



## Fast Facts

**Country:** Afghanistan

**Duration:** August 2005 to April 2007

**Implementing UN Agencies:** UN-HABITAT

**Other Implementing Partners:** Municipalities and Government line departments

**Budget:** \$3,660,414.90

**Key Words:** Post-conflict reconstruction; urban development; poverty reduction

## BACKGROUND

Beginning in April 2004, the Government of Afghanistan designated urban development as a national priority. Subsequently, the country's national urban development program was established. The program sought to create a network of urban centers as hubs of growth and arenas for culture and social

inclusion in cities such as Kandahar, Mazar-el-Sharif and Jalalabad. In each of these cities, lack of basic infrastructure and services such as electricity, sanitation, education and healthcare presented significant threats to the human security of the residents and the cities at large.

## PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The project focused on improving land management, infrastructure, housing, governance and service delivery. These were achieved through a multi-sectoral approach that included the establishment of

community institutions where people could proactively take part in addressing their challenges and developing the responses they needed in order to improve their human security.

### BENEFICIARIES

Activities carried out by the project benefited approximately 12,732 households, or more than 100,000 individuals, in the three cities of Kandahar, Mezar-el-Sharif and Jalalabad. Through upgraded neighbourhood infrastructures as well as waste and sanitation services, the participating urban

communities benefited from improved living conditions, greater employment opportunities and, where informal settlements existed, the opportunity to highlight their concerns over land tenure arrangements.