



**Leprosy Situation in Afghanistan
in 2001-2006
7-9 July 2008**

Ministry of Public Health (MoPH)
National Leprosy Control Program
Kabul Afghanistan

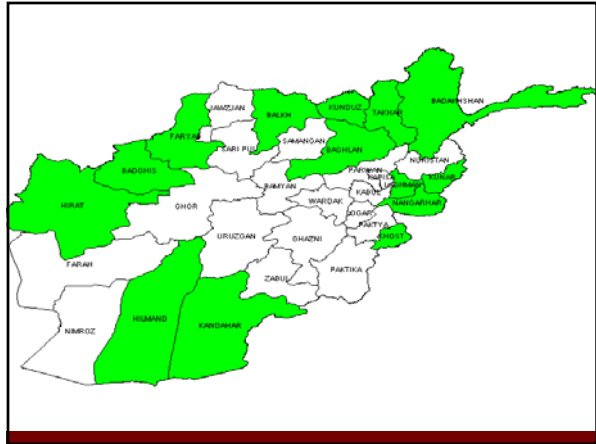
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Presentation Outline

- Demography
- Current Leprosy Situation
- Achievements
- Challenges
- The way forward

Demographics

- Afghanistan, 24500000 inhabitants(CSO),647500 km square, is located on the Southern Asia, bounded by Pakistan, Iran, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan ,China and Uzbekistan
- 34 provinces with 365 districts
- It is a lower income country
- About 30% of population live in urban area
- The life expectancy is approximately Male 47 and female 45.
- Total adult literacy is about 28%.



Leprosy Cases Found

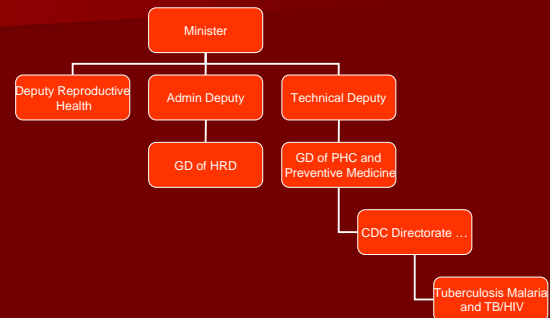
In our country the disease has been found in the following provinces :

- Bamyan province
- Ghor province
- Wardak province
- Ghazni province
- Kabul province
- Noristan province
- Parwan
- Badakhshan
- Daikundi
- Kunar

History of leprosy in Afghanistan

- By German Medical Services organization in 1960
- Leprosy control in Afghanistan was started partially in 1984 by LEPCO.
- The WHO support was started in 1998 where a leprosy clinic was established in Maiwand Hospital to diagnose and treat the cases.

MOPH Organogram



Leprosy Situation in Afg...

- The cumulative number of registered cases in Afghanistan since 2001 to 2007 stands at 231 among those 78% cases were MB and 22% cases were PB.
- We hope that we might have a real survey by cooperation of WHO and find the exact number of all cases in our country :
- To detect cases on time
- To treat the patients properly by (MDT).
- To refer the disable patients to plastic surgery section in (Maiwand Hospital).

Achievements

- Assigning of leprosy focal point in Ministry of Public Health.
- Approval of leprosy proposal (61500 USD in 2007).
- International consultant is under process(since one year).
- One vehicle for leprosy control program will be provided.
- Creating leprosy coordination between leprosy stakeholders

Challenges

- Leprosy training for health care workers is lacking in Afghanistan.
- Only two medical officers have received leprosy training abroad one is now working as a focal point of leprosy in MOPH other one is director of Maiwand Hospital.

Challenges

- Leprosy is a neglected disease in the overall situation which has resulted to in no resources allocated for its control.
- Political instability and security problem.
- Very poor infrastructure which has made accessibility very difficult due to poor communication system and difficult geographical terrain (mountainous and snowy in the winter)

Recommendations

- Coordination and exchange of information should be changed between the MOPH and NGOs with the assistance of WHO.
- With the assistance from WHO, the MOPH should develop a national manual for leprosy case management, collection of data and statistics.
- National training guidelines should be developed for training of the national staff on leprosy control according to WHO guideline.
- NGOs can be of help in providing trainers to conduct the training courses.

Recommendations

- Bring all the leprosy control activities to be under the umbrella of the MOPH.
- Develop a national leprosy guideline.
- Develop a simple reporting and recording system for leprosy control in Afghanistan.
- Integrate leprosy control activities in BPHS
- Encourage community participation in leprosy control through various public by health education activities.
- Prevent development of disability among leprosy patients under treatment.

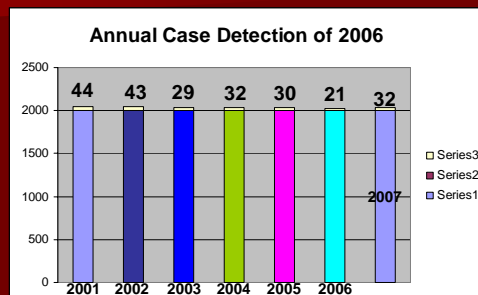
The way forward

- Training for health staff who are working in
- The following main activities are to be carried out during the period 2006 to 2010:
 1. Case finding
 2. Treatment and case holding

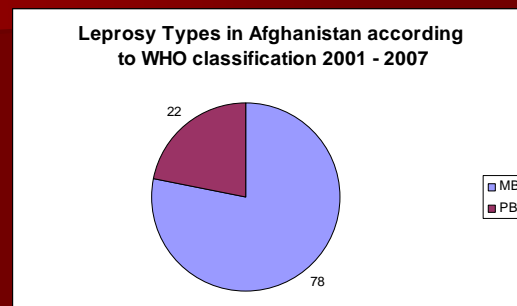
The way forward

3. leprosy control.
4. Health education
5. Monitoring and Evaluation
6. Disability Prevention
7. Rehabilitation

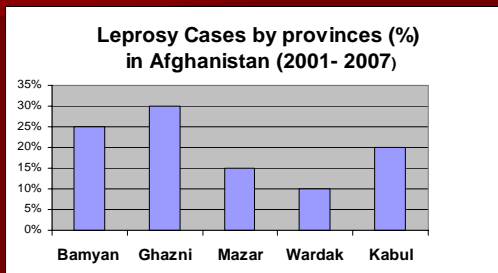
Annual Case Detection 2007



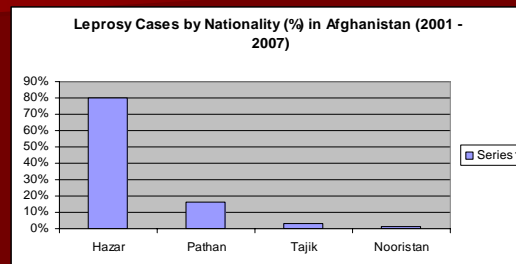
Leprosy Types



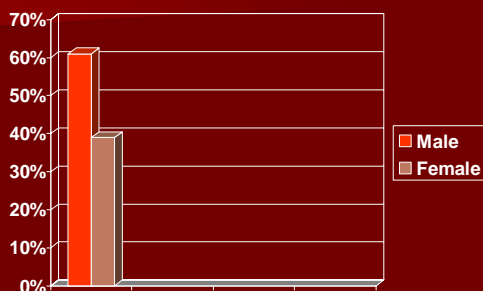
Leprosy cases percentage in Afghanistan in 2001- 2007



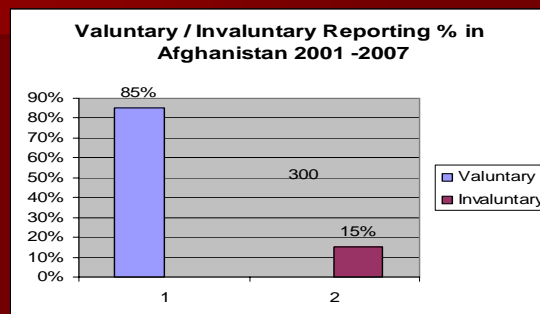
Leprosy Cases by Nationality



Male and Female rate % 2001-2007



Voluntary /Involuntary Reporting % In Afghanistan 2001 -2007



THANK YOU

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