



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

د افغانستان اسلامی جمهوریت
د کلیو د بیارغونی او پراختیا وزارت
ملی سمییز پرمختیا بی پروگرام



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

SUMMARY OF DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

SHOLGARA DISTRICT BALKH PROVINCE



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

DDA Re-Election Date
January 2010

1. 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. At first, **Sholgara** district formed **Male** District Development Assembly (DDA) and **Women's Group** in **May 2006**, which the mentioned DDA represented **15 Clusters/Groups** of Community Development Councils (CDCs). Based on 2008 guideline the District Development Assemblies must be re-elected after 3 years. Therefore, in **January 2010**, **Sholgara** district formed a **Mixed** District Development Assembly (DDA) for the second time which represents **15 Clusters/Groups** of Community Development Councils (CDCs). The cluster of CDCs and villages are presented in annex III of full DDP. The **Mixed** DDA enhances cooperation between the communities and Government and ensures community participation in district development planning and management processes.

In **January 2010**, **Sholgara** 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 **Mixed** DDA and district Government representatives updated the previous 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, based on problem tree method and updating of 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 updating 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 **Sholgara** District.

2. 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:

2.1. Summary Table:

General Information	
Population (Based on field information)	139937 Persons
Area	1842 Sq. Kms
Total number of Villages	113 Villages
Total Number of Villages Covered by NSP	113 Villages
Sectoral Information	
Education, Culture, Media and Sports:	
Number of Primary Schools	8 Primary Schools (7 Mixed and 1 for girls)

Number of Secondary Schools	22 Secondary Schools (17 for boys and 5 for girls)
Number of High Schools	13 High Schools (9 for boys and 4 for girls)
Number of Students	26026 Students (16458 boys and 9568 girls)
Number of Teachers	748 Teachers (532 Males and 216 Females)
Health and Nutrition:	
Number of Basic Health Center/s	5 Basic Health Centers
Number of Health Posts	98 Health Posts
Number of Comprehensive Health Center/s	1 Comprehensive Health Center
Number of Sub-Health Centers	5 Sub-Health Centers
Number of Doctors and Nurses	12 Doctors and 16 Nurses
Percentages of Families That Have Access to Basic Healthcare Services and Hygienic Facilities	55%
Infrastructure and Natural Resources:	
Percentage of Roads That are Open to Traffic in All Seasons of The Year	100%

3. 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:

The residents of Sholgara district indicated poverty and weak economy as the core problem of their district, which is mainly linked to limited access to basic infrastructure and social services, lower agricultural and livestock productivities, and increased incidence of natural disasters that have made communities more vulnerable. Sholgara district is one of the agriculture producing districts of the province, but the farmers cannot get the required production from their lands due to scarcity of agricultural mechanization supplies and equipment, shortage of improved seeds and chemical fertilizers, veterinary clinics and plants and animals diseases prevention methodologies, and the poor condition of irrigation systems throughout the district. In education area, most of the schools in the district do not have buildings / compounds so the students continue their study under the tents or open sky in the chilly cold or hot summer weathers that many of them get sick of different infectious diseases and can not maintain their education. In the health sector, the district faces shortage of adequate health centres with professional male/female doctors, quality supplies, equipment and technologies so the poor rural communities have no other option but to bring their patients to the district centre or Kabul province for medical treatment that not only take their time but also lots of money. Also lack of development factories and other economic generation opportunities in the area confronted the local youths to miserable livelihoods and poor social protection services. Moreover, most of the roads linking the district centre with its villages have totally been destroyed by the seasonal raining, while some remote villages do not have road access to connect them with the district centre creating lots of challenges for the communities when they travel from one area to another. Lack of a reliable and affordable public source of electricity is another challenging issue for the overall population of the areas because it has inflicted extreme negative impacts on the basic infrastructure and economic condition of local population. It must be noted that the continued rains with consequence of heavy floods in 2009 an approximately 1500 acre (Jeribs) of lands were destroyed, 400 animals killed, and 4 members of the same family lost their lives. Thus, these are the main factors for the poor economy and harsh living condition of entire dwellers of the district.

4. 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 productivities and livestock raising activities, ensure people access to increased basic infrastructure and social services and reduce the destructions and devastations caused by the natural disasters

5. 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.

First Objective:

To improve the agricultural and livestock productions level and quality

Major Strategies:

- Establishment of a regulated and sustainable irrigation system
- Immunization and protection of plants and livestock against infectious diseases
- Ensuring access to mechanized agricultural supplies and equipment

Second Objective:

To promote the opportunity and environment for provision of social services

Major Strategies:

- Increasing the education system and literacy level
- Provision of access to improved basic healthcare services
- Provision of employment opportunities for the unemployed men and women

Third Objective:

To ensure opportunities for the overall basic infrastructure and social services

Major Strategies:

- Provision of modern roads and public transportation facilities
- Ensuring access to telecommunication systems and medias
- Provision of reliable and affordable electricity energy

Fourth Objective:

To eliminate or reduce the destructions and devastations caused by seasonal floods

Major Strategies:

- Protection of agricultural lands, residential areas and people's properties against seasonal floods

6. Prioritized Projects Ideas:

After having developed strategies, the participants identified and prioritized (77) project ideas to achieve the development objectives for the district. These project ideas were discussed in the Provincial Development Plan (PDP) to ensure that community priority needs are articulated in provincial and national development plans of the Government. The PDP was prepared in July 2007 in a process of sub-national consultation and provincial development planning workshops.

For more details refer to www.mrrd-nabdp.org.af