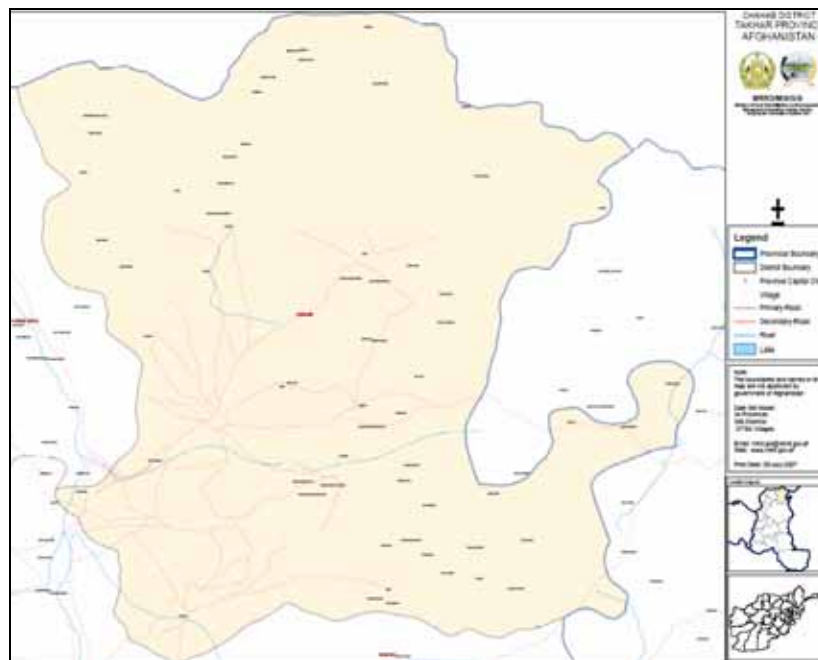


Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
National Area Based Development Programme

SUMMARY OF THE DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

CHAHAB DISTRICT
TAKHAR PROVINCE



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

June 2006

1. 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 June 2006, Chahab 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 Male District Development Assembly (DDA), Women Sub Committee and district Government representatives 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 Chahab District. 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 Chahab District.

2. 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:

Summary Table:

General Information	
Population (CSO 2003)	64151 People
Area (AIMS)	764 Sq. km
Number of villages	63 Villages
Percentage of Villages have access to roads	16.1 % have access in all Seasons 62.9 % have access in few Seasons 19.4 % don't have access to roads 1.6 % no report

3. District Development Vision:

After having analyzed the situation in the district, the participants developed the following development vision:

It is envisioned that Chahab district would have higher living standards, quality education and healthcare services, developed infrastructure and an accountable, transparent government that enforces democracy and human right equitably for both men and women.

4. 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:

Police and Border brigade forces are present which coupled with the cooperation of the local communities and maintained a secure environment. However, people are kidnapped and forced doing illegal tasks and drug trafficking with other provinces and districts due to lack of DIAG implementation and other programs for disarming illegal armed groups to bring security and secured social life and thus reduction of Anti-Government groups cause insecurity in the district.

Goal:

To equipped and furnish police force and ensure overall security in the district

Major Strategies:

- Reinforce security department with supplies and latest armours

Governance, Rule of Law and Human Rights

Situation Analysis:

The traditional council and local community members support government efforts to protect human rights and enforce the rule of law. However, the justice department is perceived as corrupt and does not impartially administer the law or equally dispense justice to all residents. The community is concerned about the recruitment of unqualified people to run high-level government offices. In addition, they fear that government officials exploit their ignorance on national laws, regulations and human rights entitlements.

Goal:

To be adhere to rule of law, establish an empowered and transparent Government administration with cooperation of tribal and religious leaders to ensure social justice and respect human rights in the district

Major Strategies:

- Building the capacity of district departments' personnel
- Establishment of human rights office

Infrastructure and Natural Resources

Situation Analysis:

The district residents have limited access to basic infrastructure services and are interested to develop and build infrastructure services. However, most of the roads in the district are dilapidated and make accessibility to remote villages' difficult, existing roads are destroyed by the floods and other natural disasters. Therefore, private and government transportation facilities are unavailable. Chahab district is rich in terms of mines and natural resources; Government has failed to regulate gold and other mines for extraction and exploitation, the mines are unexploited and are unchanged. Similarly, the jungles and forest are being cut for the illumination purpose by the residents of the district as there is no electricity in the district. In the other hand, lack of master plan and a proper system for urbanization system in the district. All the above difficulties and inadequacies are the result of negligence of the government and other agencies. The issues have affected the general people of the area.

Goal:

To develop economic infrastructures and exploit natural resources to improve community livelihoods

Major Strategies:

- Prevention of jungles and forests from deforestation
- Establishment of transportation facilities
- Better exploitation of mines and natural resources

Education, Culture, Media and Sports**Situation Analysis:**

District residents are busy and interested in getting education and to be educated, therefore students have limited access to schools. The residents are almost entirely illiterate, reportedly more than 90% of the population. The existing education system is poor in quality, characterised by severe shortage of teaching staff, teaching materials, classrooms and scholastic materials for pupils. Some community members object sending their children to schools especially girls because of ultra conservative and traditional sentiments. In the other hand, students are coming late in their schools due to lack of proper transportation system in the district.

Goal:

To improve education standard by building the capacity of teaching staff, reforming the education curriculum, equipping schools, and ensuring equal access to both male and female

Major Strategies:

- Developing the capacity of teachers and students

Health and Nutrition**Situation Analysis:**

Chahab district has at least one health center to which the community contributes cash to operate. There are natural springs that provide fresh drinking water to the district centre. These are however not enough and most of the districts experienced that drinking water is short. The

district particularly suffers from high child mortality, high malnutrition incidences, as well as frequent outbreaks and occurrences of other fatal diseases. The existing clinic in the district does not meet the health needs for all the residents. Moreover, the ill-equipped medical clinic is overwhelmed by the huge community demand for health care.

Goal:

To control and decrease diseases by upgrading current healthcare system, provide and expand safe drinking water and modern medical equipment and technology and improve healthcare services for district inhabitants, particularly mothers and children.

Major Strategies:

- Increasing quantity and quality of healthcare facilities
- Provision of safe drinking water for residents

Agriculture and Rural Development

Situation Analysis:

Majority of district residents are engaged in agriculture and livestock production, farmers in Chahab district are organised into agricultural cooperatives to coordinate their production and marketing activities. The agriculture and livestock production levels and quality is low due to lack of professional and experienced staff, lack of proper irrigation system, latest and modern agricultural machineries, lack of improved seeds and chemical fertilisers and lack of veterinary clinics to control pests and diseases continue to stifle agricultural development in the district.

Goal:

To develop agricultural and livestock production by modernizing agricultural equipments and technologies and strengthen agricultural and animal husbandry cooperatives

Major Strategies:

- Upgrading the agricultural and livestock production levels and quality
- Provision of proper agricultural irrigation system

Social Protection

Situation Analysis:

Government and residents of the district cooperate and coordinate with each other in maintaining peace and secure social life in the district. A potential for widows, disables and vulnerable groups to earn income through various rural livelihoods projects by government and welfare NGOs which community consider it inadequate to meet their needs. Forced marriages of immature girls is a threat to women emancipation and their participation in social development activities. The ultra conservative and cultural sentiments that marginalise women within the Chahab community are particularly difficult to overcome.

Goal:

To improve livelihoods, provision of secured social life, release fear and anxiety and assist vulnerable groups within next few years in the district

Major Strategies:

- Improve and provide livelihood facilities for the residents of the district

- Provision of job and employment opportunities for all vulnerable groups

Economic Governance and Private Sector Development

Situation Analysis:

As economic condition and situation is weak in the district, the residents requested and asked for provision of Micro-Finance system and encourage private sectors investment in order to develop economic situation and condition in the district due to government authorities have neglected to improve private sector and business opportunities and the area lacks factories and vocational training centres to ensure employment opportunities for the unemployed people.

Goal:

To develop and strengthen district's economy by encouraging private sectors investments and to decrease poverty in the district

Major Strategies:

- Strengthen and develop district economy

5. Prioritized Project Ideas:

After having developed strategies and activities, the participants identified and prioritized **23** project ideas in which **3** project ideas were identified and prioritized by female to achieve the development goals for the district. 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.

For more details of prioritized projects ideas please refer to <http://www.mrrd-nabdp.org>