

Afghanistan Ministry of Mines and Industry and U.S. Geological Survey Cooperative Oil and Gas Resource Assessment of Afghanistan Information Sheet

The Government of Afghanistan, Ministry of Mines and Industry (AMMI) and the Department of the Interior US Geological Survey (USGS) supported by the US Trade and Development Agency are cooperating in an assessment of the undiscovered oil and gas resources of Afghanistan.

Since the first oil field was discovered in Afghanistan in 1959 more than 150 million barrels of oil (mmbo) reserves and more than 4,500 billion cubic feet of gas (bcfg) reserves have been identified in 29 fields in the Afghan portion of the Amu Darya and Afghan-Tajik basins. Only a small portion of this resource base has been exploited. The country has been partly explored for oil and gas potential. Using the latest techniques there is enormous opportunity for further substantial discoveries to add to Afghanistan's energy resource base. That resource base is essential to the economic development of the country.

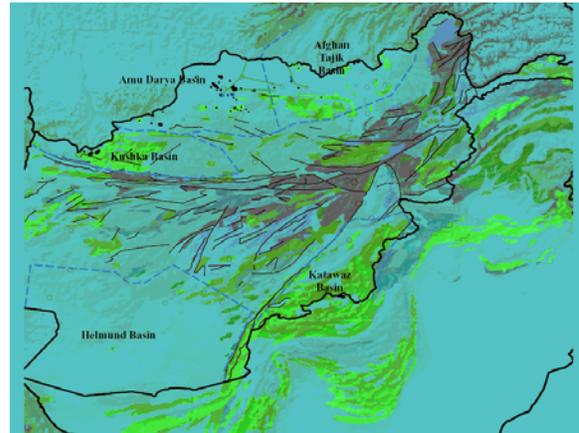
Goals of an Assessment of Afghanistan's Undiscovered Oil and Gas Resources:

Provide Data and Training:

- Scientific data and analyses to assist the Afghan Government in energy resource planning and development
- Training to prepare Afghan Petroleum Geologists to conduct future assessments independently
- Attract private investment for exploration and development

Create Assessment Products

- Assessment Results
- Basic Geographic Information System



Map showing generalized petroleum basin outlines, oil and gas fields, geology, and country boundaries on a shaded relief map of Afghanistan and the surrounding area.

- Containing: Geologic, Structural, Seismic, Field, Well, Pipeline, Sample Location, Analyses, and Base Maps
- Petroleum System Geologic Reports
 - Trained personnel
 - Seismic data including- digital profiles

Progress

Data Identified and Collected:

- Maps reviewed, digitized and archived
- Paper seismic profiles digitized, reviewed, and archived
- Well reports and logs reviewed and archived
- Core samples collected for analyses



- Oil and gas samples collected and analyzed
- Exploration reports collected, reviewed, and archived



Training Provided:

- Basic Computer training
- Sampling training
- Assessment methodology training
- Basic computer and GIS



- Petroleum geology refresher
- Petroleum Systems
- Basic Geochemistry
- Basic Seismic interpretation
- Assessment Methodology



Areas with Known Potential:

Northern Afghanistan-

- Best Opportunity for Near Term Development,
- Most Data Available, Proven Petroleum Province
- Work force some with exploration and production experience

Katawaz and Helmund Blocks

- Some Potential, No subsurface data
- More hazardous for field work
- No petroleum industry infrastructure

Contracts:

USGS International Team Regional Coordinator-Jack Medlin:

jmedlin@usgs.gov

USGS Energy Team Program

Coordinator-Brenda Pierce:

bpierce@usgs.gov

USGS Central Energy Team Chief

Scientist-Vito Nuccio:

vnuccio@usgs.gov

USGS Energy Team Afghanistan Oil and Gas Assessment Project

Coordinator-Craig Wandrey:

cwandrey@usgs.gov