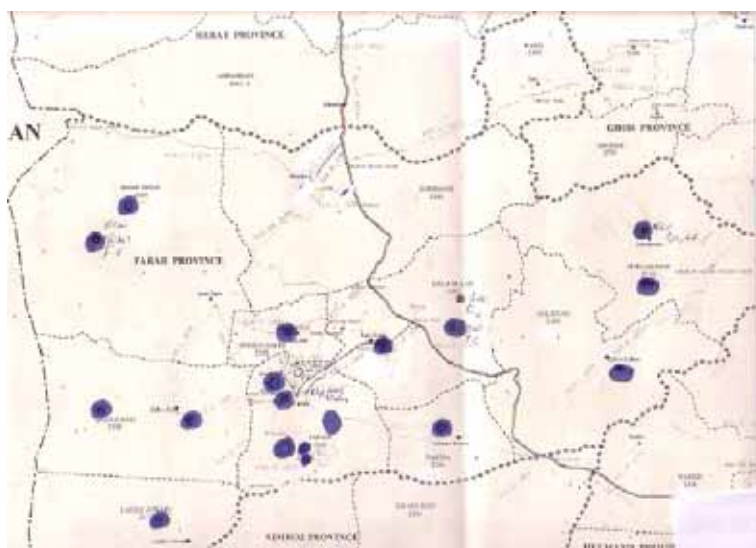


FARRAH**1. PROVINCIAL PROFILE**

Source: UNDSS Provincial Assessment provided by UNAMA

1.1 GENERAL INFORMATION**A. Geography**

Farrah province is located in the western part of the country, bordered by Hilmand in the east, Nimroz in the south, Herat in the north, Ghor in the northeast, and Iran in the west. The province covers an area of 47,786 km². Nearly half (46%) of the province is mountainous or semi mountainous terrain while the other half of the area is made up of flat land (49.9%), as the following table shows:

Topography Type					
Flat	Mountainous	Semi Mountainous	Semi Flat	Not Reported	Total
49.9%	39.2%	6.8%	3.4%	.7%	100.0%

Source: AIRD Provincial Profiles

The province is divided into 11 districts. The provincial capital is Farrah City which has a population of about 109,409 inhabitants.

B. Demography and Population

Farrah has a total population of 493,007. There are 80,183 households in the province, and households on average have 5 members. The following table shows the population by district:

Population by District and Gender			
District	Number of males	Number of females	Total population
Farrah, Provincial Center	55,878	53,531	109,409
Pushtrud	18,665	17,650	36,315

Khak-i-Safed	17,517	17,083	34,600
Anar Dara	12,518	12,264	24,782
Qala-i-Kah	15,447	15,206	30,653
Shibkoh	11,607	11,406	23,013
Lash-i-Juwayn	10,433	10,066	20,499
Bakwa	20,520	19,351	39,871
Bala Buluk	37,480	34,985	72,465
Gulistan	25,503	24,271	49,774
Pur Chaman	27,037	24,589	51,626
Total	252,605	240,402	493,007

Source: CSO/UNFPA Socio Economic and Demographic Profile

Around 93% of the population of Farrah lives in rural districts while 7% lives in urban areas. Around 51% of the population is male and 49% is female. Dari is spoken by 50% of the population and 544 of the 1,125 total villages in the province. The second most frequent language is Pashtu, spoken by 48% of the population and 566 villages. A third language, Balochi, is spoken in four villages.

Farrah province also has a population of Kuchis or nomads whose numbers vary in different seasons. In winter 166,070 individuals, or 6.8% of the overall Kuchi population, stay in Farrah living in 34 communities. Almost three quarters of these are long-range partially migratory, while 15% are short-range partially migratory and 12% settled. In the winter both groups stay mostly in one area and don't move around during the season. In the summer season, the most important areas for long-range migratory Kuchis are Ghor and Herat provinces, while the short-range migratory Kuchis prefer the districts of Shib Koh, Anar Dara and Gulistan. The Kuchi population in the summer is 44,080 individuals.

C. Institutional Framework

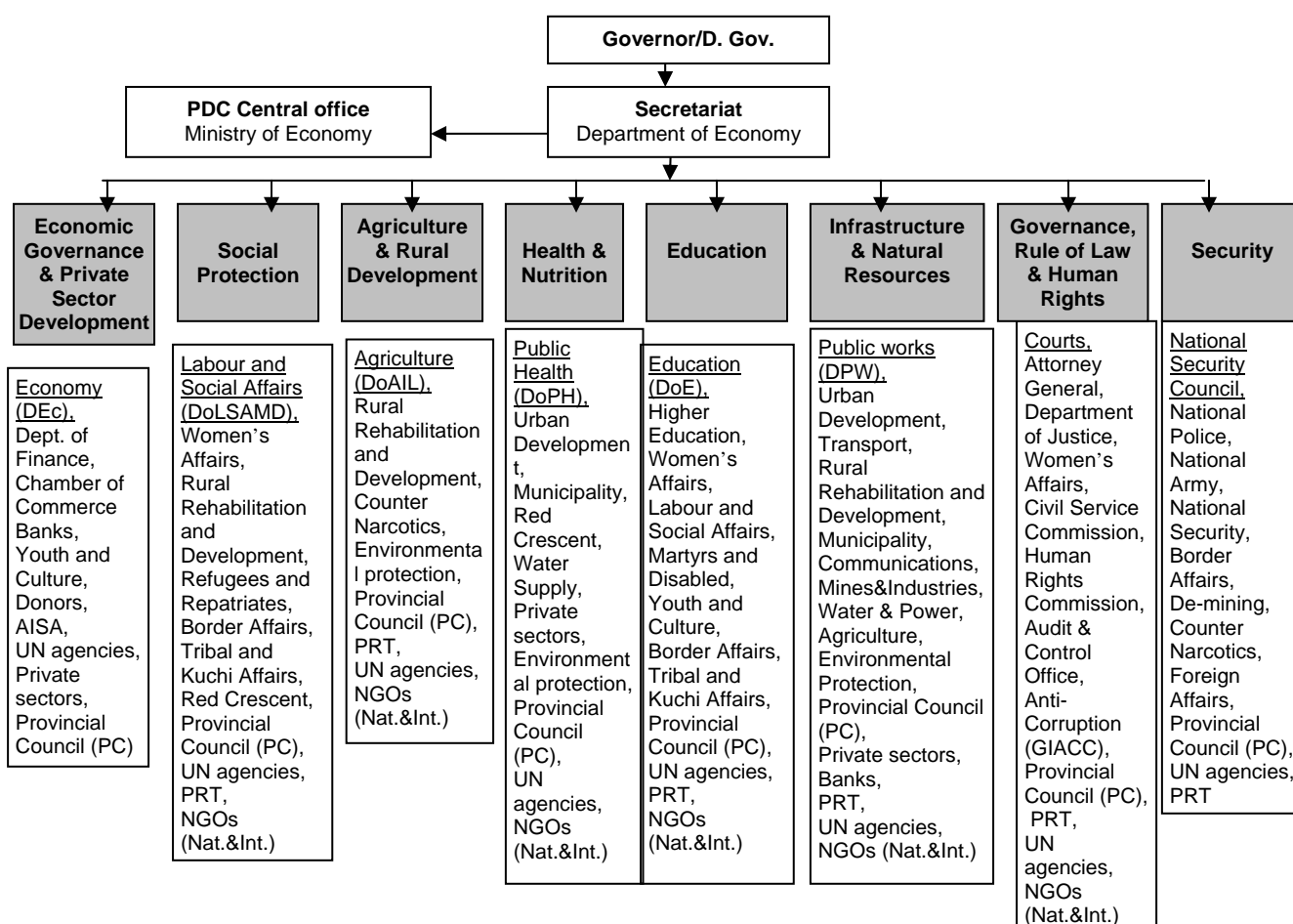
In total the government employs 3,409 people in Farrah province. As the table below shows, 77% of these are employees and 23% are contract workers; nearly nine in ten government workers are men (88%) and around one in ten are women (12%):

Number of Government Employees			
	Male	Female	Total
Contract workers	739	40	779
Employees	2,247	383	2,630
Total Workers	2,986	423	3,409

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 (PDC) in Farrah Province was formed in March 2006. In April 2007 UNAMA made the following assessment of the PDC in Farrah Province:

UNAMA Assessment of Provincial Development Committee in Farrah Province	
Supporting Agencies	Functioning Status of PDC meetings
UNAMA, PRT, INGs provided technical support to PDC to enhance their awareness and establishing of PDC. Short term workshops to enhance PDC capacity are organized and assisted PDC with coaching, mentoring, and strategic planning process.	PDC meetings take place regularly. Governors, line departments, PRT and other donor agencies participate. MOE local department needs extra support to function properly.

Source: UNAMA, April 2007

Farrah Province also has a number of other bodies which play an active role in development planning at the local level. There are District Development Assemblies (DDA) active in 11 districts in the province, involving 336 men and no women members. Each DDA has its own District Development Plan. There are also 428 Community Development Councils (CDCs) 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
Farrah City	111
Bala Buluk	118
Khak-i-Safed	57
Anar Dara	44
Qala-I-Kah	34
Pushtrud	64
TOTAL	428

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 3 United Nations (UN) agencies (UN-Habitat, UNICEF, and WHO) are currently involved in reconstruction and development projects in different parts of the province. There are also at least 8 national and international Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) supporting development projects across a range of sectors in the province.

The following Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) operate as facilitating partners (FPs) for the National Solidarity Programme (NSP) in different districts in the province, as the following table shows:

NGOs Facilitating NSP by District	
Anar Dara	UN Habitat
Bala Buluk	UN Habitat
Farrah	UN Habitat
Khak-i-Safed	UN Habitat
Pushtrud	UN Habitat
Qalay-I-Kah	Ockenden International
Anar Dara	UN Habitat

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 Farrah Province, on average only 37% of households use safe drinking water. More than three quarters (78%) of households have direct access to their main source of drinking water within their community, however one in five households (19%) has 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
%	78	19	3	0

Source: NRVA 2005

On average only 7% 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
%	28	25	8	32	7	0

Source: NRVA 2005

In terms of meeting the basic requirements for energy, there are five power stations of different sizes with a total capacity of 1,190 KWs operating in the province. On average 9% of households in Farrah province have access to electricity with 1% relying on public electricity.

The transport infrastructure in Farrah is reasonably well developed, with nearly half (49%) of roads in the province able to take car traffic in all seasons, and around a third (34%) able to take car traffic in some seasons. However, in one-sixth (16%) of the province there are no roads at all, as shown in the following table:

Road Types				
District	Cars All Seasons	Cars Some Seasons	No Roads	Not Reported
Farrah, Provincial Centre	61.9%	33.9%	3.4%	0.8%
Pushtrud	66.1%	26.8%	5.4%	1.8%
Khak-i-Safed	89.7%	8.8%	0%	1.5%
Anar Dara	12.9%	83.9%	3.2%	0%
Qala-i-Kah	95.3%	2.3%	0%	2.3%
Shibkoh	27.5%	64.7%	7.8%	0%
Lash –i-Juwayn	21.1%	75.4%	3.5%	0%
Bakwa	82.5%	17.5%	0%	0%
Bala Buluk	73.3%	24.4%	1.1%	1.1%
Gulistan	45.7%	39.9%	13.9%	0.5%
Pur Chaman	14.6%	36.4%	48.6%	0.4%
Total	49.0%	34.3%	16.0%	0.7%

Source: AIRD Provincial Profiles

As far as telecommunications are concerned Afghan Telecom is functional and covers Farah City and surrounding villages. In the near future, Afghan Telecom will expand their communication system in the districts as well. Both the main mobile telephone operators, Roshan and AWCC, are present 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. Farrah is both an agricultural and an industrial province, and it is rich with minerals such as gypsum, lime and construction stones, gold, coal and uranium. In terms of industry, 15 manufacturing firms employing more 1,300 workers are working in the province.

Agriculture is the major source of revenue for half (50%) of households in Farrah Province, including 56% of rural households. Forty nine percent of all households and 55% of rural households own or manage agricultural land or garden plots in the province. However, more than a fifth (21%) of all households in the province derive some income from trade and services. Around a quarter of households (25%) in both urban and rural areas earn income through non-farm related labor. Livestock also accounts for income for one in six of rural households (17%), as the following table shows:

Sources of income reported by households			
Source of income	Rural (%)	Urban (%)	Total (%)
Agriculture	56	-	50
Livestock	17	-	26
Opium	3	-	2
Trade and Services	24	-	21
Manufacture	1	-	1
Non-Farm Labor	24	-	25
Remittances	4	-	4
Other	4	-	3

Source: NRVA 2005

In 2005 there were 5 agricultural cooperatives active in Farrah involving 248 members. In 2005 agricultural cooperatives controlled a total of 3,030 Hac of land and achieved a surplus of products for sale of 1,000 tons. As a result of this, each member held a share in the capital of the cooperative to the value of 54,800Afs.

Unlike agricultural or animal products, there is not a very large production of industrial products in Farrah. Cotton is produced in 26 villages mainly in the districts of Anar Dara (9 villages) and Bakwa (4 villages). Tobacco is produced a total of 39 villages mainly in Pur Chaman (11 villages) and Bala Buluk (10 villages). Honey is produced in 16 villages, and silk is produced in three villages.

To all extents and purposes small industry is absent in Farrah and there is there is only a small production of handicrafts mostly related to carpets, rugs, jewellery and shawls. Carpets produced in 235 villages mainly concentrating in the district of Qala-i-Kah, rugs in 179 villages mainly in Pur Chaman, and jewelry in 93 villages and shawls in 61 villages of the districts of Farrah, Pushtrud, Shibko and Bakwa.

In 2005, 37% of households in Farrah reported taking out loans. Of these loans, nearly one fifth (19%) were used to invest in economic activity such as business investment (19%). A further 2% were used to purchase \agricultural inputs.

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 half the households in the province, rural development will be a key element of progress in Farrah. The most important field crops grown in Farrah province include wheat and barley. The most common crops grown in garden plots include fruit and nut trees (31%), grapes (23%), and vegetables (10%).

Nearly all (96%) of the households with access to fertilizer use this on field crops and to a much lesser degree on garden plots (1%), although 4% of households use fertilizer on both field and garden. 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
11	17	86	214.5Kg	68	163.6Kg

Source: NRVA 2005

On average 92% of households in the province have access to irrigated land, and 6% of households have access to rain-fed land.

Households (%) access to irrigated and rain-fed land			
	Rural	Urban	Average
Access to irrigated land	92	-	92
Access to rain-fed land	6	-	6

Source: NRVA 2005

Sixty seven percent of rural households and 91% of Kuchi households in the province own livestock or poultry. The most commonly owned livestock are goats, cattle, poultry and sheep, as the following table shows:

Households (%) owning poultry and livestock				
Livestock	Kuchi	Rural	Urban	Average
Cattle	54	43	0	45
Oxen	5	9	0	9
Horses	4	0	0	1
Donkey	66	26	0	31
Camel	56	2	0	8
Goats	83	42	0	47
Sheep	75	31	0	36
Poultry	42	42	0	42

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 Farrah province is 21%, however, while more than one in four men are literate (27%) this is true for just over one in seven women (14%). In the population aged between 15 and 24 the situation for men is slightly better with 30% literacy, whereas for women the figure decreases to 12%. The Kuchi population in the province has particularly low levels of literacy with just 3.5% of men and 0.1% of women able to read and write.

On average 32% of children between 6 and 13 are enrolled in school, however, the figure is more than one third (37%) of boys and just over one quarter (26%) of girls enrolled. Amongst the Kuchi population, 4% of boys and 1% of girls attend school in Farrah during the winter and summer months.

Overall there are 180 primary and secondary schools in the province catering for 81,048 students. Boys account for 70% of students and 84% of schools are boys' schools. There are 2,094 teachers working in schools in the Farrah province, one fifth (21%) of whom are women.

Primary and Secondary Education						
	Schools		Students		Teachers	
	Boys	girls	boys	girls	male	female
Primary	123	24	51,703	23,029	-	-
Secondary	29	4	5,394	922	-	-

Total	152	28	57,097	23,951	1,649	445
	180		81,048		2,094	

Source: CSO Afghanistan Statistical Yearbook 2006

Primary schools exist in 124 villages out of the 1,125 villages. About a quarter (23%) of students must travel up to 5 kms, while more than two in five (43%) must travel more than 10 kms to reach their closest primary schools. Secondary schools exist in 31 villages housing 3% of the population. 18% of the students must travel up to 5 kms, while two thirds (66%) of students must travel more than ten kilometres to reach their closest secondary schools. High schools exist in only 12 villages, and 12% of students travel up to 5 kms to get to school, while three quarters (75%) of students must travel more than 10 kms to reach their closest high schools.

Farrah province also has a number of higher education facilities. There is an agricultural vocational high school with 14 teachers catering for a total of 147 students, all of whom are male. In 2005, 20 students graduated from this vocational high school. There is also a Teacher Training Institute which had 210 students, 72% of whom were men and 28% women. Thirty five new teachers graduated from Farrah Teacher Training Institute in 2005, including 31% women and 69% men.

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 Farrah province. In 2005 there were 10 health centers and one hospital with a total of 60 beds. There were also 39 doctors and 95 nurses employed by the Ministry of Health working in the province, which represented an increase of about 77% in the number of doctors (up from 22), although there was a decrease of 26% in the number of nurses (down from 128) compared to 2003.

The province also has 42 pharmacies of which 40 are owned privately and 2 are run by the government.

The majority of communities do not have a health worker permanently present in their community. Seventy one percent of men's shura and 70% of women's shura reported that there was no community health worker present, and both groups most commonly said that their closest health facility was a Basic Health Centre (BHC) or clinic without beds. Access to health care is difficult for many people in the province. Only 1.9% of the population have a health center and 3.1% have a dispensary within their village. Nearly three out of four people (73%) have to travel more than 10 kms to reach their closest health facility.

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 Farrah is not very high compared to the other provinces. Almost a third (29%) the households in the province report having problems satisfying their food needs at least 3–6 times a year, and a similar proportion (27%) 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					
	Never	Rarely (1-3 times)	Sometimes (3-6 times)	Often (few times a month)	Mostly (happens a lot)
Households (%)	34	27	29	6	4

Source: NRVA 2005

Around one sixth (17%) 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 around two fifths (38%) of the population 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	10	27	15	47
Total	9	29	13	49

Source: NRVA 2005

In 2005, 16% of the population of Farrah province received allocations of food aid. In addition, of the 37% of households who reported taking out loans, two fifths (40%) said that the main use of their largest loan was to buy food. A further 8% used the money to cover expenses for health emergencies. In the same year more than a quarter (29%) of the households in the province reported feeling that their economic situation had got worse compared to a year ago, and a further 44% felt that it had remained the same, as the following table shows:

Comparison of overall economic situation compared to one year ago					
	Much worse	Worse	Same	Slightly better	Much better
Households (%)	9	20	44	26	1

Source: NRVA 2005

In 2005, around half (49%) of all households in the province report having been negatively affected by some unexpected event in the last year, which was beyond their control. People were most vulnerable to shocks related to agriculture and natural disasters, as the following table shows:

Households experiencing shocks in the province (%)			
Types of shocks	Rural	Urban	Average
Drinking water	6	-	6
Agricultural	34	-	44
Natural disaster	35	-	32
Insecurity	2	-	2
Financial	17	-	14
Health or epidemics	0	-	0

Source: NRVA 2005

Of those households affected, about three in five (59%) reported that they had not recovered at all from shocks experienced in the last 12 months and nearly two in five (37%) said they had recovered only partially.

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.

No relevant data analysed at provincial level is available for Farrah province.

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*)