the Core Banking System, DAB's automated transaction and financial management system, which dramatically improves service delivery, funds transfer capabilities, and accounting and financial reporting functions
- Trained 28 Ghazni officials in effective planning and budget estimate preparation to increase their participation in the national budget process by developing inputs that better reflect local needs and priorities
- Reorganized land titling documentation at the Makhzan court register with new cost-efficient technology, enabling Afghans to easily access their property documents (before the reorganization, the land administration office was unable to properly document land transfers, provide proof of ownership documents, or prevent the registration of fraudulent deeds)
- Promoted economic expansion and private-sector development through micro-credit lending
- Disbursed nearly \$1.2 million in microfinance loans through USAID-funded financial institutions
- Supported six agricultural businesses through a seed grant to establish a Dry Fruit Processors Association
- Supported road and construction engineering company through grant assistance
- Promoted economic related information and data collection activities to build DAB regional economic research and analytical function introduced in DAB zone offices
- Supported the revenue reconciliation team of the Ghazni Mustofiat centered 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

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

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

#### Current Activities:

- Continue INSET 2 training for teachers
- Conduct INSET 3 focused on literacy and numeracy for primary teachers
- Develop accelerated learning materials and train trainers
- Conduct school management training 2
- Provide face-to-face and radio-based teacher support programs for 5,000 teachers in 441 schools
- Fund remedial education for girls in one district



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- Support 43 community-based schools, eight adult literacy courses, and three early childhood classes to expand access and quality of education in areas where there are no formal schools
- Implement four grants to provide potable drinking water, wells, boundary walls, and laboratory equipment at girls and boys schools
- Support internally displaced population community-based schools to expand access and quality of education in area where are no MoE schools
- Fund remedial education for out-of-school and over aged girls
- Continue textbook support

### Accomplishments:

- Integrated 35 community based education classes into the Ministry of Education system
- Broadcast supplementary radio-based teacher support programs
- Trained approximately 19,125 teachers and 630 trainers in INSET training
- Established 318 school management committees
- Established more than 824 Teacher Learning Circles in 457 schools
- Completed 28,000 teacher observations during the project life
- Established 103 school manager practicum groups for 848 school principals
- Developed school improvement plans in 327 schools
- Constructed or refurbished 26 schools, which serve up to 8,460 students
- Printed more than 2.9 million primary education textbooks
- Supported 59 community-based schools in three districts to expand access and quality of education in areas where there are no formal schools

## HEALTH

**Goal:** Improve the access and quality of health services and increase the overall healthcare practices of individuals, families, and communities.

**Summary:** USAID's principal health investments in Ghazni Province preventative healthcare come through support for the Basic Package of Health Services (BPHS) and the Essential Package of Hospital Services (EPHS), including technical assistance to the Provincial Health Office and implementing non-governmental organizations, pre-service and refresher training for community health workers, and the provision of refresher training courses for nurses and physicians.

### Current Activities:

- Support 64 health facilities to implement BPHS and EPHS
- Procure and distribute high-quality pharmaceuticals and contraceptives
- Fund the Diseases Early Warning System for 14 routine conditions/diseases in seven sentinel sites
- Implement the Integrated Child Survival Package at the community level in Deh-yak and Khwaja Omari districts, including growth monitoring and promotion, community case management, and newborn care
- Support full implementation of tuberculosis activities including initial and refresher trainings on the treatment of tuberculosis, upgrading lab facilities, strengthening lab microscopy, and introducing or scaling-up community based initiatives such as community awareness of tuberculosis and treatment of tuberculosis by community health workers
- Distribute of community awareness materials for tuberculosis, diagnostic, treatment and training packages for tuberculosis including a database information system and maintenance equipment for the database



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- 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
- Support the Provincial Public Health Office and the Provincial Public Health Coordination Committee to strengthen the technical, leadership, and management capacity of the provincial health team to support the delivery of BPHS and EPHS
- Prepare to launch a community-based midwifery training program to reduce infant mortality and improve mothers' reproductive health
- Fund province-wide Community Health Worker pre-service and refresher training
- Provide on-the-job training to health facilities based on quality assurance findings to ensure healthcare providers have the necessary skills
- Provide training on reproductive health and family planning to enable religious leaders to provide accurate information to communities
- Increase the technical and managerial skills of healthcare workers through refresher training for doctors, nurses, and lab technicians

### Accomplishments:

- Established two model tuberculosis learning centers for health providers
- Trained 17,600 pharmacists, shura members, and community health workers on safe drinking water, oral rehydration salts, and birth spacing to increase the quality of preventative healthcare
- Procured and distributed high-quality pharmaceuticals and contraceptives valued at \$2.2 million
- Trained provincial health officers to develop joint monitoring plans to support the delivery of BPHS and EPHS

### 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 in Ghazni Province focuses on the improvement of roads and water facilities while building the capacity of local institutions and workers, and supporting the provincial economy using locally available materials.

### Current Activities:

- Upgrade the provincial road from Jaghuri to Malistan to Khas Uruzgan into an engineered gravel road
- Maintain the Ghazni portion of the Ring Road and the Ghazni to Sharan Road, and strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Public Works to manage road maintenance by Afghan contractors
- Improve the sustainability and service delivery of the Ghazni water utility by helping reduce losses, increase cost recovery and strengthen management
- Improve health and sanitation through the construction or repair of water supply systems and latrines in Rabat, Nawur, Hasan Abad, Ali Abad, Rabat, Selezmani, Kelye and Sartur Baba

### Accomplishments:

- Installed solar systems to provide electricity and hot water to clinics in Ramak and Tormai villages
- Rehabilitated the 122 km Ghazni section of the Ring Road and the 33 km Ghazni-Sharan Road, shortening travel time, improving economic opportunities, and providing access to health services and educational institutions



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- Constructed wells, rehabilitated a piped water supply system, and repaired latrines improve health and sanitation of local residents
- Trained 20 personnel on the use of well-digging equipment and water sanitation technology
- Provided additional power and water system capacity through the construction of two dams, the Ghazni reservoir, and the Ghazni transmission pipeline
- Explored new energy possibilities through wind power generation testing
- Constructed the Ghazni water distribution system to provide safe, potable water to 1,200 households
- Rehabilitated sections of the Ghazni-Gardez National Highway
- Rehabilitated 15 km of the Ring Road to Dado Zana Khan Road
- Improved sections of the Malistan to Jaghuri Road

### STABILIZATION

**Goal:** Improve security, extend the reach of the Afghan government, and facilitate reconstruction to contribute to building the foundations of stabilization.

**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 poor to purchase food for themselves and their families)
- Provide community-implemented unskilled labor opportunities through community-selected stabilization grants to improve transportation, refurbish community buildings and improve irrigation infrastructure in Gelan District
- Provide tailored assistance to eight families suffering losses as a result of international military operations against anti-government elements

### Accomplishments:

- Repaired 5,230 meters of secondary/tertiary road in remote villages, improving local transportation, access to government services and access to district centers
- Provided renewable energy to Andar District through the provision of 100 solar panels to communities throughout the district
- Improved government service delivery through the placement of technical advisors in six key government offices, providing mentoring, on-the-job training and capacity building skills
- Conducted vocational training for vulnerable groups such as women, refugees and the physically disabled
- Brought potable water to rural villages of Ghazni, Malistan, Nawur and Jaghuri districts by constructing hand pump wells
- Improved district transportation through the grading and gravelling of 11.2 km of road in Ghazni and Khwaja Omari districts
- Assessed the environment for economic development in Ghazni City through the administration of a small business assessment
- Strengthened communities and created bonds between different local tribes by repairing sports fields and playgrounds and providing sports equipment to schools in and around Ghazni City
- Helped 26,100 people through community-level labor intensive programs that improve city infrastructure, support community development priorities, and offer temporary employment



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- Provided assistance for 30 war-affected families (including small business and standard kits) as a result of international military operations against anti-government elements