

Sustainable Economic Growth



War and conflict have left large parts of Afghanistan's infrastructure destroyed, with public services often non-existent. Efforts to expand electricity and water supplies, transport networks, schools and hospitals have only extended to certain areas of the country, and these services do not meet the needs of the population. Additionally, the country falls victim to seasonal natural disasters, with alternating periods of drought and flooding. Afghanistan is still one of the world's poorest countries. According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Afghanistan was ranked 169 out of 188 countries on the Human Development Index in 2016.

The civil reconstruction of Afghanistan is paving the way for trade and economic growth. Despite positive growth rates over the last decade, the Afghan state is still largely dependent on funding from other countries: 66% of the national budget is funded by the international community. According to the World Bank, Afghanistan's gross domestic product (GDP) stood at USD 19.47 billion in 2016. By comparison, Germany's stood at USD 3.48 trillion. Over half of Afghanistan's GDP comes from the service sector and a further 22% from agriculture. Industrial production accounts for a much smaller proportion. The country is also heavily dependent on imports, while Afghan products can barely compete on international markets.

Because most Afghans depend on agriculture for their livelihoods, there is a particular focus on this area. The priority here is to achieve higher yields in the long term, increase many families' incomes and create new employment opportunities. For this reason, the Afghan-German Cooperation concentrates on the provision of advisory services and training

PROJECT NEWS

- 30 Young Afghans Participate in Youth Entrepreneurship Support Programme (<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/en/news/30-young-afghans-participate-youth-entrepreneurship-support-programme>)
29.11.2017 | Press release
- Germany Investing AFN 6.4 Billion for Afghanistan (<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/en/news/germany-investing-afn-64-billion-afghanistan>)
23.11.2017 | Press release
- Career Conference in Mazar-e Sharif (<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/en/news/career-conference-mazar-e-sharif>)
16.11.2017 | Press release

READ MORE

- Fact sheet: Strengthen sustainable economic growth in northern Afghanistan (<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/2017-Nawi-EN.pdf>)
- Business Monitor 2016 (<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/2016.12.31%20Business%20Climate%20Report%202016%20English%20Version.pdf>)

to Afghan farmers and entrepreneurs, as well as further infrastructural expansion in rural areas. These activities aim, among other things, to make work processes more efficient, lucrative and technically effective and to involve women.

For further information about our work in the priority area of sustainable economic growth, please see the project descriptions and the 'Stories' section.

OUR WORK IN THIS SECTOR



Strengthen sustainable economic growth in northern Afghanistan

In order to stimulate sustainable economic growth, increase Afghan farmers' yields and promote employment, the German Government is supporting economic programmes in Afghanistan's northern regions. (<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/en/project/strengthen-sustainable-economic-growth-northern-afghanistan>)

- Factsheet: Infrastructural Expansion Helps to Create Livelihoods in the North (<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/2017-Infrastruktur-EN.pdf>)
- Fact sheet: An International Airport as a Transport Hub in the North (<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/2017-Airport-EN.pdf>)
- Fact sheet: Promoting Cross-Border Development and Cooperation (<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/2017-Patrip-EN.pdf>)
- Datenblatt: Lebensqualität und Beschäftigungsmöglichkeiten im Herzen Kabuls schaffen (<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/2017-Chihilsitoo-GER.pdf>)
- Fact sheet: Revitalisation of Chihilsitoo Park (http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/2017-Chihilsitoo-EN_0.pdf)



Infrastructural Expansion Helps to Create Livelihoods in the North

The German Government is promoting infrastructural measures in Northern Afghanistan in order to enable the local population to access business, administrative, health care and education services and opportunities.

(<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/en/project/infrastructural-expansion-helps-create-livelihoods-north>)



An International Airport as a Transport Hub in the North

In order to promote regional trade, improve transport conditions and safely manage increasing passenger numbers, the German Government is supporting the expansion of Mazar-e Sharif airport. This work will boost the development of the city of Mazar-e Sharif and the overall regional economic area around this transport hub.

(<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/en/project/international-airpor>)

t-transport-hub-north)



Promoting Cross-Border Development and Cooperation

In order to improve the livelihoods of the people living in highly inaccessible border regions in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Tajikistan, facilitate their cooperation and integration, and drive economic development, the German Government is supporting the expansion of the local socio-economic infrastructure.

<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/en/project/promoting-cross-border-development-and-cooperation>



Improving Quality of Life and Creating Job Opportunities in the Heart of Kabul

In order to create appropriate facilities for young people and women, the

German Government is helping to revitalise the historic Chihilsitoo Park ('40 Columns Park') in southern Kabul. The park, at 12 ha Kabul's largest, will now be given a modern layout and revitalised.

<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/en/project/improving-quality-life-and-creating-job-opportunities-heart-kabul>