Empowered lives. Resilient nations.

Duration: 03/2019 to 03/2022
Budget: US$ 24,000,000
Donors: TBC

Implemented by: Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development

Key Partners: Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Afghanistan is ranked 167th globally for its business environment, due to:

1. Low skill base, including literacy
2. Weak manufacturing/heavy reliance on agriculture
3. Stagnant growth
4. Women not allowed or helped to work

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UNDP IN ACTION

A launchpad for self-sustaining growth

We help make Afghanistan more productive by supporting businesses and workers with:

**Innovation fund**
With matching grants for ideas that will genuinely boost the economy

**The right tools**
Creating business incubators/accelerators and constructing/repairing productive infrastructure

**Needed skills**
Analysing markets to offer the right skills training to the right people

**Job placement**
Improving employment service centres and matching job seekers to employment agencies

UNDP experience in Afghanistan

**ALED builds on 15 years of experience in rural economic empowerment and service delivery:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infrastructure</th>
<th>Communities</th>
<th>Empowerment</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNDP has delivered rural projects on agricultural productivity, economic development, transportation, irrigation, market access, energy and food storage</td>
<td>We have set up elected District Development Assemblies countrywide and helped them plan, resolve conflicts and monitor projects</td>
<td>We have created 1m labour days, supported SME access to finance through community savings and helped female-led households generate income</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The difference we will make

50 infrastructure projects completed to improve productivity, such as irrigation systems, warehouses and cold storage

100 small rural enterprises linked to larger urban enterprises

500 enterprise assessments to determine technical feasibility and economic viability

50 innovation grants awarded to business associations and SMEs to develop sustainable agriculture and innovative off-farm initiatives