



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

KOHISTAN DISTRICT FARYAB PROVINCE



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

August 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 August 2006, Kohistan 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), local women's representatives and district Government delegates formulated a District Development Plan (DDP) for their district. 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 Kohistan 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 2006)	53,616
Area (AIMS)	2,254 sq. km.
Number of villages	133

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 Kohistan District has recently been assessed as relatively peaceful, and the various local security departments, in cooperation and coordination with the local communities and tribal councils, strive to maintain that peace. However, the local security departments lack the capacity to impose law and order, eliminate narcotics trafficking and implement disarmament and demining programmes throughout the district due to administrative corruption, inadequate salary scale, and shortages in essential equipment, properly trained personnel and security posts throughout the area.

Goal

To ensure overall peace and security in the area, and reinforce local security departments and deploy the National Army to effectively impose law and order.

Major Strategies

1. Provision of capacity building and special training programmes for local security personnel.
2. Establishment of an empowered Council of Elders to monitor local Government departments and facilitate cooperation between the Government and the local communities.
3. Deployment of the National Army in the district for better imposition of law and order.
4. Complete eradication of poppy cultivation and narcotics smuggling in the district.
5. Complete implementation of administrative reform, disarmament and demining programmes in the district.

Governance, Rule of Law and Human Rights

Situation Analysis

Although the various departments of the Government and the judicial system are currently functioning in the area, the rule of law is not well implemented in the district. The local Government practices nepotism and partiality in its decision making and fails to reduce administrative corruption in public offices. Moreover, the local Government lacks professional personnel, adequate salary scale, and recruits on the basis of certain party and tribal affiliations.

Goal

To establish a transparent and accountable local Government administration that will effectively and impartially implement the rule of law, adopt modern governance systems, endorse social justice, and regularly conduct public awareness programmes concerning the rule of law and human rights.

Major Strategies

1. Establishment of public awareness campaigns concerning the rule of law and human rights.
2. Establishment of a strong, transparent and accountable local Government administration in the district.
3. Establishment of a commission or a Control and Audit office to eliminate or reduce administrative corruption in local Government departments and ensure Law conformity.
4. Better coordination between the Provincial Council, international NGOs and community and tribal councils for better assessment of local priority needs.
5. Establishment of a Human Rights Commission office and Women's Affairs Department to curb human rights violations, curb drug addictions and violence against women.

Infrastructure and Natural Resources

Situation Analysis

Local residents have limited access to basic infrastructure services such as roads, irrigation systems and privately produced electricity. However, most roads have been destroyed during the past decades of war and require restoration, deforestation is not regulated, and most areas of the district has no access to electricity.

Goal

To provide access to basic infrastructure services such as roads and public electricity to improve local living conditions and boost local economy, and exploit and extract the natural resources of the district with the next five years.

Major Strategies

1. Construction of new and restoration of existing roads, bridges culverts.
2. Construction of hydropower stations throughout the district.
3. Construction of new and restoration of existing irrigation systems and water delivery schemes for agricultural land and safe drinking water.
4. Regulated exploitation and extraction of natural resources by the local Government to boost local economy.
5. Establishment of better coordination between international donors and the local communities and tribal councils to better assess priority needs and assist accordingly.

Education

Situation Analysis

The local education system has developed relatively well, with a number of primary and secondary schools catering to both boys and girls in the district. However, the existing schools have shortage of buildings, qualified teachers, particularly female, education equipment and materials such as textbooks and stationery, standardised education curricula, and adequate salary scale for its personnel. Moreover, the district has a high illiteracy rate and lacks a Teachers Training Institute and technical high schools and public awareness programmes concerning the importance of education.

Goal

To provide equal access and rights to a standardised education system, reduce the local illiteracy rate by establishing literacy centres and conduct public awareness campaigns concerning the importance of education.

Major Strategies

1. Construction of buildings for existing schools with provision of libraries, education equipment and materials, and safe sources of drinking water.
2. Provision of capacity building and special training programmes for local teachers and education personnel.
3. Construction of new schools and Madrasas (religious schools) throughout the district.
4. Establishment of kindergartens and child learning centres in the district.
5. Provision of incremented salary scale and employment benefits for teacher and education personnel.

Health

Situation Analysis

Residents have reasonable access to basic healthcare services such as health centres, pharmacies, and successfully implemented vaccination programmes. However, the existing health centres have shortage of particularly female professional doctors and physicians, ambulances, laboratories, and maternity wards. Moreover, the district lacks safe public toilets facilities, public health awareness campaigns concerning environmental safety, hygiene and sanitation, safe sources of drinking water and a health inspector's unit to ensure health regulation conformity in health facilities and local markets and restaurants.

Goal

To expand basic healthcare services by establishing well-equipped health centres and a district hospital, providing safe sources of drinking water, and preventing the spread of infectious diseases.

Major Strategies

1. Construction of new and restoration of existing health centres in the district.
2. Construction of a new district hospital with provisions of professional personnel and essential medical equipment and materials.
3. Establishment of public health awareness campaigns concerning environmental safety, hygiene and sanitation.
4. Provision of ambulances for existing health centres, and establishment of safe public toilet facilities and drinking water sources throughout the district.
5. Establishment of a medical institute at the provincial level to adequately train local health personnel and produce professional doctors.

Agriculture and Rural Development

Situation Analysis

A large majority of the district residents are involved in agricultural and livestock activities, with reasonable access to agricultural and grazing lands, irrigation systems and natural forests. However, the local production levels and quality are low due to inadequacy of irrigation systems, intakes and karizes, and shortage of veterinary clinics, pesticides and other plant and animal disease prevention remedies, agricultural mechanisation equipment, chemical fertilisers and improved seeds. Moreover, the local Government fails to regulate deforestation and provide biologically enhanced hybrid livestock and capacity building programmes for local farmers with modern agricultural methods and technology.

Goal

To improve local agricultural and livestock production levels by mechanising the agricultural system, providing chemical fertilisers, improved seeds and plant and animal disease prevention remedies, and protecting natural forests and grazing lands in the district.

Major Strategies

1. Construction of new and restoration of existing irrigation systems, intakes and karizes.
2. Distribution of agricultural mechanisation equipment, chemical fertilisers and improved seeds to local farmers.
3. Establishment of an agricultural high school, agricultural cooperatives, nurseries and livestock farms.

4. Establishment of veterinary clinics and provision of pesticides and other plant and animal disease prevention remedies.
5. Regulate, recycle and recover natural forests and grazing lands in the district.

Social Protection

Situation Analysis

The district has educated women among its citizens but they lack employment opportunities. Moreover, local vulnerable groups such as returnees, widows, orphans and the disabled have not been provided with adequate social services and aid. In addition, due to general Government and international donor neglect, local vulnerable groups lack employment and vocational training opportunities and short and long-term social and financial services.

Goal

To develop short and long-term social services for local vulnerable groups, establish vocational training centres and promote financial independency programmes in the area.

Major Strategies

1. Creation of employment opportunities for local vulnerable groups such as widows, orphans, and the disabled.
2. Establishment of an orphanage, and a Women's Council to represent the needs and issues of local women.
3. Establishment of social service and aid centres for returnees and other vulnerable groups.
4. Complete eradication of poppy cultivation and narcotics smuggling to acquire more support and funding for aid and local development.

Economic Governance and Private Sector Development

Situation Analysis

The district's economy is positively impacted by agricultural, livestock, and handicrafts productions, the carpet and rug industry, small businesses, local trade, and women's activities such as embroidery, quilting and tailoring. However, the private sector has not invested much in the area of handicrafts and other local productions, and the district lacks vocational training centres, production and processing factories, machines and raw materials, and a trade centre and profitable marketing systems for locally produced goods and commodities.

Goal

To promote handicraft productions, provide employment opportunities, and acquire and encourage private sector investments in the establishment of production and processing factories to develop the local economy.

Major Strategies

1. Establishment of production factories and processing centres in the district to develop the local economy.
2. Establishment of micro-finance programmes and a local development bank.
3. Better participation and inclusion of women in local economic affairs and development.
4. Establishment of Government-operated cooperatives in the district.
5. Promotion of handicraft productions with provisions of production machines and equipment.

Prioritized Project Ideas

After having developed strategies and activities, the participants identified and prioritized 43 project ideas –about five per sector- to achieve the development goals for the district, eight of which were proposed by female participants. 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.