



International Conference on Afghanistan

Economics, Health, and Education in Today's Afghanistan. Analytical Perspectives and Current Challenges

Freiburg, November 18th, 2023 –
in Freiburg and online

– Call for Contributions – Workshops & Poster

Recent developments in Afghanistan have brought significant changes to the country, including fundamental challenges to economic stability, access to healthcare, and education. The international community, civil society organizations, and academic institutions are responsible for assessing these challenges, proposing solutions, and working with the Afghan people to support their development aspirations.

To do so, the Working Group Afghanistan at the University of Education Freiburg welcomes all participants to the conference on "[Economy, Health, and Education in Today's Afghanistan.](#)"

This conference provides an excellent platform for experts, scholars, practitioners, and policymakers to come together, share insights and experiences, and discuss solutions regarding the current situation in Afghanistan. In keynotes, workshops, panel discussions, and poster presentations, the conference aims to explore the status quo of the three major components of human development, economy, health, and education, provide analytical lenses, and identify potential strategies to overcome the current challenges.

Our conference will focus on the following critical themes:

Economy in Afghanistan

- How has the economy in Afghanistan changed over the last few years? (e.g., poverty, unemployment)
- What are current economic challenges and opportunities?
- How can the flow of money (e.g., capital flight, remittances, decrease or cessation of foreign aid, investment) be described and what effects had it?
- How has the job market changed and what prospects exist?
- What opportunities do women have to perform commercial activities?
- How are businesses and start-ups affected by the changes?

Health in Afghanistan

- What characterizes the current situation of health and health care in Afghanistan?
- What role does the international community's aid have on the healthcare system in Afghanistan?
- How can the brain drain of healthcare specialists be addressed?
- How do restrictions on women's freedom and access to education affect their health and family health?
- How do people cope with the challenges, and what mental health offers are available?

Education in Afghanistan

- What is the current status of education in Afghanistan and how has it developed over time?
- What curricular changes have occurred in school and university?
- What consequences do girls' deprivation of schooling have (e.g., on the economy or health)?
- How has the university system changed and coped with the changes?
- What are the consequences of extremist teachings on regional and international security?
- Further topics: Bankruptcy of private educational institutions, the brain drain from Afghanistan, increased school/university drop-outs, decreased motivation to pursue further education

We would like to invite colleagues (researchers, educational specialists, and teachers) to contribute to this conference by participating in the conference and organizing a workshop or submitting a poster. To better understand the contents of your workshop, we kindly ask you to align your workshop with one or more of the following questions or similar questions that align with the topics stated above.

A) WORKSHOP

Purpose

Overall, the workshops aim to increase the capacity and knowledge of participants around the latest scientific research, relevant policies, or innovative programs to implement and advocate for reducing inequalities and improving health. The focus is on discussing and transferring knowledge and exchanging practical experience through intensive interaction with the audience, collaborative learning, and, if possible, developing new ideas. Workshops are 60 minutes in length.

General guidelines for workshops

All workshop proposals should be sent to the following email: afghanistan@ph-freiburg.de. The deadline for submission of workshop proposals is **August 31st, 2023**.

Please note: We cannot guarantee that proposals received afterward will be accepted.

Please submit a concise abstract of your workshop of up to 500 words.

When preparing your abstract, please consider the evaluation criteria (see below.)

Indicate the organizer of the workshop and the chairperson(s) for the workshop and the names and affiliations of all co-organizers. Enter the full first name before the last name, and indicate affiliation, country, and email address.

All workshop proposals, if accepted, must be presented in English.

Guidelines for workshop submitters

The organizer of each workshop proposal agrees that if the proposal is accepted, the abstract will be published in the conference program.

The organizer confirms that if the workshop proposal is accepted, the organizer, co-organizers, and presenters will attend the Afghanistan Conference 2023. Please register for the conference by October 15th, 2023, to confirm your attendance.

B) POSTER

Purpose

Overall, this conference aims to display the various activities in research, policy, and practice that are going on in Afghanistan. Not all activities can be presented in keynotes or workshops, so we invite you to submit a poster for the poster walk.

General guidelines for poster presentations

Please present your activities - research, practice, or policy - on a poster. We recommend that you use the Din A0 format in portrait mode.

Guidelines for poster submitters

Please submit your abstract in English. The final poster can also be presented in English, German, Dari, or Pashtu, but we highly recommend that the poster contains an English abstract.

Please, indicate the organizer of the workshop and the chairperson(s) for the workshop, and the names and affiliations of all co-organizers. Enter the full first name before the last name, and indicate affiliation, country, and email address.

EVALUATION & NOTIFICATION

Evaluation procedure

All submitted workshops will be reviewed by two reviewers of the Scientific Committee (SC) and evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Is the subject matter appropriate for the Conference?
- Are the workshop objectives clearly stated?
- Can the objectives be achieved in the 60 minutes allotted for this workshop?
- Is the information relevant, new, and innovative?
- Is the overall quality of the proposal sufficient?
- Is there an interactive audience element in the workshop?

Notification

The organizer and presenters will be notified of the acceptance of their proposal(s) by **September 30th, 2023**.

You will find more information about the conference on the following website:

<https://www.ph-freiburg.de/soziologie/arbeitsstelle-afghanistan/conferences/conference-on-afghanistan-2023.html>

We will be looking forward to your proposals.

With warm greetings from Freiburg

The Working Group Afghanistan

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