



Canada—Making a Difference in Afghanistan

September 2006

Background Information



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General Information

Overview

Canada is a partner with the United Nations, NATO and many other countries in providing the security, stability and assistance necessary for the systematic reconstruction and development of Afghanistan after decades of conflict. Our presence in the country is at the invitation of the legitimate and democratically elected government in Kabul.

Canada and Afghanistan, along with our international allies, are partners in the Afghanistan Compact, an integrated process—or plan—that sets out specific five-year objectives, and the benchmarks to measure our progress toward achieving them. These goals, which include a 20 percent increase in the employment of women, a 70 percent reduction of areas contaminated by landmines, and the development of a national army and police force, will help bring stability and peace to the lives of Afghans.

Afghanistan is not, nor has it ever been, a traditional peacekeeping mission. There are no ceasefire agreements to enforce and no negotiated peace settlement to respect, since neither the Taliban nor al-Qaeda are interested in the kind of peace that is acceptable to the Afghan people. The insurgents' objective is to force their will by undermining the legitimacy of the central government and its international partners. Their targets are not only schools, government offices and hospitals, but also the teachers, civil servants and doctors who work in them, as well as the citizens who seek services there. Insurgent attacks against civilians and military personnel have resulted in both Canadian and Afghan casualties.

As a fledgling democracy facing these struggles, Afghanistan still requires an international military presence in order to move the Afghanistan Compact forward, and to consolidate and extend the government's authority throughout the country. Canada is proud to play a part in this effort by contributing to the UN-mandated, and NATO-led, International Security Assistance Force (ISAF).

Canada's participation is guided by our core values of freedom, democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights, especially the rights of women and girls. Rebuilding a shattered state, however, is a slow and complex process in a country that is emerging from more than two decades of oppression, terror, conflict, drought and poverty.

On May 17, 2006, Canada's New Government announced that it would maintain its level of development funding of \$100 million per year through to 2011. This brings Canada's total financial commitment to Afghanistan reconstruction since 2001, excluding costs associated with military operations, to nearly \$1 billion. This represents our most extensive concentration of resources abroad, and ranks Canada among the top five bilateral donors of foreign assistance to Afghanistan.

Our investment has contributed to the significant progress Afghanistan has made since the fall of the Taliban. For example, women can now borrow money thanks to a Canadian-backed microcredit program that helps them to start small businesses. The rights of every citizen are now protected under an Afghan constitution. Whether it is by funding projects for water wells, roads, schools and health clinics, or by helping

Afghan people create employment programs or build governance institutions, Canada is on the ground laying the foundation for Afghans to govern themselves without the same level of assistance from the international community.

Modern History of Afghanistan

Afghanistan won independence from British rule in 1919. From 1933 until 1973 the country experienced a period of relative stability under the rule of King Zahir Shah. During Zahir's visit to Italy in 1973, his brother-in-law, Sardar Mohammed Daoud, launched a coup establishing a republican government. A Communist-led counter-coup followed in 1978 and, one year later, a Soviet invasion sought to stabilize the tottering Afghan Communist regime. Soviet forces withdrew 10 years later under relentless pressure from internationally supported, anti-Communist mujahideen rebels. In the leadership vacuum created after the fall of the Communist regime in 1992, a civil war broke out between competing mujahideen factions. The Taliban, a reactionary, hardline religious group, emerged in 1994 and by 1998 had captured 70 percent of the country, including the capital Kabul. The remaining areas were controlled by the Northern Alliance, a military-political coalition backed by Iran and Russia until September 2001.

Under the Taliban, Afghans experienced an oppressive and violent regime where the concept of universal human rights did not exist and women in particular were treated harshly. Girls were not allowed an education and women could no longer work outside the home. High levels of illiteracy and poverty, especially in rural areas, were a result. Music and television were banned

outright as were other symbols and concepts the Taliban associated with the West, such as democracy. In this environment, the Taliban regime maintained control by preaching and committing violence against those who did not adhere to their ideology.

This culture of violence, built up over two decades of conflict and underpinned by an extreme interpretation of Islam, which legitimized violence as a political tool, attracted international terrorist elements aligned with the Taliban's world view. Driven from their bases in other parts of the world and given safe haven by the Taliban, al-Qaeda and associated terrorist networks used Afghanistan as a staging point to organize against their enemies in the Middle East and the West.

After the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the United States, in concert with other international partners—including Canada—and Afghan opposition factions, and in accordance with the UN charter, took military action against the Taliban and forced their downfall. Later that year, Afghan leaders met in Bonn, Germany, and agreed to a plan to form a new government structure with Hamid Karzai as its interim leader.

Canada-Afghanistan Relations

For many years, Canada's principal focus in Afghanistan was providing humanitarian and development assistance both bilaterally and multilaterally—through the United Nations, the World Bank, NGOs and other partners—in response to civil war and a series of natural disasters.

Diplomatic relations with Afghanistan were established in 1968 to facilitate these efforts but were severed following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979. Diplomatic relations were not re-established with any of the regimes that held power following the Soviet withdrawal in 1989 until the appointment in January 2002 of the Interim Administration of President Karzai. Canada reopened its embassy in Kabul in September 2003.

Today, Canada works within the multilateral context, including at the UN General Assembly, the UN Commission on Human Rights and the UN Commission on the Status of Women, to ensure the human rights situation in Afghanistan gets due consideration and remains integral to the work of the international community.

Canada's diplomats are working elsewhere in support of efforts in Afghanistan, including at NATO, through the G8, and at the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. Through our embassies and high commissions, we engage with regional partners to promote regional cooperation on issues of security and economic development. We also work closely with the Afghan embassy in Canada.

More than 70 Foreign Affairs officers work on Afghan issues, both at headquarters and abroad. In August 2006, there were 24 Canadian-based staff and 34 locally engaged staff working at the embassy in Kabul. As a result, from 2005 to 2006, Canada's presence on the ground in Kabul increased by 350 percent, in terms of Canada-based program staff. In addition, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has a substantial and growing headquarters team dedicated to Afghan development programming, as well as officers based in Kabul and Kandahar.

Canada's Response to UN Security Council Resolution 1386

Canada expanded its scope of activities in Afghanistan shortly after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States.

Following condemnation of the terrorist attacks by the United Nations and passage of Security Council Resolution 1386 authorizing the deployment of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) to Afghanistan, Canada announced that it would contribute air, land and sea forces to the international campaign against terrorism.

Since October 2001, Canada has contributed up to six warships to the coalition fleet in the Persian Gulf-Arabian Sea area in support of Canadian Forces' Operation Apollo. Part of their mandate has been to conduct maritime interdiction operations with allied vessels to prevent al-Qaeda and Taliban members from escaping the area in merchant ships and fishing boats. Canadian military aircraft, including helicopters, airlift and long-range patrol aircraft, have also contributed significantly to Operation Apollo, both inside and outside Afghanistan.

In February 2002, a contingent of 850 Canadian soldiers was deployed to Kandahar for six months as part of Operation Apollo. Integrated into the U.S. Army task force, the 3rd Battalion of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group took part in offensive operations against the Taliban regime. The Battle Group was supported by a squadron of Coyote armoured reconnaissance vehicles and combat support elements.

At the same time as Canada was working toward enhancing the security of the Afghan people, it was also responding to the immediate humanitarian needs of those affected by the conflict, including both internal refugees and displaced persons. In addition, Canada began work with the international community on longer term peacebuilding and reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan, including rebuilding governance structures.

Building Democracy in Afghanistan: The Bonn Agreement

Building democratic institutions is crucial to the long-term security, stability and prosperity of Afghanistan. Following the collapse of the Taliban regime, Afghan groups met in Germany in December 2001 under the auspices of the United Nations to develop a framework for governance in Afghanistan. The resulting Bonn Agreement called for the installation of an Interim Administration, the holding of an emergency Loya Jirga (council of community leaders) in 2002, the appointment of a Transitional Authority and adoption of a national constitution prior to national elections.

The Bonn Agreement set out the road map to achieve democratic transition in Afghanistan, that is to replace the Interim Administration with a democratically elected government. The adoption of a constitution and the holding of presidential, parliamentary and provincial elections were the benchmarks identified in the agreement for Afghanistan's initial political transition.

The October 9, 2004, presidential elections marked a watershed in Afghanistan's transition toward a democratic, self-sustaining state. President Karzai won with

55.4 percent of the popular vote. More than 10 million Afghans registered to vote in the election, which was declared valid by a three-person panel of the joint Afghan-United Nations Electoral Management Body.

Parliamentary elections, held September 18, 2005, fulfilled the remaining benchmarks set out in the 2001 Bonn Agreement. Election day was a relatively peaceful event and approximately 6.8 million voters turned out (43 percent female and 57 percent male). Afghanistan's transition to a stable democracy was also marked with the inauguration of its first parliament in more than three decades on December 19, 2005. The National Assembly is composed of 249 members of the Wolesi Jirga (lower house), all elected, and 102 members of the Meshrano Jirga (upper house), some appointed. Afghans now have a voice through their newly elected members, as they work to help rebuild and reshape their country.

Implementing the Bonn Agreement: Canada's Contribution

Canada has been strongly committed to helping the administration under President Karzai to fully implement the Bonn Agreement and has contributed to the democratic process in Afghanistan. Canada's investment in building governance institutions and lasting capacity is helping Afghanistan effect enduring, sustainable change.

Since 2001, Canada has contributed more than \$33 million to assist the democratic process in Afghanistan. Canada fully supported the 2004 presidential election as well as the 2005 parliamentary and provincial elections.

Canada contributed to the elections process by providing materials and equipment for voter registration, supporting civic education campaigns, and funding experts to observe and monitor the proceedings.

Recognizing that a democratic and vibrant civil society requires independent news media, Canada has helped Afghanistan develop legislation to protect its media and has offered special training in election coverage. Canadians have also helped train women journalists who have set up independent radio stations.

The Afghanistan Compact and National Strategy

The Afghanistan Compact, the successor to the Bonn Agreement, provides the framework for international community engagement in Afghanistan for the next five years. It was developed during a conference held in London from January 31 to February 1, 2006. Representatives from the international community, including Canada, attended the conference, which was co-chaired by Afghanistan, the United Nations and the United Kingdom (see Appendix I for a complete list of participants).

At the conference, Canada pledged its full support and was instrumental in ensuring that the Compact included a mechanism to monitor programs and promote forward momentum.

The Compact sets out detailed outcomes, benchmarks, timelines for delivery and mutual obligations that aim to ensure greater coherence of efforts between the Afghan government and the international community. President Karzai presented the Compact to the delegates along with the Afghanistan National Development Strategy

(ANDS), setting out the government's priorities for accelerating development, increasing security, tackling the drug trade and strengthening governance.

The international community, in turn, committed itself to providing resources and support to implement the Compact, in partnership with the Government of Afghanistan, and in coordination with the United Nations.

The Compact and the ANDS seek to build lasting Afghan capacity and effective state and civil society institutions, with particular emphasis on building up the human capacities of both men and women. It identifies three critical and interdependent areas of activity for the period 2006-2011.

1. Security was identified as an essential prerequisite for achieving stability and development in Afghanistan. As a result, the Afghan government, with the assistance of the international community, identified several initiatives as key to the success of the country's development. These include disbanding illegally armed groups, strengthening and developing the national security forces and counterterrorism operations, expanding the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force throughout Afghanistan, including through Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRT), and promoting stability and security sector reforms.

To date, more than 63,000 soldiers have been disarmed and 36,000 small arms have been collected. Some 26,500 Afghan national army soldiers have been trained along with some 60,000 police, including border and highway police.

2. Governance, the rule of law and human rights were also identified in the Afghanistan Compact, including the Afghan

government's ability to expand its capacity to provide basic services to the population throughout the country by recruiting a professional public service based on merit. Government institutions need to be established that are free of corruption and that can uphold justice and the rule of law and promote human rights. Civil administration, police, prisons and the judiciary were all included in plans to rebuild a culture of tolerance, pluralism and a shared sense of citizenship.

3. Economic and social development also figured largely in the Afghanistan Compact, as the Afghan government, with the support of the international community, identified the reduction of hunger, poverty and unemployment as targets toward the restoration, promotion and development of the country's human, social and physical capital. The goal is to establish a sound basis for a new generation of leaders and professionals; strengthen civil society; and complete the reintegration of returnees, internally displaced persons and ex-combatants.

Public investments will be structured around the six sectors of the pillar on economic and social development of the Afghanistan National Development Strategy:

- Infrastructure and natural resources;
- Education;
- Health;
- Agriculture and rural development;
- Social protection; and
- Economic governance and private sector development.

Results so far include the 150,000 Afghan women who have benefited from the Canada-funded Afghanistan national microcredit program to start up their own businesses, the 5,000 rural development projects through which schools, clinics,

roads and irrigation systems have been built, the almost four million refugees who have returned to Afghanistan, and the nearly 63,000 soldiers who have been demobilized and reintegrated into communities as carpenters, shopkeepers and farmers.

The Compact also identified the vital crosscutting work of eliminating the narcotics industry. Essential elements include improved interdiction, law enforcement and judicial capacity building; enhanced cooperation among Afghanistan, neighbouring countries and the international community on disrupting the drug trade; wider provision of economic alternatives for farmers and labourers in the context of comprehensive rural development; and the establishment of national and provincial counter-narcotics institutions.

Canada recognizes the importance of a concerted, effective, counter-narcotics strategy as part of our multi-faceted effort in Afghanistan. Canada, along with the international community and the Afghan government, has focused counter-narcotics efforts on the development of the Afghan National Drug Control Strategy and its priorities of disrupting the drug trade, strengthening and diversifying legal rural livelihoods, reducing demand, providing treatment and developing state institutions.

Canada provides more than \$30 million to support counter-narcotics programs that focus on providing Afghans with alternatives to poppy cultivation, which includes \$18.5 million toward alternative livelihood efforts in Kandahar. Canada also supports efforts to build Afghan institutions and capacity that combat the narcotics trade. More information on the Afghanistan Compact can be found at: www.ands.gov.af/ands/I-ANDS/afghanistan-compacts-p1.asp

Progress in Afghanistan: Canada's Contribution

Alongside our Afghan, UN, NATO and other international partners, Canada is working for the clear, measurable results as identified in both the Afghanistan Compact and the ANDS. We are also working with our partners to monitor progress and ensure that the process remains on track.

In each of the three areas of activity identified in the Compact and the ANDS, Canada has made significant investments. Selected contributions and progress made to date are outlined below. (See Appendix III for a complete listing of all Canadian development projects underway in Afghanistan.)

Security

Attacks in Afghanistan are a stark reminder of how Taliban insurgents are seeking to undermine the credibility of the Afghan government and reverse the reconstruction effort. Security, then, is of prime importance as we endeavour to help Afghans rebuild their country.

International Security Forces

From February to July 31, 2006, Canadian Forces (CF) personnel had been operating in Afghanistan as part of Operation Archer following the consolidation of the majority of CF assets from Kabul to Kandahar. CF personnel had previously served as part of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) from August 2003 to November 2005 in the Kabul area (Operation Athena 2003-05).

ISAF was originally authorized by UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1386 on December 20, 2001, with a mandate to

assist the Afghan Transitional Authority. UN support for ISAF has been reaffirmed in subsequent Security Council resolutions, most recently in UNSCR 1707 on September 12, 2006.

Since its original mission of providing security in the Kabul area, ISAF has expanded into 13 provinces of northern, western and now southern Afghanistan, regions where it also commands the military components of nine Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRT). More information on ISAF can be found at: www.jfcbnato.int/ISAF

Through ISAF, NATO is helping to establish the conditions in which Afghans can enjoy a representative government and self-sustaining peace and security. NATO took over command of ISAF in August 2003. Initially restricted to providing security in and around Kabul, at the request of the Afghan government and pursuant to successive UN Security Council resolutions, NATO expanded its operations to the northern and western parts of Afghanistan. As of July 31, 2006, NATO expanded into southern Afghanistan and now ISAF covers approximately 75 percent of the country's territory, and comprises about 18,500 troops from 37 NATO and non-NATO troop contributing countries. (See Appendix II for a complete list.)

ISAF's role is to assist the Government of Afghanistan and the international community in maintaining security within the Force's area of operations. ISAF supports the Afghan government in expanding its authority across the country, and in providing a safe and secure environment conducive to democratic governance, the spread of the rule of law and reconstruction. ISAF's key military tasks include:

- assisting the development and maintenance of a countrywide stable and secure environment in coordination with Afghan national security forces, in which sustainable reconstruction and development efforts can take hold;
- assisting the Afghan government with the security sector reform process;
- assisting in the development of Afghan security structures and institutions necessary to maintain security in Afghanistan through mentoring of and support for the Afghan national army; and
- supporting Afghan government programs to disarm illegally armed groups.

ISAF's key supporting tasks include:

- supporting Afghan government and internationally sanctioned counter-narcotics efforts. This does not, however, include participating in poppy eradication or destroying processing facilities or taking military action against narcotics producers;
- on request, providing support to humanitarian assistance operations coordinated by Afghan government organizations; and
- supporting the Afghan national police, within means and capabilities.

Canada has a contingent of approximately 2,300 troops bringing security to southern Afghanistan, where Canada now has command of the multinational brigade headquarters. Canada's role in the south helped to pave the way for the transfer in August of the operations there to NATO command.

Afghan National Army

The Canadian Forces have also contributed approximately 15 personnel to act as

instructors involved in training the Afghan national army at the Canadian Afghan National Training Centre Detachment in Kabul.

Afghan National Police

Canadian civilian police have been deployed to the Provincial Reconstruction Team in Kandahar since August 2005 and are mandated to train and assist in building the capacity of local Afghan police. They are responsible for establishing relationships with law enforcement partners and serving as the focal point of contact between the PRT and local police. They advise, mentor and monitor the local police in close cooperation with Germany (the lead nation for police reform) and other international policing partners. The civilian police component ensures all activities are in compliance with international law and standards.

There are presently five Canadian police officers—four from the RCMP and one from the Charlottetown Police Department—as part of the PRT. Deployments are normally for one year.

Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration

Canada has also played a key role in demobilizing 63,000 Afghan soldiers who have fought during 25 years of war. Canada has disbursed close to \$21 million in support of this process since its inception in October 2003. This funding allows former soldiers to gradually reintegrate into civilian life. Some of these individuals have chosen to open small shops selling construction material or clothing. Others work toward the destruction of mines that cover the country. Some have become teachers to foster a brighter future for Afghan children. However, the majority

of them have chosen to return to farm their lands and feed their families and country.

The Fight Against Narcotics

The drug trade is considered one of the greatest obstacles to Afghanistan's security and long-term development.

Canada is investing close to \$30 million in order to support three projects, including one in Kandahar, that offer viable alternatives to poppy cultivation for rural Afghans, to help them feed their families without having to turn to illicit cultivation.

Small loans are offered to rural Afghans so they do not have to rely on opium cultivation for the money needed to buy seeds and fertilizers. Farmers are encouraged to focus on other crops, which are legal, such as dried fruit, nuts, vegetables and cereal. But such crops are only profitable if production is sufficient and markets are available. Canada's efforts include financing for rural infrastructure, such as roads and irrigation, as well as longer term initiatives such as education, professional training and health services that will allow Afghans to diversify their income.

Mine Action and Ammunition

Anti-personnel mines and unsecured munitions stockpiles also threaten the long-term security of Afghans. Anti-personnel mines kill and injure more than 100 people each month in Afghanistan. They prevent access to farmlands, housing and water, and they interfere with road and bridge repairs, and the reconstruction of schools and clinics.

Since 1989, Canada has allocated close to \$60 million to the fight against anti-personnel mines and munitions, including a

recent announcement of \$12 million (\$5 million for the United Nations program against mines, and \$7 million for the destruction of munitions). Canadian funding supports the work of teams that remove and destroy mines. Since September 2002, more than 65,000 land mines have been destroyed. Funding also goes toward educating and making the population aware of this issue. This support is fundamental to the security of Afghans and Canadians present in Afghanistan.

Governance, Rule of Law and Human Rights

Governance

Ever since the Bonn Agreement first underlined the importance of building democratic institutions in Afghanistan, Canada has played a significant role in supporting the Afghan Transitional Authority and, subsequently, the Government of Afghanistan. Canada supported the development of an Afghan constitution that provides equal protection for both men and women. We provided broad support for national democratic elections, and we continue to build the capacity of government institutions to manage their affairs and deliver services to the people of Afghanistan.

From helping to manage a complex national budget, to developing a standard administrative and legislative system, to training and providing expert advice to government employees and managers, Canada is working hard to establish a sustainable public service culture in Afghanistan.

The Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund (ARTF) was established in 2002 as one of the major instruments through which international aid dollars could be

coordinated to fund priority services offered by the Government of Afghanistan. Jointly managed by the World Bank, the United Nations Development Program, the Asian Development Bank and the Islamic Development Bank, it is structured to ensure aid effectiveness. Canada has been and remains a major contributor to the Trust Fund.

Our support helps to reimburse the costs of the day-to-day operations of the government and contributes to two priority national programs for the economic and social development of Afghanistan—the national microcredit program and the National Solidarity Program. During the past year, more than 250,000 civil servant monthly salaries were reimbursed from the ARTF.

Rule of Law

Canada supported the development of an Afghan transitional justice action plan that takes a multi-faceted approach to addressing past injustices. This is an important tool to build public confidence in the Afghan government. The Peace, Justice and Reconciliation plan, endorsed by the Afghan Cabinet, provides a framework for addressing past injustices over the short, medium and long term. It envisages employing a wide range of mechanisms, including vetting the public service, and ending impunity from prosecution, including from prosecution against war crimes. In addition, Canada is working on legal education issues with the Afghan Ministry of Justice and the University of Kabul's Faculty of Law, providing legal training for new law graduates, promoting legal awareness and rendering legal practice more professional.

Human Rights

Canada is helping the Afghan government to establish monitoring and reporting systems for use with the various human rights treaties to which Afghanistan is a party.

The Afghan Constitution recognizes that women have the same rights as men. Unfortunately, in the aftermath of Taliban rule, many women are not aware of their rights. The Montreal-based organization Rights and Democracy has already trained more than 6,000 women to speak to their fellow Afghans, both men and women, on the importance of respecting women's rights to go to school, to express themselves and to live in security. These women have encouraged thousands of families to send their daughters to school.

Thanks to Canada's financial support, Rights and Democracy has opened many centres for women throughout Afghanistan, providing them with legal advice and assistance.

These centres also provide legal aid to women who cannot afford a lawyer. Hundreds of women across Afghanistan have already benefited from these services. Some centres provide a safe location where women can take refuge from a violent husband or simply to have a roof over their heads. This approach is new to Afghanistan and hundreds of women have already taken advantage of these services. These centres also provide basic services such as literacy training and health care.

Strategic Advisory Team

Since September 2005, the Government of Canada has, on a bilateral basis, provided a team of strategic planners to support the Government of Afghanistan in developing and implementing key national strategies.

The team works with Afghan government ministries and agencies under Afghan leadership. The team assists working-level officials to integrate the substantive ideas of the Afghan leadership and international experts into cohesive strategic frameworks. Working closely with the Canadian embassy, CIDA, DND and the Afghan government, the team is an example of Canada's "whole of government" concept. The planning team members bring a wide range of training, education and experience, as well as military and strategic planning skills to bear on the resolution of complex civil problems.

Economic and Social Development

The development of entrepreneurship and agriculture is key to fostering self-reliance in Afghanistan, which is why Canada continues to be the national microcredit program's lead donor. The program's goal has already been surpassed, to the benefit of 190,000 savings and credit services clients, nearly 75 percent of whom are women. Most of the loans are used to start up small retail sales businesses and 99 percent of these are repaid with interest.

The following are some concrete examples of what Afghans have accomplished with Canadian assistance.

- A widow obtained a small loan to buy a small store that sells food.
- An Afghan farmer had to sell his land to feed his family. With his small loan, he was able to buy a store, repurchase his land and provide work for all of his family.
- A shopkeeper used a loan to buy a used truck, allowing him to deliver merchandise to neighbouring villages.
- A shopkeeper obtained a loan to open a shop to sell curtains and other drapery.

She now employs five other women and provides for her entire family.

- A seamstress obtained a loan to buy a few sewing machines, thus allowing her sons to work with her, making suits for men.

With the collaboration of CARE Canada, Canada supports programs that have fed more than 10,000 widows and their families. This assistance also gives women the chance to learn basic reading and mathematical skills and to obtain professional training in order to find work. The Canadian government has allocated \$7 million for these projects (\$2.5 million for the Kabul Widows Assistance Program; and \$4.5 million for the professional training project).

Canada also funds the National Solidarity Program, through which more than 12,000 villages, or half of all Afghan villages, approximately 150,000 families, have had a say in the construction of schools, clinics, roads, irrigation canals and wells in their communities. This program has the double advantage of helping Afghans elect village councils, comprising men as well as women, and helping them build infrastructure to improve their access to health services and education for their children.

Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team

In August 2005, Canada assumed command of the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team, whose mission is to help extend the authority of the Afghan government in the province by promoting stability and security, improving local governance structures and engaging in reconstruction activities. It also ensures that operations respect religious, ethnic and cultural sensitivities.

The PRT concept was initiated in November 2002 by Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) as a critical component of its effort to stabilize Afghanistan. PRTs were conceived as a way to integrate diplomats, development experts, police officers and military assets to address the causes of instability: poverty, poor governance, weak institutions, insurgency and regional warlords. The exact composition of each team is tailored to the specific requirements of each region, in accordance with local reconstruction requirements as well as the local threat and tactical risks.

The first PRTs were located in the south under U.S. command and in the north under the U.K. Starting in 2004, NATO's International Stabilization and Assistance Force (ISAF) assumed command of PRTs in both the north and the west and extended its oversight of PRTs in the south in the summer of 2006. As of August 2006, there were 23 PRTs in Afghanistan, 10 under the OEF and 13 under ISAF.

The Canadian-led PRT is a multi-departmental effort, employing personnel from the Department of National Defence, Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, CIDA, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and other Canadian police forces.

Canadian development activities in Kandahar are coordinated by development experts who work closely with local community leaders and provincial and regional elected officials to develop projects in response to the priority needs of Afghans. This in turn helps to build confidence in the Afghan government to govern and deliver services.

Examples of Canada's success with the PRT include the Government of Canada funded Confidence in Government program in the Shah Wali Kot district of Kandahar. Since May 2006, citizens there have decided for themselves what local projects are most needed in their own villages. Similar community-based projects in the past have led to employment programs, as well as the construction and repair of water wells, roads, schools and health clinics.

Other examples of Canada's contributions include the funding of a 911-type of emergency call centre for the Afghan National Police headquarters in Kandahar; the donation of computers, purchase of a generator and construction of a water distribution system for Kandahar University; and a plastic bottle and aluminum recycling program for the Kandahar PRT.

The PRTs are a significant contribution to the successful implementation of the Afghanistan Compact and the ANDS.

AFGHANISTAN

Capital: Kabul

GEODATA

Area

652,090 km²

Major languages

Pashtu, Dari, Turkic

Major religious groups

Sunni Muslim 80%, Shi'a Muslim 19%, Other 1%

Population

31 million (2006 est.)

Population growth rate

2.8% (2006 est.)

Surrounding countries

China, Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

POLITICAL DATA

Type of government

Republic

National legislature

Upper chamber: House of Elders

Lower chamber: House of the People

Leader

President Hamid Karzai

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Rangin Spanta

ECONOMIC DATA

GDP

\$7.1 billion (2005)

Real GDP growth rate

13.8% (2005)

GDP per capita

\$800 (2004 est.)

Inflation rate

12.9% (2005)

Unemployment rate

n/a

Main exports

Opium, fruits and nuts, handwoven carpets, wool, cotton, hides and pelts, precious and semi-precious gems

Main imports

Capital goods, food, textiles, petroleum products

Canadian imports from Afghanistan

\$461,148 (2005), including carpets and other textile products, vehicles and parts (not including railway), fish, crustaceans and aquatic invertebrates, electric machinery and sound equipment and parts, medical and surgical instruments, printed books and newspapers

Canadian exports to Afghanistan

\$19.1 million (2005), including plastics, vehicles and parts (not including railway), furniture and bedding, animal or vegetable fats, oils and waxes, tanning products and dyes, ores, slags and ash, pharmaceutical products

Canadian Representative

David Sproule, Ambassador

The Canadian Embassy, Street No. 15, House No. 256, Wazir Akbar Khan, Kabul, Afghanistan

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September 2006

Biographies - Afghanistan

Hamid Karzai **President of Afghanistan**

Hamid Karzai was born on December 24, 1957, in Kandahar, Afghanistan. After graduating from high school in 1976, he travelled to India as an exchange student and in 1983 obtained a master's degree in international relations and political science from Simla University.

Mr. Karzai joined the mujahideen resistance movement in Pakistan and served as director of information for the National Liberation Front and later as deputy director for its Political Office.

After the formation of the mujahideen's transitional government in 1989, Mr. Karzai was appointed director of the Foreign Relations Unit in the Office of the President of the Interim Government. When the mujahideen government was established in Kabul in 1992, he was appointed deputy foreign minister. As a result of the civil war between various mujahideen groups, he resigned his post and began to work actively to organize a national Loya Jirga or Grand Council.

Mr. Karzai returned to Uruzgan province in October 2001 and worked to coordinate local efforts to rid Afghanistan of the Taliban and their supporters. In December 2001, he was elected chairman of the Interim Administration of Afghanistan by participants at the UN-sponsored Bonn Conference. He, along with the appointed cabinet, took the oath of office on December 22, 2001. His role as leader of the country was confirmed by members of the

Emergency Loya Jirga when he was elected President of the Transitional Government on June 13, 2002.

On October 9, 2004, Mr. Karzai won the majority of votes in Afghanistan's first presidential election and was elected to a five-year term as President of Afghanistan. He took his oath of allegiance on December 7, 2004.

Anwar-ul-Haq Ahadi **Minister of Finance**

Anwar-ul-Haq Ahadi was born in 1951 in Kabul, Afghanistan. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees in economics and political science from the American University of Beirut in Lebanon in 1974 and 1977. He also received a master's degree in financial affairs and management (1983) and a doctorate in political science (1984) from Northwestern University.

Mr. Ahadi was an assistant professor of political science at Carlton University in the United States in 1984. From 1985 to 1987, he served as the Banking Director of Continental Elona Bank of Chicago. From 1987 to 2002, he was a professor of political science at Providence University in Rhode Island before returning to Afghanistan to help oust the Taliban. From 2002 to 2004, he served as the Director of the Central Bank of Afghanistan.

He has published many academic articles, essays and books. In December 2004, Mr. Ahadi was appointed Minister of Finance in the Government of Afghanistan.

Mohammad Hanif Atmar **Minister of Education**

Mohammad Hanif Atmar was born in 1968 in Laghman province, Afghanistan. He received a bachelor's degree in rural development studies in the United Kingdom and earned his master's degree in international relations and post-war development from York University in the U.K. He also has a diploma in information technology in the U.K.

From 1992 to 1994, Mr. Atmar served as an advisor for humanitarian programs in aid agencies both in Afghanistan and in Pakistan. From 1994 to 2000, he served as Program Manager for the Norwegian Committee for Afghanistan. From 2000 until 2002, he served as Deputy Director General of the International Rescue Committee. In 2002, he was appointed Minister of Rural Rehabilitation and Development in the Transitional Government.

Mr. Atmar has authored many books, and articles on humanitarian aid in the rehabilitation of Afghanistan. His nomination as Minister of Education was approved by the Afghan Parliament on May 2, 2006.

Hosna Banu Ghazanfar **Minister for** **Women's Affairs**

Hosna Banu Ghazanfar was born on February 1, 1957, in Balkh province, Afghanistan. She completed her early schooling in Mazar e Sharif. In 1983, she obtained a master's degree in linguistics, literature and sociology from Northern

Caucases University, U.S.S.R., and went on to earn a doctorate from St. Petersburg University.

Ms. Ghazanfar joined Kabul University and was appointed Dean of the Faculty of Languages and Literature in 2003. She was also a member of the Supreme Council of the Ministry of Higher Education, vice president of the Afghanistan University Association, a member of the International Association for Esperanto Language, a member of the International Association of Turkish Languages, and a member of the Board of Directors of Nasser Khesraw Cultural Association. Ms. Ghazanfar has written and published several books and articles.

President Karzai's nomination of Ms. Ghazanfar as Minister for Women's Affairs was approved by the Afghan Parliament on April 20, 2006.

Zalmai Rassoul **National Security Advisor**

Zalmai Rassoul was born in Kabul, Afghanistan, in October 1941. He studied medicine at the Paris Medical School in France and received his medical degree in 1973. He has over 30 publications in European and American medical journals and is a member of the American Society of Nephrology.

Since 1998, Dr. Rassoul devoted his full attention to the convening of the Emergency Loya Jirga (Grand Council) as the director of the Secretariat of Mohammad Zaher, the former king of Afghanistan.

Prior to his service in the current Afghan government, Dr. Rassoul served as a delegate to the 2001 Bonn Conference. In March 2002, he was appointed Minister

of Civil Aviation. Under his leadership, the aviation sector was revived after many years of United Nations' sanctions against the Taliban, and Afghanistan was readmitted to the International Air Transport Association and the International Civil Aviation Organization.

Dr. Rassoul was appointed National Security Advisor of the Transitional State of Afghanistan in June 2002.

Rangin Dadfar Spanta Minister of Foreign Affairs

Rangin Dadfar Spanta was born on December 15, 1953, in the province of Herat, Afghanistan, where he completed his secondary education. He attended Kabul University and studied in Turkey in the mid-1970s. He settled in Germany in 1982, following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, and earned a doctorate from Aachen University.

Mr. Spanta was a professor at Aachen University from 1992 to 2005 and was in charge of its Third World Studies Institute. In January 2005, Mr. Spanta returned to teach at Kabul University and later became an advisor on foreign affairs to President Karzai.

His nomination as Foreign Minister was approved by the Parliament on April 20, and he was sworn in on May 2, 2006.

Mohammed Ehsan Zia Minister of Rural Rehabilitation and Development

Mohammed Ehsan Zia was born in Kabul. Mr. Zia attended university in the United Kingdom, receiving a bachelor's degree in social development from the University of Birmingham in 1991 and a master's in post-war-recovery studies from the University of York in 2000.

During the last 15 years, Mr. Zia has been active with development, post war and emergency humanitarian assistance programs in Afghanistan, and has worked for or with several European and Western NGOs.

Mr. Zia served as policy advisor with Rural Rehabilitation and Development from July 2002 to January 2004, then as deputy minister of the department from January 2004 to April 2006.

Mr. Zia was nominated by President Karzai as the Minister of Rural Rehabilitation and Development and his nomination was approved by the Parliament in May 2006.

Biographies - Canada

Stephen Harper Prime Minister of Canada

Stephen Harper was born on April 30, 1959, in Toronto, Ontario. He obtained both a bachelor's and a master's degree in economics from the University of Calgary.

Mr. Harper was first elected to the House of Commons in 1993 as the Reform Party's candidate in Calgary West. He left Parliament in 1997 to become Vice President (and later President) of the National Citizens' Coalition, a Canadian advocacy organization. In 2002, he became Leader of the Opposition after winning the leadership of the Canadian Alliance and a subsequent by-election in Calgary Southwest. In 2003, Mr. Harper co-founded the Conservative Party of Canada and went on to become the new party's leader.

Mr. Harper was re-elected in the 2004 federal election. He won the 2006 election and was sworn in as Canada's 22nd Prime Minister on February 6, 2006.

Peter MacKay Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency

Peter MacKay was born on September 27, 1965, in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia. After graduating with an arts degree from Acadia University in 1987, he went on to study law at Dalhousie University. He was called to the Nova Scotia Bar in June 1991 and in 1993 was appointed Crown Attorney for the Central Region of Nova Scotia.

Mr. MacKay was first elected as a member of Parliament in 1997. He was re-elected in 2000, 2004 and in 2006. He served as Progressive Conservative Party Leader and House Leader, and has been a member of many standing committees and subcommittees.

He has also served on volunteer boards, including New Leaf and Tearmann House, and has been active in Big Brothers-Big Sisters and the YMCA.

Mr. MacKay was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency on February 6, 2006.

Gordon O'Connor Minister of National Defence

Born in Toronto, Ontario, on May 5, 1939, Gordon O'Connor received a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Physics from Concordia University and a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy from York University.

Before being elected to Parliament, Mr. O'Connor had several careers in the private and public sectors. Most notably he served Canada as a military officer for over 30 years, joining the Regular Army as a Second Lieutenant in the Armour Branch, and retiring at the rank of Brigadier General. One of Mr. O'Connor's last appointments before retirement included responsibility for planning the future force structure of the Canadian Forces.

Mr. O'Connor was first elected to the House of Commons in 2004 and re-elected in 2006. He was appointed Minister of National Defence on February 6, 2006.

Josée Verner Minister of International Cooperation

Josée Verner was born in Gatineau, Quebec, on December 30, 1959.

Ms. Verner has spent close to 20 years in the communications and public service fields. She worked for former Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa and for the deputy speaker of Quebec's National Assembly, and also worked closely with the Ministry of Health.

In June 2004, she was named the spokesperson for the Economic Development Agency of Canada for the Region of Quebec in Mr. Harper's shadow cabinet. This was widened to include the Official Languages portfolio in September 2005. She also served as the chair of the Quebec caucus for the Conservative Party of Canada.

Ms. Verner was elected as a member of Parliament in January 2006. She was appointed Minister of International Cooperation and Minister for La Francophonie and Official Languages on February 6, 2006.

Appendixes

Appendix I

Participants in the London Conference on Afghanistan

Participating Countries

Afghanistan (Co-chair)	Kuwait
Australia	Kyrgyzstan
Austria	Lithuania
Bahrain	Luxembourg
Belgium	Malaysia
Brazil	Netherlands
Brunei	New Zealand
Bulgaria	Norway
Canada	Pakistan
China	Poland
Czech Republic	Portugal
Denmark	Qatar
Egypt	Romania
Finland	Russia
France	Saudi Arabia
Germany	Spain
Greece	Sweden
Hungary	Switzerland
Iceland	Tajikistan
India	Turkey
Iran	Turkmenistan
Italy	United Arab Emirates
Japan	United Kingdom (Co-chair)
Jordan	United States of America
Kazakhstan	Uzbekistan
Korea (Republic of)	

Participating Organizations

Aga Khan Foundation	International Monetary Fund
Asian Development Bank	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
European Commission	Organization of the Islamic Conference
European Union	United Nations (Co-chair)
Islamic Development Bank	World Bank

Observers

Argentina
Chile
Croatia
Cyprus
Estonia
Ireland
Latvia

Macedonia (former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)
Malta
Oman
Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
Singapore
Slovakia
Slovenia

Appendix II

Countries contributing troops to ISAF

Albania
Australia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Belgium
Bulgaria
Canada
Croatia
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
United Kingdom
United States of America

**Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.*

Appendix III

Canadian Development Assistance in Afghanistan - Current and ongoing projects

SECURITY/STABILITY				
PROJECT	PARTNER*	DESCRIPTION	DURATION	CONTRIBUTION
Mine Action National Development Budget	United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS); GoA	Support mine clearance, impact surveys, mine awareness, rehabilitation for victims	2005-2009	\$24 million
Anti-Personnel Mine and Ammunition Stockpile Destruction	GoA - Ministry of Defence	Support activities to survey, collect and destroy stockpiles of mines and ammunition	2006-2008	\$7 million
Disbandment of Illegal Armed Groups	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); GoA - Ministry of Defence	Support activities for voluntary disarmament and disbandment of illegal armed groups	2005-2009	\$7 million
GOVERNANCE, RULE OF LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS				
Support to Parliamentary Elections	Afghan Independent Election Commission (AIEC); GoA	Support the national management of future elections and promotes the sustainability of secure electoral practices	2005-2010	\$13.5 million
Support to the Establishment of the Afghan Legislature	UNDP; GoA - Afghan Parliament	Assist Afghan authorities to ensure the timely establishment of the Parliament and support its functioning during its first year	2005-2007	\$1.2 million
Human Rights Treaty Reporting	UNDP; GoA	Build the capacity of the government to report on six human rights treaties to which Afghanistan is a party	2004-2006	\$375,000
Making Budgets Work	UNDP; GoA - Ministry of Finance	Assist the Ministry of Finance to provide efficient and professional budget developing and tracking	2004-2007	\$3 million

PROJECT	PARTNER*	DESCRIPTION	DURATION	CONTRIBUTION
Strengthening the Rule of Law	International Development and Law Organization (IDLO); GoA - Ministry of Justice; Kabul University	Contribute to better access to justice, promoting legal awareness, rendering legal practice more professional, and improving court procedures	2004-2007	\$6.33 million
Corrections Advisor to the United Nations Assistance Mission to Afghanistan (UNAMA)	United Nations; GoA - Ministry of Justice	Work to develop a distinct and accountable correctional service within Afghanistan's justice system	2005-2007	\$800,000
Justice Reform	CANADEM; GoA - Ministry of Justice	Build institutional and human rights capacity and strengthen the Afghan criminal justice system	2002-2007	\$1.21 million
Women's Rights Fund	International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development (Rights & Democracy)	Provide women's rights education, leadership training, networking, information sharing, peacebuilding and participation in political processes	2003-2006	\$1.75 million
Civilian Protection in Asia	International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC); GoA	Support a range of activities related to protection from and prevention of human rights abuses	2006	\$1.75 million
Confidence in Government Program (Provincial Reconstruction Team)	PRT; GoA; Governor of Kandahar; regional and provincial elected representatives; local community leaders	Facilitate improved effectiveness and extended reach of the Afghan government's national programs throughout Kandahar province	2005-2007	\$6 million
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT				
Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund	World Bank; Asian Development Bank (ADB); GoA	Fund basic public services including education and health (operating budgets)	2004-2010	\$60 million
National Solidarity Program	GoA	Develop the ability of communities to identify, plan, manage and monitor their own reconstruction and development projects	2005-2010	\$30 million

PROJECT	PARTNER*	DESCRIPTION	DURATION	CONTRIBUTION
National Area Based Development Program - Phase II	UNDP; GoA - Ministry of Rural Reconstruction and Development (MRRD)	Implement rural development projects in 15 provinces which address needs of farmers dependent on poppy cultivation, disarmed militias, returning refugees and rural vulnerable	2005-2006	\$15 million
Western Basins Water Resources	ADB; GoA	Rehabilitate and upgrade irrigation systems and provide on-farm water management training to farmers	2006-2013	\$16 million
Microfinance Program in Afghanistan	GoA - Microfinance Investment Support Facility of Afghanistan (MISFA); World Bank	Provide financial services to the poor and vulnerable, institution building and loans	2003-2010	\$52.3 million
Mennonite Economic Development Associates (MEDA) - Development Program	MEDA GoA - MISFA	Provide financial services to the poor and vulnerable, institution building and loans	2004-2007	\$1.5 million
Aga Khan Foundation - Development Program	AKFC	Support civil society institutions that provide education, health, loans and financial services	2005-2010	\$13.5 million
Women's Community Support Program	WarChild Canada; Afghan Women's Council	Provide women with health education, training in literacy, parenting, conflict resolution and peacebuilding, and community leadership	2004-2006	\$196,000
Afghanistan Kabul Widows	CARE Canada; World University Services of Canada (WUSC)	Provide critical food assistance to 10,000 widows and their dependents, and provide vocational training	1997-2007	\$11.5 million
Socioeconomic Participation of Vulnerable Women	International Development Relief Fund (IDRF)	Provide training and support for poor Afghans to start up beekeeping and silkworm farming operations	2003-2006	\$473,000
Kabul Procurement Marketplace	Peace Dividend Trust	Link the procurement needs of international agencies and companies to local suppliers	2005-2007	\$340,000

PROJECT	PARTNER*	DESCRIPTION	DURATION	CONTRIBUTION
Liquid Soap Plant	Laboratoires Druide Inc.	Support a joint-venture operation in Kabul that manufactures and markets biodegradable shampoos and liquid soaps	2004-2006	\$320,000
Counter Narcotics Trust Fund (CNTF)	GoA	Support efforts of the government in fighting illicit drug production, and implementing the National Drug Control Strategy	2006-2009	\$1.2 million
Integrated Alternative Livelihoods Program in Kandahar	GoA	Offer farmers viable alternatives to poppy cultivation through increased access to markets and economic and social services	2006-2010	\$18.5 million
Alternative Livelihoods Program in North-eastern Afghanistan	AKFC	Provide effective alternative livelihood options through community-based rural development, supporting a range of income-generating opportunities	2005-2009	\$7.3 million
TOTAL ACTIVE PROJECTS				28 projects
TOTAL COMMITTED CONTRIBUTIONS				\$302 million

* Most Government of Canada funded development projects are implemented in partnership with the Government of Afghanistan. Where appropriate, the specific ministry(ies) or government agency(ies) is identified as implementing partner.

Appendix IV

Canadian Development Assistance in Afghanistan - Selection of completed projects

SECURITY/STABILITY				
PROJECT	PARTNER**	DESCRIPTION	DURATION	CONTRIBUTION
UN Mine Action Program in Afghanistan	United Nations Mine Action Centre for Afghanistan (UNMACA); United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS); Afghanistan Transitional Administration (ATA)	Establish and implement an overarching framework for mine action, including mine clearance, impact surveys, mine awareness, rehabilitation for victims	2003-2004	\$10 million
Disarmament, Demobilization, Reintegration	UNDP; UNAMA; ATA/GoA - Afghanistan's New Beginnings Program (ANBP)	Support the disarmament and demobilization of ex-combatants in Afghanistan, and reintegrate them into civilian life or into the new Afghan National Army. Reintegration involves 9 months' job training to assist in the transition to earn a living and be productive members of their communities	2003-2005	\$16.5 million
Heavy Weapons Cantonment (HWC)	UNDP; ATA/GoA - Ministry of Defence	Support collection of heavy weapons, transport and storage of collected weapons to cantonment sites, destruction of unserviceable weapons and ammunition, and secure storage of serviceable weapons and ammunition at the cantonment sites	2004-2006	\$1.2 million
Refugee Return and Reintegration	UN High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR)	Support the UNHCR program in Afghanistan for the return and reintegration of returnees and internally displaced people	2005	\$5 million
GOVERNANCE, RULE OF LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS				
Support to Afghan Interim Administration	United Nations ATA	Public sector financial and administrative management, post conflict peacebuilding	2002-2003	\$1.5 million

PROJECT	PARTNER**	DESCRIPTION	DURATION	CONTRIBUTION
Constitutional Commission	United Nations ATA	Support the Constitutional Drafting Commission in Afghanistan. This body consisted of nine legal scholars and jurists (including two women)	2003	\$1.75 million
Afghanistan Voter Registration	UNDP ATA/GoA	Support Afghanistan's election process by providing materials and equipment required for voter registration	2003-2005	\$10.45 million
Elections Support	UNDP ATA/GoA	Support the election of a president and the lower house in Afghanistan	2004-2005	\$8 million
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT				
Institute for Media, Policy and Civil Society (IMPACS) - Media Support Project	IMPACS	Assist civil society groups to implement free media initiatives that contribute to democratic development and assist in the creation of a national media legislative framework	2003-2005	\$2 million
National Human Development Report	UNDP; ATA/GoA	Produce Afghanistan's first National Human Development Report (NDHR), which serves as a useful tool for the government to better understand the development priorities of Afghans, develop its National Development Budget, and guide the support of donors	2004-2005	\$235,000

** Selected Government of Canada funded projects implemented prior to Afghan national elections were implemented in partnership with the Afghanistan Transitional Administration (ATA); subsequent to elections, with the Government of Afghanistan (GoA), denoted with "ATA/GoA."