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Afghanistan - An Overview

CURRENT POPULATION

- Current Total Population – **28 Million**
- Current Rural Population – **19 Million (70 %)**
- Current Urban Population - **09 Million (30 %)**
- Population Growth Rate Per Annum – **2 %**

Current GDP

- Currency: **Afghani**
- GDP : **20 Bn ($)**
- GDP Per Capita : **714 ($)**
- GDP Real Growth : **18 – 20 %**
- GDP Composition : **Agriculture: 70%, Industry: 15%, Services: 15%**

History Up to 2002

- Telecommunications technology arrived in Afghanistan in **1930** with **a small exchange** built in Kabul.
- The network was **gradually expanded** to five additional urban areas via copper wire but this infrastructure **had been decimated by 23 years of conflict** and under-investment since the mid-1970s.
- In 2002, the infrastructure was negligible and services were extremely limited.
- Wealthy people could afford to **use satellite phones (at a cost of US$5 per minute)** and those less fortunate either **travelled to neighbouring countries** to place a call **or to post** a letter.

History …

- The majority of Afghans were simply isolated without communications.
- In early **2003**, Afghanistan had fewer than **15,000 functioning telephone lines** for a population of approximately **25 million**.
- This means a telephone **penetration rate of 0.06%,** among the lowest in the world.
- In addition to a shortage of basic telephone switching capacity, the local transmission network delivering last mile
- services, presented an even more difficult bottleneck.

History …

- The cabling conduit, trunk cables and copper wires were also old or completely destroyed.
- Afghanistan did not have a functioning long distance network to provide national or international connectivity.
- The absence of transmission and switching facilities meant that citizens could only complete calls within their own cities and were unable to reach any other parts of the country or the outside world.

Current Communications Sector Scenario

- Four top international GSM companies (ROSHAN ; AWCC ; MTN-AREEBA & ETISALAT)
- One State-owned CDMA company (AFGHAN TELECOM)
- 18 National ISP licensed & operational companies
- Two National WIMAX licensed company (RANA Technologies and Afghan Telecom)
- One pay-phone licensed company (Afghan Telecom)
- Multiple regional based CDMA licensed companies

Afghan Telecom

- **Incorporated under Afghan Law (June 2005), Afghan Telecom is 100% owned by the MCIT.**

  In addition to the 4 mobile licensees, Afghanistan Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (ATRA), also formally licensed Afghan Telecom in April 2006 to provide <u>unified telecommunications services</u>.

  Afghan Telecom has implemented :

  - **165,000 digital lines using CDMA WLL in 24 provinces, connecting all provincial capitals as well as all districts via satellite network providing voice, Internet and video conferencing services in Afghanistan.**

4 GSM licenses

AWCC

- Afghan Wireless Communication Company is the product of founder Ehsan Bayat's mission to reconnect Afghanistan with the wider world.

  Currently, Afghan Wireless is serving 17 cites: Kabul, Herat, Marzar-i-Sharif, Kandahar and Jalalabad to become one of the very few Afghan companies operating in 17 separate regions of the country.

TDCA/Roshan

- Roshan is the trading name for Telecom Development Company Afghanistan Ltd.

  Currently, Roshan is one of the largest private company employers in Afghanistan, directly employing over 470 people, 21% of whom are women.
- In addition, Roshan provides indirect employment to more than 5,000 people who work as dealers, distributors, contractors and suppliers.

MTN Afghanistan

- is a new global brand which made its appearance in the Sudanese telecommunication market in July 2005.

  MTN’s first project has started in 1990 in Ghana then Benin following in 1999, Syria in 2001, Liberia 2002, Yemen in 2003, Cyprus and Guinea Bissau in year 2004, Guinea Conakry and Afghanistan 2006

Etisalat Afghanistan

- Etisalat Afghanistan is a newly established GSM operator in Afghanistan.

  In May 2006 Telecommunications Corporation [Etisalat of the Unites Arab Emirates] signed an agreement with Afghan authorities in Abu Dhabi, U.A.E. to operate a GSM network across Afghanistan and become the fourth GSM operator in the country.

Afghan Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (ATRA)

- **The regulatory environment within the telecommunications sector in Afghanistan has been developed rapidly over the last 3 years.**
- **The Telecom Regulatory Authority of Afghanistan (ATRA) within the framework of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) was established according to the Telecommunication Law in 2006.**

Afghan Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (ATRA) …

- **ATRA is responsible to regulate the affairs related to the telecom sector.**
- **The regulatory body functions in an independent, open, objective, transparent, and non-discriminatory manner within the legal framework in the country.**
- **ATRA is committed to implementing international best practice and creating a fully transparent regulatory environment.**

Wireless Communication's Convergence Opportunities in Afghanistan

- Wimax network on 3.4 GHz frequency already successfully deployed in top 5 cities of Afghanistan
- Quick Roll out of Wi-Fi based networks
- UNIFIED COMMUNICATIONS through Wireless route (Companies like Siemens aggressively working on this initiatives)
- Broad band Internet Cafes on the Optical Fiber Routes
- Broad band Internet on Existing Fixed Line Networks in 06 Major Cities
- Demand of highly complex, integrated & Unified communication networks is high in Afghanistan

Telecom Picture of Afghanistan

1	GSM Subscribers	7,898,909
2	CDMA Subscribers	55,456
3	Landlines	45,668
4	Penetration	32%
5	Investments in $	Millions1,183
6	Telecom Base Station	2,576
7	Population Coverage	75%

Capacity Building

- The new ICTI will bring a very much needed boost of knowledge to both students and technical personnel of the Ministry of Communications, Afghan Telecom and Afghan Mobile.
- Other organisations, both from the public and private sectors, will also take profit.

  The construction project of ICTI is the result of a technical cooperation from the IRI and the coordination of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

  Two types of diplomas will be issued:

  - An **ICTI Technician Diploma** obtained after having successfully passed **two years at the ICTI**.
  - **An ICTI Engineer Diploma** obtained after having successfully passed two years at the ICTI plus the two years of the ICTI Technician programme, or two years plus the equivalent requirements of the ICTI Technician Programme.

Running Programs

1	**National Optical Fiber Backbone**	**$64.5 Million**	**Gov. of Afghanistan**
2	**Expansion of the National Digital Telephone Network**	**$50.5 Million**	**Gov. of Afghanistan**
3	**National Data Center**	**$3.00 Million**	**Gov. of Afghanistan**
4	**National ICT Council of Afghanistan**	**$2.00 Million**	**USAID/UNDP**
5	**Construction of Technical & Administrative Buildings**	**$4.82 Million**	**Gov. of Afghanistan**
6	**Expansion of GCN and VCN**	**$6.00 Million**	**Gov. of Afghanistan**
7	**Creation of Afghan Post Cooperation**	**$1.39 Million**	**Gov. of Afghanistan**
8	**Creation of Afghan Post Cooperation**	**$1.39 Million**	**World Bank**

Completed Programs

Project Name	Budget	Source
Government Communication Network	$15.74 Million	World Bank
District Communication Network	$14.20 Million	USAID
Spectrum Monitoring Station	$1.00 Million	World Bank
The Billing System	$0.30 Million	The Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund
Microwave Network to East	$1.90 Million	The Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund
Satellite Earth Station in Kabul	$3.80 Million	The Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund
Digital Switch and CDMA WLL in 12 Provinces	$8.07 Million	ADB/Mnistry of Finance
Digital Switch and CDMA WLL in 11 Provinces	$11.11 Million	Government of India

Afghanistan National Fiber Ring

Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction Programme (CDRRP)

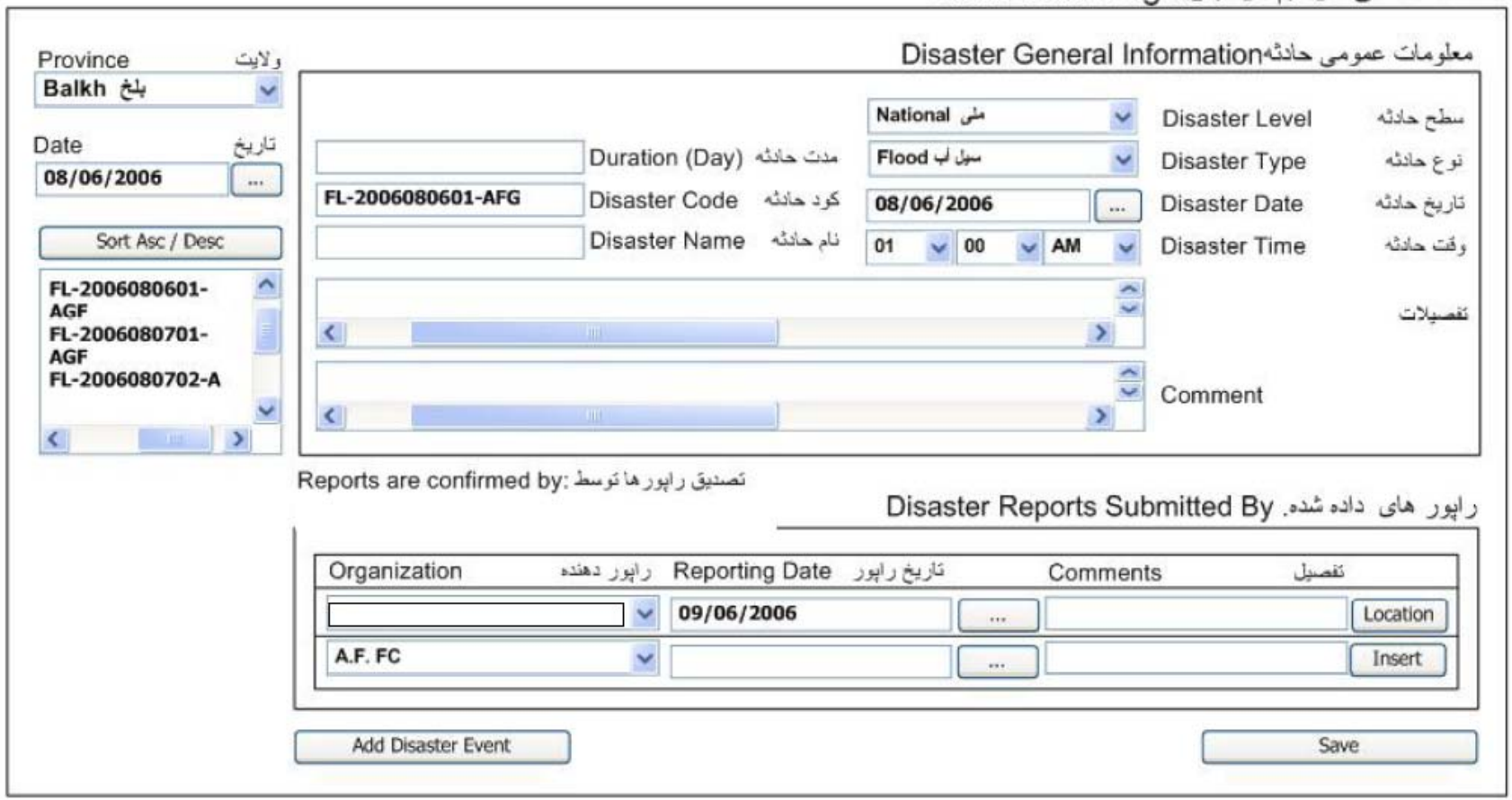
- **June 2007 - December 2010**
- Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority **(ANDMA)**
- **Partnerships and Resources**
  - Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) and other Key Government Ministries, UN agencies, NGOs and Civil Societies

Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction Project (CDRRP) July 2007-December 2011

Total Budget: USD 9,8 Million
Implementing Partners/:
UNDP & ANDMA

Disaster Management Information System,
Presentation of DMIS database prototype, 4 March, 2008

صفحه اصلی دی ایم أی ایس DMIS Main Page



Thank You