

Afghanistan Research Newsletter



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This purpose of this newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate the results of research. It is AREU's goal to produce this newsletter regularly. Copies of most published research cited here is available on the Internet; in other instances copies are available by contacting newsletter@areu.org.pk.

Current Research & Resources

This section lists current and proposed research projects and related resources. The information appears as submitted by the individuals or organisations involved and the status of these projects may have changed since publication of this newsletter.

Agrarian and Food Security Studies by Solidarités

Solidarités is assisting researcher Gaylord Robin (MSc student) to undertake agrarian studies in the district of Roy Doab, Samangan Province of Northern Hazarajat to analyse:

- Agrarian evolution of three valleys with different agro-ecological conditions;
- The social rules of natural resource management;
- Farmers' indigenous technical knowledge; and
- The economic situation of a sample of households.

This study began in April and will finish in September 2004. An English paper, with methodological details (c. 20-25 p.), is anticipated to be ready in October.

Researcher Stanislas Morau (MSc student) is conducting an evaluation of the impact of a food security program on beneficiaries in the same location in order to:

- Study the impact of and changes in the activities carried out by technical staff (crops, animal husbandry and veterinary care) on farmers' agricultural practices and knowledge; and
- Study the social local "game" in three villages: how people "catch" help and staff? How is the internal selection of beneficiaries negotiated (or not)? What is the "gap" between our own criteria of beneficiary selection and the ones that occur inside a community?

This study will start in June and will finish in November 2004. An English paper, with methodological details (c. 20-25 p.), is anticipated to be ready in December 2004.

<p>For more information contact: solroy@solaf.net</p>

National Consultations on Afghan Human Rights Violations, 1978-2001

The Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission was mandated to conduct a national consultation on transitional justice. Its purpose is to seek the views of the public on how they may wish to deal with violations of human rights and international humanitarian law connected with the internal conflict in Afghanistan from 1978-2001, and to recommend a mechanism for dealing with these violations to the Transitional Government, the people of Afghanistan and the international community.

Recently, the Commission undertook a documentation exercise of past human rights violations with the goals of collecting evidence and reports as well as establishing a secure and reliable resource of information. Team members were trained on transitional justice, and different methodologies of national consultation. These national consultations are aimed at giving Afghans in all communities a voice in determining

how abuses of the past will be addressed. National consultations were conducted in the form of questionnaires and focus groups. Questionnaires and community focus groups provided individual and group opinions regarding human rights violations in Afghanistan and the best way to deal with them. This understanding of what Afghan people consider important is critical in making a decision of how to respond to human rights violations. The transitional justice team used random selection and tried to ensure that the participants were from as diverse backgrounds as possible, in regards to gender, age, level of education, religion, and ethnicity, and anonymity was strictly assured. Analyses of the focus group discussions are currently underway.

<p>For more information contact: ogaihaider@yahoo.com</p>

National Micronutrient Survey for Afghanistan

A national cross-sectional survey on micronutrient status is urgently needed to provide baseline data on the extent and severity of the key micronutrient deficiencies. The primary purpose of the survey is to estimate the overall national prevalence of specific micronutrient deficiency diseases in Afghanistan. Iodine, iron and vitamin A will be assessed using standardized biochemical indicators. In addition, anthropometric data will be collected on children and women to provide a national baseline of the nutritional status of the population. A qualitative investigation on knowledge, attitudes and practices regarding relevant dietary and health practices and perceptions will also be conducted.

Data collection started on 1st June and will continue until 1st July 2004 (security permitting). The full results of the survey will only be out sometime in October or November 2004.

For more information contact:
 Dr. Najibullah Najib
 Director, Public Nutrition Department
 Ministry of Health, Afghanistan

Fitsum Assefa
 Nutrition Officer, UNICEF-Afghanistan
 fassaf@unicef.org

ODI Study on Cash and Vouchers

The Humanitarian Policy Group at ODI is starting a project entitled "Cash and vouchers: lessons from recent experience." This project will examine recent cash and voucher-based responses in emergencies (but will not be confined to just Afghanistan). Direct relief cash payments, cash-for-work and voucher schemes will be included.

The main topics that the study will analyse and examine are:

- The impact of cash and voucher based responses both in terms of their direct impact on livelihoods, on the economy and on the political and social context of crises and on the dignity of recipients of aid;
- The practical programming issues around the implementation of cash and voucher based responses and how issues such as security and corruption have been dealt with in previous interventions; and

- The appropriateness and cost effectiveness of cash and voucher based responses and how appropriateness is assessed. Linked to this will be an analysis of the institutional and organisational barriers to cash and voucher based responses.

At this stage, one of the objectives is to gather documentation and analysis of any recent experiences with cash or voucher based programmes as forms of relief. ODI would therefore be very grateful for any available documentation about recent programme experiences. These might take the form of project proposals, assessments, project reports, evaluations or policy documents. Anything that seems relevant would be very helpful.

To send or obtain more information contact:
 Paul Harvey
 p.harvey@odi.org.uk

JICA Programme for Teacher Education

In November 2003, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) conducted a pilot baseline study focusing on student performance in arithmetic. In the study Kabul female students scored significantly higher than other groups (Kabul boys, Bamyan boys and girls) in mathematics. Girls' schools in Kabul also performed better than boys' schools in Kabul.

Following this study, JICA has formulated the Strengthening Teacher Education Programme (STEP) in order to improve teacher education in Afghanistan.

For more information contact:
 jicaaan@jica.go.jp

Afghan Law Project and Legal Information

Libraries and legal collections have been largely depleted or destroyed in Afghanistan during the years of war, erasing traces of a rich and elaborate legal tradition. No comprehensive collection or official record of laws has survived, while institutions and lawyers have little or no access to most texts. The compilation and indexing of the existing body of legislation is therefore essential to re-establishing the rule of law.

In late 2001, the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) (based in Rome) started to collect Afghan laws and legal documents, as preparation for an assistance program in Afghanistan. This research resulted in the collection of more than 2400 texts in Dari and Pashtu and 100 in English, dating from 1921 to the present day. The law collection has been scanned and made available on six CDs. A detailed chronological index of the collection has been compiled in English and Dari. IDLO hopes that the collection will contribute to restoring the Afghan legal heritage and support the reform process. The texts of this collection are being progressively included in the web site cited below.

IDLO has also prepared the following useful bibliographies and listings of Afghan laws:

Afghanistan documentation [a bibliography on the Afghan legal system] / International Development Law Organization. [Rome : International Development Law Organization], 2004. 5 p.; 30 cm.

Compilation of Afghanistan laws: chronological index (draft unofficial translation) / International Development Law Organization. [Rome: International Development Law Organization], 2004. 49 p.; 30 cm.

Afghanistan law collection: chronological index, laws in English (and other languages) / International Development Law Organization. [Rome: International Development Law Organization]. 2004, 4 p.; 30 cm.

Afghanistan legal sector documents available on [the] internet / [Rome: International Development Law Organization, 2004]. 4 p.; 30 cm.

For more information:
www.idlo.int

IDLO Afghanistan Program Office
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afghanistanIDLO@idlo.int

Norwegian Refugee Council Legal Projects

The Norwegian Refugee Council is planning a series of reports on various legal problems in Afghanistan. The first will be on land disputes in eastern Afghanistan; the second on the functioning of the Special Court. Each report is based on case-work and aims to provide a more detailed picture of some of the legal problems

that are arising. The reports are intended to be used for research and advocacy purposes and are mainly aimed at influencing discussions amongst donors and the international community.

For more information contact:
conorfoley30@hotmail.com

Compilation of Market Information by Mercy Corps/AKDN

In April 2004, Mercy Corps (MC) and the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) began compiling a monthly market survey of prices in Kandahar, Kunduz, Kabul and Faizabad. Items covered include basic foodstuffs, livestock, fuel, fertiliser and day labour rates. Issues for April and May have been released.

This supplements the regular survey "Prices of essential commodities in the market place" compiled by the World Food Programme and

printed in the fortnightly publication of UNHCR "Return: information update" (published in Dari, English and Pashtu). This survey covers wheat, flour, bread, diesel, live sheep, casual labour, the exchange rate and wheat per labour day. This survey is available online at: <http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/afghan?page=retupdate>.

For more information contact:
pchabot@mercycorpsfield.org
or
KARIMAQ@unhcr.ch

Ongoing and New Research at AREU

The Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit (AREU) is conducting ongoing research on the following topics (also featured in the last edition of this newsletter): rural livelihoods in Afghanistan, transnational networks and sustaining social support for returnees, gender and local-level decision-making, urban vulnerability, and lessons learned from the National Solidarity Programme related to elections.

Additionally, new research is being undertaken on the topic of urban governance and management. The purpose of this research is to examine key aspects of urban governance that will specifically affect the management of towns and cities, the delivery of key services and urban vulnerability. Research will be conducted in four urban areas across Afghanistan, and may look

at the following: land management and associated insecurity, the backlog in service delivery in urban settings and the confusion over functional responsibilities, the internal functioning of municipalities, and relationships between communities and municipalities. An issues paper on these subjects will be published later this year.

For more information on any of AREU's research projects contact:
Alexia Coke, Deputy Director of Research
alexia@areu.org.pk

For information on the urban governance research, contact:
Daniel Esser
daniel@areu.org.af

Malaria Risk in Afghanistan

The World Health Organisation estimates that a total of three million cases of malaria occur in Afghanistan each year, with large areas endemic for malaria, placing an estimated 14-16 million people at risk of disease. This study, implemented by HealthNet International (HNI) in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Afghanistan; AIMS; The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; and IMPD, will analyse data collected in previous prevalence surveys by HNI and the WHO. Values for land surface temperature, altitude, land cover and a proxy for rainfall will be extrapolated from satellite imagery. The prevalence data and the environmental data will be correlated to create preliminary models of malaria risk.

This preliminary model will be verified this year by two targeting prevalence surveys, one in the peak vivax malaria season (June-July) and one in the peak falciparum season (October-November). The outcome of these activities will be a robust map of malaria activities nationwide. The map will help to ensure that the currently available post-conflict funding for Afghanistan is targeting the most vulnerable groups.

For more information contact:
annickhni@yahoo.com

Research on Gender-Focused International Aid

Lina Abirafeh is in Kabul preparing to conduct PhD research on the relationship between gender-focused international aid in the aftermath of conflict and transformation of the gender order in Afghanistan. Over two years into the reconstruction of Afghanistan is an opportune time to assess gender-focused aid for both women and men in the country, and to examine the implementation of policies in the light of outcomes. Lina spent over one year in Afghanistan as Country Director of Women for Women International.

For more information contact:
KabuLina@hotmail.com

Attention Ph.D. Candidates

The Afghanistan Research Newsletter welcomes submission of information from Ph.D. candidates working on dissertations about Afghanistan. Feel free to send details of your work to:
newsletter@areu.org.pk

Meetings and Networks

This section highlights conferences, meetings and other communication and networking forums.

Afghanistan-Pakistan Dialogue Programme

This is a joint programme of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and the Hanns Seidel Foundation and their partner organisations in Afghanistan and Pakistan for scientists, researchers and politicians from both countries.

The first programme of the dialogue under the theme "Pakistan-Afghanistan relations: challenges and prospects for the future" was organised by the country office of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in co-operation with the National Center for Policy Research at Kabul University. Subjects discussed at the 8-9 June 2004 dialogue included the war on terrorism and stability in the region; controlling the narcotics trade; return and rehabilitation of Afghan refugees; and prospects of bilateral trade and investment and regional economic cooperation.

The continuation of the dialogue will be organized by the country office of the Hanns Seidel

Foundation in co-operation with the Institute of Strategic Studies, Islamabad and is tentatively scheduled for 30 November - 1 December 2004 in Islamabad, Pakistan. The subjects to be discussed will evolve from the first meeting and will be announced later. For more information, please visit: http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/80/2/year-2004/month-6/veranstaltung_id-10834/index.html.

For more information contact:
 Werner M. Prohl, representative of the
 Konrad Adenauer Foundation
 in Afghanistan
kas.kabul@ceretechs.com

Abdul Baqi Banwal, Project Coordinator
banwal.kas@ceretechs.com

"Friend of National Human Development Report" Mailing List

This forum will be used to discuss human development related issues in general and human development related issues in Afghanistan in particular. The forum will provide all interested persons/organisations with an opportunity to share NHDR related information and data. We will keep you updated on the progress of Afghanistan's NHDR. We would be grateful to know of new surveys, reports,

statistics etc. We encourage you to participate in this forum since this could be valuable for the drafting of the first NHDR for Afghanistan.

For more information contact:
 Abdullah Mojaddedi
abdullah.mojaddedi@undp.org

Ongoing AREU Networks

The Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit is continuing to implement a series of thematic networks to provide forums for different research areas. Previously, forums on livelihoods and gender were hosted by AREU. These forums are intended to share learning and expertise on these themes and determine how this learning can be relevant to policymakers and practitioners. Future network meetings on livelihoods and gender issues are tentatively scheduled for later this summer.

For more information contact:
 Jo Grace (Livelihoods Network)
jograce@areu.org.pk

Shawna Wakefield
 (Gender Network)
shawna@areu.org.pk

Feature: Water Points in Afghanistan: A New Database Released by DACAAR

The Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees (DACAAR)

Kabul, Afghanistan

Over the past two decades, the Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees (DACAAR) has installed more than 30,000 water points to enable the supply of 750,000 families with safe drinking water. In the process, all relevant data—general and technical information for water points—have been collected. Up to 18 months ago, this was performed using a standard database. The purpose of this was (and is) to enable the analysis of the status of safe drinking water supplies at any time, and to provide a tool for the planning of future projects. In addition, the technical data provide a detailed understanding of existing, and future, projects and their execution.

Nevertheless, the traditional type of database has proved insufficient in Afghanistan. Why? Firstly, there is no generally accepted system for the transliteration of names in either of the two main national languages into Roman script. Our experience has taught us that this makes it impossible to describe the location of water points with absolute precision. Because of the various names given to the same village, the number of wells listed in the database has been multiplied, thus eroding its usefulness as a planning tool. The number and demarcation of provinces, districts and villages is in a state of constant flux. Borders shift, and villages are suddenly located in a different, or even an entirely new, district.

This state of affairs demands a different planning and recording tool, both for the future and to increase the value of the existing data. By using GIS (Geographic Information Systems) technology, which collates the Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates of each well, the position of every water point can be clearly defined. By making the position of every well visible, the particular difficulties encountered in Afghanistan no longer make the collected data useless. On the contrary, using GIS can make it possible to correct data about a given well that has been obscured by variant spelling of village names, and to assign it to the right official district. Another advantage is that the database can be linked to others, for instance those showing population distribution. This produces an extremely useful planning tool. Comparing the density of wells with the density of population quickly shows which areas urgently need to be included in future projects.

Obviously, it makes sense to open up what was initially an internal DACAAR project to as many partners as possible. Producing a compact disc with the latest information from the database should encourage organisations involved in water supply to send in their data and become a part of the database from which they too will benefit.

This great improvement in the coordination of work in water and sanitation is founded on that of AIMS (www.aims.org.af), which provides basic data and maps in electronic form. Working with AIMS in the future can allow both sides to keep their information up-to-date.

Finally, it must be said that the national database and its analysis and statistics do not provide definitive answers to all problems. The results it produces should always be viewed and evaluated critically and with the input of experienced engineers.

DACAAR is more than willing to demonstrate the database to any interested parties and to supply the latest version on CD. To find out more, please contact: dacaare@psh.paknet.com.pk

Featured Publications

This section highlights research publications recently received by AREU, or those forthcoming in late spring/summer 2004.

Development

Opening doors to opportunity: Afghanistan's millenium development goals / UNDP. [Kabul?]: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), [2004?]. 47 p. : col. ill. ; 30 cm.

The Afghanistan Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) report reviews the relevance of the Millennium Declaration and the MDGs (see <http://www.undp.org/mdg/faqs.html>) to the lives of Afghans. Meeting the MDGs in the context of mass poverty requires a dynamic equitable strategy that centres on women. Among the report's recommendations for reducing extreme poverty are: improving public services and general infrastructure; expanding the availability of micro-credit projects targeting the poor; eradicating poppy production, replacing these crops with financially sustainable, legal crops; controlling the population growth rate, currently at 4.2 percent; and creating economic opportunities for the vast number of returning refugees.

The report is available online in pdf format at: <http://www.undp.org/mdg/countryreports.html#Afghanistan>.

Health and Well-Being

Afghanistan monthly food security bulletin, May 2004 / Afghanistan Network on Food Security (ANFS). 6 p.: col. maps; 30 cm.

The first regular report on Afghanistan from USAID's Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWS NET) became available in late May 2004. The report features the impact of climactic changes on water and crop production, the prices of wheat, food consumption analyses, as well as emergency assessments and coping strategies.

The report can be accessed online at: <http://www.fews.net/current/monthlies/report/?submit=y&m=1001259&f=af&l=en>. More information on future reports can be obtained from Karim Rahimi at krahimi@fews.net or online at www.fews.net.

Livelihoods and Labour

Wakhan mission report: survey of the livelihood conditions and the governance framework among Wakhi and Kirghiz communities in Wakhan Woluswali, Afghanistan / Sabine Felmy, Hermann Kreutzmann. Kabul : Agence d'Aide à la Coopération Technique et au Développement, 2003. 37 p. : col. maps (1 fold out); 30 cm. Bibliography, p. 31-32.

The overall objective of the Wakhan mission was to present an assessment of the present socio-economic situation of the Wakhi mountain farmers and Kirghiz nomads in Wakhan Woluswali. The activities of other NGOs and government institutions needed an evaluation in order to identify the constraints and shortcomings as well as the potential for further interventions, supplementary packages and support measures to needy populations. Specific recommendations are made in the report concerning infrastructure development; agriculture; education and health; mobility, migration and non-agrarian income generation through wages and salaries; exchange economy and entrepreneurship; tourism and trophy-hunting.

Copies of the report can be obtained by emailing kabul@acted.org.

The impact of the opium poppy economy on household livelihoods: evidence from the Wakhan corridor and Khustak valley in Badakhshan: a study for the AKDN Badakhshan Programme funded by GTZ / Adam Pain. Kabul: AKDN Badakhshan Programme, 2004. vii, 58 p.: map ; 30 cm.

The broad objective of this study was to assess the impact of the opium poppy economy (production, trade and consumption) on household livelihoods. A particular emphasis was given to household expenditure and income, differential effects on members of the household/family, likely effects of interdiction measures on household strategies, the changing nature of power relations within the opium poppy economy,

and the effect of the opium poppy economy on the transformation of social relations and its effects on wider dimensions of conflict and risk management.

To obtain copies of this publication please email Marc.Theuss@akdn-afg.org.

LIWP (Labour Intensive Works Programme) evaluation/ [Chris Johnson]. Kabul: CARE, 2004. 40p.; 30 cm.

This independent evaluation of LIWP was commissioned by CARE, the oversight consultant for the programme, in the hope that its findings will inform the design of future labour intensive works programmes in Afghanistan and in other transition countries. It was not primarily a technical evaluation but one that looked at broader policy and implementation issues, and as such, some of the lessons may also be applicable to other programmes.

To obtain copies of the evaluation report email jpilkinton@care.org.

Media

National radio frequency survey: first edition, April 12, 2004/ Internews. Kabul: Internews, 2004. 7 p.; 30 cm.

Afghanistan's first radio frequency signal map estimates that 71 percent of the population is within listening range of the state broadcaster Radio Kabul. Using 1400 data points collected during February and March, GPS readings and Geographic Information Systems software, Internews has created a national survey including maps and statistics showing the estimated coverage of major international, state and private sector broadcasters across Afghanistan. This is the first report in a series of national radio surveys. As more data are gathered, revised surveys will be compiled and published, with the next report scheduled for July 2004.

This report is available online at: www.internews.org/afghan_media/National_Radio_Frequency_Survey_1st.pdf. For more information about the reports, contact david.trilling@internews.org or +93 (0)70 220 243 or yama@internews.org or +93 (0)70 299 025.

Recent & Forthcoming Publications from AREU

Recent Publications

Trading in Power: The Politics of "Free" Markets in Afghanistan. This briefing paper is based on the findings from a World-Bank funded study of markets related to three industries: construction materials, raisins, and carpets. The study found that a small group of businessmen, with close links to political and military elites, is increasingly dominating major trading activities in the country and squeezing out smaller competitors, and challenges policy makers not to focus solely on the economic benefits of market growth in Afghanistan, but to consider the political implications of growth that is neither free nor equitable.

Rethinking Rural Livelihoods in Afghanistan. This synthesis report presents the findings of the first 18 months of research from AREU's Rural Livelihoods Monitoring Research Programme.

The project gathered village and household information from 390 households across seven provinces with an aim to improve the understanding of rural livelihoods in Afghanistan and the monitoring and evaluation capacity of NGOs. The report offers conclusions and recommendations regarding: livelihoods diversity, non-farm labour, labour migration, indebtedness, gender, health, agriculture and social protection.

Minimal Investments, Minimal Results: The Failure of Security Policy in Afghanistan. This AREU briefing paper challenges policy makers to reconsider the current flawed plans and inadequate resources for addressing a fragile and deteriorating security situation in Afghanistan at a critical juncture in the country's political development. The paper focuses on sources of insecurity, available security resources, and the processes of coordination between security sectors.

Out of Step? Agricultural Policy and Afghan Livelihoods. Much of Afghanistan's agricultural assistance efforts in the past two years have assumed the country is in a "crisis" and that it is necessary to start from a blank slate to help farmers improve their livelihoods. Author Ian Christoplos argues that policies and programmes would instead benefit from stepping back and examining how rural Afghans have supported themselves for the last two decades. Farmers weigh a number of risks and are impacted by international and regional markets, and agricultural policies and programmes must become more in tune with these to maximise their support of rural livelihoods.

Urban Vulnerability in Afghanistan: Case Studies from Three Cities. This working paper by Stefan Schutte offers an initial examination of the "asset vulnerability" of the urban poor in Kabul, Jalalabad and Herat. Focus group discussions with residents in these cities revealed four intertwined risks common to all social groups: loss of income and indebtedness, food insecurity, deteriorating health, and social exclusion and disempowerment. The study also examines how vulnerability is not confined to specific locations, and includes specific recommendations for how to tackle urban vulnerability that goes beyond programming solely targeted to "vulnerable groups."

The Shiwa Pastures, 1978 - 2003: Land Tenure Changes and Conflict in Northeastern Badakhshan. AREU's new publication on land relations in Badakhshan Province by Mervyn Patterson provides an overview of changes in land tenure in the Shiwa area since 1978. It examines the nature and extent of land tenure change and the way in which this has occurred. A description is provided of ownership of *ailoqs* (upland pastures), conflicts over *ailoqs*, with a focus on Kuchi-Shiwachi relations, and Shiwachi expansion of agriculture and settlement. The paper highlights different responses that have emerged to deal with disputes over *ailoqs*, and concludes with a series of recommendations to deal with *ailoq* conflict in the future.

Land Relations in Faryab Province. The second of three rapid reconnaissance studies of land relations across Afghanistan, this report by Liz Alden Wily examines the tensions related to

land in three districts of Faryab Province. Alden Wily found that pastures are often at the centre of land conflicts, and that historical tensions, disorder, and poor policy create an environment ripe for tension. The report promotes the adoption of localised and community-based pilot approaches rooted in reconciliation as the way to move forward on these issues.

Forthcoming Publications

The Kandahar Bus Stand in Kabul. A case study of trans-national travellers and the reasons for their migration. July 2004.

Learning from NSP Elections. A working paper. July 2004.

Land Relations Synthesis Report. A synthesis of the findings of snapshots of land relations in Badakhshan, Bamyan, and Faryab Provinces. August 2004.

The A to Z Guide to Afghanistan Assistance: 3rd Edition. August 2004.

Gender and Local-Level Decision-making. A working paper. September 2004.

All AREU publications can be downloaded from our web site at: www.areu.org.af. Print copies can also be purchased in AREU's Kabul office.

Society of Afghan Engineers Annual Conference 2004

The Society for Afghan Engineers is scheduling its annual conference on the weekend of 31 July- 1 August 2004 in Berkeley, California. The theme of this year's event is "Rehabilitation and Development of Afghanistan's Infrastructure." For more information on the conference, contact Quasem Kadir at +1 (868) 772-4212 or by email at: mkadir@socal.devry.edu. More information about the society is available on the web at: www.afghan-engineers.org

Other Publications

In addition to the recent publications noted previously, several organisations and individuals submitted the following publications.

Agriculture

Nomadic pastoralists in Afghanistan: reconstruction of the pastoral economy / Thomas J. Barfield. Washington, D.C.: Bank Information Center, 2004. 13 p.: map.; 30 cm. Appendix: "The Afghan Pasture Law of 10 March 1970 (19 Hoot 1349)" Bibliography, p. 9. This report is available online at: <http://topics.developmentgateway.org/afghanistan/rc/ItemDetail.do~1001359>.

Feasibility study for the cultivation and processing of flavor and fragrance industry crops in Afghanistan: a study for UNDP and HD Investment / Altai Consulting. Kabul: Altai Consulting, 2004. 27 p. : col. ill., col. maps ; 30 cm. To obtain copies please write to: edavin@altaiconsulting.com.

An agricultural sector assessment and proposed interventions for Nangarhar province, Afghanistan / report by Richard Hicks for Relief International. Los Angeles, CA: Relief International, 2003. 29 p.; 30 cm. Six interventions were identified following this study: improve cereal quality and quantity; production of winter vegetables in green houses; disease control in vegetables and fruit; agriculture information service by radio; vegetable and fruit processing; and micro hydro-generators. Copies may be obtained from Richard Hicks at: hicksrw2001@yahoo.com.au.

Report on Agricultural Extension Services / DACAAR. This report was slated for release at the time of this newsletter. More information, including the complete title of the report, can be obtained from: Alexandra Strand Holm, Public Information Officer, DACAAR, alexandrastrandholm@hotmail.com

Health and Well-Being

Neonatal health, mortality, and public health activities in Afghanistan / Mary E. Dean. Perth, Australia : Curtin University of Technology, 2003. Unpublished paper. 19 p. ; 30 cm. Bibliography p. 16-18.

A pilot mental health skills training workshop proposal for midlevel primary care health workers in Afghanistan / Mary E. Dean. Perth, Australia: Curtin University of Technology, 2003. Unpublished paper. 18 p.; 30 cm. Bibliography, p. 14-15. Includes a brief literature review.

Overview of methodology for [the] National survey on micronutrient deficiencies in Afghanistan / a collaborative initiative between the Ministry of Health (MoH), UNICEF, Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Tufts University, 5 p.; 30 cm. For more information, contact Fitsum Assefa at: fassefa@unicef.org.

Legal Rights

Defending rights at risk in Afghanistan : NRC information and legal counseling project : annual report, 2003 / Norwegian Refugee Council. [Kabul] : Norwegian Refugee Council, 2004. 10 p.; 30 cm.

Information and Legal Advice Project : Afghanistan : first quarterly report / Norwegian Refugee Council. [Kabul?] : Norwegian Refugee Council, 2004. [9] p. ; 30 cm. To obtain copies of both these reports, contact Conor Foley at: conorfoley30@hotmail.com.

Livelihoods

Coping strategies, accumulated wealth and shifting markets: the story of opium poppy cultivation in Badakhshan 2000-2003 / a report for the Aga Khan Foundation (Afghanistan) by David Mansfield. [Kabul] : Aga Khan Foundation (Afghanistan), 2004. 20 p.; 30 cm. This recent research paper produced in collaboration with the Aga Khan Foundation looks at poppy cultivation in Badakhshan and includes an examination of historical trends and reasons for poppy cultivation; exploration of key factors associated with the poppy economy: land tenure, credit relations, labour, etc.; and discussion about future trends / predictions of poppy cultivation in future periods. For more information contact: Marc Theuss, AKDN, +93 (0)79 335 692, Marc.Theuss@akdn-afg.org.

Livelihoods system analysis consultancy on behalf of "The development of sustainable agricultural livelihoods in the eastern Hazarajat, Afghanistan (GCP/AFG/029/UK)": interim report from the first of two visits, November 2nd-15th 2003 / Barry Pound. [Rome?] : Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 2003. 54 leaves: col. ill., col. maps; 30 cm. The objective of the visit reported here was to assemble and interpret reports, secondary data and maps; rapidly characterise the livelihood strategies and farming systems; identify organisations working in the area and integrate information from key informants; provide a guide framework for village selection; gather preliminary information on needs and priorities, identify information gaps and make recommendations for follow-up study; and prepare an interim report. For more information contact: b.pound@gre.ac.uk.

Livelihood system analysis of selected villages in the provinces Sar-e Pul and Jawzjan in North Afghanistan: final report / commissioned study of Deutsche Welthungerhilfe Bonn/German Agro Action, Kabul. Bonn: Deutsche Welthungerhilfe e.v., 2003. vi, 77 p.; 30 cm. (German Agro Action Working Paper). This livelihood system study represents the results of research commenced in autumn 2002 in four districts. It provides information about the livelihoods of people, their frame conditions and the capital assets available. It identifies the most important parameters within the livelihood system. In addition key questions for following studies are elaborated. This study is available from presse@dwvh.de.

Media

Afghans suffer from biased media reports / presented by Mohammad Eshaq. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia : "The Asia Media Summit", 2004. 8 p.; 30 cm. This paper was presented at "The Asia Media Summit 2004" 19-21 April, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Mohammad Eshaq, former Director General of Radio Television Afghanistan, highlights issues of cultural bias in the reporting of news about or from Afghanistan.

Afghan media directory / Internews. Kabul, Afghanistan : Internews, 2004. 1st ed. 139 p. : portraits; 30 cm. Internews has prepared the first edition of a comprehensive survey of Afghan

media, including a historical survey, interviews with prominent media players, a profile of Afghan print media, biographies of Afghan journalists and bibliography. For more information contact: david.trilling@internews.org.

Opium

What is driving opium poppy cultivation? : decision making amongst opium poppy cultivators in Afghanistan in the 2003/4 growing season / David Mansfield. [London?] : Drugs and International Crime Department of the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, 2004. 29 p. ; 30 cm. This study explores the different drivers that have influenced opium poppy cultivation in 2003/4, documenting the results of 219 in-depth interviews conducted in 14 districts in four provinces of Afghanistan. It builds on fieldwork undertaken during the 2002/3 growing season and draws on the growing body of in-depth research that has been undertaken on the role of opium poppy in rural livelihoods in Afghanistan. The study confirms that despite a significant fall in the farmgate price of opium prior to the planting season, overall the amount of opium poppy planted by those interviewed was expected to increase in 2003/4 compared with the previous growing season. It concludes that there are a number of factors that are driving this increase and that these differ by socio-economic groups and location. For more information contact: davidmfld@aol.com.

De la géopolitique des drogues illicites / Pierre-Arnaud Chouvy et Laurent Laniel. Published in *Hérodote*, no. 112 (2004), *Géopolitique des drogues illicites* p. 7-26. Available at : <http://www.pa-chouvy.org/Herodote112-2004-geopolitique-drogues-illicites.html>.

Drogues illicites, territoire et conflits en Afghanistan et en Birmanie / Pierre-Arnaud Chouvy. Published in *Hérodote*, no. 112 (2004), *Géopolitique des drogues illicites* p. 84-104. Available online at : <http://www.pa-chouvy.org/Herodote112-2004-chouvy-drogues-illicites-territoire-conflits.html>.

"Narco terrorism in Afghanistan," ***Terrorism Monitor*** (vol. 2, issue 6). March 25, 2004. Available online at: <http://www.geopium.org/terrorism-monitor-afghanistan-narcoterrorism.html>.

Reconstruction

OECD/ESCAP/ADB workshop on assessing and improving statistical quality : measuring the non-observed economy: country paper, Afghanistan / Mohammad Esa. [Bangkok?] : United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, 2004. 4 p.; 30 cm. This brief paper (dated 11-14 May 2004) outlines the situation of the Central Statistics Office in Afghanistan with regard to the national accounts, consumer price index, census of population and housing. It is available online at: http://www.unescap.org/stat/meet/wnoe/waisq_afghanistan.pdf.

National priority programmes (NPPs) / The Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan. Kabul: The Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan, 2004. 16 p.; 30 cm. On Tuesday 20 April 2004, at the Afghanistan Development Forum held in Kabul, President Karzai announced the creation of six new National Priority Programmes (NPPs): National Skills Development Programme; National Vulnerability Programme; National Agriculture Programme; National Accountability Programme; National Urban Programme; and National Private Sector Programme. This short paper outlines the purpose, modalities, structure and reporting requirements of the NPPs. Details are given for the scope of each programme: the national agriculture programme, for example, includes: land titling, alternative livelihoods, forestry, animal husbandry and environmental standards.

Post-conflict reconstruction: the Afghan economy / Manabu Fujimura. Tokyo: Asian Development Bank Institute, 2004. iv, 205 p.; 30 cm. The last ADB economic report on Afghanistan was carried out in 1978 and there has been no systematic effort at collecting economic data since 1979. Therefore, the present report is based primarily on data and information collected after October 2001. It is available online at: <http://www.adbi.org/publications/books/default.asp>.

Afghanistan's political and constitutional development / Chris Johnson, William Maley, Alexander Their and Ali Wardak. London: Overseas Development Institute, 2003. 48 p.; 30 cm. It is available online at: <http://www.odi.org.uk/hpg/evaluations.html>.

Putting rural land registration in perspective: the Afghanistan case: draft 1 / Liz Alden Wily. Paper for the Symposium on Land Administration in Post-Conflict Areas, Geneva, April 29-30. 2004. 24 p.; 30 cm.

Balkh and Jawzjan province irrigation: draft report / Asian Development Bank, Emergency Infrastructure and Rehabilitation Loan Afghanistan, Technical Assistance Mission. [Kabul?] : Asian Development Bank, 2004. 56 p.; col. maps, ill.; 30 cm.

Afghanistan telecom brief / Ken Zita. [New York] : Network Dynamics Associates, 2004. 11 p.; 30 cm. This paper was adapted from a Briefing Book prepared for the US Trade and Development Agency conference on "South Asia Communications Infrastructure" in New Delhi, India in April 2004. It outlines the state of Afghanistan's telecommunications refurbishment. It can be found online at: <http://topics.developmentgateway.org/afghanistan/rc/filedownload.do~itemId=1003046>.

A Dari version of Anne Carlin's report **Rush to reengagement** (mentioned in the last newsletter) has been released at: http://www.bicusa.org/bicusa/issues/afghanistan_project/921.php

Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan : mining as a source of growth / World Bank. [Washington, D.C.] : World Bank, 2004. 125 p.; map.; 28 cm. Report No. 28231-AF. This report is online at: www-wds.worldbank.org.

Structure and performance of the Afghan economy / by Stephane Guimbert. Washington, D.C.: World Bank, 2004. 40 p.; 38 cm. Bibliography, p. 39-40.

Refugees

Guerres et migrations : réseaux sociaux et stratégies économiques des Hazaras d'Afghanistan / Alessandro Monsutti. Neuchâtel : Institute d'ethnologie : Paris : Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, 2004. (Recherches et travaux ; 17). 364 p.; 23 cm. ISBN 2882790163 (IE) ; 2735110303 (MSH). Bibliography, p. 331-359. This important study on Hazara refugees features one of the most comprehensive bibliographies available on Hazaras and Hazarajat.

"Becoming mobile after detention." (Forthcoming in) ***Social analysis: the international journal of cultural and social practice***, Fall issue 48 (3). 31 p. and "Resettlement' after detention: Hazara refugees from Afghanistan in Australia"/ Diana Glazebrook. 32 p. (Forthcoming 2005 in) P. Waxman and V. Colic-Peisker, ***Refugee resettlement in the west : economic, social and cultural aspects***. Both of Glazebrook's articles focus on ethnographic research among Hazara refugees from central Afghanistan living on temporary protection visas in Australia.

Pilgrimage aspirations and practice of Hazara Shia mohajer in Iran, and the question of repatriation to Afghanistan / Diana Glazebrook, Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi. 20 p. ; 30 cm. (forthcoming 2004 or 2005). Submitted to the *Iranian Journal of Anthropology*. Bibliography, p. 18-20. more information can be obtained from: diana.glazebrook@anu.edu.au.

Security & Rule of Law

Assessing peace and conflict potentials in the target region of the GTZ Central Asia and Northern Afghanistan programme to foster food security, regional cooperation and stability / Jan Koehler. Berlin: ARC, 2004. viii, 76 p. ; 30 cm. Bibliography, p. 74-76. This is the integrated report on the results of three parallel research projects conducted in the GTZ "Promoting Food Security, Regional Co-operation and Stability" Programme target regions of Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. It identifies economic conflict arenas, social conflict arenas, local capacities and limits for peace and non-violent conflict processing. The report is available online at: http://www.arc-berlin.com/pdf/Integrated%20Report_04.pdf.

"Building a post-war justice system in Afghanistan" / Ali Wardak. In ***Crime, law and social change*** 41 (2004), p. 319-341. Bibliography, p. 319-341.

Afghanistan's problematic path to peace: lessons in state building in the post-September 11 era / by Mark Sedra and Peter Middlebrook. Silver City, New Mexico: Foreign Policy in Focus (FPF), 2004. 16 p.; 30 cm. This report provides a detailed analysis of

Afghanistan's state-building process, outlining its successes and failures over the past two years. Drawing on the Afghan experience, the report also offers some broad lessons in state-building that can be applied in other post-conflict settings. The report can be accessed online at: <http://www.fpf.org/papers/2004afgh-stbuild.html>.

Elections and security in Afghanistan/ International Crisis Group (ICG). Kabul: International Crisis Group (ICG), 2004. 11 p.: map 30 cm. (Asia briefing). This latest briefing paper from the International Crisis Group warns of the real risk that elections under present conditions will merely confirm an undemocratic and unstable status quo. The report is available at: <http://www.crisisweb.org>.

The missing priority: post-conflict security and the rule of law / Graduate Student Working Group, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University. Princeton, NJ: 2003. 53 p.; 30 cm. Report prepared for the Office of Counterterrorism, National Security Council, The White House, Washington DC. Afghanistan section, p. 40-47. This report examines four post-conflict stability missions: Bosnia, Kosovo, Afghanistan, and Iraq, and argues that five major gaps in post-conflict security policies and programs have prevented the establishment of public order and the rule of law: the inability to rapidly address immediate post-conflict civil order requirements; the failure to provide for courts, correctional facilities, and border security; inadequate effort to develop local capacity; a lack of political will to confront criminal elites; and weak international capacity to establish and enforce the rule of law. The report can be accessed at: <http://www.wps.princeton.edu/research/PWRReports/F03/>.

Lessons from history: options for assisting transitional justice, upholding international law and ensuring accountability for past human rights violations in Afghanistan / [Matt Hobson]. Unpublished. 2004. 74 p.; 30 cm.

The "Mine Action for Peace" programme, Afghanistan: workshop report, Kabul, 29 April 2004 / Arne Strand. Oslo: International Peace Research Institute (PRIO) = Institute for Fredsforskning, 2004. 21 p.; 30 cm. (Landmines

memo, no. 10). Available online at: <http://www.cmi.no/publications/AfghanistanArneS.pdf>.

Establishing the rule of law in Afghanistan/

United States Institute of Peace. Washington, D.C.: United States Institute of Peace, 2004. 18 p. ; 30 cm. (United States Institute of Peace. Special report ; 117). This report is available online at: <http://www.usip.org/pubs/specialreports/sr117.html>.

Security and statebuilding in Afghanistan/

J. Alexander Thier. [Washington, D.C.?] : The Asia Foundation, 2003. 17 p.; 30 cm. This draft report was completed in December 2003 but not circulated widely. It can be obtained from newsletter@areu.org.pk.

Women

Women at work: gender, wealth, wages and employment in rural Afghanistan, 2002-2003: a discussion paper /

Hector Maletta. Kabul : Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, (FAAHM), Food, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Information Management and Policy Unit, 2004. 35 p.; 30 cm.

At the cross-roads of conflict and democracy: women and Afghanistan's consitutional Loya jirga /

a report prepared by Lauryn Oates and Isabelle Solon Helal. Montréal, Canada : Rights & Democracy, 2004. 81 p.; 30 cm. This report is based on Rights & Democracy's observation at the Constitutional Loya Jirga in Kabul during December 2003 and January 2004, and on more than 20 in-depth interviews with delegates, observers and civil society representatives, careful analysis of the political atmosphere throughout the country in the days leading up to and following the CLJ, as well as documentation from other international observer missions. Further, a critical gender analysis has been made of the final Constitution text in an effort to determine the potential hindrances to women's rights that may result, as well as the ways in which women can use the Constitution to their advantage. La version française du rapport sera disponible avant la fin juin 2004 sur notre site internet: www.ichrdd.ca. To obtain a hard copy of the report, please send an email to loates@ichrdd.ca.

Afghanistan Reconstruction on the Development Gateway

The Development Gateway's Afghanistan Reconstruction pages offer timely news, research, and forum discussions about the most recent events to occur across the country.

Readers are encouraged to post the findings of their research and recent publications on the Gateway to share with the wider development community, as well as those interested in Afghan affairs. For more information or to receive email updates of the latest publications to be posted on the Gateway, go to:

www.developmentgateway.org

Information for the Next Newsletter

AREU would like your help in compiling the most up-to-date information about research projects and publications in Afghanistan for the next edition of the Afghanistan Research Newsletter. Please send us information on any recent, current or near-future research projects (studies, reports, databases, web sites and/or assessments, etc.). Specifically, we're looking for:

- o Title of research project;
- o Author(s);
- o Purpose, themes or abstract;
- o Timeframe and publication date;
- o A copy of the report, url, etc.;
- o Some comments on the methodology may also be relevant; and
- o Information on how others can request copies of the research from your organisation.

We would appreciate it if you could send these details to newsletter@areu.org.pk before **Sunday, 5 September 2004**. Other enquiries can be addressed to:

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