

Afghanistan

Project title:	Marvellous Afghan Marmer
Location:	Kabul
Sector:	Logistics
Applicant:	Henri Beheer B.V., The Netherlands
Local partner:	Maveco B.V. Afghanistan
Start project:	1 July 2011
End project:	31 December 2013
Total budget:	EUR 1,500,000 (50 percent PSI contribution)

Project summary:

Afghanistan has large resources of very high quality marble, but poor extraction methods and a lack of domestic processing capacity limit the country's share of the higher profit generated through sales of finished marble products. Henri Beheer B.V. (Maveco) and its local partner Rahmat Fazal Construction and Construction Materials Producing Company Ltd. (RFCC) will introduce modern extraction methods to RFCC's quarry and establish a modern marble processing facility near to Kabul city. In the processing facility the rough-hewn blocks which are now exported to neighbouring countries such as Pakistan will turn into higher-value polished marble products, notably slabs and tiles. The products will be sold on the export and local market. The processing facility will have a maximum capacity of 200.000 m² a year. The project will create employment and transfer valuable knowledge to Afghanistan. A total of 42 men and 2 women will be employed in the project. An estimated total of 23 local suppliers and buyers will also benefit through the project. as well as a local women group.