

Sustainable Economic Development



Sustainable Economic Development and Employment

The overarching objective of measures in the priority area Sustainable Economic Development and Employment is to create sustainable and productive employment and income opportunities for the Afghan population people, while using and preserving the country's natural resources sustainably. To achieve this, and thus improve living conditions on the ground on a long-term basis, the German government promotes access to training and capacity development opportunities, expands essential infrastructure and supports key value chains.

Because the Afghan agricultural sector provides jobs for the majority of the population, but has only achieved low levels of production and little value-enhancing processing to date, the German government provides targeted support for this sector. By improving irrigation infrastructure, providing production inputs and promoting product marketing, for example, it supports selected agricultural value chains with potential for import substitution – such as wheat, poultry and nut production – with the aim of reducing dependency on foreign products.

In implementing these measures, the German government places particular emphasis on conserving Afghanistan's natural resources, which have not been managed sustainably following decades of violent conflict. Today, for example, only around two per cent of the country is forested, leading to soil erosion and degradation and endangering the population's livelihoods. Together with local communities, efforts are therefore being made to

PROJECT NEWS

- Five Ostad Shagerdi Schools Renovated in Four Provinces (<https://www.ez-afghanistan.de/en/news/4344>)
05.11.2019 | Press release
- Pilot Project: Advanced Training for 80 Tradespeople in Kabul and Mazar-e Sharif (<https://www.ez-afghanistan.de/en/news/4199>)
27.08.2019 | Press release
- Ostad Shagerdi: Teachers and Apprentices Come Together to Improve Vocational Training (<https://www.ez-afghanistan.de/en/news/4181>)
20.08.2019 | Press release

READ MORE

- Fact sheet: Strengthen sustainable economic growth in northern Afghanistan (<https://www.ez-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/2017-Nawi-EN.pdf>)
- Business Monitor 2016 (<https://www.ez-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/2016.12.31%20Business%20Climate%20Report%202016%20English%20Version.pdf>)
- Factsheet: Infrastructural Expansion Helps to Create Livelihoods in the North (<https://www.ez-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/2017-Infrastruktur-EN.pdf>)
- Fact sheet: Supporting

protect the country's remaining natural resources and develop measures to restore forest landscapes.

To create sustainable and productive employment and income opportunities, the German government also supports small and medium-sized enterprises through microfinance products and credit guarantees. At the same time, it supports efforts to increase the quality and labour market orientation of vocational training through capacity development and infrastructure measures, thereby improving income opportunities for trainees.

Further information on our activities in the priority area of *Sustainable Economic Development and Employment* can be found in the project descriptions and in the 'Stories' section.

Vocational Training
(<https://www.ez-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/2017-TVET-EN.pdf>)

OUR WORK IN THIS SECTOR



Strengthen sustainable economic growth in northern Afghanistan

In order to stimulate sustainable economic growth, increase Afghan farmers' yields and promote employment, the German Government is supporting economic programmes in Afghanistan's northern regions. (<https://www.ez-afghanistan.de/en/news/1743>)



Infrastructural Expansion Helps to Create Livelihoods in the North

The German Government is promoting infrastructural measures in Northern Afghanistan in order to enable the local population to access business, administrative, health care and education services and opportunities.
(<https://www.ez-afghanistan.de/en/news/2201>)



Supporting Vocational Training, Combating Youth Unemployment

In order to build a better TVET system that is accepted by government and society, the German Government is working with local partners to support the development of training programmes for trainers and to establish or improve the relevant structures.
(<https://www.ez-afghanistan.de/en/news/190>)