

## Building Upon Afghanistan's Successes for Peace

### AFGHANISTAN 2010 FACT SHEET

#### AFGHANISTAN MISSION

To strengthen the resourcefulness of communities, ensure community ownership, and promote partnerships with government for a secure, equitable, and sustainable future

#### APPROACH

Promote a three-way partnership among communities, external actors, and the state in a way that strengthens community agency and capacity

Enable communities to address their priorities with local skills and resources, with a focus on:

- Local governance
- Women's empowerment
- Peace building and conflict sensitivity
- Maternal and child health
- Literacy and education

#### 2009 MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

An evaluation by Johns Hopkins University verified that Future Generations approach to training women as community health workers in Bamyan Province decreased child mortality by 46 percent.

In Nangarhar and Ghazni Provinces, Future Generations worked as an implementing partner of the National Solidarity Program (NSP) to build the skills of Community Development Councils (CDCs).

A community-supported Literacy and Health Training Program, led by a community action group, trained 1,700 women and girls in homes and mosques in Qarabagh District of Ghazni Province.

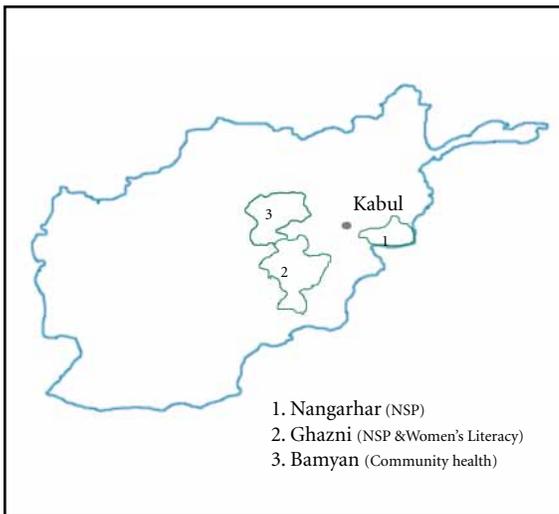


Since May 2002, Future Generations Afghanistan has worked in rural, insecure provinces to strengthen local governance and community-led approaches to development. Successes include: 1) Literacy and health classes in three provinces that trained more than 35,000 women and girls in homes and mosques, 2) A new approach to training illiterate women as community health workers, which led to a 46% reduction in child mortality in one site in Bamyan Province, and 3) The training of a multi-ethnic *shura* (council) on the outskirts of Kabul.

In 2010, Future Generations focuses on three core activities to learn from and extend Afghanistan's successes for peace: 1) Build government capacity 2) Conduct applied research to learn from Afghanistan's most peaceful communities, and 3) Partner with communities to apply lessons and improve lives.

#### BUILD GOVERNMENT CAPACITY TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY-LED DEVELOPMENT

Future Generations serves as the lead technical advisor of the Afghanistan Institute of Rural Development (AIRD), which promotes cross-agency collaboration and strengthens government research and training skills. Country Director, Aziz Hakimi, says that through this partnership, "government staff will learn skills to train communities, link with outside partners, and create genuine partnerships for sustainability." In addition to the formal partnership with AIRD, officials from the Afghanistan Ministry of Health and Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development have enrolled in a two-year master's degree program offered by the Future Generations Graduate School, which is accredited by the U.S. Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.



## BUILD COMMUNITY CAPACITY FOR GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

### 2010 MAJOR INITIATIVES

**Research:** Learn from peaceful communities in Afghanistan and incorporate lessons into effective policy and practice

**Demonstrate:** Continue on-the-ground activities in Nangarhar and Ghazni Provinces to train community development councils in local governance. Support the Qarabagh Community Action Group to create literacy and health classes for women and girls.

**Teach:** Serve as the lead technical advisor of the Afghanistan Institute of Rural Development

### PROGRAM LEADERSHIP

Afghanistan Country Director, Aziz Hakimi, brings distinguished experience bridging the humanitarian, business, public sector, research, and media realms. He previously served as



executive director of the Killid Group, as deputy director of the policy management unit in the Office of the President and as a human rights officer with the United Nations office in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

**National Solidarity Program:** Future Generations partners with the “largest people’s project in Afghanistan.” The National Solidarity Program has organized and facilitated more than 30,000 Community Development Councils across all 34 provinces. These locally-elected councils develop workplans and receive small block grants to implement projects based on local priorities. As an implementing partner, Future Generations Afghanistan trains CDCs in Khoygani District of Nangarhar Province. In 2010, the organization will reach into more insecure districts of Ghazni Province.

**Literacy and Health for Women in Homes and Mosques:** In Qarabagh District of Ghazni Province, Future Generations partners with the Ministry of Education and local councils to train women and girls in literacy and health. Local councils, with training from Future Generations, interface with communities and the government. They also make classroom space available in local homes and mosques. This approach has been recognized as a successful way to provide educational services in insecure areas where many development programs have been suspended. It is anticipated that Qarabagh will serve as a regional learning center to share its experiences with government agencies and communities in surrounding districts.

## LEARN FROM AFGHANISTAN’S MOST SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITIES

With support from the U.S. Institute of Peace and Carnegie Corporation, Future Generations Afghanistan joins the Future Generations Graduate School in a research project to learn from Afghanistan’s most successful communities. This project will identify 12 communities that have successfully managed their security and development needs in the midst of conflict, learn from these communities, and use lessons to improve policy and practice. To succeed, this project will be designed and implemented as a collaborative learning project in partnership with an Afghanistan steering committee.