

9TH

WORLD CHAMBERS CONGRESS

Chambers for
global prosperity

TORINO
2015
ITALY, 10-12 JUNE 2015

Community | Identity | Vision

ICC INTERNATIONAL
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE
The world business organization

ICC WORLD CHAMBERS
FEDERATION

TORINO
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
INDUSTRY CRAFTS AND AGRICULTURE

AFGHANISTAN

Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Industries (ACCI)

Curriculum vitae and professional role

The ACCI is a united business membership organization that represents the entire business community in Afghanistan and it's the only service-oriented, independent and modern Chamber in the country. As the Voice for Afghanistan's Private Sector, the ACCI strives to provide the best possible services to its members and the entire private sector of the country. The ACCI advocates and protects the rights of the private sector and supports and promotes the business activities of its members. The ACCI currently functions in 24 provinces of the country and it also has international affiliate offices in USA, UK, the Netherlands, Canada, Moscow, United Arab Emirates, Iran, Pakistan and India. The ACCI is the member of ECO-CCI, SAARC-CCI, ICC/WCF, ICCI, IRU and ILO. The Chamber Law, ratified by H.E President of Afghanistan and enforced nationally, has given ACCI a more prominent and recognized image among the business activists in the country. The ACCI is a self-sufficient organization as it finances the majority of its operations and programs by its own revenues; however, the ACCI has key International Partners whose funds play a significant role in the chamber's success.

Opportunities and challenges for entrepreneurship in your country/region

Afghanistan is the land of business opportunities and the return of the business activities are very high. There are money business and investment opportunities in Afghanistan in the bellow sectors:

- Mining
- Agriculture and Food processing
- Construction and Construction Material
- Transport and Logistic
- Banking etc

business activities faces some challenges in Afghanistan, e.g security concern, corruption, poor infrastructure, lack of power, access to finance, old laws and regulations and etc. But these challenges can be decreased by creating joint venture business and investment.

Description of the Chamber: public or private? Local, regional, national? How many member businesses does your Chamber have? Which sectors?

ACCI is an independent, legal, non-governmental, not-for-profit, non-political and a self-administered entity, which serves the apex organization for all private sector of Afghanistan. It's the National Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the model is a mixed of Continental and Anglo-Saxon chamber model. It means, the ACCI has voluntary membership system with Public Chamber Law. The Chamber Law, ratified by H.E President of Afghanistan and enforced nationally, has given ACCI

a more prominent and recognized image among the business activists in the country. The ACCI currently functions in 24 provinces of Afghanistan and has over 60,000 individuals from different sectors (Large, Medium and Small businesses) and 170 Business Associations and cooperatives as its members under its umbrella. Majority of its members are SME's.

Which key projects does your Chamber realize?

The concept of Public Private Partnership (PPP) was communicated by ACCI to the government and the government is working of PPP law now. **The One Village One Product (OVOP)** project was also communicated to the government by the chamber and they are working on it. The establishment of **Afghanistan Centre for Dispute Resolution (ACDR)** was also a project of ACCI. Another project that ACCI realized was the, **Business Information Centre (BIC)** should be established under ACCI. Joint Chambers Projects with regional countries. And so many other projects.

The most important challenge for your Chamber in the future

Lack of government support, illegal business activities, financing of the chamber activities, interfering the board of directors to the management (secretariat) activities of the chamber, the concept of dividing the Chamber in two part (1. Chamber of Commerce, 2. Chamber of Industry), upcoming chamber election, and other challenges.

Any interesting experience or success story your Chamber went through

We signed MoU with other chambers and established the **Joint Chamber of Commerce** which are now functioning as **independent originations and they are the bridge between the Afghanistan Private Sector and other countries**. Another project was the Establishment of Afghanistan Centre of Dispute Resolution (ACDR), which is an organization under ACCI umbrella. We pushed the government to consider ACCI as legal representative of the private sector and get our comments when they draft a new law or regulation or amend any law or regulation, as result the ACCI is the member of different national level committees and representing the private sector interest in those committees. Money of these committees are headed by the President and vice president of the country.



Ms Meena Wardak
Foreign Trade and Investment Promotion Manager of ACCI
Cell: 0093795477961

Atiqullah Nasrat - CEO ACCI

ACCI Website: www.acci.org.af

Email: info@acci.org.af

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AfghanChamber>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/AfghanChamber>