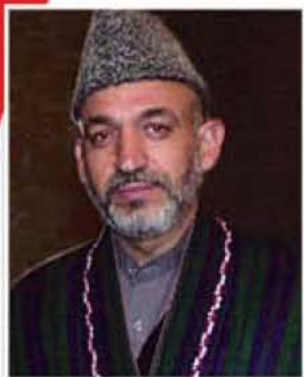




Afghanistan



H.E. Hamid Karzai
President

Official Name	Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Government	Islamic Republic
Head of State	H.E. Hamid Karzai, President
Head of Government	H.E. Hamid Karzai, President
Capital	Kabul
Location & Borders	Southern Asia, north and west of Pakistan, east of Iran; Bordered by China, Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan
Area/Land	647,500 sq km square km (land-locked). Mostly rugged mountains; plains in north and southwest
Climate	Arid to semiarid; cold winters and hot summers
Standard Time	GMT+6 hours
Population	32,738,376 (July 2008 est.)
Literacy	28.1%
Life Expectancy	44.21 years
Language	Afghan Persian or Dari (official) 50%, Pashto (official) 35%, Turkic languages (primarily Uzbek and Turkmen) 11%, 30 minor languages (primarily Balochi and Pashai) 4%, much bilingualism
Religion	Major Religion- Islam; Sunni Muslim 80%, Shia Muslim 19%, other 1%
Per Capita GDP/GNI	\$1,000 (2007 est.)
Monetary Unit	1 Afghani = 100 puls
Exports	\$274 million (2006) Exports - commodities: opium, fruits and nuts, handwoven carpets, wool, cotton, hides and pelts, precious and semi-precious gems
Major imports	\$3.823 billion (2006) Imports - commodities: capital goods, food, textiles, petroleum products
Internet domain	.af
International Dialing code	+93