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AFGHANISTAN RESEARCH AND EVALUATION UNIT

Young Afghans Experience Violence that is Ongoing and Not Just Confined to Acts of War

Panter-Brick, Catherine [et al.] "Violence, Suffering, and Mental Health in Afghanistan: a School-based Survey." *The Lancet* 374, Issue 9692, 807-816, 5 September 2009, doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(09)61080-1, www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736%2809%2961080-1/abstract (268 KB).

Young Afghans experience violence that is ongoing and not confined to acts of war, concludes research work recently published in the international medical journal *The Lancet*. The study emphasises the value of school-based initiatives to address child mental health, and the importance of understanding trauma in the context of everyday forms of suffering, violence, and adversity.

The research was funded by one the largest UK medical charities, the Wellcome Trust, and implemented with formal approval from the Ministry of Education in Afghanistan. It was conducted by Catherine Panter-Brick and Mark Eggerman, from Durham University, UK, in collaboration with Altai Consulting (Viani Gonzalez) and the University of Peshawar, Pakistan (Sarah Safdar).

Studies in Afghanistan have shown substantial mental health problems in adults, but evidence relating to children is sparse. This survey focused on young people (11-16 years old) to assess mental health, traumatic experiences, and social functioning. It involved interviewing 1,011 children, 1,011 caregivers, and

358 teachers, randomly sampled from 25 government-operated schools within three central and northern areas (Kabul, Bamiyan, and Mazar-i-Sharif). Probable psychiatric disorder, depressive symptoms, post-traumatic stress symptoms, and social functioning in students were assessed, as was the mental health of caregivers. The analyses focus on risk factors for child mental health and reports of traumatic experiences.

The researchers found an association between all child outcomes and both exposure to traumatic experiences and caregiver mental health. Around 22 percent of children met the criteria for probable psychiatric disorder, with girls around two-and-a-half times more likely to have disorders than boys. Children who had suffered five or more traumatic events were two-and-a-half times more likely to have a psychiatric disorder, as well as three times more likely to report symptoms of post-traumatic stress, than those who had experienced four or less. Caregiver mental health was correlated to the wellbeing of the children under their care: there was 10 percent increase in the likelihood of child psychiatric disorder for each and every symptom of psychological distress reported by caregivers. Moreover, children living in Kabul were more likely to have a psychiatric disorder and symptoms of post-traumatic stress than those living in Bamiyan or Mazar-i-Sharif. The study also provides evidence of the fortitude and resilience among Afghan children in coping with violence and day-to-day

The Afghanistan Research Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit (AREU). The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. Some of the resources cited are available on the internet; most books and other publication are available at the AREU library, located in the AREU office (corner of Flower Street and Street 2) and open to researchers Sunday to Thursday, 9am-12:00pm and 1pm-4pm. The Newsletter is compiled by Royce Wiles. If you have ideas for books or other publications or resources that should be included in the Newsletter, please send an email to newsletter@areu.org.af.

AREU is an independent research organisation based in Kabul. AREU's mission is to conduct high-quality research that informs and influences policy and practice. AREU also actively promotes a culture of research and learning by strengthening analytical capacity in Afghanistan and facilitating reflection and debate. Fundamental to AREU's vision is that its work should improve Afghan lives. AREU was established in 2002 by the assistance community working in Afghanistan and has a board of directors with representation from donors, the United Nations and other multilateral agencies, and non-governmental organisations. AREU currently receives core funds from the governments of Finland, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. Specific projects have been funded by the Foundation of the Open Society Institute Afghanistan (FOSIA), the Asia Foundation (TAF), the European Commission (EC), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the World Bank. All AREU publications are available at www.areu.org.af.

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adversity. Students, caregivers and teachers reported many symptoms of mental health difficulties, but also rated their social functioning positively.

The authors highlight the fact that Afghan Government policy has explicitly recognised the need for public health interventions to alleviate trauma, mental health disorders, and psychological distress in the general population, in the context of acute constraints on the current provision of basic health and social services, and inherent challenges in creating effective youth-focused programmes.

They conclude: “In Afghanistan, there is a spectrum of violence—ranging from armed insurgency to family conflict—which generates sudden pain and persistent suffering. Our data suggest that, in Afghan children’s lives, everyday violence matters just as much as militarised violence in the recollection of traumatic experiences... Our study emphasises the value of school-based initiatives to address child mental health, and the importance of understanding trauma in the context of everyday forms of suffering, violence, and adversity.”

Contact: Professor Catherine Panter-Brick, Durham University, UK. Catherine.panter-brick@durham.ac.uk

Some facts from the research paper

- This is the first large-scale systematic study of child mental health in northern and central areas of the country. It featured a combination of international screening methods, used to assess child health in more than 60 other cultures, with questionnaires developed specifically for Afghanistan.
- Schools were the best point of contact to draw a systematic community sample, build rapport, deliver a complex protocol, and ensure privacy during face-to-face interviews. Systematic sampling could not be achieved for families who do not send their children to school.
- One in five school children is likely to suffer from mental health problems in the clinical range, namely extreme anxiety, distress, depression, and probable psychiatric disorder. That is twice the rate expected for school children of this age group. Poor mental health is a significant issue in the next generation of Afghans, and it is important to establish risk and protective factors.
- Children identify as traumatic and distressing experiences and events related to accidents, domestic beatings, violence in the neighbourhood, and painful medical treatments, not just war-related injury, loss of relatives, and forced displacement. It is not just war-related violence that creates trauma in the lives of children, but violence at the level of family and community life, generated by the pressure of daily social and economic stressors and uncertainties.
- Remarkably, a majority of children suffer great hardship without showing significant impairment of psychological well-being and social function in day-to-day life. One of the factors important for good child mental health is good caregiver’s mental health.

Recommendations for improving children’s mental health

- Because mental health is a key priority in Afghanistan’s Basic Package of Health Services, we need to think more broadly about what causes distress and suffering in the lives of children: a broad spectrum of violence and day-to-day stressors affects their mental health.
- Many children are focused on education and hard work, to help their families fight chronic poverty. Respondents stress the need for improving the quality of education, and alleviating family stressors related to employment and housing. School-based interventions, of the kind promoted in other conflict-affected countries to provide support to children and their families, would be well received.
- Mental health is promoted through policies that strengthen family units, not just the provision of specialist care for those in clinical need. A priority is to address the causes of ongoing violence in the lives of children, that are linked to community-level frustrations in the struggle to access stable jobs, health services, and quality education.

Spending the Development Dollar Twice: The Local Economic Impact of Procurement in Afghanistan

“Spending the Development Dollar Twice: the Local Economic Impact of Procurement in Afghanistan.” New York: Peace Dividend Trust, 2009. iv, 33 p. [www.peacedividendtrust.org/en/data/files/download/pdfs/PDT_Spending_Dev\\$Twice_Report_0709.pdf](http://www.peacedividendtrust.org/en/data/files/download/pdfs/PDT_Spending_Dev$Twice_Report_0709.pdf) (1.99 MB).

This report measured the local economic impact of official development assistance spending (ODA) on Afghanistan during 1385 (March 2006 - March 2007). The report identifies improvement since earlier studies and suggests ways forward to increase the impact of development spending within the Afghan economy.

The purpose of this research was to help the international community and the Afghan government track progress to meet commitments in the Afghanistan Compact related to enhancing aid effectiveness through an increased use of Afghan goods and services.

This second study by Peace Dividend Trust of the local economic impact of ODA spending on Afghanistan found that of the approximately \$2.1 billion disbursed by the international donors covered in this study, an estimated 37.6 percent—equal to \$788 million—entered the Afghan economy. This marks a 6 percent increase in local impact from the previous year.

Background

Peace Dividend Trust (PDT) is a non-profit organisation dedicated to making peace operations more efficient, effective, and equitable. This report was the second study carried out by PDT regarding aid effectiveness and local procurement in Afghanistan. The first project, *The Afghanistan Compact Procurement Monitoring Project* (2007), analysed the local economic impact of ODA spending from eight key development partners. This was the first assessment of commitments made in the 2006 Afghanistan Compact related to enhancing the effectiveness of international aid through an increased reliance on Afghan goods and services. It also offered recommendations to improve the current capacity for

monitoring and meeting those commitments as well as ways to increase the amount that they procure locally in Afghanistan.

The 2009 survey (funded by the UK’s Department for International Development [DFID]) was expanded to include eleven development partners—the United States, United Kingdom, World Bank, European Commission, Canada, Germany, Netherlands, Sweden, Italy, Norway, and the Asian Development Bank. The report was endorsed by Kai Eide, the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Afghanistan, who highlighted the importance of local procurement in generating tax revenue for the Afghan government and creating employment opportunities for young Afghan workers. On behalf of UNAMA, Eide challenged the international community to increase their local procurement by 10 percent in the coming year.

Key Findings

PDT found that between FY 1384 (March 2005 to March 2006) and FY 1385 (March 2006 to March 2007)—the local economic impact of donor spending improved from 31.2% to 37.6%, a significant improvement. In dollar terms, the local economic impact nearly doubled from \$414 million to \$788 million. This can primarily be attributed to the inclusion of additional donors in the follow-up study as well as an increase in local spending by many of the earlier participants—both of which raised the average impact.

As shown in the table below, PDT again found that the local economic impact of ODA is dramatically higher when channelled through trust funds, budget support arrangements, or directly to the Afghan government (around 80 percent) relative to funds provided to international companies or NGOs (over 15 percent). This was chiefly because trust funds pay local wages, purchase goods from local businesses, and fund programmes such as the National Solidarity Programme (NSP) that involve cash payments to local communities and individuals.

| Funding Arrangement | Estimated Local Economic Impact |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Trust Funds and Budget Support | 70-80% |
| International Contracts | 10-20% |
| Local Contracts | 35-50% |

Source: Estimates based on field surveys.

Contracts for international companies and NGOs were mainly used to pay for expatriate staff salaries and the procurement of materials internationally. Although these companies do use local labour, domestic wages are often much lower than those paid to internationals and therefore do not represent a large portion of their overall expenditures.

Another key conclusion of this research was that donors have still not yet put in place systems for either tracking or accounting for their ODA disbursements or the spending of their implementing partners. This limited the scope of possible analysis on local economic impact, thereby making it extremely challenging to measure the progress made to date at meeting international commitments on aid effectiveness.

Likewise, donors' ability to report accurately and comprehensively on their disbursements did not improve appreciably since the 2007 report. No donors were able to fully respond to the project's queries about their FY 1385 disbursements. Donors, in other words, often do not know how their international aid money is ultimately spent in Afghanistan.

Recommendations

PDT's work in Afghanistan has uncovered a number of practical, concrete steps that can be implemented in order to further enhance the local impact of ODA. Adhering to these policies would not reduce—and in fact would often increase—the value for money in procurement. First, more money should be put through the funding channels that have higher economic impacts. Although donor concerns about the capacity of the Afghan government to manage expenditures are understandable, they may not consider the substantial progress it has achieved to date at improving the effectiveness of its expenditures.

Second (according to PDT) donors can increase the economic impact of the other funding channels by procuring more Afghan goods and services. Increasing local procurement—particularly procurement that has a manufacturing or value added component that contributes to developing domestic capacity—is another means of improving the local economic impact of aid. The report recommended that development partners should encourage all contractors and implementing partners, wherever practical and cost-effective, to procure goods and services locally for project work before sourcing offshore.

Although donors often note the difficulties involved in working with Afghan businesses—including instability, corruption, and lack of capacity—the evidence is clear that local procurement, when done correctly, can benefit international buyers and domestic suppliers alike. PDT's Peace Dividend Marketplace Afghanistan (PDM-A) project since its inception in 2006 has helped

facilitate over \$350 million in contracts for Afghan businesses and created thousands of jobs for Afghan workers.

The report made several other operational and programmatic suggestions for donors and development partners: translating tenders into Dari and Pashto and distributing them more widely in order to facilitate more bids by small and medium enterprises (SMEs); hosting or supporting local training sessions for Afghan business owners that explain procurement procedures and expectations; and running seminars for international procurement officers that promote the economic and strategic benefits of mission spending in Afghanistan while offering them advice on how to best take advantage of the local marketplace.

To address the lingering weakness of donor data, PDT recommended that the donor community begin reporting regularly and accurately on their disbursements in the field in a more coordinated and tangible manner. This will improve their ability to measure and monitor the local economic impact of their spending, which in turn will better inform policy, programming, and other strategic decisions regarding the provision of aid.

Questions and Concerns

As with PDT's 2007 report, this study raised a few concerns from the international donor and NGO communities that deserve clarification. PDT is aware that the overall economic impact of the international community is greater than the impact of spending covered solely by ODA. The full impact would also include spending by donors on their own operations, as well as assistance provided that is not ODA-eligible (e.g. through defence cooperation). As well, the study did not assess the quality, value, or need for certain types of projects. It only sought to measure the direct fiscal impact of how international donors are currently spending ODA funds. As such, the estimation of the local economic impact of funding activities should be seen as a complementary analysis to their overall effectiveness.

Conclusion

According to this study, increasing the amount of funds going to Afghan vendors or being channelled through trust funds and budgetary support would increase the local economic impact of ODA. There should be an increase in the money spent *in* Afghanistan rather than simply *on* Afghanistan.

Enhancing the effectiveness of international aid through the increased use of local goods and services has numerous benefits for host and donor countries alike. Using local goods and services to carry out

project work, for instance, allows a development dollar to be spent twice—providing much needed services to Afghan citizens and communities while simultaneously creating jobs, generating revenue, and promoting a more sustainable marketplace—all of which can ultimately reduce the likelihood of relapse into conflict.

PDT's 2007 and 2009 reports found that the local economic impact of ODA has improved significantly in

the past few years—from 31.2% to 37.6%. Nonetheless, these reports identified continuing problems in tracking and monitoring disbursements as well as a general failure of international organisations to take advantage of the Afghan marketplace when procuring goods and services.

For more information about PDT and “Spending the Development Dollar Twice,” please visit the PDT website at www.pdtglobal.org.

Research News

National Centre for Policy Research 2009 research topics (www.ncpr.af)

The “Catalogue of Studies 2009-2010” from the National Centre for Policy Research lists the following research topics already underway for 2009:

- The Department of Economics will look at the market economy system and its outcomes for the Afghan economy.
- The Department of Social Sciences will look at unemployment and its social effects in Afghanistan.
- The Department of Peace Studies will look at peace from the view of Islam and how to implement it in Afghanistan.

New Building Underway for the Afghanistan Centre at Kabul University (ACKU)

On 25 July 2009 a groundbreaking ceremony was held at the site of the planned new library building for ACKU on the campus of Kabul University (near the Syed Jamaluddin Afghani monument). Nancy Dupree (pictured here) and the Minister Dr Azam Dadfar and other dignitaries attended. The contractor for the building has been selected by the Ministry of Higher Education and construction has begun, with the work expected to take 10-15 months.

Additionally, a compilation of commentaries about Afghanistan by Nancy Dupree (from 1995-2007) published by the Swedish Committee for Afghanistan has been reprinted in a collected volume (in separate Swedish and English versions). The English version

(detailed below) is available in Kabul from Ganjina in Shahr-i-Naw for \$25.00, otherwise email the Swedish Committee at info@sak.se.

Further details and updates are available from the ACKU website: www.ackuaf.org

Dupree, Nancy Hatch. *Afghanistan over a Cup of Tea: 46 Chronicles*. Edited by Markus Håkansson, translations by Norman Burns. Stockholm, Sweden: Swedish Committee for Afghanistan, 2008. 191 p. ISBN 9789186936259.



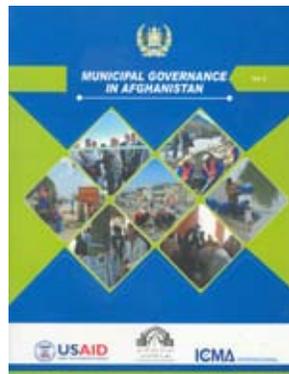
Nancy Hatch Dupree
(Photo: Markus Hakansson,
Swedish Committee for Afghanistan)

Volume Two of Municipal Governance Textbook Available

Samaraweera, Vijaya. *Municipal Governance in Afghanistan*. Kabul: ICMA, 2009. v. 2 (v, 346 p.).

As mentioned in the outline of the contents of v. 1 of this title in the previous issue of this newsletter (No. 22, July/August 2009, 5-7), volume 2 of this title has been released and presents documents (listed below) that are resource materials for consultation along with the substantive sections of volume 1. These are official documents of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (and its predecessor the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan) presented in English as reference materials. The current constitution of Afghanistan appears first followed by a series of legislative enactments of the two states.

- Constitution of Afghanistan (1382) (Official Gazette (OG) 818, January 2004)



- Law on Municipalities 1421 (1379) (OG 794, 7 October 2000)
- Election Law for Municipalities 1381 (OG 814, 21 December 2003)
- Municipal Tax Law for City Services 1421 (1379) (OG 794, 16 November 2001)
- Amendment to Article 11 of the Municipal tax law for city services 1381 (2002) (Decree of the Department of the Interim Administration of Afghanistan)
- Procurement Law 1384 (OG 865, 25 October 2005)
- Convention against Anti-corruption [sic] 1386 (OG 936, 10 October 2007)
- Finance and Expenditure Management Law 1385 (OG 893, 27 July 2005)
- Environment Law 1385 (2007) (OG 912, 25 January 2007)
- Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Independent Directorate for Local Governance, Five year Strategic Work plan (February 2008)

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AREU Research Update

The following brief remarks about AREU current research supplement the information given on our website www.areu.org.af.

Gender Relations and Women's Participation Study

AREU's gender relations and women's participation research is exploring the effects of women's participation in two different countrywide development initiatives: the National Solidarity Programme Community Development Councils (CDCs), and microfinance programs supported under the Microfinance Investment Support Facility for Afghanistan (MISFA).

These two national programs are administered by the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) and implemented through partner organisations. The research investigates the effects or impacts of women's participation on their gender roles and relations inside their families and in the community. This research is exploring the assumption that women's participation in development initiatives will necessarily lead to women's empowerment. The research explores more specifically the following issues:

- The effects of women's local level participation in governance, community organising and development projects on gender roles and relations in the context of the family and the local community. Therefore, it will identify which forms of women's participation have a positive impact, for women, in their everyday lives. Also, the types of participation can be identified as empowering for women as individuals and as a group.
- If empowerment in one site (e.g., public decision-making forums such as CDCs and other NGO community based groups) necessarily leads to empowerment in another (e.g., the private domain of the household or family).
- Examines implementing agencies' motivations for encouraging women to participate and compares these with women participants' own motivations for becoming involved in these development initiatives.
- Identifies enabling factors and obstacles to women's participation in both NSP CDCs and micro-credit

programs and projects. It will also identify the factors encouraging or hindering women's effective participation in these development initiatives.

- To understand how women's empowerment and participation is understood and manifested in the Afghan context in relation to NSP CDCs and microcredit programs.

The research is focused around four key themes: power, politics, empowerment and participation, in order to thoroughly explore the effects of Afghan women's local-level participation on gender relations in their families and communities. However the central theme in this research is the concept of power: in order to understand if women's participation in these development programs empowers women, it is first essential to understand how power dynamics operate within Afghan context and families. Similarly, gender is about the differences between men and women based on the power differentials between them. So this research will focus on how power operates in Afghan families and what changes have occurred in the power relations between men and women after women's participation in these development programs.

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Governance

For research purposes, AREU defines governance in broad terms, as the processes of decision-making and the implementation of those decisions. The governance programme at AREU aims to inform national and international actors involved in state-building and development about governance issues in Afghanistan. Research is currently focused on the following areas:

Representative governance

This study looks at key aspects of representative governance in Afghanistan. In 2009, it has focused on three areas: political parties, Afghan perspectives of democracy and democratisation, and elections. Papers on all three subjects are now available. The topic will be extended into 2010 in two ways: by continuing data collection for the democratisation study in different provinces, and in a new study on parliamentary functions and dynamics.

Student politics

This research will analyse the ways and means through which students in key Afghan universities engage with political parties and politics more generally. A briefing paper will be available by the end of 2009.

Sub-national corruption

Increasing attention is being paid by policymakers to corruption at the national level, but to date little is

known about corruption and perceptions of corrupt practices at the sub-national level. This project will start as a desk-based study in November 2009, drawing on existing data, before a planned expansion in 2010 to a fieldwork based study in a number of comparative provinces.

Contact: Anna Larson at anna@areu.org.af

Livelihoods

This team is undertaking analysis and writing up of the fieldwork completed in Sar-i-Pul Province. Work is also underway in establishing a fourth and final phase of the Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories research in Faryab Province. AREU will be undertaking a study of livelihoods in three villages there. The research will be undertaken in cooperation with ACTED. To this end AREU is training a team of ACTED staff in the research methodology and implementation practice.

Contact Douglas Saltmarsh at douglas@areu.org.af

Transitional Justice

AREU recently began a new project "Legacies of Conflict in Afghanistan: Justice, Reconciliation and Ways Forward." The research project is inspired by ongoing efforts to promote transitional justice in Afghanistan and seeks to contribute to this process through the development of qualitative, in-depth knowledge about the legacies of conflict and perceptions and desires for justice, peace and reconciliation at the community-level. Consequently, it aims to analyse the impact of past and present war crimes and gross human rights violations on Afghan communities, to identify strategies and mechanisms that allow communities to move forward. It also aims to contribute to keeping the issue of transitional justice on the political agenda.

The key research themes will be:

- The legacy of conflict: to explore what has happened during different regimes in the past 30 years.
- Justice: what justice for human rights violations and crimes committed in war means to people, and what they hope justice can do for them.
- Peace: The relationship between justice, security and peace.
- Reconciliation: What reconciliation means to people and how it is best pursued.

The project will add to and complement existing research and studies such as the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC)'s "A Call for Justice" (2005) and the Afghanistan Justice Project's "Casting Shadows" (2005). In doing so, it

will attempt to fill in the gaps by exploring in more detail what people really mean by justice and how the lack of justice has impacted on individual, family and community “wellbeing,” including how the absence of transitional justice affects political, economic and social development.

The objective is to gain understanding about people’s perceptions and demands for justice and how they can be fulfilled. This study aims to listen to communities’ and victims’ voices, giving them a chance to say what they want and need in terms of justice, including distinguishing between what they desire at the community level and what they hope to see at the national level.

The research will likely be conducted in four provinces (Kabul, Bamiyan, Uruzgan, Badakhshan) to

acknowledge different ethnic groups and to see how people were and are effected by different regimes and different conflicts in different parts of Afghanistan.

In order to collect data on such a sensitive subject, building trust and rapport among the communities where the research is conducted will be paramount. An open-ended qualitative approach has been chosen (a mixture of semi-structured individual interviews, informal conversations and focus group discussions) to understand the full range of experiences of the communities. This will allow the research teams to be flexible according to what the communities feel comfortable talking about and what perceptions and opinions they have.

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New publications from AREU

September 2009, *A Closer Look – The Policy and Law-making Process Behind the Shiite Personal Status Law*, by Lauryn Oates. www.areu.org.af/index.php?option=com_docman&Itemid=26&task=doc_download&gid=709 (320 KB).

In March 2009, news of the Shiite Personal Status Law, which included a handful of articles that restricted the rights of Afghan Shia women, exploded in the international press, galvanising heated responses from a variety of stakeholders. An AREU study has sought to examine another angle of this story: the inception, preparation and parliamentary passage of the law. The aim has been to identify what this experience can illustrate about lawmaking in post-Bonn Afghanistan, and the political culture and capacity surrounding it. Respondents included MPs, Shia academics, civil society representatives, Shia women who demonstrated against the law, a Supreme Court judge, and representatives of independent media outlets, the international community, and the Ministry of Justice.

September 2009, *Toward an Afghan Democracy? Exploring Perceptions of Democratisation in Afghanistan*, by Anna Larson. www.areu.org.af/index.php?option=com_docman&Itemid=26&task=doc_download&gid=707 (320 KB).

Despite all of the attention being paid to Afghanistan’s controversial elections, one important question has gone largely unasked: What do Afghans think about democracy? This question is deeply relevant to Afghanistan’s future, and is at the heart of this new AREU report.

August 2009, *Patronage, Posturing, Duty, Demographics: Why Afghans Voted in 2009*, by Noah Coburn and Anna Larson. www.areu.org.af/index.php?option=com_docman&Itemid=26&task=doc_download&gid=690 (277 KB).

What explains the levels of both participation and enthusiasm during the 2009 elections in Kabul Province? Although some voters were motivated by a sense of national duty, and a desire to take part in the democratic process, the majority voted for a variety of other, overlapping reasons. This paper argues that to understand voting attitudes in Kabul Province it is necessary to also look at social pressure, material incentives, a desire to demonstrate community strength, and a desire to “back the winning horse.”

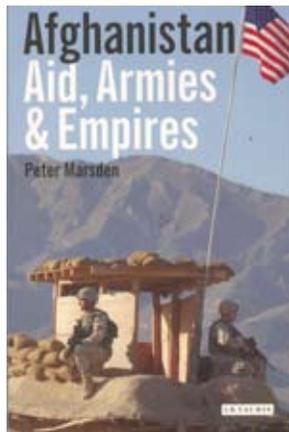
July 2009, *Searching For My Homeland: Dilemmas Between Borders—Experiences Of Young Afghans Returning “Home” From Pakistan And Iran*, by Mamiko Saito. www.areu.org.af/administrator/index2.php?option=com_docman§ion=document&task=download&bid=686 (1.9 MB).

Currently, around 2.7 million registered Afghan refugees are still living in Pakistan and Iran—the majority are in their second or even third generation of displacement. This study is based on interviews with 199 purposively selected respondents and considers the complexities of deciding to return to one’s “homeland,” the influence of ties to Pakistan, Iran and Afghanistan, as well as the less visible social and emotional reintegration trajectories of returnee respondents, including the crucial links between these issues and material challenges of reintegration.

New Publications and Resources

Cross-cutting

Marsden, Peter. *Afghanistan: Aid, Armies and Empires*. London: I.B. Tauris, 2009. 234 p. ISBN 9781845117511 (pbk.); 1845117514 (pbk.) “As the battle for Afghanistan intensifies, with the NATO-led coalition seemingly unable to defeat the Taliban, and struggling with its nation-building efforts ... [the author] looks at why it is that the Great Powers, from 19th-century Britain to the 20th-century Soviet Union to 21st-century America, have so often been frustrated in attempting to impose their will on this strategically vital country”—back cover.



Af-Pak strategy revision

“Afghanistan’s Narco War: Breaking the Link between Drug Traffickers and Insurgents: a Report to the Committee on Foreign Relations.” Washington D.C.: US Senate, 10 August 2009. v, 44 p. http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_senate_committee_prints&docid=f:51521.pdf (148 KB). The United States has redefined its mission in Afghanistan as defeating Al Qaeda and eliminating its safe havens in Afghanistan and Pakistan. As part of the military expansion US troops will now have a lead role in trying to stop the flow of illicit drug profits that are funding the Taliban and fueling the corruption that is undermining the Afghan government. This paper provides a background for the current situation (including the failure of eradication moves from 2001-2008) and outlines the new strategies (p. 13-18).

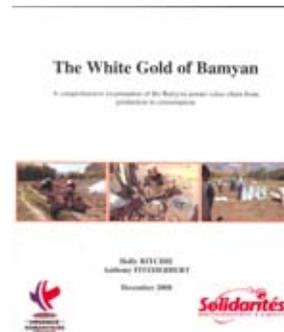
Kapila, Subhash. “United States ‘Af-Pak Policy’: Efficacy and Likely Directions in the Near Future.” [New Delhi]: South Asia Analysis Group, 22 July 2009. (Paper / South Asia Analysis Group; no. 3316). www.southasiaanalysis.org/papers34/paper3316.html. A review of the position of the United States with regard to security threats from Afghanistan and Pakistan; Kapila identifies possible problems and scenarios for the US.

“A ‘New’ Strategy for Afghanistan and its Region: Summary Report.” Princeton, New Jersey: Liechtenstein Institute on Self-Determination, Woodrow Wilson School for Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, 2009. [8] p. www.princeton.edu/lisd/

[publications/triesenbergsummary_2009.pdf](#) (3.09 MB). The Liechtenstein Institute on Self-Determination (LISD) at Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs held a private workshop, “A Strategy for Afghanistan and its Region.” The aim of the workshop was to discuss in-depth the strategy of the Obama Administration and to formulate additional recommendations. Some participants suggested that the new framework is missing several aspects, including a concrete political strategy with specifics on how the civilian surge will occur and how democracy and institution-building will be supported. A number of far-sighted recommendations are included in the short report (which correctly predicted some of the problems that beset the August election process).

Agriculture

Ritchie, Holly and Anthony Fitzherbert. “The White Gold of Bamiyan: a Comprehensive Examination of the Bamiyan Potato Value Chain from Production to Consumption.” Clichy-la-Garenne [France]: Solidarités, 2009. Also published in Dari and Pashto: طلا سفید بامین، د بامیانو سبب زړ This work on the potato value chain in Bamiyan focuses on three areas: Bamiyan centre, Yakawlang and Shibar. All aspects of potato production are considered, including history of cultivation, land tenure, access and management systems as they effect potato production, cropping practices and rotations, the main costs of production, draught power, labour and agricultural inputs, storage, varieties, diseases, and the nature of post harvest trade.



Child labour

“Assessment of Income Generation: Needs and Opportunities in Border Areas in Hirat and Nangarhar Provinces.” Prepared for UNICEF Afghanistan, the National Skills and Development Program. Kabul: UNICEF, May 2008. 77 p. This study (only received recently) aimed to make an initial review of the needs of the target population—families of working children at the main border crossings with Iran and Pakistan—and identify quality microfinance and vocational training institutions in Herat and Nangarhar that could be accessed by these people. In both sample areas, most children work as labourers carrying and carting

Roots of peace website

A number of reports, manuals and studies (mostly relevant to Afghanistan horticulture) are available on the Resources page of the Roots of Peace project: www.rootsofpeace.org/resources/index.html. Additionally, the University of California, Davis website for Afghanistan agriculture has some publications: <http://afghanag.ucdavis.edu/>

[*Almond Production and Nursery Development Fact Sheets*], created by University of California at Davis for Roots of Peace. [Fremont?] California: Roots of Peace, May 2009. www.rootsofpeace.org/almond-production-nursery-deve.html (PDFs 4.57 MB). [1] Establishing a true-to-type tree system in Afghanistan (English and Dari); [2] Almond nursery priorities (ED); [3] Almond budding (ED); [4] Almonds: non-infectious bud failure (E); [5] Almond digging (E); [6] Almond nutrition (E); [7] Almonds: pollination (E); [8] Almonds: 8 basics of pruning (E); [9] Almond training (E); [10] Almond nursery weed control (ED); [11] Almond nursery checklist (ED); [12] Documentation: mapping and coding (ED); [13] Almond nursery: equipment needs (ED); [14] Almond nursery: first year management (ED); [15] Almond: site establishment (ED); [16] Almond nursery GAP [Good Agricultural Practices] (ED); [17] Almonds: variety and site selection (ED); [18] Almonds: planting rootstock (ED); [19] Almonds: producing straight trees (ED); [20] Lifting almond rootstocks (D only).

Driver, John, Mark Bell and Corky Lovin. "Afghanistan Almond Nursery Manual." Davis [California]: University of California Davis, College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences, 2009. 30 p. Also available in Dari: www.rootsofpeace.org/documents/Afghan_Almond_Nursery_Manual-UC_Davis-May_2009.pdf (1.10 MB). This manual makes clear why standards for both trees and almonds are important in developing markets and shows growers how to identify and produce true-to-type trees to maintain and improve the quality of almonds produced in Afghanistan.

Kuhn, Gary. "Comparative Net Income from Afghan Crops." [Fremont?], California: Roots of Peace, 2 September 2009. 7 p. www.rootsofpeace.org/documents/Comparative_Net_Income_from_Afghan_Crops-Roots_of_Peace_Sept-2-2009.pdf (160 KB). The tables in this short paper highlight the competitive advantage that good varieties of table grapes have over poppy for opium production. Without trellises some grape growing can compete with opium in terms of income produced, however using a trellis system grape production outperforms poppy production according to these figures.

goods across the border.

"Child Protection Assessment of Street Working Children in Kandahar City and Spin Boldak." Kabul: ActionAid Afghanistan, November 2008. 58 p. (Copies available from the ActionAid office in Taimani, Kabul). This study explores the range of risks and factors that make children more vulnerable. Many of these factors are experienced nationally (death or illness of parents, lack of educational opportunities, persistent poverty) but some are more likely in Kandahar and the border town of Spin Boldak (displacement by conflict, threat of recruitment by armed groups).

Commerce

Neils, Kenneth, Vickie Sigman, Larry Hendricks, and Alem Alemi. "Prefeasibility Study of Balkh Carpet Value Chain." [Kabul?]: ADB Rural Business Support Program (RBSP) Afghanistan, May 2008. 40 p. http://www.rootsofpeace.org/documents/Prefeasibility_Study_on_Balkh_Carpet_Value_Chain-Jan_2008.pdf (348 KB). This document presents information collected from field trips in Balkh Province, from donor project documents and from discussions with various Kabul-based stakeholders. A schematic diagram outlines the value chain for carpet production and sets

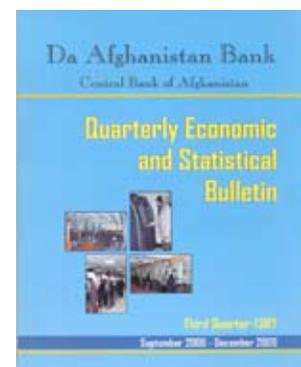
out constraints or gaps, opportunities for value chain improvement, and suggested strategic interventions.

Disaster management

Listening to Communities: A Study on Traditional Disaster Risk Reduction Activities in Northern Afghanistan. Kabul : ActionAid Afghanistan, October 2008. 37 p. Available from the ActionAid office in Taimani, Kabul. This study reviewed, reflected on and explored traditional practices in relation to community coping mechanisms that mitigate the effects of floods, drought, landslides, sandstorms, and earthquakes in villages where ActionAid is present in Afghanistan.

Economy

Quarterly Economic and Statistical Bulletin (third quarter 1387–September–December 2008). This regular publication from Da Afghanistan Bank (Afghanistan's central bank) outlines inflation trends in Afghanistan as well as

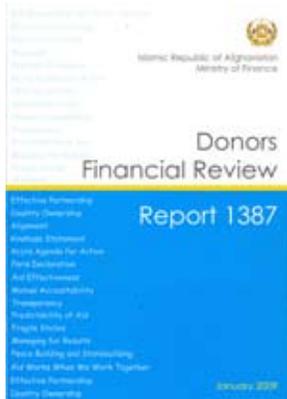


Afghan money market developments, bank deposits, external debt, etc.

Economic assistance

Asian Development Bank (ADB). *Afghanistan 2009-2013: ADB Country Partnership Strategy*. Manila, Philippines: Asian Development Bank (ADB), November 2008. iv, 122 p. <http://www.adb.org/Documents/CPSs/AFG/2008/CPS-AFG-2009-2013.pdf>

Donors Financial Review: report 1387 / Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Ministry of Finance. Kabul: Ministry of Finance, January 2009. 23, v. p. www.budgetmof.gov.af/units/Aid_Coord_Effectiveness/ACU_Resources/DFRR_2008/2nd_DFR/DFR%20Final%20with%20changes%2023-2-2009.pdf (8.75 MB). The Donor Financial Review (DFR) is a twice yearly exercise conducted to (1) obtain and analyse data on donor assistance to Afghanistan, and (2) to support the preparation of the National Budget. The first round of 1387 DFR was conducted during the period April-June 1387/2008 while the second round of DFR was undertaken between October-December (1387/2008). The DFR report is a key document for reporting on donors' pledges, commitments, disbursements and aid predictability" (p. 1).



International Security Assistance Force (ISAF). "ISAF PRT handbook." Edition 4. [Kabul]: International Security Assistance Force, 2009. xxi, 283 p. PDF (PDF 7.1 MB). The latest version of this guidebook for PRTs seems to have been released in February 2009.

Education

Glad, Marit and Waleed Hakim. "Knowledge on Fire: Attacks on Education in Afghanistan: Risks and Mitigatory Measures." [Kabul]: CARE, January 2009. 63 p. According to the Ministry of Education (MoE) database, from January 2006 to April 2008 there were 783 recorded attacks of various kinds on schools in Afghanistan. 103 MoE district staff were shot dead. 110 students were killed at school or on their way home and 286 schools were set on fire. This study was conducted to understand the nature of attacks on girls' schools to suggest sustainable models for prevention, looking at community participation in particular.

Elections

"Afghanistan Elections: Guns and Money." [London?]: International Council on Security and Development (ICOS), August 2009. 39 p. www.icosgroup.net/documents/Guns_and_Money.pdf (2.5 MB). An overview of the possible scenarios to develop during the election period, with a summary of the candidates in the presidential election with photos, their ethnicity, and a one sentence biography.

"Joint Monitoring of Political Rights: Presidential and Provincial Council Elections: First Report 25 April-12 June 2009." AIHRC-UNAMA. [Kabul]: United Nations Assistance Mission to Afghanistan (UNAMA), 2009. 13 p. <http://unama.unmissions.org/LinkClick.aspx?link=Publication%2fUNAMA+PVRM+REPORT+07+JULY+2009+%5bENG%5d.pdf&tabid=1763&mid=2026> (PDF 88 KB). UNAMA and the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) are jointly monitoring the exercise of political rights by Afghan citizens during the 2009 presidential and provincial council elections. This report analyses information gathered as a result of the monitoring and describes trends observed, including violations and incidents that limited the exercise of political rights by Afghan citizens during the candidate nomination and challenge period.

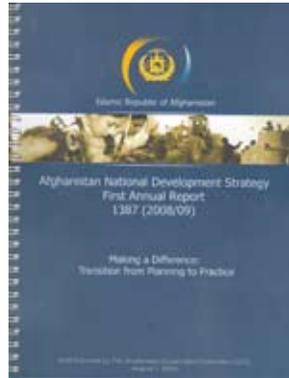
"Polling Day Fraud in the Afghan Elections." Kabul: Afghanistan Analysts Network, 2009. 6 p. www.aan-afghanistan.org/uploads/20090903pollingfraud.pdf (128 KB). This short paper aims to give an overview of the various forms of irregularities (multiple and proxy voting, large scale manipulation, etc.) alleged to have taken place on polling day (20 August 2009). It is based on interviews with Afghans from all over the country, many of them either witnessed or are somehow involved in the fraud that took place. This paper does not look at possible manipulations during or after the local count.

Truth = حقیقت. Kabul: Afghanistan Watch. Number 1 (July 15, 2009)-Number 4 (July 31, 2009). www.watchafghanistan.org/index.html. This is a biweekly publication—released in English and in Dari—of Afghanistan Watch supported by the International Centre for Transitional Justice (ICTJ). The journal is intended to provide a snapshot of how the Afghan media and candidates for Presidential and Provincial Council Elections debate and approach these key issues facing the country: transitional justice, corruption, elections, transparency, and negotiations with the armed insurgents.

"The Winning Warlords." Kabul: Afghanistan Rights Monitor, 2009. 10 p. (PDF 212 KB). A briefing paper from Kabul-based Afghanistan Rights Monitor (ARM) on the role and influence of warlords and militia commanders on the lead up to the August 2009 presidential election in Afghanistan.

Development

“Afghanistan National Development Strategy First Annual Report 1387 (2008/2009).” Kabul: Afghanistan National Development Strategy Secretariat. 2 v. (PDFs 3 MB) 28 cm. Entitled “Making a Difference: Transition from Planning to Practice,” this report presents the first narrative on progress achieved by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in bringing the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS) to the implementation stage. A year earlier the ANDS document was approved by the president and subsequently endorsed by donors in Paris in June 2008.



“Donor Profiles.” Kabul: Ministry of Finance, 2008. www.budgetmof.gov.af/units/Aid_Coord_Effectiveness/dp.html (PDFs 11.8 MB). These short summaries present the pledging, commitments and disbursements of various donors since the fall of the Taliban government (most of these are dated April 2008).

Emadi, Mohammad H. “Glossary of Rural Development: English-Dari = فرهنگ لغات واصطلاحات مسلكي در انكشاف دهات”. Kabul: Ministry of Rural Reconstruction and Development (MRRD), May 2009. 125 p. This important new glossary contains definitions of more than six hundred development terms in Dari. Some definitions are just one line, but some are half a page of explanation. Examples are core-periphery theory, needs analysis, rural sustainability, spatial organisation, and SWOT analysis.

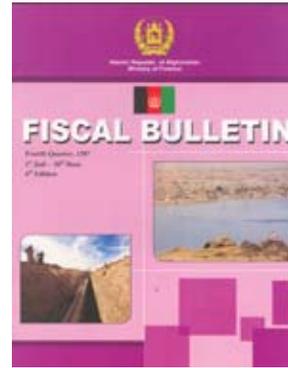


Gallenkamp, Marian. *Afghanistan: Understanding German Objectives and Strategies*. New Delhi: Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies, July 2009. www.ipcs.org/pdf_file/issue/IB110-Marian-Afpak.pdf (140 KB). A brief review of German aims and German politics as they affect Afghanistan policies.

“Giving Hope to Afghan Lives: Images and Voices from the Fields.” Kabul: Actionaid, 2009. 69 p. Photos with accompanying text personalising Actionaid work around Afghanistan.

Finance and commerce

Cordesman, Anthony H. and Nicholas B. Greenough. “The Afghan-Pakistan War: Afghan Economics and Conditions of Life.” [Washington, D.C.]: Center for Strategic & International Studies, August 12, 2009. 35 p. http://csis.org/files/publication/burke/090731_AfEcon.pdf (1.82 MB). A reworking of public opinion poll data to bring forward a number of development and other indicators: access to education, health services, transport facilities, etc.

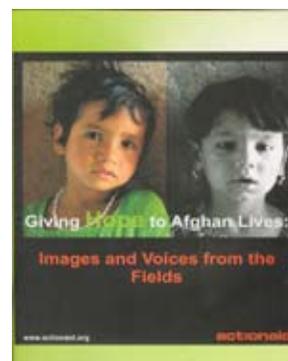


Fiscal Bulletin from the Afghanistan Ministry of Finance for the last quarter of 1387 has been released (1 Jadi to 30 Hoot).

Pavlović, Jelena and Joshua Charap. “Development of the Commercial Banking System in Afghanistan: Risks and Rewards.” [Washington, D.C.?]: IMF, July 2009. 28 p. <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/wp/2009/wp09150.pdf> (541 KB). “Lending practices of commercial banks in Afghanistan were analyzed using CAMEL ratings [(C) Capital adequacy, (A) Asset quality, (M) Management, (E) Earnings, (L) Liquidity and (S) Sensitivity to market risk]. Statistically significant correlations were found: banks with worse ratings (1) had more lending to domestic clients and (2) paid less tax. There were no statistically significant relationships between profits and total assets or between lending assets versus profit/assets. Interviews of senior management of eight banks accounting for about 90 percent of the commercial banking system corroborated evidence that poorly rated banks lend to domestic clients, whereas highly rated banks do not lend. Banks that lend extensively domestically engage in extra-judicial, non-traditional contract enforcement” (Abstract).

Health

Simmonds, Stephanie and Feroz Ferozuddin. “Support to the Health Sector in Helmand Province, Afghanistan.”



London: DFID Health Resource Centre, 30 December, 2008. 91 p. PDF (1.0 MB). The main aim of this report was to develop options for increased Department of International Development (DFID) support for stabilisation aid funds to improve health outcomes in Helmand. The authors identify six key findings relevant for health (p. 6-10).

Human rights

“Universal Periodic Review: Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Afghanistan.” New York: United Nations General Assembly, 20 July 2009. 26 p. <http://daccess-ods.un.org/access.nsf/Get?Open&DS=A/HRC/12/9&Lang=E> (PDF 116 KB). This review by the Human Rights Council (HRC) of the UN General Assembly of human rights in Afghanistan took place in May 2009. This report summarises the issues discussed and tabulates those suggestions which the Afghanistan government accepted, those it wants to look at in more detail and those it did not support. Considerable attention was paid to the Personal Status Law (Shia Personal Law).

Law and legislation

“Legislative Session Summary.” Kabul: Afghanistan Parliamentary Assistance Project. The first issue of this new publication covers January-June 2009. In 54 legislative sessions the Afghan National Assembly has passed 19 bills, 27 active bills are in the pipeline, but 41

other bills are “inactive” currently for various reasons. This publication is a useful supplement to the weekly “Legislative Newsletter” produced by the same office: www.sunyaf.org/apap-legislativenewsletter.htm

National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (NRVA) 2007 analysis

“Influencing Factors on Household Income in Rural Afghanistan: Analytical Research Based on NRVA 2005-2007.” Mohsen Godarzi, Behrooz Geranpayeh and Parvaneh Juvanmardi, under the supervision of Mohammad H. Emadi. [Kabul]: Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD), March 2009. 86 p. Also published in Dari: **بررسی عوامل تاثیرگذار بر درآمد خانوارهای روستایی در افغانستان** (PDF 541 KB). This report attempts to provide a comprehensive picture of rural families based on data presented in the NRVA 2007 and to some extent NRVA 2005 exercise, the aim being to describe the situation of rural households in Afghanistan and explore the possible influencing factors on household income. The information and data gathered from 3,832 rural households out of 4,920

Max Planck Manuals on the Law of Afghanistan

Only the fair trial manual (second title below) has files available for download (late September 2009) but the others should be uploaded in the near future. Managing editor Tilmann Röder.

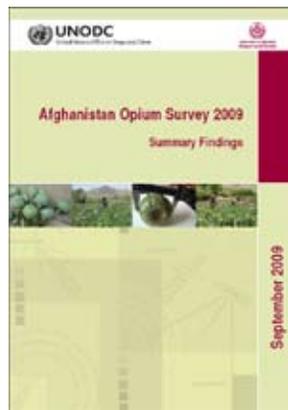
- “Max Planck Manual on Constitutional Law in Afghanistan”
 - Vol. 1: Structure and Principles of the State by Ramin Moschtaghi. Amended 2nd edition, Heidelberg and Kabul 2009 (Dari and English).
 - Vol. 2: Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms by Mandana Knust Rassekh Afshar and Julia Pfeiffer. Amended 2nd edition, Heidelberg and Kabul 2009 (Dari and English).
- Guhr, Alexandra H., Ramin Moschtaghi and Mandana Knust Rassekh Afshar. “Max Planck Manual on Fair Trial Standards in the Afghan Constitution, the Afghan Interim Criminal Code for Courts, the Afghan Penal Code and other Afghan Laws as well as in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.” Amended 4th edition, Heidelberg and Kabul 2009 (Dari, Pashto and English).
- “Max Planck Manual on Public Criminal Law in Afghanistan” by Mohammad Sadr Touhid-khaneh. Amended 3rd edition (co-edited by the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law), Heidelberg and Kabul 2009 (Dari and English).
- “Max Planck Manual on Afghan Family Law” by Kabeh Rastin-Tehrani and Nadjma Yassari. Amended 2nd edition (co-edited by the Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law), Heidelberg and Kabul 2009 (Dari and English).
- “Max Planck Manual on the Organisation and Jurisdiction of Afghan Courts” by Ramin Moschtaghi. Amended 2nd edition, Heidelberg and Kabul 2009 (Dari and English).
- “Max Planck Manual on Judicial Ethics in Afghanistan” by Tilmann Röder. 1st edition, Heidelberg / Kabul 2007 (Dari and English).

www.mpil.de/ww/en/pub/research/details/know_transfer/afghanistan_project/publications/max_planck_manuals_on_the_law_.cfm

urban, rural and nomadic (Kuchi) households has been used. It is one of the very first reports using NRVA 2007 data to appear. In chapter one the main resources for rural household income are studied (including amount and distribution of incomes), chapter two discusses the possible associated factors which may influence income among rural households, and the third chapter presents discussion and policy recommendations to improve the situation.

Opium

“Afghanistan Opium Survey 2009: Summary Findings (September 2009)”. Vienna: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), 2009. [5], 32 p. www.unodc.org/documents/crop-monitoring/Afghanistan/Afghanistan_opium_survey_2009_summary.pdf (4.57 MB). This report attempts to analyse the forces which are making the opium market reduce in size. Opium cultivation in Afghanistan decreased 22% in 2009 (in terms of hectares) but productivity increased to a record 56 kg/ha so overall supply only dropped 10 percent; the number of “poppy free” provinces increased from 18 to 20, opium prices have fallen to levels of the late 1990s, and interdiction activities of military forces are increasing.



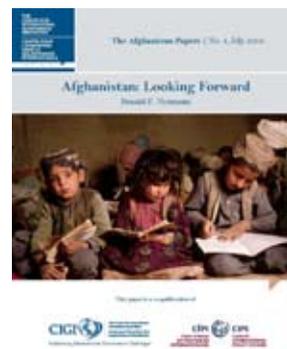
“Opiate and Precursor Seizures in Afghanistan 2008.” [Vienna]: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), 2008. 37 p. PDF (2.5 MB). The first section of this paper is a guide to interpreting 2008 data, which highlights the limitations of seizure information in Afghanistan. The fact that most aspects of the drug trade remain relatively open reflects the ease of avoiding effective counter-narcotics law enforcement. The results are a low seizure ratio and confused reporting. Compounding these are the limited forensic testing and information-management capacities in Afghanistan (p. 1).

Politics and government

“Draft Subnational Governance Policy (20 May 2009).” Kabul: [Independent Directorate for Local Governance (IDLG)], 2009. 322 p. 30 cm. PDF (5.04 MB). This version of the draft IDLG policy is shorter than the version released in September 2008, although the “Executive Summary” is still 43 pages. This is a wide ranging and comprehensive policy, including significant background information as well as clarifying the roles of provincial and district bodies, municipal

governance frameworks, subnational finance, subnational jurisdictions and working group process details.

Neumann, Ronald E. “Afghanistan: Looking Forward.” Waterloo, Ontario, Canada: Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI), July 2009. 15 p. www.cigionline.org/publications/2009/6/afghanistan-looking-forward (PDF 600 KB). Much of the current debate among scholars and practitioners surrounding the growing Afghan crisis has centred on international policy and strategy. Before the ink was dry on the London Compact and the Afghan National Development Strategy, many observers were calling for course adjustments and policy reviews.



Ambassador Ronald E. Neumann, in this first edition of CIGI’s Afghanistan Papers series, acknowledges the flaws in the current strategies for Afghanistan’s transition but calls for a greater focus on implementation. More attention must be dedicated to practical implementation issues such as stakeholder coordination and aid delivery structures.

Changes in policy and strategy alone cannot subdue an insurgency or jumpstart a flagging state-building process; this will take a renewed focus on the authorities, practices and resources needed to produce substantive impacts on the ground. In surveying a broad range of critical issues from the development of the Afghan national security forces to good governance promotion, Neumann offers insights on how to improve policy implementation in Afghanistan.

Rüttig, Thomas. “The Other Side: Dimensions of the Afghan Insurgency: Causes, Actors and Approaches to ‘Talks’.” [Kabul?]: Afghanistan Analysts Network, 2009. 35 p. [www.aan-afghanistan.org/uploads/200907%20AAN%20Report%20Ruttig%20-%20The%20Other%20Side](http://www.aan-afghanistan.org/uploads/200907%20AAN%20Report%20Ruttig%20-%20The%20Other%20Side.pdf). PDF (412 KB). The author seeks to unpack the complexities of the insurgency in Afghanistan and develop a sophisticated approach to “talks with the Taliban.” The report shows that the insurgency is not just “terrorist.” Many fighters are driven by internal Afghan problems: bad governance, alienation, and an increasing sense of occupation. Among the Taliban, as the insurgency’s core, there are pragmatic elements. There is an internal debate and some Taliban look for a political solution.

Refugees and migration

“Afghanistan: What Now for Refugees?” Kabul/Brussels: International Crisis Group (ICG), 31 August 2009. 28 p. www.crisisgroup.org/home/getfile.cfm?id=4095&tid=6290&type=pdf&l=1 (PDF 5.19 MB). This paper highlights the problems of meeting the needs of returnees and addressing population movements within Afghanistan, issues overshadowed by focus on the worsening insurgency. With rural areas increasingly insecure, many returning Afghans have migrated to towns and cities, causing the rapid urbanisation that contributes to rising poverty, unemployment, and criminality. Afghan institutions are ill-equipped to meet the needs of repatriating families, overcome obstacles to resettlement, and tackle the continued refugee presence in neighbouring countries. The government’s inability to provide for and protect its returning citizens by ensuring basic services and the rule of law has led to an increasing questioning of its legitimacy.

“Research Study on Afghan Deportees from Iran: ILO-UNHCR Cooperation towards Comprehensive Solutions for Afghan Displacement.” Kabul: Altai Consulting, August 2008. 116 p. (PDF 320 KB). The International Labour Organisation (ILO) commissioned research to produce information on the profile and characteristics of the deportee population crossing from Iran into Afghanistan with a focus on single adult males. This study provided empirical data about the transit, living and working conditions of two specific groups of Afghans deported from Iran: family groups and single adult males. The ultimate aim of the research was to facilitate the efforts of the governments of Afghanistan and Iran to respond to irregular migration and to develop ways to manage population movements.

Sanitation

“Collaborative Workshop on Participatory Research and Capacity Building of Institutions in Afghanistan and Pakistan in Sustainable Sanitation,” 2-4 March 2009, CIIT Abbottabad, Pakistan: Workshop Reports prepared by Ingrid Nyborg, Bahadar Nawab, Ola Hanserud, Gry Synnevaag. Abbottabad, Pakistan: Department of Development Studies, COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, 2009. 28 p. PDF (486 KB). Summary of a workshop on sanitation facilities that are socially, culturally, economically and environmentally sustainable for Afghanistan and Pakistan. The donors here are attempting to promote regional cooperation and lesson-learning as a way to improve the effectiveness of work in Afghanistan and link Afghan institutions with Pakistani institutions.

Security

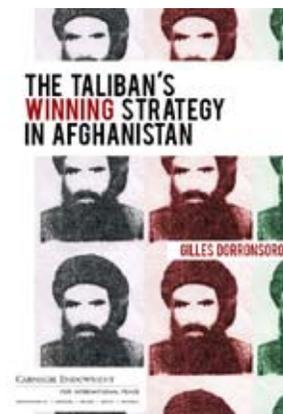
Bhatia, Michael V. and Mark Sedra. *Afghanistan, Arms and Conflict Post-9/11, Security and Insurgency*. New York, NY: Routledge, 2008. xxvii, 324 p. 24 cm. (Contemporary security studies). Focusing on the period since 9/11 this book looks at the larger security landscape by giving an overview of violence in Afghanistan, an analysis of small arms flows and an outline of armed groups. It also looks at demilitarisation and security sector reform. The final section gives case studies of Ghor, Paktya, Kandahar City, Kunduz/Takhar/Baghlan, Jalalabad and Hazarajat (Daikundi, Shahrstan, Panjab and Syahkhak).



Cordesman, Anthony H. **“Afghanistan Security Forces: Shaping the Path to Victory.”** Washington, DC: Center for Strategic & International Studies, July 27, 2009. x, 49 p. Cover title. http://csis.org/files/publication/090727_ansf_draft.pdf (2.77 MB). This study examines the range of issues affecting the expansion of Afghan forces, including the need for major changes in the way NATO/ISAF trains, mentors and partners them. It raises issues about the impact of profound corruption and Afghan power brokers in the Afghan National Security Forces—especially the Afghan police—and highlights acute resource problems and issues of force quality.

“Decisive Opposition to Canada’s Afghanistan Mission.” Ottawa [Canada]: Ekos Politics, 2009. 13 p. www.ekos.com/admin/articles/cbc-2009-07-16.pdf (340 KB). The results of a public opinion poll showing increasing public opposition to any Canadian involvement in military actions in Afghanistan.

Dorransoro, Gilles. **“The Taliban’s Winning Strategy in Afghanistan.”** Washington, D.C.: Carnegie Endowment, 2009. 32 p. www.carnegieendowment.org/files/taliban_winning_strategy.pdf (2.1 MB). The Taliban’s clear strategy and increasingly coherent organisation have put the International Coalition on the defensive, marginalised the local Afghan government, and given the Taliban control of southern and eastern



Afghanistan. Rather than concentrating limited troops in the South and East where the Taliban are firmly entrenched, the International Coalition should prioritise regions where the Taliban are still weak but making alarming progress: in the North and around Kabul. Far from a loose assortment of local groups, the Taliban are nationally organised, with coherent leadership and a sophisticated propaganda operation. The Coalition, on the other hand, lacks clear direction, largely due to its underestimation of the Taliban. Following a month-long trip through Afghanistan, Gilles Dorronsoro assesses the insurgency and proposes a strategy for the coalition based on a comprehensive understanding of the Taliban's capabilities and goals.

Fergusson, James. *A Million Bullets: the Real Story of the British Army in Afghanistan.* London: Corgi, 2009. 470 p. An account of British military activities in Kandahar from April 2006 onwards.

Fitzgerald, Erin K. and Anthony H. Cordesman. "Resourcing for Defeat: Critical Failures in Planning, Programming, Budgeting and Resourcing the Afghan and Iraq Wars." Washington, D.C.: Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS), August 28, 2009. 46 p. http://csis.org/files/publication/090806_afghan_iraqwar_fund.pdf (1.60 MB). According to these authors the Bush Administration did not develop a meaningful long-term strategy or plan for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and did not produce sound budgets. For the past eight US budgets the Department of Defense requested emergency funding outside the regular defense budget which resulted in a two-track budget process, including programs that seem not to have been related to a war-related emergency. The conflict in Afghanistan has received less funding than the Iraq war and now President Obama has to either make unpopular and costly decisions to compensate for seven years of underresourcing the war, or risk losing it.

Jalali, Ali. A. "Winning in Afghanistan." *Parameters* Spring 2009, p. 5-21. www.carlisle.army.mil/usawc/Parameters/09spring/jalali.pdf (300 KB). This assessment of the problems with recent attempts to work in Afghanistan highlights the need for a shared vision for Afghanistan: "Means have too often defined goals, tactics too often driven strategy, supply too often determined demands, and short-term necessities too often took precedence over long-term priorities" (p. 6). This article looks at specific strategic challenges facing Afghanistan and presents ways in which leaders might transition to sustainable policies that will make peace and stability realistically obtainable.

Ladbury, Sarah. "Testing Hypotheses on Radicalization in Afghanistan: Why do Men join the Taliban and Hizb-i Islami? How much do Local Communities Support them?: Report 14th August

2009." [London?]: Department of International Development (DFID), 2009. 64 p. This study focuses on Afghanistan and is one of a series that DFID has commissioned to examine frequently given hypotheses for radicalisation. Radicalisation is here defined as "the social processes by which people are brought to condone, legitimise, support or carry out violence for political or religious objectives." The focus in this study is on why men join armed groups that present as religiously motivated, and how much support there is for this from their wider communities. 192 people were interviewed in Wardak, Kabul Province and Kandahar. This study was completed with help from the CPAU (Cooperation for Peace and Unity - <http://www.cpau.org.af>).

Moulton, John. "Rethinking IED Strategies: from Iraq to Afghanistan." 2009. Published in *Military Review* July-August 2008, p. 26-32. http://usacac.army.mil/CAC2/MilitaryReview/Archives/English/MilitaryReview_20090831_art007.pdf (858 KB). An outlining of current and developing issues in counter-IED measures.

Mullick, Haider Ali Hussein. "Helping Pakistan Defeat the Taliban: a Joint Action Agenda for the United States & Pakistan." Clinton Township, Michigan: Institute for Social Policy and Understanding (ISPU), August 2009. <http://ispu.org/files/PDFs/ISPU%20-%20Helping%20Pakistan%20Report.pdf> (2.59 MB). This report briefly examines how the United States can best support a shift in Pakistan's national security strategy.

Perito, Robert M. "Afghanistan's Police: the Weak Link in Security Sector Reform." Washington, D.C.: United States Institute of Peace (USIP), August 2009. 15 p. www.usip.org/files/afghanistan_police.pdf (624 KB). The report is based on a conference titled "Policing Afghanistan" hosted by the USIP Security Sector Reform Working Group on 27 May 2009. The Afghanistan National Police is Afghanistan's front line of defense against insurgency and organised crime. Yet despite nearly \$10 billion in international police assistance, the Afghan police are riddled with corruption and incompetence and are far from the professional law enforcement organisation needed to ensure stability and development. This report details the past failures and current challenges facing the international police assistance program in Afghanistan. It draws conclusions about the prospects for current programs and offers recommendations for corrective action. The report urges that the international community's approach to police assistance expand to embrace a comprehensive program for security sector reform and the rule of law.

Schwartz, Moshe. "Department of Defense Contractors in Iraq and Afghanistan: Background and

Analysis.” Washington, D.C.: Congressional Research Service (CRS), 13 August 2009. 19 p. “R40764.” www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/R40764.pdf (260 KB). “The use of contractors in Iraq and Afghanistan has raised a number of issues for Congress, including 1) whether the Department of Defense (DoD) is gathering and analysing the right data on the use of contractors, 2) what steps DoD is taking to improve contract management and oversight, and 3) the extent to which contractors are included in military doctrine and strategy. This report examines current contractor trends in Iraq and Afghanistan, steps DoD has taken to improve contractor oversight and management, and the extent to which DoD has incorporated the role of contractors into its doctrine and strategy. It also reviews steps Congress has taken to exercise oversight over DoD contracting, including contracting issues that have been the focus of hearings and legislation” (Summary).

“Security Sector Reform (SSR) Monitor: Afghanistan.” (No. 1, July 2009) 11 p. www.cigionline.org/sites/default/files/SSRM%20-%20Afghanistan%20v1.pdf (1.7 MB). The SSR monitor is a new quarterly publication to track security developments in Afghanistan, Burundi, East Timor, Haiti and South Sudan. Each issue will focus on one country. Research for the monitor is field-based. The first issue looked at Afghanistan: the security environment, rule of law institutions, Afghan National Army, and the Afghan Public Protection Program (APPP).

Sperling, James and Mark Webber. “NATO: from Kosovo to Kabul.” *International Affairs* 85:3 (2009) 491-511. www.chathamhouse.org.uk/files/13915_85_3sperling_webber.pdf (340 KB). NATO only became a formal part of the stabilisation and reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan in August 2003, when it assumed command of the UN-mandated International Security Assistance Force (ISAF). Since then that mandate has shifted, first by being extended outside Kabul and then by being explicitly linked to

Operation Enduring Freedom. This paper reviews the position of NATO in Afghanistan starting with a comparison of its role in Operation Allied Force (OAF) in Kosovo.

“Summary of Discussions and Recommendations to the Italian Presidency of the G8.” Experts Meeting on Afghanistan and Regional Stabilisation, 28 and 29 May, 2009, Rome, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Piazzale Farnesina, prepared by Shahrbanout Tadjbakhsh. Rome: Ipalmo, Argo and Carnegie Europe, 2009. 20 p. www.argoriente.it/_modules/download/download/afghanistan/Final_Report_and_recommendations.pdf (176 KB). Summary of discussion points raised at a meeting prior to the June 2009 G8 Foreign Ministers’ meeting in Trieste, Italy.

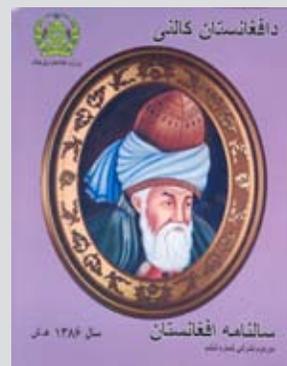
Vigier, Corinna. “Conflict Assessment: Afghanistan.” [Philadelphia?]: American Friends Service Committee, February 2009. 129 p. www.afsc.org/middleeast/ht/a/GetDocumentAction/i/81966 PDF (2.27 KB). As part of a strategic planning process for the American Friends’ Service Committee (AFSC)’s program in the Middle East region, a conflict assessment was conducted between October and December 2008 in Afghanistan. Unlike most other conflict analyses which focus only on the main conflict(s) in the country itself, the final paper gives an introduction to the various conflicts on international, national and local levels that directly or indirectly affect the conflict situation in Afghanistan. It offers an introduction to the various conflicts that play a role in Afghanistan. The paper starts with an overview of the historical background in Afghanistan, followed by the conflict analysis (including conflict lines, involved stakeholders and root causes) and a short description of national and local peace initiatives and conflict resolution structures. After that, information is given about the security situation and the upcoming challenges.

Wahidullah Mohammad. “Can Afghanistan’s New ‘Guardian’ Militia Restore Security in the Provinces?” *Terrorism Monitor - The Jamestown Foundation* 7

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The national yearbook for March 2007-March 2008 was released in July 2009, in Dari and Pashto only. This annual volume from the Ministry of Information and Culture cumulates speeches and other government information, most importantly the text of Presidential decrees are collected here and reprinted in chronological order (these are not otherwise findable).

The contents include an outline of government structure, brief biographies of the president and all ministers, the full text of selected speeches of the president on various state occasions, the official record of the travels of the president, decrees of the president from 5th Hamal to 25th Hoot 1386, notes on cabinet meetings, reports of the ministers and independent government agencies like the Supreme Court (Starai Makamah), notes on the Peace Jirga with Pakistan, and a chronology of important events from the districts with some pictures.



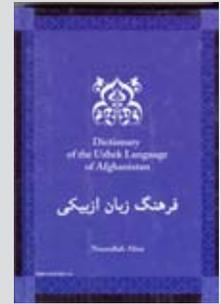
(Issue 20) (9 July 2009): p. 5-7. www.jamestown.org/uploads/media/TM_007_54.pdf (1.43 MB). Brief assessment of the Afghan Public Protection Forces (APPF) being set up to improve security within Afghanistan.

Women

“Early Marriage in Afghanistan: Research Report.” Deh Now, Dehbori [Kabul]: Women and Children Legal Research Foundation (WCLRF), 2008. 36 p. According to papers from Medica Mondiale and UNICEF more than 50 percent of Afghan girls are forced to marry before the age of 18. This research paper focused on the reasons, causes and consequences of early childhood marriages in Afghanistan. Approximately 200 women who had been forced to marry in early childhood were interviewed for the study.

“Getting it Right: Security, Peace and Development for Afghan Women: Policy Recommendations from the Funders’ Network for Afghan Women.” [Vancouver?, Canada]: Funders’ Network for Afghan Women (FNAW), May 2009. 7 p. www.humansecuritygateway.info/documents/FNAW_GettingItRight_SecurityPeaceDevelopment_AfghanWomen.pdf (208 KB). “Observers frustrated with the lack of progress in Afghanistan often call for a comprehensive plan of reform. That plan already exists, though it is frequently forgotten by the media, policymakers, and those designing assistance programs for Afghanistan. The [Afghanistan] Compact includes Afghanistan’s Millennium Development Goals for 2020 and comprehensively addresses development needs across key sectors. Meeting these objectives is

Dictionary of the Uzbek language of Afghanistan. [Kabul?]: Global Partners, 2007. 420 p. ISBN 0978728718. Published earlier but only received recently, this Uzbeki to Uzbeki dictionary focusing on the language as spoken in Afghanistan is an important resource.



inherently tied to improving security in Afghanistan. There must be a genuine commitment made to see the ambitions of the Compact through to fruition. [This] report narrows in on key areas addressed in the Afghan National Development Strategy, the basis of the Afghanistan Compact, giving specific recommendations therein that we consider to be strategic for building human capital and creating an enabling environment for women’s human rights” (p. 1).

“Silence is Violence: End the Abuse of Women in Afghanistan.” Kabul: Human Rights, United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), Kabul, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva. 8 July 2009. 32 p. <http://unama.unmissions.org/Portals/UNAMA/vaw-english.pdf> (213 MB). “The report seeks to put back on the agenda some of the issues pertaining to the enjoyment of all human rights by all Afghan women that are being increasingly ignored.” The Human Rights section of UNAMA has focused on violence which inhibits the participation of women in public life and sexual violence in the context of rape.

Official
Gazette
Number

List of New Laws Published in the Official Gazette

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| 942 | 13 April 2008 | Decree of the President (no. 135, 1387/10/28) Regarding the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control |
| 951 | 6 July 2008 | Civil Servants' Law Amendments to a number of articles of the Civil Servants' Law |
| 953 | 21 July 2008 | Registration of Commercial Documents and Trade Marks |
| 956 | 26 July 2008 | Law to Support the Right of Authors, Composers, Artists and Researchers (Copyright Law) Law to Support the Rights of Inventors and Discoverers |
| 963 | 19 November 2008 | Drug Law Science Academy Regulation on Elections of the Science Academy of Afghanistan Approval no. 5 (2/2/1387) of the Ministers' Council of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan about Resolution of Approval No. 7 (22/5/1385) of the Minister's Council |
| 964 | 20 November 2008 | Registration of Commercial Documents and Trade Marks |
| 965 | 14 January 2009 | Law on Rehabilitation and Correction Center for Juveniles |
| 968 | 4 January 2009 | Presidential decree on the endorsement of agreement[s] Presidential decree on the suspension of some provisions of the Passport Law and Amendment to Article 110 of the Law on Business Corporations and Limited Liability Companies Regulations on the Establishment of Private Aviation Transportation Institutions |
| 970 | 19 January 2009 | Registration of Commercial Documents and Trade Marks |
| 971 | 24 January 2009 | Law of Commercial Documents Decree of the President (no. 146, 1387/10/29) |
| 972 | 1 February 2009 | Oil and Gas (hydrocarbons) Law Mineral Law |
| 973 | 18 February 2009 | Registration of Commercial Documents and Trade Marks |
| 975 | 5 March 2009 | Regulations related to the Supreme Court of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan |
| 976 | 18 March 2009 | Income Tax Law |
| 977 | 18 March 2009 | Registration of Commercial Documents and Trade Marks |
| 980 | 26 April 2009 | Water Law |
| 984 | 21 June 2009 | Registration of Commercial Documents and Trade Marks |
| 988 | 27 July 2009 | Shiite Personal Status Law (includes more than a dozen amendments on page pasted in to the back of the book). |