

# PARWAN

Parwan borders the provinces of Baghlan to the north, Kabul and Wardak to the south, Bamyan to the west and Kapisa and Panjshir to the east.

Fifty-two percent of the Parwan's cultivated land is located in 7 districts because of their vicinity to the Panjshir River and lower elevations. The other 3 districts are most suitable for raising livestock because of the hilly and mountainous topography in the area.

Parwan is famous for producing cotton, mulberries and vegetables and dried fruit.

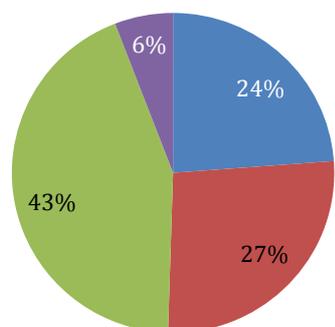
## Parwan in a Nutshell

- *Surface area:* 6,000 sq. km
- *Capital:* Charikar
- *Districts:* 10 – Bagram, Charikar, Ghorband, Jabal seraj, Kohi Safi, Sayed Khel, Shinwari, Shekh Ali, Salang, Surkhi Parsa.
- *Main markets:* Charikar, Pul-e-Alam, Kabul, Khost, Siagerd, Bamyan, Ghazni
- *Population:* 0.6 million inhabitants (91% in rural areas)
- *Most populated districts:* Charikar
- *Ethnic Groups:* Not indicated
- *Main languages:* Dari and Pashtu
- *Kuchi Migrations:* Winter, 5,000 – 50,000 individuals; Summer, more than 200,000 individuals
- *Returnees, IDPs:* Parwan is the destination of 3.5% (roughly 163,000 individuals) of the total returnee population, but not a main hosting province for IDPs

## HORTICULTURE

### KEY CROPS

**Total production (2008):** 320,361 metric tons



- Grains: Wheat, Maize
- Vegetables: Potato, Onion, Cucumber, Tomato
- Fruits & Nuts: Grape, Mulberry, Apricot, Almond, Apple, Watermelon
- Fodder & Industrial

### DIVISION OF LABOUR BY GENDER

#### Production:

Cultivation is mainly conducted by men in Parwan. 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 Parwan. 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: 53%
- Garden plots: 11%
- Both field and garden plots: 36%

**Other Improved Practices:** According to key informants, there has been an increase in the use of tractors, notably threshers and sprayers and improved irrigation.

## LIVESTOCK

### KEY ANIMALS

Main Animals	District Concentration	Total Heads
Sheep	Shinwari (58% of livestock)	220,782
Goats		213,099
Cattle		72,739
Poultry	Bagram (26%)	248,283

### IMPROVED PRACTICES

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

### DIVISION OF LABOUR BY GENDER

#### Animal husbandry:

Both men and women care for livestock in Parwan. Poultry is 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. Both men and women are involved in selling eggs, although women tend to be more active in this sector.
- **Dairy:** Both men and women sell milk and dairy products, although men sell a majority of the latter.
- **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 Parwan. They are very involved in the production of dairy products. While they are typically not involved in the sale of livestock, it is very common for them to sell eggs, milk, and dairy products.

## ECONOMIC FACTORS AND PROVINCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

### LIVELIHOODS AND INCOME SOURCES

In 2007, 43% of rural households relied on agriculture as their major source of revenue; Around a third (30%) derived some income from trade and services and about half of the rural households earned income through non-farm related labor (49%). Livestock also accounted for about 12% of rural households' income.

#### Key Income Sources

*Poor: Agriculture & construction labor, livestock keeping, handicraft production*  
*Better-off: Agriculture, livestock keeping, trade*

### 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 MFIs, but to a lesser extent.

More than half of interviewees say women are able to borrow money or buy goods on credits. They mainly borrow from family / neighbors.

#### Microfinance Institutions

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

All Programs	Ag and Livestock Programs:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active clients: 13,333</li> <li>• Active borrowers: 10,507</li> <li>• # loans disbursed: 59,750</li> <li>• Amount of loans disbursed: 30,800,233 Afs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active clients: 1,346</li> <li>• Active borrowers: 1,099</li> <li>• # loans disbursed: 5,352</li> <li>• Amount of loans disbursed: 3,189,572 Afs.</li> </ul>

### LAND TENURE

In 2007, 77% of the households in Parwan owned land or farmed land based on renting, sharecropping or mortgaging arrangements. According to our interviews, commercial farmers primarily own their land (both sole or shared ownership), while subsistence farmers mainly lease or have sole ownership of their land.

Interviewees claim that livestock producers in the province are mainly sedentary. Their main challenges with regards to access to land are conversion of pastures, expansion of residential housing, overgrazing.

### IRRIGATION

In 2007, on average 62% of households in the province had access to irrigated land, and around one in twenty (6%) of households had access to rain-fed. Interviewees claim most or almost all farmers cultivate irrigated land (seems high). The proportion has stayed the same over the past 3 years.

### ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE & ACCESS TO MARKETS

In 2007, the transport infrastructure in Parwan was reasonably well developed, with 61% of roads in the province able to take car traffic in all seasons, and 19% able to take car traffic in some seasons. However, in nearly one-fifth of the province (18%) there were no roads at all. Roads linking rural areas to markets described as sufficient or poor; Roads have improved or stayed the same in the past 3 years. The main challenges identified were distance from markets and lack/poor quality roads.

## SOCIAL FACTORS

### POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

*Poverty rate: 18.9%*  
*Per capita monthly total consumption: 1,779 Afs*

### LITERACY

*Literacy rate: 27%*  
 The Kuchi population in the province has particularly low levels of literacy with just 0, 6% of men and no women able to read and write.

### FOOD SECURITY

Problem satisfying food need of the household during the year (households %):	Calorie deficiency (% consuming less than 2100 calories per day):
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Never: 18%,</li> <li>• Rarely (1-3 times): 43%,</li> <li>• Sometimes (3-6 times): 29%,</li> <li>• Often (few times a month): 5%,</li> <li>• Mostly (happens a lot): 4%</li> </ul>	14.5%

### CHILD LABOUR AND SCHOOL ENROLMENT

*Child labour: 15.4%*  
*School Enrolment: 46.5%*

Amongst the Kuchi population 1% boys attend school in Parwan during the winter months; however no Kuchi children attend school in the province during the summer.

### SECURITY

Level of security in Parwan: ↗  
 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.

**STATUS OF WOMEN** *Female literacy rate: 10%; Female share in active population: 24.7%*

**Access to markets / female mobility:** According to our interviews, more than half of women in the provincial centre go to the local bazaar to buy goods; More than half of these women are accompanied a male relative when they do so; Almost none go to sell items. Women outside of the provincial centre are less likely to go to the local bazaar to buy goods and more likely to be accompanied by a male relative.