

# KABUL

The capital of the country, Kabul is bordered by the provinces of Kapisa and Parwan to the north, Laghman and Nangarhar to the east, Logar to the south, and Wardak and Parwan to the west.

71% of Kabul's cultivated land is concentrated in 7 northern and northwestern districts owing to the fertility caused by the Panjshir river basin. The larger three eastern districts have terrain (hills and mountains) that is more suitable for raising livestock.

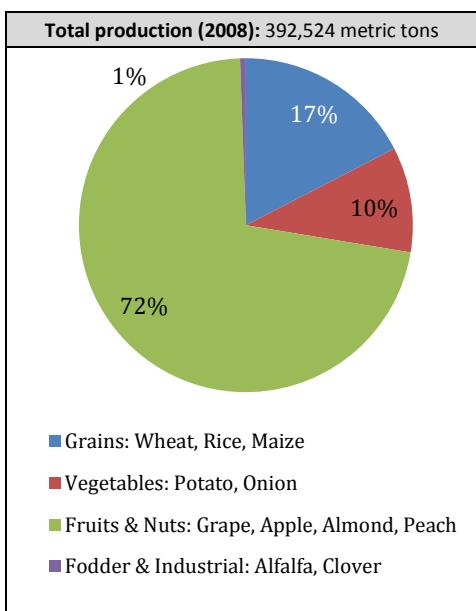
Kabul is famous for producing different kinds of fruit, especially grapes and apples.

## Kabul in a Nutshell

- *Surface area:* 4,000 sq. km
- *Capital:* Kabul City
- *Districts:* 14 – Bagrami, Charasia, Deh Sabz, Estalif, Farza, Guldara, Kalakan, Khaki Jabar, Mirbachakot, Musahi, Paghman, Qarabagh, Sarobi and Shakardara
- *Main markets:* Charikar, Pol Alam, Kabul City, Khost
- *Population:* 3.7 million inhabitants (17% in rural areas)
- *Most populated districts:* Kabul city
- *Ethnic Groups:* Pashtuns, Tadjiks and Hazaras and minority groups of Uzbeks, Turkmens, Baluchs, Sikhs and Hindus
- *Main languages:* Dari, Pashtu
- *Kuchi Migrations:* Winter, 5,000 – 50,000 individuals; Summer, more than 200,000 individuals
- *Returnees, IDPs:* Kabul is the destination of 26.2% (roughly 1,215,000 individuals) of the total returnee population, but not one of the main hosting provinces for IDPs

## HORTICULTURE

### KEY CROPS



### DIVISION OF LABOUR BY GENDER

#### Production:

Cultivation is mainly conducted by men in Kabul. Both men and women are involved in harvesting 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.

### INVOLVEMENT OF CHILDREN (UNDER 15)

Children under 15 are typically not involved in the cultivation of any crop types in Kabul. They do, however, participate in the harvesting of all crop types. Children also participate in drying fruit and shelling nuts.

### IMPROVED PRACTICES

#### Use of fertilizer (% of farming households):

- Field crops: 29%
- Garden plots: 60%
- Both field and garden plots: 11%

**Other Improved Practices:** According to key informants, there has been an increase in the use of tractors, notably threshers; pesticides; fertilizer seed, and water pumps.

## LIVESTOCK

### KEY ANIMALS

Main Animals	District Concentration	Total Heads
Sheep	Guldara, Sarobi, Shakardara and Qarabagh (68% of livestock)	219,043
Goats		58,053
Cattle		313,187
Poultry	Guldara, Shakardara and Charasia (85%)	1,556,162

### DIVISION OF LABOUR BY GENDER

#### Animal husbandry:

Both women and men raise livestock in Kabul. 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 and poultry. A majority of eggs are sold by women.
- Dairy: Both men and women sell milk and dairy products.
- 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 Kabul. They are very 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.

### IMPROVED PRACTICES

According to key informants, there has been an increase in the use of milk pumps, artificial insemination of livestock and machines to prepare butter and dogh (yogurt drink)

## ECONOMIC FACTORS AND PROVINCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

### LIVELIHOODS AND INCOME SOURCES

More than half of all households (53%) in the province derive income from trade and services. Around a quarter of households (27%) earn some income through nonfarm related labor, including two in five (40%) rural households. Agriculture is a major source of revenue for 41% of rural households. Livestock also accounts for income for 8% of rural households

#### Key Income Sources

*Poor: Labor, Livestock sales, handicraft production  
Better-off: Crop sales, Livestock sales, trading*

### 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. They do seek loans from banks and MFIs, but to a lesser extent.

More than half of interviewees say women are not able to borrow money or buy goods on credits. Most borrow from family / neighbors.

### LAND TENURE

In 2007, 16% of the households in Kabul owned land or farmed land based on renting, sharecropping or mortgaging arrangements. According to our interviews, both commercial and subsistence farmers in Kabul primarily lease their land. Interviewees claim that livestock producers in the province are mainly sedentary.

### IRRIGATION

In 2007, around half (51%) of households in both rural and urban areas in the province had access to irrigated land. Only 3% of rural households and 4% of urban households had access to rain-fed land. Interviewees claim most or almost all farmers cultivate irrigated land (seems high). The proportion has increased somewhat over the past 3 years.

### ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE & ACCESS TO MARKETS

In 2007, the transport infrastructure in Kabul was reasonably well developed, with around two thirds (68.1%) of roads in the province able to take car traffic in all seasons, and a quarter (26.2%) able to take car traffic in some seasons. However, in 5.4% of the province there were no roads at all. Roads linking rural areas to markets mainly described as poor; interviewees say they have either improved somewhat or stayed the same in the past 3 years. The main challenges identified are the lack or the poor quality of roads, the distance from the markets and the lack of transportation.

## SOCIAL FACTORS

### POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

*Poverty rate: 23.1%*

*Per capita monthly total consumption: 2,743 Afs*

### LITERACY

*Literacy rate: 46.8%*

The Kuchi population in Kabul province has particularly low levels of literacy with just 2.8% of men and no women able to read and write.

### SECURITY

*Level of security in Kabul: ↗*

According to interviews in the province, 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: 57%,
- Rarely (1-3 times): 20%,
- Sometimes (3-6 times): 20%,
- Often (few times a month): 2%,
- Mostly (happens a lot): 1%

*Calorie deficiency (% consuming less than 2100 calories per day): 17.9%*

### CHILD LABOUR AND SCHOOL ENROLMENT

*Child labour: 21.2%*

*School Enrolment: 65.2%*

Amongst the Kuchi population, one in twenty boys (5%) and one in fifty girls (2%) attend school in Kabul during the winter months and one in fifty boys and girls (2%) attend school in the province during the summer.

### STATUS OF WOMEN

*Female literacy rate: 30.2%; Female share in active population: 16.4%*

**Access to markets / female mobility:** According to our interviews, more than half of women in the provincial center go to the local bazaar to buy goods; Half of these women are accompanied a male relative when they do so; Few go to sell items. Women outside of the provincial center are less likely to go to the local bazaar to buy goods and more likely to be accompanied by a male relative.