

1.2.2 The team

The LRRD team consists of the following members

- Four specialists from Groupe URD in charge of the Agriculture, Nutrition, Urban Development and Education sectors
- Two independent consultants for the Health and Water sectors
- Three junior experts for the urban development sector and seven junior experts in the rural development sector
- A project coordinator permanently based in Kabul
- Two translators and one logistician
- Backstopping support and guidance from Groupe URD's headquarters in France

1.3 The multi sector review

During the three-week mission, the LRRD team travelled extensively in different provinces.

1.3.1 Objectives and methodology

Main objectives of this three-week field mission were to:

- Develop a thorough understanding of the evolution of aid interventions and strategies; (see report on cross cutting issues)
- Identify common trends and relevant issues and analyse them from a cross sector perspective; (see report on cross cutting issues)
- Identify the current opportunities and challenges pertaining to each sector; (presented in this report)
- Stimulate debate with agencies and key stakeholders through a workshop organised at Groupe URD's office in Kabul on 24 April 2006.

Data collection was based on a qualitative approach:

- Before the mission, each expert reviewed relevant available documents;
- A common analysis framework was elaborated prior to the field trip
- Regular meetings gathering all team members took place during the field trip to crosscheck information and share preliminary findings, and to analyse cross-cutting issues and multi-sector comparisons
- Interviews with national and local authorities, donors, aid workers from local and international NGOs, representatives from the UN, ICRC and the private sector were conducted in Kabul and the different provinces visited; ensuring a balanced representation of the different stakeholders;
- Visits to a number of projects took place enabling the team to make their observations.

1.3.2 The itinerary

It is important to take into account the limitations the team had to cope with during the mission. It was clear from the beginning that it would be difficult to take into account many specificities of Afghanistan due to:

- Time constraints: The three-week time frame was too short for such a large scale mission. This meant that the team had, in some instances, to adjust field visits.
- Access constraints: The mission took place in April, with persisting difficulties to access certain areas due to snow and unopened roads.
- Security constraints: Given the instability prevailing in a number of provinces, the review did not capture the reality of the southern part of the country.