

DISTRICT PROFILE UPPER DIR



Turn Potential into Profit

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MAP OF DISTRICT UPPER DIR



Introduction and History

Upper Dir (Pashto: دیر بالا) is one of the 26 districts of **Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**. At the time of independence, **Dir (princely state)** was a state ruled by Nawab Shah Jehan Khan. It was merged with Pakistan in 1969 and later on declared as a district in 1970. In 1996, it was bifurcated into Upper and Lower Dir districts. This district is situated in the northern part of Pakistan. It borders **Chitral district** and **Afghanistan** on the north and North West and **Swat district** to the east, and on the south by **Lower Dir District**

Upper Dir district is 3,699 square kilometers in area and formed part of the former **Malakand Division**, lying along the **Afghanistan** border between **Chitral**, **Bajaur Agency** and **Lower Dir**. It is connected with the **Kohistan District** via the **Badawi Pass** and connected with **Chitral District** through **Lawari Pass** and with **Afghanistan** through **Bin Shahi Pass**. The topography of Upper Dir is dominated by high mountains. The most important mountain range is the Hindu Raj. It runs from north east to south west along the northern borders with **Chitral District**. In winter whole area remains snow-covered. The mountains in the western part of the district are covered with forests, while the eastern mountain range, Dir Kohistan is barren. Panjkora River is the main river of the district, which originates from Dir Kohistan. Upper Dir headquarters is connected to all tehsil headquarters

2 Social Environments

2.1 Demographics

Demographic Information The current population of Upper Dir is 575,8584 with 51% males and 49% females. The annual population growth rate Sex-wise Population Distribution is 2.5% . Because of the high growth rate in the district, a large proportion of the population consists of children. Life expectancy at birth is 61 years and literacy rate is 39%6 for males and 4% for females. Population density is 1564 persons per square kilometre. Mean number of people living in one room is 4. 96%. **Rural Urban Population Distribution** The percentage breakup of the rural and urban population is 96 and 4 respectively. The crude death rate is 9 per 1000, which is almost the same as the provincial and national figure of 8 per 10003 . The crude birth rate in Upper Dir is 395 per 1000 as compared to 313 per 1000 at national level.

2.2 Languages

Pushto is the main spoken language of Dir, while Gugro, and Kohistani are the languages of Kohistanis and Gugars. The people are of warrior nature.

2.3 Places to See

- Popular Places
- Kumrat
- Shahi Koto
- Wari
- Barawal Bandi
- Ganori
- Nowra

2.4 Educational Institutions

Education plays a vital role in the development of every nation. We can't single out a single country which has progressed without education. Academic institutions are established to spread education and there is a wide network of Govt schools, colleges and Universities in the district. It also paves way for interested people to start Private sectors institutes and Universities. The literacy rate in the upper dir district is 21.21% .The female literacy rate is only 6.10% compared to male literacy of 36.10%.



Institutions	Number of Institutions		
	Total	Male	Female
Primary Schools	799	587	212
Middle Schools	90	66	24
High Schools	49	39	10
Higher Secondary	8	6	2
Degree	3	2	1
Universities	00	-	-
Technologies and polytechnic	1	1	0
Management science college	1	1	0

2. 5 Health Facilities

Health is the most important factor which plays the key role in determining the human capital. Better health improves the efficiency and the productivity of the labor force and thus ultimately contributes the economic growth and leads to human welfare. On the other hand, there is a strong relationship between poverty and the poor health.

Health Facilities (Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund's Report)

Health Institutions

TB-Clinics	1
Hospital	5
Rural Health Centre	2
Basic Health Units	34
Dispensaries	11
MCH CENTERS	2
S.H.C.	2
Leprosy Clinics	3

3. Economic Scenario

Upper dir is situated near the lower dir, swat, chitral and Peshawar. People of Upper dir are not will educate but skilled in different field such as agriculture, horticulture, technical work and industry. Labor in Upper dir is cheap and are easily available to producers which affects the production cost to produce goods at low cost.

Majority of the populations is directly related to farming. The main crops grown in the valley are wheat, maize, rice, barley, potato, tomato and onion. In winters the young and energetic people migrates to big cities of the province or country in search of earning in different sectors. Other sources of income are fuel wood trade, daily wage labor, livestock production, gardening and electricity production through water.

In upper dir their as no industrial sector in no business zone.

Mining In proper Dir town the Sarhad Development Authority has explored copper mineralization in the localities around Bekaray, Ala, Guma Dand and Barawal areas. The estimated reserves are around 4 million tones with 0.4 per cent copper. The reserves are very small to be exploited commercially. Besides, the following minerals occurrences are known in Upper Dir.

Name of Mineral...	Name of Area...
Iron Ore	Barawal Area
Copper	Ushera Darra

In Upper dir the production of plums and pears are high of all fruits. The cultivated area of plums and pears in 2013-14 was 224 hectares. The production of plums and pears in 2013-14 was 2508 tones. This was exported to various district of Pakistan that is like Peshawar, Mardan , sawabi and Islamabad, etc

List of Small industries

S.No	Items	Total number	Area
1	Furniture	9	
2	Flour mills	2	
3	Cement based	3	
4	Crush plants	3	
5	Poultry farm	1	
6	Sniff making units	15 to 20	
7	Cap making units	200-250	
8	Knife making units	50-60	
10	Phulkhy making units	1	
11	Ice factory	1	
12	Wood and wood production units	100	

(Situation Analysis & Baseline Surveys For Poverty Reduction through Rural Development in KPK, FATA & Balochistan)

4. Economic Potential

The area has strong agriculture infrastructure with small industries. The economy is based on agricultural products, Private sectors, firms, and small industries.

4.1 Agriculture

■ Agriculture is the main stay of income and livelihood of the population of district. The cereal crops are grown on terraces on the hills slopes in the valleys and area under irrigation including plums, Apricot, Apple, Lady finger, Turnip, Tomato and else are mentioned in tables below. At domestic level women produces handicrafts and also work in the field with their men. In the district main source of income is livestock products, poultry and grain from their fields. For highly economic development Provisional Government, Central Government and from extraneous aids projects are going on.

The main source of Irrigation River is mainly used for the small scale hydel power generation.

Total arable area is 6175 acres.

(Situation Analysis & Baseline Surveys For Poverty Reduction through Rural Development in KPK, FATA & Balochistan)

Livestock

In district upper dir maximum population are live in rural areas and most of them keep livestock for

Milk, meat, manure, carriage and sale for cash earning. Most people consume the dairy products at

Household level, while some HHs sell these products and animal to earn cash for their other livelihoods needs.

There are 4 veterinary hospitals, 10 dispensaries and 8 veterinary centers in the District. They provide health care to animals of different species for different diseases. Vaccination is done by the departmental staff as well as Live Stock Extension workers in different villages, trained by the Department through financial assistance from various development agencies. Livestock and Dairy Development Department provide their services in nearby areas only and in peripheral areas farmers know little about them and people mostly get their animals treated by private practitioners. Generally, there is an increase in the population due to increasing human population and its needs.

(Situation Analysis & Baseline Surveys For Poverty Reduction through Rural Development in KPK, FATA & Balochistan)

4.3 Services Sector

In Upper dir, agriculture is the main source of income for most of the household as mentioned earlier. Around 20-30 % people are engaged in different activities outside their villages to earn their livelihood. At domestic level women produce handicrafts and also work in the fields with their men. In the villages women source of income is livestock product, poultry and grain from the fields.

(Situation Analysis & Baseline Surveys For Poverty Reduction through Rural Development in KPK, FATA & Balochistan)

5. Clusters

5.1 Embroidery

Embroidery is the only sector having 100% female employment in the district. The Dirochee cap making occupies the primary position whereas the other products i.e., Embroidered garments, Ladies Accessories, 'Azarband' (trouser belt), and 'Pranda' (female hair band) were also being manufactured. For this study we focused on cap making and designing as this is the potential product in embroidery sector. According to primary data, the total number of 400 Firms is estimated to be in Upper Dir. However, this data could not be verified from secondary sources as this sector has not been reported by any governmental or non-governmental organization so far. All of the female are working inside their homes and there is no separate setup. Almost all of the women do not have direct access to market and they have to rely on middle man or a male member of their household to purchase raw material and sell their products. The middlemen supply raw material and purchase finished products inside the houses; therefore this sector is growing in the conservative society of Upper Dir.

(USAID FIRMS PROJECT DISTRICT PROFILE AND SECTOR ASSESSMENT)

Mineral

Mineral is a naturally occurring substance that is solid and inorganic represent able by a chemical formula, usually a biogenic, and has an ordered atomic structure. It is different from a rock, which can be an aggregate of minerals or non-minerals and does not have a specific chemical composition. The exact definition of a mineral is under debate, especially with respect to the requirement a valid species be a biogenic, and to a lesser extent with regard to it having an ordered



atomic structure. The study of minerals is called mineralogy. In Upper Dir minerals are found in abundance i-e Granite and slate stone.

Source: D.G Mines and Minerals Govt of KPK .

6. Small and Medium Sized Potential Investment Projects

6.1 Goat and Sheep Breeding and Fattening

The farm will serve the purpose of fattening of sheep. The project can be established in parts of the country where sheep farming is already taking place. The district Upper Dir has the ideal land for Sheep and Goat Farming. Livestock producers can obtain three to four flocks in one year depending upon their production and management techniques. The maximum capacity of the farm is taken as 250 animals in one production cycle. The animals can be marketed in the local Piri as well as sold directly to the meat shops. The total project investment is Rs.1.6 Million which includes working capital of Rs.04 Million and Capital Cost of Rs.1.15 Million. The Project Internal Rate of Return (IRR) is 18%.

6.2 Poultry Farming

Upper Dir is big district; consist of rural, semi urban and urban areas and climate as well as environment of the district is also ideal for poultry farming. It means that there is great potential and good opportunity for investors to come and invest in this sector and get benefits from it. A detailed financial model has been developed to analyze the commercial viability of broiler farm (10,000 birds)

6.3 Dairy farming

In Upper Dir dairy farming is in rural and urban areas and climate as well as the environment as suitable for dairy farming. In Upper Dir it's easy to buy land for shade and the animal fodder, labor are also easy lee available and they are working in low cost and also easy lee access to export milk and different city.

The dairy farms start in small scale in the size of 25 animals, which is economical to justify the overhead cost. The farm size will increase to 125 animals within 10 years. Herds mix of 80% cows and 20% buffaloes are recommended to get the maximum milk production round the year

A cow, on average, yields 15 liters of milk a day over a lactation period of 280 days whereas a buffalo, on average, yields 8 liters a day over a lactation period of 305 days



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Situation Analysis & Baseline Surveys For Poverty Reduction through Rural Development in KPK, FATA & Balochistan.