

Afghanistan Research Newsletter

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AFGHANISTAN RESEARCH AND EVALUATION UNIT

Improving Afghan Lives Through Research

Feature: Registration of Afghans in Pakistan

The information summarized here comes from pages 1-10 of the report *Registration of Afghans in Pakistan 2007* / Ministry of States & Frontier Regions Government of Pakistan, National Database & Registration Authority (NADRA), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Pakistan, 2007. Available at www.unhcr.org.pk (PDF 75 MB).

Background

Before March 2005, knowing the number of Afghans living in Pakistan was at best a calculated guess. To formulate a strategy to “temporarily regulate and manage Afghans in Pakistan and its linkage to repatriation and reintegration inside Afghanistan” the Government of Pakistan (GOP) and UNHCR agreed to conduct a census and registration of Afghans in Pakistan. The first phase, the census, was completed in 2005 and counted 3.04 million Afghans in Pakistan.

The second phase was to register the Afghans enumerated in the census and to issue them with high-tech Proof of Registration (PoR) cards. This began in October 2006 and was completed in February 2007. To ensure the credibility of the registration, biometrics were included (ie. finger prints and facial recognition). These have proved a deterrent to fraud and double registration with only 2,170 double registrations identified at the end of registration. For cultural reasons, female photographers and registration staff were recruited. More than 66% of women who registered chose to have their photo taken. Children under five were recorded on a parent’s card.

The registration process cost US\$6 million and was funded by Pakistan, UNHCR, and a number of international donors. It took 15 weeks from beginning to end. At the beginning, only 25,000 Afghans per week were registering in the 100 registration centres. By



the 12th week, however, more than 200,000 people registered every week.

Registration summary

Between October 2006 and February 2007 the Government of Pakistan and UNHCR registered 2,153,088 Afghans in Pakistan. Most of them (85%) are living in the two provinces adjacent to Afghanistan – the North West Frontier Province (NWFP) and Balochistan, which host 1.37 million (64%) and 0.44 million (21%) of the registered population, respectively. Afghans in Pakistan represent 1.4% of the overall population of the country and 8% of the estimated population of Afghanistan. The registration figure indicates a 30% reduction on the 2005 census total. The differ-

ence is explained by repatriation (582,535) during 2005-06 and the fact that 313,645 persons did not register. There are no significant differences in the demographic or socio-economic profiles between the census and registered populations. However, the percentage of persons citing security as their principal concern about returning to Afghanistan rose from 18.2% in 2005 to 41.6% in 2007.

Demography

The demographic breakdown indicates that 78% of the registered Afghan population of 2.15 million is composed of women, children and youth, or the elderly (those over 60). 1.8 million of them are under the age of 18, forming the largest segment (55%) of the population. There are more males (53%) than females (46.8%) across all age brackets. Married persons account for 33% of the registered population but 66% of all adults are single. More than 80% of the 393,044 Afghan families in Pakistan have more than five members. The majority (83%) of Afghans in Pakistan belong to the Pashtun ethnicity, and most originate from rural districts of Afghanistan's eastern and southern provinces. 42% originate from Nangarhar, Kabul or Kunduz.

Socio-economic profile

More Afghans in Pakistan (55%) live in towns and cities than in camps (45%). The majority of camp populations (93%) are Pashtun. The majority (83%) of Tajiks, Hazara and Uzbeks live in towns and cities. Most Afghans (71%) in Pakistan have no formal education. Of those receiving education, 17% attended either religious or informal schools. Only 13% have attended formal education at primary, secondary, or tertiary levels. Males consistently outnumber females attending formal education at all levels.

Only 437,865 Afghans in Pakistan, or 20% of the registered population, are active in the labour market. According to the data, 71% have no income and 89% have no skills. These statistics reflect the large seg-

ment of the population (children, youth and women) that does not work. 48% of those who work are employed as unskilled or wage labourers.

Family income levels are low, with 83% of working Afghans earning less than Pakistan's minimum wage level of 4,000 rupees per month (unskilled labour). Income earnings and skill profiles are the same in camps and cities. Few registered Afghans in Pakistan own land (11%) or property (12%).

Special concerns

A total of over 297,000 persons, almost 14% of the overall Afghan population in Pakistan, cited special needs during the registration process. Of this figure 170,481 (57%) resided in camps. A total of 141,480 persons referred to special legal and physical protection needs, accounting for 58% of all cases. Other statistically important concerns were female-headed households (43,435 persons), special medical conditions (35,132 persons), and children/youth at risk (23,310 persons).

Return to Afghanistan

The majority of registered Afghans (82%) indicated that they did not intend to return to Afghanistan in the near future. This position was consistent for all Afghans who had arrived in Pakistan in 1979 and succeeding years. It also echoes a similar result generated during the 2005 census. There were no significant regional, demographic, ethnic, or locational (camp/non-camp) differences among those Afghans expressing this view. The most important factors cited for their inability to return were security (41%), shelter (30%) and livelihoods (24%). Lack of access to land remains a major impediment to return: 89% of registered Afghans in Pakistan claim to be landless.

Those that do intend to return originated primarily from Nangarhar, Laghman, Kabul, Baghlan, Kunduz and Logar. The majority (84%) were of Pashtun ethnicity currently resident in NWFP. ■

Book Review: Afghan Nomads

by Pierre Centlivres

Afghan nomads: caravans, conflicts and trade in Afghanistan and British India 1800-1980 / Klaus Ferdinand. Copenhagen: Rhodos International Science and Art Publishers, 2006. 512 p.: col. ill., maps (some col.) ; 30 cm. ISBN 8772455756.

Klaus Ferdinand died in January 2006. He had just proofread the text of *Afghan Nomads*, which would be both his last literary work as well as the summary of research and work performed by the author in Afghanistan for half a century. Klaus Ferdinand participated in the Henning Haslund-Christensen Memorial Mission 1953-55, and he continued his research in 1960, 1965, 1974 and 1975, partly together with his wife Marianne to whom this book is dedicated. He never ceased to work on his material and to publish it. The present work equally takes into account the results of field works done by his students and associates Birthe Frederiksen, Asta Olesen and Gorm Pedersen.

The book comprises six parts. The first part focuses on the nomads of East Afghanistan, especially the Ghilzai. The second part explores the relations between Pashtuns and Hazaras in the nineteenth century. The third and fourth parts of the book focus on the caravans and the nomad bazaars. The fifth part describes the nomad trade in British India, and the final part concentrates on the connections between the nomads and the state.

The reader is first of all captivated by the exceptional quality of the illustrations – photos in black and white and colour taken by the author. The reader then enters the universe of Afghan nomads following a scrupulous ethnographer in a fluent and precise style. The author's approach has great proximity to the people studied and is informed by numerous travels to their territories in East and Central Afghanistan over many decades.

This book is furthermore based on an excellent knowledge of literature and a concern for the people and phenomena studied.

Finally, the epilogue comments on the changes that have taken place after the coup d'état in 1979 and the fall of the Taliban in 2001. In this section you find the nomads devastated by the crises, deprived of some of their pastures, mainly in Hazarajat, but showing

evidence of great ability to adapt to change. Afghan nomads continue to exploit an ecological niche, of which they are the only ones to make rational use.

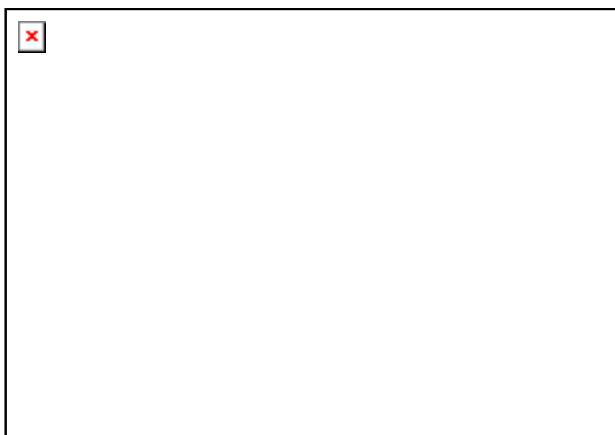
Diagrams, an extensive bibliography, maps, appendixes, a general index and a glossary make this book a literary work of reference.

This review was published originally in French in *Afghanistan Info* no. 59, September 2006 (Swiss Committee for Support of the Afghan People). Translated by Jan Arndt Larsen.

AREU News & Updates



AREU website in Pashto



AREU online library catalogue

AREU website now in Pashto

In response to requests from users of the AREU website, the entire site has now been translated into Pashto. Available for download in Pashto are the fifth edition of *The A to Z Guide to Afghanistan Assistance*, the AREU brochure, as well as many of the AREU briefing papers, synthesis and issues papers published since 2005.

Library catalogue now online

The AREU library catalogue is now available online. It is accessible in English, Dari and Pashto from the library page of the AREU website, www.areu.org.af. The AREU library collection has continued to grow over the past few years and the online catalogue now makes our resources available to researchers in Afghanistan and around the world. The catalogue provides URLs for many documents available on the Internet as well as downloadable PDFs for certain important documents not available elsewhere (subject to copyright permission). An easy way to gain access to the publications listed in previous issues of the *Newsletter* is to do a search of the library catalogue. Please report any errors or glitches with the database to library@areu.org.af.

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 publications 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-12.30pm and 1pm-4pm. The *Newsletter* is compiled by Royce Wiles and Dr Abdul Jamil Alkozai, edited and designed by Anja Havedal, and translated by Ahmadullah Amarkhil and Faraidoon Shariq. 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'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. Current funding for AREU is provided by the European Commission (EC), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the World Bank, and the governments of Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. More information and PDF files of all AREU publications are available at www.areu.org.af.

Current Research

Chr. Michelsen Institute: Voluntary Return to Afghanistan from Norway – What Happened?

In the fall of 2005, Norwegian authorities entered a three-party agreement with Afghan authorities and UNHCR on voluntary return of Afghan refugees from Norway. The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) started the co-operative project “Return to Afghanistan”. UDI has now commissioned an evaluation in order to gain more knowledge on whether the programme led to reintegration and permanent resettlement, and on how the various programme components contributed. The evaluation is undertaken by the Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI). For more information, see www.cmi.no.

Regional Studies Center of Afghanistan

A new research website – www.rscf.org – covers current affairs in the region, relations between Afghanistan and its neighbours, economic growth, political structures, the cultural assets of Afghanistan, and the impact of the current situation of Afghanistan on the region, international politics and its extra-regional impacts. The site (which is currently under construction) will provide “scholarly researched information on Afghanistan, central Asia, Pakistan, India, Iran, and Turkey, Arabic countries, China, Russia, the Caucasus and other political zones.”

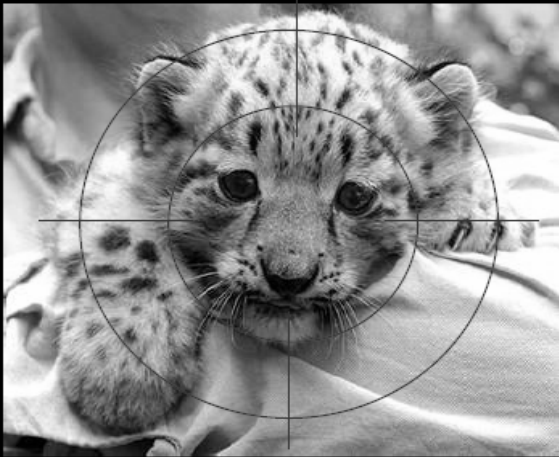
Afghanistan conflict monitor

The *Afghanistan Conflict Monitor* is an initiative of the Human Security Report Project at the School for International Studies at Simon Fraser University. The *Monitor* highlights new research and analysis on the conflict in Afghanistan. In addition to the conflict itself, the *Monitor* focuses on a broad set of related issue-areas, including health, development, displacement, governance, gender, small arms, landmines,

human rights and transitional justice. The *Monitor* provides summaries of academic articles and reports, and links to key documents, publications, organizations, and data. The *Monitor* is complemented by an email news service, *Afghanistan Security News (ASN)*. Published each Monday, the *ASN* combines news stories with related research reports, academic articles, maps and factsheets. For more information, go to www.afghanconflictmonitor.org.

The Afghanistan Analyst – An online resource for the study of Afghanistan

This Afghanistan-focused website aims to be an online resource for researching Afghanistan – a starting point for scholars, researchers, students, journalists and NGO workers. The listing of active listservs is useful, and the collection of Afghan blogs is also of interest. Included are a number of bibliographies. See <http://afghanistan-analyst.org>.



STOP BUYING WILDLIFE PRODUCTS FROM AFGHANISTAN

There may be fewer than 100 snow leopards left in Afghanistan. If you buy snow leopard pelts, you are violating the law, and driving snow leopards to extinction.

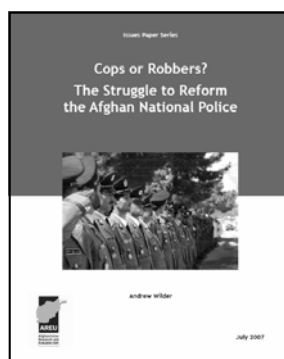
Logos for: Wildlife Conservation Society, USAID, Afghan Tourist Organization, National Environmental Protection Agency, and Dept. of Natural Resources.

Recent AREU Reports

The following publications were released by AREU between May and July 2007. All AREU publications may be downloaded from www.areu.org.af, and hard copies are available for free at the AREU office. To receive electronic announcements of new AREU publications, send an email with name and affiliation to publications@areu.org.af.

Governance

Cops or Robbers? The Struggle to Reform the Afghan National Police by Andrew Wilder. Despite some notable achievements, the overall result of police reform efforts to date has been disappointing. Wilder argues that the Afghan government and its international partners need to 1) develop a shared vision of the police; 2) implement a comprehensive rule of law strategy; 3) make donor assistance conditional on Ministry of Interior reform; 4) prioritise quality of police over quantity; 5) prioritise fiscal sustainability of the security sector.



comprehensive rule of law strategy; 3) make donor assistance conditional on Ministry of Interior reform; 4) prioritise quality of police over quantity; 5) prioritise fiscal sustainability of the security sector.

Livelihoods

Finding the Money: Informal Credit Practices in Rural Afghanistan, by Floortje Klijn and Adam Pain, synthesises three case studies providing insight into how micro-credit may intersect with and affect informal credit practices. It also provides insight into the changes in credit practices over time and their impact on socio-economic relations within villages.

To Return or to Remain: The Dilemma of Second-generation Afghans in Pakistan, by Mamiko Saito and Pamela Hunte. This case study analyses the narra-

tives of second-generation Afghans living in Peshawar, Quetta, and Karachi, who are struggling with the dilemma of whether to return to Afghanistan or to remain in Pakistan.

Gender

A Matter of Interests: Gender and the Politics of Presence in Afghanistan's Wolesi Jirga by Anna Wordsworth. More than one quarter of the 249 seats in Afghanistan's National Assembly are reserved for women, but this creation of political space for women has *not* resulted in the substantive representation of their collective gender interests. Wordsworth argues that the representation of women's gender interests in the National Assembly remains minimal.



substantive representation of their collective gender interests. Wordsworth argues that the representation of women's gender interests in the National Assembly remains minimal.

Natural Resources

AREU's three-year study "Applied Thematic Research into Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy" (WOL) released three new case studies: *The Performance of Community Water Management Systems* by Jonathan Lee, *Livestock Feed and Products* by Anthony Fitzherbert, and *The Spread of Opium Poppy Cultivation in Balkh* by Adam Pain.

Translations: Dari and Pashto

In May and June, AREU released translated versions of the two briefing papers *Afghanistan's Health System Since 2001: Condition Improved, Prognosis Cautiously Optimistic* (by Ron Waldman, Leslie Strong and Abdul Wali), and *Aiding the State? International Assistance and the Statebuilding Paradox in Afghanistan* (by Hamish Nixon).

Current Research

Agriculture

Arable land tenure in Afghanistan in the early post-Taliban era / Hector Maletta. Published in "African and Asian Studies" 6 (2007) p. 13-52. This paper deals with the land tenure structure in the farming sector of Afghanistan shortly after the end of the Taliban regime, offering fresh statistical information collected in recent years. The report is concerned solely with arable land. It does not deal with other land tenure issues, such as access to grassland (which is mostly communal or public property) or urban land tenure especially in relation to housing. Some mention, however, is made of grassland encroachment in recent years.

Livestock health, production and marketing program: January 6, 2004 through June 30, 2006: final project report / submitted by Dutch Committee for Afghanistan (DCA). [Kabul?]: Dutch Committee for Afghanistan (DCA), 2006. 27 p. ; 30 cm. http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PDACJ081.pdf (389 KB)

Cross-cutting & General

Afghanistan: a bibliography / compiled by Heather Bleaney and Maria Angeles Gallego ; with a foreword by Willem Vogelsang. Leiden: Brill, 2006. xii, 398 p. ; 25 cm. ISBN 900414532X. (Handbook of Oriental studies, Section 8, Central Asia ; v. 13).

Gender and employment in rural Afghanistan, 2003-2005 / Hector Maletta. 2006. 23 p. ; 30 cm. Forthcoming in the "Journal of Asian and African Studies" (2007). PDF (134 KB) This paper explores rural female employment in Afghanistan using data from several sources including chiefly the 2003 and 2005 National Risk and Vulnerability Assessments (NRVA) which interviewed tens of thousands of households across the country. Rural female labour participation and employment rates in Afghanistan are generally not high, but with significant regional differences: the Southern belt has extremely low rates while

Northern regions reach relatively higher values. Rural female employment involves about a quarter of rural women, in about a quarter of rural households. More than half rural working women are engaged in work for wages, at rates usually below one half of male rates. Few employed women have control over their earnings, which are otherwise controlled by men. Female employment is inversely related to household wealth and directly related to women's education, as better-educated rural women have higher participation rates and lower unemployment, especially in medium and better-off households. Female unemployment rates are double men's rates. The paper's concluding remarks highlight priorities for future research and policy implications of the main findings.

Economic Development

1386 budget papers distributed at the Afghanistan Development Forum 2007 (April). Government of Afghanistan Ministry of Finance. Contents: [01] Core budget 1386 (28 p.)—[02] External budget 1386 (15 p.)—[03] Operating budget tables 1386 (5 p.)

Afghanistan Development Forum (ADF): 29th-30th April 2007, Kabul, Afghanistan. Kabul, Afghanistan: Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, 2006. 1 looseleaf folder (4 ring, 32 cm) + 1 computer optical disc. Contents: [01] Agenda (1 p.)—[02] Executive summary (draft) (10 p.)—[03] Public health strategy for the Afghanistan National Development Strategy: with focus on prioritization: draft / prepared by Said Mohammad Amin Fathimi, Faizullah Kakar, Ziauddin Zia and Gul Ghutai Najeeb (March 11, 2007) (23 p.)—[04] Power sector strategy for the Afghanistan National Development Strategy: with focus on prioritization / prepared by Mohammad Ismail Khan, Mir M. Sediq, Rahatullah Naeem (April 15, 2007) (31 p.)—[05] Ministry of Education strategy for Afghanistan National Development Strategy: with focus on prioritization: draft / prepared by Mohyammed Haneef Atmar et al. (March 2007)

(English 22 p., Dari)—[06] Prioritizing aid effectiveness: taking forward the Afghanistan Compact and Paris Declaration commitments: final draft, 18 April 2007 (15 p.)—[07] National capacity building policy and program for the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (April 2007) (26 p.)—[08] Capacity development plan for the civil service in Afghanistan: draft (April 2007) [11 p.]—[09] Review of technical assistance and capacity building in Afghanistan: discussion paper for the Afghanistan Development Forum (32 p.)—[10] Provincial development, provincial budgeting and integration of the provincial development plans into the Afghan National Development Strategy (ANDS): draft discussion paper for the ADF (April 2007) (34 p.)—[11] Provincial development, provincial budgeting and integration of the provincial development plans into the Afghan National Development Strategy (ANDS): draft discussion paper for the ADF (April 2007) (English 34 p., Dari 43 p.)—[12] Anti-corruption roadmap for the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan: draft (April 2007) (30 p.)—[13] Finding durable solutions for refugees and displacement for the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan / United Nation's High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) (April 2007) (English 11 p., Dari 12 p.)—[14] 1385 key sector achievements, challenges and priorities: the year in review (10 p.)—[15] Summary of Afghanistan accomplishments in 1385 (Mar. 21 2006 to Mar. 20 2007) (24 p.). www.adf.gov.af/index.asp?page=home

Getting the fundamentals right: the early stages of Afghanistan's WTO accession process. Kabul: Oxfam International, 2006. 42 p. ; 30 cm. (Oxfam briefing paper 92). "Afghanistan should be in no rush to join the World Trade Organization. Rapid accession would have few benefits and could undermine efforts to reduce poverty. Careful planning and negotiation is the only way to avoid onerous commitments that have been forced on other very poor countries and to make the best of the potential benefits that membership of the multilateral system can offer. Given the country's severe poverty, massive reconstruction effort and ongoing security concerns, all parties involved in the process should promote an appropriate, pro-development accession package for Afghani-

stan that is in line with its least developed country (LDC) status." www.oxfam.org/en/policy/briefingpapers/bp92_afghanistan_wto_accession_0706

Integrated Rural Rehabilitation to Improve Livelihoods and Curb Poppy Production (IRRILP) final report Badakhshan Province, November 2004-December 2006 / implemented by Aga Khan Foundation, Afghanaid, Concern. Kabul Aga Khan Foundation, 2006. 1 v. (various pagings); ill. ; 30 cm. PDFs (60 MB). During the life of this project indicators for the core elements of the livelihoods framework (assets, vulnerability and policy, institutions and processes) have been met. The project has contributed to the overall reduction of opium poppy cultivation in the target areas. This composite document includes reports from the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN), Afghanaid, GTZ and others as well as a paper by David Mansfield *Governance, security and economic growth the determinants of opium poppy cultivation in the districts of Jurm and Baharak in Badakhshan* (35 p.).

Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board: papers from the fifth Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board (JCMB) meeting, 1 May 2007. Kabul: Afghanistan National Development Strategy Office, 2007. Contents: [01] Agenda (English 1 p.)—[02] Preface: implementation of the Afghanistan Compact (1 p.)—[03] Annual report (16 p.)—[04] The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security / UN General Assembly (18 p.)—[05] Table 1: summary of previous JCMB actions & decisions (6 p.)—[06] Table 2: summary of the Compact short-life benchmarks (10 p.)—[07] Table 3: executive summary of all Afghanistan Compact benchmarks (26 p.)—[08] Benchmark status report, March 2006 to March 2007 / prepared by Working Groups (WGs) and Consultative Groups (CGs) (111 p.)—[09] Elections white paper: supporting feasible, sustainable and affordable elections in Afghanistan (3 p.)—[10] JCMB Task Force on Afghan national police target strength (5 p.)—[11] Review of the implementation and effectiveness of the programmes of the Independent Administrative Reform and Civil Service Commission (5 p.)—[12] Anti-corruption

roadmap for the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan: draft (30 p.)—[13] Capacity development plan for the civil service in Afghanistan: draft (6 p.)—[14] Annex 1: Background to the Compact and strengthening its implementation (4 p.)—[15] Annex II: The year in review: key sector achievement, challenges, and priorities (11 p.)—[16] Joint Press Statement (1 p.). PDFs (6.71 MB). www.ands.gov.af

Medium Term Fiscal Framework. Kabul: Ministry of Finance, 2007. 29 p. ; 30 cm. "March 2007." The adoption of the MTFF in October 2005 allowed the Afghan government to put in place an affordable, realistic and sustainable medium-term fiscal framework. This summary provides background and projected figures covering 1384-1388 for the Operating, Development and Integrated national budgets. PDF (208 KB)

Microfinance and gender roles in Afghanistan [photocopy] a study report / Erik Lyby. 2006. 51, 49-83 p. ; map, ill. ; 30 cm. "November 2006."

Ministry and other government institution strategies prepared for the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS): drafts. Kabul: ANDS Secretariat, 2006-2007. 1 v. (various pagings) ; 30 cm. Contents: [01] Strategy of Academy of Science (February 2007, 10 p.)—[02] Strategy of Afghanistan Geodesy and Cartography Head Office (AGCHO) (February 2007, 8 p.)—[03] Attorney General's Office strategy (April 2007, 45 p.)—[04] Strategy of Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) (April 2007, 20 p.)—[05] General Directorate of Audit and Control strategy (April 2007, 16 p.)—[06] Afghan Independent Civil Service Commission (AICSC) (March, 17 p.)—[07] Central Statistics Office strategy (March 07, 12 p.)—[08] Da Afghanistan Bank strategy (December 2006, 13 p.)—[09] Disaster Preparedness (Dari only, Hamal 1386, 15 p.)—[10] Independent Electoral Commission strategy (Mar 2007, 23 p.)—[11] Strategy of General Independent Administration for Anti-Corruption (March 2007, 18 p.)—[12] Agriculture strategy / Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (English, 51

p.)—[13] Ministry of Borders and Tribal Affairs strategy (Dari only, 16 p.)—[14] Communication and information technology strategy / Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (April 2007, 19 p.)—[15] Ministry of Counter Narcotics strategy (March 2007, 14 p.)—[16] Water sector strategy / Ministry of Energy and Water (March 2007, 27 p.)—[17] Strategy of Ministry of Haj and Endowment (April 2007, 13 p.)—[18] Ministry of Public Works strategy (April 2007, 89 p.)—[19] Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation strategy (March 2007, 14 p.)—[20] Ministry of Information and Culture strategy (19 March 2007, 9 p.)—[21] Ministry of Commerce and Industries strategy (March 2007, 26 p.)—[22] Defense strategy / Ministry of National Defense (March 2007, 8 p.)—[23] Ministry of Education strategy (March 2007, 22 p.)—[24] Ministry of Finance strategy (November 2006, 27 p.)—[25] Ministry of Higher Education's strategy (March 2007, 34 p.)—[26] Strategy of the Ministry of Interior Affairs (12/10.1385, 14 p.)—[27] Strategy of Ministry of Justice (April 2007/Hamal 1386, 20 p.)—[28] Ministry strategy / Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled (March 2007, 35 p.)—[29] Ministry of Mines strategy (April 2007, 19 p.)—[30] Public health strategy / Ministry of Public Health (March 2007, 23 p.)—[31] Social protection sector strategy / Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation (March 2007, 11p)—[32] Strategy of Ministry of Women's Affairs (March 2007, 33 p.)—[33] Strategy of Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (March 2007, 32 p.)—[34] National Assembly: Mashrano Jirga strategy (April 2007, 8 p.)—[35] National Environmental Protection Agency strategy (March 2007, 13 p.)—[36] National Skills Development Program strategy (March 2007, 33 p.)—[37] Power sector strategy / Ministry of Energy and Water (April 2007, 31 p.: maps) - [38] Strategy of physical education and sports / National Olympics Committee (December 2006, 8 p.)—[39] Strategy of the Supreme Court / Supreme Court (April 2007, 19 p.)—[40] Urban sector strategy / Ministry of Urban Development (April 2007, 42 p.). PDFs (25.3 MB). www.ands.gov.af

MRRD strategy and programme summary: poverty reduction through pro-poor growth / Ministry of Rural Reha-

bilitation & Development. Kabul: MRRD, 2007. [9] p.: col. ill. ; 30 cm. "March 2007." www.mrrd.gov.af/ENGLISH/index.htm PDF (825 KB)

Project reports of MRRD: update 30 May 2007. 2007. 2 v. (various pagings) ; 21 x 30 cm. Contents: NSP projects (328 p.)—NRAP projects [File mislabeled on website, contains MISFA figures]—WatSan projects (38 p.)— NABDP projects (30 p.)—MISFA projects (9 p.)—Livelihood ER (4 p.) Chiefly tables with budget amounts, number of beneficiaries, etc. for more than 19,000 NSP and smaller numbers of other projects. www.mrrd.gov.af

Provincial profiles: Regional Rural Economic Regeneration Assessment and Strategies (RRERS) study / National Area Based Development Programme (NABDP), Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD), GRM International. [Kabul]: NABDP, MRRD, 2006. 1 v. (various pagings): map ; 30 cm. These are short overviews of the development situation (including resources available, difficulties, potential projects, business activities, development projects, etc.) for 25 of Afghanistan's 34

provinces. www.mrrd.gov.af/ENGLISH/index.htm (PDFs 2.35 MB)

Securing, stabilizing, and reconstructing Afghanistan: key issues for congressional oversight. Washington, D.C.: United States Government Accountability Office (GAO), 2007. 33 p. ; 30 cm. Contents: 1. Afghanistan facts and figures—2. US efforts to train and equip the Afghan national security forces face several challenges—3. International security forces limited by several factors—4. Worsening security and other factors hinder US counternarcotics efforts in Afghanistan—5. Progress establishing a working judicial system lags behind the other security pillars—6. Reconstruction efforts have lacked strategic focus and are constrained by security concerns. www.dec.org (search for PC-AAB-584)

Education and Children

Regulations pertaining to private higher education institutions / Ministry of Higher Education, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. [Kabul]: Ministry of Higher Education, [2006?]. 11 p. ; 30 cm. PDF (2.45 MB)

Best estimates of social indicators for children in Afghanistan 1990-2005: a compilation and analysis of all child-related indicators to identify a baseline, includes national estimates and regional and provincial rankings / Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, UNICEF. Kabul: UNICEF, 2006. 126 p. ; 28 cm. (PDF 900 KB)

Contents: 1. Child health (p. 14-21)—2. Nutrition (22-26)—3. Women's health and maternal mortality (27-32)—4. Afghanistan's child mortality estimates (33-46)—5. Water and sanitation (47-51)—6. Education (53-66)—7. Child and girls' protection (67-76)—8. Afghanistan in the world (77-84)—9. Priority regions and provinces (85-94)—Main sources (95-98)—Annexe 1 Key tables (99-103)—2. Regions and provinces in Afghanistan (104-105)—3. Mortality background data (106-108)—4. Selections from 2003 UNICEF HQ MICS tables (109-126).

This report, "Best Estimates", is an attempt to bring together as much of the available data as possible and



generate the best possible picture of the condition of women and children in Afghanistan. It both critically reviews earlier studies, and confirms some of the statistics currently in use by cross-checking and analyzing a wealth of available information. A series of provincial fact sheets (details below) highlight some of the key indicators, and suggest where priority investments may need to be made based on those figures.

Best estimates [of statistics about children and women in Afghanistan]: provincial fact sheet[s]. [Kabul: UNICEF, 2006?]. 32 leaves: map ; 28 cm. 1 page for each province. Also published in Dari and Pashto. www.unicef.org/infobycountry/afghanistan_afghanistan_resources.html

Best practices & lessons learned workshop, September 3-7, 2006, Herat, Afghanistan: workshop report / CPC NGO Consortium for the Psychosocial Care & Protection of Children. [Herat]: CPC, 2006. 42, 37 p. ; col. ill. ; 28 cm. Text in English and Dari.

Gender

The pendulum of gender politics in Afghanistan / Maliha Zulfacar. 2006. p. [27]-59 ; 30 cm. Published in "Central Asian survey" (March/June 2006) 25 (1/2) p. 27-59. Appendix A: Afghan Women[']s Rights Declaration (June 2000, Dushanbe, Tajikistan) p. 57-58). PDF (177 KB). This paper reviews Afghan gender politics from the time of Amanullah Khan onwards and argues for the adoption of a national gender policy.

Governance and politics

Afghanistan: an assessment of conflict and actors in Faryab Province to establish a basis for increased Norwegian civilian involvement: how can future Norwegian involvement best be targeted and organized / Petter Bauck, Arne Strand, Mohammad Hakim, Aghawan Akbari. Bergen, Norway: Chr. Michelsen Institute (CIM), 2007. vii, 55 p. ; 30 cm. The situation in Faryab province in northern Afghanistan is characterised by substantial military and political uncertainty. Violent acts could at any moment hamper the humanitarian and development efforts. At the same time the risk is great that Norwegian development actors might be associated with a provincial administration, a police and a judicial system the population regard as corrupt, oppressive and inefficient. It is a great challenge to balance this relation and at the same time assist in developing these governmental bodies to strengthen their professionalism and legitimacy. The report further points out that the relationship and the balance between the central state in Kabul and the local authorities on provincial and local level are of utmost importance for any future developments. The report recommends a clearer demarcation between the Norwegian military involvement and the humanitarian and development activities. www.cmi.no/publications/publication/?2594=afghanistan-an-assessment-of-conflict-and-actors

Afghanistan political parties / [Wahdat Wassel]. [Kabul]: Ministry of Justice, 2007. [8] p. ; 30 cm. List of parties with party head, address and contact phone numbers.

Undated, but released in June 2007 by the Ministry of Justice. Word document (149 KB)

Afghanistan's post-Taliban transition: the state of state-building after war / Thomas H. Johnson. 2006. 25 p. ; 30 cm. Published in "Central Asian survey" (March/June 2006). This paper assesses the effectiveness of the "post-conflict" political transition process that created the current Kabul regime. It reviews and critiques the Bonn Agreement and Process, assesses the current situation in Afghanistan and examines prospects for Afghan democratization, development and stability.

Afghanistan's role in Iranian foreign policy / report drafted by Dario Cristiani. [Chicago, Illinois]: Power and Interest News Report (PINR), 2007. 3 p. ; 30 cm. http://pinr.com/report.php?ac=view_region®ion_id=21&language_id=1 PDF (16 KB)

Decree on joint work and coordination among provincial governors and provincial councils. [Kabul]: Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, 2007. 1 p. ; 30 cm. "Number 862/20/2/1386"—caption. Word file (28 KB)

Pakistan's strategic goals and the deteriorating situation in Afghanistan / report drafted by Harsh V. Pant. [Chicago, Illinois]: Power and Interest News Report (PINR), 2007. 5 p. ; 30 cm. http://pinr.com/report.php?ac=view_region®ion_id=21&language_id=1

Politics and modern history of Hazara sectarian politics in Afghanistan / Humayun Sarabi. 2005. 98 p. maps ; 30 cm. <http://fletcher.tufts.edu/research/2006/Sarabi.pdf>

Report on jirga for peace, security and reconciliation: Paktia, Paktika, Khost, Logar, Ghazni and Wardak: Kabul, Afghanistan, Serena Hotel (6-7 February 2007). [Kabul]: Tribal Liaison Office, 2007. 12 p. ; 30 cm. PDF (132 KB)

State building, political progress, and human security in Afghanistan: reflections on a survey of the Afghan peo-

ple. Kabul: The Asia Foundation, 2007. 144 p. ; 23 cm. Contents: 1. Reflections on a survey of the Afghan people: an introduction / George Varughese (p. 5-11)—2. Afghans and democracy / Russell J. Dalton (p. 13-28)—3. Local perceptions of the state in Afghanistan / Sanjay Ruparelia (p. 29-46)—4. Elections in Afghanistan: progress towards democracy / Sanjay Kumar (p. 47-62)—5. Human security in Afghanistan through the eyes of Afghans / Centre for Conflict and Peace Studies (p. 63-76)—6. Changes in the status of women in Afghanistan / Sanjay Kumar, Praveen Rai (p. 77-97)—Appendix 1: Target demographics (p. 99-102)—2. Methodology (p. 101-105)—3. Interview discussion guide (p. 107-144). www.asiafoundation.org/pdf/Afghan_Report_-_April_082007.pdf (8.18 MB)

Understanding state-building and local government in Afghanistan / Sarah Lister. London: Crisis States Programme, Development Research Centre, 2007. 20 p. ; 30 cm. (Crisis States Programme working papers. Series no. 2; no. 14). This paper examines initiatives in the re-establishing of local government linked to the central government in Afghanistan since the fall of the Taliban in 2001. It looks at how a neglect of certain types of interventions contributed to the failure of both local government reform and the wider state-building agenda in Afghanistan. The paper first proposes an approach to understanding states and their roles, drawing on ideas of institutions and their rules as a means of mediating power. After a discussion of power structures at the sub-national level in Afghanistan, the paper then uses this approach to explore two state-building initiatives at the sub-national level in Afghanistan, showing how attempts to impose bureaucratic rules are being resisted. The final section looks at the implications of the international community's failure to understand the role of states in mediating power, concluding that a certain understanding of states and state-building has deflected attention away from the very interventions that would have contributed to building a system more dependent on depersonalised and rationalised rules. www.crisisstates.com/Publications/wp/WPseries2/wp14.2.htm

Ungoverned spaces the challenges of governing tribal societies [focusing on Pashtuns] / Ty L. Groh. 2006. xii, 137 p. col. maps ; 30 cm. Thesis (MA in Security Studies)—Naval Postgraduate School (Monterey, California), 2006. "This thesis addresses the efforts of different states [British, Pakistani and Soviet] to establish their authority over the Pashtun ethnic group. The Pashtun are at the heart of the conflict in Afghanistan, and provide both an important and current example of why "ungoverned spaces" have become a hot topic." <http://stinet.dtic.mil/cgi-bin/GetTRDoc?AD=ADA451373&Location=U2&doc=GetTRDoc.pdf> (1.4 MB)

Health

Afghanistan: tuberculosis profile. [Washington, D.C.]: USAID, [2006]. 2 p.: map ; 30 cm. www.dec.org (enter document no. PD-ACJ-106) (PDF 173 KB)

Afghanistan HIV/AIDS Prevention Project (AHAPP) project implementation plan / National AIDS Control Program, Ministry of Public Health. Kabul: Ministry of Health, 2007. 36 p. ; 30 cm. "25 April 2007." Includes bibliography (p. 35-36).

National policy on health financing & sustainability / Health Care Financing Directorate, Health Financing and Sustainability Task Force, Ministry of Public Health. [Kabul]: Ministry of Public Health, 2007. 7 p. ; 30 cm. PDF (140 KB)

National hygiene education policy guideline[s] / developed by Hygiene Education Technical Working Group. [Kabul]: Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation & Development, Ministry of Public Health, 2007. 10 p. ; 30 cm. "April 2007. PDF (243 KB)

Program operational plan in support of the Afghanistan HIV/AIDS National Strategic Framework (2006-2010) / Kabul Ministry of Public Health, National AIDS Control Program (NACP), 2007. 92 p. ; 30 cm. "14 April 2007." Word document (2 MB)

Provincial strengthening in northern Afghanistan: capacity building and innovation to support the Basic Package of Health Services and sustainably improve access, quality and use of essential MCH services throughout Jawzjan province: CS-19 Afghanistan, midterm evaluation report / prepared by Barbara Parker et al. Westport [Connecticut]: Save the Children Federation, 2006. 111 p. ; 30 cm. www.dec.org (enter PD-ACJ-451)

Rebuilding a nation's health in Afghanistan / by Sarah Dye. Washington, D.C.: United States Institute of Peace (USIP), 2007. 4 p. ; 30 cm. (Public health and conflict series). "May 2007." www.usip.org/pubs/usipeace_briefings/2007/0504_health_afghanistan.html

Law, Justice and Human Rights

Afghanistan: all who are not friends, are enemies: Taleban abuses against civilians. London: Amnesty International, 2007. 47 p.: col. map ; 30 cm. This report examines the heavy price paid by civilians in Afghanistan during the continuing hostilities between the Taliban and US-led coalition forces since October 2001. <http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGASA110012007>

Afghanistan Legal Documents Exchange Center
ALDEC is a very useful and highly recommended website from the Afghanistan Rule of Law Project (AROLP). It provides original and translated versions of a wide variety of legal documents relevant to Afghanistan. Included are scanned originals and translations (PDF or Word) of Afghan laws, regulations, decrees from all periods, as well as various Afghan constitutions, treaties, international conventions and other documents. It is the most comprehensive collection of Afghan law translations currently available. A potential drawback is the arrangement of documents by title, instead of by date. Arrangement by date of enactment or promulgation would make it quicker to locate known laws from the *Official Gazette*. ALDEC is available at www.afghanistantranslation.com.

An assessment of the durability & enforcement of decisions in the informal and formal justice systems in Kabul: based on NRC's case work in Kabul / Sarah Callaghan ; edited by Sophy Thomas. Oslo: Norwegian Refugee Council, 2007. 39 p. ; 22 cm. "February 2007." Eighty-five per cent of legal cases in Kabul relate to property or land. This paper seeks to assess how effective both the formal and informal justice systems in Kabul (and NRC's contributions) are, in providing lasting resolution to disputes. "Despite the widespread perception among NRC legal counselors and clients of corruption in the formal justice system, where the NRC has been involved in and monitoring cases, the decisions made are generally ultimately in favour of the rightful party" (p. 34). The research indicates that individuals make strategic choices about the resolution method most likely to be enforceable.

Human rights in Afghanistan national and international legal standards. Kabul AIHRC and UNHCR, 2006. 1 folder (4 ring) (125, 129 p.) + 1 CD-ROM (PDF and Word files (192 MB). This compilation provides (in English and Dari) explanations of the fundamental human rights listed below, as manifested in the national laws of Afghanistan and international legal conventions and declarations to which Afghanistan is a signatory. Contents: A. The principle of non-discrimination—B. The right to effective remedy—1. The right to life—2. The right to personal integrity—3. The right of liberty and security of person—4. The right to due process—5. The right to property—6. The right to adequate housing—7. The right to education—8. The right to health—9. The right to an adequate standard of living—10. The right to marry and found a family—11. The right [to] freedom of movement and residence—12. The right to work—13. The right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion—14. The right to freedom of opinion and expression—15. The right to participation and freedom of association—16. The right to freedom of assembly—17. The right to nationality.

Legal foundation of criminal justice in Afghanistan: a manual for legal professionals in Afghanistan [in Dari

Laws recently published in the *Official Gazette*

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| 902 | Convention relating to the status of refugees (Geneva, 28 July 1951)
Protocol relating to the status of refugees (31 July 1967) |
| 910 | Registration of commercial documents and trade marks |
| 911 | Decree 105 of the President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Approvals of the Council of Ministers
Regulation of the Census |
| 912 | Environmental law |
| 914 | Labour law |
| 915 | Registration of commercial documents and trade marks |
| 916 | Public health law
Forensic medicine law
Medicine law
Regulation on pharmacies
Regulation on manufacturing and importing medicine and medical appliances
Regulation on private medical laboratories
Regulation on private x-ray clinics |
| 917 | Regulation on private educational institutions |
| 918 | Registration of commercial documents and trade marks |

only]. Kabul: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, GTZ, 1385. alif-jim, 298 p. ; 29 cm. Includes bibliography. Contents: 1. Constitution, 2. Criminal procedure law, 3. Police law, 4. Penal code, 5. Juvenile law, 6. Detection and discovery law, 7. Law on organization and jurisdiction of courts. Contact: Hirbod Aminlari GTZ AF, hirbod.aminlari@gtz.de.

Observations on NRC client choices of forum in pursuing property dispute resolution in Kabul: a case study of Kabul's courts and jirgas / Rebecca Gang ; edited by Sophy Thomas. Oslo: Norwegian Refugee Council, 2006

(c2007). 43 p. ; 22 cm. "December 2006". This paper draws on the experience of NRC legal advice centres in Afghanistan (opened in 2006) and lawyers to profile the methods of dispute resolution preferred by claimants in legal cases concerning land in Kabul.

Restoring legal documentation in Afghan registration courts: a report on the makhzan rehabilitation program. [Washington, D.C.]: Emerging Markets Group (EMG), 2007. 36 p.: ill., maps ; 30 cm. Illustrations of provincial land registration offices (*makhzan*) before and after rehabilitation. "February 2007." www.dec.org (enter PN-ADI-229) PDF (2.5 MB)

Maps

Hirat [Herat] city map / map prepared by AIMS Hirat office. [Kabul]: Afghanistan Information Management Services (AIMS), 2007. 1 col. map ; 17 x 25 cm. www.aims.org.af/maps/urban/hirat.pdf

Jalalabad city map / map prepared by AIMS Regional office Jalalabad. [Kabul]: Afghanistan Information Management Services (AIMS), 2007. 1 col. map ; 17 x 25 cm. www.aims.org.af/maps/urban/jalalabad.pdf

Southern Afghanistan [map]: Helmand Province / map compiled by WFP Emergency Preparedness and Response Branch (ODAP). [New York?]: United Nations World Food Programme, 2006. 1 col. map ; 28 x 20 cm. "Date: 8 September 2006." www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/JBRN-73NCSF?OpenDocument PDF (2.53 MB)

Media

Community radio and development in Afghanistan / presented by Mohammad Eshaq. 2007. 10 p. ; 30 cm. Paper presented at "Workshop on Connecting Communities through Community Broadcasting and ICTs", Kuala Lumpur May 28, 2007." Word document (65 KB)

See "Afghanistan news online and by email" on p. 17 of this *Newsletter*.

Migration

ACTED Afghanistan reintegration of returnees programme: land distribution scheme 2007. Kabul: Agence d'Aide à la Coopération Technique et au Développement (ACTED), 2007. 16 p. ; col. ill. ; 30 cm. "January 2007." This report focuses on improving the conditions that are conducive for refugees not only to return, but also to stay. The recommendations cover increased investment, integrated resettlement, improving the skills of authorities, monitoring and evaluation of programmes and working within informal settlements.

Afghan nomads: caravans, conflicts and trade in Afghanistan and British India 1800-1980 / Klaus Ferdinand. Copenhagen: Rhodos International Science and Art Publishers, 2006. 512 p.: col. ill., maps ; 30 cm. ISBN 8772455756. Contents: Editor's preface: Danish nomad research, an overview / Ida Nicolaisen (p. 11-17)—Author's preface / Klaus Ferdinand (p. 19-22)—Acknowledgements (p., 23-25)—Part 1: East Afghanistan and its nomads: Chapter 1 Introduction (27-43), Chapter 2 The nomadic setting (p. 45-77), Chapter 3 Nomadic ways of life in east Afghanistan (p. 79-159)—Part 2: Hazara and Pashtun relations in the 19th Century: Chapter 4 The subjugation of Hazarajat in the 1890s (p. 161-211), Chapter 5 Recent developments in Hazarajat: Pashtun nomads, the Hazara and the Afghan state (p. 213-243)—Part 3: Caravaneering and nomad bazaars: Chapter 6 Caravans, trade, and the British (p. 245-275), Chapter 7 Trade in Central Afghanistan in the 19th and early 20th centuries (p. 277-301), Chapter 8 The Kerman bazaar (p. 302-317), Chapter 9 New bazaars in the Aimaq area (p. 319-369), Chapter 10 Nomad bazaars in the Aimaq area in the 1960s and 1970s (p. 371-403)—Part 5: Pashtun trading in British India: Chapter 11 Petty trading and money-lending in British India in the 19th and 20th centuries (p. 405-419)—Part 6: The state and the nomads: Chapter 12 Historical perspectives (p. 421-443)—Epilogue: The revolutionary upheaval in April 1978, and its aftermath (p. 444-451)—Appendix 1: Pashtun groups: an overview (p. 452-458)—Appendix 2: Roads and caravanserais (p. 459-473)—Appendix 3 Danish anthropol-

ogy in Afghanistan 1953-1977 (p. 474-476)—Bibliography (pl. 477-488)—Glossary (pl 489-493)—General index (p. 494-509)—Index of names and authorities (p. 510-512).

Durable solutions for kuchi IDPs in the south of Afghanistan options and opportunities. Kandahar Asia Consultants International (ACI), 2006. 41 p. col. ill. ; 30 cm. "Kabul/Kandahar November 2006."

Migration as a rite of passage: young Afghans building masculinity and adulthood in Iran / Alessandro Monsutti. 2007. p. [167]-185. Published in "Iranian studies" v. 40 (no. 2) April 2007, p. [167]-185. Migration is part of the Afghan social and cultural landscape. In spite of the unprecedented wave of returns following the fall of the Taliban regime and the establishment of a government backed by the international community, multidirectional cross-border movements will not come to an end. This paper focuses on the case of Hazara male migrants moving between the mountains of Central Afghanistan and the cities of Iran.

Natural Resources

Band-e-Amir lakes and Dragon valley (Bamiyan) [photocopy]: myths and seismicity in Afghanistan / F. G. Bourrouilh-Le Jan, B. Akram and M. Schvoerer. 2007. p. 121-132 ; 30 cm. Published in: Myth and geology / L. Piccardi and W. B. Masse editors. (London: Geological Society, Special publications (273). 121-132. Includes bibliography, p. 131-132. Detailed technical description of the geology surrounding Bande-Amir, connected with relevant folklore from the area.

Floristic and ethnobotanical studies in Band-i Amer National Park, Afghanistan / Haidar Ali. 2006. 41 p. ; map, col. ill. ; 30 cm. Ethnobotanical studies were conducted during August 2006 in Band-i-Amer National Park with the objectives of knowing the floral composition of the national park, determining the local uses of plants and investigating the ecological impact on plant resources of allowing plant use for economic well-being.

Opium

Losing ground: drug control and war in Afghanistan / authors Martin Jelsma, Tom Kramer, Cristian Rlvier ; editor Oscar Reyes. Amsterdam: Transnational Institute (TNI), 2006. 35 p.: ill., maps ; 24 cm. (Debate paper ; no. 15). ISSN 1871-3408. This paper focuses on opium elimination efforts and the controversy about involving military forces in anti-drugs operations in Afghanistan. It also provides background on the Afghan drug control strategy, the new counter-narcotics law, and the role of Afghanistan within the global opiates market. www.tni.org/detail_pub.phtml?know_id=35&username=guest@tni.org&password=9999&publish=Y PDF (1.17 MB)

Security

Auxiliary force or national army? Afghanistan's 'ANA' and the counter-insurgency effort, 2002-2006 / Antonio Giustozzi. 2007. p. [45]-67 ; 30 cm. Published in "Small wars and insurgencies" v. 18 (no. 1) p. 45-67 (March 2007). Afghanistan's fifth move to form a central army started in 2002, following the fall of the Taleban regime. Mainly run by the US armed forces, the formation of the Afghan National Army has run into several difficulties, ranging from initially slow recruitment, low educational level of troops and officers, high attrition rates, etc.

FAST Update Afghanistan. The FAST Update has undergone a "facelift" both in terms of content and layout. The new FAST Update is short and concise, and covers a period of two months. It focuses on trends in conflict and cooperation in a number of fields that are critical to development cooperation. Apart from a narrative, it also includes illustrative graphs or maps that are based on data from the FAST International event database. www.swisspeace.ch/typo3/en/peace-conflict-research/early-warning/subscription-form/index.html.

The situation in Afghanistan: a re-evaluation needed / by Beth Cole and Catherine Morris. Washington, D.C.: United States Institute of Peace (USIP), 2007. 4 p. ; 30 cm. (USIP briefing). "April 2007." www.usip.org/pubs/usipeace_briefings/2007/0419_koenigs_afghanistan.html

Afghanistan news online and by email

Afghanwire

Afghanwire provides an internet-based news and information service to organisations and professional users who want to monitor Afghanistan's national media outlets. See www.afghanwire.com.

Afghanistan News Center

This news site provides a daily digest of news articles and an updated archive of publicly accessible articles for research purposes. More than 50,000 news articles since January 1998 are searchable at www.afghanistannewscenter.com

Afghanistan Updates

Afghanistan Updates has been published by the World Security Institute (WSI) since October 2001. To subscribe, look under "publications" at www.wsibrussels.org.

Afghanistan Watch

Weekly updates on new events and statistics. See www.afghanistanwatch.org.

Barnett Rubin's Afghanistan list

Focuses on the reconstruction of Afghanistan, in particular current political events. Up-to-the-minute emails and attachments as well as release of some research papers. Subscribe to this email list at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/brrafghan>.

Moby Media Updates

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Sign up for notification of new items about Afghanistan added to Relief web. www.reliefweb.int/rw/dbc.nsf/doc100?OpenForm

The uncertain 'metrics' of Afghanistan (and Iraq) / Anthony Cordesman. Washington, D.C.: Center for Strategic and International Studies, Arleigh A. Burke Chair in Strategy, 2007. 9 p. ; "May 18, 2007" "Far too many current measures of progress have little or no value, report meaningless nation-wide data, quantify the unimportant, or are more designed to "spin" immediate success than win real victory over time. The true complexities, uncertainties, and risks involved in dealing with a host of ethnic, sectarian, tribal and regional problems are downplayed or ignored" (p. 3). www.csis.org/component/option,com_csis_pubs/task,view/id,3890/type,1/

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