Afghan Futures Survey – Wave 6
Methodology Statement

Afghan Futures is self-funded by the Afghan Center for Socio-Economic and Opinion Research (ACSOR), a D3 Systems subsidiary. Results are based on in-person interviews conducted in Dari and Pashto among a random national sample of 2,051 Afghan adults from November 4-12, 2014.

Langer Research Associates, of New York, N.Y., provided ASCOR with sample consultation, questionnaire design, data analysis and report writing services.

The survey explores Afghans' living conditions; political, social and economic concerns; democratic values; and post-election perceptions. Its aim is to enrich public understanding of the concerns and issues facing Afghan citizens.

Two-hundred-ten districts across Afghanistan's 34 provinces were randomly selected as primary sampling units (PSUs), proportional to population size, with urban/rural stratification. Settlements or neighborhoods within randomly selected districts were chosen by simple random sampling. Four hundred and twenty sample points were assigned, one for male interviews (carried out by male interviewers only), one for female interviews (carried out by female interviewers only) in each of the 210 PSUs.

Of the 420 potential PSUs in the country, 81 were inaccessible for security or transportation reasons and 89 were closed to female interviewers, resulting in non-coverage of 11 percent of Afghan men 25 percent of women, or 18 percent of the population overall.

Of the 210 primary sampling units drawn, 25 were randomly replaced within the same provinces for security reasons and three because of transportation difficulties. At the settlement level, 6 of the 420 sampling points were randomly replaced within the same districts because of transportation difficulties, 11 for security reasons and 1 because they couldn't be located.

Households were sampled via the random route/random walk method and respondents within households were selected via Kish grid. Interviews were conducted by 334 trained Afghan interviewers, 162 women and 172 men, with an average interview length of 35 minutes.

Supervisors monitored 4 percent of interviews in-person and back-checked an additional 14 percent. All completed questionnaires were subjected to logic and patterning controls,

with 49 of them rejected; and, as a further quality-control measure, double-entry was performed on a random 15 percent in the data processing stage.

Data were weighted to urban/rural status by province and gender by region using 2013 population projections from the Afghan Central Statistics Office.

The survey's contact rate was 87 percent and its cooperation rate was 94 percent, for an overall response rate of 82 percent. The full sample has a margin of sampling error of 3.06 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level, including a design effect of 1.33.