

DISTRICT BUNER



Turn Potential into Profit

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Map



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1. Introduction and History

This district of KP is commonly known as Buner Valley because of being surrounded by hills. It lies between 34-9 and 34-43 N latitude and 72-10 and 72-47 E longitude. Elevation varies from 1200 ft in Totalai (Khudukhel) in the South to 9,550 ft of Dosara Peak in the North. There are three main rivers namely Barandu, Chamla and Budal and the former flows in the midst of the District.

Historically, the district has remained the route of many invaders including, Alexander the Great, and Mughal armies. The advent of Islam in to the area was after 1000 AD, with the arrival of Yousufzai tribe. The Yousafzai Tribe had occupied Buner shortly before 1519 AD. This area became sanctuary and strong citadel for the Muslims fighters of Syed Ahmed Shaheed and his followers for about 130 years.

The people of Swat and Buner got united and formed state, under the rule of the freedom fighter Syed Akbar Shah Sitana from 1849-1857. After his death in 1857 the area remained without a ruler till 1915 which period is known as "Era of Pukhtoo" where every tribe was ruled by its own elders. The rule of "Wali" started in 1915 in the Swat and Buner was annexed with the state of Swat in 1922. It remained as a part of Swat state till it merged with Pakistan on 29th July 1969. In 1991 Buner was upgraded to the District level.

The Buner district of today is stretched over a total area of 1,865 Sq. Km with an administrative set up of 06 Tehsils, and 27 Union Councils.

2. Social Environment

Total population of the district is estimated to be 922,000 for the year 2013-2014 on the basis of the population during 1998 Census. The percentage of female and male population is 50% each, whereas 100% of the population lives in rural areas.

The major tribe of the district is the Yousafzai Pakhtoons, therefore the Pashto is main language. Other ethnic groups such as Sayeds, Gujars, Ajars as well as some non-Muslims groups such as Siks and Hindus are also present.

Family system is the back bone of the society. Milk tea is common and tea without milk is always considered as the sign of poverty.

Table 01: Sources of Income Reported By Households (2010)¹

Source of Income	Number of Households		
	All Households	Non Agriculture Households	Agriculture Households
Service or Pension	87	33	53
Business/Self Employed	114	49	65
Commercial Livestock	22	3	19
Foreign Remittance	226	41	185
Agricultural Labor	174	13	160
Non Agricultural Labor	205	58	147
Land/Machine Rent	4	0	4
Poultry Farming	2	1	1
Other Sources	154	35	118

3. Climate

The climate of Buner varies with the elevation and may be classified as dry sub-tropical. Most part of the year remains pleasant. There are two main rainy seasons; the winter rains in the *Rabi* season between November and May, and the summer monsoon in the *Kharif* season providing necessary water for respective crops. Rainfall throughout the year is 105 CM with un-even distribution. The average annual rainfall is approximately 30 inches.² The temperature in summer steadily raises up to 44 C⁰ and in winter it gradually drops and goes down to -2 C⁰.

¹ Source: Agriculture Census 2010, Govt. of KP

² Source: <http://www.kpktribune.com>

4. Educational Institutions and Literacy Rate

The literacy rate in the district is 10.35%. The female literacy rate is 21.09% and the male literacy rate is 30.63% .

Table 02: No. of Government's Educational Institutions (Year 2012-13)³

Institutions	Number of Institutions		
	Total	Male	Female
Primary Level Schools	1,027	672	355
Middle Schools	126	71	55
High Schools	111	65	46
Higher Secondary	16	10	6
Degree Colleges	8	3	5
Universities	2	-	-

Table 03: No. of Government's Educational Institutions (Year 2012-13)⁴

Institutions	Number of Institutions		
	Total	Male	Female
All Primary Level Schools	561	398	163
Middle Schools	80	54	26
High Schools	68	49	19
Higher Secondary	16	12	4
Degree Colleges	5	4	1
Post Graduate Colleges	0	-	-
Poly Technical Colleges	1	1	0
Colleges of Management Sciences	0	-	-
Technical and Vocational Institutes	0	-	-

³ Source: Education Department, KP

⁴ Source: www.kpbos.gov.pk

5. Health Facilities

There are about 10 private hospitals in the district. The situation of the public sector is as given below:

Table 04: Number of Health Facilities-Government (Year 2013)⁵

Hospitals	Dispensaries.
DHQ Hospital	4
THQ Hospital	-
Rural Health Centers	3
Basic Health Units	19
Govt. Rural Dispensaries	3
MCH Centers	0
Sub Health Centers	0

Table 05: Number of Medical Practitioners/Parmedics-Govt. (2013)⁶

Hospitals	Dispensaries.
Doctors	52
Radiologist	1
Dental Surgeons	7
Nurses	62
Nurse Dais	47
Dais	45
LHV	-
Others	65

Table 06: Number of Private Medical Practitioners (2013)⁷

Hospitals	Dispensaries.
Total	59
Male	59
Female	0

⁵ Source: Health Department, KP

⁶ Source: Health Department, KP

⁷ Source: Health Department, KP

6. Economic Scenario

Buner has no urban centers and the whole district is categorized as a rural area. Economically, majority of the people are poor and depend upon agriculture and livestock. Few people are engaged in marble business and are relatively rich. At village level 95% income comes from agriculture and livestock, 4% from daily labor and 1% from other activities.

Main sources of livelihood come from agriculture, livestock, minerals, processing industries, and services sector.

Table No. 07: Employment Categories and Workforce (2010)⁸

Occupation	No. of People
Agriculture	58,162
Mining, Construction, Transport, & Manufacturing	6,744
Service Workers, Shops, Markets, Sales Workers	6,039
Professionals (Mostly School Teachers)	2,604

6.1. Agriculture

As per the agricultural census of 2010, there are a total of 57,768 private farms with a total area of 180,422 acres.

Table No. 08: Status of Private Farms (2010)⁹

Size of Farms	Number of Farms
Under 1 Acre	9,235
1 to 2.5 Acre	22,023
2.5 to 5 Acre	15,927
5 to 7.5 Acre	6,307
7.5 to 12.5 Acre	2,717
12.5 to 25 Acre	1,355
25 to 50 Acre	197
50 to 100 Acre	3
100 to 150 Acre	-
150 Acre and above	3

⁸ Source: <http://cpnr.edu.pk>

⁹ Source: Tabulation of KP Province (Agri Census-2010)

Table No. 09: Orchard, Orchard Nursery, Flower Fields & Their Nursery¹⁰

Orchard		Orchard Nursery		Flower Fields & Their Nursery	
Number	Acres	Number	Acres	Number	Acres
1,009	2,398	81	41	162	71

Table No. 10: Production of Fruits (Year 2014)¹¹

Fruit	Area (Hectares)	Production (Tons)
Kharif Season		
Water melon	50	481
Apricot	30	454
Apple	15	75
Pear	38	590
Peaches	230	2229
Plums	93	81
Persimmon	150	1265
Other	0	0
Names(Rabi fruits)		
Citrus	85	600
Mulberry	20	143
Guava	4	20

¹⁰ Source: Tabulation of KP Province (Agri Census-2010)¹¹ Source: Office of the Agriculture Extension Services, KP

Table No. 11: Production of Vegetable (Year 2014)¹²

Vegetable	Area (Hectares)	Production (Tons)
Kharif Season		
Okra	109	933
Tinda	160	2560
Brinjal	75	1102
Pumpkin	30	270
Bitter gourd	45	647
Tomato	53	265
Others	130	1093
Rabi Season		
Turnip	310	5735
Spinach	40	500
Tomato	25	275
Cauliflower	18	383
Radish	12	108
others	5	23

¹² Source: Office of the Agriculture Extension Services, KP

Table No. 12: No of Reporting Farms, and Fruit Trees (Year 2010)¹³

Fruit	Number of Reporting Farms	Number of Trees				
		Bearing	Non Bearing	Total	In Compact Plantation	Scattered
Mango	15	77	-	77	-	77
Orange(Malta)	1,000	189,439	-	189,439	188,607	832
Lemon	162	1,495	63	1,558	1,215	343
Guava	37	92	-	92	-	92
Apple	22	135	-	135	-	135
Loquat	373	2,416	-	2,416	2,025	391
Plum	861	69,879	-	69,879	68,000	1,819
Pear	239	8,625	-	8,625	8,506	119
Ber	18	55	-	55	-	55
Pomegranate	22	22	-	22	-	22
Apricot	554	43,688	125	43,813	42,528	1,285
Walnut	200	443	-	443	-	443
Peach	43	112	-	112	-	112
Mulberry	342	13,377	486	13,863	10,126	3,737
Others	62	2,193	-	2,193	2,024	168

Table No. 13: Non Fruit Trees (Year 2010)

Trees	Number
Sheesham	12,056
Kikar	621,379
Bekain	856,826
Sareen	30,290
Simbal	10,211
Poplar/Eucalyptus	2,067,223
Cheer/Partal/Deodar/Kail	64,667
Other	1,346,434

6.2. Livestock and Fisheries Sector

Fisheries Sector

Fisheries sector is very weak and dependent upon the areas near river Indus bank. The production of fish (all warm water fish) is as under:

¹³ Source: Agriculture Census 2010

Table No. 13: Fish Production-Tons¹⁴

2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
02	0	07

During the year 2012-13 the revenue of the fisheries department was Rs. 15,300 only, of which Rs. 12,300 generated from fishing license.

Livestock

Table No. 14: Poultry Farming in the District Buner¹⁵

Capacity	No. of Farms	Total Birds	Layers	Broilers
Up to 500 Birds	01	674	0	674
501 to 1000 Birds	01	1,144	0	1,144
1001 to 2000 Birds	34	56,948	0	56,948
2001 to 3000 Birds	03	8,560	0	8,560
3001 to 4000 Birds	0	0	0	0
4001 to 5000 Birds	0	0	0	0
5001 and Above	04	41,822	0	41,822
Total	60	109,148	0	109,148

Table No. 15: Livestock Population Reported (2010)¹⁶

Description	Number of Farm/Households	Number of Animals
Buffaloes	2,8173	82,272
Camels	688	817
Cattle	39,014	165,405
Donkeys	5,593	7,799
Goat	27,987	250,169
Horses	605	731
Mules	205	225
Sheep	2,201	17,068

¹⁴ Source: Development Statistics, kpbos

¹⁵ Source: PBS

¹⁶ Source: Livestock Census 2010- Directorate of Livestock and Dairy Development Department

6.3. Forestry Sector

Total area covered with the forest is 32,102 hectares. Main forest types are shrubs (acacia, kaha sanatha etc) at lower elevation and chir pines at higher elevation. Local people are dependent on this forest to meet their timber, fuel wood and fodder requirements. About 30 years ago during era of “Wali Swat”, the area was known for its best forests. Those forests comprised of Chir, Samantha, Olea and Phulai etc. at that time, after merger of the area with Pakistan, road network was developed and administration control become loose that led to over exploitation of forest. In addition to that, few locals and non-local started illegal timber business. Resultantly forest resources were badly damaged in only two decades. Seasonal Ajars (Nomadic grazers) have also played their role in forest depletion. Local people have high dependency on these forests to meet their construction and other requirements such as firewood, fodder requirements, etc.¹⁷

Table No. 16: Forestry (Year 2012-13)¹⁸

Description	Area (Acres)
Total	273,765
Protected Forest	101,272
Communal	13,412
Private Plantation	159,081

¹⁷ Source: <http://www.kpktribune.com/>

¹⁸ Source: Development Statistics of KP, 2014

6.4. Processing Industry

Table No. 17: Detail of SMEs Units in ¹⁹

S. No.	Name of Unit	Total No. of Units	Total Investment (Rs. Million)	Employment
1	Flour Mill	2	38.000	7
2	Rice Processing	1	0.150	3
3	Ice Factories	2	4.400	0
4	Cigarettes Manufacturers	1	3.791	0
5	Marble Processing	190	878.993	1,344
6	Aluminum	1	0.580	0
	Total	197	925.914	1,354

The marble processing clusters are located in Chamla & Sunigram, Dewanababa, Salarzai, and Karakar.

6.5. Minerals

The mountains surrounding the Buner valley are rich of minerals. The marble dominates with estimated reserves of about 1,400 million tons and colors of Bampokha White, Jet Black, Carrara White, Sunny White, and Sunny Gray. Few mines are extracting blocks in squared shape with the use of modern machinery. Such modernized mining is done for Bampokha White, Carrara white, Jet Black, and Sunny white. As per the marble stakeholders, the number of mines is above 300 within the district.

Table No. 18: Mineral Production in Buner 2012-13²⁰

S. No	Minerals Name	Tones per year
1	Barites	1,240
2	Granite	872
3	Marble	758,108

¹⁹ Source: Directory of Industrial Establishments (2011), Govt. KP

²⁰ Source: Directorate General Mines and Minerals, KP

6.6. Services Sector

Due to the dominance of agriculture, the services are also allied to this sector, like, the fertilizer and pesticides supply, and farm machinery rental services. Out of 57,768 farms, a total of 53,751 report of using rented tractors, 56,449 use threshers, 5,649 use Sheller, 89 combined harvester, 221 drill, and 15,235 use spray machines on rent.

Other services include, the retail shops, grain trading, small restaurants, and auto allied repair and maintenance services.

7. Economic potential

The total reported area of the district during 2012-13 is 172431 hectares, comprising of 55, 915 hectares cultivated, 116,516 hectares uncultivated. Of this uncultivated area, about 5,085 hectares is Culturable waste land²¹. The potential exist in utilization of this Culturable waste land, and focus upon the productivity improvement of the existing lands.

For example, the olive plantation with intercropping techniques will enable the farmers to have nominal livelihood activity through intercropping until the olive plants starts producing highly profitable olive fruit (after 03 years of plantation). Similarly, the medicinal plants can be cultivated for better returns.

8. Small and Medium Sized Potential Investment Projects

In line with the resources and the existing sources of livelihood for the people of the district, the projects in agriculture and livestock framing, and marble processing are suggested.

8.1. Livestock

Calf Fattening

In Calf fattening business, calves are raised on nutritionally balanced feed to get targeted weight gain in a specified time. These calves are grown in groups and each batch stays on farm for a period of 120 days. The expected live body weight gain ranges between 700 - 850 grams/day. Higher yields are achievable with better farm management, and by selecting better quality breeds.

²¹ Source: Agriculture Statistics, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Peshawar

Calves are raised in rural and semi-urban areas and sold in urban markets normally in livestock markets (Mandies). A farm of 146 calves per annum is suggested in this pre-feasibility study. An estimated investment of Rs 2.18 million is required. The Internal Rate of Return (IRR), Net Present Value (NPV) & payback period of the project are 41%, Rs.8.15 million and 3.56 years respectively. The project is proposed to operate as a sole-proprietorship.

Hydroponic Fodder

The fodder production is estimated to be 0.35 Million tons within the district, which is insufficient for its ruminants. Keeping in view, the small land holding, water scarcity, and the climatic conditions, the production of hydroponic fodder is a potential project.

The project with an average cost of Rs. 1 Million will be a greenhouse of 300 sq. ft. producing 365 Ton fresh green fodder per year, which is equivalent of 25 acres of grass field. In this only 2 to 3 liters of water are required to produce 1 kg of green fodder as compared to the conventional methods requiring an average of 80 liters water to produce the same quantity.

8.2. Minerals

Marble Stocking Yards

The huge reserves and production of marble within the district pave the way for marble processing. A well established stocking yard equipped with Gantry crane, Mono Lama for Block Squaring, and Small Cutters for Mono Lama Waste utilization will be a potential project. This type of project will cost around Rs. 20 Million. The expected income from such a project will be between Rs. 5 to 8 Million per year.

9. References

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Pakistan Oilseed Development Board, KP