



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

PASHTUN ZARGHUN DISTRICT HERAT PROVINCE



Developed by the Pashtun Zarghun 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, Pashtun Zarghun District formed a District Development Assembly (DDA) consisting of Community Development Council's representatives and Women Advisory Committee in May 2007. The clusters of CDCs and villages are presented in Annex II of full DDP. The DDA and Women Advisory Committee enhance cooperation between the communities and Government and ensure community participation in district development planning and management processes.

In May 2007, Pashtun Zarghun 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, Women's Advisory Committee 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 Pashtun Zarghun 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)	90817
Area (AIMS)	63 sq. km.
Number of villages	172
Number of Community Development Councils (CDCs)	69
Ethnic diversity	Pashtun, Tajik, Agha, Mughul, Zori, Arab, Ghurya, Timani, Timori, Qabchaq, Khaja, Jamshidi, Baluch, Hazara and Jushan
Sectoral Information	
Education	
Number of high schools	4 for boys
Number of secondary schools	20 for boys and girls
Health	
Average life expectancy	Men: 45, women: 43
Number of basic health centers	2 DH clinics, 1 BHC, 1 CHC
Existing diseases	Tuberculosis and Malaria
Infrastructure	
Access to small hydropower	The people use hydropower
Drinking water resources	Pipeline water, River and springs

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:

Low level of livelihood is the main problem of Pashtun Zarghun District due to poor performance of the local government, weak rule of law, inaccessibility to social and infrastructural services and low level of agricultural and livestock productions. Insecurity, administrative corruption and inexistence of law and order also have added to the problems. Moreover, high rate of unemployment, dependence on foreign economic aids, inaccessibility to basic infrastructural services, standardized education system and basic healthcare services has caused poverty and indigence. Thus, lack of access to mechanized agricultural system and required equipments, improved seeds and regularized livestock farms have also resulted low incomes and livelihoods for farmers.

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 reinforce local administration and rule of law, provide access to basic infrastructural and social services and improve agricultural and livestock production levels and quality

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 reinforce local administration and rule of law

Major Strategies

1. Creation of reliance and trust between residents and the local Government
2. Reinforcement of government economy, development of export rate and utilization of internal resources
3. Liaising good relationships with neighbouring countries
4. Elimination of corruption from Government departments and increment of staff's salaries

Objective two

To ensure full access to infrastructural services

Major Strategies

1. Resolution of transportation problems and construction of roads
2. Provision of access to adequate electricity power and telecommunication coverage

Objective Three

To provide complete access to social services

Major strategies

1. Provision of access to adequate and overall healthcare services
2. Ensuring social protection and creation of jobs for the whole jobless persons
3. Provision of access to standard education system

Objective four

To improve agricultural and livestock production levels and quality

Major Strategies

1. Provision of access to cheap and affordable chemical fertilizer
2. Elimination of animal and plant diseases
3. Provision of access to improved seeds and genetically modified livestock and agriculture
4. Provision of adequate agricultural water and mechanized agricultural equipments

Prioritized Projects Ideas

After having developed strategies, the participants identified and prioritized 28 project ideas to achieve the development objectives for the district, 2 of which were proposed by women participants. 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