



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 THE DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

### LASH JOWIN DITRICT FARAH PROVINCE



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

July 2006

## Introduction

Over the last few years, the Government has shown increasing commitment to make its strategies more responsive to the development needs and priorities of communities at the district level. This commitment was born out of the need to make development intervention more effective, enduring, equitable, and people-oriented. Accordingly, district development planning was perceived as an opportune mechanism for enabling the envisaged consultative, people-oriented development.

In July 2006, Lash Jowin District welcomed a team of facilitators from the National Area-Based Development Programme (NABDP) of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) to facilitate a comprehensive development planning process in the district. With the support of NABDP facilitators, the District Development Assembly (DDA) and district Government representatives formulated a District Development Plan (DDP) for their district, in which local women did not participate largely due to traditional and security restrictions. The plan was developed in a community-led process and thus enabled the communities to articulate their priority needs and recommend strategies for addressing them.

The process of DDP formulation comprised a number of stages: collection and validation of secondary data about the district; analysis of the strengths/opportunities and weaknesses/threats of the district; definition of development vision and goals and development of strategies, activities and project ideas for addressing the development priority needs of the district.

This document summarises the methodological approach for and the key outputs of the district development planning process in Lash Jowin District.

## District Profile

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

General Information	
Population (CSO 2004)	20,499
Area (AIMS)	5,491 sq. km.
Number of villages	63
Ethnic diversity	Pashtun, Tajik
Sectoral Information	
Total number of schools	17
Number of health centres	2

## Situation Analysis, Development Goals and Strategies

The participants used the SWOT analytical methodology to identify the strengths/opportunities and weaknesses/threats of the district per each Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS) sector, the outcome of which was used as the basis for formulating development goals for the district. They subsequently developed strategies and project ideas for achieving those goals.

## **Security**

### **Situation Analysis**

The security situation in Lash Jowin District is assessed as stable despite the presence of various Government security forces and the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in the district. Moreover, the local security forces lack adequately trained personnel, essential military equipment, vehicles, and adequate salary scale thus lacking the capacity to challenge security threats and anti-Government elements and their propaganda against the Government, investigate crimes and bring criminal to justice, implement disarmament programmes in the district, and gain adequate cooperation from the local communities to maintain peace and better impose law and order.

### **Goal**

To ensure better overall peace and security in the district by providing essential equipment, incremented salary scale, and capacity building programmes to security personnel, and establishing security posts throughout the district.

### **Major Strategies**

1. Recruitment of qualified security personnel with provisions of incremented salary scale and employment benefits.
2. Provision of capacity building and special combat training programmes for the local security forces and National Police personnel.
3. Establishment of security checkpoints and posts throughout the district.
4. Better collaboration and consultations with the local community and tribal councils in maintaining security and imposing law and order in the district.
5. Provision of essential military and combat equipment and vehicles for the local security forces.

## **Governance, Rule of Law and Human Rights**

### **Situation Analysis**

Although the various branches of the Government and judicial system function in the district, the rule of law is not well implemented. Moreover, the local Government departments lack adequate administrative discipline, and has shortage of professional personnel due to recruitments done on the basis of certain party and tribal affiliations rather than qualification and merit, administrative corruption prevails, and the judicial system issues unjust rulings in favour of certain powerful parties and tribes.

### **Goal**

To establish a strong, transparent, and accountable local Government administration that will effectively implement the rule of law, reduce administrative corruption, and ensure equal justice for all sectors of the population.

### **Major Strategies**

1. Implementation of the rule of law in the district without partiality and nepotism and within the framework of social equality and human rights in the district.
2. Complete implementation of administrative reform in the local Government departments.
3. Recruitment of local Government personnel on the basis of qualification and merit rather than certain party and tribal affiliations.

4. Provision of capacity building programmes for the local Government personnel.
5. Establishment of public awareness campaigns concerning Constitutional rights and freedoms.

## **Infrastructure and Natural Resources**

### **Situation Analysis**

Residents have limited access to basic infrastructure services such as unpaved roads in most parts of the district, some bridges and culverts, and private transportation systems, although the district has vast natural resources such as salt mines in Qala-e-Tundi Jan Village, construction stones, and natural forests. However, the district lacks a public transportation system, reliable and affordable public electricity, irrigation dams, intakes and canals, graveled or paved roads, flood protection walls for agricultural and residential areas, and a better coordination between international donors and the local communities to better assess their priority needs and develop the local infrastructure accordingly.

### **Goal**

To provide access to basic infrastructure services such as transportation, telecommunications network coverage, sources of safe drinking water and flood protection walls for agricultural and residential areas.

### **Major Strategies**

1. Construction of new and restoration and gravelling of existing roads, bridges and culverts.
2. Construction of new and restoration of existing irrigation canals, intakes, water dams and karizes.
3. Regulation of deforestation and construction of flood protection walls for agricultural and residential areas.
4. Establishment of telecommunication stations and a public transportation system in the area.
5. Construction of public power generation stations.

## **Education**

### **Situation Analysis**

The education system in the district has developed relatively well with Madrasas (religious schools) and 17 primary and secondary schools with 113 teachers catering to 3,659 students. Local residents also support the education system and express their willingness to allocate their personal property for the construction of new public schools. However, some students in remote areas lack access to schools and are left only with the option of studying in local mosques and Madrasas, 14 of the 17 schools lack buildings and are operated under tents and in open space, and the district has shortage of schools in remote areas and qualified teachers.

### **Goal**

To provide equal access and rights to a standardised education system with qualified teachers and buildings for all schools.

### **Major Strategies**

1. Construction of new and restoration of existing schools with provisions essential education equipment, materials and qualified teachers.
2. Provision of incremented salary scale and employment and housing benefits for teachers.
3. Reformation of the school curricula to raise the standards of education in the district.
4. Provision of capacity building programmes for teachers and education personnel.

## **Health**

### **Situation Analysis**

Lash Jowin District residents have only limited access to basic healthcare services, with only two health centres, 12 pharmacies, and a national organisation, Coordination for Humanitarian Assistance (CHA) assisting in the local health sector development. Moreover, the existing health centres lack professional doctors and physicians and quality medicines, and the district residents suffer from uncontrolled spread of infectious diseases, lack of safe drinking water sources and public health awareness programmes concerning environmental safety, hygiene and sanitation.

### **Goal**

To expand healthcare services by establishing health centres throughout the district, prevent the spread of infectious diseases and conduct public health awareness campaigns concerning environmental safety, hygiene and sanitation.

### **Major Strategies**

1. Construction of new health centres and a district hospital with provisions of essential medical equipment and supplies and professional personnel.
2. Establishment of mobile clinics for the local Kuchi (nomad) community.
3. Establishment of public awareness campaigns concerning environmental safety, hygiene and sanitation.
4. Provision of capacity building programmes for local health sector personnel.
5. Establishment of safe drinking water sources throughout the district.

## **Agriculture and Rural Development**

### **Situation Analysis**

A great majority of local residents are engaged in agricultural and livestock activities with access to vast irrigable lands, irrigation systems, 21 canals and 72 karizes. However, the local production levels are low due to lack of access to improved seeds, chemical fertilisers, pesticides and other plant and animal disease prevention remedies, agricultural mechanisation equipment, and adequate irrigation systems and water supply schemes.

### **Goal**

To improve agricultural and livestock production levels and quality by constructing adequate irrigation systems and water supply schemes and providing agricultural mechanisation equipment, improved seeds and chemical fertilisers for local farmers.

### **Major Strategies**

1. Distribution of improved seeds and chemical fertilisers to local farmers.
2. Construction of new and restoration of existing irrigation systems and water supply schemes for agricultural lands and safe drinking water.
3. Provision of agricultural mechanisation equipment for local farmers.
4. Establishment of veterinary clinics and provision of pesticides and other plant and animal disease prevention remedies.

## **Social Protection**

### **Situation Analysis**

The vulnerable population of the district are provided with mostly short-term relief and assistance by various Government departments and international organisations such as the World Food Programme (WFP) and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). However, local vulnerable groups suffer from lack of long-term assistance and social services such as residential settlements for returnees and the internally displaced, public housing for the homeless, an adequate welfare system, and vocational training centres and employment opportunities.

### **Goal**

To improve the living standards of vulnerable groups, provide employment opportunities, and take proper measures to mitigate the destruction and devastation caused by natural disasters such as an information centre and early warning systems in the area.

### **Major Strategies**

1. Construction of residential settlements for the local returnees and the internally displaced.
2. Creation of employment opportunities for local vulnerable groups.
3. Construction of flood protection walls for agricultural and residential areas.
4. Establishment of a depot for perishable and non-perishable foods for local needy families and emergency relief.

## **Economic Governance and Private Sector Development**

### **Situation Analysis**

Most residents earn their income from agricultural and livestock activities, while some earn their living from handicraft productions such as carpet weaving, tailoring and embroidery. However, the local Government administration fails to reduce corruption in the local security sector to eliminate the bribes local traders must pay at security checkpoints to-and-from the district, and control the rising fares of private transportation and raw materials for handicraft productions.

### **Goal**

To improve the living standards in the district by boosting the local economy, promoting private sector development and providing employment opportunities in the area.

### **Major Strategies**

1. Promotion of necessary conditions for outside investments and private sector development in the area.
2. Establishment of processing centres and production factories for handicrafts such as carpet weaving, tailoring and embroidery.
3. Establishment of micro-finance programmes and a local development bank.

### **Prioritized Projects Ideas**

After having developed strategies and activities, the participants identified and prioritized 39 project ideas -about five per sector- to achieve the development goals for the district, none of which were proposed by women due to lack of participation. It is expected that these priority project ideas will be discussed in a provincial development planning process to ensure that community priority needs are articulated in the government's provincial and national development plans.