

Government ICT capacity Building in Afghanistan



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Flash Back



- There were less than 15,000 digital lines in Afghanistan working locally only
- No national or international connectivity Pakistan country codes were used in many border areas
- Afghans needed to travel to neighboring countries to make or receive phone calls

But !

- Information Technology was introduced in 1973 by establishing “Afghan Computer Center”, the main functions of the centre were:
 - Keeping records of foreign trade
 - Maintaining updated information of pension beneficiaries
 - Issuing bills for utilities
 - Operating a database for the central bank
 - Maintaining a statistical database
 - Managing the ticketing and reservations system for ARIANA Airways

Policies and Regulations



- ICT Policy (2003)
- Telecom Policy (2003)
- Open Telecom market
 - ▶ 4 GSM Operators (2002, 2005/2006)
 - ▶ 1 Fixed network operator (CDMA 2000)
 - ▶ 19 Internet Service Providers
 - ▶ 30 IT Solution Providers
 - ▶ 7 Postal Services Providers
 - ▶ Over 500 IT Companies
 - ▶ MCIT as the Policy Maker rather than operator
 - ▶ Establishment of Afghan Telecom (2005)
 - ▶ Establishment of Afghan Post (2008)
 - ▶ Telecom Law (Dec, 2005)
- ATRA (Afghanistan Telecom Regulatory Authority) (Feb, 2006)
- ICT Law (drafted)
- E-Government Intraoperability Framework (drafted)
- Afghanistan National Data Center (mid 2009)
- E.Government Strategic Master Plan (being drafted)

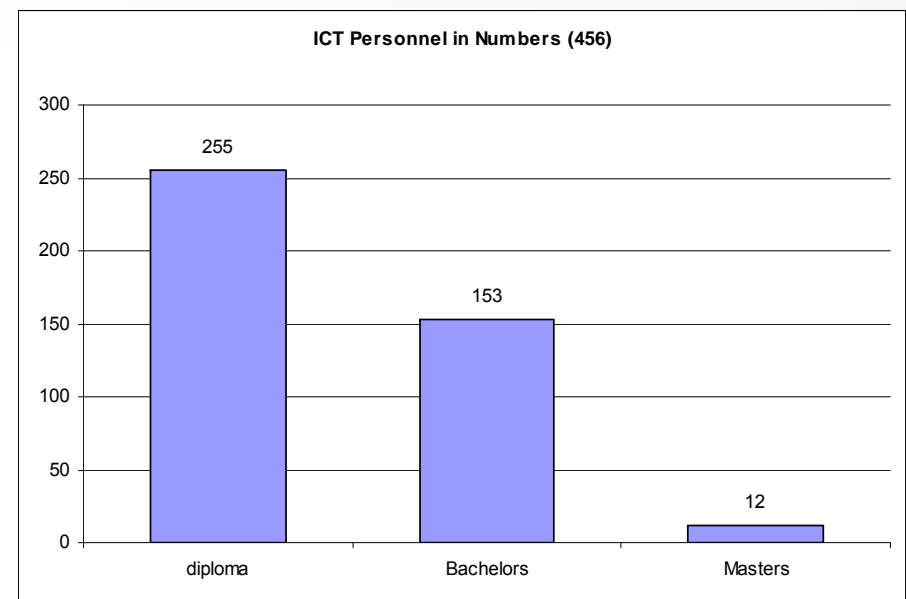
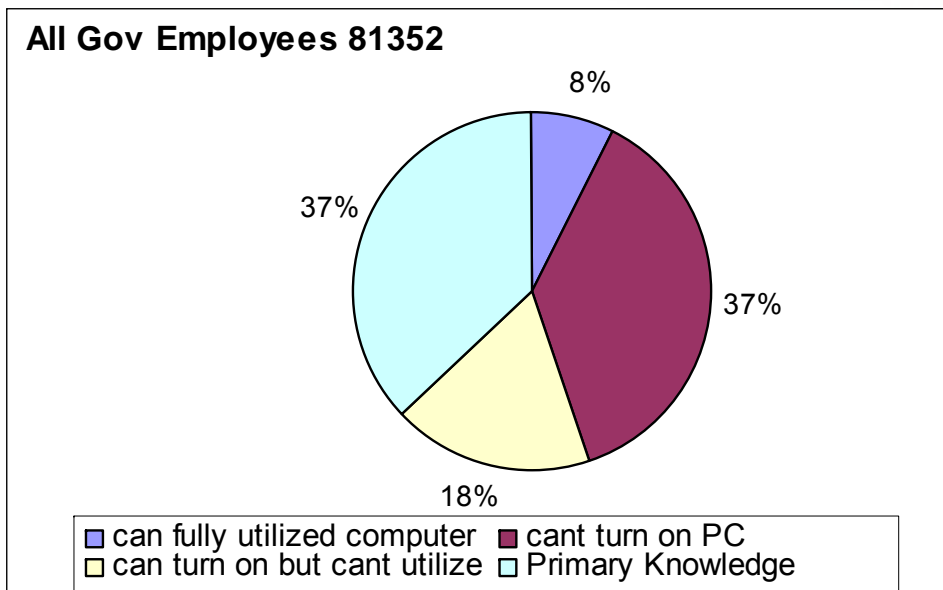
ICT in Government



- The New ICT is comparatively new phenomenon to the country, but the history date backs to 1970 when the Afghanistan computer center was functional for the government backing, traveling and statistics data processing.

- The ICT utilization in the government is minimal, and the government employees capacity is also very low or non-existent.

- The ICT level of professional education/capacity.



ICT in Gov... (continued)



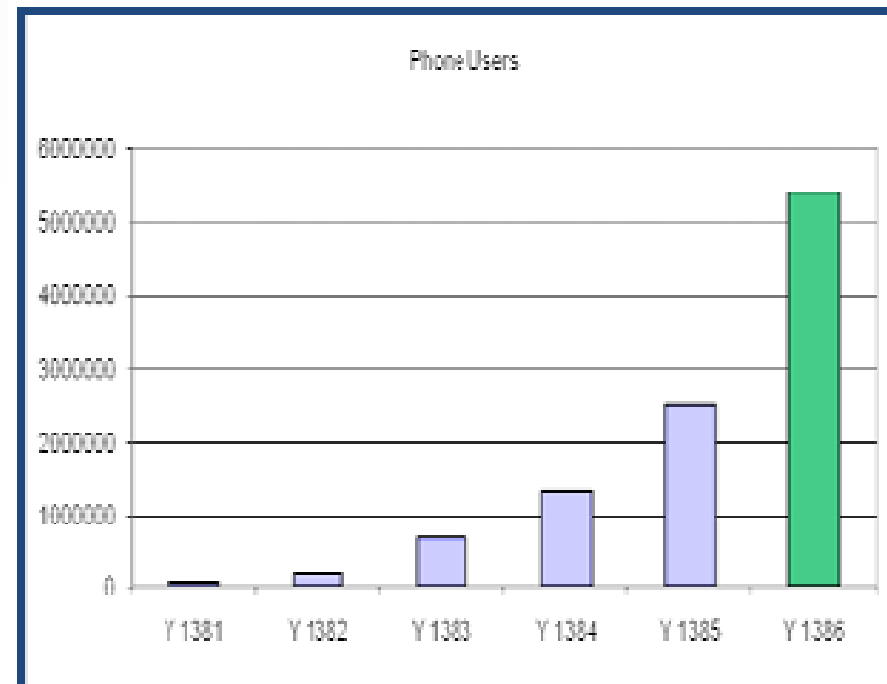
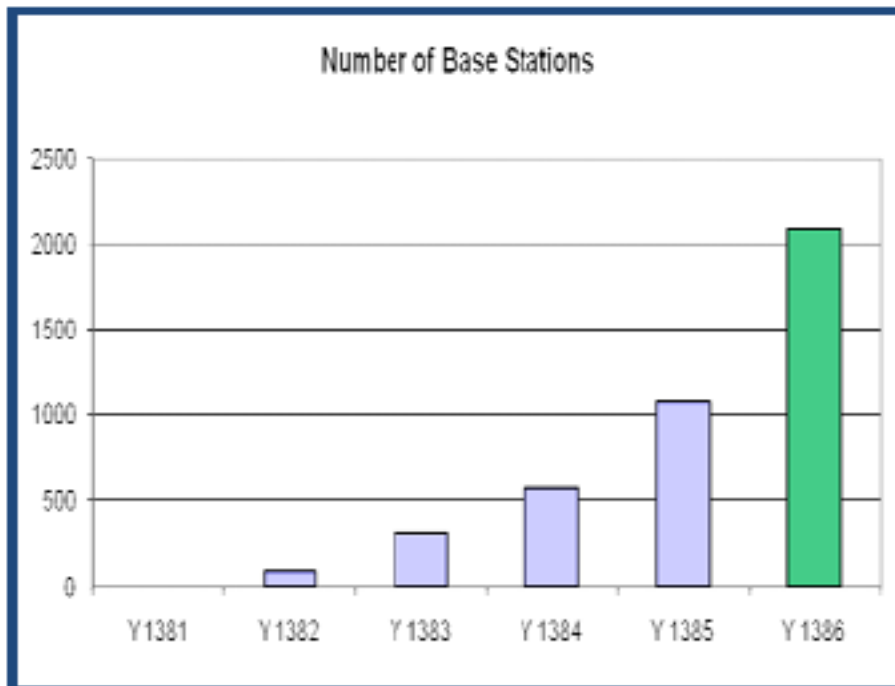
- Computers in Ministries > 5000
- Printers > 2500
- Daily Data processing > 5GB
- Government Ministries have websites: 16 (out of 23)
- Internet connection speed 128 Kbps \geq 2MB
- Connection methods WiFi, DSL, VSAT
- Degrees Offered Bachelor and Masters (Private)
- One Institute (CSI) for Gov. employee capacity building

Communication Coverage



Over 85% of Afghans have phone coverage. More than 2091 communications base stations (towers) have been installed across the country so far. This is a 100% increase over last year.

By the end of 2006, 2.5 million Afghans were fixed and mobile phone users. After the onslaught of competition and the expansion of communications coverage, around 7 million Afghans have phones (in 28 Million population).



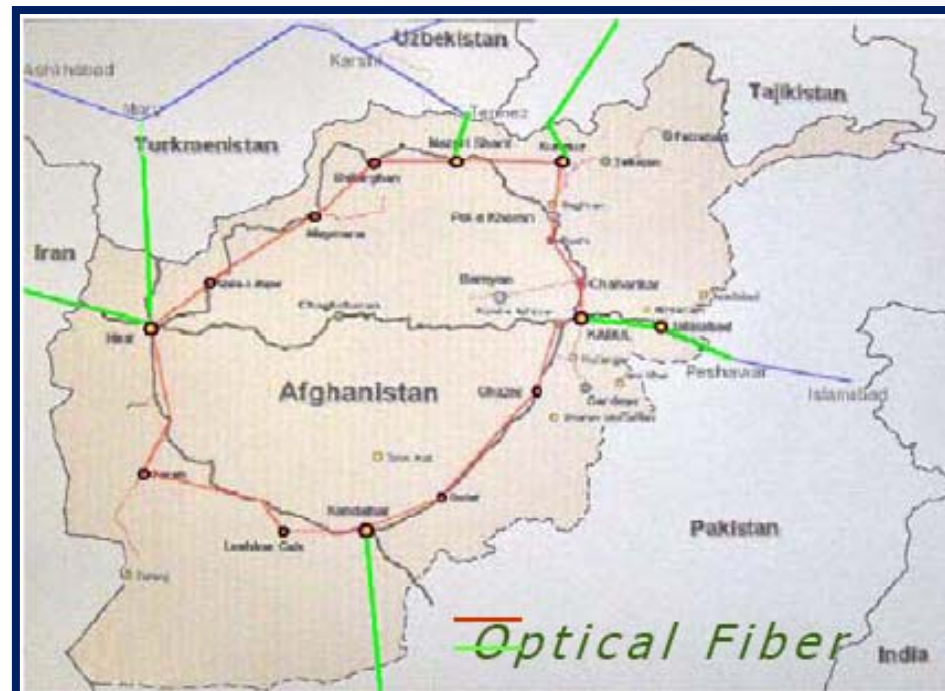
Regional Prospect



National Optical Fiber Network

The National Optical Fiber Network is being laid along the national highways of Afghanistan in the form of a ring. Afghanistan will soon be connected to the neighboring countries and to the other international optical fiber routes. This Network will link central Asia and southern Asian countries.

The Northern link of the Fibre Optic will be open in December, and will be connected to central Asian countries shortly.



MCIT: ICT Coordinator

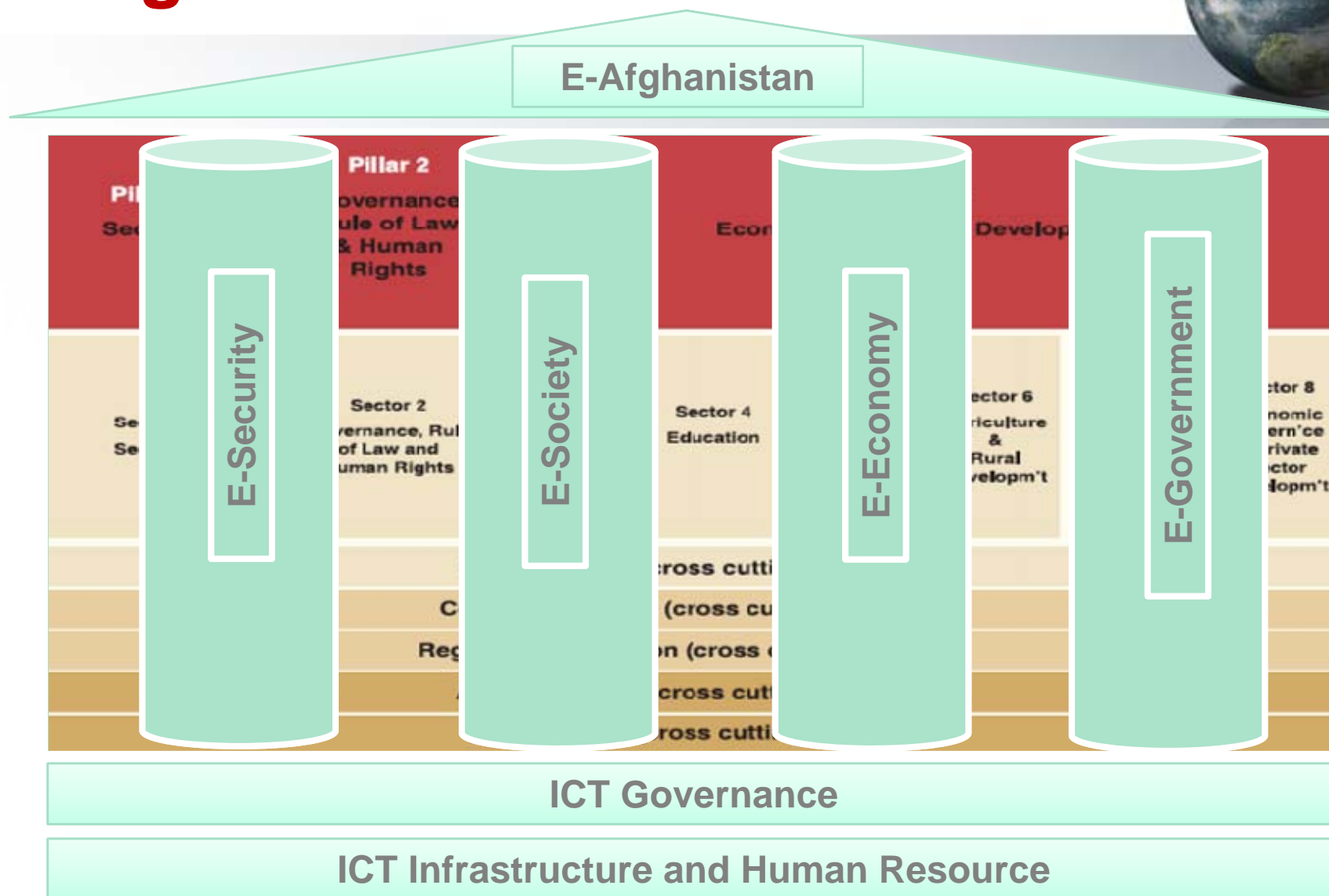


National ICT Council of Afghanistan (NICTCA)

The National ICT Council under the chairmanship of His Excellency the First Vice President of I.R. of Afghanistan has been established and the Ministry of Communications and IT acts as secretariat. The main goal of this Council is to advance the use of ICT in general, to implement e-government and coordinate all other ICT related activities.

- Promotion of ICT development
- Coordination of ICT Activities
- Policies and Standards for ICT
- E-Government initiatives

E-Afghanistan



The role-out Plan



- MCIT will conduct modules trainings in Kabul and provinces,
In Kabul:
 - Six Modules,
 - Module 1: The Linkage between ICT Applications and Meaningful Development
 - Module 2: ICT for Development Policy, Process and Governance
 - Module 3: e-Government Application
 - Module 4: ICT Trends for Government Leaders
 - Module 7: Project Management in theory and Practice
 - **Target Audience:** (High & Mid-Level government officials + at least 2 trainers per module)

The role-out plan (cont...)



In Provinces:

– **Seven Modules**

- Module 1: The Linkage between ICT Applications and Meaningful Development
 - Module 2: ICT for Development Policy, Process and Governance
 - Module 3: e-Government Application
 - Module 4: ICT Trends for Government Leaders
 - Module 5: Network and Information Security and Privacy
 - Module 6: Internet Governance
 - Module 7: Project Management in theory and Practice
- **Duration:** One week, every quarter, for two to three years.
- **Target Audience:** Civil servant, Public and local government leaders

Implementation



- The MCIT have 15 training centers in provinces, establishing 19 more by end of 2009, trainings will be held in these centers for provincial leaders. This academy will invite participants from governor office, mayor office, district chiefs, and others.
- In Kabul Civil Services Institute will be utilized as training venue for central government leaders training. Participants will include deputy ministers, Director Generals, Deputies, and Head of the departments.

Collaboration:



- We are grateful to APCICT for:
 - Giving training to the trainers,
 - Providing access to online resources to trainers as well students
 - Provide curriculum
 - Provide teachers manuals and reference books
 - Provide other necessary tools and equipment for the better delivery of the modules, including CD-ROMs and manuscript of the Academy and online access to APCICT Virtual Academy (AVA).

Outputs expected:



- **Anticipated Impact on the target Group**
 - As the trainings are not technical and has more of policy and managerial aspect, so it will be easy for the audience to understand. The examples and case studies presented will be close to their day to day activities and job responsibilities, this will enable them to have full grasp of the contents delivered. This will help them lobby for the inclusion of ICT in their annual planning and policy formulations, which will directly affect the efficiency.
- **Publication and Other Outputs**
 - A written report on the project progress and outcome and how to utilize them in ministries, agencies and future plans.
 - The manual for each module will be published in English and local languages Pashto and Dari including results, outcome of the trainings, round tables, dialogues, comments, feedback.
- **Multiplier Effect**
 - After implementing 2 modules in the central level it will proceed to the provincial level and officials will be sent for ICT and e-Government training and the academy will become first step for motivation and inspiration and accurate presentation and delivery of ICT.



Thank You

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