Sustained Rural Development Programme Phase IV
Manteqa Approach and Profiles

Findings from Key Informant Interviews in Northern Afghanistan and Water User Group Mapping
January 2020
1 INTRODUCTION
OBJECTIVE

GENERAL OBJECTIVE
Identify entry point for community-led economic development at local community level in rural Afghanistan

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1) Identify local stakeholders and community leadership

2) Catalogue shared economic resources (land, irrigation networks, water) and infrastructure (mosques, markets, roads)

3) Map boundaries of existing sub-district communities in rural Afghanistan context

4) Develop methods of engagement with local communities
MANTEQA APPROACH

• Identify pre-existing communities, resource management, and leadership structures to identify pathways for **improving rural economic development**

• The research activities were conducted by AGORA, a joint initiative of ACTED and IMPACT, between October 2018 and December 2019, and included the following:
  - Present stakeholders and leadership structures
  - Mapping of population and shared resources and infrastructure
  - Identification of manteqas and typology
  - Mapping of agricultural lands and management structures
  - Market dynamics and availability

• The research has informed a **community-led approach to development** based on engagement with existing communities and management of shared economic resources
AGENDA

I. Introduction
II. Manteqa Approach
III. Methodology
IV. Manteqa Profiles
V. Practical Application
VI. Conclusions
02 MANTEQA APPROACH
WHAT IS A MANTEQA?

FEDERAL GOVERNANCE IN AFGHANISTAN

- National
- Province
- District
- Community
- Village

Formal:
- Province
- Community
- Village

Informal:
- Community
**WHAT IS A MANTEQA?**

**Manteqa:** Informal but precise *rural* geographic area that lies between the district and village level. Its boundaries are based around *shared community resources*, particularly water, irrigation networks, and agricultural land management. Manteqas are often multi-ethnic, and discretely encompass all of the villages within their boundaries. Over time, additional historical, governance, and cultural meanings make the manteqa into a *cohesive community based around shared economic resource management*.

Irrigation resources and manteqa locations in Qaisar District, Faryab Province:
The Manteqa is not a basic service unit (BSU). BSUs represent areas of land where the people inside of them have similar access to basic services. Manteqas are areas within which common resources are managed and can have very large disparities in service access between qaryas/villages.
WHAT A MANTEQA IS NOT

LIMITATIONS:

There are methodological limitations to the manteqa perspective which should be clarified so findings are not misinterpreted or used inappropriately:

- The data was analysed at manteqa level, meaning that nuances between villages are not shown in this dataset (but could be analysed separately as needed).

- “Manteqa” is not a fixed definition, and can vary slightly depending on the location being referred to and cultural context in which it is used.

- Urbanisation, population growth, improved government service delivery, changes in land and property laws, and government-led redistricting all have significant effects on the importance and relevance of the manteqa as a territorial unit or shared resources.
03 METHODOLOGY
I. Literature and Secondary Data Review (Oct 2019)

II. Manteqas identified and borders drawn by ACTED Staff (Oct 2019)

III. Demographics, Infrastructure, and Agriculture Assessment (Nov 2018 – Jan 2019)
   • Total interviews: 1,935 (1 per karia/village)

IV. Market, Leadership, and Basic Service Assessment (Aug 2019 – Sep 2019)
   • Total interviews: 476 (# of interviews per manteqa based on population of manteqa)

V. Water Infrastructure, User Group, and Land Type Assessment (Nov 2019 – March 2020)
   • Total interviews: 24 (1 interview/map per district)
METHODOLOGY – IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD

Note: Data, designations and boundaries contained on this map are not warranted to be error-free and do not imply acceptance by ACTED mentioned on this map.

Data sources: ARCHO
Coordinate System: WGS 1984
Map Unit: Degree

Legend
- Country
- Provinces
- Districts
- Secure & Secure

AGORA
METHODOLOGY – MAPPING SHARED RESOURCES
METHODOLOGY – MANTEQA VS. WATER MANAGEMENT

Almar District Manteqas

Almar District Water Management Groups
A total of 1,935 village level interviews and 476 manteqa-level interviews were conducted.

**Total Population and interviews of Phase III and Phase IV, by province and environment type**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Manteqa</th>
<th>Environments</th>
<th>Villages</th>
<th>Families</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>KI Interviews</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jawzjan</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>38,643</td>
<td>202,198</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>32,931</td>
<td>229,151</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balkh</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>82,636</td>
<td>400,092</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>85,726</td>
<td>345,731</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faryab</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>1024</td>
<td>223,538</td>
<td>1,256,562</td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>16,478</td>
<td>103,887</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samangan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>23,077</td>
<td>231,939</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>33,223</td>
<td>200,173</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>1,504</td>
<td>367,894</td>
<td>2,239,746</td>
<td>419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>431</td>
<td>168,358</td>
<td>1,093,857</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,935</td>
<td>536,252</td>
<td>3,333,403</td>
<td>476</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
04 MANTEQA PROFILES
MANTEQA PROFILES - OVERVIEW

- Booklet of **64 manteqa-level factsheets**, outlining an area-based approach for available infrastructure, basic service access, market access, and inclusivity of leadership structures.

- Based on 1,935 village-level and 506 manteqa-level key informant interviews, conducted between Nov 2018 - Jan 2019 and Aug-Sep 2019, respectively. While 476 KI interviews were required for the sample, 506 KI interviews were done.

- Overview of manteqa-focused methodology and summary of overall findings based on needs.

**Objective:** Provide humanitarian/development community with community needs, markets, and resources at sub-district level based on communities of shared resources.
MANTEQA PROFILES – 1/4

Population

Map of villages and irrigated and rain-fed land

Key Infrastructure

Map of villages, irrigation and farmland, and key infrastructure.
MANTEQA PROFILES – 2/4

Community leadership and civil society organizations

Irrigated water management structures and availability of clean water

Agriculture/pastoral land and agricultural products
**MANTEQA PROFILES – 3/4**

**Economic sectors and non-agricultural products**
- Livestock products, livelihood cooperatives, associations, veterinary clinics

**Women’s access to business and financial services**

**Value chain of top 3 products**

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### Economic Sectors and Non-agricultural Products

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Active</th>
<th>Formerly Active</th>
<th>Recently Started</th>
<th>Possibility for Growth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotels</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Administration</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Services</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Livestock Products

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Produced</th>
<th>Exported</th>
<th>Imported</th>
<th>No longer produced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Milk and eggs</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meat</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Feed</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fertilization</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Reported Business Opportunities for Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opportunities</th>
<th>Available</th>
<th>Main Barriers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women are able to work outside the home</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>Women are pushed to petty services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women are able to own businesses</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men and women have equal access to financial services</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Reported Livelihood Cooperatives

- Agriculture
- Livestock
- Poultry
- Poultry

### Reported Livelihood Associations

- Agriculture
- Livestock
- Poultry

### Reported Veterinary Clinics

- Agriculture
- Livestock
- Poultry

### Value Chain

#### Reported Value Chain Costs (in AFN)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Costs</th>
<th>Per Unit</th>
<th>No. Unit</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Labour</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>667</td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fertilizer</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>667</td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total capital cost</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Reported Value Chain Profits (in AFN)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Production</th>
<th>per unit</th>
<th>Price per kg</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dish</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1,800</td>
<td>18,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frozen</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1,800</td>
<td>18,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>36,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

24. Due to the aggregation of data from a village to a manteqa level, it is possible that the presented results show that some goods are both produced and no longer produced in the manteqa. This indicates interprovincial production between villages in a manteqa. 25. “No longer produced” refers to goods that used to be produced in the manteqa but is not produced in the last year. 26. No longer produced refers to goods that used to be produced in the manteqa but is not produced in the last year. 27. An analysis of the value share of the top three agricultural products in each manteqa was conducted, which showed a difference in the average value share. The average value share was calculated on the basis of the projected prices and yield for each product. The data is an average of the manteqa level, not all manteqa were included, and data conditions (data filtering). 28. Not all value share inputs and value share were included in the value share analysis. In cases, the cells are filled in blue.
MANTEQA PROFILES – 4/4

Education services

Market and road access

Health infrastructure and quality

Inclusivity of services
MANTEQA PROFILES – SERVICE QUALITY RANKING

RANKING CRITERIA

- Composite scores were created to rank the manteqas based on quality of service access by sector
- Most composites were based on a series of yes/no or present/not present questions, aggregated, and then normalized to a 0-5 point scale
  - Agriculture composite based on the % of irrigated land in manteqa
- Scores for each sector were averaged and rounded to the nearest whole number to produce an overall score
- All scores reflect the situation for most of the manteqa population; service quality differs within manteqas and scores do not reflect the situation for every village or household in the manteqa
The graphs on this page show the number of manteqas reported in Faryab province by level of overall service quality (top left), for three districts (bottom left) and the overall score for each manteqa (above). These graphs show significant differences in quality of services between manteqas, even those in the same district.
KEY FINDINGS – PART I

- There are significant differences in access to markets, water, education, and health between Manteqas, showing the importance of interventions at the sub-district level.

  - Working at the sub-district level will allow actors to better target needs and design projects appropriate for the population.

- While leadership structures are not active at the Manteqa level, most communities have been receptive to setting up Manteqa development platforms which have quickly taken on a legitimate interface between development actors and communities.

  - Communities are likely to be receptive to manteqa-level interventions, providing an open avenue through which development actors can implement at community level.

- Most Manteqas had robust agricultural industries that exported at least some of their crops, and had opportunities for expansion and scaling up.

  - Activities aimed at improving agriculture and market activities are likely to have space to grow and improve economic activity in rural communities.
KEY FINDINGS – PART II

- Irrigation water management structures were in place in most Manteqas; however, many were understaffed or lacked sufficient resources to be meet the community’s needs.

- Existing resource management structures are in place and are likely to benefit from development support to the community.

- Manteqas are largely a rural concept; urbanisation, re-districting and district/provincial level projects have an effect on the relationship between Manteqas and communal resource management.

- The Manteqa approach should be limited to rural areas where community bonds and their connection to management of local resource management is strongest and most relevant.
05 PRACTICAL APPLICATION
APPLICATION – STEP 1

STEP 1: Identify manteqas based on shared resources and community boundaries.

Almar District Water Management Groups

Almar District Manteqas
STEP 2: Assess economic, agricultural, and market resources and infrastructure to identify gaps and areas of intervention.
STEP 3: Engage with Manteqa development platforms with assessment information to determine key needs that community thinks will benefit livelihoods and economy of the Manteqa.
APPLICATION – STEP 4

STEP 4: Develop Manteqa platform and implement programmes developed by community based on existing and needed resources.
LITERATURE REVIEW

A significant body of scholarly research has been conducted on Manteqas in Afghanistan, though there is some disagreement on the definitions of what a manteqa is as well as its relevance to community organisation and resource sharing:

- Favre, Interface between state and society in Afghanistan: Discussion on key social features affecting governance, reconciliation and reconstruction, February 2005.
- Mielke and Schetter, "Where is the village?" Local perceptions and development approaches in Kunduz Province, ASIEN 104, 71-87, July 2007.
- Miakhel, “The Importance of tribal structures and Pakhtunwali in Afghanistan; Their role in security and governance,” 1995.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION