



AFGHANISTAN

Fact Sheet

BAMYAN: BUILDING COMMUNITY-BASED RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND NATURAL DISASTERS

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES:

Village Management Plans: Developing village-level management, restoration, and land-use plans for ecosystem-based climate change adaptation.

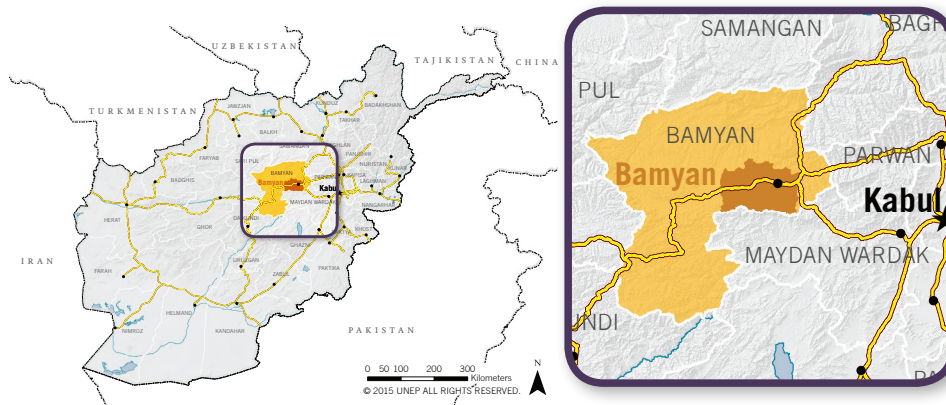
Ecosystem Restoration and Rehabilitation: Design and construction of terraces, planting native forest and fruit trees on slopes to reduce erosion and flat land to reduce flooding, restoration of rangelands for animal grazing, construction of check dams and eco-weirs to reduce soil erosion and recharge groundwater, rehabilitate reservoirs, installation of drip irrigation, and establishment of village woodlots. Moreover, research on drought-resilient species and practices in dryland areas.

Increasing Adaptive Capacity: Building community resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change through livelihoods support, including the establishment of household and community gardens to improve food security, promotion of renewable energy through solar electricity, climate-proofing of irrigation systems, and bee-keeping for agricultural pollination and income generation.

Training, Advocacy, and Outreach: Delivering capacity-building trainings for local communities, civil society, and government authorities on climate change adaptation, and outreach to the general public on climate change risks and adaptation techniques suitable for Badakhshan province.

Early Warning Systems: Developing capacity for monitoring of climate change risks and establishment of community-based early warning systems (EWS) to reduce the risk of natural disasters, particularly related to precipitation and temperature.

Gender Mainstreaming: Recognizing that women have an essential role to play in community-based management of natural resources, many interventions have been designed for the inclusion on women, such as bee-keeping, community gardening, harvesting of forest products and fruits, and installation and maintenance of solar electricity systems.



Bamyan is located in Afghanistan's Central Highlands, where the Hindu Kush Mountains provide the origin for many of the country's rivers, including the Kabul, Helmand, Kunduz, Arghandab, and Hari rivers. Steep mountain slopes, deep valleys, and harsh winters characterize the landscape, and the people of Bamyan rely predominantly on rural agriculture and animal husbandry for their livelihoods. However, competition over and mismanagement of the province's limited arable land has resulted in widespread soil erosion, the denuding of natural vegetation, and degradation of rangelands. Coupled with these environmental issues is an increased risk of natural disasters such as flood and drought, particularly as a result of climate change. To address these issues, Afghanistan's National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA) and UNEP are cooperating on pilot field demonstrations in Bamyan province to build community-based resilience and institutional capacity to adapt to climate change risks and promote ecological approaches to disaster risk reduction.

Demonstration Sites:

- **5 Valleys:** Ahangaran, Dukoni, Foladi, Khushkak, and Somara
- **22 Settlements:** Ahangaran-1, Ahangaran-2, Alibeg, Burghason, Chapdara-Geru, Chapdara-Petab, Chapqolak, Gambolaq, Jandargal, Jawkar, Jawzari, Kamati, Khushkak-e Bala, Malkar, Nawrozi, Orgash, Qabr-e Zaghak, Qazan, Sar-e Somara, Seyalayak, Tajik, and Yetimak.

Executing Agencies:

- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA)

Government Partners:

- Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA)
- Department of Agriculture, Irrigation & Livestock (DAIL)
- Department of Water and Energy (DEW)
- Department of Rural Rehabilitation & Development (DRRD)

