

## About Us

Germany and Afghanistan have a long history of close relations, dating back to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. In 2015, Germany and Afghanistan celebrated 100 years of friendship. In addition to humanitarian aid, development cooperation and cultural exchange, the Federal Republic of Germany supports democratisation in Afghanistan as a contribution to long-term peace and development.

At the Tokyo Conference in 2012, the international community pledged to continue to provide civilian aid to Afghanistan until 2024. This commitment was reaffirmed at the international conferences in London (2014) and in Brussels (October 2016). Since 2010, the German Government has substantially increased its support for civilian reconstruction and development in Afghanistan, particularly in the country's northern provinces. German support focuses on the fields of poverty reduction, good governance and economic development as the bases for lasting stability and security.

Currently, there are around 1,540 staff, including almost 110 German and international experts, working on behalf of the German Government for Afghanistan and employed by the two implementing organisations: *KfW Development Bank* and the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH*. Germany's engagement in Afghanistan aims to build the Afghan people's skills and capacities to the point where they are able to participate in and assume ownership of their country's economic, social and political development and to develop their own potential.

The following pages offer you an insight into German support for civilian reconstruction and development in Afghanistan.

Teaser text:

Public perceptions of Afghanistan are coloured by reports about its security situation and the refugee crisis. There has been comparatively little coverage or recognition of the results of civilian reconstruction and development cooperation, particularly the significant efforts being made by local partners and the Afghan people themselves. We hope this website will give you an insight into Germany's multifaceted cooperation with Afghanistan: we believe the results speak for themselves.

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