



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

د افغانستان اسلامی جمهوریت  
د کلیو د بیارغونې او پراختیا وزارت  
ملی سیمه ایز پرمختیایی پروگرام

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



## SUMMARY OF DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

### OBEH DISTRICT HERAT PROVINCE



Developed by the Obeh District Development Assembly with the  
facilitation of NABDP/MRRD and support of the District and Provincial  
Governors

May 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, Obeh District formed a District Development Assembly (DDA) consisting of 26 men, Women Advisory Committee (26 women), Community Development Councils and government representatives in May 2007. The clusters of CDCs and villages are presented in Annex II of full DDP. The male DDA enhances cooperation between the communities and Government and ensures community participation in district development planning and management processes.

In May 2007, Obeh 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 DDA and Women Advisory Committee 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 Obeh 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)	75175
Area (AIMS)	2634 sq. km.
Number of villages	145
Average land ownership	3 jirees/family
Agricultural main products	Wheat, barley, peach, broad bean, apricot, sesame, almond, pomegranate, tomato, potato, onion, cotton and rice
Irrigable and rain-fed lands	93% irrigable and 7% rain-fed

## 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 weak economy is the main problem of Obbeh District due to low level of agricultural and livestock productions, lack of access to social and infrastructural services and weak functioning of local government. Agricultural products are not sufficient to complete the needs of people, but imported from other provinces and inaccessibility to roads, bridges and culverts cause transportation delay of basic foodstuffs and raise their prices. Moreover, inaccessibility to quality and sufficient healthcare services compels the people to travel to centre of the province or Kabul for treatment of their patients, which cost much money and affects their economy level. Majority of the district population is illiterate and can't find jobs in government or private sectors departments due to insufficient education service. Therefore high of rate illiteracy is one of major factors of poverty and desperation in the district.

## 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 overall infrastructural and social services and reinforce local government administration

## 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 improve agricultural and livestock production levels and quality

### Major Strategies

1. Establishment of agricultural and livestock research farms
2. Creation of regularized irrigation system
3. Prevention of animal diseases
4. Mechanization of agricultural system

### Objective two

To ensure access to infrastructural services

**Major Strategies**

1. Provision of access to reliable and required transportation facilities
2. Balanced and effective development of urban and rural areas
3. Provision of access to affordable electricity power and ensuring telecommunication coverage

**Objective Three**

To provide overall access to social services

**Major strategies**

1. Provision of access to improved and quality education system
2. Provision of access to quality, balanced and overall healthcare services and safe drinking water
3. Ensuring social protection
4. Establishment of publication and broadcasting centres

**Objective four**

To reinforce local government administration

**Major strategies**

1. Strengthening of government ruling over all district residents
2. Building the capacity of government staffs
3. Equal and complete implementation of law

**Prioritized Projects Ideas**

After having developed strategies, the participants identified and prioritized 54 project ideas to achieve the development objectives for the district, 19 of which were proposed by women. These project ideas were discussed in provincial development planning process and 2 of them were included in provincial development plan (PDP) which was prepared in May 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](http://www.mrrd.gov.af/nabdp)