

1. PROVINCIAL PROFILE

1.1. General Information

A. Geography

Khost province is the southeast region of the country. It has common borders with Paktya and Paktika provinces as well as with the Pakistani-ruled tribal areas of North Waziristan. The province covers an area of 4029 km². Around two-fifth of the province (59%) is mountainous or semi mountainous terrain while more than one-third (37%) of the area is made up of flat land, as the following table shows:

Topography type						
	Flat	Mountainous	Semi Mountainous	Semi Flat	Not Reported	TOTAL
%	37.4%	47.4%	11.6%	3.0%	.1%	.5%

Source: CSO/UNFPA Socio Economic and Demographic Profile

The province is divided into 13 Districts. The provincial capital is Khost City which has a population of about 160,214 inhabitants.

B. Demography and Population

Khost has a total population of 639,849. There are 87,199 households in the province, and households on average have 8 members. The following table shows the population by district.

Population by Districts			
District	Number of males	Number of females	Total population
Khost_ Khost Centre	81284	78930	160214
Alishir	24632	23018	47650
Baak	14065	13610	27675
Jaji Meidan	12015	11182	23197
Sabri(Yaghobi)	45701	44078	89779
Moosa Kheil	21382	20616	41998
Ghalandar	6006	5400	11406
Nadershah Koot	19187	18006	37193
Esmael Kheil(Mandozi)	31826	29856	61682
Shamal	7015	6508	13523
Sepire	13886	12799	26685
Tani	33976	33120	67096
Garboz	15907	14844	30751
Total	326882	311967	638849

Source: CSO/UNFPA Socio Economic and Demographic Profile

Almost all (98%) of the population of Khost lives in rural districts while 2% lives in urban areas. Around 51% of the population is male and 49% is female. The major ethnic group living in Khost province are Pashtoons. This includes major tribes such as Zadran, Mangal, Mandozi, Ismaiel Khil,

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Tani, Gubuz, Matoon, Lakan, Jaji, Sabari, Alishir Terizi, Babakker Khil Pashtu is spoken by 99% of the villages. Dari is spoken in two villages with around 1,000 residents.

Khost province also has a population of Kuchis or nomads whose numbers vary in different seasons. Among the 104,965 Kuchis living in Khost, 75% are long-range migratory and 25% are settled. Amongst the long-range migratory Kuchis generally over 50% of the community migrates from a winter to a summer area. The most important summer areas for the long range migratory Kuchi are Paktya, Wardak, Paktika, Ghazni and Zabul provinces. An estimated 74,179 individuals migrate across the border in winter, which would raise Khost's Kuchi population to 179,144, making it the province with the second highest Kuchi population in the country (after Nangarhar).

C. Institutional framework

The following government agencies have Line Department offices in the province:

Major Provincial Directories in Khost Province					
S.No.	Directories	S.No	Directories	S.No	Directories
1	Afghan Red Crescent Society	12	Governor Office	23	Revenue Department
2	Agriculture Department	13	Judiciary Dept:	24	Rights Dept:
3	Attorney Dept:	14	Labor and Social Affairs Dept	25	Transport Dept.
4	Chamber of Commerce	15	Mines and industries Dept.	26	Tribal affairs Dept.
5	Communication Dept.	16	Municipality	27	University directorate.
6	Counter Narcotics	17	Olympic Dept	28	Urban Development and Housing
7	Culture, Information and Youth	18	Pilgrimage and Religious Affairs	29	Water and Power Dept:
8	Custom Dept:	19	Public Health Department	30	Water Management
9	Economy Department	20	Public Works	31	Women Affairs Department
10	Education Department	21	Refugees and Returnees		
11	Environment Dept	22	RRD		

Source: UNAMA Profile

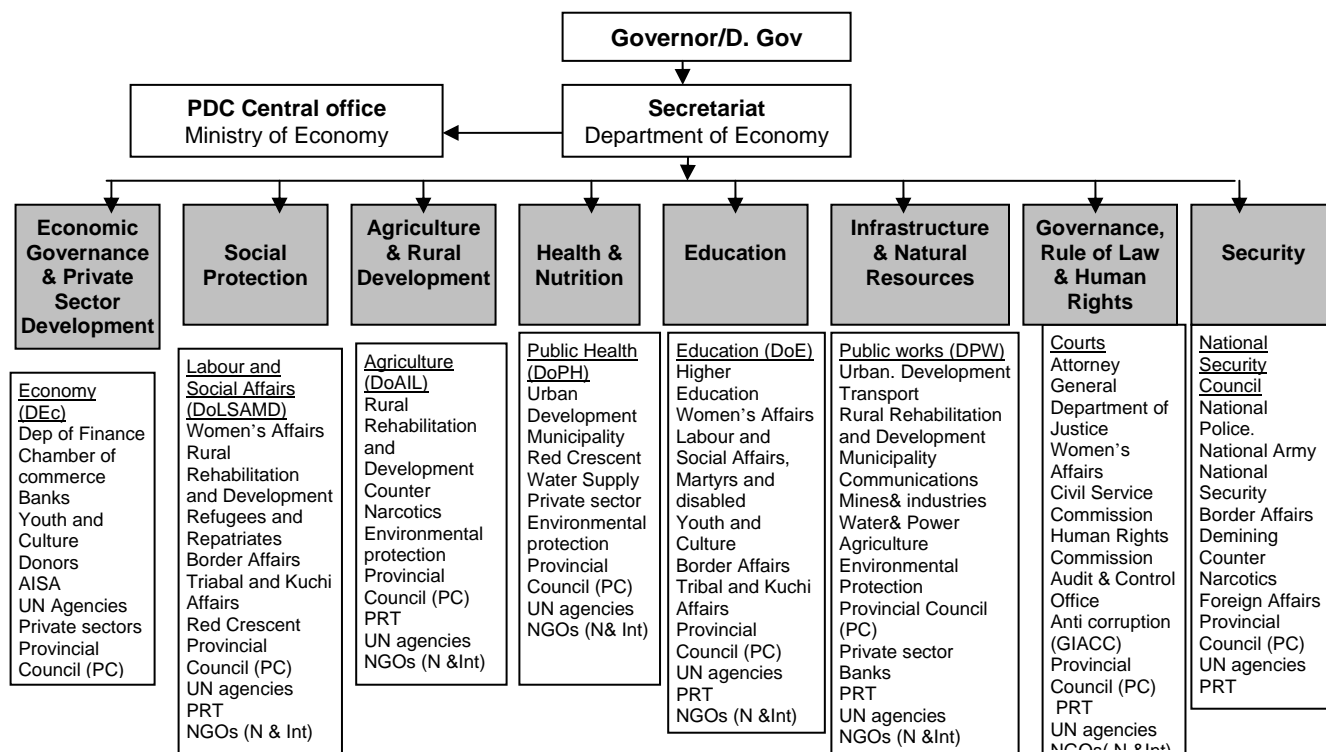
In total the government employs 2744 people in Khost province. As the table below shows, three quarters (75%) of these are employees and one quarter (25%) are contract workers. Almost all (96%) government workers are men and 4% are women.

Number of people employed by government			
	Male	Female	Total
Contract workers	679	13	692
Employees	1951	101	2052
Total Workers	2630	114	2744

Source: CSO Afghanistan Statistical Yearbook 2006

Each province has a Provincial Development Committee (PDC) which is responsible for overseeing the progress made on implementation of the Provincial Development Plan, and which will lead the provincial development planning process in the future. The PDC involves all government line departments and other key stakeholder groups involved in development activities in the province. It also has a number of working groups devoted to different sectors, each of which should be chaired by the director of the core responsible line department. The structure of the PDC and its associated working groups approved by the Ministry of Economy for use in all provinces is shown in the diagram below:

Provincial Development Committee Structure endorsed by Ministry of Economy



Source: Ministry of Economy

The Provincial Development Committee in Khost province was formed in mid 2006. In April 2007 UNAMA made the following assessment of the PDC in Khost province:

UNAMA assessment of Provincial Development Committee in Khost province	
Supporting Agencies	Functioning Status of PDC meetings
Good participation by all agencies and UNAMA provides support.	Meetings take place and the Governor is actively involved in the PDC process.

Source: UNAMA, April 2007

Khost also has a number of other bodies which play an active role in development planning at the local level. There are District Development Assemblies active in 17 districts in the province, involving 208 members, all of whom are men. Each DDA has its own District Development Plan. There are also 443 Community Development Councils in the province which are active in development planning at the community and village level. The following table shows the number of CDCs active in each district:

Number of CDCs by District	
District	Number of CDCs
Khost(Matun)	123
Jaji Maydan	40
Tani	39
Spera	68
Musa Khel	100
Mando Zayi	73
TOTAL	443

Source: MRRD, National Solidarity Programme (NSP)

D. Donor Activity

In addition to the activities of government agencies, a number of national and international organizations play an active role in promoting development in the province. For example there are at least 14 national and international Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) supporting development projects across a range of sectors in the province, as the following table shows:

International and National NGO Operations in Khost province		
PRT	IMC	TLO
USAID	HNI	AWEC
World Bank	IRC	DHSA
United Arab Emirates	Care International	BEST
GTZ	BEFA	

Source: UNAMA

The following Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) operates as a facilitating partner (FP) for the National Solidarity Programme (NSP) in different districts in the province, as shown in the table below:

NGOs Facilitating NSP by District	
District	FP
Jaji Maydan	IRC
Khost(Matun)	IRC
Mando Zayi	IRC
Musa Khel	IRC
Spera	IRC
Tani	IRC

Source: MRRD, National Solidarity Programme (NSP)

1.2. Current State of Development in the Province

A. Infrastructure and Natural Resources

The provision of basic infrastructure such as water and sanitation, energy, transport and communications is one of the key elements necessary to provide the building blocks for private sector expansion, equitable economic growth, increased employment and accelerated agricultural productivity. In Khost province, on average only 34% of households use safe drinking water. More than four-fifths of households (82%) have direct access to their main source of drinking water within their community, however around one-sixth (15%) have to travel for up to an hour to access drinking water, and for 3% travel to access drinking water can take up to 3 hours as the table below shows:

Time required accessing main source of drinking water				
	In community	Less than 1 hour	1-3 hours	3-6 hours
%	82	15	3	0

Source: NRVA 2005

On average only 1% of households have access to safe toilet facilities. The following table shows the kinds of toilet facilities used by households in the province:

Toilet facilities used by households						
	None/ bush open field/	Dearan / Sahrah (area in compound but not pit)	Open pit	Traditional covered latrine	Improved latrine	Flush latrine

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%	24	49	8	19	1	0
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Source: NRVA 2005

In terms of meeting the basic requirements for energy, there are two 500 KW generators, micro hydro power and solar energy systems operating in the province. On average 4% of households in Khost province have access to electricity but only half of these (2%) have access to public electricity.

The transport infrastructure in Khost is well developed, with more than half (59%) of roads in the province able to take car traffic in all seasons, and over a third (37%) able to take car traffic in some seasons. However, in a small part of the province (3%) there are no roads at all, as shown in the following table:

Roads Type				
District	Cars all season	Cars some seasons	No roads	Not Reported
Khost_ Khost Centre	85.4%	13.3%	.0%	1.3%
Alishir	54.7%	43.8%	1.6%	.0%
Baak	93.8%	6.3%	.0%	.0%
Jaji Meidan	69.3%	24.0%	2.7%	4.0%
Sabri(Yaghobi)	61.9%	38.1%	.0%	.0%
Moosa Kheil	53.0%	47.0%	.0%	.0%
Ghalandar	13.6%	40.9%	45.5%	.0%
Nadershah Koot	44.4%	51.1%	4.4%	.0%
Esmaeel Kheil(Mandozi)	89.4%	10.6%	.0%	.0%
Shamal	64.0%	36.0%	.0%	.0%
Sepire	21.0%	77.4%	1.6%	.0%
Tani	40.9%	49.6%	8.7%	.9%
Garboz	36.2%	62.1%	1.7%	.0%
Total	59.2%	37.0%	3.1%	.7%

Source: CSO (Analysis by AIRD)

As far as telecommunications is concerned, Khost province has a well developed network. Nearly three quarters (74%) of the community has access to mobile phone coverage. Both the main mobile telephone operators Roshan and AWCC are present in the province. 48,000 residents have Roshan mobiles and 36,168 have AWCC mobile phones. Nine hundred and thirty digital phones have also been distributed in the province.

B. Economic Governance and Private Sector Development

Creating the conditions in which a dynamic and competitive private sector can flourish, is key to promoting economic growth, employment creation and poverty reduction. Khost is both an agricultural and an industrial province. In terms of industry, cold drink, soft drink, iodine salt and plastic factories are working in the Province.

Agriculture is a major source of revenue for nearly half (46%) of households in Khost province and over half (54%) of rural households own or manage agricultural land or garden plots. However, around half of households (45%) in rural areas derive income from trade and services and a quarter (24%) earn

income through non-farm related labour. Livestock also accounts for some income for around a third (36%) of rural households as the following table shows:

Sources of income reported by households			
Source of income	Rural (%)	Urban (%)	Total (%)
Agriculture	45	-	46
Livestock	36	-	38
Opium	1	-	1
Trade and Services	45	-	45
Manufacture	5	-	4
Non-Farm Labour	24	-	25
Remittances	8	-	8
Other	2	-	2

Source: NRVA 2005

In 2005 there were 2 Agricultural cooperatives active in Khost involving 210 members. This was around two and half times more people than in 2003 when the figure was only 88 members. In 2005 agricultural cooperatives controlled a total of 315 Ha of land. As a result of this, each member held a share in the capital of the cooperative to the value of 33,200Afs.

A variety of industrial crops are produced in Khost. Sugar cane is produced in Ali Sher, sesame in Tanay and olives are produced in Musa Khel districts. Cotton is produced in both Ali Sher and Manduzay districts.

Small industries are very scarce in Khost. They exist in only 29 villages, twenty of which produce honey and four produce silk. Honey is produced in Shamul, Jaji Maidan and Tanay districts. Silk is produced in Ali Sher, Mandauzay and Gurbaz districts. Handicrafts are produced in 116 villages. Carpets and rugs are mainly produced in Manduzay District. Jewelry is produced in Sabari and Tanay districts.

In 2005, 38% of households in Khost reported taking out loans. Of these loans, a small percentage were used to invest in economic activity such agricultural inputs (1%) and business investment (1%).

C. Agriculture and Rural Development

Enhancing licit agricultural productivity, creating incentives for non-farm investment, developing rural infrastructure, and supporting access to skills development and financial services will allow individuals, households and communities to participate licitly and productively in the economy. As agriculture represents the major source of income for nearly half the households in the province, rural development will be a key element of progress in Khost. The most important field crops grown in Khost province include wheat, maize and alfalfa, clover or other fodder. The most common crops grown in garden plots include fruit and nut trees (56%), and produce such as potatoes.

More than nine-tenths of households with access to fertilizer use this on field crops (91%) although nearly one-tenth of households use fertilizer on both field and garden (8%). The main types of fertilizer used by households in the province are shown in the following table:

Main Types Of Fertilizer Used By Households					
Human	Animal	Urea		DAP	
%	%	%	Average Kg per Household	%	Average Kg per Household
2	72	78	143.5 Kg	77	137.1 Kg

Source: NRVA 2005

On average 64% of households in the province have access to irrigated land, and two fifths of rural households (41%) have access to rainfed land as the following table shows:

Households (%) access to irrigated and rainfed land			
	Rural	Urban	Average
Access to irrigated land	64	-	62
Access to rainfed land	41	-	44

Source: NRVA 2005

Eighty five percent of rural households and all Kuchi households (100%) in the province own livestock or poultry. The most commonly owned livestock are cattle, goats, donkey and sheep as the following table shows:

Households (%) owning poultry and livestock				
Livestock	Kuchi	Rural	Urban	Average
Cattle	96	80	-	88
Oxen	0	6	-	3
Horses	0	1	-	0.5
Donkey	33	41	-	37
Camel	17	9	-	13
Goats	42	35	-	38
Sheep	29	16	-	23
Poultry	100	82	-	91

Source: NRVA 2005

D. Education

Ensuring good quality education and equitable access to education and skills are some of the important ways to raise human capital, reduce poverty and facilitate economic growth. The overall literacy rate in Khost province is 28%, however, while more than two-fifths of men are literate (44%), this is true for just seven percent of women. In the population aged between 15 and 24 the situation for men is better with 52% literacy, whereas for women the figure shows no change (7%). The figure for the literacy rate of the Kuchi population shows 0% which means that at best only a very small number of kuchi men and women in the province can read and write.

On average 38% of children between 6 and 13 are enrolled in school, however the figure is around two-thirds of boys (61%) and only one-seventh of girls (14%). Amongst the Kuchi population, no children are recorded as attending school in either winter or summer months.

Overall there are 157 primary and secondary schools in the province catering for 100732 students. Boys account for 86% of students and 85% of schools are boys' schools. There are 2205 teachers working in schools in the Khost province, (3%) of whom are women.

Primary and Secondary Education						
	Schools		Students		Teachers	
	boys	girls	boys	girls	male	female
Primary	93	22	75330	14061	-	-
Secondary	40	2	11284	57	-	-
Total	133	24	86614	14118	2140	65
	157		100732		2205	

Source: CSO Afghanistan Statistical Yearbook 2006

Primary schools are located in-village for 14% of students and two in five students have a primary school within 5km while more than a quarter (27%) of students has to travel more than ten kilometers to reach their closest primary school. Around 5% of secondary school students have a school in their village while around a third have to travel up to five kilometers and 37% have to travel more than ten kilometers to reach their nearest secondary schools. Only 2.4% of high school students have a school located in their village. High schools are located up to five kilometers away for 28% of students, and more than ten kilometers away for around half of students.

Khost province also has a number of higher education facilities. The University of Khost has six faculties including faculties of medicine, engineering and agriculture, computer sciences, literature, training and education, Islamic law and political science and business administration. In 2005 there were 687 students enrolled at the university and all of them were men. Of those, 277 students were in their first year. Fifty male students live in dormitories provided by the University. There is also a Mechanical high school with 10 staff and 81 male students. In 2005, 16 students graduated from this institute.

E. Health

Ensuring the availability of basic health and hospital services, and developing human resources in the health sector is essential to reduce the incidence of disease, increase life expectancy and enable the whole population to participate in sustainable development. A basic infrastructure of health services exists in Khost province. In 2005 there were 8 health centers and 2 hospitals with a total of 29 beds. There were also 287 doctors and 156 nurses employed by the Ministry of Health working in the province, which represented more than six times more doctors (up from 44) and around twice as many nurses (up from 83) since 2003. The major health facilities identified in 2007 in the province are shown in the following table:

Health Services (Hospitals and Clinics)			
Provincial Hospitals and clinics	District Hospitals and clinics	Basic Health Centres (BHC)	Comprehensive Health Centres (CHC)
0	11	7	12

Source: UNAMA

The province also has 207 pharmacies of which 191 are owned privately and 16 are run by the government. Drugstores are located in-village for 9.3% of the population and more than two-fifths of people have to travel more than ten kilometers to reach to the nearest drugstore.

The majority of communities do not have a health worker permanently present in their community. Only 2.4% of people have in-village health centers. Around the half the population must travel more than ten kilometers to get medical attention, 50% for health centers and 47% for dispensaries. More than four fifths of men's shura (84%) and women's shura (87%) reported that there was no community health worker present, and both groups most commonly said that their nearest health facility is a basic health center or clinic without beds.

F. Social Protection

Building the capacities, opportunities and security of extremely poor and vulnerable Afghans through a process of economic empowerment is essential in order to reduce poverty and increase self-reliance. The level of economic hardship in Khost is reasonably high. More than two-fifths of households in the province reported having problems satisfying their food needs at least 3 – 6 times a year, and around one-sixth of households face this problem up to three times a year, as the following table shows:

Problems satisfying food need of the household during the last year
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	Never	Rarely (1-3 times)	Sometimes (3-6 times)	Often (few times a month)	Mostly (happens a lot)
Households (%)	22	15	44	13	7

Source: NRVA 2005

More than one quarter (28%) of the population in the province is estimated to receive less than the minimum daily caloric intake necessary to maintain good health. In both rural and urban areas more than two-fifths of the population (41%) has low dietary diversity and poor or very poor food consumption as shown below:

Food consumption classification for all households				
	Low dietary diversity		Better dietary diversity	
Households (%)	Very poor food consumption	Poor food consumption	Slightly better food consumption	Better food consumption
Rural	21	19	19	40
Total	20	21	18	42

Source: NRVA 2005

In 2005, 18% of the population of Khost province received allocations of food aid, which reached a total of 114,056 beneficiaries. In addition, of the 38% of households who reported taking out loans, nearly three quarters (73%) said that the main use of their largest loan was to buy food. A further 9% used the money to cover expenses for health emergencies. In the same year around half the households (46%) in the province reported feeling that their economic situation had remained the same compared to a year ago, and around a third (29%) felt that it had become worse, as the following table shows:

Comparison of overall economic situation compared to one year ago					
	Much worse	Worse	Same	Slightly better	Much better
Households (%)	6	23	46	21	4

Source: NRVA 2005

In 2005 around two-thirds (65%) of all households in the province reported having been negatively affected by some unexpected event in the last year, which was beyond their control. People were most at risk from natural disasters, agricultural shocks and health shocks or epidemics as the following table shows:

Households experiencing shocks in the province (%)			
Types of shocks	Rural	Urban	Average
Drinking water	7	-	6
Agricultural	43	-	45
Natural disaster	82	-	80
Insecurity	3	-	3
Financial	3	-	3
Health or epidemics	40	-	42

Source: NRVA 2005

Of those households affected, over two-fifths reported that they had not recovered at all from shocks experienced in the last 12 months (43%), and a little more than half said they had recovered only partially (51%).

G. Governance, Law and Human Rights

Establishing and strengthening government institutions at the central and sub-national levels is essential to achieve measurable improvements in the delivery of services and the protection of rights of all Afghans

No relevant data analysed at provincial level available from national sources has been identified in this area.

H. Security

Ensuring a legitimate monopoly on force and law enforcement that provides a secure environment for the fulfillment of the rights of all Afghans is essential to ensure freedom of movement for people, commodities and ideas, and to promote social and economic development. An assessment conducted by UNAMA in mid 2007 reported that the security situation throughout Khost Province remains volatile, although there has been a reduction in the number of security incidents reported in the province. Anti Government Elements (AGE) continue to conduct attacks using conventional methods such as shelling, ambushes, Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) and terrorist-style attacks such as body-borne and vehicle-borne suicide attacks. The main targets of anti government elements are International Security Assistance Forces (ISAF), the Afghan Government and other official structures located and operating in the province. Anti government elements have also used propaganda and intimidation tactics in an attempt to alienate the local population from the Government of Afghanistan and International Security Assistance Forces.

The potential security risks identified in the province include Body Borne Improvised Explosive Devices (BBIEDs) and Vehicle Borne Improvised Explosive Devices (VBIEDs) attacks; Improvised Explosive Device attacks, armed attacks/clashes and stand off attacks against the Government of Afghanistan, International Security Assistance Forces and international community, ambushes against Afghan National Police, Afghan National Army, assassinations (beheadings) of local people who support the Afghan Government and Afghan Government's employees, and abduction of Afghan nationals.

Profile compiled by NABDP / MRRD

Information Sources

Afghanistan Statistical Yearbook 2006, Central Statistics Office

Geography: Area

Demography and Population: Rural and Urban population

Institutional Framework: Total Government employees

Economic Governance & Private Sector Development: Agricultural cooperatives, members, land, surplus, capital

Education: Primary and secondary schools, students and teachers, Higher education faculties, total students, first year students and graduates, Students in university dormitories, Vocational high schools, staff, students and graduates, Teacher training institutes, students and graduates.

Health: Number of Health centers, Hospitals, beds, Doctors, Nurses, Pharmacies.

Social Protection: Allocations of food aid,

Socio Economic and Demographic Profiles (per province), 2003, Central Statistics Office/ UNFPA

Geography: Topography, No of Districts, Provincial capital – population

Demography and Population: Population by district, Number of households, Main Languages Spoken

Infrastructure and Natural Resources : Road types (analysis by Afghanistan Institute for Rural Development)

Economic Governance & Private Sector Development:– Industrial crops, small industries and handicrafts

Education: Distance from educational services

Health: Distance from Health Services

The National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2005, Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development

and the Central Statistics Office, June 2007

Demography and Population: Average household size

Infrastructure and Natural Resources : Use of safe drinking water, Travel time to drinking water, Access to safe toilet facilities, Toilet types, Household access to electricity, Access to public electricity

Economic Governance & Private Sector Development: Source of household revenue, Households taking out loans, loan investment in economic activity

Agriculture and Rural Development: Most important field crops and garden crops, Fertilizer use and type, Access to irrigated and rainfed land, Ownership of livestock and poultry

Education: Literacy rate overall and for population 15 to 24, school enrolments

Health: Availability of community health workers, closest type of health facility

Social Protection: Problems satisfying food needs, Population receiving less than minimum recommended daily caloric intake, dietary diversity & food consumption, Comparison of economic situation with 12 months ago, Loan use for food and medical expenses, Vulnerability to shocks, Kinds of shocks , Recovery from shocks

National Multi sectoral Assessment on Kuchi, Frauke de Weijer, May 2005

Demography and Population: Kuchi population Winter and Summer

Education: Literacy rate for Kuchi, School attendance for Kuchi (summer / winter)

UNDSS Provincial Assessments or UNAMA Provincial profiles, Supplied by UNAMA

Geography: MAP , Location and description,

Demography and Population: Major ethnic groups and tribes,

Institutional Framework: Line Department offices,

Donor Activity: UN agencies and projects, IO/NGO agencies and projects

Infrastructure and Natural Resources : Road Travel times, Mobile Network Coverage

Economic Governance & Private Sector Development: General economic profile, Major industries/ commercial activities

Health: Health facilities

Security: Assessment of the security situation, Factors of insecurity

Information supplied by United Nations Assistance Mission to Afghanistan (UNAMA)

Provincial Development, Provincial Budgeting and Integration of the Provincial Development Plans into the Afghan National Development Strategy (ANDS). Draft Discussion Paper for the ADF)

Institutional Framework : Assessment of functioning of PDC

Information supplied by Ministries

Institutional Framework: PDC structure (*Ministry of Economy*), DDAs and CDCs (*Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development*)

Donor Activity: NGO facilitating partners for NSP (*Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development*)