



جمهوری اسلامی افغانستان
وزارت احیاء و انکشاف دهات
برنامه ملی انکشاف ساحوی

د افغانستان اسلامی جمهوریت
د کلیو د بیارغونې او پراختیا وزارت
د سیمیز پراختیا ملی پروگرام

Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
National Area Based Development Programme



SUMMARY OF DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

KUSK-E-KOHNA DISTRICT HERAT PROVINCE



Developed by the Kusk-e-kohna District Development Assembly with the facilitation of NABDP/MRRD and support of the District and Provincial Governors

October 2007

Introduction

Over the last few years, the Government has shown increasing commitment to make its development interventions more effective, enduring, equitable and responsive to the needs and priorities of communities at the district level. In order to translate this commitment into action, the National Area-Based Development Programme (NABDP) of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) developed the concept of district development assembly and district development planning, which was subsequently linked with the sub-national consultation of Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS) and the provincial development planning processes conducted between June and September 2007 per request of the Inter-ministerial Committee of the Government.

District development planning is perceived as an opportune mechanism for enabling communities to take charge of planning processes for their district and thereby articulate their development needs and priorities. So, it was felt necessary to establish district level community institutions to materialize this community-led development planning process. Therefore, Kusk-e-kohna District formed a mixed District Development Assembly (DDA) in October 2007. The clusters of CDCs and villages are presented in Annex II of full DDP. The mixed DDA enhances cooperation between the communities and Government and ensures community participation in district development planning and management processes.

In October 2007, Kusk-e-kohna District welcomed a team of facilitators from the National Area-Based Development Programme (NABDP) of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to facilitate a comprehensive development process in the district. With their support, the mixed DDA and district government representatives formulated a District Development Plan (DDP) for their district.

The development planning process comprised a number of stages: coordination of the planning process with local Government authorities, collection and verification of secondary data about the district, analysis of problems prevalent in the district, formulation of a development goal, objectives, strategies and activities, processing of the DDP and endorsement of the DDP by the District Governor.

This document explains the methodological approach for and the key outputs of the district development planning process. It is expected that this plan will enable provincial and national governments, as well as donor communities, to align their resources towards the relevant development aspirations of Kusk-e-kohna District.

District Profile

The facilitators collected the following secondary information about the district from the provincial authorities and presented it to the participants for review, the validity of which was subsequently confirmed by the participants:

General Information	
Population (CSO 2003)	41642
Area (AIMS)	1671 sq. km.
Number of villages	142
Number of Community Development Councils (CDCs)	40
Average land ownership	4 jireeb/family
Ethnic diversity	Tajik and Pashtun
Sectoral Information	
Education	
Number of primary schools	20
Number of high schools	3
Number of secondary schools	1
Health	
Average life expectancy	45
Number of basic health centers	60 health posts, 1 basic health center, 8 drugstores
Existing diseases	Diarrhea, Malaria, tuberculoses and pneumonia
Villages without access to basic healthcare services	30%

Core Problem and its Causes

The participants used the “Problem Tree” analytical methodology to identify the core development problem and its underlying causes in the district as follows:

Poverty and indigence is the main problem of Kusk-e-kohna District due to lack of access to social and infrastructural services and low level of agricultural and livestock productions. Infants and mothers’ mortality is high owing to lack of physicians, health centres and pharmacies. Mortality rate goes higher during cold weather of winter due to limited access to adequate food and fuels. Moreover, education services are weak in the district, illiteracy rate is high and women are 100% illiterate. Inaccessibility to roads, bridges and culverts created difficulties for transportation. Telecommunication services are not available and similarly, agricultural and livestock production level is low due to lack of agricultural water reservoirs, canals, improved seeds, mechanized agricultural equipments and chemical fertilizers. Sometimes, untimely snowfalls affect crops before harvest time and people are not familiar to early grow vegetables. Consequently poverty and weak economy scuffle with the people.

Development Goal

In order to address the core problem in the district, the participants formulated an overall development goal for the district as follows:

To improve agricultural and livestock production levels and quality, provide access to basic infrastructural and social services such as healthcare services and create job opportunities throughout the district

Development Objectives and Strategies

In order to achieve the overall development goal, the participants set four development objectives for the district and recommended strategies for achieving those objectives.

Objective One

To provide complete access to social services

Major strategies

1. Provision of access to adequate and overall healthcare services
2. Provision of access to education facilities and equipments
3. Creation of jobs for the whole jobless persons
4. Provision of better life facilities for affected people
5. Creation of economic development opportunities in the district through encouragement of private sectors by people and government

Objective two

To ensure full access to infrastructural services

Major Strategies

1. Provision of access to roads, bridges, culverts and reliable transportation
2. Provision of access to adequate, affordable and permanent electric energy
3. Provision of telecommunication facilities
4. Construction of electricity power generation dams and extraction of mines

Objective Three

To improve agricultural and livestock production levels and quality

Major Strategies

1. Provision of access to adequate irrigation water
2. Ensuring access to veterinary clinics
3. Ensuring access to agricultural facilities
4. Mechanization of agricultural system

Prioritized Projects Ideas

After having developed strategies, the participants including men and women identified and prioritized 40 project ideas to achieve the development objectives for the district. These project ideas were discussed in provincial development planning process and none of these project ideas were included in the Provincial Development Plan (PDP). The PDP was prepared in August 2007 in a process of sub-national consultation and provincial development planning workshops to ensure that community priority needs are articulated in provincial and national development plans of the Government.

In order to access to detailed project ideas and complete district development plan please click on www.mrrd.gov.af/nabdp