

ICT in Afghanistan

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Afghanistan



Population : 25 million

Land Locked country

**Pashtu & Dari official
Languages**

Network Infrastructure

- All service providers/data providers are allowed to use their own VSATs
- By set up of National Gateway, the service providers will be rerouting through National Gateway.
- Currently five (5) ISPs are functional state and the sixth one is in process of deployment.

ISPs in Afghanistan

NEDA ISP

- **Company Name:** NEDA
- **Nature:** National
- **Ownership:** Joint venture
- **Type of Business:** Internet Service Provider
- **License Granted:** YES
- **Date of License granted:** 11 January 2003 (21 Jadi 1381 Hijri Shamsi)
- **Location of Operations:** Kabul (Coming six months one of Herat, Kandahar, Mazar, Jalalabad)
- **Number of Customers:** 100-250

ISPs in Afghanistan

ARIANA Telecom

- **Company Name:** Ariana Telecom
- **Nature:** National
- **Ownership:** Afghans
- **Type of Business:** Internet Service Provider
- **License Granted:** YES
- **Date of License granted:** 30 May 2003 (9 Jawza 1382 Hijri Shamsi)
- **Location of Operations:** Jalalabad/Khost/Kabul
- **Number of Customers:** Fresh Licensed

ISPs in Afghanistan

CeReTechs (Center for Research and Technical Assistance)

- **Company Name:** CeReTechs
- **Nature:** National
- **Ownership:** 100% Afghan
- **Type of Business:** Internet Service Provider
- **License Granted:** YES
- **Date of License granted:** 31 May 2003 (10 Jawza 1382 Hijri Shamsi)
- **Location of Operations:** Kabul
- **Number of Customers:** 110

ISPs in Afghanistan

InstaNet

- **Company Name:** InstaNet
- **Nature:** National
- **Ownership:** 100% Afghan
- **Type of Business:** Internet Service Provider
- **License Granted:** YES
- **Date of License granted:** 31 May 2003 (10 Jawza 1382 Hijri Shamsi)
- **Location of Operations:** Kabul, Herat, Kandahar
- **Number of Customers:** Fresh Licensed

ISPs in Afghanistan

- **Company Name:** Sarfaraz Bahadur/ Trasil Telecom
- **Nature:** National
- **Ownership:** Afghan/ American
- **Type of Business:** Internet Service Provider
- **License Granted:** YES
- **Date of License granted:** 14-November- 2002
- **Location of Operations:** Herat
- **Number of Customers:** 150-200

ISPs in Afghanistan

- **Company Name:** Itehad Internet Company
- **Nature:** National
- **Ownership:** 100%Afghan
- **Type of Business:** Internet Service Provider
- **License Granted:** Ready to be signed
- **Date of License granted:**
- **Location of Operations:** Kandahar
- **Number of Customers:** 50-100

Cyber Cafes

- Private Cyber Cafes
 - Almost more than 200 cyber cafes in kabul.
- Tele-Kiosk Project
 - Project to implement cyber cafes in Post Offices around the country for public with the help of UNDP and MoC.
 - Cyber cafes in different post offices around the country.
 - 6 cyber cafes has already started service in Kabul city.

Addition by Gaurab: It's difficult to know the exact state of affairs, as many organizations have independent links through VSAT. AACCA – Afghan Aid Co-ordination Authority, is the ISP/ service provider established by the World Bank and provides services to government ministries. UN Agencies have their own connectivity.

AFGNIC

- **.af ccTLD**
 - 8th January 2002
 - <http://www.iana.org/reports/af-report-08jan03.htm>
 - 12th February 2002
 - .af is live
 - 15th February 2002
 - First domain names registered
 - www.moc.gov.af,
 - www.undp.org.af
 - 7th March 2000
 - nic.af live
 - Manual registration
 - Number of registered domain names
 - 81 domain names

.af Registry

- Exclusive registry
 - There is no any other registrar
- OpenReg
 - Registry software
 - Why use OpenReg?
 - XML based
 - Exclusive Registry to Shared Registry
 - Opening up registration policies (allowing foreign registrations)
 - Improving existing operations (moving from proprietary/email protocol to fully automated live domain registrations)

Future Trends in ICT

- National Internet Exchange
- Earth-Station
- Network of Academic institutions & Govt. agencies
- CERT

Questions

Thank You!