



JOINT PRESS RELEASE



AFGHANISTAN AND UNDP CONVENE STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP ON COUNTRY PROGRAMME ACTION PLAN 2010-2013

Kabul, 9 July 2009—Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) held a joint stakeholder workshop to discuss the UNDP Afghanistan Country Programme for the period of 2010 to 2013.

The objective of today's workshop was to discuss UNDP priorities, activities and how to achieve its goals to contribute to Afghanistan development process. UNDP also hopes to benefit from the participants' local knowledge, different perspectives and diverse areas of expertise.

In 2009, UNDP Afghanistan and the Government of Afghanistan engaged in a highly consultative process to develop a nationally-owned Country Programme that reflects the needs and strategies of the Government which would enjoy strong support from the international donor community as well as key development stakeholders including the Government line ministries, UN agencies and members of civil society.

The 1.1 billion USD Country Programme for Afghanistan is designed to advance and deepen the progress made in the previous cycle in promoting stabilization, state-building and governance, and strengthening democratic institutions in the country.

The new programme is centred on four pillars. In all four areas, UNDP will support national ownership, capacity development, policy formulation and coordination which include:

1. Stabilization and peace-building;
2. Strengthening democratic governance;
3. Livelihoods, natural resource management and disaster risk reduction; and
4. National development policies for economic growth and poverty reduction.

The UNDP Executive Board reviewed and provided suggestions on the Country Programme Document (CPD). Following their review, a stakeholder consultation workshop involving governmental and non-governmental organizations, bilateral and multilateral international donors, UN agencies and UNDP was organized as part of finalizing the CPD and preparing the Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP).