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**AFGHANISTAN**

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# FACT SHEET

## Nai (AMDEP)

### OVERVIEW

Nai Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan is the country's leading media advocacy and vocational training organization. It was established in 2005 as part of the Afghanistan Media Development and Empowerment Project (AMDEP) and has trained nearly 15,000 media professionals. Nai conducts conferences, professional networking initiatives and works on media law and policy in support of a strong and independent media sector, freedom of speech and enhanced access to information for all Afghans.

### MAIN ACTIVITIES

- Nai offers a range of media and journalism courses, with a focus on practical, industry-relevant training, particularly for the broadcast media.
- In March 2012, Nai launched Afghanistan's first commercial vocational education institute. It is registered and endorsed by the Afghan government and offers a two-year media diploma course. More than 90 students are currently enrolled at the Institute, which is located in Kabul.
- Nai's network of training hubs in Jalalabad, Herat, Mazar-e-Sharif, Kandahar and Kabul teach media professionals in the provinces to serve information-poor communities across Afghanistan.
- Nai conducts a range of activities that support the media industry, such as organizing regional forums that bring together media practitioners to exchange ideas and training lawyers on media freedom in order to provide legal support for journalists and media outlets. Nai also gives courageous journalism awards and provides a networking platform for the industry.
- Nai's [Media Watch](#) unit has tracked threats to media professionals across the country since 2005 and its *Violation Reference Book* offers relevant guidance to media outlets. It has launched an interactive data mapping tool at [www.data.nai.org](http://www.data.nai.org).
- Nai has developed innovative radio dramas to educate the people of Afghanistan on the role a free and fair media can and should play in society's development.

### RESULTS TO DATE

- Trained 3,000 media professionals, including 700 women, since November 1, 2010
- Trained 11,477 media professionals, including 2,127 women, between 2006 and 2010
- Trained 1,260 young people, including 378 girls, during the Afghan Youth Voices Festival
- Conducted media law training for Afghan lawyers in partnership with the University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg School for Communication
- Established a fund to support the families of Afghan journalists killed on account of their work
- Holds hub monthly meetings in five provinces to discuss and debate key social and media issues with members of the Nai Graduate Club, which has 500 alumni