



# Afghanistan Program Accomplishments

## Training

- In collaboration with the Center for War and Peace Journalism and the World Bank, CIPE trained 45 economic journalists in the principles of a market economy, as well as basic and **advanced journalism skills**. Course graduates are now actively reporting on business issues with articles running on a weekly basis.
- Held, in conjunction with the AICC and a number of specialized consultants, a series of **business development services road shows** throughout Afghanistan to train local businessmen and women in the development of business plans, marketing strategies, and accounting. This was the first step in a larger effort to cultivate an indigenous business development expert who will help program participants further develop their business plans and ultimately present them to potential partners/investors.
- Conducted a **nationwide Training Needs Assessment** for the United Nations Development Programme that became the cornerstone for UNDP's Partnership for Private Sector Development (PPSD) project. The needs assessment, which was carried out in conjunction with the Department of Economics at Kabul University, included surveys of over 800 business and 300 individuals from six regions in the country. The results were analyzed by CIPE consultants, who then made recommendations for key elements of the UNDP's strategy.
- Awarded **grants totaling almost \$50,000 to business associations** throughout Afghanistan. Funded proposals include the development of websites, a carpet design center, computer training, and the design of communications programs and publications.



## Publications

- Published the first two volumes of the **quarterly Afghanistan Economic Reform Feature Service**, which is distributed through business associations and chambers of commerce in Kabul and the provinces. The publication is designed to **promote discussion of economic issues**. The magazine has been especially popular in Kabul and production has been increased to accommodate higher-than-expected demand.

