

AFGHAN LINKS

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Afghan Links is a free newsletter for readers who have a keen interest in Afghanistan, its history, people and culture. It invites news and articles from anyone who wishes to create and maintain constructive links between Afghanistan and other countries by sharing their expertise, information and ideas in any field.

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AFGHANISTAN DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Statement by Jean Arnault - Special Representative of the Secretary-General United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

(4-6 April 2005 – Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kabul) - Opening session, April 4, 2005

Mr. President, Excellencies, Distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen

The organizers of this year's Forum have requested us to stay away – and I quote - from the “recitation of past accomplishments and contributions by donors” and to engage in serious policy dialogue around future strategic priorities. I am pleased to heed their call, not out of disregard for the remarkable achievements of the past three years but because the magnitude of the challenges to come does deserve our undivided attention; and also because of a concern that too strong an emphasis on past and current successes may bring with it a feeling of complacency – a very inappropriate frame of mind in which to approach the dialogue on the future of the Afghan peace process.

Certainly, there is every reason to believe that progress made last year in strengthening domestic security agencies will soon translate in enhance stability; yes there is every reason to hope that, if all goes well, the upcoming parliamentary election will further entrench democratic practices in Afghanistan's political system. Yes, progress has been achieved on many other fronts. But we must remain keenly aware of the great fragility of these gains. A number of key tasks of post-conflict peace building have yet to be completed, among which the extension of genuine security across the country; demilitarization of local power structures; the full resettlement of refugees and IDPs; the rehabilitation of key social and economic infrastructure; the gradual eradication of the narcotics economy; and the establishment of minimally functional government institutions. In addition, a number of essential peace building tasks have hardly begun, including the settlement of land claims - a pervasive source of violence; the restoration of property rights, and more broadly that of the rule of law; the rebuilding of trust among those whose lives were shattered by the war; and the rebuilding of unity between the groups that have been involved in the conflict of the past decades.

In recent years, much has been said in international circles about the frequent failure of the world community, in dealing with conflicts, to address the gap between short-term post-conflict recovery and the longer-term development of state capacity to perform effectively and responsibly. Because of the thorough destruction to which Afghan institutions were subjected during the war and the destitution prevailing in much of the country, this gap is particularly daunting in Afghanistan. We must not, therefore, take progress for granted. Perhaps nowhere in the world today is the consolidation of peace so tightly dependent on sustained institutional and economic reconstruction. Let us be aware of this circumstance and let us remember that while the establishment in a few months' time of fully representative political institutions will facilitate the process of state building and recovery, it will not be a substitute for it, particularly against the backdrop of the dismal social and economic indicators described in the recent Human Development Report.

It is in this context that we warmly welcome the government's invitation to dialogue around strategic priorities beyond the political transition; and we can endorse the list of key themes proposed to the attention of the Forum. They very largely reflect the concerns that the international community itself has identified, ranging from the need for fiscal sustainability to an emphasis on regional cooperation; from the need to balance social spending and investing in economic infrastructure, to strengthening the protection of the human rights of ordinary Afghan women and men. Taken together, they outline a broad agenda on which an understanding between Afghanistan and the international community must be achieved as early as possible notwithstanding the complexity of the issues involved. Strategic consensus on security and the political transition was achieved fairly quickly at Bonn under pressure of the tragic events of the fall of 2001. In contrast, issues relating to the pace and scope of state reform, the most appropriate strategy for economic development, and the potential and constraints of regional cooperation will lend themselves to diverse views, and, as the organizers rightly pointed out, may raise more questions than answers and reveal differences of opinion that will not be settled right away. One more compelling reason to engage in this debate without further delay in order to reach as soon as possible the common vision that will guide our joint efforts for years to come.

Please see attachment 1.12 for the full statement.

Source: Ariane Quentier, Snr. Public Information Officer – 3rd April 2005.

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- **Afghanistan Development Forum Concludes in Kabul – 6th April 2005**

Government and Donors Discuss Development Priorities and Key Challenges at Afghanistan Development Forum - Afghanistan's reconstruction efforts to be accelerated

The first Afghanistan Development Forum conducted by the new government concluded today in Kabul. The theme for this year's meeting was Accelerating Afghanistan's Development.

Afghanistan's economy has performed very strongly in the past three years with non-drug GDP increasing by more than 50 percent. The country's GDP is US\$4.6 billion in 2003/04 (excluding income from opium of US\$2.3 billion). This reflects a revival of economic activity after the end of major conflict, the initiation of reconstruction, and the recovery of agricultural sector from a protracted drought in the late 1990s. The recent Human Development Report suggests that social indicators and income per capita of Afghanistan ranks, with approximately US\$200 per year, among the lowest in the world.

The report Accelerating Afghanistan's Development - A Call for Dialogue prepared by the Government of Afghanistan provided the basis for an open, frank, and lively discussion between the government and the international community. The report focuses on how the government, with the support from the international community, can accelerate infrastructure development, ensure the implementation of an integrated social policy, create an enabling environment for private sector development, improve fiscal systems, maintain public administration reforms, strengthen regional cooperation, enforce the rule of law, and create alternative livelihoods to the drug trade.

"Over the last three years, Afghanistan has launched a daunting reconstruction and development program and convinced the international community - itself not an easy feat - of its needs going forward," said Praful Patel, World Bank Vice President for South Asia Region. "The Government's strategic vision and plan has encouraged the international community to provide what can only be described as an extraordinary level of support. The World Bank remains committed to Afghanistan for the long-haul, and we will continue to support the country's priorities, outlined in its own National Development Strategy."

Mr. Patel emphasized that economic growth is essential if Afghanistan is to achieve its reconstruction and development objectives. However, it is important that this growth is widespread and lifts the poorest out of poverty, and addresses the needs of both rural and urban populations. Afghanistan's economy remains largely agriculture-based, and the international community must pay more attention to this area. Clear advances have already been made through world class rural development programs being implemented in the country, such as the National Solidarity Program and micro-finance programs. Furthermore, it is essential that Afghanistan's development be seen in the broader regional context - harmonized approaches with mutually beneficial agreements with neighboring countries on issues such as customs, transit trade, energy, water resources, labor migration and security. These are important factors for Afghanistan to achieve its growth potential.

The challenges of capacity building were also discussed. While achievements in this area are crucial, it is a long term and difficult issue which effects both public and private organizations. The World Bank is at present, supporting civil service and public administration reform in Afghanistan, and is keen to assist the government in determining appropriate roles for ministries and service delivery providers. Valuable lessons have been learnt regarding efficient and cost-effective service provision by NGOs under Government oversight in the health sector. These lessons need to be drawn out more broadly to assist in the development of an accountable and transparent NGO sector so that appropriate regulations and oversight over private sector contractors comes into existence.

During the three-day meeting, the Government of Afghanistan also hosted a review of the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund, to which over US\$1.18 billion has been pledged to date by 24 donor countries to support the government's budget and priority investments. The ARTF is administered by the World Bank under the supervision of a Management Committee which also includes

the Asian Development Bank, the Islamic Development Bank, and the United Nations Development Program.

"This multi-donor trust fund has played an important role in providing harmonization among donors and alignment of donor support with government programs," Mr. Patel told the ADF. "It has also provided a vital mechanism for alignment with government priorities as articulated in its own strategies." Mr. Patel reiterated that the World Bank remains committed to Afghanistan for the long haul, as the government remains dedicated to poverty reduction and to the strategic coherence of programs. To date the World Bank has provided over US\$780 million in areas that include health, education, rural roads, and community development.

For more information about the World Bank activities in Afghanistan, visit

www.worldbank.org/af

For more information about ARTF, visit

www.worldbank.org/artf

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ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOODS

Saffron - an alternative to opium cultivation in western Afghanistan

PRESS RELEASE - Kabul, 28 March 2005

DACAAR intensifies activities to develop alternative livelihoods for poppy farmers in Herat province in western Afghanistan. A new research project has been launched in cooperation with a team from Washington State University focusing on saffron as new and viable substitution for opium production. There is a general interest to diversify into alternative crops where small acreages can yield high profits. Opium poppy is, unfortunately, such a crop.

Saffron is another one, and the aim of this project is to contribute to the creation of an environment that can enable local farmers to settle for saffron.

The research project in Herat aims to contribute to research in alternative livelihoods in areas of Afghanistan which opium cultivation has been spreading into over the past few years. This tendency, which in 2004 saw opium cultivation spread into all 34 provinces of Afghanistan might be the most worrying characteristic of the present situation. Herat is one of the provinces where this tendency can be observed.

'It is of great importance to start research in these areas as early as possible to prevent poppy growing spreading further. For many farmers growing poppy is tempting as it is a very lucrative, and until the government started eradication relatively risk free, option. Therefore, the farmers need safe alternatives of which a good example is saffron', says Kerry Jane Wilson, chief of programmes in DACAAR.

The establishment of farmers' associations is an increasingly central element of DACAAR's work with local farmers. Rather than only focusing on specific issues at village level, the associations are based on interests shared by a number of farmers within a geographical area. As the local demand for saffron is limited, the success of the project depends on the identification of markets abroad and on the establishment of mechanisms to ensure that the final product can meet the requirements of these markets.

Ali Gohar, natural resource management coordinator in DACAAR explains: 'By focusing on the potential in the farmer's associations it is possible to involve them as partners in developing the needed alternatives to opium cultivation. By creating unity among the farmers, they will be able to develop their skills collectively and furthermore achieve a stronger and more sustainable position when trying to get access to international markets.'

Research in Herat will be carried out during 2005 and 2006 in cooperation with the Afghan Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry. The project is funded by DFID, the British Department for International Development and is carried out under the auspices of the Research in Alternative Livelihoods Fund (RALF).

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COUNTER NARCOTICS

CARE and Center on International Cooperation – New Policy Brief on Counter-Narcotics Policy in Afghanistan

The brief analyzes the evolving situation on the ground (including the recent drop in poppy cultivation), and offers specific recommendations vis-a-vis alternative livelihoods, law enforcement and eradication.

Overall, the three main policy recommendations are:

- 1) To be successful, counter-narcotics initiatives -- especially alternative livelihoods programs -- must be adequately funded over the long-term;
- 2) Do not mistake short term gains for long-term success -- though a reduction in poppy cultivation is expected this year, this trend will not be sustainable unless sustainable alternative livelihoods and law enforcement actions are implemented as quickly as possible
- 3) It is imperative to introduce alternative livelihoods programs and law enforcement against major traffickers, warlords and corrupt officials before phasing-in widespread eradication. Aerial eradication would prove at best counter-productive and at worst widely destabilizing. **Please see attachment 2.12.**

Source: Sent to Afghanlinks Newsletter by Michael Kleinman, Advocacy Coordinator, CARE Afghanistan. Tel.: 070 276 716 Email: michael.kleinman@care.org.af [home](#)

ENVIRONMENT

- **MAKING AFGHANISTAN GREEN AGAIN -The government launches a drive to plant trees throughout the country**

Kabul is a drab, dun-coloured city, its formerly lush hills now lying bare under the harsh sun, the air thick with a fine, acrid dust. More than 20 years of conflict followed by a seven-year drought have decimated the city's greenery and left its residents gasping for oxygen.

In his address to the nation to mark the start of the traditional new year on March 21, President Hamed Karzai announced a major new green offensive, in which the government will sponsor the planting of nearly 4.5 million saplings this year.

The same day, United States Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad also promised 200,000 US dollars for trees in Kabul. Meanwhile, President Bush has asked Congress for an additional 10 million dollars for reforestation in Afghanistan.

The ministry of agriculture and animal husbandry has received a grant of 80,000 dollars from the central government to plant the saplings. Deputy minister Ghulam Mustafa Jawad said that his ministry is committed to using only indigenous plants.

"Importing from other countries does not work, because foreign plants may not be compatible with Afghanistan's weather," he said. "We have nurseries that have been growing saplings for the past three years."

Jawad added that there are now more than 70 government-supported nurseries, as well as some private ones that have sprung up.

"We will be able to get the four and a half million saplings domestically," he said.

Jawad said that his ministry has decided to plant fruit-bearing and decorative trees all over the country. In addition, the ministry will subsidise sales of fruit trees to private gardeners as a way of encouraging them to repair the damage done to their own plots of land by war and drought.

"This year we are going to plant saplings in eight areas of the hills surrounding Kabul, the capital's 'green girdle'," said Jawad.

Jawad added that the ministry has tasked its provincial branches throughout the country with protecting the saplings against marauding animals and the effects of weather. The planting process has been completed in the southern parts of the country, such as Jalalabad, Kandahar, and Khost, he added. In the more temperate regions the process will continue until April 20.

Dost Mohammad Amin, head of the environmental protection department, said he welcomed the planting project and the positive ecological effects he hopes it will have.

"The only way to keep the air clean is to plant trees," Amin told IWPR.

According to Amin, last year Afghanistan received gifts of one million saplings from various countries including Pakistan, Iran and America. But 30 per cent of them died, unable to adapt to Afghanistan's harsh climate.

Source: Wahidullah Amani is an IWPR staff writer in Kabul. IWPR - AFGHAN RECOVERY REPORT, No. 167, April 04, 2005. [home](#)

- **Saving Afghanistan's Precious Trees**

The authorities are arming and training a "Green Division" to protect Afghanistan's disappearing forests from timber smugglers, who have been operating with increasing impunity for the past three years.

"Afghanistan's forests have been treated mercilessly, and the timber is being smuggled to other countries," Interior Ministry spokesman Lutfullah Mashal told reporters. "Local people and professional smugglers have been particularly active in the eastern and southern regions."

An initial contingent of 300 forest rangers is being sent into the woods, to be deployed along the country's borders, particularly with Pakistan, where most of the contraband timber is sold. Mashal said his ministry hopes to increase the Green Division's manpower to 2,000 before the end of the year.

They will work in the provinces of Kunar, Paktia and Nuristan on the frontier with Pakistan, and in Badghis province, which borders on Turkmenistan.

Trees are an increasingly rare natural resource in Afghanistan. Sayed Bahram Saeedi, director of forestry at the agriculture ministry, estimated that half of the country's two million hectares of forest lands have been laid waste during the past 25 years of war and drought.

The United Nations Environment Programme says as much as 70 percent of the natural forests in eastern Afghanistan have been destroyed, and some local experts put the figures even higher.

Saeedi welcomed the formation of the Green Division, but both he and international officials are far from certain that it will have much effect.

Smugglers themselves scoff at the notion. One rogue logger who spoke to a reporter on condition he was not identified claimed to oversee a crew of 300 men operating 70 to 80 power saws in Kunar province. He slaughters six sheep a day to feed them, he said.

He said government efforts to curb the illegal trade were useless because of the bribes paid to police and high-ranking local officials.

"Everyone who comes in as a fresh appointment strikes poses for a few days, but later on they compromise with us," he said. "A new governor needs money too."

Asadullah Wafa, the governor of Kunar province, confirmed that officials were involved in the illicit export of timber from local forests and said he intended to fire those who accepted bribes from smugglers.

"If they gave me responsibility for the whole division, I can assure you nobody would fell a single tree," he said. "Without an order from the leader of the country, neither I nor any minister is allowed to transport timber."

Still, local people and international officials remained sceptical.

"Right now, thousands of truckloads of timber are stored in each district, and authorities are involved in the transportation," alleged Abdul Halim, who lives in Kunar province.

The Interior Ministry's February 26 decision to form the Green Division also failed to impress Hasan Khawrin, head of the forest reform section of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization.

"They have neither the budget nor the equipment, nor can they support the division," he said. "It is just useless words. They're trying to deceive people."

Khawrin said he was particularly distressed by the destruction of pistachio trees. A generation ago, he went on, the country had about 450,000 hectares of pistachio groves. Now, half of them are gone.

Source: By Amanullah Nasrat and Bashir Babak KABUL, Afghanistan, March 29, 2005 (ENS) - {Published in cooperation with the [Institute for War and Peace Reporting](#). Amanullah Nasrat is an IWPR staff writer in Kabul. Bashir Babak is a freelance writer in Jalalabad} [home](#)

EVENT

Photographic Exhibition « Earth From Above » - TODAY – 7TH April!!

The famous photographer, Yann ARTHUS-BERTRAND is pleased to invite you for a press conference tomorrow, **April, 7, at 10.30 A.M for an exceptional press conference in Shar-i-Nao Park, Kabul.**

115 pictures are already installed in this park for two months. If you want meet him, you are welcome!

Please find below some information about this exhibition organised by the French Center. Contacts : ccfka@yahoo.fr / tel : 079304351

THE FRENCH CULTURAL CENTER OF KABUL is pleased to invite you to the press conference of the photographic exhibition « Earth from Above » by Yann Arthus-Bertrand on April 7, 2005 at 10.30 a.m. in Shar-i-Nao Park, Kabul.

(The exhibition will remain open from April 7 to June 7, 2005) Press Contact: Brigitte Brault, Tel: 079332177

The exhibition has received the exceptional support of ROSHAN the collaboration of KABUL MUNICIPALITY, ISAF and the unconditional help of the photographer YANN ARTHUS-BERTRAND and his AGENCY "ALTITUDE-PARIS"

The project «Earth from Above» was made possible under the patronage of UNESCO and with the generous support of FUJIFILM, CORBIS, AIR FRANCE and EUROCOPTER. Kindly carry this invitation. For further information, contact Imamudin Hamdart, Tel.: 079304351.

THE FRENCH CULTURAL CENTER OF KABUL (CCF)

The French Cultural Center (CCF) is proud to present «Earth from Above», an exhibition by imminent French photographer Yann Arthus-Bertrand at Kabul's Shar-i-Nao Park from April 7 to June 7, 2005.

After touring some of the world's most important cities — such as London, Riyadh, Paris, and Chicago — Arthus-Bertrand has chosen to exhibit his gigantic aerial photographs outdoors in order to reach a large and disparate audience. Besides the 115 prints from the original "Earth from Above" series, Arthus-Bertrand plans to shoot pictures of Kabul during his stay in the Afghan capital, which will be included in this evolving art project.

On November 1, 2003, CCF resumed its activities in Afghanistan after more than two decades. The Afghan government has granted CCF the use of its current premises located in the Esteqlal High School, Kabul. The center's mission is the spread of French culture and language via cultural encounters and artistic openings.

Since November 2003, CCF has offered free French language courses, open to all. A language course director leads a team of eight trained teachers, and currently, there are 300 students enrolled in the center's daily language classes. CCF is also the official exam center for the DELF and the DALF, internationally recognized diplomas from the French Ministry of Education.

The center has a state-of-the-art multimedia library that offers French television channels, as well as radio programs and Internet connections. The library's print section includes 4,000 books and a variety of newspapers and magazines from across the French-speaking world. CCF also houses videos and DVDs of more than 100 French feature and documentary films.

CCF's projects underscore its commitment to help Afghans rediscover and rejuvenate their culture after more than two decades of war and instability. The center seeks to provide a space to foster the arts in Afghanistan and to promote cross-cultural encounters between French and Afghan artists and creators.

With this mission in mind, CCF has organized several exhibitions of Afghan and French artists, theatrical performances, conferences, musical concerts as well as screenings of Afghan and French movies.

In 2004, CCF presented a total theater performance titled, "The Lovers' Laugh," based on an adaptation of Afghan writer Sayed Bahoudine Majrouh's novel "Monster Ego". The troupe — composed of French and Afghan artists — toured France before performing in Afghanistan in October 2004.

CCF has also started accumulating and recording Afghan oral literature, which will be published later this year.

CCF's new auditorium featuring state-of-the-art audio-video equipment will enable the center to offer a new performance space for artists and creators.

Daniel Massat-Bourrat
Director

Earth from above

Yann Arthus-Bertrand invites us to take a journey with him through the realities of the world. His aerial photographs reflect the variety of natural habitats and expressions of life, but also man's imprint and assault on his environment. This work constitutes a "state of the planet" at the beginning of a new millennium.

The photographs are indissociable from the text. Together, they invite all of us to think about the changes in the planet and the future of its inhabitants.

As a witness photographer, Yann Arthus-Bertrand wishes to address as many citizens of all countries as possible. His work underlines the fact that, more than ever, our present levels and modes of consumption, production and exploitation of resources are not viable over the long term. It illustrates a decisive stage where the alternatives offered by sustainable development must help to bring about changes that will make it possible to "answer the needs of the present without compromising the capacity of future generations to answer theirs." These changes, this efficient undertaking of a commitment to sustainable development, do not only depend on the wills of governments and those in power around the world. Each one of us, individually, has a role to play in the future of the planet; everyone has the power to act and the duty to rally, en masse, in order to influence the decision-makers. With these images, Yann Arthus-Bertrand offers us the way to such awareness.

Fruit of patient research work begun in 1990, these photographs, chosen from thousands of shots, owe their emotional and evocative power to Yann Arthus-Bertrand's eye and to his desire to be a witness for generations to come. This work is not an end in itself but an important stage in an ongoing project. Many countries still remain to be visited. The geographical coordinates of every shot will allow other photographers to locate the same sites and continue this ambitious undertaking.

Born on March 13, 1946, Yann Arthus-Bertrand has always been dedicated to nature. He discovered the beauty of the world seen from the sky in Kenya, while piloting a hot-air balloon and studying lions with his wife, Anne. In 1991, he founded the Altitude agency in Paris, a aerial photographic bank gathering photographers from around the world. Yann Arthus-Bertrand has published close to 70 books, mainly with Hervé de la Martinière in France and with Abrams in the United States. Since 1995, he has been recording the state of our Earth in aerial photographs. This project has given birth to the book *La Terre vue du ciel, Earth from Above* (Editions de La Martinière, Paris) published simultaneously in twenty one languages throughout many countries, and exhibited this series of photographs in 30 countries, giving the opportunity to more than 50 millions of people to see *the Earth from Above*.

Toward a sustainable development

Since 1950, economic growth has been considerable, and world production of goods and services has multiplied by a factor of 7. During this same period, while the world's population has only doubled, the volume of fish caught and meat produced has multiplied by 5. So has the energy demand. Oil consumption has multiplied by 7, and carbon dioxide emissions, the main cause of the greenhouse effect and global warming, by 4. Since 1900, fresh water consumption has multiplied by 6, chiefly to provide for agriculture.

And yet, 20% of the world's population has no access to drinking water, 25% is without electricity, 40% has no sanitary installation, 842 million people are underfed, and half of humanity lives on less than \$2 a day.

In other words, a fifth of the world's population lives in industrialized countries, consuming and producing in excess and generating massive pollution. The remaining four-fifths live in developing countries and, for the most part, in poverty. To provide for their needs, they make heavy demands upon the Earth's natural resources, causing a constant degradation of our planet's ecosystem and limited supplies of fresh water, ocean water, forests, air, arable land, and open spaces.

This is not all. By 2050, the Earth will have close to 3 billion additional inhabitants. These people will live, for the most part, in developing countries. As these countries develop, their economic growth will jockey for position with that of industrialized nations — within the limits of ecosystem Earth.

The Earth's situation is not irreversible, but changes need to be made as soon as possible. We have the chance to turn toward a sustainable development, one that allows us to improve the living conditions of the world's citizens and to satisfy the needs of generations to come. This

development would be based on an economic growth respectful both of man and the natural resources of our unique planet.

Such development requires improving production methods and changing our consumption habits. With the active participation of all the world's citizens, each and every person can contribute to the future of the Earth and mankind, starting right now.

Earth from Above. www.yannarthusbertrand.org

Source: Brigitte Brault, Audiovisuel Adviser, French Embassy 079.332.177.

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TAX

Afghanistan Income Tax Law

Please see attachment 4.12 for Afghanistan Income Tax Law sent to the bulletin by ACBAR 7th April 2005.

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TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Trade and Investment Opportunities in Afghanistan - U.S. Department of Commerce Business Development Mission - April 24, to 27, 2005

Business Development Mission to Kabul, Afghanistan April 24 to 27, 2005.

Led by Assistant Secretary William H. Lash, III, the mission will assist U.S. businesses exploring trade and investment opportunities in Afghanistan. The mission will include senior executives from priority sectors including, but not limited to, the following:

Construction
Telecommunications
Agribusiness
Energy
Environmental Technology
Financial services

The estimated Gross Domestic Product growth rate for 2003-2004 was 16%, following a growth rate of 20% for 2002-2003. The Afghan Government is taking many steps to build the mechanisms necessary for a viable commercial environment. The Afghan Government passed new investment and commercial banking laws to facilitate commercial and banking transactions. The Afghan Government created a "one-stop shop" for investors to receive necessary documents and other information for establishing a business venture in Afghanistan. The first of three industrial parks is scheduled to open in the Spring 2005. Economic recovery from more than twenty war-ravaged years is most visible in agriculture, construction and services sectors, driven by the international reconstruction effort.

For more information about Afghanistan, read [Doing Business in Afghanistan: Country Commercial Overview](#) Or go to <http://www.export.gov/afghanistan/events/index.html>

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TRAINING

MANGO – Practical Financial Management for NGOs – Getting the Basics Right (5 days)

Sun 22 May – Thu 26 May 2005 - Kabul, Afghanistan

Please scroll down for details of all of our **OPEN COURSES**. For details of **ECHO-sponsored events** [click here](#).

For an overview of each course, see [Course Outlines](#). For 2005 course fees [click here](#).

A downloadable [print version](#) of the open events calendar is also available.

FM1: Practical Financial Management for NGOs – Getting the Basics Right (5 days) – refer to <http://www.mango.org.uk/training/calendar.asp> [home](#)

If you want further information on any of the above subjects please email Jeanne Bryer at Afghanlinks@aol.com

NB. All information contained here identifies the source and is shared with readers in good faith. If you find any incorrect details please let me know and they will be rectified immediately. *Afghan Links* is produced by Jeanne Bryer who formerly worked for the British and Irish Agencies Afghanistan Group and who currently works for Khorasan Orphanage in Kabul and the Kathy Evans Afghan Education Trust. If you no longer wish to receive the Afghan Links Newsletter please send an email to Jeanne Afghanlinks@aol.com and your address will be removed.

