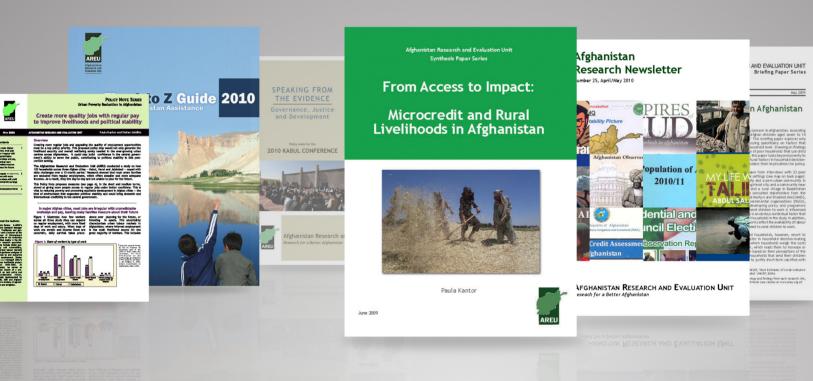
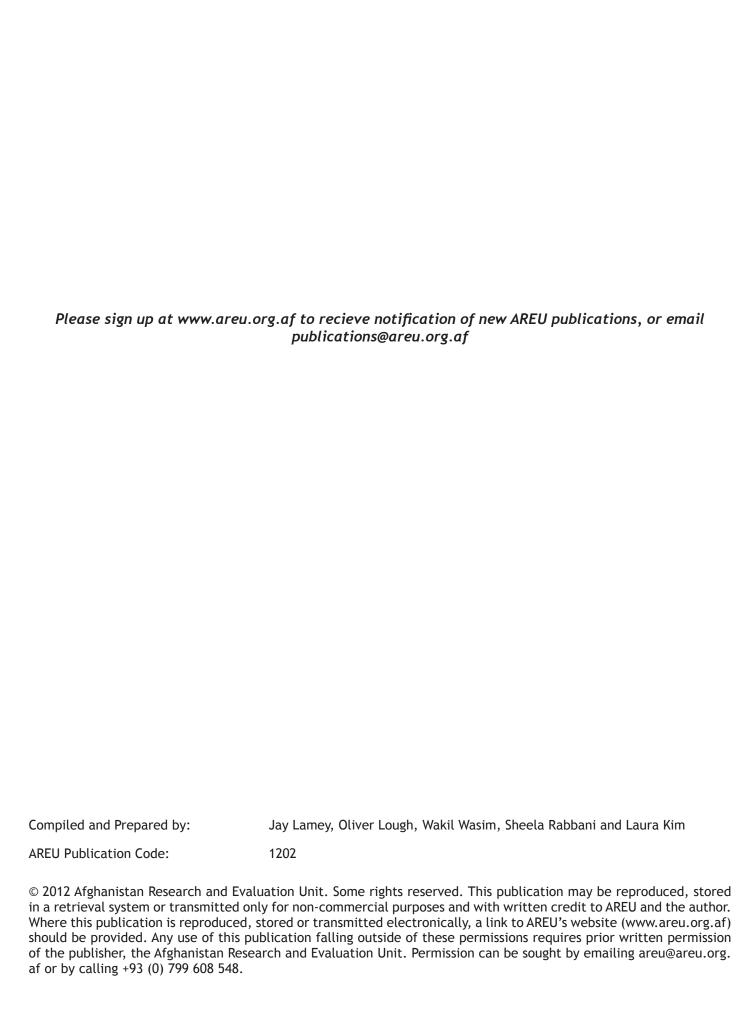


# Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit

Publication Catalogue, 2001-2011





# **About this Catalogue**

Greetings and welcome to this catalogue of the Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit's publications from 2001 to 2011. Our organisation was created to inform decision-makers working to promote peace and development in Afghanistan with in-depth, on-the-ground evidence and analysis.

AREU published its first report in December 2001: a review of the Strategic Framework for Afghanistan, (a pre-9/11 blueprint for the international community's engagement with the country). As AREU expanded to become an influential research organisation, so to did the scope and depth of its research. Often lasting several years, our studies have helped highlight the realities of Afghan lives, understand the local bases of deep-rooted institutional practices, and assess the impact of development strategies, structures and programmes. Our respondents have ranged from subsistence farmers in mountainous Badakhshan to schoolchildren in Kandahar and national policymakers in Kabul. Almost a decade on, AREU remains committed to conducting high-quality research that aims to inform policy and practice in Afghanistan, with the ultimate goal of improving the lives of its citizens.

As we continue to move forward, this catalogue provides a timely opportunity to consider all that has been achieved thus far. It provides detailed descriptions of AREU publications released until the end of 2011, with links to electronic copies on AREU's website. By grouping publications chronologically and according to the research topics that have anchored them, it provides a snapshot of how different threads of research have developed over time and of how they relate to each other. The catalogue is a "live" document, updated every six months.

This is also the perfect opportunity to thank everyone who has been involved in making AREU what it is today: researchers, respondents, support staff, donors, and of course, all those who have read or appreciated the work AREU has done.

# About the Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit

The Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit (AREU) is an independent research institute based in Kabul. AREU's mission is to inform and influence policy and practice through conducting high-quality, policyrelevant research and actively disseminating the results, and to promote a culture of research and learning. To achieve its mission AREU engages with policymakers, civil society, researchers and students to promote their use of AREU's research and its library, to strengthen their research capacity, and to create opportunities for analysis, reflection and debate.

AREU was established in 2002 by the assistance community working in Afghanistan and has a board of directors with representation from donors, the United Nations and other multilateral agencies, and nongovernmental organisations. AREU currently receives core funds from the governments of Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland. Specific projects in 2011 have been funded by the European Commission (EC), the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the Humanitarian Aid Department of the European Commission (ECHO), the UK Department for International Development (DFID), and UN Women.

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# **AREU Paper Types**

#### Afghanistan Research Newsletter

AREU's Afghanistan Research Newsletter, published quarterly, provides an update on current research on Afghanistan being undertaken by government ministries, NGOs, UN agencies and other research organisations. The newsletter also includes an update on publications recently received by the AREU Library. Some or all content is translated and published simultaneously in Dari and Pashto, along with unique material prepared in those languages.

#### **Briefs**

Briefs are short papers based on emerging research that are often released in response to rapidly-changing situations such as elections. They are often translated into Dari and Pashto.

#### **Briefing Papers**

Briefing Papers are shorter publications designed to engage a broad audience and to shape and inform policy debate. They are often drawn from longer research projects but can also be based on stand-alone research. They are normally translated into Dari and Pashto.

#### **Case Studies**

Case Studies represent the building blocks of AREU's longer-term research projects. They focus on specific geographic issues (e.g. land relations in Bamiyan Province or gender and decision-making in Samangan) or programming areas (e.g. wheat seed programming, water management at the village level) and include policy and programme recommendations where appropriate. The findings from Case Studies are often later drawn together in Synthesis Papers or Briefing Papers.

#### **Discussion Papers**

Discussion papers are aimed at disseminating ideas to provoke debate on major developing issues such as elections, corruption or transitional justice. They are often translated into Dari and Pashto.

#### **Issues Papers**

Issues Papers are longer papers that provide in-depth analysis of a particular issue. They are based on literature reviews, interviews with those who have first-hand knowledge of the topic, and sometimes lengthy qualitative or quantitative research projects. Issues Papers or summaries of them are usually translated into Dari and Pashto.

#### **Policy Notes**

Policy Notes focus on disseminating policy recommendations drawn from Synthesis Papers or ongoing research projects in Dari, Pashto and English. They are four-page documents that highlight one major theme, providing relevant background, key findings and specific policy prescriptions.

#### **Synthesis Papers**

Synthesis Papers draw together the findings and recommendations of AREU's long-term research projects. They focus on the key themes and policy and programming implications emerging from case studies and field research. Synthesis Papers or summaries of them are usually translated into Dari and Pashto.

#### **Working Papers**

Working Papers focus on key topics that complement AREU's longer-term research projects. They may be used to disseminate initial research findings during an early stage in a project or contribute to overarching research themes. Working Papers often inform the development of AREU's research programme and highlight important issues for future research.

# AREU Publications 2001-2011

#### Review of the Strategic Framework for Afghanistan

Pub 101 (E)



December 2001, Issues Paper, 64 pages Topic: Aid Effectiveness and Coordination

Author(s): Mark Duffield, Patricia Gossman, Nicholas Leader

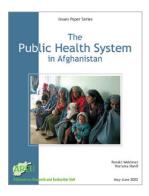
Released soon after September 11 2001, this report explored the nature of the international community's engagement with Afghanistan and how political, assistance and human rights objectives should interconnect in the wake of 9/11.

#### The Public Health System in Afghanistan

Pub 201 (E)

درى :Also in

2002



June 2002, Issues Paper, 64 pages

Topic: Health

Author(s): Ronald Waldman, Homaira Hanif

Afghanistan's health system was in a state of near-total disrepair in 2002. This Briefing Paper outlines the major issues facing the public health sector, discusses the roles of government, United Nations agencies, donors, and non-governmental organisations, and makes recommendations for how some of the more pressing problems might be resolved.

# Strategic Coordination in Afghanistan

Pub 204 (E)

درى :Also in



August 2002, Issues Paper, 79 pages

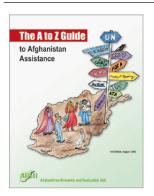
Topic: Aid Effectiveness and Coordination

Author(s): Nicholas Stockton

Based on consultations held with 70 people from the United Nations, aid donor countries, the Afghanistan Interim Administration, ISAF, Coalition Joint Civil-Military Operations Task Force, and nongovernmental organisations, this study identifies the issues related to strategic coordination and calls for a rigorous examination of the international assistance effort's effectiveness and impact, intended or otherwise.

#### A to Z Guide to Afghanistan Assistance First Edition

Pub 205 (E)



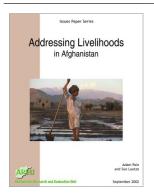
August 2002, Book, 180 pages

Topic: A to Z Guide Author(s): AREU

The first edition of AREU's flagship publication: a guide to the terms, structures, mechanisms and coordinating bodies critical to the Afghanistan relief effort. It aims to ensure a shared vocabulary and common understanding of the forces at play in the country. In addition to a glossary of terms and organograms of key assistance structures, the guide includes maps and a contacts directory to make it easier to communicate with assistance actors working on the ground. A "live document," the guide is updated and published annually.

#### Addressing Livelihoods in Afghanistan

Pub 206 (E)

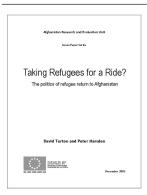


September 2002, Issues Paper, 63 pages Topic: Rural Livelihoods Monitoring Author(s): Adam Pain, Sue Lautze

This study examines the factors influencing Afghan livelihoods in order to ensure that national and international efforts contribute positively to the protection, development and preservation of livelihoods in Afghanistan. It also argues that DFID's Sustainable Livelihoods Framework, although not without flaws, is essential in providing a mechanism by which inter-linkages among nutrition, food security, health, education and household objectives and achievements can be analysed and addressed.

#### Taking Refugees For a Ride? The Politics of Refugee Return in Afghanistan

Pub 208 (E)



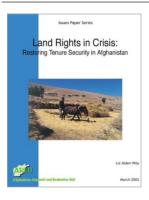
December 2002, Issues Paper, 70 pages Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks Author(s): David Turton, Peter Marsden

Between March and September 2002, approximately 1.7 million refugees are estimated to have returned to Afghanistan in the largest and most rapid assisted return movement to have been organised by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) since 1972. This paper charts the course of the assisted repatriation programme, discusses its consequences for those who repatriated, those who did not, and for the pace of reconstruction in Afghanistan, and asks whether it should—and could—have been managed differently.

# Land Rights in Crisis: Restoring Tenure Security in Afghanistan

Pub 302 (E)

دری :Also in



March 2003, Issues Paper, 146 pages Topic: Land Rights and Relations

Author(s): Liz Alden Wily

Land tenure—the holding and transacting of land—has been peripheral in Afghanistan's planning agenda. By failing to recognise the centrality of land rights to the peace and reconstruction process and by failing to provide the new Afghan Transitional Authority with valuable lessons learned from experience in other contexts, the aid community has tended to reinforce the perception that land ownership problems are too complex, bewildering or sensitive to address.

#### Land and the Constitution: Current Land Issues in Afghanistan

Pub 303 (E)



August 2003, Brief, 12 pages Topic: Land Rights and Relations Author(s): Liz Alden Wilv

This paper contains an overview of land tenure issues in Afghanistan in 2003, suggestions for moving forward on policy and legal issues, and detailed suggestions for two articles on land to be incorporated in the new Afghan constitution.

2003

# One Hundred Households in Kabul: A Study of Winter Vulnerability, Coping Strategies, and the Impact of Cash-for-Work Programmes on the Lives of the "Vulnerable"

Pub 304 (E)

دری: Also in



August 2003, Case Study, 48 pages

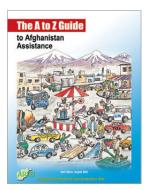
Topic: Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability

Author(s): Jo Grace

This study explores what winter vulnerability means in an urban context, which types of people are vulnerable to the threats of winter, and how cash-for-work interventions address the needs of those susceptible to these threats, in order to assess the usefulness of these types of projects and determine whether other types of interventions may be more useful in the future.

#### A to Z Guide to Afghanistan Assistance Second Edition

Pub 305 (E)



August 2003, Book, 227 pages

Topic: A to Z Guide Author(s): AREU

The second edition of AREU's flagship publication: a guide to the terms, structures, mechanisms, and coordinating bodies critical to the Afghanistan relief effort. It aims to ensure a shared vocabulary and common understanding of the forces at play in the country. In addition to a glossary of terms and organograms of key assistance structures, the guide includes maps and a contacts directory to make it easier to communicate with assistance actors working on the ground. A "live document," the guide is updated and published annually.

#### Afghan Elections: The Great Gamble

Pub 306 (E)

دری :Also in



November 2003, Briefing Paper, 16 pages

Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Christina Bennett, Shawna Wakefield, Andrew Wilder

Despite considerable evidence that elections held prematurely in post-conflict situations do more harm than good, the Karzai administration, the UN and major donors (including the United States) are betting that the potential benefits of 2004 elections exceed the risks. This Briefing Paper argues that there is a real danger in spending enormous amounts of human and financial resources on the elections at the expense of the more important task of reforming and strengthening state institutions.

#### Three Villages in Alingar, Laghman: A Case Study of Rural Livehoods

Pub 307 (E)



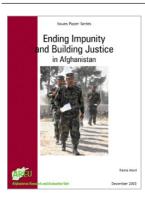
November 2003, Case Study, 43 pages Topic: Rural Livelihoods Monitoring Author(s): Alice Kerr-Wilson, Adam Pain

This Case Study presents village and household data and findings on three villages in Alingar, Laghman Province. This paper is part of AREU's Rural Livelihoods Monitoring Research Project and aims to stimulate debate over the nature of livelihood strategies in rural Afghanistan and NGO responses to these strategies. In collaboration with the Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees (DACAAR), the survey data collected information on assets and debts, economic activities, and income and expenditure at the wealth group and village level.

#### Ending Impunity and Building Justice in Afghanistan

Pub 308 (E)

دری :Also in



2004

December 2003, Issues Paper, 56 pages

Topic: Legacies of Conflict Author(s): Rama Mani

The signatories to the Bonn Agreement pledged that they were "determined to end the tragic conflict and promote national reconciliation, lasting peace, stability and respect for human rights in the country." Nevertheless, the political process of peacebuilding in Afghanistan is inherently unstable and unsustainable because it is based on impunity, which was neglected at the Bonn Conference and entrenched at the Emergency Loya Jirga. The first step to restoring security and stability in Afghanistan will require replacing peacebuilding based on impunity with peacebuilding based on accountability.

#### Land Relations in Bamyan Province: Findings from a 15 Village Case Study

Pub 401 (E)



February 2004, Case Study, 91 pages Topic: Land Rights and Relations

Author(s): Liz Alden Wily

This paper on Bamiyan Province is the first of a series of studies that were carried out in central, north-western, and north-eastern areas. These studies aim to provide quick, but grounded snapshots of land relations in different parts of the country, as well as the land ownership problems facing Afghans, particularly those in the rural majority. Findings show that lasting peace cannot be achieved without the resolution of land conflicts and the ordering of land relations in general.

#### Some Notes on the Livelihoods of the Urban Poor in Kabul, Afghanistan

Pub 402 (E)

دری :Also in



February 2004, Case Study, 35 pages

Topic: Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability

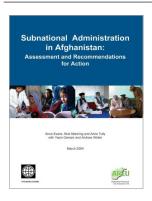
Author(s): Pamela Hunte

This paper summarises some of the basic features of 23 vulnerable households that participated in CARE's winterisation cash-for-work project. Although the paper does not enable analysis of the diverse livelihoods of the urban poor, several strong themes emerge. Findings show the lack of suitable jobs available in Kabul and subsequent hardship for households, the importance of informal safety nets and reciprocity, the desire for wasita and balad, the diversity of intra-household dynamics, the negative psychological effects of deprivation and insecurity, and the desire for formal education and literacy.

#### Subnational Administration in Afghanistan: Assessment and Recommendations for Action

Pub 403 (E)

دری :Also in



March 2004, Issues Paper, 58 pages

Topic: A Guide to Government in Afghanistan

Author(s): Anne Evans

This report is the product of a study undertaken by AREU and the World Bank to assist in improving provincial and district delivery of key services, including health care and education. The report draws on six provincial case studies: Faryab and Herat in November 2002; Badakhshan and Wardak in April 2003; Kandahar in June 2003; and Bamyan in July 2003.

#### A Guide to Government in Afghanistan: Herat Province

Pub 404 (E)

A Guide to Government in Afghanistan Case Study Herat Province March 2004, Case Study, 35 pages

Topic: A Guide to Government in Afghanistan

Author(s): AREU

This Herat report summarises the findings from one of six provincial assessments undertaken by the Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit and the World Bank. The six provincial assessments (the others are Badakhshan, Bamiyan, Faryab, Kandahar and Wardak) were undertaken between December 2002 and July 2003. Provincial assessment teams consisted of national and international public administration, public finance, health, and education specialists who interviewed relevant government employees, NGO staff and local community leaders in provincial capitals as well as in several districts in each province.

#### A Guide to Government in Afghanistan: Badakhshan Province

Pub 405 (E)

A Guide to Government in Afghanistan Gase Study Bad akhahen Province March 2004, Case Study, 29 pages

Topic: A Guide to Government in Afghanistan

Author(s): AREU

This Badakhshan report summarises the findings from one of six provincial assessments undertaken by the Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit and the World Bank. The six provincial assessments (the others are Bamiyan, Faryab, Herat, Kandahar and Wardak) were undertaken between December 2002 and July 2003. Provincial assessment teams consisted of national and international public administration, public finance, health, and education specialists who interviewed relevant government employees, NGO staff and local community leaders in provincial capitals as well as in several districts in each province.

# A Guide to Government in Afghanistan: Faryab Province

Pub 406 (E)

A Guide to Government in Afghanistan Gass Study: Fayab Province March 2004, Case Study, 33 pages

Topic: A Guide to Government in Afghanistan

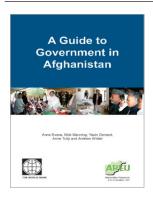
Author(s): AREU

This Faryab report summarises the findings from one of six provincial assessments undertaken by AREU and the World Bank. The six provincial assessments (the others are Badakhshan, Bamiyan, Herat, Kandahar and Wardak) were undertaken between December 2002 and July 2003. Provincial assessment teams consisted of national and international public administration, public finance, health, and education specialists who interviewed relevant government employees, NGO staff and local community leaders in provincial capitals as well as in several districts in each province.

#### A Guide to Government in Afghanistan

Pub 407 (E)

دری :Also in



March 2004, Book, 185 pages

Topic: A Guide to Government in Afghanistan

Author(s): Andrew Wilder, Anne Evans

This joint AREU and World Bank publication has three objectives: 1) it seeks to provide newcomers to the political and administrative scene in Afghanistan with a basic guide to the structures and processes of government; 2) it intends to provide reformers with some understanding of how to work "with the grain" of existing institutional arrangements; and 3) it seeks to pay tribute to the remarkable people who have kept government running and those who are reforming it. The guide draws the bulk of its material from six provincial case studies: Faryab, Herat, Badakhshan, Wardak, Kandahar and Bamiyan.

#### Gender Roles in Agriculture: Case Studies of Five Villages in Northern Afghanistan

Pub 408 (E)



March 2004, Case Study, 27 pages Topic: Rural Livelihoods Monitoring

Author(s): Jo Grace

The purpose of this report is to contribute to a greater understanding of the roles women and men play in the different stages of agriculture as well as other production and incomegenerating activities in Afghanistan.

## Understanding Village Institutions: Case Studies on Water Management from Faryab and Sar-i-Pul

Pub 410 (E)



March 2004, Case Study, 29 pages Topic: Rural Livelihoods Monitoring

Author(s): Adam Pain

This report describes how water is managed within and between villages in two districts in northern Afghanistan, and focuses on the rules that govern the distribution of water and the way in which these rules are or are not enforced.

#### National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2003: A Stakeholder-Generated Methodology

Pub 411 (E)



March 2004, Working Paper, 35 pages

Topic: Aid Effectiveness and Coordination

Author(s): Andrew Pinney

This paper examines the methodology and objectives of the national level annual assessment conducted by the World Food Programme's Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping Unit to explore Afghanistan's likely food needs for the following year.

#### Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 1

Pub 412 (E)

دری :Also in



March 2004, Newsletter, 12 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the March 2004 edition of the Afghanistan Research Newsletter. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on the process leading up to Afghanistan's first National Human Development Report by Abdullah Mojaddedi.

### Putting Rural Land Registration in Perspective: The Afghanistan Case

Pub 413 (E)



April 2004, Presentation, 24 pages Topic: Land Rights and Relations Author(s): Liz Alden Wily

The thrust of land planning by the post-Taliban administration in Afghanistan is toward the establishment of nationwide registration of property rights. This objective typifies post-conflict strategising, reflecting the combined concerns to bring order to disorderly conditions and to establish the authority of the new post-conflict administration. This paper argues that such approaches risk ignoring the issues that must be tackled for land relations to be secured on a lasting basis and risk entrenching injustices that helped give rise to the conflict in the first instance.

#### Wheat Seed and Agricultural Programming in Afghanistan: Its Potential to Impact on Livelihoods

Pub 414 (E)



April 2004, Case Study, 34 pages Topic: Rural Livelihoods Monitoring

Author(s): Alexia Coke

This report outlines the results of one of three combined "special studies" conducted under the auspices of AREU's livelihoods monitoring research project. Data for this particular study on wheat seed and agricultural programming was collected at the same time as two separate studies on water management and gender and livelihoods.

# The Shiwa Pastures, 1978-2003: Land Tenure Changes and Conflict in Northeastern Badakhshan

Pub 415 (E)

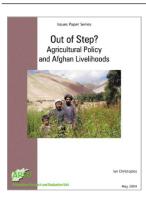


May 2004, Case Study, 55 pages Topic: Land Rights and Relations Author(s): Mervyn Patterson

This publication on land relations in Badakhshan Province 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.

#### Out of Step? Agricultural Policy and Afghan Livelihoods

Pub 416 (E)



May 2004, Issues Paper, 87 pages Topic: Rural Livelihoods Monitoring

Author(s): Ian Christoplos

This paper argues that agricultural and livelihoods policies and programmes would 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

Pub 417 (E)



May 2004, Working Paper, 51 pages

Topic: Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability

Author(s): Stefan Schütte

This Working Paper 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 go beyond programming solely targeted to "vulnerable groups."

#### Minimal Investments, Minimal Results: The Failure of Security Policy in Afghanistan

Pub 418 (E)

دری :Also in



June 2004, Briefing Paper, 22 pages

Topic: Security

Author(s): Michael Bhatia

This Briefing Paper challenges policymakers to reconsider the 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.

## Land Relations in Faryab Province: Findings from a Field Study in 11 Villages

Pub 419 (E)



2004, Case Study, 88 pages Topic: Land Rights and Relations

Author(s): Liz Alden Wily

A rapid reconnaissance study of land relations across Afghanistan, this report examines the tensions related to land in three districts of Faryab Province. The author 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.

#### Understanding Markets in Afghanistan: A Case Study of the Construction Materials Market

Pub 420 (E)



June 2004, Case Study, 34 pages

Topic: Understanding Markets in Afghanistan

Author(s): Sarah Lister

This Case Study examines Afghanistan's construction materials market, looking at where the greatest margins are made, what connections there are between market players and what, if any, barriers are faced by new entrants.

#### Understanding Markets in Afghanistan: A Case Study of the Raisin Market

Pub 421 (E)



June 2004, Case Study, 32 pages

Topic: Understanding Markets in Afghanistan

Author(s): Sarah Lister

This Case Study examines Afghanistan's raisin market, looking at where the greatest margins are made, what connections there are between market players and what, if any, barriers are faced by new entrants.

#### Understanding Markets in Afghanistan: A Case Study of Carpets and the Andkhoy Carpet Market

Pub 422 (E)



June 2004, Case Study, 44 pages

Topic: Understanding Markets in Afghanistan

Author(s): Adam Pain, Moharram Ali

This Case Study examines Afghanistan's carpet market, looking at where the greatest margins are made, what connections there are between market players and what, if any, barriers are faced by new entrants.

# Trading in Power: The Politics of Free Markets in Afghanistan

Pub 423 (E)

دری :Also in



June 2004, Briefing Paper, 10 pages

Topic: Understanding Markets in Afghanistan

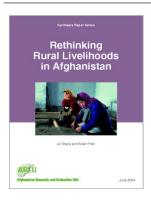
Author(s): Sarah Lister, Adam Pain

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 policymakers 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

Pub 424 (E)

دری: Also in



June 2004, Synthesis Paper, 102 pages

Topic: Rural Livelihoods Monitoring Author(s): Jo Grace, Adam Pain

This synthesis report presents the findings of the first 18 months of 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, nonfarm labour, labour migration, indebtedness, gender, health, agriculture and social protection.

#### The Kandahar Bus Stand in Kabul: An Assessment of Travel and Labour Migration to Iran and Pakistan

Pub 425 (E)



June 2004, Case Study, 29 pages

Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks

Author(s): Elca Stigter

A Case Study of transnational travellers and the reasons for their migration.

#### Livelihoods in Afghanistan: A Select Annotated Bibliography

Pub 426 (E)



June 2004, Bibliography, 24 page Topic: Rural Livelihoods Monitoring

Author(s): AREU

A compiled bibliography of Afghanistan-relevant livelihoods publications.

## Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 2

Pub 427 (E)

دری :Also in



July 2004, Newsletter, 37 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the July 2004 edition of the Afghanistan Research Newsletter. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on the new database of water points in Afghanistan released by DACAAR (2004).

#### From Subjects to Citizens: Local Participation in the National Solidarity Programme

Pub 428 (E)



August 2004, Working Paper, 74 pages

Topic: National Solidarity Programme 2004-05

Author(s): Inger W. Boesen

This report draws upon studies of six districts and the perceptions local people had about the NSP and elections for Community Development Councils. It highlights the enthusiastic reception of NSP in the majority of study areas, as well as the role women have been permitted to play within the NSP.

#### Field Notes and Observations of Gender and Local Level Decision Making in Kabul City

Pub 429 (E)



August 2004, Field Notes, 15 pages

Topic: Gender and Local Level Decision Making

Author(s): Saghar Wafa, Baser Nader

The researcher's Field Notes from Kabul City for AREU's Gender and Local Level Decision Making project.

#### Rural Land Relations in Conflict: A Way Forward

Pub 430 (E)

در ی: Also in



August 2004, Briefing Paper, 18 pages

Topic: Land Rights and Relations

Author(s): Liz Alden Wily

This Briefing Paper draws upon case studies from Bamiyan, Badakhshan and Faryab Provinces to examine the tensions that exist around land use and ownership. It also offers recommendations to policymakers to assist in rectifying conflict over pasture lands.

# Teacher Education and Professional Development in Afghanistan

Pub 431 (E)



August 2004, Situational Analysis, 45 pages

Topic: Education

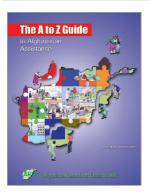
Author(s): Jeaniene Spink

The findings of this study are primarily the results of personal interviews in Kabul with Ministry of Education staff, NGOs and organisations supporting teacher training in Afghanistan. The study also incorporated the results of a number of evaluations and project documents. It outlines the activities of the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Higher Education, organisations supporting teacher training and their plans for the future. Some important experiences of developing and implementing teacher-training programmes both in Afghanistan and in the immediate region have been highlighted.

#### A to Z Guide to Afghanistan Assistance Third Edition

Pub 432 (E)

دری :Also in



August 2004, Book, 269 pages

Topic: A to Z Guide Author(s): AREU

The 2004 edition of AREU's flagship publication: a guide to the terms, structures, mechanisms, and coordinating bodies critical to the Afghanistan relief effort. It aims to ensure a shared vocabulary and common understanding of the forces at play in the country. In addition to a glossary of terms and organograms of key assistance structures, the guide includes maps and a contacts directory to make it easier to communicate with assistance actors working on the ground. A "live document," the guide is updated and published annually.

#### Free, Fair or Flawed? Challenges to Legitimate Elections in Afghanistan

Pub 433 (E)

دری :Also in



September 2004, Briefing Paper, 18 pages

Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Andrew Reynolds, Andrew Wilder

A Briefing Paper examining the challenges facing the holding of the 2004/05 presidential and parliamentary elections, and how these could be minimised to ensure perceived legitimacy.

#### Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 3

Pub 434 (E)

دری :Also in



October 2004, Newsletter, 34 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the October 2004 edition of the Afghanistan Research Newsletter. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on Take the Guns Away: Afghan Voices on Security and Elections, by Sara Aviel.

#### Gender and Local Level Decision Making: Findings from a Case Study in Panjao

Pub 435 (E)



November 2004, Case Study, 53 pages

Topic: Gender and Local Level Decision Making

Author(s): Shawna Wakefield

This Case Study from Panjao, Bamiyan Province, was conducted in 2004 as part of AREU's Gender and Local Level Decision Making Project. This study uses a gender analysis-the examination of the situation of women and men and the relations between them—as a way to improve understanding of their activities, access to resources, and the opportunities and constraints they face relative to each other.

#### Gender and Local Level Decision Making: Findings from a Case Study in Mazar-e Sharif

Pub 436 (E)



December 2004, Case Study, 57 pages

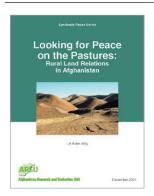
Topic: Gender and Local Level Decision Making

Author(s): Shawna Wakefield

This Case Study from Mazar-e Sharif, Balkh Province, was conducted in 2004 as part of AREU's Gender and Local Level Decision Making Project. This study uses a gender analysis the examination of the situation of women and men and the relations between them—as a way to improve understanding of their activities, access to resources, and the opportunities and constraints they face relative to each other.

#### Looking for Peace on the Pastures: Rural Land Relations in Afghanistan

Pub 437 (E)



December 2004, Synthesis Paper, 125 pages

Topic: Land Rights and Relations

Author(s): Liz Alden Wily

This paper synthesises the lessons learned from a study of land tenure relations in Bamiyan, Badakhshan and Faryab Provinces. It also offers recommendations on how to move forward from the existing muddle of land policy and law to engage in "learning by doing" projects aimed at mitigating conflict on communal land.

#### Transnational Networks and Migration from Herat to Iran

Pub 501 (E)

2005



January 2005, Case Study, 48 pages

Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks

Author(s): Elca Stigter

A Herat-to-Tehran Case Study as part of a research project on transnational networks of returning refugees and internally displaced persons.

#### Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 4

Pub 502 (E)

دری :Also in



January 2005, Newsletter, 16 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the January 2005 edition of the *Afghanistan Research Newsletter*. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on the role of learning, research and practice in socio-economic development, by Abdul Khalial "Zarifi."

#### Who Owns The Farm? Rural Women's Access to Land and Livestock

Pub 503 (E)



February 2005, Working Paper, 45 pages

Topic: Rural Livelihoods Monitoring

Author(s): Jo Grace

This Working Paper examines the extent to which rural women in Badakhshan, Bamiyan and Kabul Provinces have access to and ownership of land and livestock, and explores some of the reasons women have staked claims to pursue their rights of ownership.

#### Transnational Networks and Migration from Faryab to Iran

Pub 504 (E)



February 2005, Case Study, 52 pages

Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks

Author(s): Elca Stigter

A Faryab-to-Tehran Case Study as part of a research project on transnational networks of returning refugees and internally displaced persons.

#### Caught in Confusion: Local Governance Structures in Afghanistan

Pub 505 (E)

دری :Also in



March 2005, Briefing Paper, 10 pages

Topic: State-building and Local Governance

Author(s): Sarah Lister

In the context of a lack of strategic consensus, this Briefing Paper lays out the main issues around the structures and processes of local governance, particularly in relation to the role of provincial and district councils.

# Gender and Local Level Decision Making: Findings from a Case Study in Samangan

Pub 506 (E)



March 2005, Case Study, 37 pages

Topic: Gender and Local Level Decision Making

Author(s): Shawna Wakefield

This Case Study from Samangan was conducted in 2004 as part of AREU's Gender and Local Level Decision Making Project. This study uses a gender analysis—the examination of the situation of women and men and the relations between them—as a way to improve understanding of their activities, access to resources, and the opportunities and constraints they face relative to each other.

#### Lessons from Approaches to Increase Women's Participation in Development: Workshop Summary

Pub 507 (E)



March 2005, Event Proceedings, 15 pages

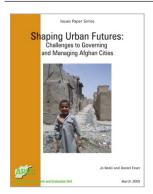
Topic: Gender and Local Level Decision Making

Author(s): AREU

Proceedings from a workshop held on 30 January 2005 that aimed to fill some of the gaps in knowledge and learning about women's participation in development activities in Afghanistan. It was based on AREU research on gender and local-level decision-making.

#### Shaping Urban Futures: Challenges to Governing and Managing Afghan Cities

Pub 508 (E)



March 2005, Issues Paper, 80 pages

Topic: Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability

Author(s): Jo Ball, Daniel Esser

Against a background discussion of widespread urban vulnerability in Afghanistan, this paper explores the critical challenges for urban governance and urban management. The analysis draws on research conducted in three Afghan cities—Kabul, Herat and Mazar-i-Sharif—as well as on interviews with informants from Afghan ministries, municipalities, international development agencies and local and international nongovernmental organisations involved in urban programmes and projects.

#### Afghans in Karachi: Migration, Settlement and Social Networks

Pub 509 (E)



March 2005, Case Study, 59 pages

Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks

Author(s): Collective for Social Science Research

This is a Case Study of people of Afghan origin residing in Karachi and addresses policy debate concerning migration and mobility between Afghanistan and neighbouring states.

# Transnational Networks: Recognising a Regional Reality

Pub 510 (E)

دری :Also in



April 2005, Briefing Paper, 10 pages

Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks Author(s): Elca Stigter, Alessandro Monsutti

This Briefing Paper highlights the importance of transnational migratory networks to the reconstruction of Afghanistan. This paper focuses on Afghan population movements into Iran, and is part of AREU's larger research project into Afghan transnational networks in Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan.

#### Bound for the City: A Study of Rural to Urban Labour Migration in Afghanistan

Pub 511 (E)



April 2005, Working Paper, 41 pages

Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks

Author(s): Aftab Opel

This report presents findings of a study on rural to urban labour migration in Afghanistan, as it relates to individual and household risk management. This report is based on primary information collected through a survey of 997 individuals in three cities: Kabul, Herat and Jalalabad.

#### Conference on Afghan Population Movements: Summary Report

Pub 512 (E)



April 2005, Event Proceedings, 13 pages

Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks

Author(s): AREU

Report of a Conference on Afghan Population Movements, cohosted by the Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit and the Ministry of Refugee Affairs at the Intercontinental Hotel, Kabul, on 27 April 2005.

#### Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 5

Pub 513 (E)

در ی :Also in



April 2005, Newsletter, 16 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the April 2005 edition of the Afghanistan Research Newsletter. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on oral history training at Kabul University.

## Return to Afghanistan? A Study of Afghans Living in Tehran

Pub 514 (E)



June 2005, Case Study, 66 pages

Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks

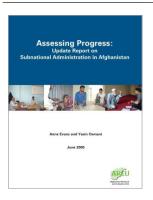
Author(s): Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi, Diana Glazebrook. Gholamreza Jamshidiha, Hossein Mahmoudian and Rasoul Sadeghi

This Case Study examines perceptions and concerns of Afghans in Tehran, Iran, about the prospect of returning to Afghanistan or remaining in Iran in the medium term.

#### Assessing Progress: Update Report on Subnational Administration in Afghanistan

Pub 516 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



July 2005, Issues Paper, 60 pages

Topic: A Guide to Government in Afghanistan

Author(s): Anne Evans

In 2002, AREU and the World Bank jointly undertook a study of subnational administration in Afghanistan. A central part of this study included missions in 2002-03 to six provinces: Badakhshan, Bamiyan, Faryab, Herat, Kandahar and Wardak. The findings and recommendations from this study were presented at a workshop in October 2003 and the study results were published in two reports. Two years later, the World Bank commissioned AREU to conduct a review of progress to date: what reforms have taken place and what has been the impact at the subnational level.

#### Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 6

Pub 517 (E)

درى :Also in



July 2005, Newsletter, 16 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

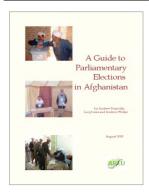
Author(s): AREU

This is the July 2005 edition of the *Afghanistan Research Newsletter*. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on the *Watershed Atlas of Afghanistan*, by Raphy Favre.

#### A Guide to Parliamentary Elections in Afghanistan

Pub 518 (E)

دری :Also in



August 2005, Book, 38 pages

Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Andrew Wilder, Andrew Reynolds

This guide is a one-stop source of information on the Wolesi Jirga and Provincial Council elections that includes an explanation of the elections process, the different actors involved and the key issues that affect electoral procedures.

# A Place at the Table: Afghan Women, Men and Decision-Making Authority

Pub 519 (E)

دری :Also in



August 2005, Briefing Paper, 10 pages

Topic: Gender and Local Level Decision Making

Author(s): Shawna Wakefield

This Briefing Paper discusses findings from AREU's research into women's participation in the National Solidarity Programme and household and community institutions. It challenges development professionals to identify opportunities for gender-sensitive programming, policy formation and indicators of success.

#### **Emerging Trends in Urban Livelihoods**

Pub 520 (E)



August 2005, Case Study, 28 pages

Topic: Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability

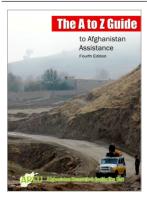
Author(s): Stefan Schütte

AREU's research into the livelihoods of the urban poor in three cities (Herat, Kabul and Jalabad) aimed to fill the substantial knowledge gap around urban poverty in Afghanistan. This Working Paper summarised three vibrant issues that emerged early in the research: access to regular sources and different forms of credit, security of housing and tenure, and maintenance and quality of social relations.

#### A to Z Guide to Afghanistan Assistance Fourth Edition

Pub 521 (E)

درى :Also in



August 2005, Book, 238 pages

Topic: A to Z Guide Author(s): AREU

The fourth edition of AREU's flagship publication: a guide to the terms, structures, mechanisms, and coordinating bodies critical to the Afghanistan relief effort. It aims to ensure a shared vocabulary and common understanding of the forces at play in the country. In addition to a glossary of terms and organograms of key assistance structures, the guide includes maps and a contacts directory to make it easier to communicate with assistance actors working on the ground. A "live document," the guide is updated and published annually.

#### AREU Election Observation Report

Pub 522 (E)



September 2005, Report, 16 pages Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): AREU

AREU's parliamentary election observation report of 2005.

# Key Issues in Local Governance (PowerPoint)

Pub 523 (E)



October 2005, Presentation, 13 pages

Topic: State-building and Local Governance

Author(s): Sarah Lister

A presentation on local governance given by an AREU governance researcher.

#### Alternative Livelihoods: Substance or Slogan?

Pub 524 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



October 2005, Briefing Paper, 14 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): David Mansfield, Adam Pain

This Briefing Paper examines what is needed to effectively pursue alternative livelihoods as a goal of counter-narcotics, and argues for conventional development interventions to be viewed through a counter narcotics lens to establish how they impact on opium poppy cultivation.

#### Understanding Markets in Afghanistan: A Study of the Market in Petroleum Fuels

Pub 525 (E)



October 2005, Case Study, 46 pages

Topic: Understanding Markets in Afghanistan

Author(s): Anna Paterson

This Case Study examines the experiences of Afghan businessmen in the private market for petroleum fuels, where the greatest margins are made, what connections there are between market players and what, if any, barriers are faced by new entrants.

#### Return to Afghanistan? A Study of Afghans Living in Zahedan, Iran

Pub 526 (E)



October 2005, Case Study, 76 pages

Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks

Author(s): Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi, Diana Glazebrook, Gholamreza Jamshidiha,

Hossein Mahmoudian and Rasoul Sadeghi

This Case Study examined Afghan refugees living in Zahedan, Iran, and their attitudes toward repatriation.

# Return to Afghanistan? A Study of Afghans Living in Mashhad, Iran

Pub 527 (E)



October 2005, Case Study, 80 pages

Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks

Author(s): Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi, Diana Glazebrook, Gholamreza Jamshidiha, Hossein Mahmoudian and Rasoul Sadeghi

This Case Study examined Afghan refugees living in Mashad, Iran, and their attitudes toward repatriation.

#### Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 7

Pub 528 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



October 2005, Newsletter, 20 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the October 2005 edition of the *Afghanistan Research Newsletter*. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on the census of Afghans in Pakistan.

#### Understanding Markets in Afghanistan: A Study of the Market in Second-hand Cars

Pub 529 (E)



November 2005, Case Study, 40 pages

Topic: Understanding Markets in Afghanistan

Author(s): Anna Paterson

This Case Study examines the experiences of Afghan businessmen in the private market for second-hand cars, where the greatest margins are made, what connections there are between market players and what, if any, barriers are faced by new entrants.

#### Fine-Tuning The NSP: Discussions of Problems and Solutions with Facilitating Partners

Pub 530 (E)

بشتو :Also in



November 2005, Case Study, 51 pages

Topic: National Solidarity Programme 2004-05

Author(s): Palwash Kakar

This paper looked at three major areas of concern raised by implementers of the National Solidarity Programme: fitting the NSP within multiple layers of existing power structures, assuring gender equity in the NSP, and finding ways to sustain the programme at the end of the funding cycle.

#### A House Divided? Analysing the 2005 Afghan Elections

Pub 531 (E)

دری :Also in



December 2005, Issues Paper, 53 pages

Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Andrew Wilder

Afghanistan's new National Assembly faces many challenges to ensure it doesn't repeat past parliamentary problems. This paper examines how the campaign was fought and won across the provinces, as well as highlights potential divisions that may impede the effective functioning of the legislature.

#### Understanding Markets in Afghanistan: A Study of the Market for Pharmaceuticals

Pub 532 (E)



December 2005, Case Study, 35 pages

Topic: Understanding Markets in Afghanistan

Author(s): Anna Paterson

This Case Study examines the experiences of Afghan businessmen in the private market for pharmaceuticals, where the greatest margins are made, what connections there are between market players and what, if any, barriers are faced by new entrants.

# Household Decision Making and School Enrolment in Afghanistan: Chahar Asyab District, Kabul Province

Pub 533 (E)



December 2005, Case Study, 34 pages Topic: School Enrolment Decision Making

Author(s): Pamela Hunte

This Case Study discusses the reasons why families choose to send or not send children to school in an area of Kabul City.

# Household Decision Making and School Enrolment in Afghanistan: Pul Khushk, District 13, Kabul City

Pub 534 (E)



December 2005, Case Study, 37 pages

Topic: School Enrolment Decision Making

Author(s): Pamela Hunte

This Case Study discusses the reasons why families choose to send or not send children to school in an area of Kabul City.

# Household Decision Making and School Enrolment in Afghanistan: Nesher Villages, Belcheragh, Faryab Province

Pub 535 (E)



December 2005, Case Study, 35 pages

Topic: School Enrolment Decision Making

Author(s): Pamela Hunte

This Case Study discusses the reasons why families choose to send or not send children to school in an area of Faryab Province.

# Household Decision Making and School Enrolment in Afghanistan: District 2, Kandahar City

Pub 536 (E)



December 2005, Case Study, 33 pages

Topic: School Enrolment Decision Making

Author(s): Pamela Hunte

This Case Study discusses the reasons why families choose to send or not send children to school in an area of Kandahar City.

#### 2006 Afghans in Peshawar: Migration, Settlements and Social Networks

Pub 600 (E)



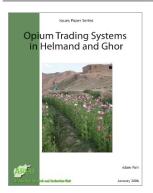
January 2006, Case Study, 61 pages

Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks Author(s): Collective for Social Science Research

This Case Study explored selected communities of Afghans living in Peshawar, covering different ethnicities and phases of arrival. It looked at the livelihood strategies and support networks of Afghans who are living in Pakistan, but in this case in a location very close to the Afghan border. It also sought to understand the extent to which cross-border movement and activities are important to the survival of Afghans living in Pakistan, and provide detail on their role in the process of future planning among these households.

#### Opium Trading Systems in Helmand and Ghor

Pub 601 (E)



January 2006, Issues Paper, 63 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Adam Pain

This paper examines the opium poppy market at the provincial and district levels in a long-dominant poppy producing area (Helmand) and a relative newcomer (Ghor) to opium cultivation.

# Afghans in Pakistan: Broadening the Focus

Pub 602 (E)



January 2006, Briefing Paper, 10 pages

Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks Author(s): Collective for Social Science Research

This Briefing Paper looked at the situation of the roughly three million Afghans who were residing in Pakistan at the time, and argued that the refugee framework no longer adequately addressed the reality of this transnational population.

#### Poor, Poorer, Poorest: Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability in Mazar-i-Sharif

Pub 603 (E)



January 2006, Case Study, 43 pages

Topic: Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability

Author(s): Stefan Schütte

This Case Study examines urban livelihoods in Mazar-i-Sharif, and is one of five in a series.

#### Afghans in Quetta: Settlements, Livelihoods, Support Networks and Cross-Border Linkages

Pub 604 (E)



January 2006, Case Study, 29 pages

Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks Author(s): Collective for Social Science Research

This Case Study examines the experiences of Afghan refugees in Quetta and their feelings toward repatriation and settlement.

#### Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 8

Pub 605 (E)

درى :Also in



January 2006, Newsletter, 18 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the January 2006 edition of the *Afghanistan Research Newsletter*. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on the Afghanistan Digital Library project at New York University.

#### Dwindling Industry, Growing Poverty: Urban Livelihoods in Pul-i-Khumri

Pub 606 (E)



March 2006, Case Study, 52 pages

Topic: Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability

Author(s): Stefan Schütte

This Case Study examines urban livelihoods in Pul-i-Khumri, and is one of five in a series.

#### Looking Beyond the School Walls: Household Decision-Making and School Enrolment in Afghanistan

Pub 607 (E)

در ی :Also in



March 2006, Briefing Paper, 10 pages

Topic: School Enrolment Decision Making

Author(s): Pamela Hunte

This Briefing Paper discusses the reasons parents do or do not send children to school, and what influences these decisions.

#### Searching for Security: Urban Livelihoods in Kabul

Pub 608 (E)



April 2006, Case Study, 75 pages

Topic: Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability

Author(s): Stefan Schütte

This Case Study examines urban livelihoods in Kabul, and is one of five in a series.

#### Afghan Returnees from NWFP, Pakistan, to Nangarhar Province

Pub 609 (E)



April 2006, Case Study, 36 pages

Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks Author(s): Gulbadan Habibi, Pamela Hunte

Focusing on Afghan returnees from NWFP, Pakistan, to Nangarhar Province, this is the last of nine case studies from this project.

# Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 9

Pub 610 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



April 2006, Newsletter, 16 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the April 2006 edition of the Afghanistan Research Newsletter. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on Achieving the Environmental Millennium Development Goals, by Belinda Bowling and Asif Ali Zaidi.

#### Provincial Governance Structures in Afghanistan: From Confusion to Vision?

Pub 611 (E)

درى | بشتو :Also in



May 2006, Briefing Paper, 16 pages

Topic: State-building and Local Governance

Author(s): Sarah Lister, Hamish Nixon

The Briefing Paper examines the roles of provincial councils and provincial development committees in the context of the government's vision for reforming subnational governance.

Irrigation Systems Pub 612 (E)



May 2006, Case Study, 66 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Ian McAllister Anderson

Produced in cooperation with the Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees (DACAAR) in Ghazni and Herat and German Agro Action (GAA) in Nangarhar and Kunduz, this report presents the findings of initial fieldwork and describes current practices in the delivery of water to and within the four primary research sites. It suggests links between water and opium, and how farmers view crops in relation to the selection of cropping patterns and returns to labour.

#### Social Water Management

Pub 613 (E)



May 2006, Case Study, 74 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Jonathan L. Lee

Produced in cooperation with the Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees (DACAAR) in Ghazni and Herat and German Agro Action (GAA) in Nangarhar and Kunduz, this report presents findings from research which took place during November and December 2005 at primary research sites in the four provinces, focusing on the management structures and social organisation of irrigated water distribution and allocation.

# Continued Protection, Sustainable Reintegration: Afghan Refugees and Migrants in Iran

Pub 614 (E)



May 2006, Briefing Paper, 12 pages

Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks Author(s): M. J. Abbasi, Diana Glazebrook

Focusing on Iran, this is the third Briefing Paper from AREU's long-term research project looking at Afghans' transnational networks in Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan.

#### Poverty Amid Prosperity: Urban Livelihoods in Herat

Pub 615 (E)



May 2006, Case Study, 61 pages

Topic: Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability

Author(s): Stefan Schütte

This Case Study examines urban livelihoods in Herat, and is one of five in a series.

#### Gaining Some Ground: Urban Livelihoods in Jalalabad

Pub 616 (E)



May 2006, Case Study, 74 pages

Topic: Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability

Author(s): Stefan Schütte

This Case Study examines urban livelihoods in Jalalabad, and is one of five in a series.

#### Create More Quality Jobs with Regular Pay to Improve Livelihoods and Political Stability

Pub 617 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



May 2006, Policy Note, 4 pages

Topic: Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability Author(s): Paula Kantor, Stefan Schütte

Inadequate access to employment is a major source of vulnerability for the urban poor in Afghanistan and a likely source of political instability for the state. This Policy Note examines the level of income different household members can earn, how this affects labour mobilisation strategies, and, in turn, how such labour deployment patterns impact long-term livelihood security.

# Opium Poppy Cultivation in Kunduz and Balkh

Pub 618 (E)



June 2006, Case Study, 35 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Adam Pain

This study was undertaken in March 2006 in the northern Afghan provinces of Kunduz and Balkh as part of AREU's "Applied Thematic Research into Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy." The fieldwork was designed as a scoping exercise to explore the possibilities for establishing longer-term monitoring of the dynamics of opium poppy cultivation in Kunduz and Balkh over the following three years.

#### Livestock Husbandry

Pub 619 (E)



June 2006, Case Study, 81 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Anthony Fitzherbert

Produced in cooperation with the Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees (DACAAR) in Ghazni and Herat and German Agro Action (GAA) in Nangarhar and Kunduz, this report presents the findings from research into livestock husbandry which took place during November and December 2005 at primary research sites in the four provinces and with one group of Kuchi wintering in Laghman. It aims to make a contribution to gaps in knowledge, information and understanding of livestock husbandry, and to provide practical, wellinformed guidance to government policymaking and donor-funded assistance.

Land Tenure Pub 620 (E)



June 2006, Case Study, 67 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Alec McEwen, Brendan Whitty

This study was undertaken in cooperation with the Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees (DACAAR) in Ghazni and Herat and German Agro Action(GAA) in Nangarhar and Kunduz. This report presents findings from two rounds of field visits conducted between November 2005 and April 2006 at primary research sites in the four provinces, focusing on the land tenure management systems in place in the communities.

#### Baseline Study: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Pub 621 (E)



June 2006, Baseline Study, 42 pages

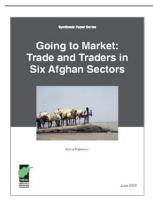
Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Alan Roe

The baseline survey for the Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy project was undertaken to provide a sampling frame for household selection for monitoring. The principal objective of the survey was to establish the natural resource use and socioeconomic profiles of the research sites.

#### Going to Market: Trade and Traders in Six Afghan Sectors

Pub 622 (E)



June 2006, Synthesis Paper, 42 pages

Topic: Understanding Markets in Afghanistan

Author(s): Anna Paterson

In 2004 and 2005, the Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit undertook a series of focused studies of commodity chains in six key sectors to gain an insight into the experience of Afghan businesses. Specifically, the studies investigated trade routes for the commodities, the number and types of market players, choice of products and the role of the state in setting regulations and standards. This final report synthesises the findings from this research.

#### Informal Credit Practices in Rural Afghanistan: Case Study 1, Herat

Pub 623 (E)



June 2006, Case Study, 53 pages

Topic: Informal Credit and Microcredit Systems

Author(s): Floortje Klijn

This is the first of three case studies providing insight into how microcredit may intersect with and affect informal credit practices.

#### Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 10

Pub 624 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



July 2006, Newsletter, 16 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the July 2006 edition of the Afghanistan Research Newsletter. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on information for nation building, by Nancy Hatch Dupree.

#### Opium Poppy Eradication: How to Raise Risk When There is Nothing to Lose

Pub 625 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



August 2006, Briefing Paper, 25 pages

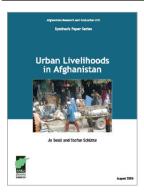
Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Collective for Social Science Research

This Briefing Paper argues that eradicating opium poppy prior to establishing legal alternative livelihoods for farmers does not contribute to the long-term elimination of Afghanistan's drug crop, and risks undermining the already strained relationship between communities and the state.

#### Urban Livelihoods in Afghanistan

Pub 626 (E)



August 2006, Synthesis Paper, 78 pages

Topic: Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability

Author(s): Jo Ball, Stefan Schütte

This report draws out the main findings and recommendations from five case studies on urban poverty in Kabul, Herat, Mazar-i-Sharif, Jalalabad and Pul-i-Khumri. It examines livelihood strategies, assets and crisis management over time in a set of households in each of these cities. It calls on the Afghan government to implement long-term strategies for economic growth that would create more jobs with regular income, and draws attention to the uneven thrust of national assistance and the need to expand programmes to urban areas.

#### Afghan Transnational Networks: Looking Beyond Repatriation

Pub 627 (E)



August 2006, Synthesis Paper, 54 pages

Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks

Author(s): Alessandro Monsutti

This is the final publication of AREU's long-term research project looking at Afghans' transnational networks in Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan.

#### Conference Report: Urban Poverty Reduction in Afghanistan

Pub 628 (E)



August 2006, Event Proceedings, 38 pages Topic: Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability

Author(s): AREU

The conference report of the two-day workshop on Urban Poverty Reduction in Afghanistan, hosted by the Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit on 9-10 August 2006 at the Safi Landmark Hotel, Kabul.

#### Moving Forward? Assessing Public Administration Reform in Afghanistan

Pub 629 (E)



September 2006, Briefing Paper, 18 pages Topic: State-building and Local Governance

Author(s): Sarah Lister

This paper examines the successes and failures of the Afghan government's public administration reform programme and makes recommendations for its improvement.

## Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy: Annotated Bibliography

Pub 630 (E)



September 2006, Bibliography, 99 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): AREU

This bibliography was developed around the themes of natural resources management and agricultural livelihoods, which are central to the EC-funded project "Applied Thematic Research into Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy."

#### Livestock Production and Health

Pub 631 (E)



October 2006, Case Study, 43 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Euan Thomson

This study was undertaken as part of the initial stage of AREU's "Applied Thematic Research into Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy." The paper is the output of exploratory fieldwork undertaken in March and April 2006 in Ghazni, Laghman, Kunduz and Nangarhar to commence initial research and identify further research opportunities.

## Putting the Cart Before the Horse? Privatisation and Economic Reform in Afghanistan

Pub 632 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



November 2006, Briefing Paper, 18 pages

Topic: Political Economy

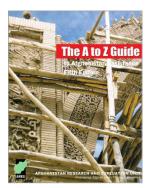
Author(s): Anna Paterson, James Blewett

This Briefing Paper holds that before embarking on the privatisation of enterprises that are not doing much harm in fiscal terms, the government should implement structural reforms to ensure adequate investment legislation, improved security and infrastructure, and streamlined and strengthened regulation.

## A to Z Guide to Afghanistan Assistance Fifth Edition

Pub 634 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



November 2006, Book, 234 pages

Topic: A to Z Guide Author(s): AREU

The fifth edition of AREU's flagship publication: a guide to the terms, structures, mechanisms, and coordinating bodies critical to the Afghanistan relief effort. It aims to ensure a shared vocabulary and common understanding of the forces at play in the country. In addition to a glossary of terms and organograms of key assistance structures, the guide includes maps and a contacts directory to make it easier to communicate with assistance actors working on the ground. A "live document," the guide is updated and published annually.

# Afghanistan's Health System Since 2001: Condition Improved, Prognosis Cautiously Optimistic

Pub 635 (E)

درى | بشتو :Also in



December 2006, Briefing Paper, 22 pages

Topic: Health

Author(s): Ronald Waldman

This paper examines the development of Afghanistan's health system since 2001 and tries to address future challenges for the government, the donor community and nongovernmental organisations (NGOs). It focuses on the progress of the Ministry of Public Health's contracting arrangement with NGOs to deliver basic health services to the Afghan population.

## Opium Poppy Cultivation in Nangarhar and Ghor

Pub 636 (E)



December 2006, Case Study, 54 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): David Mansfield

This report is part of AREU's "Applied Thematic Research into Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy." This particular report looks at the results of fieldwork in two specific provinces where opium poppy is cultivated: Nangarhar and Ghor. The report charts the role opium poppy plays in rural livelihood strategies in the two provinces and how this depends on the assets different households have at their disposal. It documents the impact significant reductions in opium production have had on livelihood strategies in both Nangarhar and Ghor.

## Informal Credit Practices in Rural Afghanistan: Case Study 2, Kapisa

Pub 637 (E)



December 2006, Case Study, 58 pages

Topic: Informal Credit and Microcredit Systems

Author(s): Floortje Klijn

This report presents findings from fieldwork conducted in Kapisa Province as part of a credit and debt study undertaken by AREU to explore, in-depth, the informal credit practices in rural Afghanistan.

## Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 11 and 12

Pub 639 (E)



December 2006, Newsletter, 24 pages Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the October 2006 to January 2007 edition of the *Afghanistan Research Newsletter*. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on the background to Afghanistan's national population census.

## **Options for Land Registration**

Pub 701 (E)

2007



February 2007, Working Paper, 42 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Alec McEwen, Sharna Nolan

As the Government of Afghanistan adopted a new Draft Land Policy in January 2007, and as strategies are being devised to achieve land registration benchmarks within the interim Afghanistan National Development Strategy (I-ANDS), the current paper moves the focus of study toward policy. It addresses the challenge of recording information on the ownership of and other legal interests in rural land, identifies and discusses the major issues that will influence land registration in the Afghan context, and sets out a strategy for piloting a system of land registration.

#### Informal Credit Practices in Rural Afghanistan: Case Study 3, Ghor

Pub 702 (E)



February 2007, Case Study, 42 pages

Topic: Informal Credit and Microcredit Systems

Author(s): Floortje Klijn

The last of three case studies providing insight into how microcredit may intersect with and affect informal credit practices. It also provides insight into the changes in credit practices over time and their impact on socioeconomic relations within the village in Ghor.

## Aiding the State? International Assistance and the State Building Paradox in Afghanistan

Pub 703 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



April 2007, Briefing Paper, 18 pages

Topic: State-building and Local Governance

Author(s): Hamish Nixon

This Briefing Paper explores the relationship between foreign aid, statebuilding and the crisis currently facing Afghanistan. It analyses the effects of assistance to date, and presents a series of recommendations for future action by the Afghan government and donors.

## Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 13

Pub 704 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



April 2007, Newsletter, 22 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the April 2007 edition of the Afghanistan Research Newsletter. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on mapping in Afghanistan, by Royce Wiles.

# The Performance of Community Water Management Systems

Pub 705 (E)



May 2007, Case Study, 64 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Jonathan L. Lee

This Case Study was undertaken as part of the AREU's "Applied Thematic Research into Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy." This is the second report on community and social water management and builds on the initial survey work carried out in November and December 2005.

# Provide Social Protection Systems to Ease Heavy Reliance on Social Networks and Reduce **Vulnerability**

Pub 706 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



May 2007, Policy Note, 4 pages

Topic: Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability

Author(s): Stefan Schütte, Brandy Bauer

Social assets are an important fallback for poor and vulnerable urban families who lack material resources, particularly in developing countries where the state is either unable or unwilling to provide social protection for its citizens. This Policy Note discusses how urban Afghan families tend to lean on social relations, and how such networks are not sufficient to lift them out of poverty. It also presents policy recommendations addressing this issue, including putting in place institutionalised social protection systems.

## Reduce High Levels of Risk for Poor Families Coping to Make a Living in Afghan Cities

Pub 707 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



May 2007, Policy Note, 4 pages

Topic: Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability Author(s): Stefan Schütte, Brandy Bauer

The level of risk that poor households face may determine whether they can build an asset base for sustainable livelihoods or spiral further into poverty. Risks come in many forms—from health and security threats to cash shortage in times of emergencies. This Policy Note examines how households engage in largely reactive coping strategies that often trap them in a cycle of risks. In many cases, families are left with little to no institutional support—at times even obstructed by the very institutions tasked to look after them—to achieve livelihood security.

#### Develop Policies and Programmes to Help Urban Poor Avoid Debt and Save for the Future

Pub 708 (E)

درى | بشتو :Also in



May 2007, Policy Note, 4 pages

Topic: Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability Author(s): Stefan Schütte, Brandy Bauer

Adequate income is a basic need in Afghanistan, since all daily needs (from food to water to fuel) must be purchased. Raising sufficient income to survive in urban Afghanistan is especially challenging for the poor who lack basic services, skills, education and other assets needed to obtain a decent living. This Policy Note looks at how poor Afghans in urban settings earn their income as well as their savings and credit patterns. It also proposes policy recommendations on how to alleviate the burden of low income and high debt on vulnerable families.

## Legalise Informal Settlements to Give Poor Families the Right to Demand Basic Services

Pub 709 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



May 2007, Policy Note, 4 pages

Topic: Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability Author(s): Stefan Schütte, Brandy Bauer

Conflicts and drought have seen the mushrooming of informal settlements in many Afghan cities over the years. The fall of the Taliban in 2001 only increased the pace of urbanisation, fuelled by refugee return and search for employment. This Policy Note focuses on access to land and services, and offers policy recommendations on how to adapt current urban land policy and service delivery approaches to the changing context of Afghan cities to lift vulnerable citizens out of poverty.

#### Target Assistance to Families with the Least Access to Diverse, Better-Paying Jobs

Pub 710 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



May 2007, Policy Note, 4 pages

Topic: Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability Author(s): Stefan Schütte, Paula Kantor

Inadequate access to employment is a major source of vulnerability for the urban poor in Afghanistan and a likely source of political instability for the state. This Policy Notes examines the level of income that different household members can earn, how this affects labour mobilisation strategies, and in turn, how such labour deployment patterns impact long-term livelihood security. It puts forth recommendations that acknowledge the complexities around family dynamics and how they determine who works and income earned.

## A Matter of Interests: Gender and the Politics of Presence in Afghanistan's Wolesi Jirga

Pub 711 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



June 2007, Issues Paper, 56 pages

Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Anna Wordsworth

More than one quarter of the 249 seats in Afghanistan's National Assembly are reserved for women, but this creation of political space for women has not resulted in the substantive representation of their collective gender interests. This Issues Paper argues that the representation of women's gender interests in the National Assembly remains minimal.

#### Livestock Feed and Products

Pub 712 (E)



June 2007, Case Study, 58 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Anthony Fitzherbert

This report analyses the opportunities and constraints that relate to different products under different management systems, and considers the implication of these for planned livestock development. It is based on case studies on two contrasting communities in the Hari Rud Valley (Pashtun Zarghun district) in Herat Province, the Tunyan and Marwabad/ Borya Baf, and one group of nomads in eastern Afghanistan, the Khomarikhel, who migrate seasonally between Laghman, Parwan and Panjshir.

# The Spread of Opium Poppy Cultivation in Balkh

Pub 714 (E)



June 2007, Case Study, 46 pages

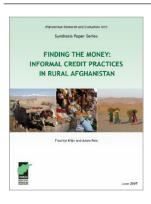
Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Adam Pain

This Case Study builds on preliminary research undertaken in March 2006 and published as "Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy: Opium Poppy Cultivation in Kunduz and Balkh" in June 2006. It centres on Balkh Province, its structures of ethnicity and settlement, actors associated with the control and regulation of the opium trade, and the interplay between the formal and informal institutions within Balkh Province. It shows that the recent decline in opium poppy area in Balkh is not likely to be durable.

## Finding the Money: Informal Credit Practices in Rural Afghanistan

Pub 715 (E)



June 2007, Synthesis Paper, 75 pages

Topic: Informal Credit and Microcredit Systems

Author(s): Adam Pain, Floortje Klijn

This Synthesis Paper combines three case studies providing insight into how microcredit may intersect with and affect informal credit practices. It also provides insight into the changes in credit practices over time and their impact on socio-economic relations within villages.

## To Return or to Remain: The Dilemma of Second-Generation Afghans in Pakistan

Pub 716 (E)



June 2007, Case Study, 70 pages

Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks

Author(s): Pamela Hunte, Mamiko Saito

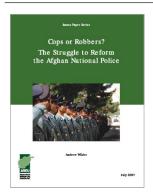
This Case Study focuses on second-generation Afghans in Pakistan.

دری :Also in

#### Cops or Robbers? The Struggle to Reform the Afghan National Police

Pub 717 (E)

درى | بشتو :Also in



July 2007, Issues Paper, 91 pages

Topic: Security

Author(s): Andrew Wilder

Despite some notable achievements, the overall result of police reform efforts to date has been disappointing. This Issues Paper argues that the Afghan government and its international partners need to 1) develop a shared vision of the police; 2) implement a comprehensive rule of law strategy; 3) make donor assistance conditional on Ministry of Interior reform; 4) prioritise quality of police over quantity; and 5) prioritise fiscal sustainability of the security sector.

# Family Dynamics and Family Violence Conference: "Spaces for Change"

Pub 718 (E)



July 2007, Presentation, 17 pages

Topic: Family Dynamics and Family Violence

Author(s): AREU

This conference on family structure and dynamics in Afghanistan was conducted in partnership with the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) on 10 and 11 July 2007. It was financially supported by the European Commission.

## Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 14

Pub 719 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



July 2007, Newsletter, 18 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the July 2007 edition of the *Afghanistan Research Newsletter*. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on the registration of Afghans in Pakistan.

## Enabling or Disabling? The Operating Environment for Small and Medium Enterprises in Rural Afghanistan

Pub 720 (E)



September 2007, Working Paper, 27 pages

Topic: Political Economy

Author(s): Saeed Parto, Anna Paterson

This Working Paper provides an overview of the key challenges faced by small and mediumsized rural enterprises (SMEs) in Afghanistan. It provides case studies, analysis and a series of recommendations aimed at improving the operating environment for rural SMEs.

## Marketing of Livestock

Pub 721 (E)



October 2007, Case Study, 54 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Euan Thomson

This Case Study analyses livestock marketing from producers through to butchers, identifies inefficiencies in livestock marketing chains, and recommends policies that would help enhance the efficiency of marketing chains and increased returns to livestock owners. It uses information gathered from fieldwork undertaken in April 2007 in Ghazni. Herat. Nangarhar and Kunduz Provinces.

# Evidence from the Field: Understanding Changing Levels of Opium Poppy Cultivation in Afghanistan

Pub 722 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



November 2007, Briefing Paper, 20 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): David Mansfield, Adam Pain

For many rural households, the cultivation of opium poppy represents the key means by which they can achieve welfare under the conditions of pervasive risk and insecurity in Afghanistan. This Briefing Paper argues that understanding changing levels of opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan requires recognition of the multifunctional role of opium poppy cultivation in the livelihoods of rural Afghan households.

## Microcredit, Informal Credit and Rural Livelihoods: A Village Case Study in Kabul Province

Pub 723 (E)



November 2007, Case Study, 76 pages

Topic: Informal Credit and Microcredit Systems

Author(s): Paula Kantor, Erna Andersen

Focusing on Kabul Province, this Case Study is part of a series of three that examines how the entry of microcredit into village and household economies in Afghanistan affects informal credit relations and livelihood outcomes, either directly or indirectly, through effects on the overall village economy.

## Second Generation Afghans in Neighbouring Countries: From Mohajer to Hamwatan - Afghans Return Home

Pub 724 (E)



December 2007, Case Study, 84 pages

Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks

Author(s): Mamiko Saito

This Case Study explores the complex process of reintegration, illustrating the difficulties faced by a sample of Afghan youth and young adults now living in urban and rural areas in Kabul, Herat and Baghlan Provinces who came back with knowledge and ideas formed while growing up in Pakistan and Iran.

## Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 15 and 16

Pub 801 (E)

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January 2008, Newsletter, 22 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the combined October 2007 and January 2008 edition of the *Afghanistan Research Newsletter*. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on the Afghanistan National Development Strategy process, by Anja Havedal.

# The Changing Face of Local Governance? Community Development Councils in Afghanistan

Pub 802 (E)



February 2008, Case Study, 46 pages

Topic: Aid Effectiveness and Coordination

Author(s): Hamish Nixon

This paper presents findings from AREU research into the role of Community Development Councils created by the National Solidarity Programme (NSP).

#### Moving to the Mainstream: Integrating Gender in Afghanistan's National Policy

Pub 803 (E)



February 2008, Working Paper, 61 pages

**Topic: Policy Process** 

Author(s): Anna Wordsworth

This paper contends that gender mainstreaming as the government's principal strategy for promoting gender equity is not being implemented substantively. Presenting a comprehensive analysis of gender mechanisms in three ministries, the paper proposes ways to promote the implementation of gender mainstreaming.

## Love, Fear and Discipline: Everyday Violence Toward Children in Afghan Families

Pub 804 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



February 2008, Issues Paper, 90 pages

Topic: Family Dynamics and Family Violence

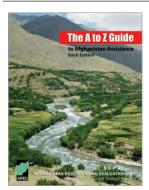
Author(s): Deborah J. Smith

Based on qualitative research in rural and urban areas of four provinces, this paper discusses violence toward children within the family unit. The research focused on "normal" forms of violence which are part of people's everyday lives.

## A to Z Guide to Afghanistan Assistance Sixth Edition

Pub 805 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



February 2008, Book, 226 pages

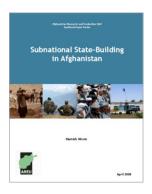
Topic: A to Z Guide Author(s): AREU

The sixth edition (2008) of AREU's flagship publication: a guide to the terms, structures, mechanisms, and coordinating bodies critical to the Afghanistan relief effort. It aims to ensure a shared vocabulary and common understanding of the forces at play in the country. In addition to a glossary of terms and organograms of key assistance structures, the guide includes maps and a contacts directory to make it easier to communicate with assistance actors working on the ground. A "live document," the guide is updated and published annually.

# Subnational State-Building in Afghanistan

Pub 806 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



April 2008, Synthesis Paper, 80 pages

Topic: State-building and Local Governance

Author(s): Hamish Nixon

Since 2004, the Afghan government and its international partners have become increasingly aware that issues and challenges surrounding subnational governance in Afghanistan are crucial to national development, stability, and security. This has also been a time of extraordinary change in subnational governance structures. This Synthesis Paper identifies and analyses key issues affecting state-building interventions at subnational levels, and their implications for current and future governance programming.

#### Microcredit, Informal Credit and Rural Livelihoods: A Village Case Study in Bamiyan

Pub 807 (E)



April 2008, Case Study, 85 pages

Topic: Informal Credit and Microcredit Systems

Author(s): Erna Andersen, Paula Kantor

Focusing on Bamiyan Province, this is the second Case Study in a series of three that examines how the entry of microcredit into village and household economies in Afghanistan affects informal credit relations and livelihood outcomes, either directly or indirectly, through effects on the overall village economy.

## Factors Influencing Decisions to Use Child Labour: A Case Study of Poor Households in Kabul

Pub 808 (E)



April 2008, Case Study, 60 pages

Topic: Child Labour

Author(s): Paula Kantor, Anastasiya Hozyaninva

This Case Study from Kabul Province is the first in a three-part series examining household decision-making around the use of child labour in urban and rural Afghanistan. This study identifies and explores the ways in which households' evaluation of education and work trade-offs—and their direct and opportunity costs—influence decisions about child labour. The study also describes the types and conditions of work commonly performed by children, and attempts to assess the potential positive and negative effects of work on children's access to education and their physical and psychosocial well-being.

## Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 17

Pub 809 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



April 2008, Newsletter, 22 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the April 2008 edition of the *Afghanistan Research Newsletter*. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on research libraries in Kabul, by Royce Wiles.

# Resurgence and Reduction: Explanations for Changing Levels of Opium Poppy Cultivation in Nangarhar and Ghor in 2006-07

Pub 810 (E)



May 2008, Case Study, 66 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): David Mansfield

This Case Study looks at changes in opium poppy cultivation from 2005-06 to 2006-07 in two provinces of Afghanistan: Nangarhar and Ghor. Drawing on three years of fieldwork, it highlights that rural households cultivating opium poppy do not necessarily generate a gross per capita income either above the subsistence level of a dollar a day or greater than non-poppy cultivating households in the same province.

## How the Water Flows: A Typology of Irrigation Systems in Afghanistan

Pub 811 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



June 2008, Issues Paper, 80 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Bob Rout

This Issues Paper develops and presents a typology of irrigation systems in Afghanistan. It is intended to enhance knowledge of irrigation methods and management with the aim of improving system performance and productivity. It is also intended to provide those involved in irrigation rehabilitation and natural resources management with a better understanding of the link between irrigation systems and livelihood sustainability.

## Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 18

Pub 812 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



July 2008, Newsletter, 22 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the July 2008 edition of the Afghanistan Research Newsletter. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature interview with AREU's new director, Paula Kantor, by Chris Bassett, and an article on Pashto-language publishing, by Jamil Alkozai.

#### Factors Influencing Decisions to Use Child Labour: A Case Study of Poor Households in Herat

Pub 813 (E)



August 2008, Case Study, 107 pages

Topic: Child Labour

Author(s): Amanda Sim, Marie-Louise Hoilund-Carlsen

This Case Study of two sites in Herat Province concludes a three-part series examining household decision-making around the use of child labour in urban and rural Afghanistan. This study identifies and explores the ways in which households' evaluation of education and work trade-offs-and their direct and opportunity costs-influence decisions about child labour. The study also describes the types and conditions of work commonly performed by children, and attempts to assess the potential positive and negative effects of work on children's access to education and their physical and psychosocial well-being.

# Factors Influencing Decisions to Use Child Labour: A Case Study of Poor Households in Badakhshan

Pub 814 (E)



August 2008, Case Study, 69 pages

Topic: Child Labour

Author(s): Pamela Hunte, Anastasiya Hozyaninva

Focusing on Badakhshan Province, this is the second Case Study in a three-part series examining household decision-making on the use of child labour in urban and rural Afghanistan. This study identifies and explores the ways in which households' evaluation of education and work trade-offs-and their direct and opportunity costs-influence decisions about child labour. The study also describes the types and conditions of work commonly performed by children, and attempts to assess the potential positive and negative effects of work on children's access to education and their physical and psychosocial well-being.

## Afghanistan's Hidden Drug Problem: The Misuse of Psychotropics

Pub 815 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



October 2008, Briefing Paper, 20 pages

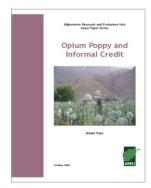
Topic: Health

Author(s): David Macdonald

Afghanistan has gained notoriety as the world's leading producer of opium and heroin, but less well known is that it also has an increasing number of problem drug users. While popular perceptions of drug misuse and dependency in the country tend to focus on illicit drugs, the evidence suggests that many people also misuse psychotropics-pharmaceutical drugs such as painkillers and tranquillisers that are often cheap and widely available from pharmacies and other retail outlets.

## Opium Poppy and Informal Credit

Pub 816 (E)



October 2008, Issues Paper, 64 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Adam Pain

This Issues Paper examines the link between opium poppy cultivation and informal credit systems in Afghanistan. The report challenges assumptions that opium poppy cultivation results in particularly harmful debt and high-cost credit. It encourages deeper scrutiny into opium's role in and effect on rural households and communities, with implications for opium poppy eradication programmes, rural livelihoods, and the availability of and need for different types of credit.

# Elections in 2009 and 2010: Technical and Contextual Challenges to Building Democracy in Afghanistan

Pub 817 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



November 2008, Briefing Paper, 22 pages

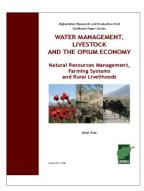
Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Grant Kippen

This report assesses preparations for and attitudes toward the 2009 and 2010 elections. Focusing on two major factors—technical processes and contextual issues—the paper points out key actors in the elections and the steps they could take to resolve difficulties encountered during the 2004 and 2005 elections in Afghanistan. It pays specific attention to voter registration, candidate vetting and financing processes, public awareness issues, capacity building and the swiftly changing security situation in Afghanistan.

## Natural Resources Management, Farming Systems and Rural Livelihoods

Pub 818 (E)



November 2008, Synthesis Paper, 115 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Alan Roe

This paper synthesises the preliminary findings, conclusions and recommendations emerging from the first year of AREU's "Applied Thematic Research into Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy." It examines irrigation methods and water management systems, and draws linkages between water availability, livestock production and opium cultivation. Based on this analysis, the paper makes recommendations for the improvement of natural resource access, rural development and agricultural policy.

# From Disappointment to Hope: Transforming Experiences of Young Afghans Returning "Home" from Pakistan and Iran

Pub 819 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



November 2008, Briefing Paper, 18 pages

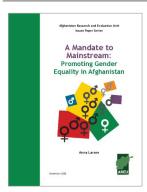
Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks

Author(s): Mamiko Saito

The overwhelming majority of refugees who fled during decades of conflict in Afghanistan relocated to Pakistan and Iran. A sizeable number of these are young Afghans who have spent most, if not all, of their lives in these neighbouring countries. This Briefing Paper examines the challenges faced by these second-generation refugees in relation to both the decision to return as well as reintegration in Afghanistan. It addresses gaps that exist in the understanding of their social and emotional experiences such as struggles with identity, rejection and discrimination.

## A Mandate to Mainstream: Promoting Gender Equality in Afghanistan

Pub 820 (E)



November 2008, Issues Paper, 90 pages

Topic: Policy Process Author(s): Anna Larson

Gender mainstreaming has been identified as the Government of Afghanistan's chosen strategy for achieving gender equality in the country. This paper from AREU contends that the implementation of this strategy needs to be strengthened significantly for substantive changes to take place. After a thorough exploration of gender mainstreaming in the Afghan context, the paper presents opinions on its progress from staff working within eight different ministries. It presents the achievements of gender mainstreaming to-date and suggests both technical and institutional ways forward.

#### "Let Them Eat Promises" — Closing the Opium Poppy Fields in Balkh and its Consequences

Pub 821 (E)



December 2008, Case Study, 45 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Adam Pain

International agencies have claimed that incentives and improvements in security and governance preceded and led to the end of opium cultivation in Balkh Province in 2007. Afghan officials, however, effectively admit that the closure was due to coercion. The field evidence presented in this report does not support claims that farmers' decisions to stop cultivating opium poppy stemmed from the provision of incentives or development-nor does it find evidence of improved governance or security. If anything, conditions are worse and livelihood security for many rural households is in decline.

# Counter Narcotics in Afghanistan: The Failure of Success?

Pub 822 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



December 2008, Briefing Paper, 22 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): David Mansfield, Adam Pain

The Briefing Paper argues that to truly understand what will create sustainable change in the Afghan opium industry, observers need to improve the tools being used to measure the success of counternarcotics efforts. Until new indicators can inform counter-narcotics policy, perceptions of "failure" or "success" will likely continue to focus on short-term fixes rather than reach the root of the problem with long-term solutions. The paper concludes that a number of other indicators should be studied to improve policy concerning opium.

#### Microcredit, Informal Credit and Rural Livelihoods: A Village Case Study in Balkh Province

Pub 824 (E)



December 2008, Case Study, 87 pages

Topic: Informal Credit and Microcredit Systems

Author(s): Erna Andersen, Amanda Sim

This Case Study is the third and final in a series of three that examines how the entry of microcredit into village and household economies in Afghanistan affects informal credit relations and livelihood outcomes, either directly or indirectly, through effects on the overall village economy. It asserts that because credit and social relations are deeply intertwined, microcredit must be seen as more than simply a financial transaction. The paper recommends that microfinance institutions better understand informal credit relations as well as methods for providing appropriate demand-driven services.

## Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 19

Pub 825 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



December 2008, Newsletter, 22 pages Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the October/November 2008 edition of the *Afghanistan Research Newsletter*. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on Georg Morgenstierne, an early Norwegian researcher in Afghanistan, by Michael Fergus.

## Focusing ANDS Implementation on Pro-Poor Outcomes: Workshop Proceedings, 23 February 2009

Pub 900 (E)

2009

Focusing ANOS implementation on Pro-Poor Outcomes
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February 2009, Event Proceedings, 12 pages

Topic: Policy Process

Author(s): Sayed Mohammad Shah, Paula Kantor

This workshop presented key findings from two AREU papers on the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS) process and outcomes, and used these to fuel discussion on ways forward in implementing the ANDS. It aimed to engage some of the people with a role in the implementation of the ANDS in thinking through how to build on what has been done to achieve pro-poor outcomes.

# Delivering on Poverty Reduction: Focusing ANDS Implementation on Pro-Poor Outcomes

Pub 901 (E)



February 2009, Discussion Paper, 21 pages

Topic: Afghanistan National Development Strategy

Author(s): Paula Kantor, Adam Pain

This Discussion Paper responds to the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS) recently after it was finalised. Focusing on the poverty reduction aims of the ANDS, the paper notes that, in many cases, the strategy fails to deliver on them. The paper points to implementation and monitoring and evaluation processes as keys for improving propoor outcomes. Despite its flaws, the author suggests that the ANDS—with improved implementation—can be crucial in uniting and channelling efforts toward reducing poverty in Afghanistan.

#### A to Z Guide to Afghanistan Assistance Seventh Edition

Pub 903 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



April 2009, Book, 272 pages

Topic: A to Z Guide Author(s): AREU

The seventh edition of AREU's flagship publication: a guide to the terms, structures, mechanisms, and coordinating bodies critical to the Afghanistan relief effort. It aims to ensure a shared vocabulary and common understanding of the forces at play in the country. In addition to a glossary of terms and organograms of key assistance structures, the guide includes maps and a contacts directory to make it easier to communicate with assistance actors working on the ground. A "live document," the guide is updated and published annually.

## Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS) Formulation Process: Influencing Factors and Challenges

Pub 904 (E)



February 2009, Discussion Paper, 37 pages

Topic: Policy Process

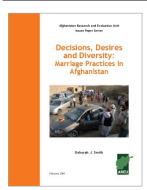
Author(s): Sayed Mohammad Shah

This paper examines the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS), which resulted from a complex series of policy interactions. The ANDS is tied to other important documents and processes related to the country's development and it has implications for the Government of Afghanistan, donors and, most important of all, Afghan citizens. After exploring the journey taken to create the ANDS, the paper explores the strengths and weaknesses of the consultation processes involved in the formation of the Strategy.

#### Decisions, Desires and Diversity: Marriage Practices in Afghanistan

Pub 905 (E)

درى | بشتو :Also in



February 2009, Issues Paper, 102 pages

Topic: Family Dynamics and Family Violence

Author(s): Deborah J. Smith

The institution of marriage is central to Afghan social life and to understanding gender dynamics within Afghan families. This Issues Paper explores the decision-making processes related to marriage and marriage practices. It draws links between violence in the family and particular marriage practices. Following research in rural and urban areas of four provinces (Bamiyan, Herat, Kabul and Nangarhar) the paper contends that marriage decisions and practices are affected by many diverse factors—and not merely by demographic factors, such as education and poverty.

## Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 20

Pub 906 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



February 2009, Newsletter, 22 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the January/February 2009 edition of the Afghanistan Research Newsletter. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article Hidden Kabul about restoring buildings in the old city of Kabul, by Jolyon Leslie.

#### Afghanistan's New Democratic Parties: A Means to Organise Democratisation?

Pub 907 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



March 2009, Briefing Paper, 24 pages

Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Anna Larson

This paper explores the role of new democratic political parties (NDPs) in Afghanistan's democratisation process. The author argues that the Government of Afghanistan and the international community have effectively sidelined political parties and calls for a reassessment of the contributions they can make to organising democracy. It claims that NDPs are not currently functioning effectively and sets forth key recommendations on how they can play an improved role in this process.

## A Historical Perspective on the Mirab System: A Case Study of the Jangharoq Canal, Baghlan

Pub 908 (E)



March 2009, Case Study, 53 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Vincent Thomas, Ahmad Mujeeb

The Afghan government and others working in the water and irrigation sector have highlighted the importance of the traditional *mirab* (water master) system to collective water management in the country. In policy documents, however, specific definitions of such structures remain unclear. This in-depth Case Study provides a historical perspective on how collective water management practices, and the environment in which they occur, have evolved. It argues that the mirab system is far from being an institution that is solely community based, nor is it divorced from the events and forces swirling around it.

## Mutual Accountability in Afghanistan: Promoting Partnerships in Development Aid?

Pub 909 (E)



April 2009, Working Paper, 29 pages

Topic: Aid Effectiveness and Coordination

Author(s): Marieke Denissen

This paper focuses on how mutual accountability in development aid is understood and how it works in practice in Afghanistan, while also examining the challenges involved in achieving mutual accountability in aid relationships. It concludes that mutual accountability can make development aid more effective by, for instance, increasing public support for development policies, increasing a government's legitimacy, increasing donor accountability, and contributing to anti-corruption measures.

## Policymaking in Agriculture and Rural Development in Afghanistan

Pub 912 (E)



April 2009, Case Study, 64 pages

Topic: Policy Process

Author(s): Adam Pain, Sayed Mohammad Shah

The agriculture sector in Afghanistan is seen to have a key role in driving economic growth. This paper examines the making of Agriculture and Rural Development (ARD) policy in Afghanistan. It is part of a series by AREU that looks at policymaking processes in Afghanistan, and aims to open up space for informed political choice.

#### Reflections on the Paris Declaration and Aid Effectiveness in Afghanistan

Pub 913 (E)

درى | بشتو :Also in



April 2009, Discussion Paper, 19 pages

Topic: Aid Effectiveness and Coordination

Author(s): Rebecca Roberts

Aid to Afghanistan is widely criticised for being ineffective. This report argues that although the principles of the 2005 Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness are worthy, the framework is inadequate to ensure aid effectiveness in Afghanistan.

## Interrogating Irrigation Inequities: Canal Irrigation Systems in Injil District, Herat

Pub 914 (E)



April 2009, Case Study, 52 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Srinivas Chokkakula

This report presents the findings of a Case Study looking at irrigation systems in Injil District in Herat Province. The purpose of the study was to understand inequities and inequalities in irrigation distribution in a typical canal irrigation system. Two canals of the Hari Rud river system flowing in Injil District, Herat Province, were selected as the focus of the study.

## Findings from the First Year of Farm and Household Monitoring

Pub 917 (E)



April 2009, Case Study, 94 pages

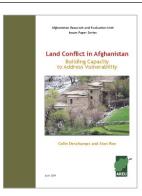
Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Alan Roe

This report provides a summary overview of the results from the first year of farm and household monitoring undertaken under the auspices of the "Applied Thematic Research into Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy." Farm and household monitoring was adopted as one of several complementary research tools utilised by the project team and so is not expected to be a stand-alone research action. Nevertheless, since the empirical evidence produced by farming monitoring has important policy relevance, some key findings are summarised in this report.

#### Land Conflict in Afghanistan: Building Capacity to Address Vulnerability

Pub 918 (E)



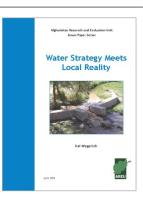
April 2009, Issues Paper, 57 pages Topic: Land Rights and Relations Author(s): Colin Deschamps, Alan Roe

This Issues Paper presents the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the "For Building Capacity to Address Land-Related Conflict and Vulnerability in Afghanistan" research project. The project's overall objective was to help reduce land-related insecurity and vulnerability by strengthening the Afghan government's capacity to resolve or assist in the resolution of land conflict in a manner that is fair, effective and legitimate.

#### Water Strategy Meets Local Reality

Pub 919 (E)

درى | بشتو :Also in



April 2009, Issues Paper, 87 pages

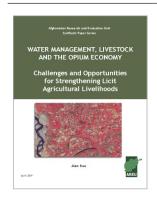
Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Kai Wegerich

Afghanistan is attempting to adopt internationally recommended water management policies. This report explores different Afghan drafts of the Water Sector Strategy and the Water Law and how they reflect these international recommendations. Subsequently, it compares these drafts with local water management practices.

## Challenges and Opportunities for Strengthening Licit Agricultural Livelihoods

Pub 920 (E)



April 2009, Synthesis Paper, 99 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Alan Roe

This paper brings together key findings and recommendations arising from the second year of research conducted by AREU under the auspices of the "Applied Thematic Research into Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy" project.

## Proceedings of the Land Conflict Workshop held on 8 April 2009

Pub 921 (E)



April 2009, Event Proceedings, 12 pages

Topic: Land Rights and Relations

Author(s): AREU

Proceedings from a day-long land conflict workshop held on 8 April 2009 at the Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit, which included 21 participants from 12 organisations involved in land conflict issues in Afghanistan.

## Research and Development for Better Livestock Productivity

Pub 922 (E)



April 2009, Case Study, 69 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Euan Thomson

Knowing the levels of production of livestock found in the main production systems, and also knowing livestock prices, is essential when taking decisions about the importance that should be given to nutrition, health, breeding and management. This Case Study presents information that could contribute to the ongoing debate preceding any revision of the current Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) Master Plan and Strategy.

#### Between Discipline and Discretion: Policies Surrounding Senior Subnational Appointments

Pub 923 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



May 2009, Briefing Paper, 22 pages

Topic: Policy Process

Author(s): Martine Van Bijlert

Over the years the calls for improved governance in Afghanistan have become increasingly urgent. Understanding the various ways in which governors and district governors are appointed, and the different influences that affect the process, is important if ways are to be found to improve overall governance in Afghanistan. This Discussion Paper explores this issue, examining existing appointment practices and suggesting a number of ways that the process could be improved, along with the shifts in emphasis needed to make them happen.

## Policymaking in Agriculture and Rural Development

Pub 924 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



May 2009, Briefing Paper, 20 pages

Topic: Policy Process Author(s): Adam Pain

The agriculture sector in Afghanistan is seen to have a key role in driving economic growth. This paper examines the making of Agriculture and Rural Development policy in Afghanistan. It is part of a series by AREU looking at policymaking processes in Afghanistan, and aims to open up space for informed political choice.

## Confronting Child Labour in Afghanistan

Pub 925 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



March 2009, Briefing Paper, 16 pages

Topic: Child Labour Author(s): Amanda Sim

According to recent estimates, one in four Afghan children aged seven to 14 is engaged in some form of work. This Briefing Paper explores the issue, drawing on findings from an indepth, qualitative study of poor households that use child labour, as well as those that do not. The report looks beyond poverty to explore the range of social and cultural factors that affect a household's decisions regarding child labour, particularly the crucial way in which a household weighs the costs and benefits of work versus school.

## "Poppy Free" Provinces: A Measure or a Target?

Pub 926 (E)



May 2009, Case Study, 37 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): David Mansfield

This report is one of seven multi-site case studies undertaken during the second stage of AREU's three-year "Applied Thematic Research into Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy." The report details the processes by which two provinces, Nangarhar and Ghor, achieved what the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has come to refer to as "poppy free" status in the 2007/08 growing season.

## Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 21

Pub 927 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



April 2009, Newsletter, 23 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the April/May 2009 edition of the Afghanistan Research Newsletter. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on Afghanistan Information Management Systems (AIMS) about building information capacity in Afghanistan, by Emily Winterbotham.

## Improving Mutual Accountability for Aid Effectiveness

Pub 928 (E)



June 2009, Policy Note, 4 pages

Topic: Aid Effectiveness and Coordination

Author(s): Rebecca Roberts

This paper focuses on how mutual accountability in development aid is understood and how it works in practice in Afghanistan, while also examining the challenges involved in achieving mutual accountability in aid relationships. It concludes that mutual accountability can make development aid more effective by, for instance, increasing public support for development policies, increasing a government's legitimacy, increasing donor accountability, and contributing to anti-corruption measures.

## Opportunities for Pro-Poor Agricultural Growth

Pub 929 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



June 2009, Synthesis Paper, 61 pages

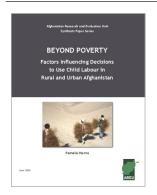
Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): Alan Roe

This paper brings together key findings and recommendations from three years of research conducted by AREU under the "Applied Thematic Research into Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy." The major objective of this research is to enhance the sustainability of Afghan rural livelihoods and reduce dependency on illicit crops by providing policymakers with clear and accurate information on the use, management and role of natural resources in farming systems, and how these influence opportunities for agricultural development.

# Beyond Poverty: Factors Influencing Decisions to Use Child Labour in Rural And Urban Afghanistan

Pub 930 (E)



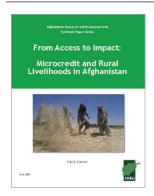
June 2009, Synthesis Paper, 73 pages

Topic: Child Labour Author(s): Pamela Hunte

Complex decision-making processes lie behind a household's decision to use—or not use—child labour in Afghanistan. This paper aims to go beyond explanations of poverty as a sole determinant and explore the range of social and cultural factors that also influence the decision to use child labour. The paper accompanies and expands on the AREU Briefing Paper "Confronting Child Labour in Afghanistan."

#### From Access to Impact: Microcredit and Rural Livelihoods in Afghanistan

Pub 931 (E)



June 2009, Synthesis Paper, 74 pages

Topic: Informal Credit and Microcredit Systems

Author(s): Paula Kantor

Reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan have prioritised access to and delivery of microcredit to stabilise livelihoods. Since 2003, over US\$569 million in microcredit loans have been delivered to over 440,000 urban and rural clients. This paper examines the effect that the availability of microcredit has had on existing informal credit systems and on livelihoods in rural Afghanistan.

## Searching for My Homeland: Dilemmas Between Borders - Experiences of Young Afghans Returning "Home" from Pakistan and Iran

Pub 932 (E)



July 2009, Synthesis Paper, 77 pages

Topic: Migration and Transnational Networks

Author(s): Mamiko Saito

Many Afghan refugees are still living in Pakistan and Iran—the majority are in their second or even third generation of displacement. This study is based on interviews with 199 purposively selected respondents and considers the complexities of deciding to return to one's "homeland," the influence of ties to Pakistan, Iran and Afghanistan, as well as the less visible social and emotional reintegration trajectories of returnee respondents, including the crucial links between these issues and material challenges of reintegration.

## Patronage, Posturing, Duty, Demographics: Why Afghans Voted in 2009

Pub 933 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



August 2009, Brief, 8 pages

Topic: Representative Governance Author(s): Noah Coburn, Anna Larson

What explains the levels of both participation and enthusiasm during the 2009 elections in Kabul Province? Although some voters were motivated by a sense of national duty, and a desire to take part in the democratic process, the majority voted for a variety of other, overlapping reasons. This paper argues that to understand voting attitudes in Kabul Province it is necessary to also look at social pressure, material incentives, a desire to demonstrate community strength, and a desire to "back the winning horse."

# Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 22

Pub 934 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



July 2009, Newsletter, 25 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

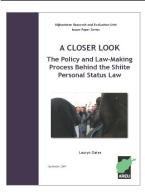
Author(s): AREU

This is the July/August 2009 edition of the Afghanistan Research Newsletter. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on documenting the 2009 election.

## A Closer Look: The Policy and Lawmaking Process Behind the Shiite Personal Status Law

Pub 935 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



September 2009, Issues Paper, 39 pages

Topic: Policy Process Author(s): Lauryn Oates

In March 2009, news of the Shiite Personal Status Law, which included a handful of articles that restricted the rights of Afghan Shia women, exploded in the international press, galvanising heated responses from a variety of stakeholders. An AREU study has sought to examine another angle of this story: the inception, preparation and parliamentary passage of the law. The aim has been to identify what this experience can illustrate about lawmaking in post-Bonn Afghanistan, and the political culture and capacity surrounding it.

## Confronting Child Labour in Afghanistan: Workshop Proceedings

Pub 956 (E)



August 2009, Event Proceedings, 11 pages

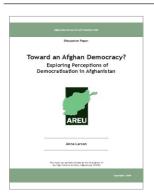
Topic: Child Labour Author(s): AREU

This one-day workshop brought together representatives of government, donors and NGOs working on issues related to child labour to discuss the findings of AREU's child labour research programme.

## Toward an Afghan Democracy? Exploring Perceptions of Democratisation in Afghanistan

Pub 936 (E)

درى | بشتو :Also in



September 2009, Discussion Paper, 27 pages

Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Anna Larson

Despite all of the attention being paid to Afghanistan's controversial elections, one important question has gone largely unasked: What do Afghans think about democracy? This question is deeply relevant to Afghanistan's future, and is at the heart of this AREU report.

#### The Shiite Personal Status Law: ACBAR Presentation Notes

Pub 959 (E)



October 2009, Event Proceedings, 7 pages

Topic: Policy Process

Author(s): Zaman Sultani, Sarah Parkinson

Notes from a presentation on AREU's study of the Shiite Personal Status Law on 14 October 2009 at the Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief (ACBAR).

## Voting Together: Why Afghanistan's 2009 Elections were (and were not) a Disaster

Pub 937 (E)

دری :Also in



November 2009, Briefing Paper, 20 pages

Topic: Representative Governance Author(s): Noah Coburn, Anna Larson

This Briefing Paper analyses voter patterns and attitudes from three areas of Kabul Province, finding some positive signs amidst the general disarray of Afghanistan's 2009 electoral process. At a local level, the elections did result in the changing of balances of power, both through representation on the Kabul Provincial Council and the dynamics of political campaigning. However, the paper warns that if the significant flaws in the electoral system are not addressed for the 2010 parliamentary election, democratisation gains in Afghanistan are in danger of being lost.

## Losing Legitimacy? Some Afghan Views on the Government, the International Community, and the 2009 Elections

Pub 938 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



November 2009, Brief, 9 pages

Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Noah Coburn

Following the confusing conclusion to Afghanistan's 2009 election season, an immediate international concern was the extent to which the process had damaged the legitimacy of the Afghan government. But to what extent did the presidential elections of 2009 actually damage the legitimacy of the government in the eyes of the Afghan people? Have Afghan attitudes toward the state and the electoral process actually shifted? This report from AREU explores these questions.

## Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 23

Pub 939 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



November 2009, Newsletter, 20 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the October/November 2009 issue of the Afghanistan Research Newsletter. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on young Afghans' experiences of violence, by Catherine Panter-Brick.

# Child Labour in Afghanistan: ACBAR Presentation Notes

Pub 957 (E)



November 2009, Event Proceedings, 7 pages

Topic: Child Labour Author(s): Paula Kantor

Notes from a presentation on AREU's child labour study on 11 November 2009 at the Agency

Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief (ACBAR).

## Community-Based Dispute Resolution Processes in Bamiyan Province

Pub 940 (E)



December 2009, Case Study, 60 pages

Topic: Community-Based Dispute Resolution Author(s): Deborah J. Smith, Shelly Manalan

This Bamiyan Case Study is one of four focusing on community-based dispute resolution (CBDR) in Afghanistan. Each Case Study explores: who has power in CBDR and how they exercise it; the processes and relationships that link CBDR with state justice; the practices, principles and outcomes of CBDR and how these change depending on political, social and security contexts; and gender dynamics regarding CBDR.

## Community-Based Dispute Resolution Processes in Nangarhar Province

Pub 941 (E)



December 2009, Case Study, 82 pages

Topic: Community-Based Dispute Resolution

Author(s): Deborah J. Smith

This Nangarhar Case Study is one of four focusing on community-based dispute resolution (CBDR) in Afghanistan. Each Case Study explores: who has power in CBDR and how they exercise it; the processes and relationships that link CBDR with state justice; the practices, principles and outcomes of CBDR and how these change depending on political, social and security contexts; and gender dynamics regarding CBDR.

## A Holistic Justice System for Afghanistan

Pub 942 (E)



December 2009, Policy Note, 4 pages

Topic: Community-Based Dispute Resolution Author(s): Deborah J. Smith, Jay Lamey

This Policy Note presents key findings and recommendations from AREU's research on community-based dispute resolution. It was re-released in conjunction with other Policy Notes prepared for the Kabul Conference in 2010.

AREU Brochure 2009-10

Pub 943 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



December 2009, Brochure, 2 pages

Topic: Institutional Publication

Author(s): AREU

A brief introduction to AREU's mission, library, research and outreach strategy.

## Creating Pro-Poor Agricultural Growth: Workshop Proceedings

Pub 958 (E)



December 2009, Event Proceedings, 7 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): AREU

Proceedings of the workshop marking the completion of AREU's multi-year Water, Opium and Livestock (WOL) research project.

#### Building a Viable Microfinance Sector in Afghanistan 2010

Pub 1001 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



January 2010, Briefing Paper, 18 pages

Topic: Informal Credit and Microcredit Systems

Author(s): Paula Kantor, Erna Andersen

AREU research on the impact of microcredit on informal credit systems and rural livelihoods illustrated the viability challenges MFIs and their clients were facing. This Briefing Paper examines the changes the microfinance sector is undertaking to improve performance, such as the introduction of more reliable business plans, creating internal audit units to improve control systems and reduce opportunities for fraud, and institutionalising an MFI report card system.

## Lasting Peace Requires Accountable Political Institutions

Pub 1002 (E)

دری: Also in



February 2010, Press Release, 2 pages

Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): AREU

An AREU statement on the importance of elections in Afghanistan, made following the 2010 London Conference.

## Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories: Evidence from Badakhshan

Pub 1003 (E)



March 2010, Case Study, 57 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories

Author(s): Adam Pain

The Badakhshan Case Study from the Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories (ALT) project, which explored rural livelihood change in four provinces of Afghanistan. The study built on research conducted by AREU in 2002-3, providing a unique opportunity to follow the changes in rural livelihoods of a selection of the same households in 2008-9. By studying their stories in depth, the study aims to create a greater understanding of what has driven changes in welfare and livelihood security throughout the years, and shed light on the changes in the context within which people lead their lives.

#### Between Patronage and Rebellion: Student Politics in Afghanistan

Pub 1004 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



February 2010, Briefing Paper, 18 pages

Topic: Education

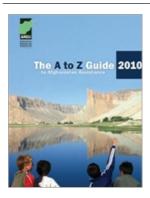
Author(s): Antonio Giustozzi

In Afghanistan today, student politics moves between two poles: patronage and rebellion. This Briefing Paper examines past and present Afghan student politics, and through it we can catch a glimpse of the future of Afghan politics.

## A to Z Guide to Afghanistan Assistance Eighth Edition

Pub 1005 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



March 2010, Book, 274 pages

Topic: A to Z Guide Author(s): AREU

The eighth edition of AREU's flagship publication: a guide to the terms, structures, mechanisms, and coordinating bodies critical to development in Afghanist. It aims to ensure a shared vocabulary and common understanding of the forces at play in the country. In addition to a glossary of terms and organograms of key assistance structures, the guide includes maps and a contacts directory to make it easier to communicate with assistance actors working on the ground. This edition also contains a special Elections 2009-10 section.

## Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 24

Pub 1006 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



February 2010, Newsletter, 22 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the January/February 2010 edition of the *Afghanistan Research Newsletter*. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on the National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (NRVA) 2007/2008 profile of Afghanistan.

#### **Democratisation and Elections**

Pub 1007 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



March 2010, Policy Note, 4 pages

Topic: Policy Notes for the 2010 Kabul Conference

Author(s): Anna Larson

A Policy Note prepared by AREU on the occasion of the 2010 Kabul Conference.

## The Shiite Personal Status Law Process

Pub 1008 (E)



April 2010, Podcast, 44 minutes

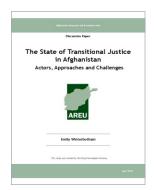
Topic: Policy Process Author(s): Lauryn Oates

The inaugural AREU podcast: Lauryn Oates discusses the policymaking process behind Afghanistan's controversial 2009 Shiite Personal Status Law.

## The State of Transitional Justice in Afghanistan: Actors, Approaches and Challenges

Pub 1009 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



April 2010, Discussion Paper, 34 pages

Topic: Legacies of Conflict Author(s): Emily Winterbotham

This paper provides an overview of the current state of transitional justice in Afghanistan. It is not intended to be exhaustive but attempts to establish a picture of transitional justice activities in Afghanistan today, raising the key challenges and debates involved.

## Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories: Evidence from Kandahar

Pub 1010 (E)



April 2010, Case Study, 60 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories

Author(s): Adam Pain

The Kandahar Case Study from the Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories (ALT) project, which explored rural livelihood change in four provinces of Afghanistan. The study built on a baseline research project conducted by AREU in 2002-03, providing a unique opportunity to follow the changes in rural livelihoods of a selection of the same households in 2008-9. By studying their stories in depth, the study aims to create a greater understanding of what has driven changes in welfare and livelihood security throughout the years, and shed light on the changes in the context within which people lead their lives.

## Speaking from the Evidence: Governance, Justice and Development-Policy Notes for the 2010 Kabul Conference

Pub 1011 (E)

درى | بشتو :Also in



April 2010, Policy Note, 28 pages

Topic: Policy Notes for the 2010 Kabul Conference

Author(s): Rebecca Roberts, Anna Larson, Deborah J. Smith, Jay Lamey, Emily Winterbotham, Paula Kantor

As Afghan and international leaders met in Kabul, following the London Conference earlier in 2010, they sought to commit to strategies that can lead the people of Afghanistan to a brighter, more secure future. These Policy Notes aim to inform discussion on how to proceed in areas related to governance, justice and development. Based on AREU's recent and ongoing research, they provide a timely reminder of the evidence base around some key topics of

relevance to the conference.

## Grounding International Engagement in Afghan Realities

Pub 1012 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



April 2010, Statement, 2 pages

Topic: Policy Notes for the 2010 Kabul Conference

Author(s): AREU

A statement by the Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit on the occasion of the London and Kabul Conferences on Afghanistan in 2010.

## Reflections on the Paris Declaration and Aid Effectiveness in Afghanistan (Policy Note Edition)

Topic: Policy Notes for the 2010 Kabul Conference

Pub 1013 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



April 2010, Policy Note, 4 pages

Author(s): Rebecca Roberts

A Policy Note prepared by AREU on the occasion of the 2010 Kabul Conference

## The State of Transitional Justice in Afghanistan (Policy Note Edition)

Pub 1014 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



April 2010, Policy Note, 4 pages

Topic: Policy Notes for the 2010 Kabul Conference

Author(s): Emily Winterbotham

A Policy Note prepared by AREU on the occasion of the 2010 Kabul Conference.

# Improving Efforts to Achieve Equitable Growth and Reduce Poverty

Pub 1015 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



April 2010, Policy Note, 4 pages

Topic: Policy Notes for the 2010 Kabul Conference

Author(s): Paula Kantor

A Policy Note prepared by AREU on the occasion of the 2010 Kabul Conference.

## Declining Opium Poppy Cultivation: Reasons and Effects

Pub 1016 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



April 2010, Policy Note, 4 pages

Topic: Policy Notes for the 2010 Kabul Conference

Author(s): Jay Lamey

A Policy Note prepared by AREU on the occasion of the 2010 Kabul Conference

## Where Have all the Flowers Gone? Assessing the Sustainability of Current Reductions in Opium Poppy Cultivation

Pub 1017 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



May 2010, Briefing Paper, 24 pages

Topic: Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

Author(s): David Mansfield

Levels of opium poppy cultivation have fallen in Afghanistan for two consecutive years. This Briefing Paper examines the reasons behind the reductions and assesses their sustainability, with special emphasis on the key provinces of Nangarhar and Helmand. It identifies instability and drops in livelihood standards caused by coercive reductions in opium poppy cultivation, and finds that increasing levels of wheat production do not reflect a sustainable shift from opium production.

## Connecting With Kabul: The Importance of the Wolesi Jirga Election and Local Political Networks in Afghanistan

Pub 1018 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



May 2010, Brief, 10 pages

Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Noah Coburn

This paper argues that the international community needs to pay more attention to the 2010 parliamentary election—not only for the precedents it will set in attempts to promote representational governance in Afghanistan, but, more pressingly, because of the ability of parliamentary elections to stimulate local political debate and reshape local political networks across Afghanistan. It suggests several broad measures that the Afghan government and the international community should take to better concentrate their efforts to support more active, local and democratic political debates.

# Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 25

Pub 1019 (E)

درى | بشتو :Also in



May 2010, Newsletter, 36 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the April/May 2010 edition of the Afghanistan Research Newsletter. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on the Afghan Geodesy and Cartography Head Office (AGCHO).

#### The Wolesi Jirga in 2010: Pre-Election Politics and the Appearance of Opposition

Pub 1020 (E)

Also in: يشتو



June 2010, Brief, 16 pages

Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Mohammad Hassan Wafaey, Anna Larson

This Brief provides some of the initial findings of AREU's study on parliamentary functions and dynamics. It summarises initial findings based on data collected from semi-structured interviews with a sample of over 50 MPs comprising different backgrounds, provinces, genders, ethnicities, political relationships, and ideologies. In addition, the views of constituents in three provinces, collected for a complementary study, have been drawn upon here to triangulate the information given by MPs.

# Corrupting the State or State-Crafted Corruption? Exploring the Nexus between Corruption and Subnational Governance

Pub 1021 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



June 2010, Discussion Paper, 35 pages

Topic: State-building and Local Governance

Author(s): Manija Gradizi, Karen Hussmann and Yama Turabi

Corruption is a central concern of Afghan citizens and a major issue on the political agenda of and for Afghanistan. It has been identified as a major threat to stability, peace-building and state-building. Co-authored by three experts in the field, this paper focuses on corruption at the subnational level in Afghanistan and aims to contribute to informed discussions among national and international policymakers on potential policy responses.

## Proceedings of a Roundtable Discussion on Subnational Corruption

Pub 1022 (E)



June 2010, Event Proceedings, 8 pages

Topic: State-building and Local Governance

Author(s): AREU

Proceedings of a roundtable discussion on subnational corruption, held in the library of the Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit on 8 June 2010 with approximately 25 participants. The event followed the release of an AREU paper on the subject, co-authored by Manija Gardizi, Karen Hussmann and Yama Torabi.

# Is Capacity Being Built? A Study of Policymaking Process in the Primary and Secondary Education Subsector

Pub 1023 (E)



July 2010, Case Study, 38 pages

Topic: Policy Process

Author(s): Sayed Mohammad Shah

This study is one in a series of case studies conducted by AREU to understand policymaking processes in different sectors, a research project that started in September 2007. This Case Study focuses on the primary and secondary education subsector and is the final in the series, all of which provide input for a Synthesis Paper on policymaking in Afghanistan.

## What Makes This Time Different?

Pub 1024 (E)

دری :Also in



July 2010, Press Release, 1 pages

Topic: Policy Notes for the 2010 Kabul Conference

Author(s): Paula Kantor

AREU Director Dr Paula Kantor Responds to the 2010 Kabul Conference.

## Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories: Evidence from Sar-i-Pul

Pub 1026 (E)



May 2010, Case Study, 57 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories

Author(s): Tom Shaw

The Sar-i-Pul Case Study from the Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories (ALT) project, which explored rural livelihood change in four provinces of Afghanistan. The study built on research conducted by AREU in 2002-3, providing a unique opportunity to follow the changes in rural livelihoods of a selection of the same households in 2008-9. By studying their stories in depth, the study aims to create a greater understanding of what has driven changes in welfare and livelihood security throughout the years, and shed light on the changes in the context within which people lead their lives.

## Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 26

Pub 1027 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



August 2010, Newsletter, 28 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the July/August 2010 edition of the Afghanistan Research Newsletter. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature article on Wahdat Library in Kabul.

# The Impact of Microfinance Programmes on Women's Lives: A Case Study in Parwan Province

Pub 1028 (E)



September 2010, Case Study, 44 pages

Topic: Women's Participation in Development

Author(s): Sogol Zand

This Case Study looks at women's participation in a microfinance programme in a village in Parwan Province and explores its impact on the gender relations both within the family and the community.

#### Afghan Election, 2010: Alternative Narratives

Pub 1029 (E)

دری :Also in



September 2010, Brief, 10 pages

Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Noah Coburn

Released shortly before the 2010 parliamentary election, this Brief examined the undiscussed stories surrounding the vote. It argued that while the media focused on fraud and insecurity, there were other significant narratives being missed by the coverage preceding the polls.

## The Wolesi Jirga in Flux, 2010: Elections and Instability I

Pub 1030 (E)

بشتو :Also in



September 2010, Discussion Paper, 24 pages

Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Anna Larson

This paper critically analyses the effects of elections in the current context of 2010, with a specific focus on the Wolesi Jirga, its members and new candidates. It is part of a series on elections in 2009-10. It draws on extensive research compiling over 200 interviews conducted with MPs, their constituents and new candidates, both at the centre in Kabul and in two Case Study provinces of Balkh and Paktia. It also exists as a parallel study to another Discussion Paper in the series, written on elections and instability with a focus on constituent perspectives at the local level.

## Parliamentarians and Local Politics in Afghanistan: Elections and Instability II

Pub 1031 (E)



September 2010, Discussion Paper, 32 pages

Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Noah Coburn

This paper is primarily an ethnographic description of parliamentary political culture at the local level in three provinces in Afghanistan. It finds the role of the MPs and the competition created by elections varies significantly in each of the study areas.

# Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories: Evidence from Faryab

Pub 1032 (E)



September 2010, Case Study, 50 pages Topic: Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories Author(s): Zarah Batul Nezami, Paula Kantor

The Faryab Case Study from the Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories project, which explored rural livelihood change in four provinces of Afghanistan. The paper finds notable deterioration in the livelihood security of the three study villages, each with a dominant ethnic group (Turkmen, Uzbek and Pashtun). Drought and physical insecurity linked to frequent political changes in Faryab, and more recently to insurgent infiltration, are the two drivers for the livelihood decline.

## Capacity-Building Through Policymaking: Developing Afghanistan's National Education Strategic Plan

Pub 1033 (E)



October 2010, Briefing Paper, 20 pages

Topic: Policy Process Author(s): Dana Holland

This Briefing Paper examines the capacity building and policymaking nexus through an examination of the National Education Strategic Plan and its revision. It finds that while clear strides have been made in developing the capacity of the Ministry of Education to plan for itself, building all the necessary capacities across such a large and dispersed organisation is a daunting and complex task.

## Does Women's Participation in the National Solidarity Programme Make a Difference in their Lives? A Case Study in Parwan Province

Pub 1034 (E)



October 2010, Case Study, 41 pages

Topic: Women's Participation in Development

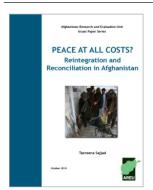
Author(s): Chona Echavez

This Case Study specifically explores women's participation in the National Solidarity Program's Community Development Councils, examining the effects these forms of women's participation are having on gender roles and relations within the family and the local community.

## Peace at all Costs? Reintegration and Reconciliation in Afghanistan

Pub 1035 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



October 2010, Issues Paper, 55 pages

Topic: Security

Author(s): Tazreena Sajjad

This analyses the Afghanistan Peace and Reintegration Programme (APRP), which was approved in June 2010 by President Hamid Karzai and is financially backed by the international community, identifies an array of potential flaws, each of which could seriously undermine the APRP's chances of success. Recognising that the APRP is being implemented in a volatile political and security environment, the author argues that "anticipation surrounding the strategy should be significantly moderated," and delivers a set of broad recommendations for the Afghan government and international stakeholders.

# Community-Based Dispute Resolution Processes in Balkh Province

Pub 1036 (E)



October 2010, Case Study, 76 pages

Topic: Community-Based Dispute Resolution

Author(s): Rebecca Gang

This is the Balkh Case Study from AREU's community-based dispute resolution research. The goal of the research is increasing knowledge of local dispute-resolution mechanisms, practices and principles to support contextually informed justice sector reform across the country.

#### Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 27

Pub 1038 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in



October 2010, Newsletter, 25 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

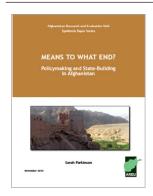
Author(s): AREU

This is the October/November 2010 edition of the Afghanistan Research Newsletter. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This issue has a feature interview with AREU's new director, Pierre Fallavier, by Peter Wilson.

## Means to What End? Policymaking and State-Building in Afghanistan

Pub 1039 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



November 2010, Synthesis Paper, 63 pages

Topic: Policy Process Author(s): Sarah Parkinson

Afghanistan has been in "state-building" mode since 2001, and formal policymaking has been an important tool for focusing and coordinating the efforts of the Afghan government and its international supporters. This Synthesis Paper considers the role that high-level policymaking has actually played, through a comparative analysis of five different recent examples of policymaking including the drafting of the Afghan National Development Strategy and the controversial Shiite Personal Status Law. It highlights both the high level of donor influence on shaping policy, and the limited effectiveness of policies themselves.

## Poverty in Afghan Policy: Enhancing Solutions through Better Defining the Problem

Pub 1040 (E)



November 2010, Briefing Paper, 12 pages Topic: Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories Author(s): Paula Kantor and Adam Pain

Over the past few years, Afghan policymakers have put aside strategies encouraging pro-poor growth in favour of solutions that focus on expanding GDP. In addition, existing solutions to poverty are becoming increasingly technically-oriented and fail to take local social realities and power structures into account. This Briefing Paper calls for policymakers and programmers to refocus on poverty and its social causes as a way to ensure that efforts to improve the lives of rural Afghans meet with lasting success.

## Decline and Stagnation: Why Rural Afghans are Staying Poor

Pub 1041 (E)

در ی :Also in



November 2010, Press Release, 2 pages Topic: Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories

Author(s): Paula Kantor

Paula Kantor outlines some of the findings of AREU's Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories project, highlighting how rural livelihoods for many rural Afghans are getting worse because of cost shocks related to failed harvests, healthcare spending and marriage practices.

#### Governance Structures in Nimroz Province

Pub 1042 (E)



November 2010, Case Study, 21 pages

Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Anna Larson

This Case Study examined popular perspectives on democracy and governance structures in Nimroz Province—an area far removed from the political centre in Kabul and strongly influenced by its proximity to neighbouring Iran. Its remoteness has left it vulnerable to natural disasters but largely shielded from the political instability plaguing the rest of the country. The study found that each of these factors has helped shape a unique set of local attitudes toward democratic and traditional institutions of governance.

## The Future of Democratisation in Afghanistan

Pub 1043 (E)



December 2010, Podcast, 33 minutes Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Anna Larson

Anna Larson discusses the findings of a multifaceted study of representative governance in Afghanistan conducted during 2009-10. Across a wide variety of locations and against a backgrdop of elections, the research closely observed electoral dynamics at a local and national level while deliberately expanding the focus to include Afghan attitudes to democracy and democratisation in general.

## Community-Based Dispute Resolution in Afghanistan

Pub 1044 (E)



December 2010, Podcast, 44 minutes

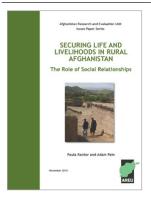
Topic: Community-Based Dispute Resolution in Afghanistan

Author(s): Deborah J. Smith

Deborah Smith discusses AREU research on community-based dispute resolution. She presents findings on the relationships between the state and community-based dispute resolution mechanisms, the different processes and practices that are used across different areas of Afghanistan to resolve disputes, and gender dynamics in these processes.

## Securing Life and Livelihoods in Rural Afghanistan: The Role of Social Relationships

Pub 1045 (E)



December 2010, Issues Paper, 50 pages Topic: Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories

Author(s): Paula Kantor, Adam Pain

This paper examines how rural households' position in the web of social relationships that underpins Afghan village life can have a defining effect on their livelihoods. These can vary from charitable relations and informal exchanges of credit—in some cases stretched to breaking point after a prolonged period of drought and deprivation—to exploitative tenancy agreements at the hands of predatory landlords. Local elites-whether self-interested or socially responsible—often play a central role in forging and perpetuating these networks. Households ascribe great value to maintaining their place in village communities as a way to ensure livelihood security, even if doing so may end up detrimental in the long run.

## Understanding and Addressing Context in Rural Afghanistan: How Villages Differ and Why

Pub 1046 (E)



December 2010, Issues Paper, 67 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories

Author(s): Adam Pain, Paula Kantor

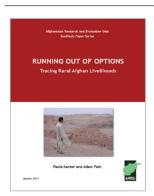
This paper explores how geography, politics, and history conspire to shape the individual character of Afghan villages. Broader regional identities—central or peripheral, mountain or plain—are overlaid onto local factors such as wealth distribution and ethnic diversity to produce individual "village republics" that are more or less capable of organising to deliver both public goods and security. In this context, it suggests that adopting a one-size-fits-all approach is an inefficient way of targeting development resources, and proposes a basic set of tools that can help programme-makers clump villages together based on points of similarity or difference.

# Pub 1101 (E)

درى | يشتو :Also in

2011

## Running out of Options: Tracing Rural Afghan Livelihoods



January 2011, Synthesis Paper, 65 pages Topic: Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories

Author(s): Paula Kantor, Adam Pain

In 2002-03, AREU documented the livelihoods of dozens of households across rural Afghanistan. When research teams revisited a selection of these families in 2008-09, they found the majority worse off than before, with many struggling to meet even the most basic of day to day needs. This paper documents the converging set of pressures that have set so many families on the path towards poverty in recent years.

## Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 28

Pub 1102 (E)

درى | بشتو :Also in



January 2011, Newsletter, 32 pages Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

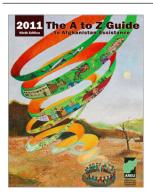
Author(s): AREU

This is the January/February 2011 edition of the Afghanistan Research Newsletter. The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. This edition features an article by members of the International Wheat and Maize Improvement Centre in Kabul on the history and current status of wheat cultivation in Afghanistan.

# A to Z Guide to Afghanistan Assistance Ninth Edition

Pub 1103 (E)

درى | پشتو :Also in



February 2011, Book, 280 pages

Topic: A to Z Guide Author(s): AREU

The ninth edition of AREU's flagship publication is a guide to the terms, structures, mechanisms, and coordinating bodies critical to the Afghanistan relief effort. It aims to ensure a shared vocabulary and common understanding of the forces at play in the country. In addition to a glossary of terms and organograms of key assistance structures, the guide includes maps and a contacts directory to make it easier to communicate with assistance actors working on the ground. A "live document," the guide is updated and published annually. This edition also contains an updated report and analysis of the 2009-10 election cycle.

# Undermining Representative Governance: Afghanistan's 2010 Parliamentary Election and its Alienating impact

Pub 1104 (E)



February 2011, Briefing Paper, 16 pages Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Noah Coburn, Anna Larson

Instead of bringing citizen and state closer together, the 2010 parliamentary election increased the distance between many Afghans and their government. "Undermining Representative Governance" details this finding, showing that a majority of research respondents are being alienated by a process that increasingly appears like a rubber stamp on the control of established powerholders.

# Proceedings of a Roundtable Discussion on Community-Based Dispute Resolution

Pub 1105 (E)



February 2011, Event Proceedings, 7 pages Topic: Community-Based Dispute Resolution

Author(s): Rebecca Gang

On 14 February 2011, AREU researcher Rebecca Gang led a roundtable discussion on the findings of AREU's research on community-based dispute resolution (CBDR) with a small group of fellow researchers, advocates and policymakers. The group focused initially on the comparative findings from two AREU case studies on CBDR practices in rural (Balkh) and urban (Kabul) settings. Discussion then turned to broader issues surrounding CBDR practice in Afghanistan, including ongoing attempts to link it with the formal justice sector, contested notions of legitimacy, and common misconceptions regarding CBDR and human rights.

# Beyond the Market: Can the AREDP Transform Afghanistan's Rural Nonfarm Economy?

Pub 1106 (E)



February 2011, Briefing Paper, 16 pages Topic: Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories Author(s): Adam Pain, Paula Kantor

The recently-launched Afghanistan Rural Enterprise Development Program (AREDP) was set up as a mechanism to promote rural employment and reduce poverty through market-led growth. However, the limitations of both agriculture and opportunities away from the farm as a path to prosperity raise serious questions about the AREDP's ability to achieve its goals. This paper paper draws on the results of AREU's Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories study to examine these issues.

# Community-Based Dispute Resolution Processes in Kabul City

Pub 1107 (E)



March 2011, Case Study, 92 pages

Topic: Community-Based Dispute Resolution

Author(s): Rebecca Gang

This is the Kabul Case Study from AREU's community-based dispute resolution (CBDR) research. The goal of the research is increasing knowledge of local dispute-resolution mechanisms, practices and principles to support contextually informed justice sector reform across the country. The study's findings suggest that CBDR in Kabul is effective and sustainable, highly adaptive, and increasingly sensitive to human rights concerns; that most disputes are not about ethnicity; that CBDR and state dispute resolution processes are closely linked; and that community members depend on keeping state justice and CBDR separate.

### Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 29

Pub 1108 (E)



April 2011, Newsletter, 27 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the April/May 2011 edition of the Afghanistan Research Newsletter. This edition features an obituary of Carla Grissman, whose decades of work at the Kabul Museum and tireless advocacy made a major contribution to safeguarding Afghanistan's rich cultural heritage.

# Deconstructing "Democracy" in Afghanistan

Pub 1110 (E)

درى | بشتو :Also in



May 2011, Synthesis Paper, 67 pages Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Anna Larson

Despite widespread concerns about fraud, foreign interference and ineffectiveness, there remains a clear appetite among many Afghans for a system of democratic representation. However, this must be centred firmly around their own priorities if it is to take lasting root. Building on two years of research in six contrasting provinces, this report explores Afghan perspectives on democracy and their possible implications for the future.

# Political Economy in the Wolesi Jirga: Sources of Finance and their Impact on Representation in Afghanistan's Parliament

Pub 1111 (E)



May 2011, Brief, 13 pages

Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Noah Coburn

Being an MP in Afghanistan is an expensive undertaking. The costs of a successful election campaign can easily reach hundreds of thousands of dollars, to which are added the day to day expenses costs of security, staffing, and responding to the demands of constituents. This brief explores the economic dynamics of the Wolesi Jirga, examining what kind of costs MPs incur as well as their strategies for meeting them.

# Practicing Democracy in Afghanistan: Key Findings on Perceptions, Parliament and Elections

Pub 1112 (E)



May 2011, Policy Note, 4 pages

Topic: Representative Governance

Author(s): Oliver Lough

This policy note summarises the findings of over three years of AREU research into the dynamics of representative governance in Afghanistan at local and national levels. Exploring the three interrelated themes of electorate perceptions, electoral dynamics and parliamentary politics, it is intended to be an introductory guide for donors, programme implementers, educators, capacity-builders and others interested in politics in Afghanistan. It also identifies relevant AREU reports for further reading depending on specific fields of interest.

### Proceedings of an AREU Roundtable Discussion on Planning New Afghan Cities

Pub 1113 (E)



June 2011, Event Proceedings, 13 pages

Topic: Opportunities for Democratic Governance in Afghan Cities

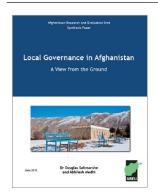
Author(s): Tommaso Giovacchini

The scoping and preliminary phase of an AREU urban governance research project was conducted in the cities of Herat, Charikar and Jalalabad between September 2010 and April 2011. This roundtable presented findings and discussed key issues in urban governance that arose from the study.

#### Local Governance in Afghanistan: A View from the Ground

Pub 1114 (E)

دری :Also in



June 2011, Synthesis Paper, 101 pages

Topic: Developments in Local Government: A View from the Ground

Author(s): Douglas Saltmarshe, Abhilash Medhi

This report finds that insufficient attention has been given to local governance in Afghanistan, despite the fact that most Afghan citizens encounter the state in provinces and districts. This neglect is inhibiting the significant efforts made in Kabul from having much impact on the ground. Key findings are presented under the following themes: Local Government Administration, Security and Justice, Service Delivery, and Representation.

# Local Government is Failing to Meet Local Needs

Pub 1115 (E)



June 2011, Podcast, 18 minutes

Topic: Developments in Local Government: A View from the Ground

Author(s): Douglas Saltmarshe

The recording of an AREU press conference on local governance, which took place on 22 June 2011. The presentation gives a clear summary of some key findings and recommendations from the research, and the Q&A with journalists raises some important issues.

# Opium Poppy Strikes Back: The 2011 Return of Opium in Balkh and Badakhshan Provinces

Pub 1116 (E)



July 2011, Case Study, 47 pages

Topic: Natural Resource Management

Author(s): Adam Pain

After several years of decline, opium poppy is experiencing a resurgence in both Badakhshan and "poppy-free" Balkh. While rising prices have played a part, a range of other factors including local power relations, security and the poor health of the rural economy continue to make opium cultivation an attractive choice for many farmers. This paper examines where and how opium has re-emerged in each province, and explores the drivers for its return.

# Local Governance for Local Needs: Key Findings and Policy Options for Afghanistan

Pub 1117 (E)



July 2011, Policy Note, 4 pages

Topic: Developments in Local Government: A View From the Ground

Author(s): Douglas Saltmarshe and Abhilash Medhi

This policy note presents key findings and policy options emerging from AREU's local governance research. While many shortcomings were identified, the silver lining is that focus on local governance in Afghanistan is increasing. There is a growing recognition among national and international stakeholders of how vital it is for security and the enduring legitimacy of the Afghan state, particularly in the context of a gradual transition toward complete responsibility by Afghan authorities for all areas of the country.

# District Councils: The Missing Middle of Local Governance

Pub 1118 (E)



July 2011, Event Proceedings, 10 pages

Topic: Developments in Local Government: A View From the Ground

Author(s): AREU

This roundtable emerged from AREU's wider study of local governance and focuses specifically on issues encountered at the district level. Participants highlighted the weakness of district structures compared to those at the provincial and village level; the confusion and complexity of different, overlapping bodies under different ministries and donor schemes; and the need to work toward a single, representative district body that can take an active role in local planning and hold ministries and the administration to account.

### Afghanistan Research Newsletter No. 30

Pub 1119 (E)



July 2011, Newsletter, 23 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Author(s): AREU

This is the July/August 2011 edition of the Afghanistan Research Newsletter. This edition features an obituary of Carla Grissman, whose decades of work at the Kabul Museum and tireless advocacy made a major contribution to safeguarding Afghanistan's rich cultural heritage.

# The Impact of Microfinance Programmes on Women's Lives: A Case Study in Kabul Province

Pub 1120 (E)



July 2011, Case Study, 50 pages

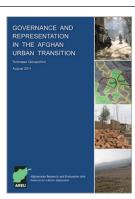
Topic: Women's Participation in Development

Author(s): Sogol Zand

This case study looks at women's participation in a microfinance programme in a community in Kabul Province. It finds that while the process of taking loans has allowed some women to gain a degree of empowerment, the microfinance initiative has had little impact on changing decision-making power or the gendered division of labour. Instead, microfinance institutions' focus on financial sustainability and reluctance to address perceived social conservatism have limited their ability to transform women's position in the community.

# Governance and Representation in the Afghan Urban Transition

Pub 1121 (E)



August 2011, Working Paper, 46 pages

Topic: Opportunities for Democratic Governance in Afghan Cities

Author(s): Tommaso Giovacchini

How to govern Afghanistan's booming cities? This report suggests that cumbersome official mechanisms are being superseded in many instances by informal settlement or land-grabbing. It also demonstrates that municipalities are suffering a crisis of finance as their "formal" tax base fails to expand, leading municipalities to act as real-estate brokers in the markets they regulate to generate windfalls. Further, it shows that urban vulnerability is not necessarily linked to informal settlements, which often enjoy relatively good access to services and security of tenure thanks to the backing of powerful patrons.

# Managing Concurrent and Repeated Risks: Explaining the Reductions in Opium Production in Central Helmand Between 2008 and 2011

Pub 1122 (E)



August 2011, Case Study, 46 pages

Topic: Natural Resource Management

Author(s): David Mansfield, OSDR and Alcis Ltd.

Using satellite imagery and on-the-ground research to track cropping patterns over several years, this report explores opium poppy cultivation in Helmand: what has driven recent reductions and how sustainable are they? It finds that while household concerns about food security because of high wheat prices drove down poppy cultivation between 2008 and 2009, the coercive power of the Afghan state and international military forces has been significant in determining levels of cultivation in central Helmand in 2010 and 2011. Sustainability of these effects will vary among different communities, depending on factors such as their security, access to markets, and agricultural potential.

# Wartime Suffering: Patterns of Violations in Afghanistan

Pub 1123 (E)



October 2011, Working Paper, 45 pages

Topic: Legacies of Conflict

Author(s): Emily Winterbotham, with Akbar Ludin, Amin Sheikhzadeh, Farkhloga Amini, Fauzia Rahimi, Jamila Wafa, Shukria Azadmanesh, Zaman Sultani

This paper accompanies the Bamiyan, Ghazni and Kabul provincial case studies from AREU's legacies of conflict research. It must be noted that the research was not designed to systematically document wartime experiences. However, a vast number of people gave up their time to tell their stories and while this was at times painful, many respondents also described the process as cathartic and healing. It was with this in mind that it was felt that the wartime stories gathered were worth both preserving and highlighting.

# Legacies of Conflict: Healing Complexes and Moving Forwards in Kabul Province

Pub 1124 (E)



October 2011, Case Study, 115 pages

Topic: Legacies of Conflict Author(s): Emily Winterbotham

The first written in the series, this paper presents findings from an urban district of Kabul City and a rural community in Shakardara District. The research aims to deepen understanding of the impact of past and present war crimes and human rights violations on Afghan communities and of what community members want in terms of "justice," "peace" and "reconciliation."

#### Legacies of Conflict: Healing Complexes and Moving Forwards in Bamiyan Province

Pub 1125 (E)



October 2011, Case Study, 95 pages

Topic: Legacies of Conflict

Author(s): Emily Winterbotham, with Fauzia Rahimi

The second written in the series, this paper presents findings from an urban area of Bamiyan City and a rural community in Yakowlang District. The research aims to deepen understanding of the impact of past and present war crimes and human rights violations on Afghan communities and of what community members want in terms of "justice," "peace" and "reconciliation."

# Legacies of Conflict: Healing Complexes and Moving Forwards in Ghazni Province

Pub 1126 (E)



October 2011, Case Study, 95 pages

Topic: Legacies of Conflict Author(s): Emily Winterbotham

The third written in the series, this paper presents findings from an urban area of Ghazni City and a rural community in Qarabagh District. The research aims to deepen understanding of the impact of past and present war crimes and human rights violations on Afghan communities and of what community members want in terms of "justice," "peace" and "reconciliation."

# Rethinking Rural Poverty Reduction in Afghanistan

Pub 1127 (E)



October 2011, Policy Note, 4 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories Author(s): Paula Kantor and Adam Pain

This policy note draws on the findings of AREU's Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories project. It calls for a re-examination of poverty reduction strategy in Afghanistan as donor and government priorities shift in anticipation of the 2014 transition process. Outlining some of the core challenges to rural livelihood security, it argues for a revised understanding of poverty that goes beyond issues of resource scarcity to address the social and economic structures that underpin it.

# Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Counter-narcotics Efforts and their Effects in Nangarhar and Helmand in the 2010-11 Growing Season

Pub 1128 (E)



October 2011, Case Study, 50 pages Topic: Natural Resource Management

Author(s): David Mansfield

This paper contrasts the socio-economic and political developments that have taken place in the opium growing provinces of Nangarhar and Helmand in the 2010-11 growing season. Both provinces have cultivated significant amounts of opium poppy over the last 15 years but are currently located at quite different points on the trajectory toward being "poppy free." The paper charts the reasons for the different outlook for opium production each province, exploring whether there are lessons to be drawn from the socio-economic and political processes involved that might inform both drug control and stabilisation efforts.

### Painful Steps: Justice, Forgiveness and Compromise in Afghanistan's Peace Process

Pub 1129 (E)



December 2011, Policy Note, 4 pages

Topic: Legacies of Conflict

Author(s): Jay Lamey with Emily Winterbotham

This paper places AREU's legacies of conflict research into the context of ongoing peace efforts. It shows that Afghans are generally both pragmatic and principled in search of peace. During interviews, they maintained a keen sense of justice but usually showed a willingness to make compromises in the interests of national stability and cohesion. However, differing attitudes to the insurgency show that local flexibility will be required for a durable settlement.

# Afghanistan Looking Ahead: Challenges for Governance and Community Welfare

Pub 1130 (E)



December 2011, Policy Note, 21 pages

Topic: Afghanistan Looking Ahead: Research Briefs for the 2011 Bonn Conference

Author(s): AREU

Ten years after the first Bonn conference attempted to lay the foundations for Afghanistan's reconstruction, Afghan and international actors at Bonn II will meet to discuss the post-2014 handover of security responsibility to the Afghan government and the nature of the international community's ongoing commitment to the country. To coincide with the event, AREU released a package of policy notes based on its recent and ongoing research on topics of relevance to the conference, including governance, development and justice.

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# A Guide to Government in Afghanistan

The production of A Guide to Government in Afghanistan was a joint project of AREU and the World Bank, and draws on the results of case studies in six provinces conducted between 2002 and 2003. The Guide has three objectives: i) it seeks to provide newcomers to the administrative and political scene in Afghanistan with a basic guide to the structures and processes of government; ii) it intends to provide reformers with some understanding of how to work "with the grain" of the existing institutional arrangements; and iii) it seeks to pay tribute to the remarkable people who have kept the system running and who are now reforming it.

In pursuing these objectives, the Guide attempts to set out the underlying strengths of the public sector, describing the evolution of the Afghan state, the current political context, and the administrative and organisational components of the government. It sets out the legal basis and organisational responsibilities for key fiscal tasks including revenue collection, budget preparation and execution, and accounting and audit. It also describes the organisational structures in the provinces, the way in which the staffing establishment is determined, and the structure of pay and grading. In particular, it looks at the arrangements for service delivery in the education and health sectors.

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# A to Z Guide to Afghanistan Assistance

A unique resource for a unique context, The A to Z Guide to Afghanistan Assistance aims to enhance understanding of the dizzying array of actors, structures and government processes related to aid and reconstruction efforts in the country. It provides an extensive glossary of assistance terms, an overview of Afghanistan's system of government, a series of country and city maps, key primary documents, and an extensive contact directory that includes government agencies, NGOs, donors and international actors. The guide has been updated annually since its first edition in 2002, and is also published in Dari and Pashto.

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# **Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories**

The Afghanistan Livelihood Trajectories project builds on the results of a prior AREU study conducted in 2003-04. Through case studies in Faryab, Badakhshan, Sar-i-Pul and Kandahar Provinces, it examines patterns of change in rural household livelihoods over the course of the past decade, informed by changes in contexts within which people lead their lives and the practices they implement to cope with these changes.

Findings from the studies suggest that many rural households in drought-hit northern provinces are poorer now than they were at the start of the decade. Despite development aid that has brought tangible improvements in the provision of education, healthcare and clean drinking water, the daily struggle to put food on the table remains the overwhelming concern for many village households. Policymakers in recent years have generally overlooked this reality, restricting their focus to simple GDP growth. Yet people in rural Afghanistan are increasingly caught in a poverty trap with few escape routes.

Poverty reduction must remain a major focus of policymakers if Afghanistan is to achieve lasting economic security. Future efforts to this end must ensure that the concerns of rural Afghans such as failed harvests, ill-health and crippling marriage costs are addressed, and that programming takes the systemic causes of poverty into account as well as providing technical assistance.

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# Afghanistan Looking Ahead: Research Briefs for the 2011 Bonn Conference

Ten years after the first Bonn conference attempted to lay the foundations for Afghanistan's reconstruction, Afghan and international actors at Bonn II will meet to discuss the post-2014 handover of security responsibility to the Afghan government and the nature of the international community's ongoing commitment to the country.

To coincide with the event, AREU released a package of policy notes based on its recent and ongoing research on topics of relevance to the conference, including governance, development and justice. In doing so, it aimed to ensure that decisions on Afghanistan's future continue to be informed by an in-depth understanding of the reality on the ground that reflects the needs and desires of Afghans themselves.

# Afghanistan National Development Strategy

In 2008, the Government of Afghanistan released its vision for poverty reduction in the form of the Afghan National Development Strategy (ANDS), attracting over \$20 billion in aid pledges from international donors earmarked for its implementation. Although coordinated by the Afghan government, the development of ANDS was in many ways

highly skewed towards meeting the goals and deadlines of international donors, due in part to its potential to be an internationally-approved Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP).

While acknowledging its strengths, AREU's analysis of the ANDS focuses on its significant inherent shortcomings. The ANDS delivers a framework which is neither pro-poor nor strategic due to its failure to focus on the causes of poverty, lack of sequencing and detailed planning for desired outcomes, and emphasis on technical factors over political and social considerations. In a special discussion paper, AREU's research team examines these issues in detail and explores how they might be overcome during the strategy's implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes.

Further analysis of the creation of the ANDS is also available through the Policy Process research project.

#### **Publications**

# Afghanistan Research Newsletter

AREU's Afghanistan Research Newsletter has been published quarterly since March 2004. It provides information on recent research projects and also lists new publications from AREU as well as other sources (Afghan government agencies, NGOs, UN agencies, individual scholars etc.) relevant for researchers working on Afghanistan. It also includes sources in Dari and Pashto. All the publications listed in the newsletter are collected in the AREU's searchable library database.

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# Aid Effectiveness and Coordination

AREU's work on aid effectiveness began with a review of the pre-2001 Strategic Framework for Afghanistan—the organisation's first ever report.

Since then, it has focused on coordination and accountability among aid actors in the context of policy frameworks such as the 2005 Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. This includes an analysis of "mutual accountability"—a core principle of the Paris Declaration. In theory, this stresses the importance of mutual transparency, respect and coordination between development partners. However, evidence suggests that political will is lacking among both international donors and the Afghan government to elaborate and implement such concepts on a practical level. A broader 2009 assessment of the Paris Declaration itself points to a need to expand its priorities beyond technical concerns to encompass both the political dimensions of aid and a greater focus on monitoring its impact.

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# Child Labour

AREU's child labour project examined the forces influencing whether, how and why children in poor Afghan households work. Its findings draw on case studies conducted in Badakhshan, Kabul and Herat Provinces in 2007-08.

The study suggests that while poverty is an ever-present background, it is far from being the monolithic driving force behind child labour it is often assumed to be. Decisions on child labour are often highly context-specific, taking into account factors such as the strength of social support networks and the relative importance of education in community norms, as well as individual household characteristics. Households regularly sought to balance a need for labour against the acknowledged long-term benefits of education, and setting children to work was shown to result in a range of positive and negative economic and psychological impacts. Results also indicated the level of diversity among experiences of child labour.

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# Community-Based Dispute Resolution

In 2006, AREU began researching community-based dispute resolution (CBDR) in Afghanistan, with the goal of increasing knowledge of local mechanisms, practices and principles to support contextually informed justice sector reform across the country.

Research was conducted in Nangarhar, Bamiyan, Balkh and Kabul Provinces. The case studies explore: who has power in CBDR and how they exercise it; the processes and relationships that link CBDR with state justice; the practices, principles and outcomes of CBDR and how these change depending on political, social and security contexts; and gender dynamics regarding CBDR. The research identified various mechanisms, differences among regional practices, resolution principles from the general to the highly specific, and differing relationships between formal and non-state dispute-resolution bodies. Prior to this work, relatively little has been written about how community-based dispute resolution processes operate, particularly in recent years, and little of this was based on in-depth data collection at the village or community level.

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# Developments in Local Government: A View from the Ground

AREU's local governance research was undertaken throughout 2010 in the provinces of Sar-i-Pul, Jawzjan, Samangan, Laghman, Wardak, Day Kundi and Helmand. The project addresses the country's diverse array of local government structures, examining formal and informal structures, administrative and elected bodies, and the interactions between them. Through exploring the interplay between representation, resources, development and security, it aims to provide a qualitative assessment of local governance in Afghanistan.

The research found that insufficient attention has been given to local governance in Afghanistan, despite the fact that most Afghan citizens encounter the state in provinces and districts. This neglect is inhibiting the significant efforts made in Kabul from having much impact on the ground. Key findings include that: money available for services and infrastructure is not being spent; planning takes place centrally and local needs are overlooked; state authority is not significantly devolved, meaning local representative bodies are unable to hold local government to account; policies are confused and complex, creating overlapping structures; separation of powers between the executive, legislature and judiciary is unclear; and donor policies remain uncoordinated and contribute to misaligned government structures.

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Local Governance for Local Needs: Key Findings and Policy Options for Afghanistan	68
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### Education

AREU education research has focused on both students and teachers as the country rebuilds and expands its educational infrastructure.

In 2004, AREU conducted a Situational Analysis of teacher education as part of the Teacher Education Programme (TEP), a multi-party project spearheaded by the Afghan ministries of education and higher education and supported by various international development organisations.

A 2010 briefing paper examined the dynamics of student politics in Afghan universities, revealing how patronage networks among the campus arms of political parties are accompanied by a small but growing tendency towards radicalisation.

In addition, two 2010 papers focussing on the development of Afghanistan's National Education Strategic Plan can be found as part of the Policy Process research project. Other related research projects are Child Labour and School Enrolment Decision Making.

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Between Patronage and Rebellion: Student Politics in Afghanistan	.54

# Family Dynamics and Family Violence

AREU's Family Dynamics and Family Violence project centres around issues relating to marriage practice and violence toward children and is built on fieldwork in Bamiyan, Herat, Kabul and Nangarhar Provinces. Research was conducted in 2006-07 in cooperation with the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC).

Violence toward children was found to be widespread. However, this was rarely acknowledged as good parenting and was frequently linked to stress or a lack of alternative parenting skills. More general levels of domestic violence were determined in large part by the kinds of marriage practices households had experienced. Different sets of economic, community and domestic circumstances contributed to a diverse set of decision-making strategies for marriages, which frequently combined elements of choice and force for both genders. In many cases, people demonstrated an awareness of the potentially detrimental impact of existing cultural norms despite their widespread prevalence. This suggests that space exists for policymakers and programmers to work with communities to identify viable alternatives to the status quo.

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Love, Fear and Discipline: Everyday Violence Toward Children in Afghan Families	.38
Decisions, Desires and Diversity: Marriage Practices in Afghanistan	44

# Gender and Local Level Decision Making

AREU's Gender and Local Level Decision Making project encompassed five case studies across northern and southern Afghanistan conducted in 2004-05. The project aimed to foster a better understanding of the gender dynamics of decision-making in rural households in order to improve policies and programming designed to expand the role of women in public life.

Evidence from the project suggests that there is some way to go before the programming and resources that focus on improving the position of women in Afghan society translate into change at a local level. In particular, the presence of women on a range of community decision-making bodies—a standard measure of programme success—does not necessarily produce the desired transformative or enabling effect on those involved. In many areas the pace of change is ultimately limited by the tolerance of community social norms to such shifts; NGOs and UN and government agencies will thus need to focus on a longer-term and more context-specific approach to gender issues that is rooted more firmly in community engagement.

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# Health

AREU has researched Afghanistan's developing healthcare system and issues relating to substance abuse.

In the immediate aftermath of the fall of the Taleban, the country's healthcare system was found to be in a state of disarray. A dearth of infrastructure and trained staff was compounded by minimal government capacity and a lack of coordination among disparate actors. By the end of 2006, this situation had reversed to one of substantial, if fragile, progress. Using a contract-based system to implement a series of clear guidelines, a dynamic Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) was able to deliver wide-ranging improvements to the healthcare sector. However, Afghanistan remains faced with a series of imposing public health challenges. Drug addiction remains a serious problem, including the widespread and overlooked abuse of licit, psychotropic substances such as painkillers.

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Afghanistan's Hidden Drug Problem: The Misuse of Psychotropics	. 40

### Informal Credit and Microcredit Systems

Between 2006 and 2010, AREU undertook two research projects that examined the respective roles of informal and microcredit systems in rural Afghan communities.

Evidence suggests that initial attempts to extend microcredit programmes were not informed by an understanding of existing systems of informal credit. Across multiple case studies, the majority of households were seen to be linked in some way to informal credit structures, which were often closely tied to the development and maintenance of social networks. Such exchanges of highly-flexible, interest-free credit are used to fund weddings and assist in consumption smoothing and are rarely channelled toward investment. The design of microcredit programmes therefore needs to take place with an appreciation of how such schemes may interact or compete with existing credit systems. This should be accompanied by a shift in focus away from simply extending access to credit in favour of better-targeted programmes that place greater emphasis on the economic viability of clients.

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# Land Rights and Relations

AREU's work on land relations consists of a 2003-04 study on rural land conflict and a separate study examining the Afghan government's capacity to resolve land disputes, which was completed in 2009.

Land and home ownership form critical platforms for individual and communal survival in Afghanistan. However, factors such as population growth and land-grabs by economic elites coupled with pre-existing tensions are currently driving a rising level of land-use disputes in the country. These are compounded by legislation that often fails to fully reflect existing mechanisms of land ownership and access. The lack of legal distinction between community-owned and state land has left room for ethnically-linked and occasionally violent disputes between pastoralists and farmers—many of which date back to the late-19th century—to fester. In the light of research evidence, it is critical for the government to develop a greater understanding of the causes of such disputes, along with a more nuanced and flexible set of both central- and community-based mechanisms for dealing with disputes in a context-appropriate manner.

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# Legacies of Conflict

New approaches to Afghanistan's conflict and its potential resolution are being considered. When identifying ways forward, more Afghan voices need to be brought into the discussion-it is not enough to just consult Afghan and international actors who hold positions of power. More understanding is required about what Afghans have suffered, are continuing to experience, and what they really need and want.

AREU's legacies of conflict research has focused on this goal. It took place in urban and rural areas in the provinces of Ghazni, Kabul and Bamiyan, and was designed to reach people and communities with a range of ethnic backgrounds and wartime experiences, to allow for comparisons across groups and across time.

A peaceful country was desired by all and a negotiated end to the violence was widely seen as necessary but not easy to achieve. For a just and durable settlement to occur and for people to feel "at peace," it was also widely perceived that the legacies of past and present conflict will need to be addressed. It was found that justice holds a variety of meanings for people, who have experienced conflict in different ways. Justice in Afghanistan is often conflated to mean criminal trials only, but a broader perspective is necessary. These varied histories result in a wide variety of opinions and the research demonstrated that there is no one way to deal with the legacies of wartime violations or those held responsible for them.

However, across all research locations people were experiencing ongoing pain stemming from conflict and commonly expressed a need for closure. While demands for criminal-style justice for wartime violators are strong, people are pragmatic when it comes to ways to deal with the past and were willing to discuss other options. Overall, people commonly expressed a desire for some kind of recognition of the pain and suffering they have experienced, which was often more important than the process used to achieve it.

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# Migration and Transnational Networks

AREU's work on migration and transnational networks stretches from 2002-2009 and comprises two major synthesis papers along with multiple case studies conducted in Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan in collaboration with academic instituions in Tehran and Karachi.

The study sought to move past conventional understandings of Afghan migrants as "refugees" moving in direct response to conflict and in need of repatiration. Migration to neighbouring countries is a way of life stretching back centuries and usually involves a complex combination of push and pull factors related as much to livelihood security as to risk avoidance.

Years spent abroad are often a transformative experience for Afghans—the new sets of skills, experiences and expectations they acquire often produce a calculus for returning home that stretches far beyond their original reasons for leaving. Second- or third-generation migrants often have little or no direct experience of their homeland as "home," resulting in a range of psychological as well as material challenges on their return. All of the above suggests a need for greater legal recognition of migration as a continuous, long-term phenomenon, as well as an expansion of the depth and scope of reintegration efforts for returnees.

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# National Solidarity Programme 2004-05

During 2004-05, AREU conducted its first research on the Afghan government's National Solidarity Programme (NSP), a rural governance and development initiative centred around democratically-elected community decision-making groups. A combination of fieldwork and interviews with foreign implementing partners was used to review the NSP's impact on power and gender relations in rural Afghanistan. Despite its challenge to traditional norms, research showed that the NSP has been enthusiastically embraced by many communities, and has the potential to foster a strong sense of ownership in democratic processes at a local level. However, it found the gains to be fragile, with a focus needed on long-term sustainability as well as women's participation in NSP processes.

AREU has since studied the National Solidarity Programme through the prism of other research projects, such as State-building and Local Governance and Women's Participation in Development.

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# **Natural Resource Management**

This project aims to use research-generated knowledge to inform and influence policy in the agriculture and rural development (ARD) sector, particularly in three themes: (1) common property resources (especially water); (2) promoting sustainable and licit rural livelihoods (especially linked to opium production); and (3) strengthening ARD institutions to improve policy effectiveness.

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# Opportunities for Democratic Governance in Afghan Cities

The scoping and preliminary phase of an AREU urban governance research project was conducted in the cities of Herat, Charikar and Jalalabad between September 2010 and April 2011. The project explored existing and potential venues of engagement between state institutions and city residents on issues of land use, urban planning and local economic development. The exercise identified some important issues and outlined a future research agenda, should the opportunity arise to proceed with it.

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# **Policy Process**

AREU's policy process research explores how some of the country's key plans, strategies and laws have been developed over the past decade. The final report, "Policymaking and State-Building in Afghanistan," draws on case studies focused on different aspects of national-level policymaking processes: The Afghan National Development Strategy (ANDS). rural development approaches and divergent experiences between government ministries, attempts to standardise senior subnational appointments, and an analysis of the making of the controversial Shiite Personal Status Law.

A separate report focuses on the Afghan government's attempts to implement gender mainstreaming—assessing the implication of planned actions for both women and men—which have so far met with limited success.

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# **Political Economy**

AREU research on Afghan political economy focused on issues surrounding the country's attempts at transition to a more diversified, formal economy driven by private-sector growth. Papers include a 2006 briefing paper on the Afghan government's attempts to privatise state-owned enterprises, and a three-province study on the development of rural small and medium-sized enterprises completed in 2007.

Research suggests that a much greater degree of coordination and strategic planning is needed among the various programmes in place to develop and restructure the country's economy. While denationalisation efforts have proceeded rapidly in recent years, they have not necessarily been accompanied by the improvements in infrastructure and regulation needed to create a secure climate for investors. Broader efforts at fostering private-sector growth have often overlooked the importance of small- and medium-sized enterprises, which may afford the most appropriate vehicle for growth under existing circumstances.

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# Representative Governance

AREU has produced a number of papers based broadly around the theme of "representative governance," and conducted a detailed study on the topic during 2009-10. Conducted across a wide variety of locations against a backdrop of elections, the research closely observed electoral dynamics at a local and national level while expanding the focus to include Afghan attitudes to democracy and democratisation in general.

The research has highlighted the gap that frequently separates government from the governed, as well as parliament's complicated relationship with the president and government ministries. Analysis of political organisations and networks focus on political parties, bloc voting and the shifting political allegiances within parliament itself. It looks in detail at the factors affecting the formation of political alliances, including insecurity, narratives of ethnicity, economic motivations, and the influence of personality politics. Also examined are the often complex popular narratives surrounding the word "democracy" itself.

AREU has also produced a range of coverage and analysis focusing specifically on electoral processes in 2004-05 and 2009-10. A Guide to Parliamentary Elections in Afghanistan provided an in-depth explanation of the processes and legislation behind 2005's Wolesi Jirga and provincial council elections, and AREU research teams conducted field observation of 41 voting centres during the poll itself. Post-election analysis culminated in A House Divided, a paper that served as a base for AREU's coverage of the 2009-10 polls; this examined why and how Afghans vote and how elections have related to instability at central and local levels.

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# **Rural Livelihoods Monitoring**

AREU's Rural Livelihoods Monitoring Project involved 18 months of field research to paint a detailed picture of the human, social, financial and natural factors that underpin the lives of rural workers in Afghanistan. Starting in 2002, the project surveyed 390 households in 21 villages across seven provinces in collaboration with seven partner organisations. This body of evidence has also provided the baseline for AREU's ongoing study on Afghan livelihood trajectories.

The study poses a major challenge to the largely untested assumption that the majority of Afghans are dependent on agriculture as their main source of income. It found non-farm labour to be a vital source of income among both rich and poor households, and that such diversity of livelihoods is the norm rather than the exception. These and other findings have helped fill a critical gap in empirical understanding on Afghan rural life, and provide an important basis for the design and monitoring of future development programmes.

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# School Enrolment Decision Making

The School Enrolment Decision Making project explored the household and community dynamics of school enrolment in the context of the Afghan government's post-2001 efforts to extend education to as many children as possible. It encompasses four 2005 AREU case studies that examine the issue in a mix of urban and rural locations across three provinces.

The studies found that while supply-side issues such as the availability or quality of schools are important, they are frequently outweighed by considerations on the demand-side. In many cases, resource allocation, gender dynamics and levels of perceived ownership in the education process are the most important issues determining which households end up enrolling which children, and for how long.

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# Security

AREU conducts research on different aspects of Afghanistan's security context. Most recently, "Peace at All Costs?" examined the Afghanistan Peace and Reintegration Plan (APRP) that emerged in 2010, identifying an array of potential flaws, each of which could seriously undermine the APRP's chances of success.

Previous research includes a 2004 briefing paper on the international community's lack of imagination and commitment to Afghan security issues, and a landmark 2007 study on efforts toreform the Afghan National Police (ANP). Cops or Robbers? The Struggle to Reform the Afghan National Police outlines Afghan government and international efforts to ramp up the capacity of the ANP in the face of a growing insurgency. Despite the substantial quantity of attention and resources devoted to the problem, evidence from the study suggests that such efforts will be wasted unless they are accompanied by better coordination among international and local actors, a focus on quality and sustainability over quantity, and broader reform of a corrupt and self-interested Ministry of Interior.

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# Speaking from the Evidence: Policy Notes for the 2010 Kabul Conference

As Afghan and international leaders met in Kabul, following the London Conference earlier in 2010, they sought to commit to strategies that can lead the people of Afghanistan to a brighter, more secure future.

These policy notes aim to inform discussion on how to proceed in areas related to governance, justice and development. Based on AREU's recent and ongoing research, they provide a timely reminder of the evidence base around some key topics of relevance to the conference.

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# State-building and Local Governance

Afghanistan's local and regional governance structures have undergone rapid change and expansion. AREU's subnational state-building research project examined newly-emerged structures such as Provincial Councils (PCs) and Community Development Councils (CDCs) with the aim of assessing their impact and charting paths for future policymakers. The project also drew on existing AREU research on governance and public administration reform (PAR).

The study found that initiatives such as the CDCs have produced significant gains in expanding the presence and effectiveness of the Afghan state at a local level. However, they had been pursued in the absence of an overarching strategy for developing the country's subnational governance framework as a whole.

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# **Understanding Markets in Afghanistan**

In 2004-05, AREU researched the markets for carpets, raisins, construction materials, petroleum fuel, second-hand vehicles and pharmaceuticals in Afghanistan. These case studies sought a greater insight into the experience of Afghan businesses in both import and export markets, and examined factors including trade routes, market players, the choice of products on offer and the role of the state.

The research revealed a series of often vibrant markets characterised by a wide choice of products and the presence of multiple players. However, margins are often tiny and markets tend to be dominated by a few powerful businesses or individuals. Confused regulations, corruption and low capacity on the part of state regulators present a major obstacle to growth. Although the country has great potential to act as a hub for regional trade, cross-border transactions are regularly held up by a similar degree of bureaucracy and red tape.

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# Urban Livelihoods and Vulnerability

Between 2003 and 2006, AREU examined the lives and livelihoods of poor people in Afghanistan's cities, which continue to expand at an unprecedented and often chaotic pace. Research encompassed on-the-ground case studies in Kabul, Herat, Jalalabad, Mazar-i-Sharif and Pul-i-Kumri.

Across Afghan cities, the swelling ranks of the urban poor lack access to even the most basic services, which city authorities often lack capacity—and the will—to provide. As migration to urban centres increases, outdated land policies continually fail to recognise newly-built informal settlements that are often home to the majority of urban populations. Inhabitants of these areas rely overwhelmingly on informal employment as a source of income. While this may provide a basic source of stability in their lives, it often leaves households highly vulnerable to ill-health, hazardous workplaces and exploitation by employers. Uneven incomes mean many households accumulate considerable debts to meet their daily needs, while a lack of assets and community solidarity leaves many with little hope of improving their situation.

The study's findings suggest city governments must do more to recognise both the significant contribution poor households make to the local economy, and the physical spaces they occupy. More must be done to improve land registration, foster labour-intensive growth, and recalibrate wider development efforts toward greater inclusion of urban environments.

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# Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy

The multi-year "Applied Thematic Research into Water Management, Livestock and the Opium Economy" (WOL) is the largest ever project undertaken by AREU. It was designed to provide policymakers with an accurate picture of the complex role natural resources play in Afghan farm systems, with the ultimate aim of improving the sustainability of rural livelihoods and reducing farmers' reliance on opium production. The eight-province study was conducted in collaboration with numerous implementing partners, including the Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees (DACAAR) and German Agro Action (now Welthungerhilfe—WHH).

The research found strong evidence of systemic inequalities that limited access to natural resources for many Afghans. While geography, ethnicity and politics play a part, traditional community-level institutions such as mirabs (village water masters) often compound the problem by enforcing existing power and wealth structures, especially in areas where resources are scarce. This raises important questions over the applicability of programmes that target community-level institutions of resource management as a basis for growth. The study also suggests that policies focusing on development via market mechanisms are unlikely to help the most poor, many of whom already struggle to meet subsistence needs or are locked in highly exploitative sharecropping agreements with wealthier landlords.

Farmers' access to resources and markets, opportunities for alternative incomes and levels of agricultural diversity all feed into a complex decision on whether or not to grow opium poppies. WOL data suggests that rural households are often more than willing to turn their backs on poppy production where viable alternatives exist. Creating such an environment is critical to ensuring the legitimacy and longevity of bans on opium production, and will be one of the country's major policy challenges in the coming years.

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# Women's Participation in Development

"Women's Participation in Development Initiatives and its Impact on Gender Dynamics in Afghanistan" explores women's participation in the National Solidarity Programme's (NSP) Community Development Councils (CDCs) as well as nongovernment organisation (NGO)-initiated groups for microfinance under the Microfinance Investment Support Facility for Afghanistan (MISFA). Fieldwork for the project has encompassed multiple communities in Parwan, Kabul and Balkh Provinces.

The research examines the various assumptions that justify the "gender-inclusive" development initiatives of NSP and the micro-finance institutions (MFIs), particularly the assumption that women's participation in community organising or

development projects at the community level serves to "empower" them as individuals and as a group. It also explores what motivates and enables women to participate in these different programmes and what limits their participation. Finally, it provides an analysis of the different models and methods being used by different NSP facilitating partners and MFIs, and how these impact women's ability to participate and the effects of such participation.

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