

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

SUMMARY OF THE DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

**CHALL DISTRICT
TAKHAR PROVINCE**



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

June 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 June 2006, Chall 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 Mixed District Development Assembly (hereinafter referred to as the participants) 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 Chall 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: 2003)	24596 Persons
Area	330.8 sq km.
Number of villages	58
Number of needy groups	Internally-displaced persons (IDP) 10000, Returnees 1200 families, the disabled-headed families 500, and women headed families 700 persons
Ethnic diversity	Uzbek, Tajik, Pashtun, Hazara, Pashayee and Gojar

District Development Vision

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

It is envisioned and expected that Chall District would have complete security, economic self sufficiency, void of poverty, standardised basic infrastructure and social services such as best quality education, basic healthcare systems, equal accessibility to natural resources, and an accountable and transparent government administration that will equally implement the rule of law and human rights respect in the future throughout the district.

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 residents of the district stated that the national security departments, police and international armed forces and the rule of law department are present in the area striving hard with cooperation from the local communities in ensuring peace and security in the district. However, due to shortage of adequately trained personnel, special training programmes for the existing security staff, vehicles and transportation systems, enough budgets, recruitment on the basis of qualification and merit, modern military supplies, equipment and technology the existing armed forces are unable to implement a complete security across the district. Moreover, the general government or other relevant agencies have been failed to enforce disarmament programmes in the area to inactivate the illegal armed groups and warlords in the district, as a result, security challenges still do exist throughout the district.

Goal

To ensure overall peace and security by building capacity of the district security personnel, eradication of administrative corruption, construction of buildings for security departments, recruitment of qualified and well-trained staff in the security departments, allocation of enough budget for the capacity building of the security organs.

Major Strategies

1. Reinforcement of local security departments by provision of adequate military personnel, supplies, equipment, vehicles and ammunition.
2. Recruitment of well-qualified personnel in the key posts with termination of unqualified persons from the district security offices.

Governance, Rule of Law and Human Rights

Situation Analysis

The district government is active and various public departments such as Attorney office, judicial systems and human rights office are functioning, the human rights issue is rarely respected and local residents are strongly interested for a complete imposition of law and order throughout the district. However, the local population suffer from the existence of administrative corruption, lack of professional judges, with absence of employment opportunities for the well-educated persons across the district. Recruitment is done on the basis of relationship and favouritism rather than qualification and merit in the local offices as favouritism is preferred over the rule of law in the public offices. In addition, due to lack of awareness and information among the local population concerning the human rights issues the fundamental rights of women are not properly respected in the district.

Goal

To establish a transparent and accountable government administration that will effectively implement the rule of law, recruit key staff in the public offices on the basis of qualification and merit rather than favouritism and tribalism, promote local business and private sector activities and respect fundamental human rights in the area.

Major Strategies

1. Recruitment of qualified and well educated persons in the public offices to render better services for general population of the district.
2. Establishment of public awareness and information campaigns concerning the rule of law and fundamental human rights respect.

Infrastructure and Natural Resources

Situation Analysis

The district residents have access to basic infrastructure and natural resources such as roads, forests, vast water sources to be utilised for production of hydropower and electricity, and coal, salt and petrol mines. However, the local warlords are still powerful in the areas who illegally and continually exploit the natural resources of the district because the local government and other relevant agencies have been failed to provide sufficient budget, expert personnel and modern technology to extract the natural mines for economic independency of the district. In addition, lack of water dams / dykes are another challenge before the entire population of the district.

Goal

To provide better access to basic infrastructure and affordable public transportation services for entire population in the district.

Major Strategies

1. Provision of power generation stations and electricity.
2. Ensuring people access to standardized transportation services and telecommunication network opportunities.
3. Ensuring regulated and sustainable utilization from the natural resources of the district.

Education

Situation Analysis

Chall district has relatively better access to education opportunity with primary, secondary and high schools for boys and as well as girls in, and local residents are strongly interested in education. However, many existing schools have been usurped by the local warlords while the remaining schools faces shortage of its buildings, adequate budget, furniture, teaching materials, well-equipped and staffed laboratories, professional teachers, other education supplies, equipment and technology and lands for construction of new schools. Meanwhile due to low salary scale of teachers and lack of the attention of local government to establish capacity building and special training programmes for the existing education staff, professional teacher are not presence in schools. In addition, due to lack of public transportation system the students and teachers cannot timely reach to their classes.

Goal

To raise the standards of education and eliminate illiteracy across the district by building the educational capacity of teachers and students with provision of necessary education supplies, equipment and teaching materials for the local education sector.

Major Strategies

1. To build capacity and provide special training programmes for teachers with provision of other necessary education supplies and equipment for local education sector to improve literacy rates throughout the district.
2. Provision of safe sources of drinking water for existing schools in the district level.

Health

Situation Analysis

The district population have limited access to basic healthcare services with one health centre consisting of beds for hospitalization of patients, pharmacies, successfully implemented vaccination centre and vaccination programmes against major child diseases and rabies. However, due to the general government neglect and absence of regular programme to send adequate professional male and female doctors, health physicians, essential medical supplies, equipment and technology for remote area of the district and the existing health centres, lack of professional medical staff have been concerned and health centres are unable to properly solve the medical problems of largely crowded inhabitants of the district, as a consequence, the infectious diseases are spreading in the area leading to high infant and maternal mortality rates throughout the district.

Goal

To provide equal access and rights to standardised healthcare services, reduce children malnutrition and infant and maternal mortality rates; protect environmental safety and personal hygiene.

Major Strategies

1. Improvement and expansion of healthcare services with provision of necessary medical supplies, equipment and technology in the existing health centre.

Agriculture and Rural Development

Situation Analysis

Most of the district residents are engaged in agricultural and livestock activities with access to adequate labour force, arable lands, and irrigation systems such as canals, river and water streams, and the farmers cultivate saffron, maize and other crop seeds in their lands. The farmers receive some kind of assistance from the International Communities present in the area relevant to agricultural production improvement. But , the district farmers still make use of ancient agricultural tools owing to lack of access to modern agricultural technology, supplies and methods and they suffer from the shortage of adequate budget for improvement of agricultural productions and cold storages for longer preservation of locall produced goods and commodities in their district. Moreover, due to shortage of necessary machineries, medicines and methods for elimination of agricultural diseases the farmers are not able to take adequate saffron or other productions from their lands.

Goal

To enhance agricultural and livestock product level and quality, by mechanization of agricultural activities and provision of improved seeds

Major Strategies

1. Improvement of agricultural and livestock productions level and quality with provision of necessary agricultural methods and equipment for local farmers.
2. Provision of biologically modified fruitful and non fruitful tree sapling nurseries
3. Establishment of dairy processing factories.

Social Protection

Situation Analysis

Local vulnerable groups such as disables, orphans, returnees, victims of natural disasters such as floods and earthquake receive some cash and in kind assistance form the local government and relief agencies functioning in the district. However, the local government administration and other relevant organizations have been failed to create employment opportunities for the local unemployed as the existing relief aid is not adequate to address the daily needs of vulnerable groups with the assistance is not distributed without partiality and affiliation. The local government also did not construct residential town for local houseless families and the district lacks an orphanage with special education programmes for local orphans.

Goal

To provide an improved and self-reliant living condition with free of any difficulty, stress and challenge for entire population throughout the district.

Major Strategies

1. Creation of employment opportunities for the unemployed youths and provision of social protection services for the vulnerable population of the district.

Economic Governance and Private Sector Development

Situation Analysis

The district has access to salt and coal mines that have a positive impact on the economic growth of district, some residents are engaged in small business and activities with having access to local trade and marketing systems. But the mines have been left untouched due to lack of technical personnel, necessary supplies and equipment to extract them, government imposed taxes are not properly collected. Likewise local traders have not been encouraged and small business has not been improved, meanwhile proper markets are not available for locally produced goods and commodities across the district.

Goal

To develop the economic growth of the district by creation of employment opportunities, for the unemployed, promote private sector activities; establish proper trade centre and marketing system for locally produced goods and commodities, opening of a branch of National Development Bank and establishment of agricultural cooperatives in the district.

Major Strategies

1. Creation of employment opportunities for the local unemployed.
2. Provision of technical personnel, essential supplies and equipment for extraction of costly stones, salt and coal mines.
3. Collection of government imposed taxes

Prioritized Project Ideas

After having developed strategies and activities, the participants (Including male and female) identified and prioritized 42 project ideas to achieve the development goals for the district. All the project ideas were proposed by both men and women. 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 www.mrrd-nabdp.org