

NANGARHAR

Located in eastern Afghanistan, Nangarhar borders Kunar and Laghman to the North, Kabul, Logar and Paktia in the West, and has an international border with Pakistan in the East and South.

More than half of province is mountainous (55%) while the rest is made up of flat or semi mountainous land. The climate is conducive for various crops during different seasons.

Nangarhar can be called the food basket of Afghanistan. Farmers in Nangarhar produce different crops, especially fruits and vegetables such as grape, olive, orange, watermelon, okra, tomato, spinach and etc.

Nangarhar in a Nutshell

- *Surface area:* 8,000 sq. km
- *Capital:* Jalalabad
- *Districts:* 21 – Acheen, Batikot, Behsood, Chaparhar, Dare Noor, Deh Bala, Ghoshte, Hesarak, Jalalabad, Khogiani, Koot, Kuz Kunar, Lal Pur, Mohmandara, Nazian, Pachiro akam, Rodat, Kama, Shinwar, Shirzad and Surkhrod
- *Main markets:* Jalalabad, Khost, Asadabad, Peshawar, Chitral, Bajawar, Mohmandara
- *Population:* 1.4 million inhabitants (86% in rural areas)
- *Most populated districts:* Jalalabad, Behsood, Khogiani, Acheen, Surkhrod
- *Ethnic Groups:* Mainly Pashtuns (1st) and Pashayee (2nd) and minority groups of Tajiks and Gujjars
- *Main languages:* Pashtu
- *Kuchi Migrations:* Winter, more than 200,000 individuals; Summer, 50,000 – 100,000 individuals
- *Returnees, IDPs:* Nangarhar is the destination of 19.6% (roughly 909,000 individuals) of the total returnee population. It is also the largest and main hosting province for IDPs (nearly 69,000 individuals)

HORTICULTURE

KEY CROPS

No available data about crop production in the province.

INVOLVEMENT OF CHILDREN (UNDER 15)

Children under 15 in Nangarhar are involved in the cultivation of orchards and vegetables, but generally do not cultivate other crop types. They do, however, participate in the harvesting of all crop types. Children often assist in the selling of vegetables, fruits and nuts.

Other Improved Practices: According to key informants, there has been an Introduction of tractors, notably threshers

DIVISION OF LABOUR BY GENDER

Production:

Most crops are cultivated by men in Nangarhar, with the exception of vegetables, which are cultivated by both men and women. Harvesting is done by both men and women for all crop categories.

Processing:

Both men and women are involved in drying fruit and shelling nuts, although women are more heavily involved in these activities.

Sale & Trade of Goods:

Men handle a large majority of the selling and trading of horticulture goods.

IMPROVED PRACTICES

Use of fertilizer (% of farming households):

- Field crops: 99%
- Garden plots: 0%
- Both field and garden plots: 0%

LIVESTOCK

KEY ANIMALS

Most farmers have livestock. Sheep and goats are most common.

IMPROVED PRACTICES

According to key informants, there has been no improvement in livestock practices recently.

DIVISION OF LABOUR BY GENDER

Animal husbandry:

Both women and men raise livestock in Nangarhar, although men appear to play a greater role than women in raising sheep and goats. Poultry are mainly raised by women.

Processing:

Men perform most of the butchering and shearing of animals. Women are in charge of producing dairy products.

Sale & Trade of Goods:

- Livestock & Poultry: Men sell and trade most livestock. Both men and women sell poultry. Eggs are mainly sold by women.
- Dairy: Both men and women sell dairy products, although men are more involved in this activity. Milk is mainly sold by women.
- Commodities: Trading of commodities is handled solely by men

INVOLVEMENT OF CHILDREN (UNDER 15)

Children share the responsibility of raising livestock and poultry with their older family members in Nangarhar. They are involved in the production of dairy products. While they are typically not involved in the sale of livestock, it is common for them to sell eggs, milk and dairy products.

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND PROVINCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

LIVELIHOODS AND INCOME SOURCES

55% of rural households rely on agriculture as their major source of revenue; Fifty nine percent of rural households own or manage agricultural land or garden; more than one quarter (28%) of households in rural areas derive some income from trade and services and two-fifths (40%) of households in rural areas earn some income through non-farm related labor. Livestock also accounts for income for 14% of rural households

Key Income Sources

Poor: Migrant labor, agricultural labor, crop sales
Better-off: Trade, crop sales, livestock sales

ACCESS TO CREDIT

Access for men and women

Men who need to borrow money or buy goods on credit in Herat mainly go to their family or neighbours as well as shopkeepers or suppliers that sell items on credit.

Fewer than half of interviewees say women are able to borrow money or buy goods on credits. Those that are able borrow from family/neighbours.

Microfinance Institutions

The implementing partners of MISFA present in the province are BRAC and FMFB:

All Programs	Ag and Livestock Programs:
• Active clients: 7,592	• Active clients: 777
• Active borrowers: 5,276	• Active borrowers: 399
• # loans disbursed: 37,313	• # loans disbursed: 3,430
• Amount of loans disbursed: 16,995,010 Afs.	• Amount of loans disbursed: 1,194,751 Afs.

LAND TENURE

In 2007, 57% of the households in Nangarhar owned land or farmed land based on renting, sharecropping or mortgaging arrangements. According to our interviews, commercial farmers primarily lease or own their land (sole ownership), while subsistence farmers mainly have sole or shared ownership of their land.

Interviewees claim that livestock producers in the province are mainly sedentary and nomadic. Their main challenges with regards to access to land are conversion of pasture into cropland & expansion of residential housing onto pastures.

IRRIGATION

On average 96% of households in the province have access to irrigated land, and four percent of rural households have access to rainfed land. Interviewees claim that most farmers in Nangarhar cultivate irrigated land. The proportion has increased somewhat over the past 3 years.

ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE & ACCESS TO MARKETS

The transport infrastructure in Nangarhar is reasonably well developed, with over half (54%) of roads in the province able to take car traffic in all seasons, and a third (34%) able to take car traffic in some seasons. However, in more than one-tenth (12%) of the province there are no roads at all. Interviewed stakeholders described the condition of the roads to be sufficient and sometimes poor with no improvement in the last three years. The main challenges that were identified were lack of roads / poor quality roads; distance from markets and lack of transportation.

SOCIAL FACTORS

POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

Poverty rate: 33.0%

Per capita monthly total consumption: 1,550 Afs

LITERACY

Literacy rate: 22.8%

The Kuchi population in the province has particularly low levels of literacy with just 2.1% of men able to read and write.

SECURITY

Level of security in Nangarhar: ↗

According to, the security situation has improved somewhat over the past year. They also perceive most roads that link rural areas with the provincial markets to be safe.

FOOD SECURITY

Problem satisfying food need of the household during the year (households %):

- Never: 17%
- Rarely (1-3 times): 34%,
- Sometimes (3-6 times): 35%,
- Often (few times a month): 9%,
- Mostly (happens a lot): 5%

Calorie deficiency (%) consuming less than 2100 calories per day): 13.5%

CHILD LABOUR AND SCHOOL ENROLMENT

Child labour: 19.6%

School Enrolment: 49.0%

Amongst the Kuchi population, one in sixteen boys (7%) and one in a hundred girls (1%) attend school during the winter months; however no Kuchi children attend school in the province during the summer.

STATUS OF WOMEN

Female literacy rate: 6.9%; *Female share in active population:* 30.3%

Access to markets / female mobility: According to our interviews, around half of women in the provincial centre go to the local bazaar to buy goods. Most that do are accompanied by a male relative when they do so. Almost no women go to sell items. Women outside of the provincial centre are less likely to go to the local bazaar to buy goods.