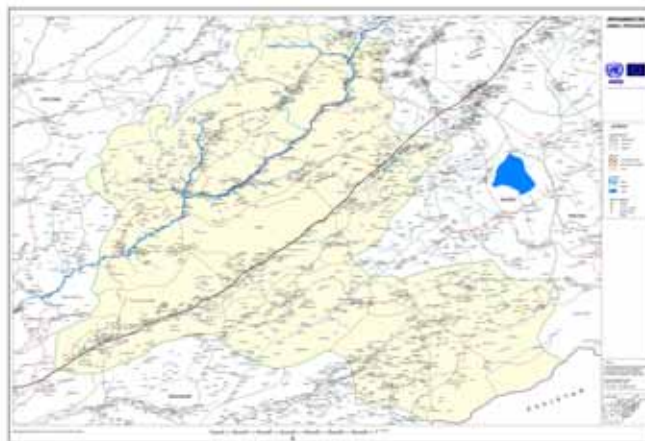


1. PROVINCIAL PROFILE



Source: UNSS Provincial Assessment provided by UNAMA

1.1 GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Geography

Zabul borders Uruzgan in the north, Kandahar in the west, Ghazni and Paktika in the east, and has an international border with Pakistan in the south. The province covers an area of 17293 km². Two-fifths of the province is mountainous or semi mountainous terrain (41%) while more than one quarter of the area is made up of flat land (28%), as the following table shows:

	Topography type					TOTAL
	Flat	Mountainous	Semi Mountainous	Semi Flat	Not Reported	
%	28.1%	22.7%	17.9%	11.2%	19.2%	100.0%

Source: CSO/UNFPA Socio Economic and Demographic Profile

The province is divided into 8 Districts. The provincial capital is Qalat which has a population of about 36,560 inhabitants.

B. Demography and Population

Zabul has a total population of 244,899. There are 34,259 households in the province and households on average have 6 members. The following table shows the population by district.

Population by District			
District	Number of males	Number of females	Total population
Ghalat_ Zabool Center	18645	17915	36560
Shah Joi	36215	35133	71348
Mizan	11010	10152	21162
Tarang va Jaldak	9552	9465	19017

Shinki	14329	14015	28344
Atghar	7021	6952	13973
Shamal Zaei	16475	16876	33351
Nobahar	10923	10221	21144
Total	124170	120.729	244899

Source: CSO/UNFPA Socio Economic and Demographic Profile

Around 96% of the population of Zabul lives in rural districts. Around 51% of the population is male and 49% is female. The major ethnic groups living in Zabul province are Tohki, Hotak, Suliman Kheyl, Khaker, Popalzai, Naser, Shamulzai, Ludin and Kuchi. Pashto is spoken by four persons out of five. The second most frequent language is Dari. Out of 1068 villages visited, three with a population of 583 speak Dari.

Zabul province also has a population of Kuchis or nomads whose numbers vary in different seasons. In winter 53,030 Kuchi stay in Zabul province. 80% of these Kuchi are short range migratory and 20% are long-range migratory. All of these are in fact only partially migratory, and on average 30% of these households remain behind in their winter area during the summer. The summer areas for the short range migratory Kuchi are in Day Chopan, Shamulzayi and Shah Jui districts of Zabul province and the most important summer areas for the long range migratory Kuchi are Qarabagh and Muqur districts of Ghazni province. The Kuchi population in the summer is 46,022 individuals.

C. Institutional framework

In total the government employs 2375 people in Zabul province. As the table below shows, 83% of these are employees and 17% are contract workers. 98% of government workers are men and 2% are women.

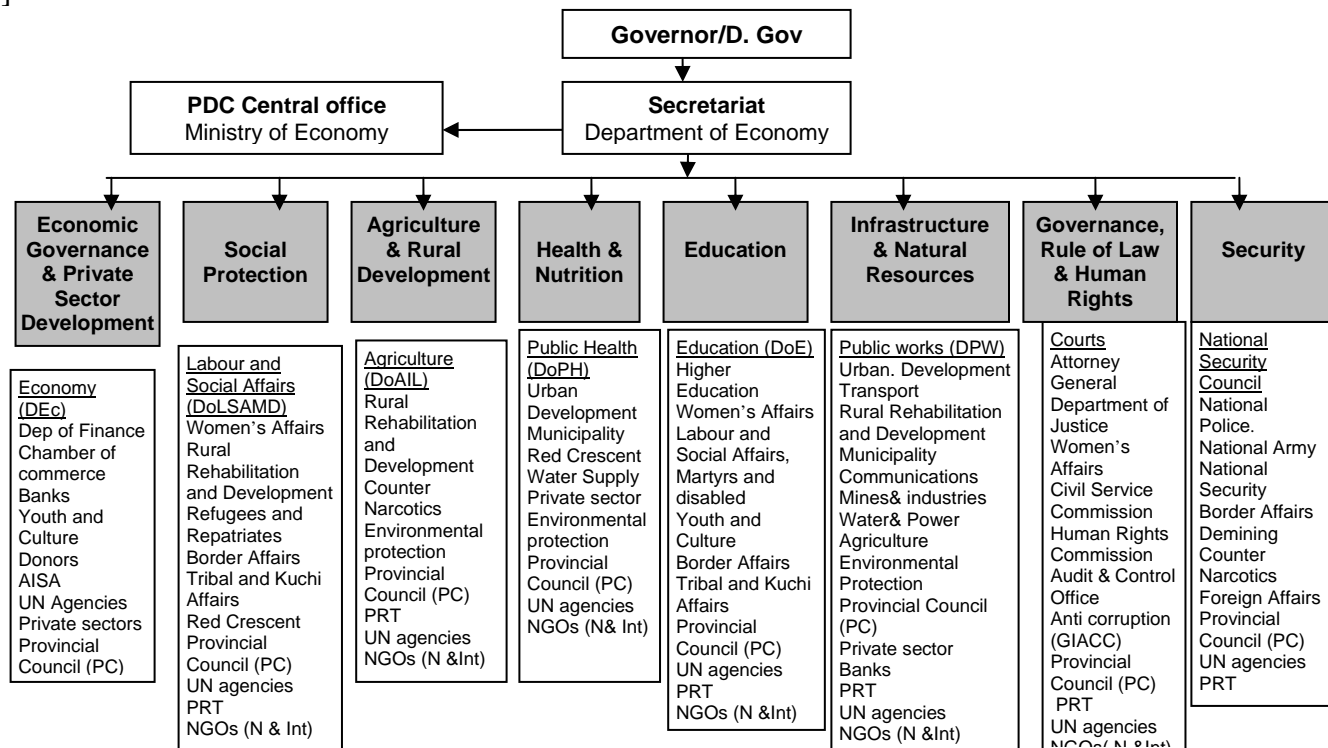
Number of people employed by government			
	Male	Female	Total
Contract workers	388	11	399
Employees	1942	34	1976
Total Workers	2330	45	2375

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

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Source: Ministry of Economy

The Provincial Development Committee in Zabul province was formed in late 2005. In April 2007 UNAMA made the following assessment of the PDC in Zabul province:

UNAMA assessment of Provincial Development Committee in () province	
Supporting Agencies	Functioning Status of PDC meetings
UNAMA, USAID, PRT and MRRD	PDC meetings are being held on a monthly basis if the Governor presence is ensured

Source: UNAMA, April 2007

Zabul also has a number of other bodies which play an active role in development planning at the local level. There are 150 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
Qalat	40
Shajoy	55
Tarnak Wa Jaldak	55
TOTAL	150

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 5 UN agencies are currently involved in reconstruction and development projects in different parts of the province. These are shown in the following table:

UN Operations in Zabul Province		
Agency	Project	Location
WHO	Education, Health, Water sanitation, Child Protection, Emergencies	All Districts
WFP	Food for work, School feeding, Humanitarian Emergencies (eg winter of 04/05)	All Districts through IPs
UNICEF	DIAG	To school locations
UNOPS	Infrastructure development	Project based in and around Qalat and Southern Districts
UNAMA	Governance, Follow up on DIAG, Human Rights and capacity building in Provincial Government Structures.	Qalat only

Source: UNAMA

There are also at least 5 national and international Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) supporting development projects across a range of sectors in the province, as the following table shows:

International and National NGO Operations in Zabul Province		
Organization	Project	Location
Ibnsina	Health care, school programs	All districts
Vara	Agriculture	Tarnak Wa Jaldak and Qalat
ADA	Implementers of NSP	All districts
Red Crescent	Vocational training	All districts
CADG	Agriculture	Tarnak Wa Jaldak and Qalat

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 below:

NGOs Facilitating NSP by District	
District	FP
Qalat	ADA
Shahjoy	ADA
Tarnak wa Jaldak	ADA

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. Around nine-tenths (87%) of households in Zabul province have direct access to their main source of drinking water within their community, however nearly one in ten households (9%) have to travel for up to an hour to access drinking water and for 1% travel to access drinking water can take up to 6 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
%	87	9	3	1

Source: NRVA 2005

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
%	12	5	0	83	0	0

Source: NRVA 2005

On average 2% of households in Zabul province have access to electricity with the majority of these relying on public electricity. In rural areas only 1% of households have access to electricity.

The transport infrastructure in Zabul is reasonably well developed with 39% of roads in the province able to take car traffic in all seasons and 38% able to take car traffic in some seasons. However, in a small part of the province (5%) there are no roads at all, as shown in the following table:

Road Types				
District	Cars all season	Cars some seasons	No roads	Not Reported
Ghalat_ Zabool Center	50.5%	47.3%	1.1%	1.1%
Shah Joi	56.8%	35.5%	.0%	7.7%
Mizan	2.0%	58.6%	39.4%	.0%
Tarang va Jaldak	63.5%	34.0%	1.3%	1.3%
Shinki	19.0%	12.1%	.9%	68.1%
Atghar	21.6%	78.4%	.0%	.0%
Shamal Zaei	40.3%	32.1%	.4%	27.2%
Nobahar	13.0%	41.3%	4.3%	41.3%
TOTAL	38.9%	37.6%	4.5%	19.0%

Source: CSO Provincial Profiles (AIRD Analysis)

The following table indicates road travel times between the provincial capital, Qalat and the major district centres in the province, and other key provincial centres in the region.

Road Travel Times			
From	To	Time	Road Condition
Qalat	Kandahar City	Approximately 2 hrs - 150 kms	Excellent (Route 1 – bitumen road)
Qalat	Shinkay	Approximately 3hrs summer / up to 4.5hrs winter - 100 kms	Fair (hard packed gravel road constructed by the US Corps of Engineers)
Qalat	Shahjoy	Approximately 1.5 – 110 kms	Excellent (Route 1 – bitumen road)
Qalat	Mizan	Approximately 3hrs summer / up to 4.5hrs winter - 75 kms	Extremely poor (dirt tracks)

Source: UNAMA

As far as telecommunications are concerned, Roshan and AWCC mobile networks are active in Qalat with patchy, but improving coverage. They are also active on the Kandahar – Kabul high way.

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. Zabul is an agricultural province. The majority of commercial activity in Zabul is related to trade in agricultural products and animal husbandry, and transport companies for import/export. Trafficking of narcotics also plays a significant role in the economy in the Province

Agriculture is a major source of revenue for 50% of households in Zabul province, including 52% of rural households. Around half (49%) of rural households own or manage agricultural land or garden plots in the province. More than one-third of households earn some income through non-farm related labour (37%). Trade and services accounts for some income for one-sixth of households (16%) as the following table shows:

Sources of income reported by households			
Source of income	Rural (%)	Urban (%)	Total (%)
Agriculture	52	-	50
Livestock	15	-	20
Opium	4	-	4
Trade and Services	17	-	16
Manufacture	4	-	5
Non-Farm Labour	38	-	37
Remittances	1	-	1
Other	0	-	0

Source: NRVA 2005

The major industrial crops grown in Zabul are tobacco, produced in 150 villages and sesame in 58. Shah Joy is a major producer of both commodities and Tarank Wa Jaldak is a major producer of tobacco. Sugar extracts are produced in total of 19 villages, 18 of which are located in Shah Joy.

The sector of small industries in Zabul is practically inexistent. Only 15 villages have some kind of production and none of the eight districts specializes in any particular industry.

Handicrafts also are scarce in Zabul. A total of 111 villages produce these. Shah Joy stands out in relation to rugs (22 villages out of 23), Jewelry (13 out of 65), and shawls (12 out of 13). Mizan is the largest producer of jewelry (43 villages out of a total of 65).

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 Zabul. The most important field crops grown in Zabul province include wheat, maize and potatoes. The most common crops grown in garden plots include fruit and nut trees and grapes.

Three quarters (76%) of households with access to fertilizer use this on field crops and to a much lesser degree on garden plots (9%), although nearly one-sixth of households use fertilizer on both field and garden (15%). 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
20	82	75	171.3Kg	67	152.7Kg

Source: NRVA 2005

On average more than four fifths (85%) of households in the province have access to irrigated land, and nearly one fifth (18%) of rural households have access to rainfed land.

Households (%) access to irrigated and rainfed land			
	Rural	Urban	Average
Access to irrigated land	84	-	85
Access to rainfed land	18	-	19

Source: NRVA 2005

Sixty one percent of rural households and 94% of Kuchi households in the province own livestock or poultry. The most commonly owned livestock are sheep, goats, donkey, cattle and camel as the following table shows:

Households (%) owning poultry and livestock				
Livestock	Kuchi	Rural	Urban	Average
Cattle	50	41	-	46
Oxen	2	5	-	6
Horses	31	5	-	18
Donkey	83	31	-	57
Camel	83	6	-	45
Goats	88	40	-	64
Sheep	90	43	-	67
Poultry	54	25	-	40

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 Zabul province is 1%, which comprises 1% of men and a small number of women. In the population aged between 15 and 24 the situation for women for women improves slightly with a literacy rate of just 0.5%, but the figure falls to a small number of men.

Very few children between 6 and 13 are enrolled in school, on average 0.1% of children including 0.2% for boys. Overall there are 168 primary and secondary schools in the province catering for 35720 students. Boys account for 99% of students and 98% of schools are boys' schools. There are 866 teachers working in schools in the Zabul province, 3% of whom are women.

Primary and Secondary Education						
	Schools		Students		Teachers	
	boys	girls	boys	girls	male	female
Primary	147	1	33930	3239	-	-
Secondary	18	2	1464	30	-	-
Total	165	3	35394	326	838	28
	168		35720		866	

Source: CSO Afghanistan Statistical Yearbook 2006

Primary schools exist in 51 villages out of 1.068, which represents 5% of the villages and 4.4% of the population. Just over one fifth of students must travel up to five kilometers to reach the closest primary school. However, two fifths of students (43%) have to travel more than 10kms to reach their nearest primary school. Secondary schools exist in 23 villages, home to 3% of secondary school students and three fifths of students must travel more than 10km to reach their nearest secondary school. Only 8 villages have high schools, and these are home to just 1.4% of high school students. Around one in ten students (11%) have a high school within 5 kms while around two thirds have to travel more than 10km to reach their nearest high school.

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 Zabul province. In 2005 there were 7 health centers and 2 hospitals with a total of 80 beds. There were also 24 doctors and 66 nurses employed by the Ministry of Health working in the province, which represented a 60% increase in the number of doctors (up from 15) and a 45% increase in the number of nurses (up from 45) compared to 2003. The major health facilities in the province identified in 2007 are shown in the following table:

Health Services			
Hospitals		Clinics	
Name	Location	Name	Location
Qalat Hospital (refurbished by the Government of the UAE)	Qalat	Charsade clinic	Charsade
Shahjoy Hospital	Shahjoy	Dulainau clinic	Dulainau
		Lal Sar Jangal clinic	Lal Sar Jangal
		Daulatyar clinic	Daulatyar
		Taiwara clinic	Taiwara
		Passaband clinic	Passaband
		Saghar clinic	Saghar
		Tolak Clinic	Tolak
		Shahrak clinic	Shahrak

Source: UNAMA

The province also has 62 pharmacies of which 51 are owned privately and 11 are run by the government.

Very few communities have a health worker present. All the men's and women's shura reported that there was no community health worker present, and both groups most commonly said that the closest health care facility is a clinic without beds (Basic Health Centers). Only 1.4% of the population has a health centre in-village and 1.3% has a dispensary. More than sixty percent of people seeking medical attention must travel more than 10kms to reach a health centre, dispensary or drugstore. In addition, given the nature of the terrain it may take more time to reach the closest health unit than distances would suggest.

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 Zabul is reasonably high. Around four in six households (61%) in the province reported having problems satisfying their food needs up to three

times a year and one in six (17%) face this problem at least 3 – 6 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 (%)	14	61	17	3	5

Source: NRVA 2005

Thirty eight percent of the population in the province is estimated to receive less than the minimum daily caloric intake necessary to maintain good health, and nearly the whole population has low dietary diversity and poor or very poor food consumption (93%) 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	50	47	2	1
Total	43	50	1	2

Source: NRVA 2005

In 2005, 81% of the population of Zabul province received allocations of food aid, which reached a total of 261264 beneficiaries. In addition, of the 2% of households who reported taking out loans. 89% said that the main use of their largest loan was to buy food. In the same year around one third (33%) of households in the province reported feeling that their economic situation had got worse compared to a year ago, and just under two thirds (63%) 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 (%)	11	22	63	3	1

Source: NRVA 2005

In 2005, nearly 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 insecurity, drinking water and agriculture as the following table shows:

Households experiencing shocks in the province (%)			
Types of shocks	Rural	Urban	Average
Drinking water	84	-	83
Agricultural	76	-	71
Natural disaster	8	-	8
Insecurity	88	-	87
Financial	1	-	1
Health or epidemics	2	-	2

Source: NRVA 2005

Of those households affected, 88% reported that they had not recovered at all from shocks experienced in the last 12 months and 12% 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 fulfilment 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. A recent assessment made by the United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) reported that the security situation in Zabul province remains volatile with capable insurgent presence in most districts. The Provincial capital, Qalat and its immediate surrounds remains relatively stable due to the presence of the Afghan Police and Army and ISAF forces. Zabul has been held high by the US Government and Military as an 'island of success' and this has been largely due to their partnering with extremely capable government officials. Currently the insurgency has freedom of movement and action in three main areas in the Province; Shahjoy, Daychopan/Khak-e-Afghan/Arghandab Corridor and Shamulzai. When considering the prevailing security situation, cross border issues cannot be ignored; Zabul's southeastern border is shared with Pakistan for 164km. Although there is no official crossing point, the mountainous border areas facilitate a high volume of insurgent and weapons flow from Pakistan; and are also used as an export route for narcotics. The UNDSS assessment highlights the following key factors of insecurity in the province:

Factors of Insecurity	
Illegally Armed Groups (IAGs)	Disarmament of Illegal Armed Groups has stalled in Zabul with many of the illegally armed groups being recruited by the insurgency or undertaking 'contract work' escorting drug convoys.
Anti Government Elements (AGEs)	The security situation within the Province remains volatile with capable insurgent presence in most Districts
Criminality and Organized Crime	No more significant than the surrounding Southern Provinces, outside of narco crime, the Ring Road is frequently being targeted by bandits – however not necessarily mutually exclusive from the insurgency.
Narcotics	Some opium cultivation takes place in the Districts; however it is relatively small scale compared to Kandahar or Hilmand. However with the Ring Road and easy overland access to Pakistan, drug trafficking is widespread.

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*)