



**SILK ROAD TREASURE**  
Bridging Cultures Through Trade and Tourism

# **AFGHANISTAN ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM 2036**

A Decade of Sustainable Growth, Self-  
Reliance, and National Prosperity

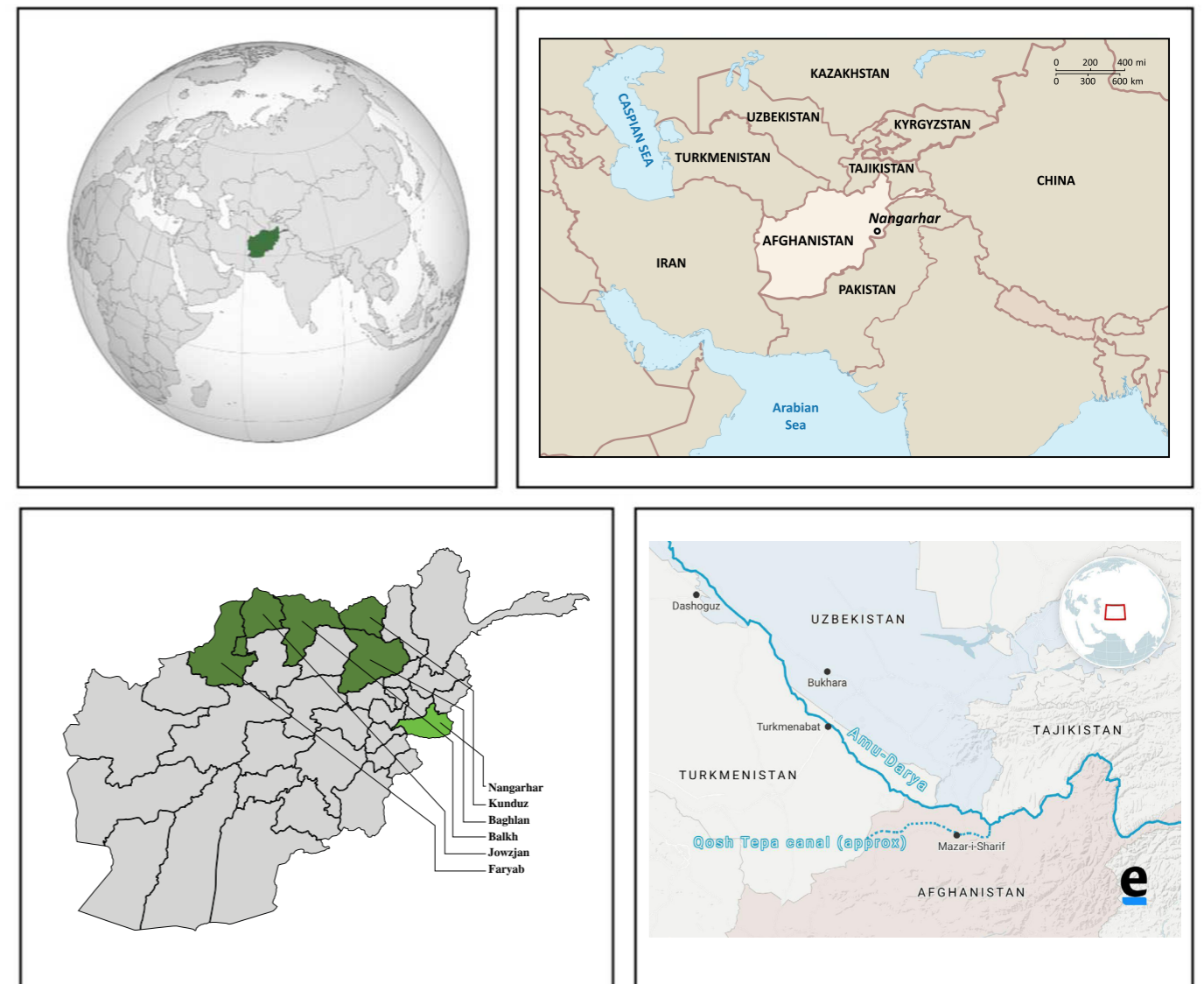
**Silk Road Treasure**  
[www.Silkroadtreasure.ai](http://www.Silkroadtreasure.ai)  
January | 2026



# Executive Summary

The Afghanistan Economic Independence Program 2036 outlines a ten-year plan aimed at achieving sustainable growth, self-reliance, and national prosperity. This roadmap is built on an in-depth review of projects from 2001 to 2021, identifying successes, gaps, and lessons learned to inform targeted investments in key sectors like energy, agriculture, mining, infrastructure, and human capital. By harnessing national strengths and regional opportunities, this plan empowers Afghans to chart their own development path, boost the economy, create jobs, and attain long-term economic sovereignty.

Over the next decade, we will focus on ten major initiatives designed to transform the country's economy from 2026 to 2036.



# Project One:

## National Research on Afghanistan's Economic Growth (2001–2021)

We need a thorough, scientific, and unbiased national study to evaluate all development projects carried out between 2001 and 2021 during the international community's presence in Afghanistan. This assessment should encompass infrastructure, institutional capacity, achievements, shortcomings, and credible data from reliable international studies. Compiling these findings into a cohesive, Afghan-led national report is essential for creating the Afghanistan Economic Independence Roadmap 2036.

Project: The Silk Road Treasure

Sources: United Nations and reputable international institutions

Implementation Year: 2026



# Project Two: Establishing Afghanistan's National Railway Network

This project will provide professional, technical, and internationally standardized quality supervision for the emerging rail network connecting the cities of Badakhshan, Kunduz, Mazar-e-Sharif, Herat, Kandahar, Kabul, and ultimately Nangarhar, in coordination with the government. The railway corridor being constructed around the Hindu Kush mountain range—creating a critical and strategic transportation belt—requires exceptionally precise quality control.

As projected, this network will link Mazar-e-Sharif with the Hairatan port (already connected), Kunduz with Sher Khan Bandar, Herat with Islam Qala and the Chabahar route, Kandahar with Spin Boldak, and Nangarhar with the major Torkham border crossing. It will also connect other ports to nearby cities, ultimately integrating Afghanistan's rail system with those of neighboring countries. Therefore, an independent professional and technical institution from the private sector—Silk Road Treasure Institute—will oversee this vital and strategic process.

**Project:** Silk Road Treasure

**Funding Sources:** Government, United Nations and reputable international institutions, Asian Development Bank, and neighboring countries

**Implementation Timeline:** 2026–2030



# Project Three:

## Drinking Water Purification in Kabul & Solar-Powered Systems for Primary Schools

Ensuring safe drinking water for Kabul's six million residents is a pressing public health priority. It's vital to provide clean water to essential institutions—schools, universities, training centers, hospitals, and military and civilian facilities—for long-term health security.

Note: Our team conducted a significant research study and tested modern solar-powered purification systems in three major Afghan cities from 2010 to 2013, achieving excellent results.\*

**Project:**The Silk Road Treasure

**Sources:**United Nations and reputable international institutions

**Implementation Timeline:** 2026–2028



# Project Four:

## Balkh Tract Hydrocarbon Exploration & Development Project

is a high-potential energy initiative led by Silk Road Treasure (SRT) in Northern Afghanistan, covering a 6,250 sq. km underexplored block within a proven petroleum system. Structured as an Exploration and Production Sharing Partnership with the Government of Afghanistan, the project combines phased, risk-managed investment with strong upside potential. Supported by experienced partners and a USD 45+ million Phase I exploration program, the project integrates robust ESG commitments, positioning it as a strategic investment for energy security and long-term sustainable value creation.

**Project:** Quest Investments and The Silk Road Treasure  
**Sources:** Government Support and private investment



# Project Five:

## Traffic Signal Modification & Optimization Project – Kabul

Wells & Associates proposes to provide professional traffic engineering and design services for two key intersections along Airport Road in Kabul. The project will assess traffic signals, roundabouts, and interchange options using international standards (AASHTO, MUTCD, Highway Capacity Manual) to improve traffic flow, safety, and efficiency under current and future conditions. Services include data collection, traffic analysis and forecasting, alternative evaluations, conceptual and detailed traffic signal designs, signing and pavement marking plans, signal timing coordination, and cost estimates. The project is designed for phased implementation, supports transparent contractor bidding, and strengthens urban mobility through modern, cost-effective traffic management solutions aligned with international best practices.

**Project:** Quest Investments and The Silk Road Treasure  
**Sources:** Afghanistan Government Support



# Project Six:

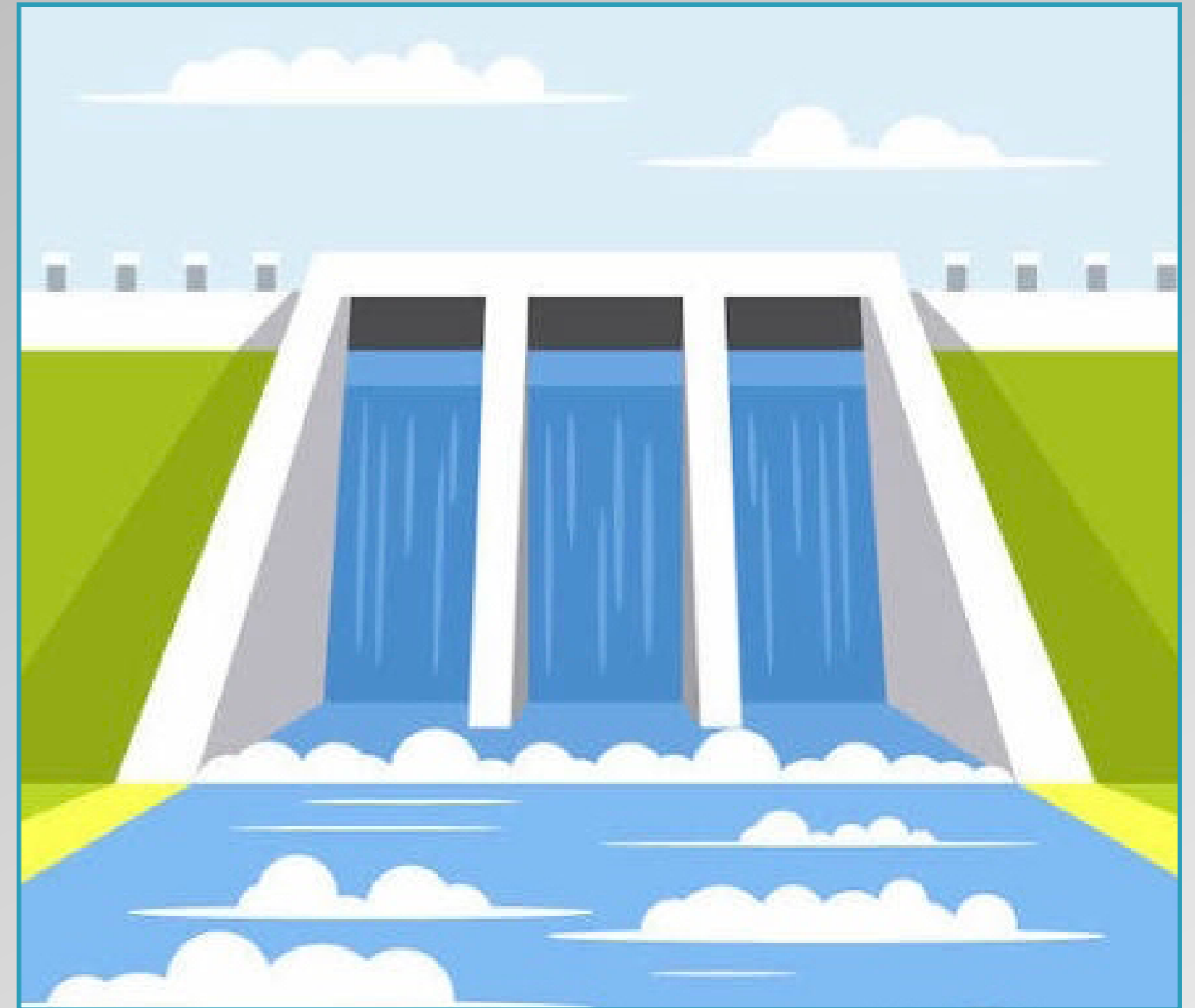
## Construction of the Kunar River Hydropower & Irrigation Dam

Building this dam would greatly improve the economic and agricultural conditions of Kunar, Nangarhar, Laghman, and Nuristan, enabling sustainable development in eastern Afghanistan. This project also includes a thorough study of the Surobi, Naghlu, Darunta, Kamal Khan, and Salma dams to prepare targeted funding proposals.

Note: This dam, named “Noor,” can be developed with the support of the Government of India and coordination with the Asian Development Bank, following India’s successful completion of the Salma Dam in 2016.\*

**Project:**The Silk Road Treasure

**Sources of funding:**Government of India, World Bank, Asian Development Bank



# Project Seven:

## The National Qosh-Tepa Canal & Northern Agricultural Belt

Work on this transformative canal has already begun. It will create a large agricultural belt capable of producing sustainable organic crops, enhancing food security, and reducing Afghanistan's reliance on imports like sugar, oil, and essential food items.

Planting Paulownia trees along the canal will green the northern plains and promote the development of new towns along future railways and highways. This project also includes rehabilitating major grain silos in Kabul, Balkh, Herat, Pul-e-Khumri, and Kandahar, as well as restoring the Nangarhar Canal.

Note: Implemented as Phase II of the Kunduz Organic Agriculture Project, this initiative has shown positive results through multi-year investments in improved beet, sunflower, and tomato seeds, and is now expanding across five provinces along the Qosh-Tepa Canal in coordination with Afghanistan's National Development Company.

**Project:** The Silk Road Treasure

**Sources of funding :** United Nations, international organizations, private investors

**Timeline:** 2026–2027



# Project Eight:

## Revival and Expansion of the Damascene Rose Industry

Following successful implementation in Dara-e-Noor, Chehar, and Shinwar districts of Nangarhar, this model can be expanded to Kunar, Nuristan, and Kapisa. Cultivating *Rosa Damascena* and establishing production facilities for rosewater, perfume, cosmetics, and health products will meet Afghanistan's domestic market needs, which are currently largely met by imports.

This project will provide direct employment to women, families, and farmers in disadvantaged regions, fostering a sustainable economy capable of export.

Note: Implemented with significant German investment, this project currently cultivates around 100 active hectares. With processing facilities, the domestic market in these provinces can be fully supplied, reducing reliance on foreign imports.\*

**Project:**The Silk Road Treasure

**Sources of funding :** United Nations and international institutions

**Timeline:**2026–2030



# Project Nine:

## National & International Afghanistan Trade and Innovation Exhibition

This series of exhibitions—covering agriculture, fruits, gemstones, education, technology, and artificial intelligence—will first take place in major agricultural regions: Nangarhar, Balkh, Herat, Paktia, Bamiyan, Kandahar, and Kunduz, followed by a national exhibition in Kabul. These exhibitions will connect Afghanistan’s markets to the global marketplace, attracting international buyers and investors.

**Project:**The Silk Road Treasure

**Sources:**United Nations and international organizations

**Timeline:**2026–2027



# Project Ten:

## National Urban Development Initiative (Aino Mina Project)

After its successful implementation in Kandahar, this model can be expanded to other major cities, including:

- Mazar-e-Sharif (New Mazar City)
- Kabul (New Kabul in Dasht-e-Deh Sabz)
- Nangarhar (New Jalalabad toward Ghaziabad farms or Gambiri plains)
- Kunduz, Paktia, and Bamiyan

This initiative can serve as a leading model for urban development in at least five major cities.

**Project:** Quest Engineering Company & The Silk Road Treasure

**Sources:** Private Sector & Government

**Partner:** Eng. Abdullah Nadi



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## Project Eleven: Strengthening and Expanding Afghanistan's Tourism Industry

Afghanistan, located at the crossroads of ancient civilizations, has inspired travelers, historians, and explorers for thousands of years. Its stunning mountains, hidden valleys, diverse cultures, and rich spiritual heritage offer a unique travel experience.

As part of this initiative, we are developing an application named “AfghanTour” to digitally manage and promote tourism across the country.

**Project:**The Silk Road Treasure

**Sources:**Private Investment & Government

**Timeline:**2026–2027



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# Call for Partnership & Collaboration

Silk Road Treasure invites the Government of Afghanistan, development partners, and global investors to join us in advancing the Afghanistan Economic Independence Program 2036. Our proposed projects are practical, proven, and designed to stimulate sustainable growth across key sectors—including agriculture, energy, industry, and women’s economic empowerment. Achieving this long-term vision requires coordinated partnership. We welcome all entities committed to stability and development to work with us in building a self-reliant and economically resilient Afghanistan.

