



**Leprosy Situation in Afghanistan  
in 2001-2006  
7-9 July 2008**

Ministry of Public Health (MoPH)  
National Leprosy Control Program  
Kabul Afghanistan

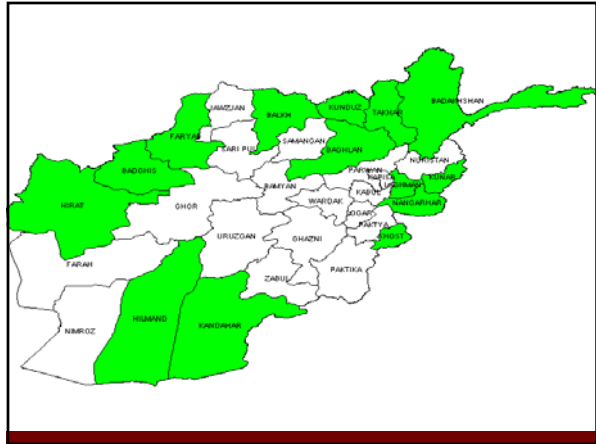
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**Presentation Outline**

- Demography
- Current Leprosy Situation
- Achievements
- Challenges
- The way forward

**Demographics**

- Afghanistan, 24500000 inhabitants(CSO),647500 km square, is located on the Southern Asia, bounded by Pakistan, Iran, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan ,China and Uzbekistan
- 34 provinces with 365 districts
- It is a lower income country
- About 30% of population live in urban area
- The life expectancy is approximately Male 47 and female 45.
- Total adult literacy is about 28%.



**Leprosy Cases Found**

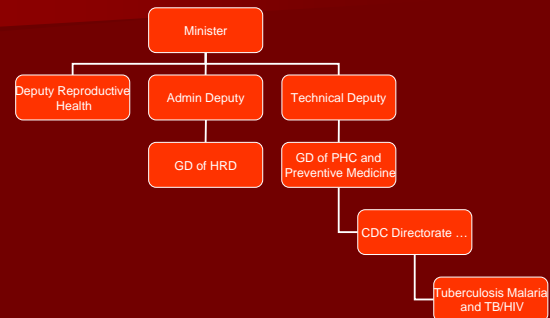
In our country the disease has been found in the following provinces :

- Bamyan province
- Ghor province
- Wardak province
- Ghazni province
- Kabul province
- Noristan province
- Parwan
- Badakhshan
- Daikundi
- Kunar

## History of leprosy in Afghanistan

- By German Medical Services organization in 1960
- Leprosy control in Afghanistan was started partially in 1984 by LEPCO.
- The WHO support was started in 1998 where a leprosy clinic was established in Maiwand Hospital to diagnose and treat the cases.

## MOPH Organogram



## Leprosy Situation in Afg...

- The cumulative number of registered cases in Afghanistan since 2001 to 2007 stands at 231 among those 78% cases were MB and 22% cases were PB.
- We hope that we might have a real survey by cooperation of WHO and find the exact number of all cases in our country :
- To detect cases on time
- To treat the patients properly by (MDT).
- To refer the disable patients to plastic surgery section in (Maiwand Hospital).

## Achievements

- Assigning of leprosy focal point in Ministry of Public Health.
- Approval of leprosy proposal (61500 USD in 2007).
- International consultant is under process( since one year).
- One vehicle for leprosy control program will be provided.
- Creating leprosy coordination between leprosy stakeholders

## Challenges

- Leprosy training for health care workers is lacking in Afghanistan.
- Only two medical officers have received leprosy training abroad one is now working as a focal point of leprosy in MOPH other one is director of Maiwand Hospital.

## Challenges

- Leprosy is a neglected disease in the overall situation which has resulted to in no resources allocated for its control.
- Political instability and security problem.
- Very poor infrastructure which has made accessibility very difficult due to poor communication system and difficult geographical terrain (mountainous and snowy in the winter)

## Recommendations

- Coordination and exchange of information should be changed between the MOPH and NGOs with the assistance of WHO.
- With the assistance from WHO, the MOPH should develop a national manual for leprosy case management, collection of data and statistics.
- National training guidelines should be developed for training of the national staff on leprosy control according to WHO guideline.
- NGOs can be of help in providing trainers to conduct the training courses.

## Recommendations

- Bring all the leprosy control activities to be under the umbrella of the MOPH.
- Develop a national leprosy guideline.
- Develop a simple reporting and recording system for leprosy control in Afghanistan.
- Integrate leprosy control activities in BPHS
- Encourage community participation in leprosy control through various public by health education activities.
- Prevent development of disability among leprosy patients under treatment.

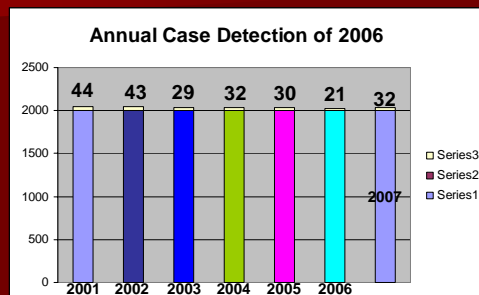
## The way forward

- Training for health staff who are working in
- The following main activities are to be carried out during the period 2006 to 2010:
  1. Case finding
  2. Treatment and case holding

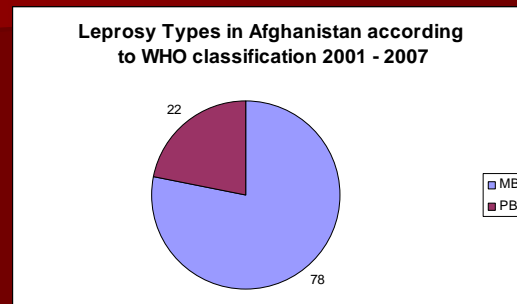
## The way forward

3. leprosy control.
4. Health education
5. Monitoring and Evaluation
6. Disability Prevention
7. Rehabilitation

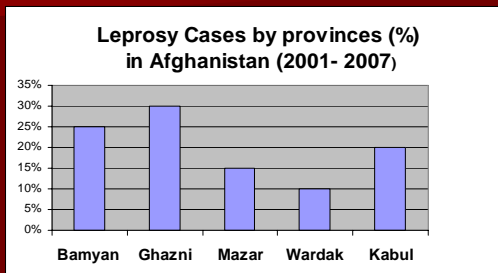
## Annual Case Detection 2007



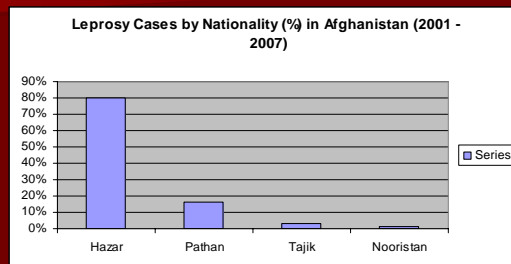
## Leprosy Types



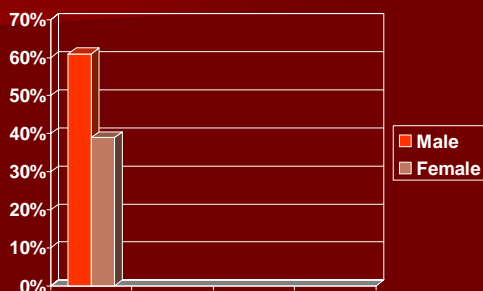
## Leprosy cases percentage in Afghanistan in 2001- 2007



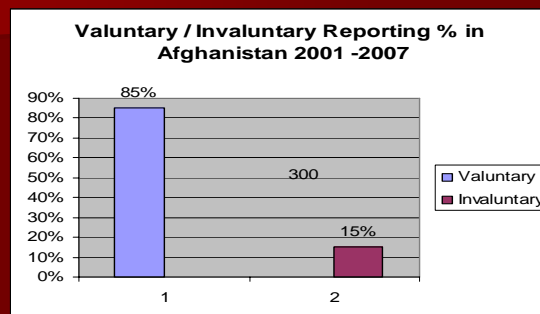
## Leprosy Cases by Nationality



## Male and Female rate % 2001-2007



## Voluntary /Involuntary Reporting % In Afghanistan 2001 -2007



*THANK YOU*

تشکر