

Discussion Platform for Good Governance: Govern4Afghanistan

In order to promote greater sharing of knowledge on good governance matters and thereby support the qualitative expansion of state structures in Afghanistan, the German Government has joined forces with Afghan partners to launch the discussion platform and think-and-do tank Govern4Afghanistan .



Situation

15 years on from the fall of the Taliban regime, Afghanistan does not entirely meet necessary good governance standards. The most pressing challenges facing the country include inefficient administrative institutions, insufficient rule of law, corruption, human rights abuses, a lack of opportunities for civil society to engage in political decision-making processes, and restricted access to public services. During the Transformation Decade, which runs from 2015 to 2024, the international community has committed to assisting the Afghan Government with building state structures and training staff. To this end, Afghan and German partners have launched the Governance Forum Afghanistan – Govern4Afghanistan, a two-year initiative designed to promote dialogue on good governance topics and challenges in an Afghan context. The initiative brings together experts primarily from the fields of research and academia, and government representatives.

AT A GLANCE



Activities in capital Kabul.

Programme: Good governance forum (Govern4Afghanistan)

Commissioned by: German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Partner: Afghan Government ministries: Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Mines and Petroleum, Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD), Independent Directorate of Local Governance

Implementing organisations: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and KfW Development Bank With support from the Afghan-German consortium GOPA-AREU-JS Consultancy Services

Provinces: Kabul

Programme objective: Develop capacity of different interest groups in the fields of policy and business at national and provincial level.

Migration Governance Issues Paper

Migration Governance Issues Paper

Objective

The intensive dialogue initiated by *Govern4Afghanistan* between reform-focused actors and government representatives seeks to give all actors a better understanding of good governance issues.

Measures & Results

In the first year of the initiative, Afghan and German partners defined six key topics for policy dialogue. The focus was on

- a budget management process in municipalities, provincial governments and the national government which takes account of gender equality,
- governance in the provinces and districts,
- the future role of the mining sector,
- the relevance of Afghan civil society to good governance,
- planning and budget setting in the provinces, and
- the reform of the civil service in Afghanistan.

Six binational expert teams initiated dialogue fora on these subjects. The insights gained were then addressed in thematic papers. Published between June and September 2016, these papers reflect the current state of research and contain specific recommendations for action. They are designed to enrich active dialogue between policy-makers and researchers.

Govern4Afghanistan encourages debate about these issues by means of a series of events: dialogue forums, workshops and presentations have been held in Kabul, Mazar-e Sharif and even Berlin, enabling Afghan and German actors to discuss and revisit the findings and recommendations for action. Policy briefs provided the relevant political decision-makers with a compact overview of the key findings.

In its second year, the forum discussed six additional subjects:

- Assessment of the Mining Revenue Collection System in Afghanistan
- District Assessment: Guideline for the Independent Directorate for Local Governance (IDLG)
- Migration Governance: Policy Framework and Prospect on Institutional Arrangements
- Urban Governance: Assessing the New Urban Governance Programme and its Implementation
- The Impacts of Water Sector Reform on Agricultural Productivity in Afghanistan
- Review of Government Agencies Functions in Afghanistan

Overall term: 2015 – 2017
(completed)

READ MORE

- Fact sheet:
Govern4Afghanistan
(<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/2017-G4A-EN.pdf>)
- A Balancing Act for Extractive Sector Governance
(<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/1610E-A-Balancing-Act-for-Extractive-Sector-Governance.pdf>)
- Factsheet Mining (EN)
(http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/Factsheet_Govern4Afg_Mining.pdf)
- Bringing the State Closer to the People:
Deconcentrating Planning and Budgeting in Afghanistan (EN)
(<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/1614E-Bringing-the-State-Closer-to-the-People.pdf>)
- Assessment-Revenue-Enhancement Phase II
(<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/Min-Gov-Revenue-Enhancement-G4A-Phase-II.pdf>)

All papers were published in mid-2017.

- Civil Service Reform in Afghanistan: Roles and Functions of the Civil Service Sector (EN)
(<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/1616E%20Civil%20Service%20Reform%20in%20Afghanistan-Roles%20and%20Functions%20of%20the%20Civil%20Service%20Sector.pdf>)
- Factsheet Mining Phase II
(http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/FS_Mining_G4A-Phase-II.pdf)
- Factsheet CSR
(http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/Factsheet_Govern4Afg_CSR.pdf)
- Subnational Governance in Afghanistan (EN)
(<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/1615E-Subnational-Governance-in-Afghanistan.pdf>)
- Factsheet: Subnational Governance in Afghanistan
(http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/Factsheet_Govern4Afg_SNG.pdf)
- Factsheet: Role of Civil Society
(http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/Factsheet_Govern4Afg_CivilSociety_1.pdf)

- Gender Responsive Budgeting Issue Paper (<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/Gender%20Responsive%20Budgeting.pdf>)
- Factsheet GRB (http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/Factsheet_Govern4Afg_GRB.pdf)
- The Role of Civil Society in Promoting Good Governance in Afghanistan (EN) (<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/The-Role-of-Civil-Society-in-Promoting-Good-Governance.pdf>)
- Factsheet Subnational Governance: Categorisation of Districts (<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/FS-District%20Categorisation.pdf>)
- Factsheet Civil Society (http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/Factsheet_Govern4Afg_CivilSociety_0.pdf)
- Urban Governance Issue paper Phase II (http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/UrbanGov_issue%20paper-G4A-Phase-II.pdf)
- Factsheet Good Urban

- Governance PhaseII
(http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/FS_GoodUrbanGov-G4A-Phase-II.pdf)
- Review of Functions of Government Agencies
(http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/FunctionalReview_issue-paperG4A-Phase-II.pdf)
- Fact Sheet Review of Functions of Governmental Agencies
(http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/FS_FunctionalReview-G4A-Phase-II.pdf)
- Migration Governance Issues Paper
(<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/Migration-Governance-G4A-Phase-II.pdf>)
- Fact Sheet Migration Governance
(http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/FS_Migration-G4A-Phase-II.pdf)
- Water Rights Agriculture Issue Paper
(<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/Agriculture-Water-Rights-issue-paper.pdf>)
- Fact Sheet Water Rights
(http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/FS_Water-Rights-issue-paper.pdf)

afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/FS_WaterAgri-G4A-Phase-II.pdf)

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