

**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME  
PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN**

**PROJECT AFG/03/006**

**Title: Human Development Research and Capacity Building, Preparatory Phase for National Human Development Report**

**Short Title: Preparatory Phase NHDR**

**Starting Date:** 15/02/2003  
**End Date:** 31/08/2003  
**Executing Agent:** UNDP - UNDP (Direct Execution)  
**Implementing Agent:** UNDP - UNDP (Direct Execution)  
**Project Site:**  
**Beneficiary Countries:**  
**ACC Sector/Subsector:** NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING - GENERAL DEVELOPMENT ISSUES  
**DCAS Sector/Subsector:** Economic Management - Macro-economic policy and planning  
**Primary Areas of Focus/Sub-Focus:** Other UNDP Development Priorities - Other UNDP Development Priorities  
**Primary Type of Intervention:** Capacity-Building - Institution-building  
**Primary Target Beneficiaries:** Target Organizations - Government - Governmental organizations

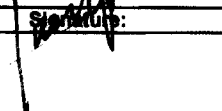
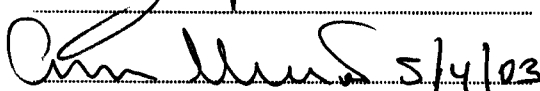
**Summary of UNDP and Cost-Sharing Inputs in US\$ as per attached budget(s)**

INPUTS	
UNDP:	0
01-UNDP-IPF / TRAC - (Trac 1.1.1 & 1.1.2/Line 1	204,550
<b>TOTAL INPUTS</b>	<b>204,550</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>204,550</b>

LPAC approval date:	/ /
BPAC approval date:	/ /
Programme Officer:	

**Brief Description:**

The project will contribute to the promotion of the concept of human development in Afghanistan by assessing data, themes and capacity for the production of National Human Development Reports in Afghanistan and provide a better understanding of priority national development themes, emerging trends and opportunities. The project will promote national dialogue, constructive expression of various views, and the identification of development alternatives that impact human development in Afghanistan

Approved by:	Signature:	Date:	Name/Title:
Government:			Mohammad Haneef Atmar, Minister of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
UNDP:		5/4/03	Ercan Murat, Country Director

*Approved  
E/M*

## I.A Situation Analysis

*“Currently, very little reliable information exists, often information is fragmented and hoarded. This hampers the government’s ability to respond to predictable crises and to make policy based on evidence of what works and what does not.”* Afghanistan National Development Framework.

### Some basic statistics

In the absence of a national census in 14 years, with the lack of reliable nationwide demographic and income surveys, and with a low capacity to gather and analyze administrative data from different sources, it is virtually impossible to assess correct estimates for many of the main human development indicators for Afghanistan. Nevertheless, international and national organizations have carried out some estimated assessments of the most recent data available which paint a gloomy picture of the country.

The population estimates for Afghanistan range from 18 million to 25 million, with the number varying according to the estimates of returnees from Pakistan (which hosted some 2 million refugees) and Iran (about 1.5 million). Life expectancy at birth is estimated by WHO to be 41.1 for men and 43.7 for women in 2001.

Afghanistan is among the countries with the highest rates of infant mortality (165 per 1000 live births), child mortality (one out of four children die before the age of five), and maternal mortality (an estimated 15,000 women die every year from pregnancy related causes –at the rate of approximately one every 30 minutes or 1 in 12 women. (Source: UNICEF and ADB). The estimated illiteracy rates are approximately 64%, (nearly 2/3 of Afghan adults), which include 48.1% for males over the age of 15, and 78.1% for female over the age of 15. Approximate estimates place the primary gross enrolment ratio at 39 percent for boys, and 3% for girls. Income figures are the hardest to estimate among the HD indicators. ADB estimated Afghanistan’s per capita income at about \$300 in 1989, noting that this figure is likely to have declined substantially during the past year. Current assessments of assistance needs start from the assumption of a per capita GDP of only \$200 in 2001. UNOCHA estimates that 6.1 million Afghans are vulnerable (in need of basic food items, drinking unclean water, lack of medical supplies etc.) About 12 million Afghans are affected by drought, three to four million severely. An estimated 3.8 million Afghans are dependent on food aid. ADB estimates that less than 20 percent of urban households have access to piped water, and less than 10 percent of rural areas have access to sanitation. 50 percent of households have no solid waste collection, and only 6 percent of the total population has access to electricity.

After 23 years of war, Afghanistan has now entered a stabilization stage which will be conducive to the design and implementation of reconstruction projects as well as sustainable policies. The country needs first and foremost a development vision based on consensus on the long term needs and aspirations of the Afghan people. Such a vision

can be derived at through a participatory approach, once information is made available, data gathered and analyzed for a situation analysis, and options debated in public. It is to this aim that UNDP will launch a long term commitment to support the development of human development policies and indicators, through the production of bi-annual National Human Development Reports. The process will lead to sustained information sharing and advocacy on the human development concept, commissioning of studies on different challenges to development in Afghanistan, and systematically supporting the collection, verification and analysis of data to produce indicators for monitoring progress on human development in the country. This long term commitment will begin with a preparatory and assessment stage through this project.

Conceived as an alternative to purely economic development, the Human Development Concept emphasizes the diversity of human needs, such as income, access to knowledge, better nutrition and health, more secure livelihoods, security, political and cultural freedom and participation in their communities. It promotes people both as the means and the ends of development and puts as ultimate goal the enhancement of their capabilities, such as the ability to reach and write, to lead a long and healthy life, to earn a decent living and to participate in decision makings that affect their lives. The concept denotes both the process of widening people's choices and the level of their achieved well-being and distinguishes between two sides: One is the formation of human capabilities, the other is the use that people make of their acquired capabilities, for work or leisure.

The concept and its measurements are advocated globally through the Human Development Reports produced by UNDP since 1990. Since 1992, National Human Development Reports have also been produced by countries themselves in order to adapt global messages at the national level and to explore priority themes relevant to their countries.. By January 2003, more than 420 Reports have been produced in 130 countries, with some countries producing annual reports since 1995. UNDP supports these nationally-led and nationally-owned documents through cost sharing, guidance and support from a NHDR Unit located at HDRO in New York, trainings, a vibrant electronic Global SURF Network, bi-annual Awards Programmes, and through setting minimum standards for excellence as spelled out by the NHDR Corporate Policy.

The impact of the NHDRs have been:

- Proposing alternative policy recommendations and/or HD development policy options
- Building national capacity to formulate and influence people-centered strategies and solutions
- Enriching data at the national level, including methodologies for data analysis.
- Contributing directly to legislation on a specific theme (i.e., local government reform, civil service, anti-poverty strategies)
- Significantly having an impact on development planning or institutional development; used as basis for debate with external partners
- Serving as a platform for action among the non-governmental and civil society
- Serving for education purposes as textbooks and curriculum.

- Direct impact on UNDP programme areas and policy support
- 'Synergizing between UNDP and other UN agencies'

The concept of Human Development, as an alternative development paradigm that emphasizes on people as both the agents of change and objects of development, is adamantly appropriate for post-conflict Afghanistan. With the country now engaging in a transition from relief to development, from emergency projects to sustainable policies, from short term contingency planning to long term perspectives, human development can be an ideal framework for the development vision of Afghanistan. The opportunity now presents itself to begin the preparation process of NHDRs in Afghanistan, and to ground the principles of the human development concept within national policy processes, such as the National Development Framework and sectoral policies and directives.

### **Development policies**

The goal of the National Development Framework (NDF), drafted in April 2002, is to offer a strategic road map for development in Afghanistan around which all actors can unite to address poverty and reconstruction through a series of concrete projects and programmes. The development strategy identifies three pillars: Pillar 1 includes strategies on the return of refugees, education and training, health and nutrition, livelihoods, social capital and culture, pillar 2 covers the physical reconstruction and natural resources and includes water and sanitation, energy, urban management and natural resources. Pillar 3 outlines steps for the development of the private sector. Cross-cutting issues are security, administrative and financial reform, and gender. A National Development Budget (NDB) (October 2002) is based upon the NDF and aims to reflect the priorities and goals established by the programme secretariats and working groups. Although still in draft form, the National Development Framework serves as de-facto vision for the ministries. The document could not benefit from a data based analysis of the real situation at hand, as data and findings on sectors and provincial trends were not available, gathered and analyzed sufficiently at the time of the preparation of the Framework.

The process of developing a NHDR will contribute to further refining the National Development Framework and the National Development Budget by:

- i. Providing an overall human development vision for Afghanistan and giving direction to the medium to long term development;
- ii. Building consensus on the development priorities of the government by launching policy debates;
- iii. Helping the horizontal integration of sectoral policies as well as the integration of regional needs into an overall human development framework;
- iv. Providing alternative human development visions for overall, sectoral and regional policies based on capabilities, equality, skills development, etc.
- v. Making recommendations for provincial development

## **Data:**

Afghanistan lacks an overall picture of issues that is based on analysis of data and information, and that identifies opportunities that already exist in the country while addressing gaps for early warning mechanisms for preventive measures. A “culture of reality” needs to be implemented, one that prompts policy makers and researchers to plan on the basis of real scientific data and figures, not anecdotes and guesses.

Data available through international organizations and national ones needs to be updated and verified, and gaps analyzed. For sectoral indicators and policies, data by national and international sources is scattered, duplicated and un-coordinated. For provincial data, collection is hampered by center-periphery communication, infrastructure and networking problems, and the overall lack of access to provinces, especially remote ones. The HDI has not been calculated in Afghanistan since 1996 given the unavailability of all needed indicators.

1. Lack of precise population figures: There has been considerable population changes since the last census of 1979, what with 23 years of war and five years of drought leading to death and displacement. Estimates of the population vary between 18 and 25 million, although some agency representatives believe the actual numbers in Afghanistan to be between 14-16 million in reality. The lack of consensus on population figures and migration patterns makes it virtually impossible to calculate percentages of literacy, enrollment, mortality, life expectancy etc. This situation may be remedied in the next few years during which the results of the Census planned for 2004 will be analyzed for Afghanistan.
- 2) Lack of availability of all indicators: Given the lack of data on the 4 indicators needed for the computation of the HDI (GDP per capita (adjusted to PPP), literacy rates, combined first, second and tertiary enrollment and life expectancy, Afghanistan has not been ranked in the global HDRs since 1996. Although literacy, life expectancy and enrollment rates may be able to be derived at using a variety of sources, the most problematic indicators are those of income.
- 3) Difficulties in collection : National institutions (ministries and the Statistical Office) all recognize the logistical difficulties in gathering data from provinces, and villages. Communication and reporting between center and periphery is hampered by lack of roads, communication, networks, knowledge, know-how on surveying, etc. Representatives of these national institutions in the provinces have very little human resources and access to technologies, and cannot properly communicate and align data collection with the center. The remoteness of some parts of the country also make outreach a very difficult task.
- 4) Lack of verification and assessment of Methodologies: Data produced by the National Statistical Office as well as international sources need to be scrutinized by experts for the reliability of the methodologies used. A number of national surveys that were carried out until last year used 29 provinces in Afghanistan,

while the number of provinces has now risen to 32. National surveys have to be aware of unclear boundaries and lack of clarity in accounting for villages.

- 5) Lack of coordination and fragmentation: Ultimately, it is possible to say that information is available on a fair amount of coverage but it is fragmented, and much of it is recycled from second hand sources. Much secondary data can be extracted from the various existing surveys (such as the WFP VAM, the AIMS database, or the UNICEF nutritional surveys, etc) for other indicators, but there is little capacity to analyze the wealth of information already available. Much of baseline data is available but not properly evaluated.

This situation requires an assessment of data available, a verification of various methodologies, identification of gap, and together with the statistics office, agreements on ways and plans to address them. Such efforts will be sustainable if accompanied by a well-designed training and capacity building of the statisticians involved.

### **Capacity for research and policy making**

There are three main issues regarding capacity of ministries and national institutions:

- 1) Functional Capacity: As newly reorganized entities, most ministries suffer from lack of capacity for proper policy making and functioning on a day-to day basis .Some ministries have a lot of technical support and international advisors, others do not have technical capacity.
- 2) Horizontal coordination inter-sectoral and vertical one with the provinces. At the moment, a process of consultation and coordination, and horizontal integration among the ministries for overall policy making may be ad-hoc and issue oriented, while difficulties in linkages between center and periphery, and between national institutions (such as ministries and the Statistical Office) and the districts hampers effective two-way communication on policies and programmes.
- 3) Research and advocacy capacity: remains weak as it has not been a priority of the national community yet. Local NGOs have been mostly involved with relief and implementation work, with few also involved in data collection. Analysis, policy making and advocacy however, have not been developed at this point, although there are a number of new initiatives that have recently started. Among the national initiatives for policy think tanks, one can mention a new Institute for Economic Development and Social Policy which is being set up in January 2003, the other the Research Department under the Vice President for Research Affairs at Kabul University, and AREU, an international research NGO which also engages national and international researchers on specific "action-oriented" research and analysis projects.

The situation requires a strengthening of research and policy making capacities in Afghanistan.

## **IB Strategy**

The strategy of advocacy on human development concepts and indicators in Afghanistan builds on a long term perspective which consists of short, medium and long term inter-

linked and on-going phases for the sustained preparation of National Human Development Reports in Afghanistan.

<b>Phase and Project</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Outputs</b>
<p><b>Phase 1:</b> Advocacy, Assessment of data, and capacity building for data collection and analysis</p>	<p>6 months, February 15-August 30, 2003</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Advocacy and information sharing</li> <li>➤ Assessment of HD data</li> <li>➤ Capacity Building for HD analysis</li> <li>➤ Identification and debating of issues</li> <li>➤ Conferences, seminars, papers reviewing findings on HD themes and indicators</li> <li>➤ Mapping of data availability and reliability in Afghanistan</li> <li>➤ Establishment of baseline HD indicators</li> <li>➤ Identification of data gaps, research institutions, researchers' potentials and themes</li> <li>➤ Preparation of documents and institutional mechanisms for the NHDR</li> </ul>
<p><b>Phase 2:</b> Preparation of NHDR</p>	<p>18 Months, starting with September 2003</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Preparation of National Human Development Report</li> <li>➤ Dissemination</li> <li>➤ Follow-up</li> <li>➤ Eventual HD mapping of Afghanistan</li> <li>➤ On-going capacity building for data users and producers (Central Statistic Office, academic institutions, policy think-tanks, etc)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Phase 3:</b> Sustained follow-up, review of impact on policies and data collection and nationalization of HD policies</p>	<p>Ten year perspective, starting with January 2005</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Preparation of bi-annual NHDRs</li> <li>➤ Reviews of policy impacts</li> <li>➤ Institutionalization of NHDR preparation team, networks, university courses, ministry structures, etc.</li> <li>➤ Capacity tested for data users and producers (statistical office, academic institutions, policy think-tanks, etc)</li> <li>➤ Assessment of progress made on indicators</li> </ul>

Phase 1, which consists of the Advocacy and Capacity Assessment stages will evolve around defining the roadmap for the production of a participatory, inclusive and transparent process for the preparations for an eventual National Human Development Reporting process with two goals in mind: 1) to improve and inform policy making in Afghanistan, and 2) to support Afghanistan' capacity for development and collection of social and economic statistics.

This will require focus on

- i) Testing out available resources (human, data, institutions, research) to identify partners and gaps in capacity, data gaps as well as lay out a strategy to address these,
- ii) Collecting existing data, establishing a resource center/library, and translating of essential literature and information,
- iii) Establishing linkages with UNDP's extensive NHDR network which can support the process through exchanges of information on the preparation of first time NHDRs in environments of limited data.

Concretely, the strategy relies on:

- Identifying and training of people on concepts and measurements of Human Development
- Collaborating with national and international institutions on data collection and analysis
- Commissioning of brief papers on theme areas with the following in mind: a) Assessment of research capacities, b) identification of main human development issues, c) identification of gaps for research and policy. The theme areas could be: income poverty and "human poverty", rural/urban gaps, gender, environmental issues, labor market, impact of war on economy, agriculture, drugs, social welfare, health and education sectors (situation, expenditures and policies, etc).
- Commissioning of brief papers on HD indicators, including but not limited to: population, health, life expectancy, literacy enrollment rates, income and gender at the national and provincial levels, etc.
- Definition of a framework for the NHDR at the end of the initial period.
- Identification of the purpose and audience of an eventual report.
- Preparation of a project document and establishment of institutional mechanisms.

## **Data**

UNDP's Global Network of NHDRs includes many examples of the preparation of NHDRs in environments of limited data availability. These include Kosovo, Bosnia, Sudan and East Timor to name a few. The Project will tap into the knowledge of NHDR teams from other regions to help find proxy indicators.

Through the project, preliminary groundwork would be carried out to collect data from all sources, verify methodologies used, identify gaps and commission papers, agree on a

common framework for the collection and disaggregation of HD indicators, integrate the necessary questions into planned surveys, and design pilot sample surveys for selected indicators to be implemented in subsequent phases.

Sources for data for a potential NHDR are in the following institutions, with which the Project will begin collaboration in the first stage:

1) *The Central Statistic Office:*

As the responsible arm of the government, the Office has an important role in verifying, "owning" and promoting HD statistics. The Central Statistic Office was virtually inoperative for the past decade and is now refurbishing its structure, and engaging in a pre-census in preparation for the Census of 2004. Data is currently provided to the Central Statistic Office through a) Regional offices, which are in dire need of capacity, human resources and equipment, b) ministries and their local branches, and c) International Organizations, the data of which they first vet against their own methodology. The Office, in the meantime, will be an important pillar in the NHDR programme and will house a cell of the Project, where an international consultant will work with data producers on training, verification, etc.

2) Census: The Central Statistic Office is involved in the preparation of a pre-census (focusing on population numbers) for a National Census which is to start in time for the elections (2004). The last census for in 1979 and the results were not analyzed thoroughly. All estimates henceforth are made on the basis of the data of that census, calculated forward for today's numbers. This year, supported by UNFPA, the newly refurbished Central Statistic Office (under the President's Office) is launching a pre-Census to gather population data on households and will begin preparations of the main Census which is to be completed by March 2004, in time for the elections. The pre-census should provide useful estimates for several HD indicators if the survey is sufficiently nationally representative. The complexity in the Afghanistan census will be in collecting and verifying the data, which, given the mobility of the population, will have to be completed quickly. UNFPA estimated that the analysis of results will not be ready in the next five years, although there is no reason to think that the analysis should be difficult, and preliminary tables should be available six months or so afterwards. The Project will work with the Central Statistic Office to ensure that indicators needed for the HDR and NHDR can be included in the pre-census and Census.

3) Data from Ministries: Most HD indicators (such as health or education or women's empowerment) are produced by ministries, often for the UN or other development agency requirements, and gathered from their representatives in the provinces. This information is fed into the Central Statistical Office and also used for their own monitoring and evaluation. Here again, however, data collection is hampered by lack of connectivity with the regions. The NHDR team will work closely with focal points within all relevant ministries.

- 4) Data from International Agencies: The website of international agencies (UNDP, WB, UNICEF, UNESCO, UNOCHA, UNFPA, UNEP, and others ) contains some data on Afghanistan, which can be used together with the surveys and studies available in their representative offices in Kabul (Many of them were collected and filed during this mission). The data needs careful scrutiny for duplication, verification and assessment. The Project will collaborate closely with the representative offices in Afghanistan.
- 5) Data base of AIMS: With an online database at [www.aims.org.pk](http://www.aims.org.pk), AIMS acts as a gateway for the 8 UNAMA areas of responsibility for Afghanistan to manage, update and distribute information. It has access to many of the surveys and reports carried out by international agencies. Furthermore, it has attempted a GIS mapping of the 32 provinces and 329 District Administrative Boundaries, in coordination with the Central Statistical Office. The AIMS database, because it is available beyond the UN system to national bodies and interested individuals, can play a crucial role in filling the gap of lack of coordinator and fragmentation of data availability. As an interim step in developing national capacity, the AIMS database could consider incorporating a discussion page for each of the main HD indicators. Each discussion page could a) provide a simple non-technical explanation of what the indicator means and how it should be understood, b) identify the definitive source for this statistic and its availability in Afghanistan, c) where this sources does not currently exist, list current estimates that are being used by various organizations and their sources, indicting the most reliable (using statistical tests of reliability where appropriate), and d) list and evaluate survey sources from which national estimates could be derived. This could provide a useful resource for wide number of users in Government, UN agencies and other development agencies; canvas inputs and discussions from the many interested parties and organizations that are now conducting surveys of some sort; encourage information sharing about data and methodology and help substantiate a dynamic and used Common UN Database.
- 6) Govt. Expenditures: For expenditures on health and education and other sectors, the project will work with the AACA and the Ministry of Finance which have designed the National Development Budget adopted in October 2002.
- 7) Sample Surveys and Field Work: The potential NHDR Team will find it more efficient to tap into the plethora of existing and planned surveys and administrative sources to ensure that all necessary data is collected and that these surveys are fully analyzed, instead of conducting its own large scale surveys which can be expensive and time consuming. The Project will carry out the following activities:
  - a. Assessing available surveys for extraction of new data: These include the WFP/FAO Vulnerability Assessment Mapping which is available for a few years back, crop and food supply assessments of WFP and FAO, livelihood surveys initiated by AREU, etc.

- b. *Including desired indicators for the compilation of HDI at the national and provincial level into household surveys being currently planned and designed.* This would involve a concentration on proxy indicators for income in planned surveys, which include:
- i. The Area-Based data collection initiatives supported by UNDP with the MRRD, which is planning a system of collection of data on selected agreed indicators for their planning, monitoring and evaluation purposes. (Discuss with Peter Robertson)
  - ii. UNICEF's MIX (Multiple Indicators Survey) of 32 provinces which is a household survey from which figures on nutrition, education, infant and maternal mortality and literacy could be drawn. The Survey design begins in February and is expected to yield results in May.
  - iii. On-going efforts of WFP to conduct field survey on livelihoods and vulnerability assessment
  - iv. World Bank's plans for carrying out basic labor market surveys to (a) inform the debate about civil service pay and (b) understand a bit more about the profile of civil servants to understand the implications of a pension reforms. The ongoing IDA-funded Education project is planning a TA to conduct a LSMS-type household survey to get basic data on the demand-side indicators of education. The same is being planned for the Health project (which will also be IDA funded).
- c. *Designing and conducting pilot surveys and sample surveys.* Once data gaps are identified, there may be a need to design specialized surveys may be necessary in order to sufficiently address selected HD themes. In these cases, sample surveys can be designed.

- 7) Opinion Polls: Finally, the project will also identify methodologies for the potential focus group studies, opinion polls and live voices, and identify and work with research and data collection NGOs, such as AREU and other national NGOs.

While the nation-wide census since 1979 is being planned for 2004, the project will lay the groundwork for calculating Human Development Index for Afghanistan, disaggregated for the first time by provinces.

Through the project, preliminary preparation will be carried out:

- 1 To build on the existing databases of AIMS, AKBAR and ERIC among others to draw a map of existing HD indicators at the regional and national level
- 2 To attempt to calculate the HDI, GDI and HPI-1 for Afghanistan according to the 3 global components (Life Expectancy, Literacy/primary, secondary, tertiary combined enrollment, and GDP per capita (adjusted PPP)

- 3 To attempt to use other proxies to calculate a more relevant/feasible HDI, HPI and GDI for Afghanistan, using other components, but with the same methodology of maximum/minimum ranges for each component (Using, for example, under-5 infant mortality, maternal mortality, primary enrollment only, secondary school/tertiary enrolment, % of population with access to health services, etc., and instead of the GDP per capita, household income, household expenditures, unemployment rate, incidence of income poverty, the daily caloric intake etc). The key decision is to decide by what indices to calculate indications of: a) Access to a long and healthy life, b) Access to knowledge, c) Access to a decent standard of living). Recent examples of proxies for the HDI can be provided from Bosnia, Kosovo, East Timor, etc.
- 4 To attempt to disaggregated the HDI (using whatever proxies deemed necessary, but using a standard methodology) by province For the disaggregated HDI for Afghanistan, examples can be used from: Brazil, China, Colombia, Egypt, India, Kazakhstan, Nigeria, Poland, Russia, South Africa, Turkey, Iran, etc.
- 5 To come up with a list of Human Development Indicators possible and desirable for Afghanistan, in addition to the composite HDI.
- 6 To decide on a common framework (with the SCO relevant international and national agencies involved in data production) for the collection, assessment and disaggregation of human development indicators.

Calculation of the HDI for Afghanistan will allow it to

Short term:

- See whether the components are available or which proxies are more relevant for Afghanistan
- Show its position vis-à-vis neighbors
- Create a baseline against which progress could be mapped and evaluated, inequalities monitored
- Demonstrate the impact of conflict on people's well-being: economy, health, education
- Each component will provide a picture of the situation in that sector

Medium to long term:

- Disaggregated by district, urban/rural, male/female, ethnic group the Index can show the disparities between the groups
- To eventually target priorities for policy interventions
- For the civil society to understand and to use as a lobbying tool, especially at the district levels.
- To eventually be used by local communities for participatory planning and holding representatives accountable

**Capacity building for National Institutions**

The project can initiate the process that will lead to finding answers to some of the many needs for capacity of national intuitions through:

- a. Training on human development for policy makers and researchers;
- b. Participatory identification of issues;

- c. National debate on issues and solutions;
- d. Developing analytical skills;
- e. Provide linkages between data, analysis and policy;

The capacity needs of all ministries and national institutions are crucial at this point, and were identified as a key priority for the involvement of institutions in the NHDR process by all those consulted. At the moment, the needs are a) Functional capacity, b) Data availability, c) Human resources with technical capacity and expertise, d) Communication and connectivity with the outside world and especially with the provinces, e) Information on global experiences, and data and f) Analytical skills. Selected capacity problems can be targeted through the NHDR process. For example:

- Seminars, Annual Conferences and frequent short workshops.
- Development of Expertise by bringing short term international experts for advice and training to update the knowledge of national experts.
- Matching researchers with experience (from the diasporas and from NGOs) to work with national researchers from the Universities.
- Streamlining of the NHDR process with the on-going initiatives to organize national Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Units and mechanisms being set up in the Ministries, and supported by International Organizations (UNDP on area-based, WFP on vulnerability, UNESCO on education, etc).
- For the staff of ministries, compensation through training, and involvement in data collection from regions, and at the brainstorming level for policy recommendations.
- Study Abroad: Sending the NHDR team to other countries for training
- And Trainings on: Overall HD issues; Thematic analysis for economists, social scientists, demographers, political scientists; Data collection, surveying, field work, opinion polling; Analysis on sectoral issues; Field work; Public policy; Terminologies and experiences of other countries; Preparation of Reports, including style of writing and presentation; PR campaigns and advocacy with NGOs and the media

Modalities for the capacity building will include:

*For the ministries:*

- Appointment of Focal Points on HD within ministries as well as other specialists to the Friends of NHDR Circle
- Participation of these into trainings, workshops and seminars
- Specialists within the ministries to collaborate on research papers on indicators and on theme areas

*For the University of Kabul and the Academy of Sciences*

- Creation of a Resource Center within the University open to all interested as a central point for information gathering, analysis and dissemination
- Appointment of a number of Professors and Researchers to the Friends of NHDR Circle

- Participation of researchers in trainings, conferences, lecture series
- Commissioning of papers on indicators and on theme areas
- Support to the preparation of brochures and publications, as well as to the translation of NHDRs/HDRs

*For National Research NGOs*

- Collaboration with national research institutes (such as the Afghan Institute for Economic Development) on research, coordination of research, publications, seminars and training.
- Involvement of researchers in preparation of papers
- Organization of regular seminars, lectures on HD by researchers
- Strengthening research capacities of national institutions
- Selection of Core Team for the NHDR for Phase 2 from among researchers identified in Phase 1

*For the Central Statistic Office*

- Secondment of a international advisor on statistics to the Central Statistic Office to work with national data producers (from the CSO and the ministries) to assess availability, reliability and methodology of data for the HDI indicators.
- Appointment of up to 5 members of the CSO staff to the Friends of NHDR Circle
- Training on indicators
- Involvement in the preparation of a papers and research on HD indicators
- Support to the verification of data and mapping of what is available where nationwide.
- Identification of a common framework on HD Indicators, collection and disaggregation
- Inclusion of HD indicator questions in on-going surveys (including the Census)
- Design of sample surveys for missing indicators.

**Beneficiaries:**

The primary beneficiaries of the project will be:

- National Policy planners and policy makers (the network of the friends of NHDR, focal points at the ministries, NGOs and UN agencies, a team of statisticians at the CSO and members of academia) through training, sharing of information, conducting research and exchange of views.
- Research Institutions, both national and international, public and private, will benefit from the resources and information made available through the project. A bi-product of the project will be institutional building and the strengthening of national research institutions.

- Civil society organizations, the government of Afghanistan and the assistance community, including the UN, International Organizations and donors, that can use the initial research undertaken and benefit from the clarification of the data situation in Afghanistan.
- UNDP will use the substantive findings of the project for the preparation of its CCA and for a guideline for its country level programming.

### **Strategy for Use of UNDP resources**

The project will establish a significant and long-term engagement with the Central Statistical Office, academia, research institutions and relevant government ministries to enhance analytical and policy making capacities, which will be sustained through realization of a nationally-led, transparent and participatory process to the production of NHDRs in Afghanistan.

This project is for an initial six months period, after which an 18 month project will be implemented within the framework of a long term strategy. UNDP will commit funds to this initial six months, with plans to raise additional and allocated further funds for subsequent stages.

UNDP's Business Plan, presented to the Executive Board in January 2000, confirms the status of the NHDRs as major pillars of the programme's analytical and policy work. As such, UNDP's Corporate Policy reinforces its commitment to the NHDRs and advocacy tools in the organization's field operations.

### **Special Consideration**

As a first stage towards the preparation of an eventual NHDR and the long term commitment of UNDP and the Government of Afghanistan in promoting the concept of Human Development and gathering and analyzing HD indicators, this first phase project should ensure continuity for the feasibility of Phases 2 and 3.

- **Outputs:** The implementation of the project by itself is also an end, whereas by the termination of the six month project, a number of substantial papers would have been produced, data assessed and gaps identified, data producers and users as well as other experts trained, networking between various institutions leading to the creation of an informal "Friends of NHDR" circle, researchers and policy makers able to exchange views in a nation-wide conference, and a resource center set up.
- **Independence:** All efforts have to be made to maintain the national and independent character of the project. To this end, a temporary office, a preliminary resource center with a library, conference facilities and equipment should be located outside of UNDP and of the government structures: The University of Kabul can be considered as an ideal neutral place for the

placement of the Resource Center for the duration of the Project, with the institutionalization decided upon by the end of the Project.

- **Management:** It is also necessary to maintain the independence of the Project from the management structures of the University. For Phase 1, UNDP will manage this project through DEX modality, but in close cooperation with the Government, through the HD Champion.
- **Institutionalization:** Institutionalization of the Team, of the "Friends of NHDR" circle, of the Resource Center, or any research bodies interested in carrying out or partnering in the carrying out of the NHDR project in the future can be proposed by the end of the project. National Research Institutes can participate in a tender for the production of the NHDR in Phase 2.
- **National continuity:** All knowledge acquired within this project should be designed in a way to be carried forth by the Afghan community. This means emphasis on translation of materials, pairing of international with national researchers, training for trainers, etc.
- **Participatory and consultative:** To ensure the involvement and regular consultations with line ministries, provincial representatives, researchers and policy makers from the beginning to ensure a national ownership of the findings, and their agreements on implementation of decisions. Furthermore, country-wide involvement should be sought at all stages through the involvement of decision makers from all provinces (governors, line ministries and NGOs) for national ownership
- **Global NHDR Network:** The experiences of NHDR teams from other regions should be tapped into regularly through exchanges through the Global SURF HDR Network, bilateral communication, visits, mentoring etc.
- **Partnerships:** The Project should build alliances and partnership with the ongoing efforts of international and national institutions. Specifically, modalities of collaboration should be sought with the World Bank in the assessment of the poverty situation in the country, with UNESCO, UNICEF and WHO on health and education and WFP on vulnerabilities.
- **Timeline:** All efforts should be made to carry out the project within six months. A delay in the implementation of the Phase 1 will inevitably delay the preparation and hence publication of the NHDR planned for 24 months from the beginning of Phase 1. The Conference organized at the end of the Project will assess where the NHDR preparation project stands, which activities were not carried out, and make the necessary adjustments during the design of Phase 2.

## II Results framework

<p><b>Intended Outcome:</b> (i) Improved and informed human development analysis policy making in Afghanistan, (ii) improved capacity for collection and assessment of social and economic statistics, (iii) improved networking and information sharing among researchers and policy makers.</p>
<p><b>Outcome indicator:</b> (i) Awareness among national and provincial policy makers and researchers on the concept of human development, (ii) Clearer identification and assessment of the availability and reliability of data, (iii) assessment of human development issues in Afghanistan, (iv) identification of individuals and institutions able to carry forth sustainable advocacy for human development through the preparation of NHDRs, (v) capacity for networking, research and analysis enhanced.</p>
<p><b>Applicable Strategic Area of Support ((SAS) from UNDP Strategic Results Framework) and TTF Service Line (if applicable):</b> Sub-goal 4 ( ), Goal (Economic and social policies and strategies focused on the reduction of poverty)</p>
<p><b>Partnership Strategy:</b> analysis of the prevailing situation through a participatory, transparent and credible process requires close collaboration with relevant ministries, universities, research institutions, individual researchers, civil society institutions, UN agencies and NGOs. While the government of Afghanistan is the major audience of the findings and recommendations of the report, effective follow-up clearly requires strong partnership with all the actors mentioned before. Capacity enhancement and training will also address the needs of researchers, data producers and Central Statistics Office.</p>

<b>Project title and number: Human Development Research and Capacity Building</b>			
<b>Intended Output</b>	<b>Output Targets</b>	<b>Indicative Activities</b>	<b>Inputs</b>
<p>Improve and inform policy making Advocacy and information shared</p>	<p>Data and Information collected, translated, disseminated</p> <p>Temporary Human Development Resource Centre Established</p>	<p>Collection of Literature on HD (NHDRs, HD articles and on Afghanistan) through the Internet and from national and international organizations in Afghanistan.</p>	<p>National Coordinator, backed by UNDP. Internet.</p>
		<p>Collection of literature on HD and NHDRs from other countries/languages (Iran, Pakistan, etc)</p>	<p>National Coordinator, supported by UNDP.</p>
		<p>Translation, publication and dissemination of selected parts of HDRs and up to 4 NHDRs into local languages (Dari and Pashtun);</p>	<p>Team of translators organized by the National Coordinator</p>
		<p>Publish brief brochure on HD, and NHDRs in Dari and Pashtun (concepts, indicators, reports); Identify location for the Resource Center, conduct renovations if needed</p>	<p>National Coordinator and local specialists for production National Coordinator in consultation with UNDP and HDR Champion</p>

Intended Output	Output Targets	Indicative Activities	Inputs	
		Acquire, buy appropriate books, equipment	National Coordinator, Support Staff and Focal Point	
		Inauguration of HD Resource Centre	National Coordinator and UNDP	
	Network of Friends of NHDR established	Identify people from ministries CSO, NGOs and University, creation of the "Friends of NHDR" Circle, provide information on HD	National Coordinator	
		Organization of half day seminars on presentation of HD, HDI, HDRs for national and international partners. Organization of regular workshops and weekly discussions among the "Friends of NHDR" Circle.	National Coordinator with national consultants, members of the Friends of NHDR Circle.	
		Organization of Lectures through the university	Local specialists	
		Dissemination of HD concepts through media	NC/ FP With journalists	

<b>Intended Output</b>	<b>Output Targets</b>	<b>Indicative Activities</b>	<b>Inputs</b>
Data Updating and Assessment of possibility to calculate the HDI, GDI, GEM and HPI for Afghanistan at the national and district levels.	Available data is gathered and verified	Gather all studies on data available on Afghanistan through websites and meetings with SCO, International agencies, etc.	National Coordinator with National Statistical consultant.
		Verification of Methodologies used for data collection and analysis with SCO	International Statistics Consultant, with SCO and the national statistical consultant (counterpart)
		Identify gaps in human development indicators;	International Statistics Consultant, SCO, counterpart
	Data producers trained on HD indicators	Provide training on data collection and analysis to the Central Statistical Office and local consultants (Core Statistical Team);	International Consultant
		Districts of Afghanistan mapped for availability of data, and needs identified. A mapping exercise carried out to assess who is doing what where, and what surveys, data and analysis is available;	International Consultant, Counterpart, SCO

<b>Intended Output</b>	<b>Output Targets</b>	<b>Indicative Activities</b>	<b>Inputs</b>	
	Agreed framework produced for HD data collection	Together with the Core Statistical Team, design set of HD indicators needed for Afghanistan;	International Consultant and Counterpart	
		Common Framework created for collection of HD indicators and discussed with International and National data producing agencies in Afghanistan;	International Consultant, SCO and counterpart	
		Inclusion of HD indicators in on-going, and planned surveys, including the Census.	International Consultant, counterpart, National Coordinator and SCO	
		Design of new pilot surveys and recruit survey teams and test on pilot;	International Consultant, Counterpart, CSO	
Dissemination of updated information on availability of data		Commissioning of Papers on key indicators, editing and publication/dissemination;	National Coordinator, International Consultant and national statistical counterpart	
		Conference organized on HD data and indicators;	National Coordinator, international consultant and SCO team.	

<b>Intended Output</b>	<b>Output Targets</b>	<b>Indicative Activities</b>	<b>Inputs</b>	
Capacity Building of research and analytical skills through training on human development concept and thematic frameworks	Training organized for potential members of an NHDR	<p>5 day training on HD issues for 20 people to cover topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) HD concept</li> <li>b) Messages of Reports</li> <li>c) Indicators</li> <li>d) Theme Areas</li> <li>e) Design of research, methodology</li> </ul> <p>Training to be conducted by International Consultant in cooperation with National researchers/experts chosen for the purpose through a transparent system. Representatives of other countries will share experiences on their NHDR processes.</p>	International Consultant, National Coordinator, national trainers, NHDR Focal Points/National Coordinators from other countries	

<b>Intended Output</b>	<b>Output Targets</b>	<b>Indicative Activities</b>	<b>Inputs</b>	
Identification and debating issues	Series of HD research papers commissioned for 3 purposes: a) to analyse current trends available on thematic areas, b) identification through the process of researchers and specialists on HD and theme areas, and c) identification of potential themes for the NHDR.	Identify relevant themes, design TOR for the HD Papers and recruit researchers through tender process. Example on: Gender, poverty, state building, drugs, traditional and modern systems of governance, labour market, social/economic/demographic impact of war, migration, demography, health care (expenditures, trends, policies), education reform, urban/rural development, ethnicity, etc.	International consultant, National Coordinator, NC and local researchers, HD Champion, Friends of NHDR Circle	3 <sup>rd</sup> week of May
		Preparation of thematic Papers	National Experts	June-July
		Edit the papers for dissemination in a HD series collection;	International Consultant and National Coordinator	End of July
		Biweekly thematic HD lecture series organized at the Resource Centre. Lectures to be given through national and international lecturers/consultants.	National Coordinator, Local researchers	June - ongoing

<b>Intended Output</b>	<b>Output Targets</b>	<b>Indicative Activities</b>	<b>Inputs</b>	
Summarizing findings/assessments and planning for the next phase.	Conference organized	<p>Organization of a large 2 day national conference on Human Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Presentation of Papers on issues and indicators</li> <li>b) Working Groups on theme areas</li> <li>c) Brainstorming on NHDR</li> <li>d) Discussions on the overall theme proposals for the NHDR</li> </ul>	<p>Conference prepared and moderated by National Coordinator and International Consultant with back-up support from UNDP. Participants include local researches, Friends of NHDR Circle, policy makers, representatives from districts, etc.</p>	1 <sup>st</sup> week of August
	Concept Paper drawn	<p>Preparation of a Concept Paper to draw out plans for the NHDR, including: Possible Themes, institutional mechanisms, timeline, dissemination and possible impact.</p>	<p>National Coordinator and International Consultant, in consultation with Govt, the HD Champion, UNDP, researchers, Friends of NHDR Circle and International Organizations.</p>	3 <sup>rd</sup> week of August

<b>Intended Output</b>	<b>Output Targets</b>	<b>Indicative Activities</b>	<b>Inputs</b>	
Preparation of a proposal for a NHDR, design of institutional and advisory mechanisms.	Design of a full project document and proposed mechanisms.	Design of a Prodoc, setting up of the steering committee and approval of Prodoc; Agreement on the institutional arrangement for the project; Agreement on procedures for the recruitment of Lead author/s, team of researchers, etc Identification/Recruitment of author/s Identification and recruitment of Core team Design of Work Plan	National Coordinator and International Consultant, in consultation with the Govt, the HD Champion, UNDP, researchers, Friends of NHDR Circle, and international organizations.	4 <sup>th</sup> week of August September
	Fundraising carried out with donors for next phase.	Presentation to donors of papers and proposals for the NHDR in Afghanistan for fundraising	UNDP	September