



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

### DOWLAT ABAD DISTRICT BALKH PROVINCE



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

August 2009

## 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, *Dowlat Abad* district formed *Male and Women's Group* District Development Assembly (DDA) in *May 2006*. Which the mentioned DDA was representing from (15) clusters of Community Development Councils (CDCs). Based on 2008 guideline the DDA must be reshuffled after 3 years. Therefore, in (*August*) 2009 the *Dowlat Abad* district formed a *Mixed* District Development Assembly (DDA) (*Without female members in executive committee*) for the second time which represents from (15) clusters of Community Development Councils (CDCs). The clusters of CDCs and villages are presented in Annex III of full DDP. The *Mixed* DDA (*Without female members in executive committee*) enhances cooperation between the communities and Government and ensures community participation in district development planning and management processes.

In *August 2009*, *Dowlat Abad* 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 (*Without female members in executive committee*) and district Government representatives reshuffled 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 reshuffling 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 reshuffling 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 *Dowlat Abad* 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 (According to District Profile)	126000 Persons
Area	1635 Sq. Km
Number of villages	60 Villages

<b>Sectoral Information</b>	
<b>Education, Culture, Media and Sports:</b>	
Number of Primary Schools	19 Mixed Primary and 5 Girls' Primary Schools
Number of Secondary Schools	9 Mixed Secondary and 4 Girls' Secondary Schools
Number of High Schools	5 High Schools ( 4 for Boys and 1 for Girls)
Number of Teachers and Students	32437 Students (21986 Boys and 10451 Girls) and 647 Teachers (551 Male and 97 Females)
<b>Health and Nutrition:</b>	
Number of Comprehensive Health Center	1 Comprehensive Health Center
Number of Basic Health Centers	3 Basic Health Centers
Number of District Health Center	1 Health Center
Number of Health Posts	94 Health Posts
Number of Health Centers	3 Health Centers
Number of Drugstore	20 Drugstores
Percentage of families have access to safe drinking water	40% have access to save drinking water
<b>Infrastructure and Natural Resources:</b>	
Percentage of roads that are open to traffic in all seasons of the year	100%
Percentage of villages have access to district center and bazaars	20% villages to asphalted roads, 60% to graveled roads and 20% to earthen roads

### **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:

Poverty and distress is the main problem of the district due to low level of infrastructural and social services (Health, Education and Social Protection), low level of agricultural and animal husbandry products, being exposed to natural disasters' risks and vulnerability of the residents. Destruction of roads; and lack of bridges and culverts has created transportation problems in the district and the fares of transportation is very high. Similarly, lack of electricity for illuminating the houses, but they use generators instead that cost them very high. Moreover, lack of health training courses and jobs are the main problems of the district. Also unavailability of improved seeds, mechanized agricultural seeds, recent continuous droughts and inadequacy of water have decreased the level of animal and agricultural productions quality and quantity for the district farmers so in total all the above mentioned problems are the answer of poverty and distress in 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 provide access to infrastructural and social services, improve agricultural and livestock products, and establish natural disaster management programs to decrease vulnerability rate of the residents**

### **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:**

Provision of access to overall infrastructural services

**Major Strategies:**

- Provision of access to improved transportation system and constructed roads
- Provision of access to electricity and facilities across the district

**Second Objective:**

To provide access to overall social services

**Major Strategies:**

- Improvement of literacy rate and education system in the district
- Prevention of infectious and seasonal diseases
- Creation of job opportunities for men and women

**Third Objective:**

To improve agricultural and animal husbandry products and quality

**Major Strategies:**

- Provision of access to regularized system of irrigation
- Mechanization of agricultural and livestock system
- Prevention of plants and animal diseases and pests
- Provision of access to market for the sale of agricultural and animal husbandry products

**Fourth Objective:**

To control the destruction of natural disasters and vulnerability rate of the residents

**Major Strategies:**

- Building floodgate and canals to protect destruction of agricultural lands caused by floods
- Reduction of risks caused by droughts and protection of farms
- Taking action to decrease the destruction of earthquake

**6. Prioritized Projects Ideas:**

After having developed strategies, the participants identified and prioritized (51) 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 August 2007 in a process of sub-national consultation and provincial development planning workshops.

For more details click on [www.mrrd-nabdp.org.af](http://www.mrrd-nabdp.org.af)