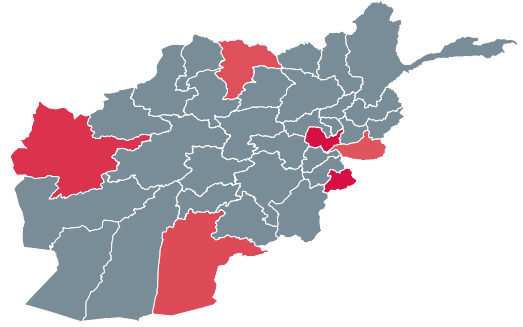


German Cooperation with Afghanistan

Experts for Afghanistan



Context

Several decades of war and unrest have largely destroyed Afghanistan's infrastructure and led to the loss of knowledge and education provision. Many well-educated managers, experts and academics have emigrated. Additionally, there is a lack of clear structures within the public administration, and insufficient employment and income opportunities for the Afghan population. Staff in government ministries and economic institutions are insufficiently qualified to remedy this situation of their own accord.

Objective

Highly qualified specialists and managers work as integrated experts with employers in Afghanistan – their work placements are being facilitated by the German government. The experts assist Afghan ministries and selected institutions to improve their administrative and management skills.

Measures & Results

Since 2002, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH has worked on behalf of the German government to place more than 100 integrated experts in key positions in Afghanistan.



Currently **15** integrated experts in Afghanistan

Overview	
Programme	Integrated and Returning Experts for Afghanistan
Commissioned by	German Federal Foreign Office
Partners	Afghanische Ministerien und Institutionen
Implementing organisation	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Provinces	Kabul, Balkh, Herat, Kandahar, Khost, Nangarhar
Programme objective	Develop effective state administrative structures

An insight into the work of integrated experts

At the Afghan Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

An institute of the Afghan Ministry of Foreign Affairs trains the country's future diplomats. Thanks to the work of an integrated expert, this training has been brought into line with international standards. The integrated expert also helped to make the criteria for the assignment of diplomatic posts more transparent and to place the focus on applicant qualifications. Additionally, he got the Master's in International Relations and Political Science up and running, laying a key foundation for the diplomat degree.

On the Anti-Corruption Committee:

An integrated expert has been working in an advisory role on the Independent Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (MEC) since 2014, driving investigations into the Kabul Bank scandal among other things. He has also used his expertise to help make the MEC the first port of call for the media on this issue.



An expert advising Afghan partner institutions | © GIZ

At the Afghan Ministry of Finance:

The Afghan Ministry of Finance is coordinating financial assistance. A returning expert is working there to ensure that the funding is deployed efficiently and that parallel structures do not emerge. At the same time, this is serving to increase transparency in the distribution of development assistance.

Integrated experts ...

are highly qualified German experts and managers whose placements are facilitated by GIZ, upon request by Afghan employers from the public and private sector as well as from civil society. The employer concludes a local employment contract, works with the expert to determine goals for his or her deployment period, and pays him or her a customary local salary which is topped up by GIZ.

There are currently 15 integrated experts on the ground in Kabul and in Balkh Province. They work in the fields of good governance, security, domestic and foreign policy, business, transport, education, higher education, and culture and media, passing on their specialist knowledge to their colleagues. In this way, they help to shape key regulatory and structural change processes.

Employed on a local basis, integrated experts enjoy the confidence of the Afghan partners. Because many of these experts come from an Afghan background, they often fill key positions and at the same time promote policy dialogue between Afghanistan and Germany.



Currently **19** returning experts in Afghanistan

Return of Talents Afghanistan programme

As part of its Return of Talents Afghanistan programme, the German Government also supports Afghan experts and managers who have studied in Germany. Graduates of German and European universities are being placed and financially supported as returning experts in development-related positions at Afghan ministries and authorities. They are also involved in developing state structures outside of Kabul, for example in Herat, Kandahar, Khost and Nangarhar Provinces. Demand for returning experts among Afghan employers has risen steadily in recent years.



Integrated and Returning Experts working in Afghanistan | © GIZ

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