

20 ANNUAL REPORT

18-19



ICT FOR UNSERVED & UNDERSERVED



Ministry of Information
Technology &
Telecommunication
Government of Pakistan

Universal
Service Fund
Telecom for all

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1. AN OVERVIEW OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND

Universal Service Fund (established by Ministry of Information Technology) is actively working for providing the benefits of ICT revolution to all corners of the country. USF finances the spread of ICT services to previously un-served or under-served areas and makes it possible for licensed telecom operators to provide services to those areas, on normal commercial (read: competitive) terms. During the FY 2018-19, USF successfully ran Broadband for Sustainable Development Programme, Optic Fiber Programme, ICT for Girls Programme and started first of its kind Next-Generation-Broadband for Sustainable Development Programme for National Highways and Motorways with unique feature of National Roaming.

Through all these projects, USF has been creating an impact at grassroot level and enabling the masses to create digital revolution in the country by transforming the lives of the people.



2. BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Chairman - USF Board
Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui



Vice Chairman-USF Board
Mr. Maroof Afzal



Chairman-PTA
Maj. Gen. (R) Amir Azeem Bajwa



Member-Telecom
Mr. Mudassar Hussain



Nominee of Mobile Cellular Licensee
Mr. Aamir Ibrahim



Nominee of Fixed Line Licensee
Dr. Daniel Ritz



Vice President-ISP Association of Pakistan
Mr. Azfar Manzoor



Chairman-Consumer Association of Pakistan
Mr. Kaukab Iqbal



CEO - Universal Service Fund
Mr. Rizwan Mir

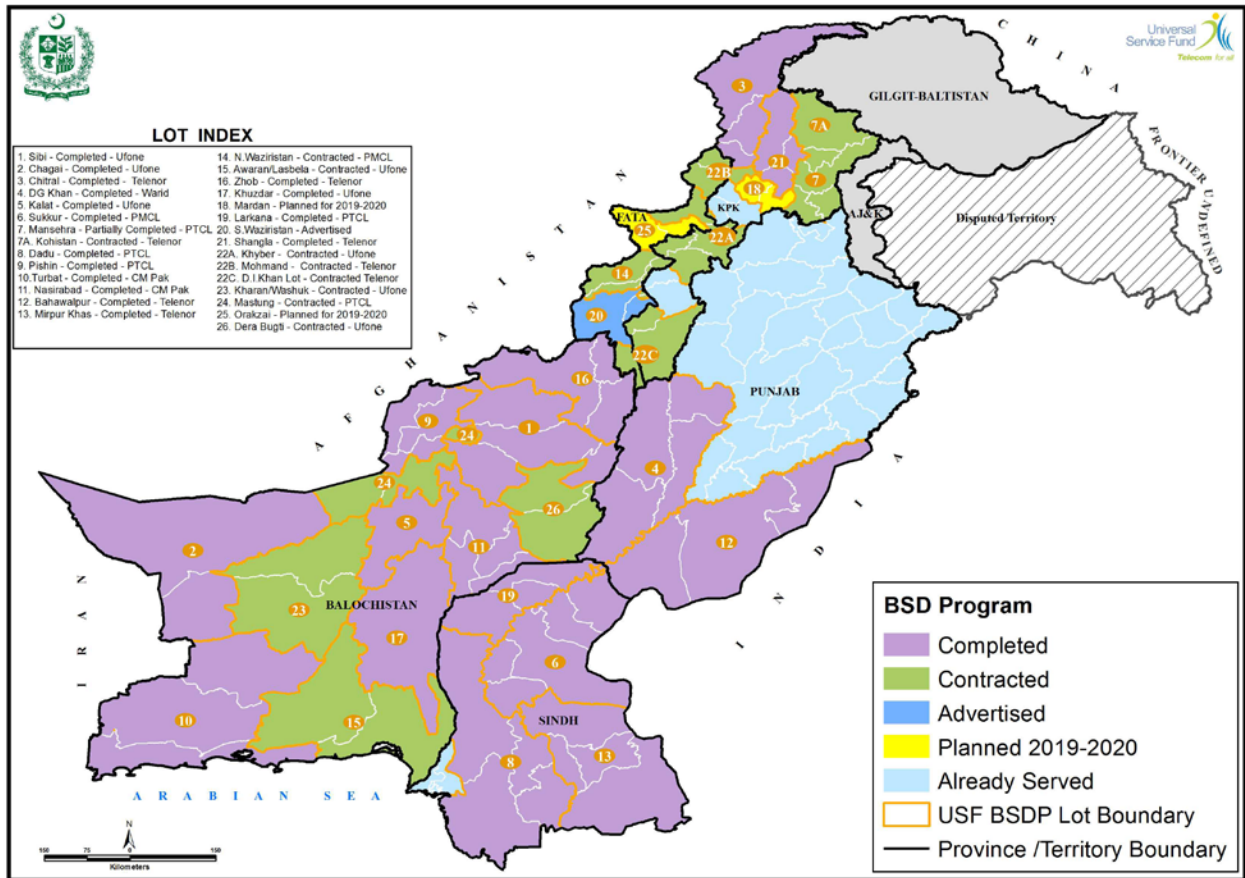


Company Secretary - Universal Service Fund
Mr. Haaris M Chaudhary

3. PROGRAMMES

a. Broadband for Sustainable Development Programme

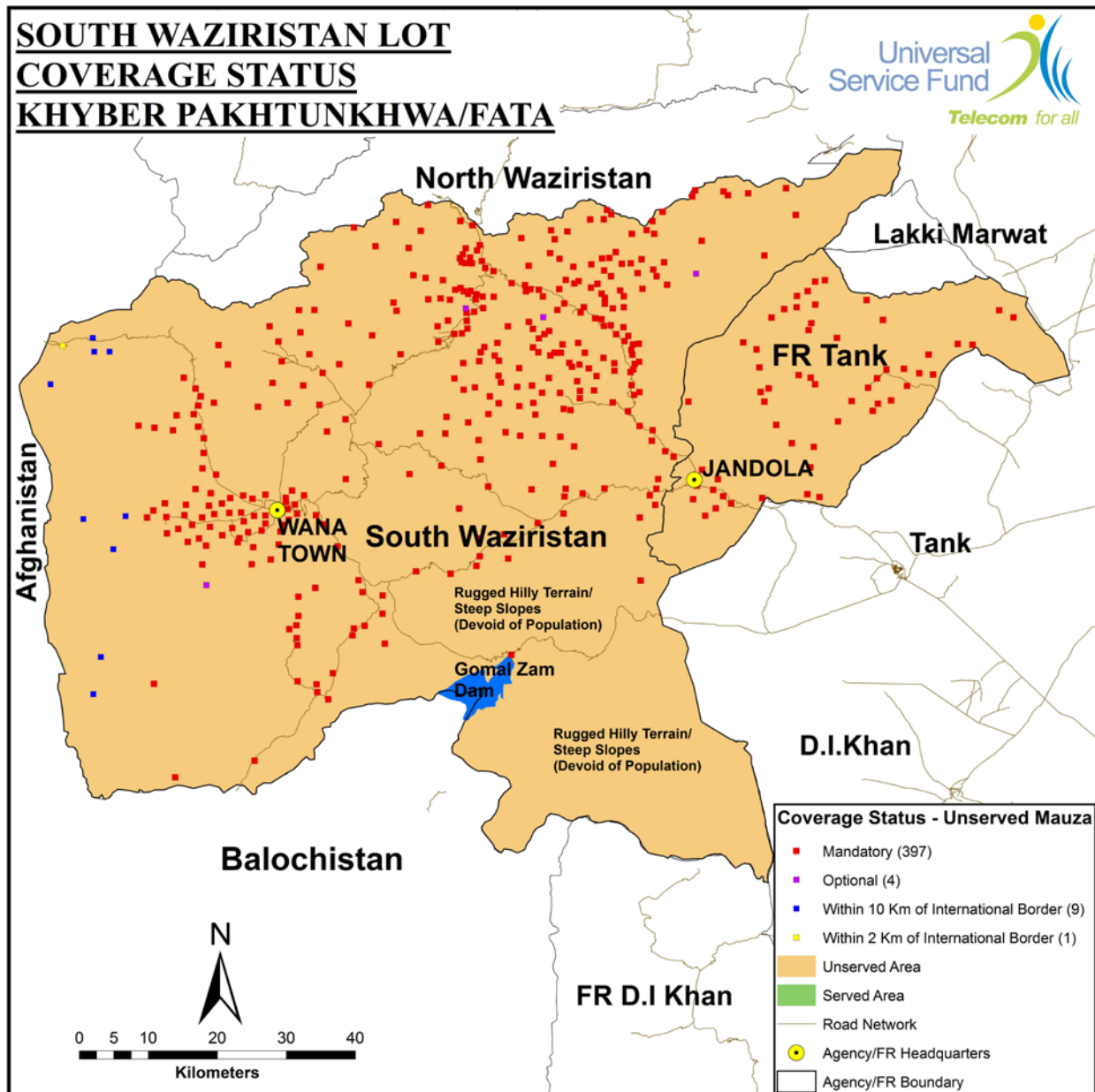
Through the Broadband for Sustainable Development Programme, USF is providing 3G/4G services to the unserved mauzas across the country. These projects have a huge role in socio-economic progress of the people at grassroot level and have opened the doors of opportunities for people.



Till the end of FY 2018-19 services are being provided under following projects:

South Waziristan

South Waziristan Lot comprises unserved areas in South Waziristan Agency and FR Tank. Total unserved mauzas in South Waziristan are 411 with an approximate rural population of 0.64 Million. USF and Jazz entered into a contract worth PKR 90 Million on June 26th, 2019 for South Waziristan Lot.



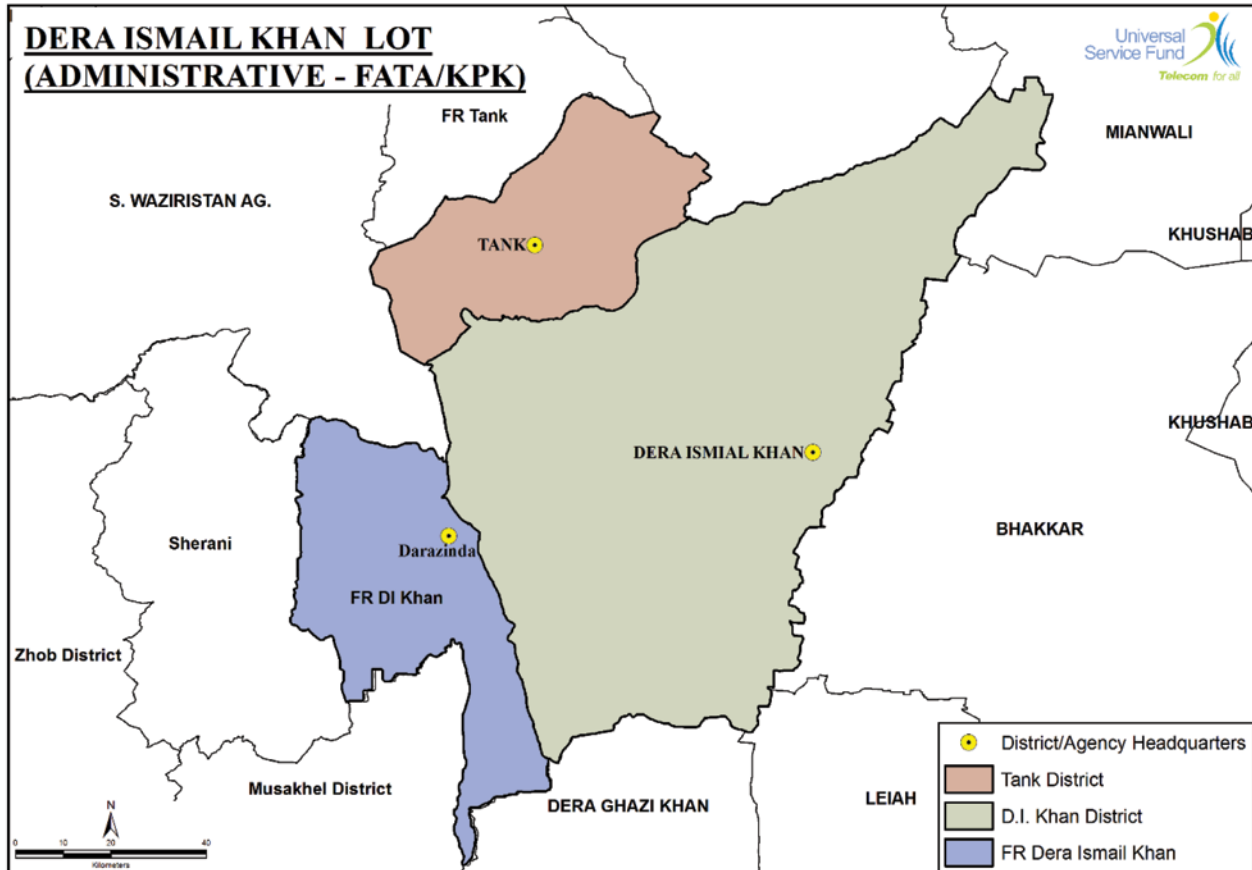
North Waziristan

North Waziristan Lot comprises unserved areas in North Waziristan Agency, FR Bannu and FR Lakki. Total unserved mauzas in North Waziristan Lot are 401 with an approximate rural population of 0.59 Million. About 95.7% of the mauzas are un-served that cover 95.8% of total population of North Waziristan Lot. USF and Jazz signed a contract worth PKR 192 Million on January 16, 2019 for North Waziristan Lot.



DI Khan

DI Khan Lot comprises unserved areas in Tank, DI Khan and FR DI Khan. Total mauzas in DI Khan Lot are 287 with an approximate rural population of 1.69 Million. About 66% of the mauzas are unserved that cover 41% of rural population of DI Khan Lot. USF and Telenor entered into a contract worth PKR 596 Million to provide services in DI Khan Lot on January 26, 2018.



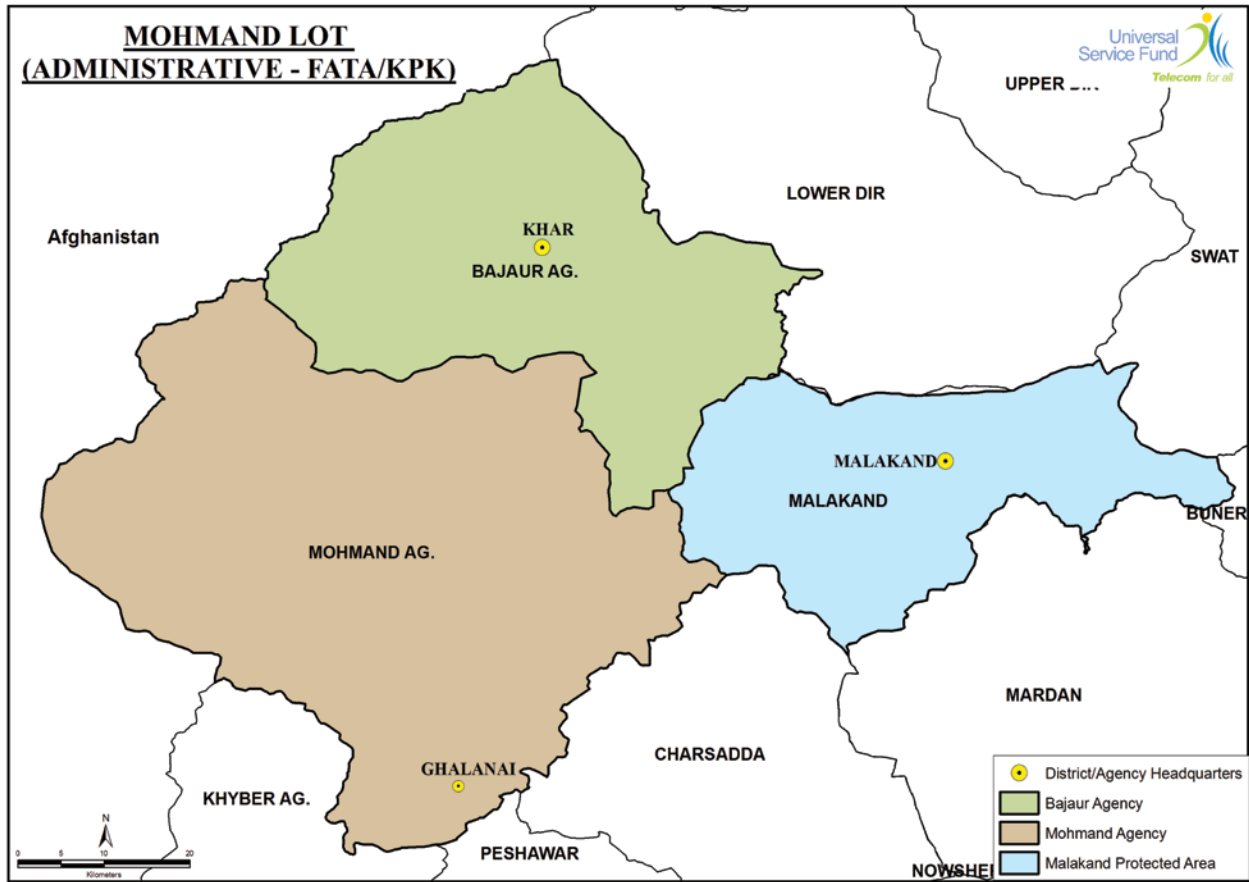
Small Lots

Small Lot Balochistan-1 comprises 40 unserved mauzas in Pishin, Quetta and Killa Abdullah districts. USF and Ufone entered into a contract worth PKR 365 Million to provide services on January 04, 2018.

Small Lot Punjab-2 comprises two unserved mauzas in Dera Ghazi Khan and Muzafargarh districts. USF and Telenor entered into a contract worth PKR 30.4 Million to provide services on November 03, 2018.

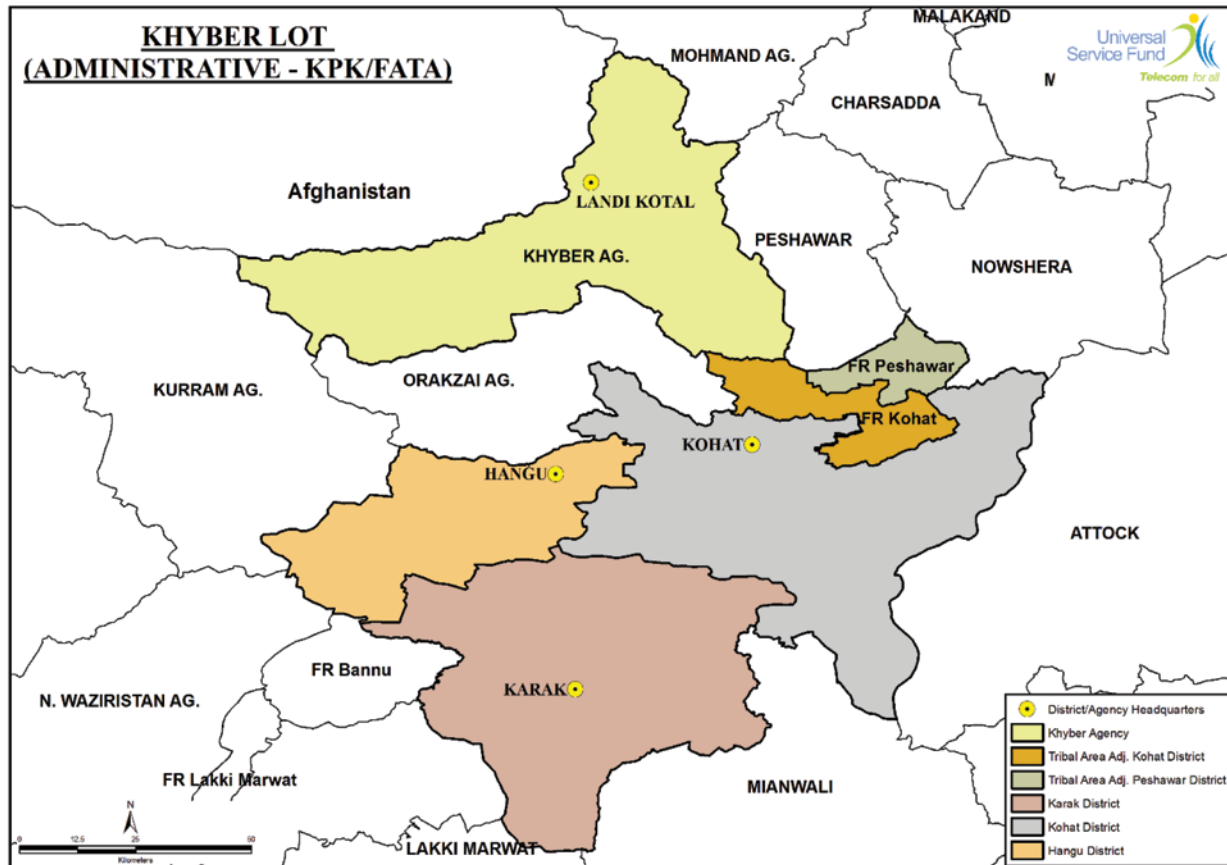
Mohmand

Mohmand Lot comprises unserved areas in Mohmand Agency, Bajaur Agency and Malakand. Total unserved mauzas in Mohmand Lot are 684 with an approximate rural population of 2.74 Million. Around 72% of mauzas are unserved that cover 58% of rural population. USF and Telenor entered into a contract worth PKR 849 Million to provide services in Mohmand Lot on January 12, 2018.



Khyber

Khyber Lot comprises unserved areas in Khyber Agency, Karak, Hangu, FR Peshawar and FR Kohat. Total unserved mauzas in Khyber Lot are 503 with an approximate rural population of 3.1 Million. About 70% of the mauzas are unserved which cover 56.6% of rural population. USF and Ufone entered into a contract worth PKR 1.985 Billion to provide services in Khyber Lot on October 23, 2017.

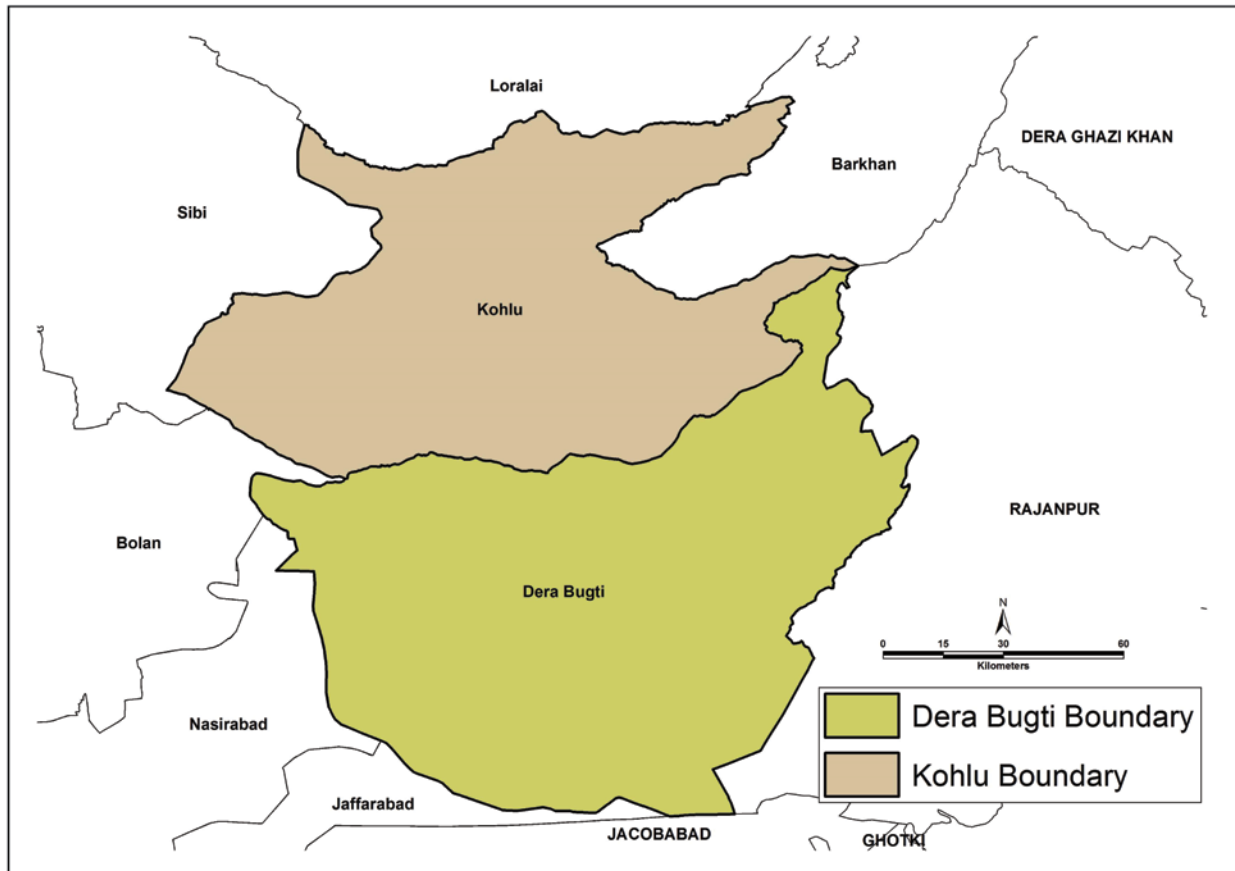


Dera Bugti

Dera Bugti Lot covers 5.1% of the area and 4.6% of the total estimated population of Balochistan, and includes the Dera Bugti and Kohlu districts. The Lot shares borders with Barkhan and Rajanpur districts in the East, Loralai and Barkhan in the North, Sibi, Bolan and Nasirabad in the West and Jaffarabad and Kashmore districts in the South.

Dera Bugti and Kohlu districts were created from Sibi district. The area is mostly inhabited by a nomadic or semi-nomadic population, who camps with their flocks of sheep and moves with the seasons to find pasture. The area is generally mountainous.

USF and Ufone signed a contract worth PKR 1.584 Billion in May 2017 for providing services in Dera Bugti Lot. The Lot has 396 unserved mauzas.

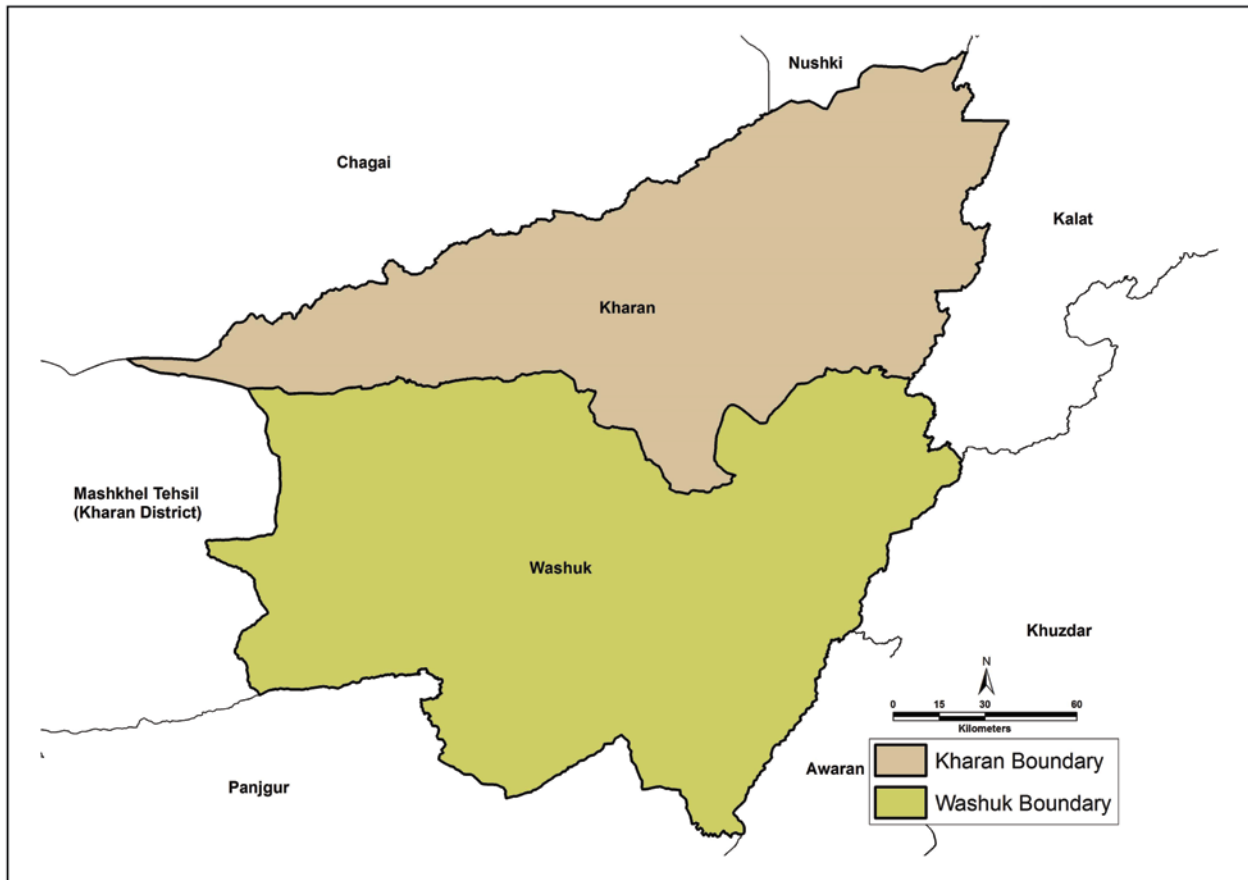


Kharan-Washuk

Kharan-Washuk Lot includes Kharan and Washuk districts. The Lot shares borders with Kalat and Khuzdar districts in the East, Chagai in the West, Nushki and Chagai in the North and Awaran and Panjgur districts in the South.

Washuk district was once part of Kharan district in Balochistan province. It was declared a separate district in 2007, but its governance issues are largely managed by Kharan’s district administration. The area is mostly inhabited by a nomadic or semi-nomadic population, who camps with their flocks of sheep and moves with the seasons to find pasture. The area is generally barren desert and mountainous.

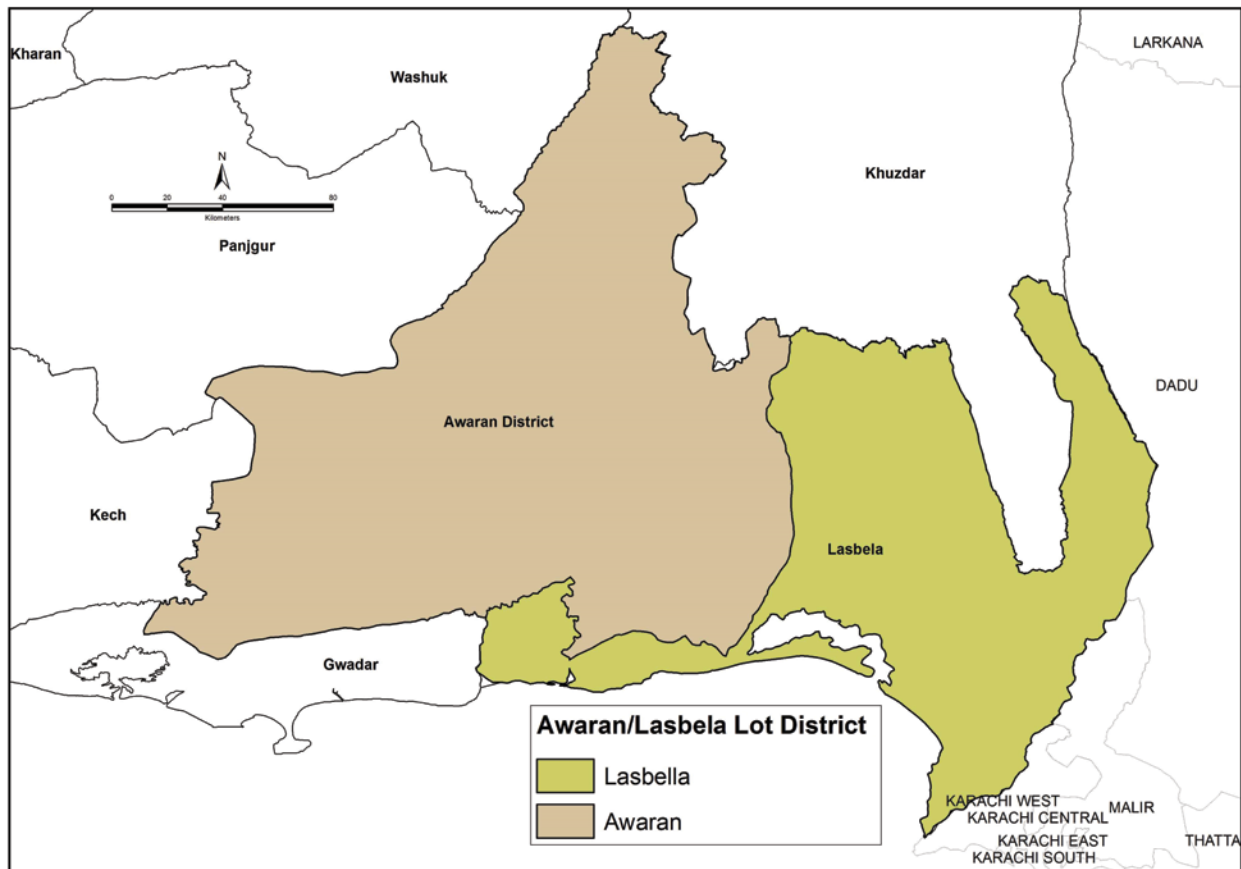
The contract for this project worth PKR 1.185 Billion was awarded to Ufone in May 2017 for providing services in Kharan-Washuk Lot. Services have been provided in 289 unserved mauzas.



Awaran-Lasbela II

Awaran-Lasbela II Lot covers 12.8% of the area and 6.5% of the total estimated population of Balochistan and includes the Awaran and Lasbela districts. The areas included in Awaran-Lasbela Lot spans from 27.4482o N to 24.9055o S and from 67.4486o E to 64.1173o W. The Lot shares borders with Karachi and Dadu districts in the East, Khuzdar and Washuk in the North, Panjgur and Kech in the West and Gwadar districts in the South.

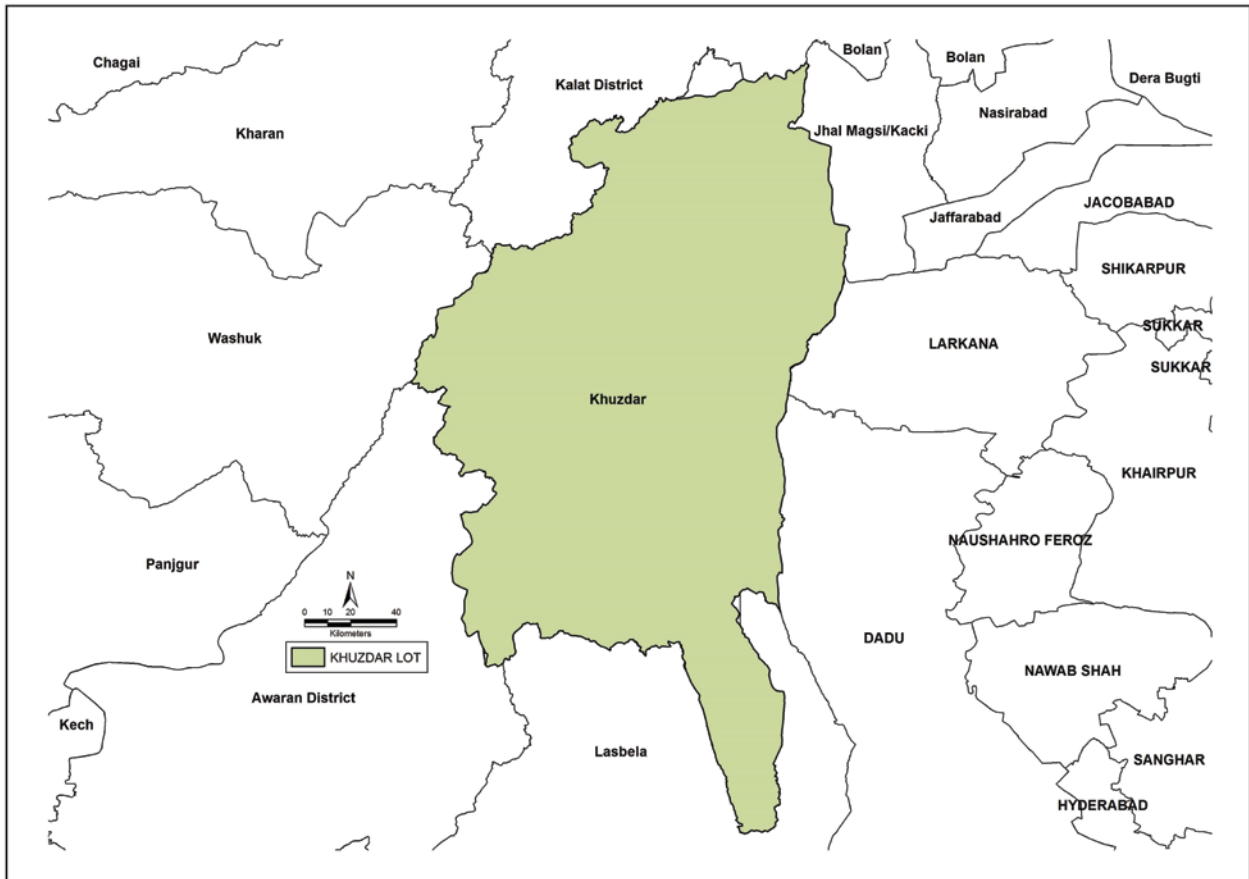
M/s Pak Telecom Mobile Limited (Ufone) was declared as the lowest qualified bidder and contract, worth PKR 2.33 Billion, was signed with PTML on 2nd January 2017. Services have been provided in 269 unserved mauzas.



Khuzdar

Khuzdar Lot covers 10% of the area and 6.3% of the total estimated population of Balochistan and includes the Khuzdar district. The areas included in Khuzdar Lot spans from 25.714242o to 28.861427o N and from 65.564013o to 67.429590o E. The Lot shares borders with Larkana and Dadu districts in the East, Awaran, Panjgour and Washuk in the West, Kalat in the North and Lasbela district in the South.

M/s Pak Telecom Mobile Limited (Ufone) was declared as the lowest qualified bidder and contract, worth PKR 2.4 Billion, was signed with PTML in September 2016. Services have been provided in 394 unserved mauzas.

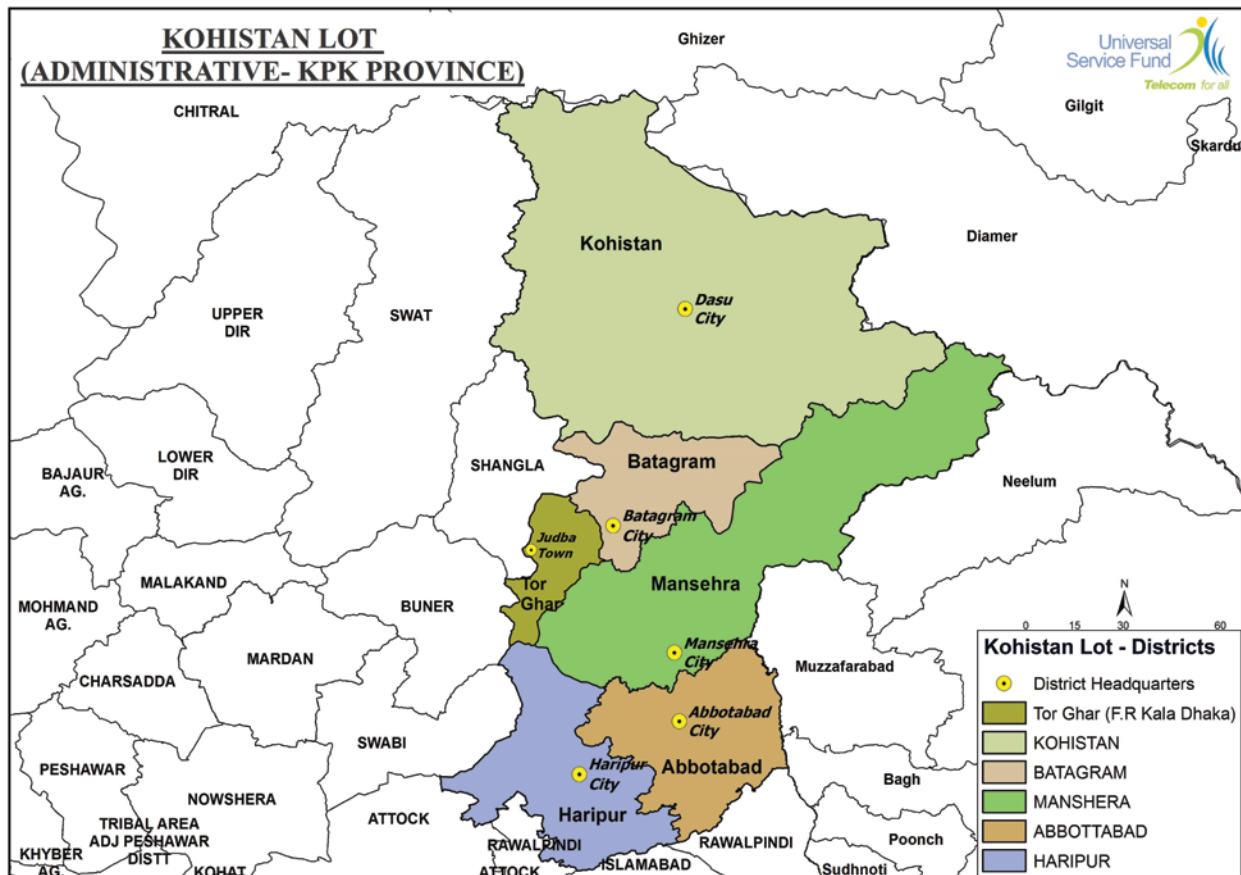


Kohistan

Kohistan Lot covers 22.9% of the area and 6.13 % of the total estimated population of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and includes Kohistan, Batagram, Mansehra, Haripur and Abbottabad districts.

The areas included in Kohistan Lot spans from 33.725352° To 35.888504° N and from 72.544045° to 74.134687° E. The Lot is bounded by Northern Areas in the North, Azad Jammu and Kashmir in the East, Rawalpindi, Islamabad and Attock districts in the South, Swabi, Buner and Shangla districts in the West and Swat district in the North-West.

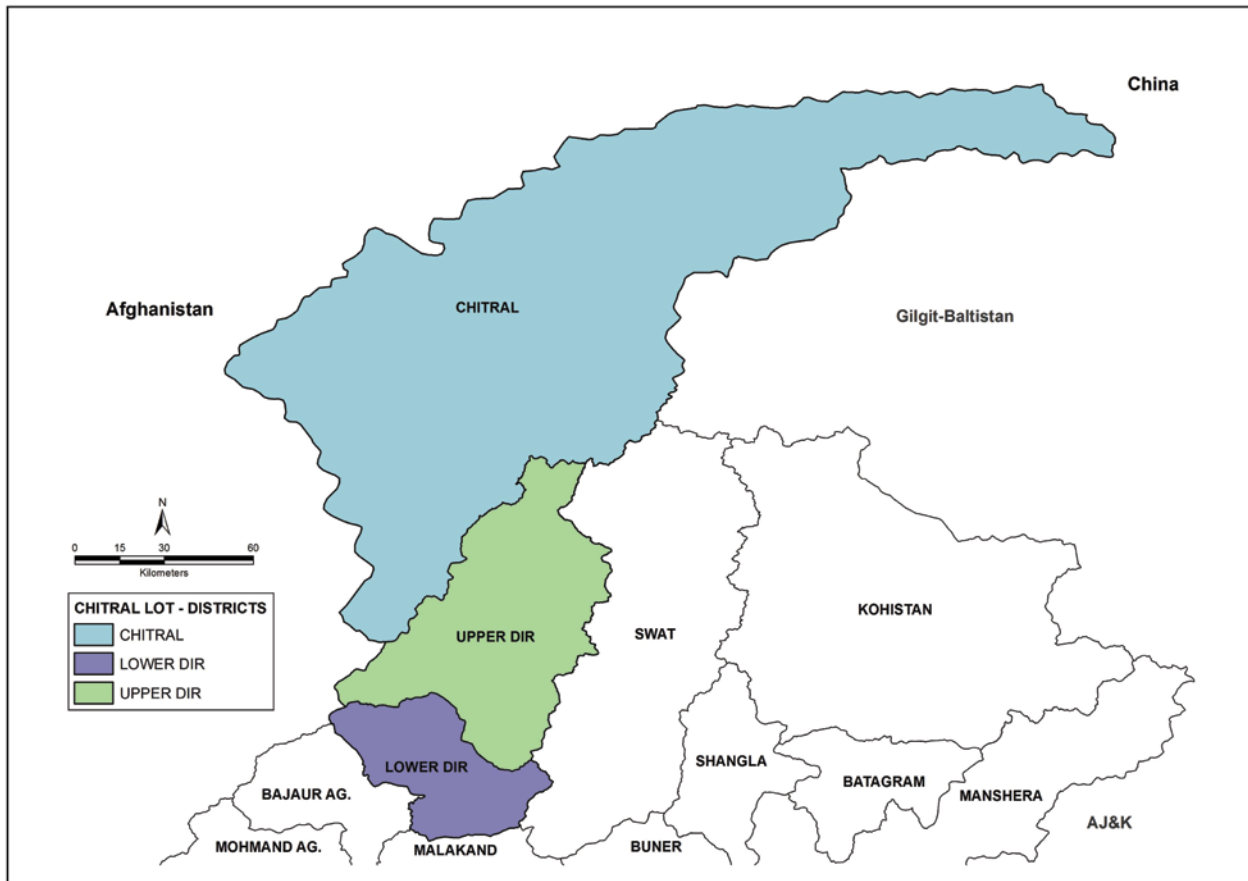
The contract for this project worth PKR 3.5 Billion was awarded to Telenor in March 2017 for providing services in Kohistan Lot. The Lot has 1283 unserved mauzas.



Chitral

Chitral Lot covers 27% of the area and 10% of the total estimated population of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, and includes Chitral, Upper Dir and Lower Dir districts. The Lot shares borders with Afghanistan in the North and West, Swat district and Gilgit- Baltistan in the East and Bajaur Agency and Malakand in the South.

The contract for this project worth PKR 1.905 Billion was awarded to Telenor in February 2015 for providing services in Chitral Lot. Services have been provided in 1048 unserved mauzas.



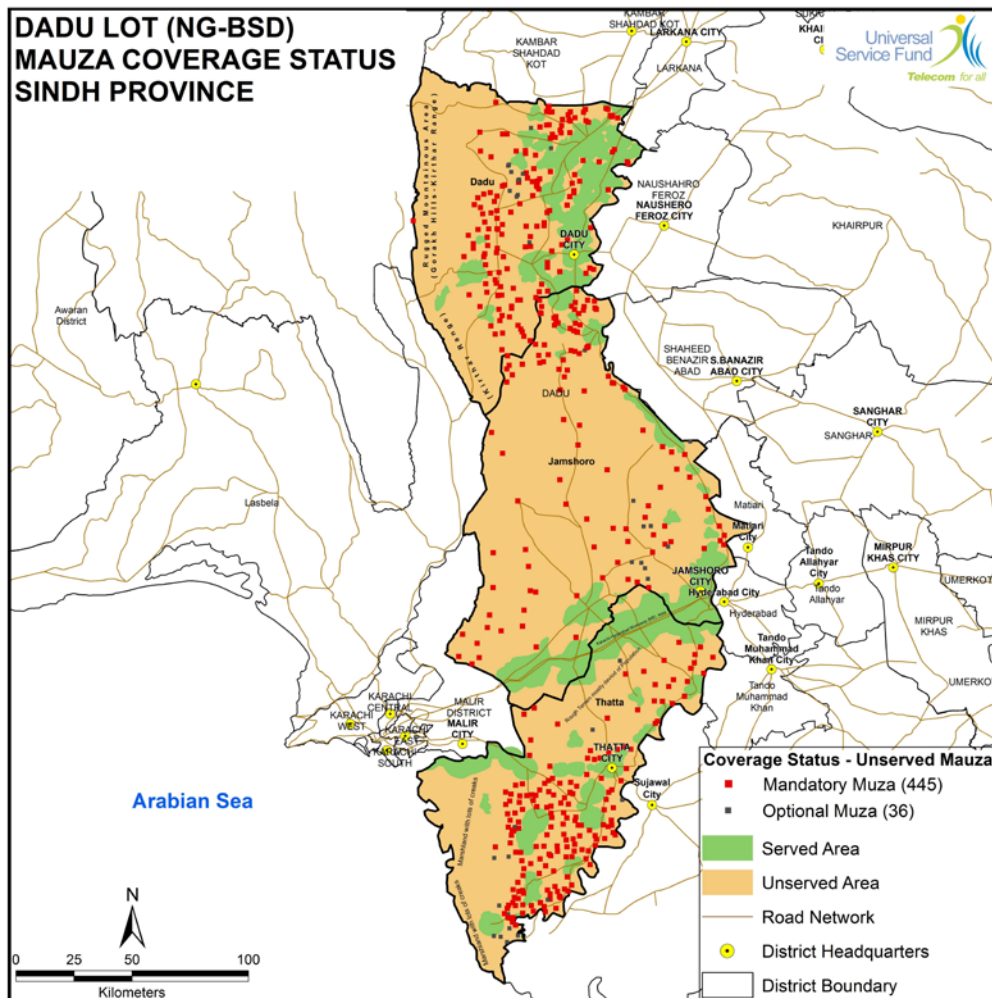
b. Next Generation – Broadband for Sustainable Development (NG-BSD) Programme

Next Generation – Broadband for Sustainable Development Programme focuses on the provision of highspeed broadband and voice services in unserved and under-served areas.



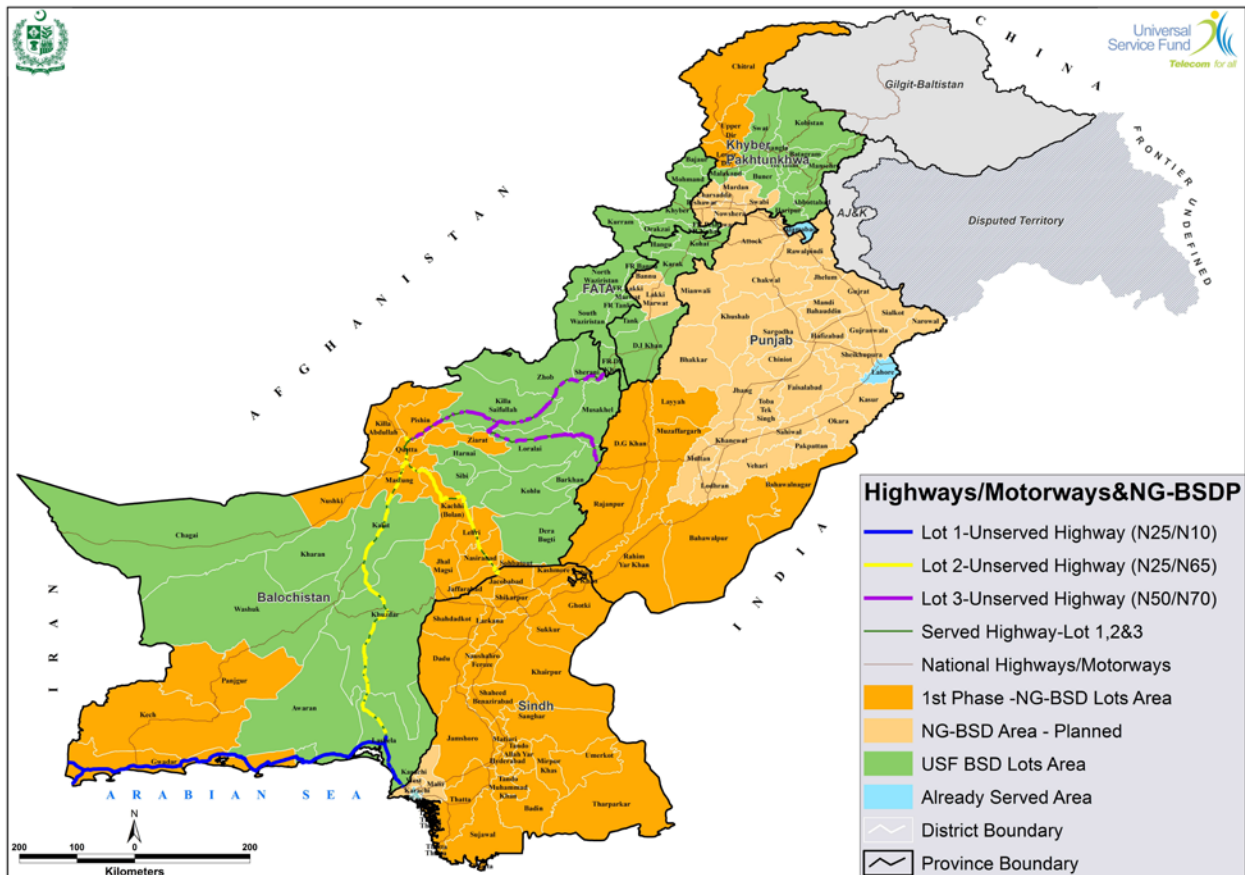
Dadu

Dadu Lot consists of Dadu, Jamshoro and Thatta districts covering an estimated population of 1.2 Million. USF and Telenor signed a contract worth PKR 216 Million to provide services on June 26, 2019. The project will provide services in 481 unserved mauzas.



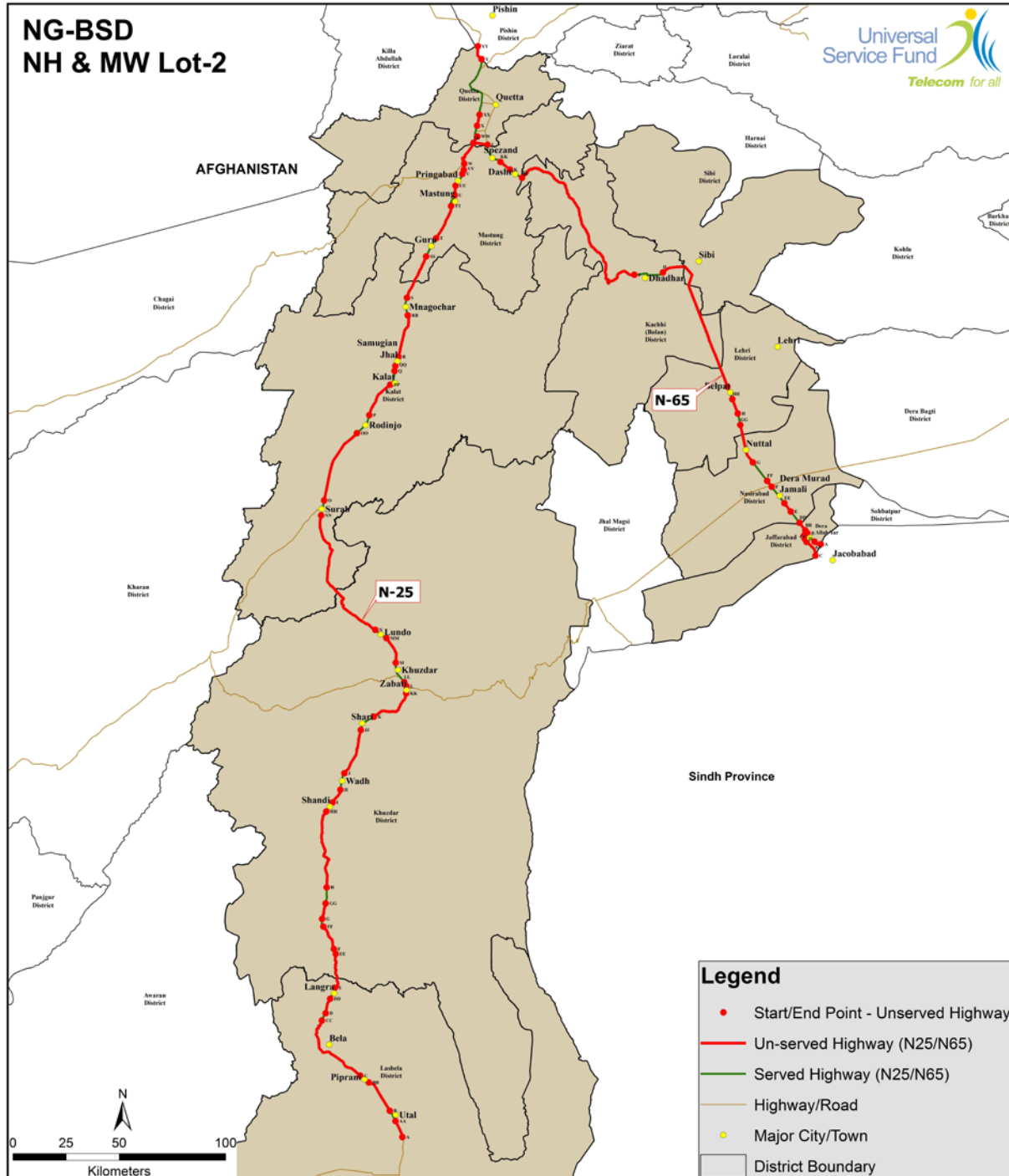
c. Next Generation – Broadband for Sustainable Development Programme for National Highways & Motorways

NG-BSD for National Highways & Motorways is first of its kind initiative of USF whereby the unserved patches on the National Highways and Motorways are being provided with voice and broadband data services. This programme is different from other coverage programmes as the targets are not the residents but the commuters. Another unique feature is National Roaming whereby a commuter will get continuous services in USF served areas, irrespective of their subscribed networks. USF is committed and will continue to work towards achieving the mission of broadband penetration across the country.



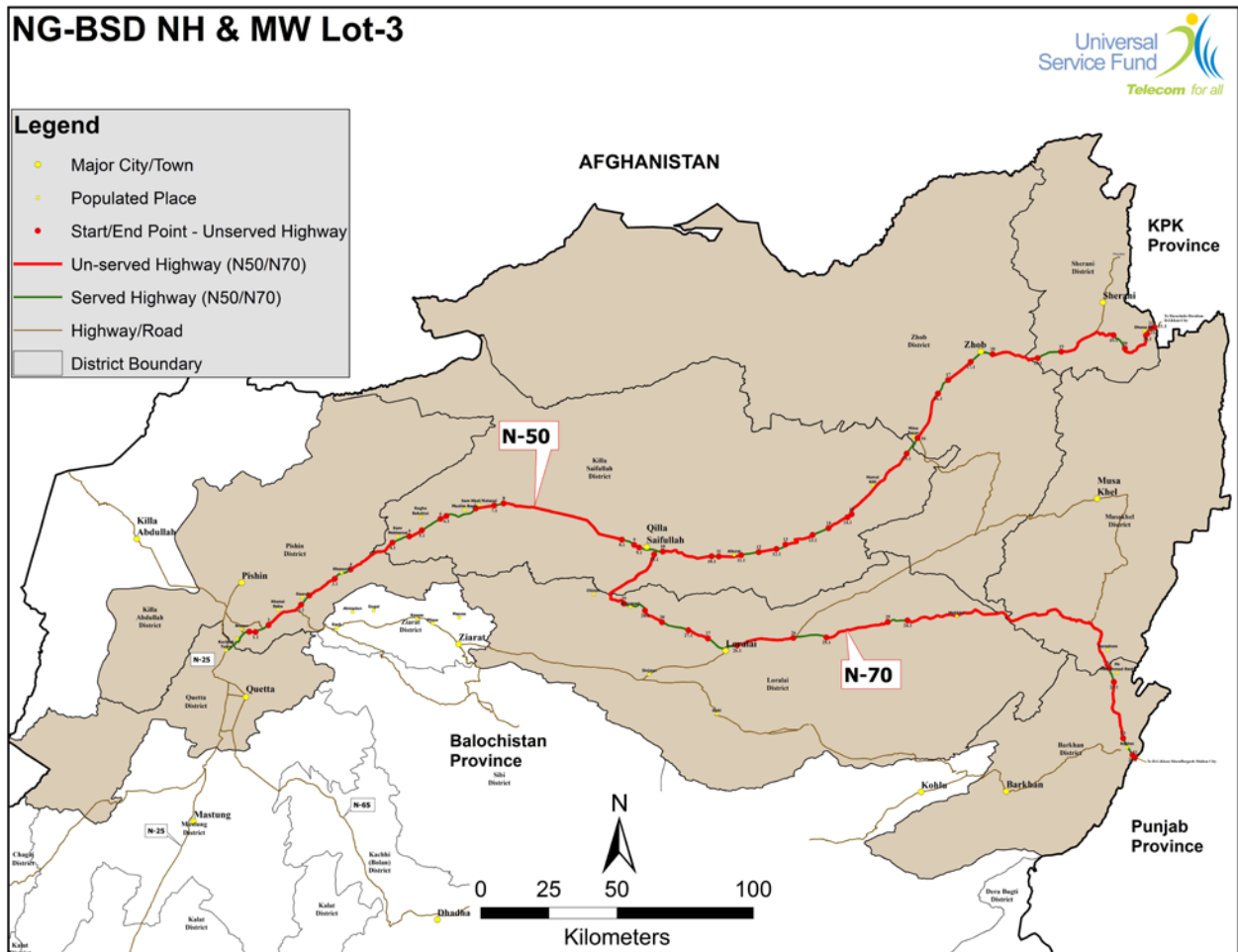
NH25 (Uthal-Quetta) & N65 (Quetta to Dera Allah Yar)

Through this project, mobile broadband services will be provided to a length of 650 kms of NH25 and N65. USF and Telenor signed a contract worth PKR 250 Million on June 26, 2019 to provide mobile broadband services on NH25 and N65 Highways.



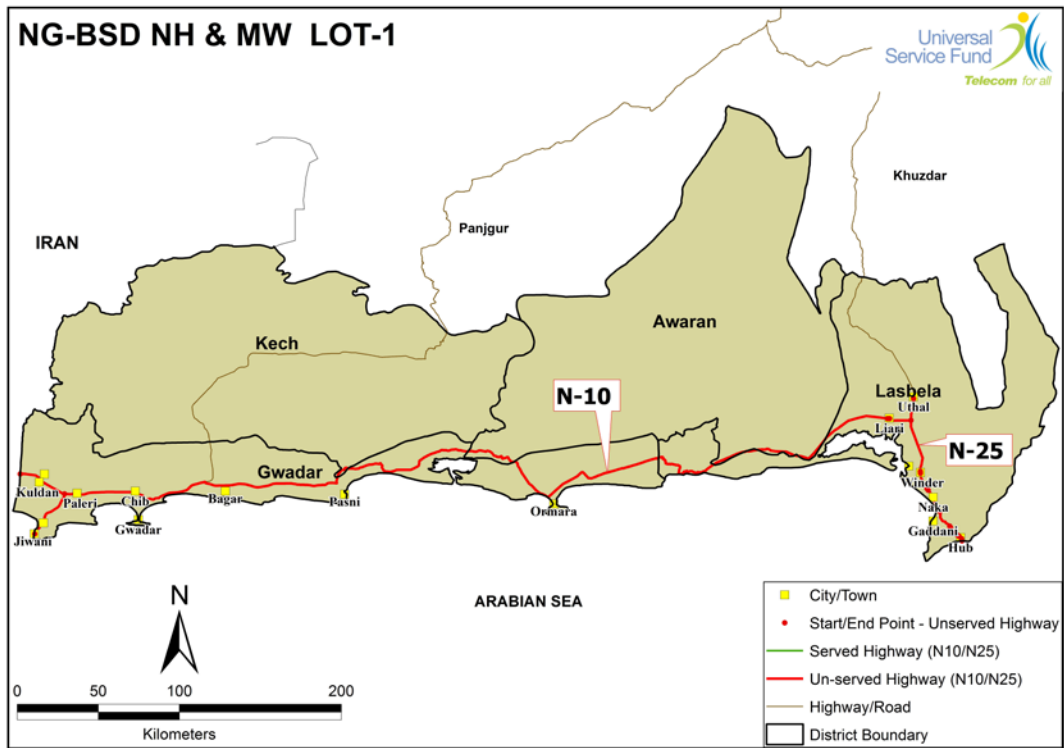
N50 (Kuchlak to Sherani) & N70 (Qilla Saifullah to Rakhni)

Mobile Broadband services are being provided through this project to a length of 451 kms of N50 and N70. USF and Telenor signed a contract worth PKR 411 Million on June 26, 2019 to provide mobile broadband services on N50 and N70 Highways.



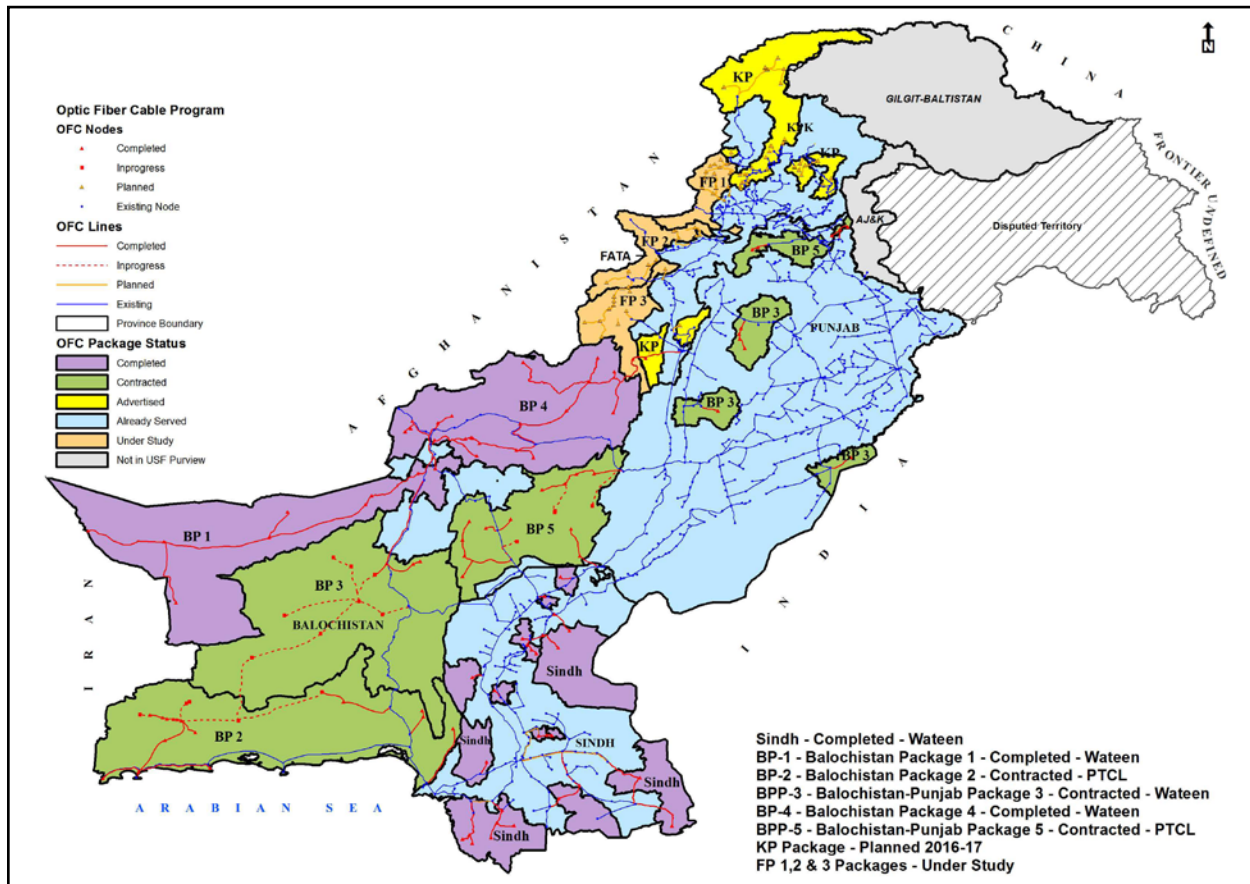
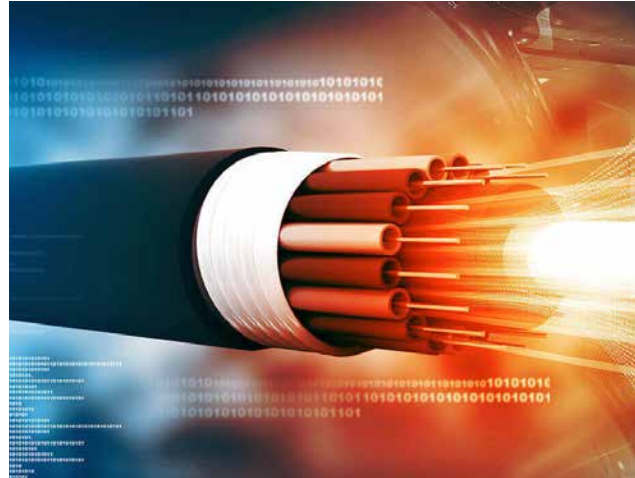
Hub to Jiwani – Makran Coastal Highway

It was the first programme that focused on providing coverage along the unserved patches of National Highways, NH-10 and NH-25. The programme is designed specifically for the commuters and for the first-time, national roaming has been made part of services to provide seamless coverage to commuters along USF served areas. USF and Ufone signed a contract worth PKR 759 Million on December 11, 2018.



d. Optic Fiber Programme

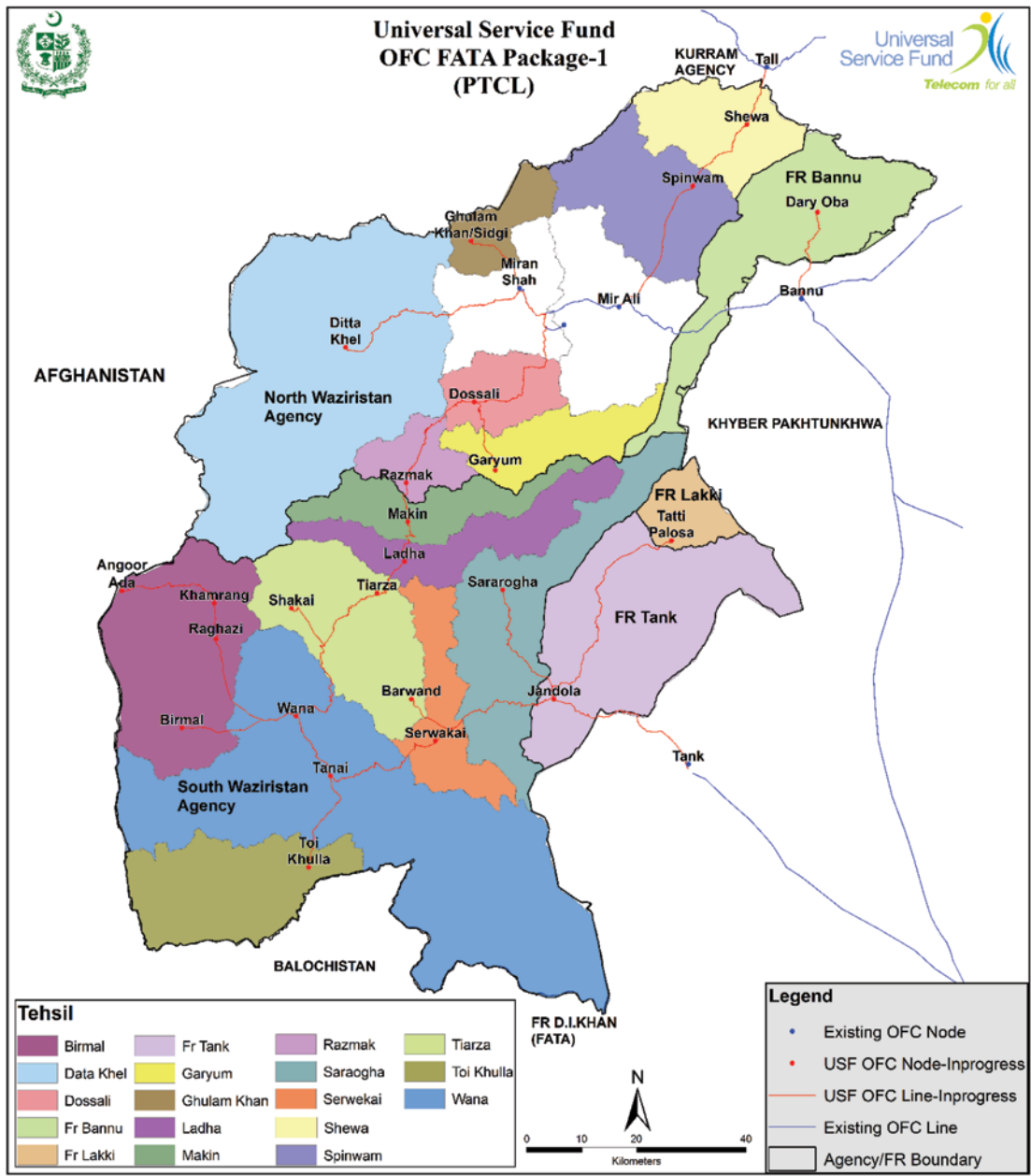
USF is promoting development of telecommunication services in un-served and under-served rural areas of Pakistan to make basic voice telephony and data services available throughout the country. Under this programme, USF is providing unserved tehsil headquarters and major towns with Optical Fiber Connectivity. Optical Fiber Connectivity provides cost effective, reliable and scalable backhaul medium over which Voice and Data (Internet) traffic is carried from one location to another. USF has also started this programme in FATA and KPK which was earlier offered in Balochistan, Punjab and Sindh Province.



FATA Package 1

In FATA Package-1, 653kms OFC is being laid to connect 27 unconnected tehsil headquarters and major towns enroute.

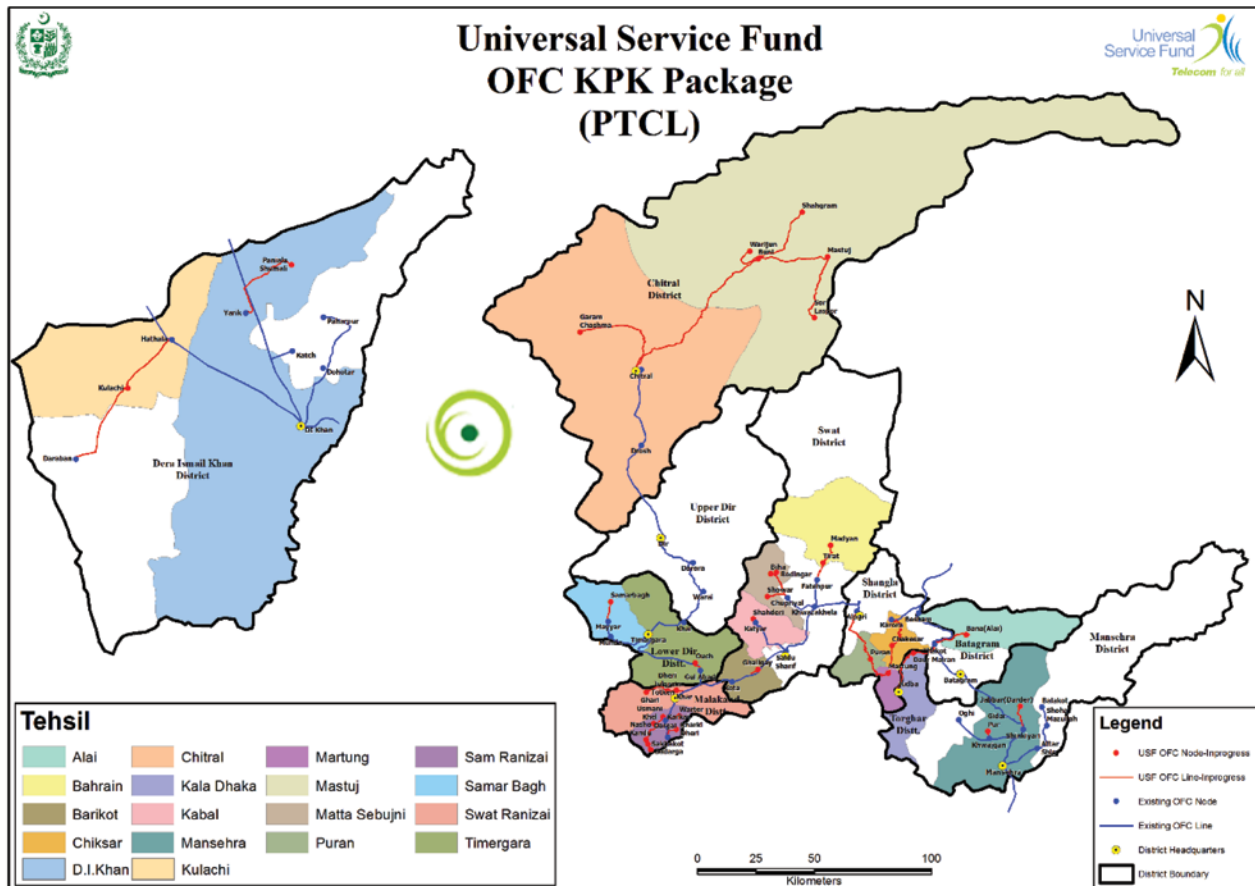
USF and PTCL entered into a contract to connect the unserved tehsil headquarters and major towns on June 27, 2018.



Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Project

In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 619 kms OFC is being laid to connect 35 unconnected tehsil headquarters and major towns enroute.

USF and PTCL entered into a contract to connect the unserved tehsil headquarters and major towns on March 8, 2018.



e. ICT for Girls Programme

Universal Service Fund is running 'ICT for Girls' programme since 2015 to bridge the gender digital divide which is paving the way for socio economic uplift of this very important segment of our society. USF is running two different projects under ICT for Girls programme. The first project is in Women Empowerment Centers of Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal and the second project is running in all girl schools of Federal Directorate of Education.

The primary purpose of the programme is to provide ICT facilities to increase the employability potential of the girls in Pakistan, so that they are financially empowered to take care of their families and themselves. In collaboration with Microsoft, trainers have been trained on 21st century super skills focusing on coding, computing, coaching and communication.

In the first project, 120 ICT Model Labs have been established at Women Empowerment Centers of Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal which are devoted to capacity building of needy and poor women all across the country. Through this programme, over 15,000 girls are being trained annually at state-of-the-art facilities. In addition to this, 31 computer labs have been established in 31 educational institutions and 6 in Special Education Centres.

In the second project, 226 Girl Schools of Federal Directorate of Education have been provided with ICT facilities. 202 teachers have been placed at these institutions and 300,000 students are being trained in this programme.



4. INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIVE EVENTS

A. ITU-USF Pakistan Workshop on Internet Access & Adoption

International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and Universal Service Fund (USF) collaborated to organize a two-day Workshop in October 2018 on Internet Access and Adoption. The Workshop aimed at enabling the developing nations to take full advantage of affordable internet access which has to be widely accessible and adopted by the citizens. The objective of the Workshop was to foster information exchange on successful projects related to eliminating the digital divide in un-served and under-served communities. Delegates from Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Indonesia, Malaysia, China and Bangladesh participated in the Workshop.

The focus of the workshop was on governments to work more diligently to design universal access strategies to disperse the funds collected, ensuring that the USFs meet their mandate of enabling marginalized and underserved citizens to get online for digital inclusion.

Senior officials of Ministry of IT, USF, industry and academia representatives attended the event. Each of the delegates presented successful USF projects in their respective countries during the workshop. Moreover, the relevance of emerging technologies like 5G, artificial intelligence, big data and blockchain were also discussed during the two days.



B. Launch of #SheMeansBusiness with Facebook

Universal Service Fund and Facebook in September 2018 launched #SheMeansBusiness for women in Pakistan. The program, which involved a series of workshops, training sessions and online resources, was designed to equip women entrepreneurs with the knowledge, connections, skills and technology required to build and grow their businesses online.

As part of the #SheMeansBusiness program, training was provided to the trainers of USF ICT for girls programme in the areas of Women Empowerment and digital safety. This training taught 8,000 women annually on how to set up and grow their businesses using practical digital skills on Facebook and Instagram platform and tips for protecting their privacy, security and staying safe online.



5. FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS DURING FY 18-19

S.No.	Program	Subsidy Disbursed till the end of FY 2018-19 (in Rs)
1	Broadband for Sustainable Development Programme	5,199,763,565
2	Next Generation – Broadband for Sustainable Development Programme	327,523,078
3	Optic Fiber Programme	160,000,000
4	Broadband Programme	217,427,300
5	Special Projects	300,406,339
Total		6,205,120,282



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