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AFGHANISTAN

FACT SHEET

Kapisa Province

OVERVIEW

USAID estimated support for Kapisa from January 2002 - June 2011: \$41.2 million

Estimated population: 393,000 (Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Central Statistics Office: Estimated Population of Afghanistan 2008-2009)

Capital: Mahmud Raqi

Note: US-led PRT based out of Bagram



The province of Kapisa sits at the base of the Hindu Kush and is traversed by the Panjshir and Gorband Rivers. Kapisa's mixed Tajik and Pashtun population benefits from the province's talc mine and fertile agricultural land. The region's farmers grow cereal crops, onions, and potatoes, and also cultivate orchards with a diversity of fruit and nuts. Although there are few good roads in Kapisa, the newly paved road connecting Parwan Province to other eastern provinces has played an important part in boosting Kapisa's economy. While the province continues to lack many basic services, there are several good educational opportunities for its residents, including the newly built Al Biruni University.

AGRICULTURE

Goal: Increase agricultural sector jobs and income through a) increased agricultural productivity by increasing farmer access to inputs such as fertilizer and through the expansion of 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 helping farmers develop a dynamic agricultural economy capable of adapting to market forces through support of market linkages and improved farm technology.

Current Activities:

- Establish a farm service center

Accomplishments:

- Exported 1,000 kg of pomegranates to India to promote the fruit to consumers, wholesale buyers, and the India International Trade Fair
- Established nine private full-service AgDepot farm stores that provide agriculture supplies and services to support key legal crops and animal health
- Installed an AgNet Internet communications system and weather station in the provincial MAIL office, providing access to the National Agriculture Information System database and trained AgNet technicians, who collect and transmit local weather, market price, and agricultural production data to ministry headquarters and local farmers
- Established and continues to support 14 veterinary field units including in-service training to 17 para-veterinarians, providing over one million life-saving vaccines and other medications and treatments to animals
- Distributed seed and fertilizer vouchers to approximately 11,000 famers



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- Trained nine Afghan government officials from MAIL, the National Environmental Protection Agency, and other related organizations on community-based natural resource management practices
- Established 22 woodlots, four nurseries, and 50 fruit orchards; planted 248,800 trees and cuttings; planted 1,700 fruit rootstocks; trained 334 individuals on orchard, fruit nursery, and forestry management; and created 87 full-time equivalent jobs
- Contributed to the development of the rangeland law
- Trained Kuchi leaders in peace and negotiation methods and conflict resolution

DEMOCRACY & GOVERNANCE

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

Summary: USAID builds the capacity of government institutions and civil-society to improve the accountability of government, as well as the quality and quantity of government services to citizens in Kapisa Province through activities that support the justice sector, media, civil-society, and governance development.

Current Activities:

- Support USAID-established community cultural centers that carry out legal and women's rights awareness activities at the district level
- Provide capacity building training to civil-society organizations
- Provide training to the provincial council, which will improve their 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
- 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
- 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

Accomplishments:

- Supported justice sector development through the publication and distribution of Judicial Reference Law sets, a 17-volume collection of laws, to 31 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 31 sitting judges and a one-year Supreme Court-mandated Stage Judicial Training Program for 23 judicial candidates, providing judges access to the tools necessary to officiate over the courts



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- 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
- Built a provincial judicial building and a district administration building
- 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
- Facilitated consensus-building efforts through organizing town hall meetings, civic education training, and dialogue sessions with mullahs and sharia teachers
- Funded community learning systems for women and out-of-school girls and held an International Women's Day celebration to inform women about issues such as health, education, and women's rights, and encourage them to take an active role in their communities
- Sponsored 18 legal awareness radio programs throughout the province and four legal rights awareness workshops in three districts of Kapisa, increasing citizens' knowledge about their rights
- Promoted participation in governance through a number of programs, including voter registration, election candidate training, and election monitoring activities for 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
- Supported two civil-society organizations
- Awarded 11 grants
- Trained 328 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 a legal economy in Kapisa Province by expanding access to telecommunications and modern banking services.

Current Activities:

- Support the Ministry of Finance's 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:

- Installed six district communications network centers, operated by Afghan Telecom, that provide telephones, internet, and photocopying services to district government officials and the public
- Promoted economic related information and data collection activities to build Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB) regional economic research and analytical function introduced in DAB zone offices
- Implemented an automated Core Banking System, provided training for bank staff, and expanded and refurbished the provincial branch of DAB 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)



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- Installed the Revenue Reconciliation and Accounting database in the Kapisa Mustofiat, which has dramatically reduced processing times of Afghan government revenue receipts, production on revenue reports, and uploading into the consolidated Ministry of Finance Financial Management System
- Offered business development training to six business associations involved in the processing of honey and pomegranates
- Trained seven associations on association management
- Trained 43 Kapisa 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
- Supported 83 small and medium enterprises through sector-specific training, association grants, and business skills training
- Promoted economic expansion and rural enterprise development through micro-credit lending
- Disbursed more than \$510,400 in microfinance loans through USAID-funded financial institutions
- Supported the revenue reconciliation team of the Kapisa 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; and improve the livelihoods of urban and rural communities through increased literacy and employability instruction.

Summary: USAID supports educational improvements in Kapisa Province through three national education projects. USAID has provided radio-based teacher support programs, provided support to local communities through capacity strengthening in partnerships with non-governmental organizations and Ministry of Education personnel, provided literacy and vocational schools, printed textbooks, and constructed and/or refurbished schools.

Current Activities:

- Provide radio-based teacher support programs to improve teachers' skills and performance in the classroom
- Train community leaders and village teachers in community mobilization, program management, and functional literacy skills
- Support 605 literacy centers in 190 communities
- Support 106 community-based schools in five districts, to expand access and quality of education in five districts where there are no formal schools
- Continue textbook support

Accomplishments:

- Integrated 44 community based education classes into the Ministry of Education system
- Established 605 literacy centers (34 for women) for 14,000 youth and adults (59 percent female) in 190 communities
- Printed more than 1.46 million primary and secondary education textbooks
- Constructed 14 schools



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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 Kapisa Province come through nationwide programs, including support for health and family planning products and provision of refresher training courses for nurses and physicians.

Current Activities:

- 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
- Fund the Diseases Early Warning System for 14 routine conditions/diseases in seven sentinel sites
- 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 the Basic Package of Health Services (BPHS) and the Essential Package of Hospital Services (EPHS)
- Train community health worker trainers and community health supervisors, and orient new non-government organization staff, to expand the use of post-partum family planning

Accomplishments:

- Trained 7,900 pharmacists, shura members, and community health workers on safe drinking water, oral rehydration salts, and birth spacing to increase the quality of preventative healthcare
- Trained provincial health officers to develop monthly joint monitoring plans to support the delivery of BPHS and EPHS

INFRASTRUCTURE

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

Summary: The infrastructure program for Kapisa Province focuses on the construction of renewable energy systems and water wells while building the capacity of local workers and supporting the local economy using locally available materials.

Current Activities:

- Construct 24 bore wells to provide potable water supply to residents of Nejrab District
- Install 25 solar home systems to provide electricity to 200 residents of Tagab District

Accomplishments:

- Completed 53 wells; providing potable water supply to residents of Nejrab District
- Constructed micro-hydro power plants by rehabilitating 20 water mills to increase access to potable water supplies and provide energy across Kapisa Province
- Built three bridges and rehabilitated the Kohband District Center Road, shortening travel time, improving economic opportunities, and providing access to health services and educational institutions



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- Constructed or refurbished wells in Alasay and Nijrab districts to increase access to water supply, improving the health of people, livestock, and crops

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 poor to purchase food for themselves and their families)
- Distribute kits to assist families who experienced losses as a result of international military operations against insurgents
- Fund canal cleaning in four villages to improve access to irrigation water

Accomplishments:

- Improved transportation in Kapisa Province through the construction of four village roads
- Supported drinking water projects and rehabilitated canals
- Provided improved access to drinking water through the Bio Sand Filter and Hygiene project for Tagab and Nijrab districts
- Provided vocational training in welding, masonry, mobile phone repair, literacy, and carpentry for 150 beneficiaries
- Helped 30,000 people through community-level labor intensive programs that improve city infrastructure, support community development priorities, and offer temporary employment
- Rehabilitated and constructed new classrooms for Ghazi Usman High School in Tagab District as a result of damage from international military operations against insurgents
- Provided six-month literacy and tailoring training programs for ten beneficiaries in multiple locations around the province