

AFGHANISTAN 21 YOUNG LEADERS FORUM

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2012-2013 CLASS PROFILES



Mohammad Sulaiman Akbari is Business Development Manager for Mercy Corps on a USAID funded project and a part-time researcher at the National Center for Policy and Research (NCPR) - Kabul University. He has also served as Deputy Director of Investment Support, as Deputy Director of the licensing department at AISA (Afghanistan Investment Support Agency), and as Administrator at AWCC (Afghan Wireless Communications Company). Mohammad was awarded a scholarship to pursue his BA at the University of Delhi (2009), and received an appreciation letter from the Afghan ambassador to India in recognition of his outstanding academic achievements. He also holds an MBA with a specialization in Finance and International Business from Indraprastha University New Delhi (2011), and a diploma from the Institute of United Nations Studies in New Delhi where he majored in United Nations & International Understanding.



Abdul Alim Atarud is a Medical Doctor with over 10 years of experience working with public and nongovernmental organizations the field of health and development. He is currently the Health Partners International of Canada Country Director for Afghanistan. Abdul also served as National Health Accounts Coordinator for the Afghan Ministry of Health where he laid the foundation for the National Health Accounts program in the Afghanistan Health System. He has worked on various policy and research papers on health, environment, and development. Abdul is also active in several civic and academic organizations, including the Afghanistan National Public Health Association where he was elected President for the year 2012-2013 and the Organization of Afghan Alumni (which includes Fulbright Alumni) where he holds the post of Deputy Executive Director. Abdul was a Fulbright Scholar and holds an MD degree from Kabul Medical University, a Master's in Public Health from Saint Louis University, and Certificates in Development Planning and Authentic Leadership from IMA International (UK) and Glomcs (Netherlands). He is currently working on his Doctorate and Management Studies (DMS) degree.



Habib Athae is the Assistant Director of Student Affairs for career and alumni services at American University of Afghanistan (AUAF) where he also serves as the director of the Alumni Association of AUAF. He was among the first students to enroll at AUAF in 2006 and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in management in December 2010. Habib also obtained a minor degree in law from the Legal Studies Program at American University (run by the Stanford School of Law) in May 2012. He graduated from Tarbiat-e Islami High School in Iran in 2003 after a 3 year gap due to the civil war.

Manizha Baraki is a young activist working to promote women's rights and the freedom of media and expression. She is currently a member of the UN Women's national team focusing on issues of violence against women and women's protection throughout the country. She is also a member of the Women Future Leaders Club. Manizha has worked in the Office of Presidential Spokesperson where she interviewed and wrote about several Afghan government officials. She also worked as a freelance journalist and photographer. Manizha has acted as judge in two annual university debates hosted by the International Foundation for Electoral Systems. She graduated from Kabul University with a degree in Journalism.



Mohammad Behroozian is a civil society activist currently working as communications manager with Tawanmandi, a program that aims to strengthen civil society in Afghanistan. Previously, he has held managerial positions in the areas of program implementation, capacity development and communications with War Child Holland, Sobhan Foundation, ACSF. Mohammad has also worked in the private sector and for the Afghan Government Media and Information Center. He is in his senior year in the Political Science Program of American University of Afghanistan. Mohammad has been a volunteer judge for two national debate programs run by USAID in Kabul and has participated in Model UN sessions in Germany and NATO forums in France.



Sediqa Nawrozian is a Board Member of the Afghan National Association for Adult Education (ANAFAE) and a Board Member of the Ghawharshad Higher Education Institute Women Improvement Department. Sediqa has twenty-two years of experience in teaching, conducting capacity building trainings, manual development, and management and leadership. She has participated in conferences in Afghanistan, Iran, Malaysia, Turkey, and India which mainly were focused on women's rights issues, peace building, anticorruption and advocacy. Currently, Sediqa is the Lead Trainer for the Afghanistan Civil Society Forum organization (ACSFo) and facilitates trainings in the following: Trainer of Trainers workshop on PDPW for CSOs, Good Governance Training workshop for Ghoor and Samangan province, Rule and Principles of government staff workshop for Ghoor and Samangan Province. She holds a Master's Degree in Public Law from Islamic Azad University.



Jawid Omar is Aid Information Management and Reporting Manager at the Ministry of Finance. Previously he worked as a National Officer at UNDP and as an Administrative Assistant for Mercy Corps International. He is the co-founder of the Green Club, a social organization aimed at promoting greening and sustainable environmental well-being in Afghanistan. Jawid graduated with a B.A. from American University of Afghanistan in 2012. Before moving back to Kabul in 2002 he was living in exile in Pakistan.



Mohammad Ehsan Qaane is a Researcher for the Afghanistan Analysts Network (AAN). He contributes to AAN by carrying out daily media monitoring and independent research focusing on political parties, human rights and transitional justice. His previous engagements include serving as National Coordinator for the International Center for Transitional Justice's (ICTJ) Afghanistan Program from 2010 to 2011. Prior to this, he served as a member of the research team with the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC), assisting with the forthcoming conflict-mapping document, the first Afghan-lead documentation report of human rights violations from 1978-2001. He also worked as a senior trainer for human rights and transitional justice with the Civil Society and Human Rights Network (CSHRN), an umbrella organization for civil society groups focused on human rights and rule of law in Afghanistan. Mohammad co-authored *The Handbook on Transitional Justice*, an official training manual for civil society, the first of its kind written by and for Afghans. He holds a BA in Law from the Katib Institute of Higher Education, in Kabul.

Arezo Qanib first became involved in activism when at a young age she helped her mother run a vocational training center during the Taliban regime. This was her first step toward a career dedicated to supporting and enabling women to improve their own lives. Arezo is now on the Board of Advisory of Afghan Civil Society Forum (ACSF) and the member of steering committee of Afghan Women's Network (AWN). Starting in 2004 she took an active role in ECW (Educational & training Center for poor Women and girls of Afghanistan) and is currently Program Manager for the organization. She has participated in several conferences on Afghanistan and the challenges facing Afghan women. In January 2010 Arezo was one of two delegates representing civil society in the London Conference on Afghanistan where she offered recommendations on behalf of civil society and the women of Afghanistan. Arezo obtained her first Bachelor's Degree from Kabul University in German Literature. She returned to school to pursue a Bachelor of Law (LLB) and is now a LLM second year student.



Shoab Rahim has been the Program Manager of CeReTechs Ltd. since his return to Afghanistan. Shoab, a Fulbright Scholar, has a Master's in Engineering Management from Duke University (USA) and a Bachelor of Science from Multimedia University in Selangor, Malaysia. He is a strong believer in the individual's ability to bring change to society. He believes in the power knowledge and education can bring to communities and would like to play an active role in empowering those around him. He enjoys classic Afghan music, chess, football and cruising across Darul Aman road at night with Ahmad Zahir playing in the background.



Ahmad Zia Rasouli has been working at Roshan Telecom as Loyalty Manager on the marketing team since 2010. He was a research assistant at the Afghan Independent Human Rights committee (AIHRC). Ahmad also collaborated with local NGOs DCSA and ODDW. After graduating from high school in Iran he returned to Afghanistan where he worked for the Ministry of Economics for 3 years. Ahmad received Indian government scholarships to pursue a BA in commerce and an MBA in International Business and Retail Management from the University of Pune, India. There he was active in various initiatives, which include serving as co-secretary of "World Organization for Students and Youth" in India, and as Head of Afghan students in Pune. Ahmad has been awarded "Best National Student" trophy, was Captain of Afghan student's football team, and was twice Speaker at the "International Conference on combating Global Warming."



Mohammad Hashim Wahdatyar is the United Nations Regional Program Officer for Afghanistan and Neighboring Countries. He is based in Kabul and has more than ten years of experience working with the United Nations and other international organizations in Afghanistan particularly in the field of regional cooperation, governance, law enforcement and capacity building. Mohammad has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and is currently working towards a Master in Public Administration as distance learner at Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) in India.