



Afghan Economic Sovereignty: Establishing a Viable Nation



- **The absence of a viable economic base is one of the primary factors that has historically led to state failure.**
- **For Afghanistan to be a stable country now, and in the future, we must create this economic base.**



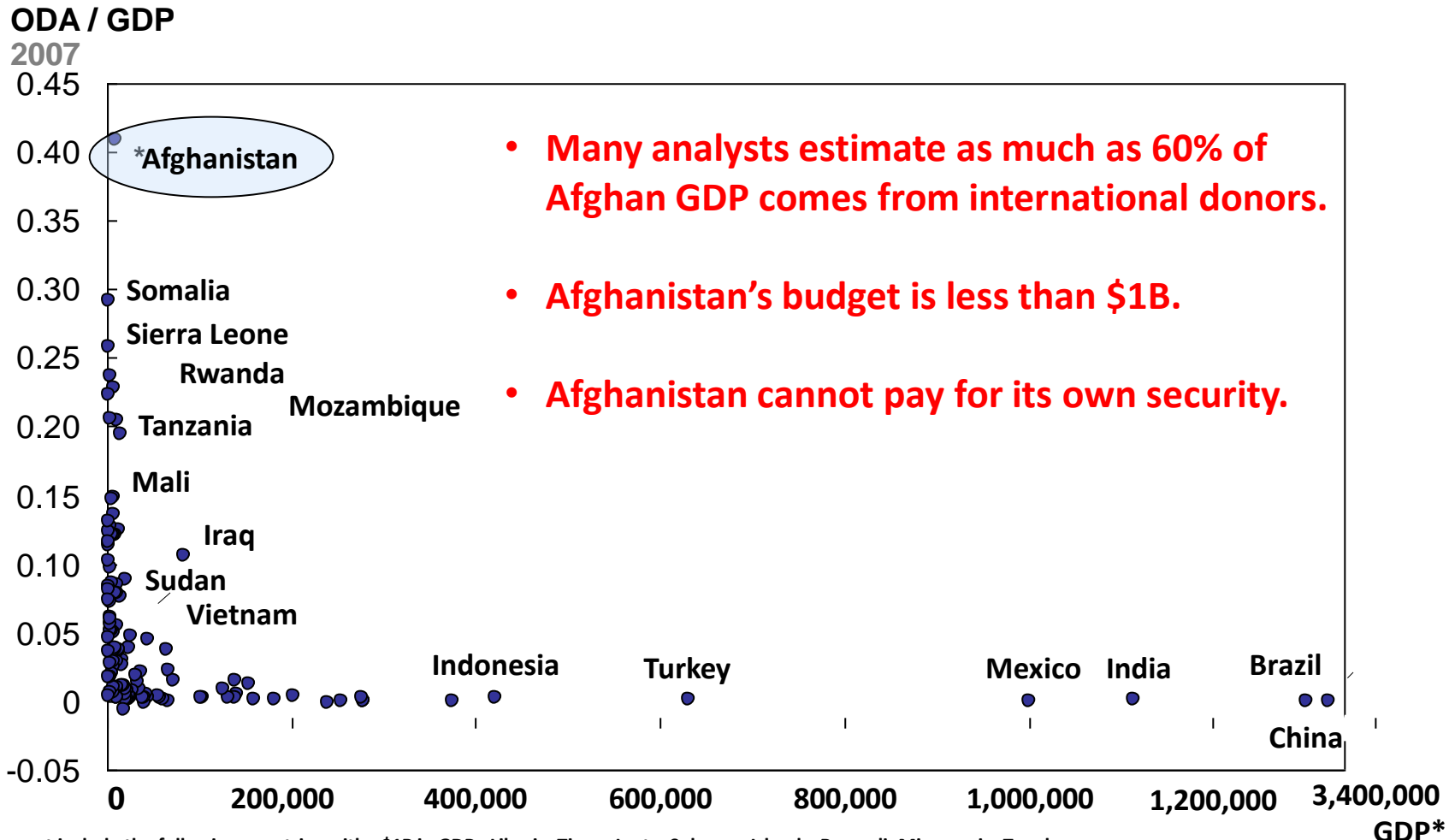
During a 12-week assessment, over 50 members of TFBSO teams conducted more than 60 individual site visits throughout Afghanistan, assessing many critical sectors of the Afghan economy.



TFBSO geology team collected samples of carbonatite deposits at Khanneshin in Helmand Province, while U.S. Marines provide security, Sept. 2009.

Strategic Observation: Lack of Economic Sovereignty

As a donor-funded “charity state,” Afghanistan’s government lacks legitimacy locally and internationally impairing the viability of any long-term strategy for Afghanistan, leading many to ask, “How much longer will donor nations keep Afghanistan afloat?”



- Many analysts estimate as much as 60% of Afghan GDP comes from international donors.
- Afghanistan’s budget is less than \$1B.
- Afghanistan cannot pay for its own security.

• Does not include the following countries with <\$1B in GDP: Liberia, Timor-Leste, Solomon Islands, Burundi, Micronesia, Tuvalu, Sao Tome, Guinea, Kiribati, Djibouti, Tonga, Grenadines, Gambia, Vanuatu, Comoros

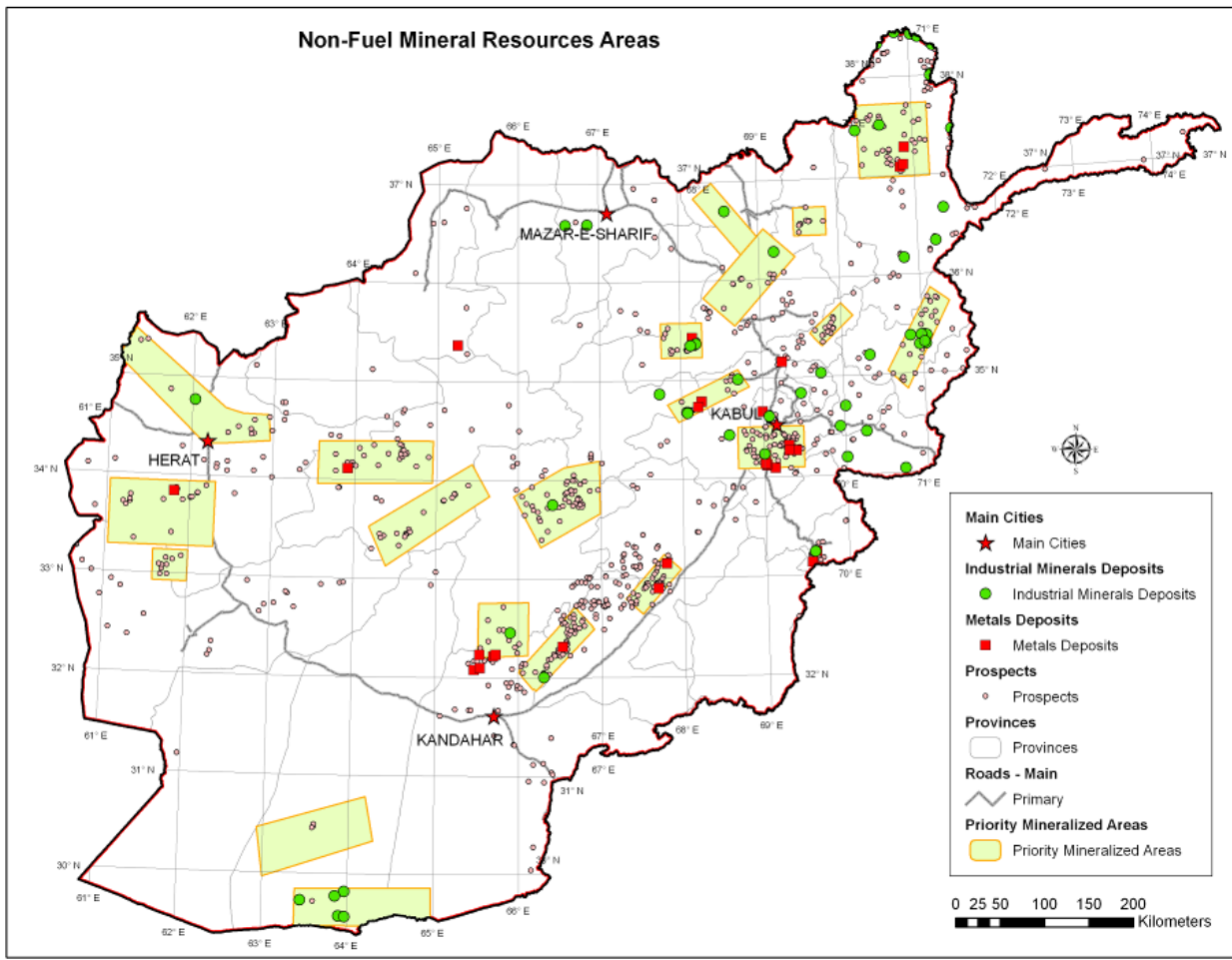
Strategic Observation: Lack of Intra-Afghan Commerce

- Most Afghan economic activity is either local or international, involving trade within cities or with neighboring countries. There is little intra-Afghan “economic connectivity.”
 - Historically, intra-country economic connectivity has been essential to the creation of a national identity among ethnic groups, within and between urban and rural environments, and a pillar of a country’s stability.
 - Invigorating existing industries can be done in a way that creates models of intra-Afghan commerce.
 - Over time, this could further “knit” Afghanistan together—Helmand trading with Herat—creating mutual, intertwined interests augmenting Afghanistan’s parochial affiliations and tribal bonds with ties of national identity.
- This will ultimately promote stability.



Afghan Mineral Resources (Non-Fuel): Estimated Value

\$908B: Current potential value* of metal and industrial mineral development in Afghanistan, at current prices in today’s global economic downturn.

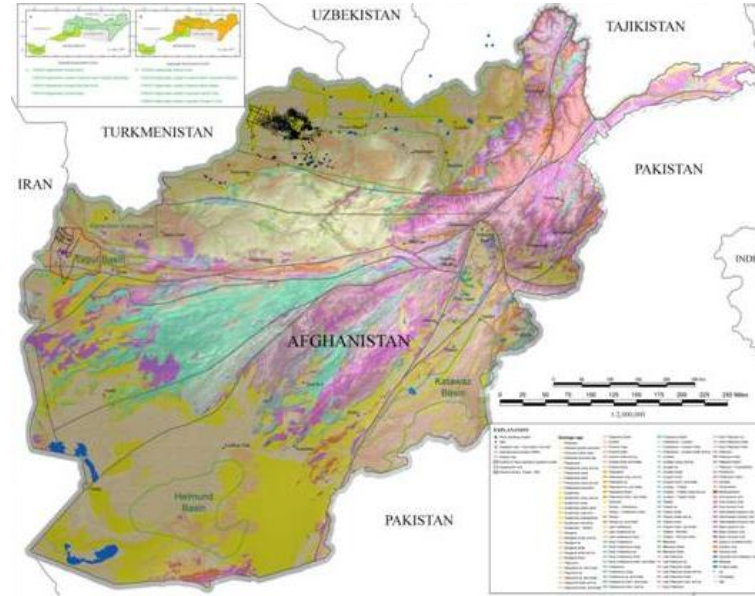


MINERALS	
Iron	\$420,850,000,000
Copper	\$273,998,000,000
Niobium	\$81,200,000,000
Cobalt	\$50,820,000,000
Gold	\$24,996,000,000
Molybdenum	\$23,892,000,000
Rare Earth Elements	\$7,406,000,000
Asbestos	\$6,322,000,000
Silver	\$5,335,000,000
Potash	\$5,090,000,000
Aluminum	\$4,434,000,000
Graphite	\$671,000,000
Lapis Lazuli	\$650,000,000
Fluorite/Fluorspar	\$644,000,000
Phosphorus	\$581,000,000
Lead and Zinc	\$547,000,000
Mercury	\$495,000,000
Strontium	\$408,000,000
Sulfur	\$234,000,000
Talc	\$164,000,000
Magnesite	\$161,000,000
Kaolin	\$50,000,000
TOTAL	\$908,948,000,000

USGS agrees with assertion:
“At least 70% of Afghanistan’s mineral resources are yet to be identified.”

* Known and estimated “undiscovered” resources anticipated by USGS and AGS and using prices as of 12/09.

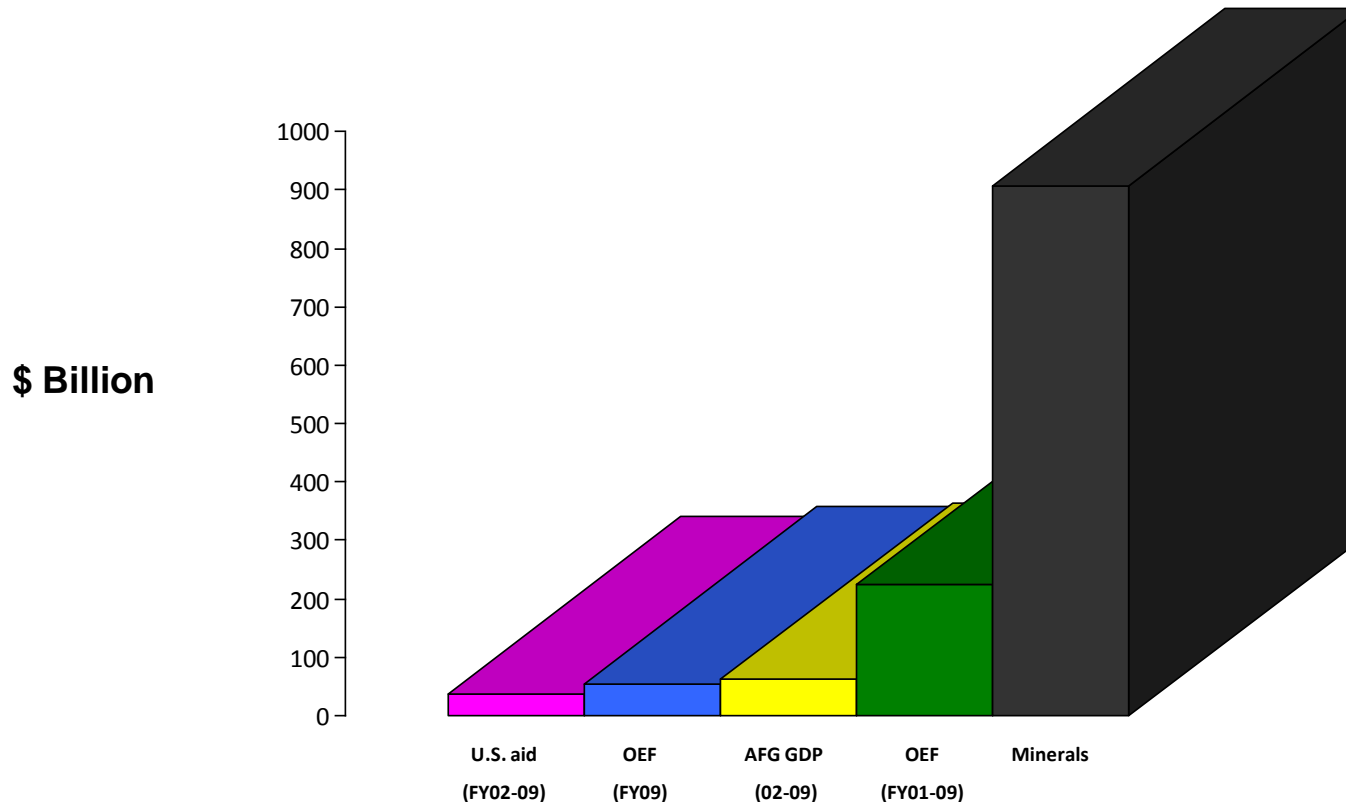
Afghan Mineral Resources (Fuel): Estimated Value



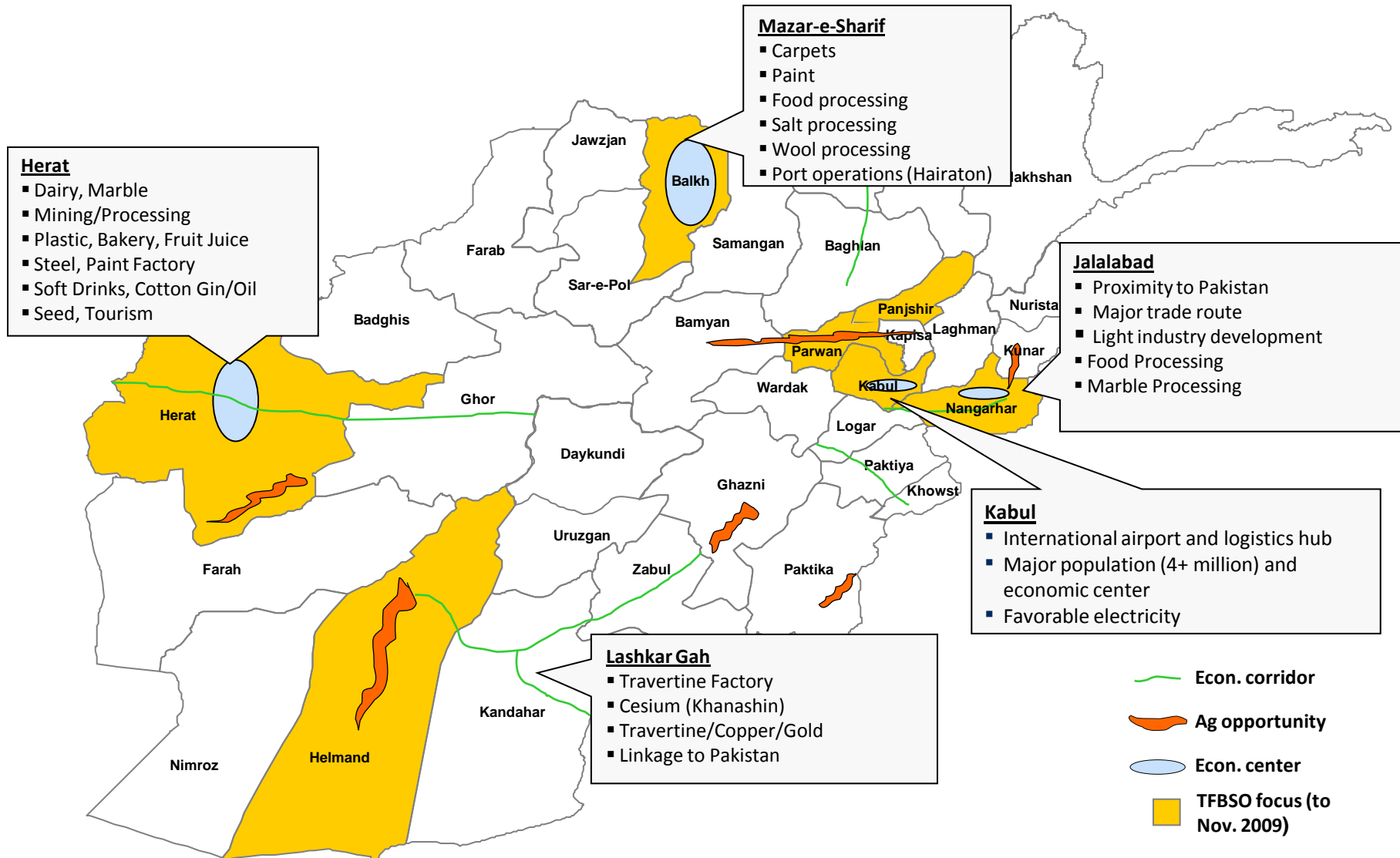
Resource	Primary Location	Quantity	Potential Value
Crude Oil	Afghan-Tajik Basin	1,596B Barrels	\$123,195,240,000 (at \$77.19/Barrel)
Natural Gas	Amu Darya Basin	15,687B Cubic Feet	\$56,316,330,000 (at \$3.59/MMbtu)
Natural Gas Liquids	Amu Darya Basin	562M Barrels	\$43,380,780,000 (at \$77.19/Barrel)
TOTAL			\$222,892,350,000

Context: Scale of Mineral Wealth

- Estimated total U.S. development assistance (FY02-09): **\$38B**
- Estimated OEF (FY09) total, including enacted bridge and supplementary request: **\$55.2B**
- Afghanistan nominal GDP (FY02-09): **\$62.7B**
- Estimated OEF (FY01-FY09) cumulative total, including FY09 supplemental request: **\$223.2B**
- Estimated value of ***largely unrealized*** metal/industrial mineral development in Afghanistan: **\$908B**



Understanding Local Economic Opportunities



NOTE: Map adapted from USG Integrated Civilian-Military Campaign Plan for Support to Afghanistan (August 2009)