



National Solidarity Program - National Program including Kandahar Province

Project Number: A032660
Current Phase: 2003-2010
**Budget allocated on annual basis -
2006/07 Disbursements:** \$20.5 million
Total historical disbursements to date: \$54 million

Spotlight

- [NSP Results in Afghanistan](#) (Map)

The National Solidarity Program (NSP) is the Afghan Government's primary program for community development. It aims to reduce poverty by empowering communities to take initiative, improving local governance and increasing social, human and economic capital. This is key to strengthening local governance and citizen participation, and to increasing the Government of Afghanistan's legitimacy and capacity.



© UN-HABITAT

Created by the Government of Afghanistan, the NSP gives rural Afghans a voice in their country's development through the election of community leaders to community development councils (CDCs). The program supports the CDCs to lead their communities through processes to identify, plan, manage, and monitor their own development projects. As a result, communities are empowered to make decisions and control

resources during all stages of the project cycle. Furthermore, the program promotes the inclusion of all groups in project activities, including women, internally displaced persons, returnees, and ethnic minorities. This innovative program has strengthened its foundation for ensuring long-term community-level governance.

The Government gives block grants in cash directly to these elected bodies, comprised of men and women, to help them build and restore rural infrastructure that communities choose through an inclusive decision-making process. **The participation of women in the CDCs is mandatory for communities to be eligible for the block grants.** To build ownership, the community contributes a minimum of 10 percent of the cost of each project through donations of cash, labour, or construction materials.

CIDA is a major supporter of the NSP nationwide, and is also collaborating closely with the Government of Afghanistan to accelerate the roll-out of the program in **Kandahar Province**.

Results—Nationwide



As of September 22, 2007, more than 18,300 CDCs had been elected across all 34 provinces in the country. More than 31,400 projects had been approved and more than 14,400 had been completed.

More than half of the community projects involve productive infrastructure such as irrigation, roads, and village electrification, thereby promoting productivity and stimulating local economies. Approximately one-quarter of the projects involve safe drinking water and sanitation, which encourages better health for the communities.

Some examples of **completed projects** nationwide include (as of June 30, 2007):

Water Supply and Sanitation Results

- Wells: more than 16,800
- Hand pumps: more than 500
- Water reservoirs: more than 700
- Water supply distribution networks: over 550 km²
- Water filtration chambers: 10
- Latrine sets: more than 50
- Public baths: 80
- Toilets: 7

Irrigation

- Aqueducts (for channelling water): over 700 m
- Irrigation canals: over 330 km
- Dams: more than 35
- Dam diversions: more than 270
- Drainage initiatives: over 45 km
- Water intake (for irrigation): over 4 km
- *Karez*s (horizontal hand-dug irrigation system): over 700 km
- Pipe schemes: over 14 km
- Protection walls: over 50 km
- Siphons: more than 40
- Water reservoirs: more than 80

Transport

- When completed, almost 6,000 km of rural roads will be rehabilitated to allow market access for Afghan villagers; currently over 3,000 km have been rehabilitated nationwide
- Roadway culverts: more than 5,000
- Retaining walls: over 11 km
- Bridges: more than 50
- Pathways: 2.5 km

Public Infrastructure

- Clinics: 3
- Primary school buildings: more than 55
- Middle and secondary school buildings: more than 25

- School boundary walls: over 2 km
- Mosques: 16
- Community centres: more than 80

Power Supply

- Diesel generators: over 40,000 kW
- Microhydro power plants: over 2,800 kW
- Power lines: over 200 km
- Solar panels: more than 3,000

Agriculture and Livelihood Initiatives

- Animal raising initiatives: more than 20,000 animals
- Bakeries: more than 25
- Beekeeping: more than 30
- Carpet looms: more than 800
- Embroidery and sewing machines: more than 3,700
- Fertilizer: 5 metric tonnes
- Flour mills: more than 110
- Wool spinning: 15

Education

- Literacy courses (for women): more than 85
- Literacy courses (for men): 7
- Vocational training courses: more than 380
- Hygiene education courses: More than 950

Results—Kandahar

As of September 22, 2007, more than 530 CDCs had been elected, more than 1000 projects had been approved and more than 600 projects had been completed.

Some examples of **completed projects** in Kandahar Province funded by the NSP include (as of June 30, 2007):

Irrigation

- Irrigation canals: over 55 km
- Dam diversions: 17
- Drainage initiatives: over 12 km
- Water intake (for irrigation): 20 metres
- *Karezes* (horizontal hand-dug irrigation system): over 95 km
- Aqueducts (for channelling water): over 70 metres

Transport

- Over 120 km of rural roads have been rehabilitated in Kandahar to allow market access for Afghan villagers
- Roadway culverts: 500
- Retaining walls: over 1 km

- Bridges: 14 metres

Power Supply

- Power lines: over 7 km
- Electricity generation (diesel): providing over 1,200 kW

Livelihoods

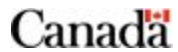
- Sewing machines: more than 65

Water Supply and Sanitation Results

- Wells: more than 1,200
- Hand pumps: more than 120
- Water reservoirs: 1
- Water supply distribution networks: over 3.5 km

Education

- Vocational training courses: more than 10



Last Updated: 2007-11-14