



# Lithuanian Development Cooperation in Afghanistan

2009



# Table of contents

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>I. Overview</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>II. Lithuania in the Province of Ghor</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lithuanian-led Provincial Reconstruction Team</li> <li>• Lithuanian Development Cooperation in the Province of Ghor           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthcare, Social Protection and Sustainable Development</li> <li>• Good Governance and Rule of Law</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Cultural Development</li> <li>• Public Awareness Raising</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>8</b>
<b>III. Immediate Needs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthcare and Social Development</li> <li>• Good Governance and Rule of Law</li> <li>• Agriculture</li> <li>• Education</li> </ul>	<b>20</b>

# Introduction

Afghan-Lithuanian relations have a long and positive history, reaching back to the start of the 20th century.

Lithuania established diplomatic relations with Afghanistan in December 1930 by signing an Agreement on Foundation of Friendly Relations.

The diplomatic relations with Afghanistan were re-established in March 2005. Shortly thereafter, Lithuania established a Special Mission in Kabul, for coordinating implementation of Provincial Reconstruction Team civilian tasks and performing other functions related to diplomatic representation. In June 2005 Lithuania undertook obligation to lead ISAF Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) in the Province of Ghor.

Lithuania is engaged in a number of international community activities in Afghanistan:

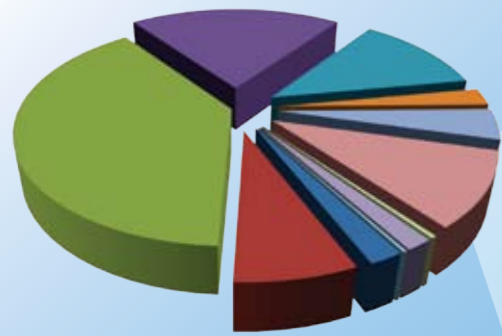
- participation in the framework of bilateral and multilateral cooperation;
- engagement in international security operations (operation Enduring Freedom and ISAF);
- training and supervision of the Afghan National Security Forces (in the framework offered by NATO, EUPOL, and initiatives of individual states);
- reconstruction and development, institutional capacity-building, and good governance (coordinated by UNAMA).

Since 2006 Lithuania has been actively funding and carrying out development cooperation projects in the areas of good governance and rule of law, infrastructure, education, social security, healthcare, and cultural development.



2006 – 7 projects implemented for \$ 0,4 million  
 2007 – 25 projects for \$ 1,4 million  
 2008 – 36 projects implemented for \$ 1,6 million  
 2009 - 38 projects implemented for \$ 1 million

# Overview



- Afghanistan (Province of Ghor): 743 974 EUR, 39%
- Azerbaijan: 30 781 EUR, 2%
- Belarus: 381 898 EUR, 20%
- Georgia: 231 800 EUR, 12%
- Moldova: 46 564 EUR, 3%
- Palestine: 7 240 EUR, 0,38%
- Russia (Kaliningrad): 196 259 EUR, 10%
- Tajikistan: 4 344 EUR, 0,23%
- Ukraine: 84 088 EUR, 5%
- Public awareness raising projects: 37 651 EUR, 7%
- Scientific and cultural exchange projects: 134 488 EUR, 2%

Afghanistan remains one of the priority countries for Lithuanian development activities in 2009. Lithuania's total contribution to development cooperation projects in the Province of Ghor in 2009 is \$ 1 million.

Lithuania, as a leading country of PRT of Ghor, is actively involved in attracting international donors and partners to the Province.

In 2009 Greece provided financial support to the implementation of Lithuanian development cooperation projects.

USA remains among the most important partners of Lithuania in the Province of Ghor. In 2009 Japan started development cooperation activities in the Province: 4 Japanese civil experts joined the Lithuanian-led PRT, Japanese financial contribution to development cooperation projects significantly increased.

Continuous collaboration with USA and fruitful partnership with Japan is the result of Lithuania's diplomatic efforts and successful development cooperation activities.



**SAYED MOHAMMAD IQBAL MUNIB, Governor of Ghor province:**  
*„Assistance provided by Lithuanian government in close coordination with the local authorities is highly valued by local population. However, there is still a long way to go in order to win the trust of the people and to meet all the needs and requirements of local residents, especially in remote and vulnerable areas of the province“.*

Last 20 years of endless upheavals and internal fights impoverished Afghan's economy and exhausted society. Despite of the facts, that in 2001 the Taliban's regime collapsed, the first Presidential Election was held and Constitution adopted, today's situation in Afghanistan remains serious. The economy of the country still heavily dependent on foreign aid, more than half of the population living below the poverty line.

**RASA JUKNEVIČIENĖ, Minister of National Defence:**  
*„Afghanistan could be a rich and safe country, if with the support of international community could overcome conflicts caused by the interests of undemocratic, selfish and terrorist clans“.*



Ghor is one of the thirty-four provinces of Afghanistan, located in central part of the country. The name of the province is cognate to the word „gar“ that in Persian and Pashto means „mountain“.

Remains of the oldest settlements discovered by the Lithuanian archaeologists in 2007 and 2008 in Ghor date back to 5000 BC.



The province in 12-13th centuries was the center of Ghurid's dynasty of the Persian Empire – the cradle of the famous Afghanistan kings. The remains of the capital Firuzkuh, including UNESCO World Heritage site the Minaret of Jam, are located in Ghor.



The rise to power of the Ghurids in Ghor, a small isolated area located in the mountain vastness between the Ghaznavid empire and Great Seljuq Empire, was an unusual and unexpected development. The area was so remote that till the 11th century, it had remained a pagan enclave surrounded by Muslim principalities.



A Buddhist monastery hand-carved in the bluff of the river Harirud existed in the first centuries during the prevalence of Buddhism in the region.

In the 11th century AD Mahmud of Ghazni defeated the king of Ghor Amir Suri and converted the population of the region to Islam.

In 1215 the Ghurid's dynasty was overthrown by Muhammad of Khwarazm

and in 1221 Ghor was conquered by Gengis Khan

The population of the seventh largest province of Afghanistan is over the 800 000 people, consisting of Tajiks, Aymaqs, Hazaras, Uzbeks and Pashtuns.

Chagcharan – administrative centre of the Province of Ghor, based 350 km west of Kabul. Located in the mountainous region and due to complicated geographical conditions, Ghor is suffering from poor road conditions and difficult terrain. Because of the defective infrastructure there is no proper accessibility to the markets, schools, social and health care services in the province.



Ghor is pro-government province which traditionally has not been Taliban inclined. The Ministry of Counter Narcotics of Afghanistan declared Ghor as a free of poppy cultivation in 2007. Traditional occupations of the people in Ghor are agriculture and animal husbandry.

Strategically situated, Ghor is the center of Kabul-Herat road, also known as the „East-West corridor“. It makes the reconstruction of the province vital for all the country.



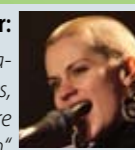
Low literacy rate, poor administrative skills, are the main difficulties for the local authorities to apply for assistance to the central government and international community. Nevertheless, Lithuania's activities in the Province of Ghor and successful cooperation with partners constantly increasing the growth of the province and entire country.

**SOCIO-ECONOMICAL SITUATION:**

- 82% of population are illiterate;
- About 4% of the population has higher education or are high school graduates;
- About 65% of labor force is either with no occupation or with low income;
- Economy is depending on primitive and traditional agriculture and small business which have been affected by the drought for 7 years;
- Animal husbandry is the second occupation of the people in Ghor. The sequence of droughts in the province and recent climate changes have resulted in reduction of livestock, which is a heavy blow on families' economy in the province;
- There are about 220.148 acres of agricultural land in the province most of which is rain-fed and is cultivated once in a year that hardly provides food supplies for farmers, that is why the remaining amount of food of food is transported from neighboring provinces. There are no technical irrigation facilities;
- 60% of the population lives under the poverty line. The income per capita is estimated \$60 per year and according to global standard it is the lowest.

**JURGA ŠEDUIKYTĖ, singer:**

„Looking through the plane illuminator at the receding sands during my journey back home I thought that Afghanistan reminds me the miniature on the huge brownish cardboard: small goats, dwarf people on small donkeys, one-storey cottages with the people perched on roofs. And all of this – in the background of the huge desert, where the only green element is a brightly colored scarf of a local woman.“



**VYKINTAS PUGAČIAUSKAS, journalist:**

„The Province of Ghor might be forgotten place, but the progress there is much faster than it can be presumed from the calendar, showing the year 1388. Electric generators are still very welcome gift, but more solar batteries over the clay slums could be seen in the remoted small villages. Rumbling graders and rollers covered the main Chagcharan street by firm basement within a few months.“



# Lithuania in the Province of Ghor

## Lithuanian-led Provincial Reconstruction Team

Lithuanian-led Provincial Reconstruction Team was established in June 2005 in Chaghcharan. The joint civilian and military mission is tasked to assist the Afghan Central Government to extend its authority in the Province of Ghor, assist local security structures in establishing a safe and secure environment, facilitate reconstruction in the province, mediate, and promote participation of various public authorities and non-governmental organisations in reconstruction and development efforts in the province.



**EGIDIJUS VAREIKIS,**  
parliamentarian:

*„Never met any politician, who visited Provincial Reconstruction Team and left it with the opinion that this is an unnecessary game and a waste of money“.*

### Main challenges for the development of the Province of Ghor:

- Natural remoteness and no proper road connection to the main road network;
- Long and cold winter resulting in total or partial closure of the roads;
- Lack of attention from responsible authorities of central government in maintaining a steady development;
- Inaccessibility of government funds for local authorities;
- Less attention in hiring local cadres to manage the programs in the center of the province and districts;
- Low awareness of most of national and international sources on bad condition in the provinc;
- Absence of an effective mechanism for implementation of available projects and programs.

Since 2006 in the Province of Ghor Lithuania has been implementing development and reconstruction projects in the sectors of good governance and rule of law, infrastructure, education, administrative capacity building, agriculture, healthcare and others.

Seemingly secure and calm situation of provinces like Ghor became a reason to provide less funding for their development. Therefore Lithuania seeks to highlight a clear need of more even distribution of financial aid across the country. Only even development of all provinces is a key to the efficient development action in Afghanistan.



**RASA JUKNEVIČIENĖ,**  
Minister of National Defence:

*„Afghanistan could be compared with a patient in critical condition, treated in reanimation. It seems that crisis has passed, first signs of recovery appeared, but he is still very weak and needs professional help. If constant supervision and assistance will be terminated, all previous efforts and results achieved will collapse and patient may die. Afghan state is slowly recovering, local government is strengthening, new infrastructure of country's governance is appearing. After all these efforts we must have patience to help the Afghan people to further consolidate and to take the responsibility for the security and the future of their country“.*

Lithuania has taken the responsibility to lead the Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) in the Province of Ghor provided that allies contribute to the implementation of the PRT objectives with their resources, particularly insofar as civilian PRT's objectives are concerned.

In 2009 the Lithuanian-led PRT consisted of military and civil components - troops from Lithuania, Croatia, Denmark, Georgia, Ukraine, US as well as civilians from Lithuania, Japan, US and representatives of the EUPOL.

There were more than 220 international staff deployed in the PRT of Ghor in 2009.

Military personnel from professional and volunteer military services of Lithuania, troops from Lithuanian Civil Defence Authority and foreign military personnel were the military components of Lithuanian-led PRT.

In May 2010 there will be eleventh rotation of Lithuanian peacekeepers to the PRT.

Foreign military personnel of PRT consisted of 28 troops from Croatia, 4 from Denmark, 7 from Ukraine, 1 from Georgia and 17 from USA (Police mentoring team PMT ir SFAT).

PRT military unit helps ensuring security, creating conditions for provincial reconstruction and development, implement quick impact projects, enhance confidence of local communities and leaders of communities in international forces deployed in the country.



### PRT Quick impact projects

*Security and stability are essential conditions for development.*

*In 2009 the Lithuanian-led PRT military unit implemented 8 quick impact projects in the sectors of good governance and rule of law, infrastructure, healthcare and social security, education and cultural development.*

*Supplying electricity to local authorities, providing motorcycles and equipment to National police, organizing the conference of religious leaders of the Province of Ghor, Lithuanian-led PRT in a short period of time has been able to improve the situation of the local authorities and society.*





Only by implementing the integrated approach of civil and military elements the effective implementation of the principal objectives can be achieved.

In June 2005 Lithuanian Special Mission was sent to Afghanistan to coordinate completion of civil tasks of PRT.

In 2009 the Lithuanian-led PRT civil component also consisted of personnel from Japan, Romania (EUPOL) and USA (representatives from USAID, State Department and Department of Agriculture).

The successful activities of the Lithuanian-led PRT in the Province of Ghor is the result of close cooperation with the UN Agencies (UNAMA, UNICEF, ect.), foreign countries, development agencies (USAID) and NGO's (AfganAid, Catholic Relief Services).



**SAYED MOHAMMAD IQBAL MUNIB, Governor of Ghor province:**

*„The presence of Lithuanian-led Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) in Chaghcharan and its good cooperation with Provincial Government and Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) created conditions for a stable and secure environment and facilitated the social and economical development in the province.“*

## Lithuanian Development Cooperation in the Province of Ghor

Lithuanian development action in Afghanistan implements the Afghanistan Compact agreed in London in 2006, as well as the Declaration of Paris Conference for Afghanistan 2008, and Afghanistan National Development Strategy. It is aligned with the Ghor Provincial Development Plan.

In 2009 Lithuania has been actively contributing to the implementation of the PRT goals and international efforts to restore and develop the Province of Ghor by funding and carrying out development cooperation projects in the areas of healthcare, social protection and sustainable development, good governance and rule of law, education, cultural development and public awareness raising.

In 2009 Lithuania implemented 38 development and reconstruction projects for \$ 1 million.

### Healthcare, Social Protection, and Sustainable Development

Since 2007 Lithuania has given high priority to the development cooperation projects, aimed at healthcare, social protection and sustainable development.

In 2009 Lithuania continue to implement Construction of Chaghcharan children day care centre, Reconstruction of Ghor Provincial Hospital in Chaghcharan and other projects.



- Social protection and sustainable development: 562 294 EUR, 70%
- Education: 108 156 EUR, 14%
- Cultural development: 54 867 EUR, 7%
- Good governance and rule of law: 48 833 EUR, 6%
- Public awareness raising: 26 168 EUR, 3%

**JUOZAS OLEKAS, parliamentarian:**

*„Medical diplomacy is a great power and acceptable form to all Afghan nations and social groups. Therefore the establishment of primary health centers in villages, renovation or construction of hospitals in the provincial centers may become decisive moment in the relations between the help providers and recipients.“*



### Chagcharan Children Day Care Centre

First steps of the construction of children day care centre were taken in 2008, when Lithuanian architects completed architectural project and then the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of Afghanistan approved.

In 2009 Lithuanian architects and engineers carried out geological surveys (soil investigation) in the area, then functional and inexpensive building for children day care centre has been designed.

According to a trilateral agreement signed among the authorities of Afghanistan and Lithuania, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania provided financial contribution (\$ 416.000) to the Afghan Ministry of Finance for the construction of the Chaghcharan Children Center. Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Martyrs and Disabled of Afghanistan undertook to organize the tender for the construction of the Children Center, to ensure the long term maintenance of it, to adopt and implement educational and social programs.



### Reconstruction of Ghor Provincial Hospital

With the aim to solve urgent healthcare problems in the province, Lithuania, upon the request of the Administration of the Chagcharan Hospital and the local authorities, initiated the reconstruction of the existing hospital.

Lithuanian architects completed a feasibility study of the reconstruction of the hospital in December of 2008, which was approved during the visit of the Governors of the Province of Ghor in Lithuania in July 2009.

The feasibility study sets a step by step reconstruction:

- construction of an emergency care department, including diagnostics, short hospitalization and surgery (a two store building);
- reconstruction of the current surgical section;
- expansion of the hospital into 140 bed and then into 200 bed hospital.

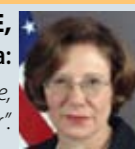
In the end of 2009 Lithuanian architects and engineers accomplished the technical design for construction of the Emergency Care Department of the Chaghcharan hospital, which is the first stage of the reconstruction.



Lithuania, as a leading nation of the Provincial Reconstruction Team, seeks to harmonize international donor assistance to the province. Involvement of Greece and Japan in the Hospital reconstruction activities is a good example of common approach and cooperation.

**ANNE ELISABETH DERSE,**  
Ambassador of USA to Lithuania:

*"Lithuania is doing an outstanding job in Afghanistan on all fronts – military operations, development assistance, and cultural projects. I applaud Lithuania's efforts to promote humanitarian projects in the Province of Ghor."*



## **Good Governance and Rule of Law**

Since 2006 Lithuania seeks to foster good governance and rule of law in Afghanistan through the establishment of effective, transparent, accessible and accountable administration and to contribute to the development of a strong civil society.

Developing administrative capacities of Afghan National Police or Department of Woman's Affairs in 2007, strengthening of the local judiciary in 2008, Lithuania continues to support the implementation of governmental policy in terms of administrative reform and capacity building in 2009.



The Project „Public Administration reform of the Province of Ghor“ aims to train 120 Afghan civil servants in the fields of management, English language and computer basics.

At the same time it supports the implementation of Afghanistan National Development Strategy, government policy in terms of administrative reform and capacity building of the civil service departments to deliver better services and improve security and effective reconstruction and development process in the country.

## **Education**

Province of Ghor has some of the lowest education indicators in Afghanistan, making this one of the poorest places in the world in regards to education. Four out of five people aged 15 years and over cannot read and write. 58% of children do not attend school, less than 200 schools are covering more than 1000 villages.

One impact of Afghanistan's extended conflict was the destruction of the organized education system.

Lithuania believes, that education has a decisive influence on multiple sectors as health, social mobility, equality of men and women or environmental conservation and others.

Being active in the field of education since 2006, Lithuania works hard together with international organisations (UN World Food Programme, UNICEF), local authorities and NGO's (Catholic Relief Service) in construction of schools (19), implementing appropriate learning programs, providing classroom furnishings, textbooks, teaching and learning materials.

### **Community Based Education**

Lithuania provides continuous financial support to the Community Based Education project, implemented by Catholic Relief Services (CRS).

In 2005, CRS initiated a long-term strategy for rural education which is based on the Community-Based Education model and supports efforts initiated by many rural communities throughout Afghanistan to provide basic education to children who cannot access formal, government-supported schools. The community-based education model uses the national educational curriculum and is designed to eventually integrate community schools into the national formal system.



The project focuses especially on girls who cannot attend formal schools due to cultural constraints, distance, or insecurity. Since 2007 the classroom furnishings, textbooks, teaching and learning materials to 2,742 students and training and in-classroom support to 90 teachers in 100 classes has been provided.

Based on household population survey findings in 2009, the Project plans to expand within current communities to reach 300 additional students and 10 teachers. The activities of 2010 will be focused on quality teacher training and in-classroom support.

Over three years (2007-2010), the project targets 4,500 primary-school-age children, especially girls, in 50 rural communities within Du Layna and Dawlat Yar districts of the Province of Ghor by providing them with community-based education. It also targets 150 teachers and 250 School Management Committee members in 50 communities through training and ongoing support.



**MATT MCGARRY, Country Representative (CRS Afghanistan) about CBE project evaluation, made by USAID:**

*„The results of the evaluation were incredibly positive - really, as good as possible. The evaluation team leader shared that it was the best project he had ever been the lead evaluator on“.*

### **Lithuanian fairytales in Dari language**

There are approximately 100.000 school age children in the Province of Ghor and about 2000 of teachers. Only one of them has a university education.

In 2008 the first public library in the Province of Ghor was opened. Public library with integrated computer class (an internet cafe), that was founded by Lithuania, has more than 2600 books in dari and pashtu languages. The opening of the library was well accepted by the local community that indicates need of literature.

The project, implemented by the University of Vilnius, contributed to Lithuanian development activities in the sector of education by making the primary education available to the children of the Province of Ghor, by expanding their horizons and presenting other nations of the world for them. Publishing of book series of national fairytales, Lithuania aims to reduce the gap of the children's literature in the province. High quality books, illustrated by unique pictures drawn by the students and their teachers of Čiurlionis Art School in Vilnius, enriched public library and became a meaningful present to the children of Ghor that encourages their interest in different cultures.

In October 2009 the exhibition of children's pictures, which illustrated national fairytales, was opened in the Department of Culture and Information of the Province of Ghor.



**FATIMA is a little girl from Gal-e-Eskechey village in Dulayna District. She talked about her class and what reading the story books means to her:**

*„In the past we didn't have a school here, but then Lithuania and CRS started a Community Based Education school and now I am in grade 3. My mother and father told me I must go to school and study hard. They cannot read or write and they told me that it is „like being blind, we cannot improve the future of our family or our village but you will be able to do this“. I am happy to go to school because it means I can learn to read and write and help my family and village in the future“.*

## Cultural Development

Since 2007, the first ever archaeological expeditions in the Province of Ghor have revealed more than 20 unknown heritage objects.

The purpose of the lasting project was contribution to the work of preservation of objects of cultural value in Afghanistan by paying particular attention to search of archaeological sites and their documentation aimed at entering them into the national register of cultural monuments. The Feasibility Study of 2007 has demonstrated that a great need is felt by Afghan cultural heritage institutions in cultural activity and namely in the sphere of heritage protection.

The first expedition of Lithuanian archaeologists has proved that correct methods were chosen for search of archaeological monuments and rather precise chronology of them was established not on the grounds of archaeological excavations but on archaeological findings discovered on the surface.

Due to insecurity reasons in the province, in 2009 searches and registering of the archaeological objects were forbidden by military authorities, consequently continuous project of Lithuanian scientists is concentrated on the protection and promotion of Afghanistan cultural valuables.

The work of archaeologists was not concentrated only on survey, detail measurements, photo and video fixation, setting up the passports of Register, ect. The training of local heritage specialists directed to the registration of cultural values and application of modern technologies in protection of cultural heritage was organised, visual material of Lithuanian archaeological missions and documentary photos of Ghor province were presented in the exhibitions in Afghanistan, Lithuania and other EU countries.



**ANNE ELISABETH DERSE, Ambassador of USA to Lithuania:**

*"I would be remiss if I did not also mention the wonderful work that Lithuania is doing to help restore and preserve the cultural heritage in Afghanistan. When we visited the ruins of ancient Afghani settlements on the outskirts of Chagcharan, I was struck by the stark beauty of the architecture against the desolate desert landscape. We must do all that we can to help preserve Afghanistan's cultural heritage for future generations to admire and cherish."*

## Public Awareness Raising

Everyone residing and paying taxes in Lithuania is financing Lithuanian development cooperation.

That is why civil society is always considered as a partner and public opinion is very important and valuable.

Eurobarometer survey of 2009 shows that 78% of Lithuanians believe that to help people in developing countries is important. In spite of this, the lack of public awareness especially in the country districts is one of the main challenges facing Lithuania's Development Cooperation Policy.

The results of public opinion poll indicates that Lithuanians consider Afghanistan as one of the priority countries for development cooperation (30,2 %).

Despite of severity of economical crisis, couple of public awareness raising projects in Afghanistan have been implemented.

The continuous program „Civil Volunteers for Afghanistan“, as well as the project „Warm caps for Afghan children“, both implemented by Lithuanian NGO's, intends to form positive public opinion about the Lithuanian peacekeeping missions in Afghanistan in order to involve more citizens into volunteer humanitarian and social aid activities.



The 2009 Presidential election in Afghanistan was presented to Lithuanian society and it became the opportunity to remind the audience about Lithuanian obligations to its allies, the progress of its development projects and international cooperation to ensure the reconstruction of the province.

## Immediate Needs

The Province of Ghor is the territory where the international cooperation for development could be taken as example.

USA, Japan, Greece and other countries are the principal Lithuanian partners and contributors in implementation of development cooperation projects in the Province of Ghor.



**CONSTANTINE CATSAMBIS, Ambassador of Greece to Lithuania:**

*„Meeting with local officials made it immediately obvious that the PRT's role is deeply appreciated and considered as of great importance to the development of the region and in particular to the education and health sector. This hands on experience and overall impressive operation has prompted Greece the desire to become partners to the health program of the Lithuanian PRT.“*

In 2009 the first joint Lithuanian-European Commission development cooperation project in the Province of Ghor was completed. The aim of the project was institutional capacity building of judicial authorities of the province and it was implemented by UNODC and IOM.

The needs of the province are all-encompassing, but the main sectors where the international contribution is immediately needed are social and health sector, good governance and rule of law, agriculture and education.



## Healthcare and Social Development

In the Province of Ghor, there is only one foster home for children in Chagcharan, where more than 130 children reside permanently or attend it in daytime. Most of the infants come from incomplete families, which are not able to support them. Presently the foster home is located in temporary leased premises.

Construction of Chagcharan children day care centre started in 2008. Apart the technical design in 2008, Lithuania provided \$ 416 000 for the construction of the Centre in 2009. It's expected, that Afghan Government will start the construction works in 2010.

Funding of educational programs, special courses, trainings and providing of equipment are the fundamental needs in this project.

The Province of Ghor continues to have some of the most alarming health indicators.

There is only one 70-bed provincial hospital in the whole Province of Ghor (800 000 of population) and there are no reanimation, operation room, ambulance cars, resuscitation premises, equipment, and ambulatory. There are no water-supply and sewerage systems in all the buildings of the hospital. Existing buildings have no heating, they are being heated with furnaces.

There are only 36 doctors working for the Public Health Department in all over the province, it means that there is one doctor for 22.000 people.

2008-2009 Lithuania took the first steps in reconstruction of the provincial hospital.

Greece provided 500 000 EUR for the reconstruction of the provincial Hospital.

Financial contribution remains essential in this project.



## Good Governance and Rule of Law



The aim of Afghanistan's reconstruction can not only be achieved by international community's donations. It also needs well functioning governmental administration, which needs qualified and efficient human resources in each sector of reconstruction process. All the governmental departments face the lack of professional, capable, skilled and efficient Afghan personnel. Therefore, chances of provincial government to apply and lobby for larger development investments are minimal. To that end, an effort for a self help capacity building project is a must.

There is an immediate need to construct building for Civil Service Training Center in Ghor (CSTC) and to strengthen the administrative capacity building of the province. CSTC, as permanent multi-purpose training center, will ensure provision of the training to Civil Servant and departments in the province and strengthen their capacity in better implementation tasks and responsibilities.

## Agriculture



The majority of the population of the province makes its living from agriculture. It is one of the key sources for development and growth in Ghor. Most of people in addition to permanent farming are engaged in animal husbandry, which is the source for meat, dairy and wool products. Constructed traditional water dams have been destroyed during long years of war in most of the areas and livestock has declined 50 percent. Weak rural infrastructure has prevented private sector from taking part in marketing products and equipment.

Therefore, the province is in a need of creating markets for licit agricultural goods, developing the agricultural infrastructure that will allow locals to take advantage of those markets and building human capital that will allow the agricultural sector to sustain and improve itself.

## Education

One impact of Afghanistan's extended conflict was the destruction of the organized education system. Initial efforts to expand formal education to rural areas in Afghanistan during the 1960s abruptly ended in 1979 after the Soviet military invasion. Throughout the Soviet period, the civil war, and Taliban control, progress in education was difficult or impossible on a wide scale. Only recently has the government started reaching more areas in Afghanistan. Province of Ghor, however, continues to remain underserved and has some of the lowest education indicators in Afghanistan.

During the period of 2006-2008 Lithuania financed construction of 19 schools. Still, more than 300 schools are needed in the provinces as well as the rest of education infrastructure and goods: complex of centers of excellence, vocational training center, teachers training center, district education resource center, supply of school goods (desks, chairs, books, etc.).



**SAYED MOHAMMAD IQBAL MUNIB, Governor of Ghor province:**

*„Only by uniting our common efforts and working together with local communities, non-governmental institutions, Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and international community members we can maintain the security and achieve successful results for the long-term social and economical development of Ghor province. In such a way together we will contribute to the better future of the whole country“.*

