



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 THE DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

### **TAKHTAPOL DISTRICT KANDAHAR PROVINCE**

**Developed by the Takhtapol 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, Takhtapol 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) 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 Takhtapol 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:

<b>General Information</b>	
Ethnic diversity	Pashtun
<b>Sectoral Information</b>	
Total number of schools	13

## **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**

In general, the security situation in Takhtapol District has currently been assessed as relatively peaceful with the various communities living in mutual harmony and local Government

security departments, in collaboration with the local councils, striving to maintain that tranquillity and impose law and order in the area. However, the local security forces fail to clear the district of mines and unexploded ordinances, lack professionalism, adequate training and equipment, and commitment to local community needs, thus the district residents express dissatisfaction with their performance.

### **Goal**

To ensure overall security and peace in the area and provide the necessary conditions for better Government imposed law and order, reconstruction, and economic development activities in the district.

### **Major Strategies**

1. Provisions of proper training and capacity building programmes for the existing security forces with modern equipment and transportation provisions.
2. Construction of more security posts and increasing the number of security personnel to ensure complete peace and security in the area.
3. Recruitment of local Government security forces on the basis of qualification and merit.
4. Creation employment opportunities for compliers of disarmament programmes.

## **Governance, Rule of Law and Human Rights**

### **Situation Analysis**

The local communities cooperate with the various Government departments functioning in the area in maintaining peace and imposing law and order. However, the local Government administration fails to effectively implement the rule of law, investigate crime and bring criminals to justice, and conduct public information campaigns concerning the Law and human rights due to lack of professional and qualified personnel, proper equipment and facilities.

### **Goal**

To establish a strong, transparent and accountable local Government administration that will effectively implement the rule of law and respect fundamental human rights.

### **Major Strategies**

1. Provision of capacity building programmes for the local Government administration.
2. Establishment of a control and audit office in the district to ensure regulation conformity in the local Government administration.
3. Establishment of public awareness and information campaigns concerning the rule of law and legal and human rights.

## **Infrastructure and Natural Resources**

### **Situation Analysis**

Generally, the district residents have relatively better access to basic infrastructure such as private transportation systems, telecommunications network coverage, irrigation water from the Dori River and numerous karizes, and limited access to asphalted roads. However, the local Government fails to complete the Kandahar Centre-Boldak District highway, establish a postal service and affordable public transportation system, restore karizes and water delivery schemes, regulate deforestation, and construct riverbank flood protection walls, water reservoirs, irrigation systems, intakes and canals.

## **Goal**

To provide access to basic infrastructure such as asphalted roads, public transportation, and reliable and affordable source of energy, and to exploit the natural resources of the district within the next five years.

## **Major Strategies**

1. Construction of new and asphalted existing roads in the district.
2. Construction and restoration of irrigation intakes and canals, and water dams.
3. Exploitation and regulated extraction of natural resources by the local Government.

## **Education**

### **Situation Analysis**

The district education system has reasonably developed, with 13 primary and secondary schools, some of which are operating under tents, catering to approximately 7,000 students. However, the standard of education is low and the area suffers from high illiteracy rate, shortage of schools, especially in remote areas of the district, professional and qualified teachers, essential educational equipment, materials and school buildings, and inadequate salary scale for education personnel. Moreover, the weak economy of the district impels many children to work rather than attending school, and some un-Islamic traditional restrictions limit the enrolment of girls in the education system.

## **Goal**

To raise the standards of and develop the education system and accomplish at least 60% enrolment rate in the district by providing equal access and rights for boys and girls to education.

## **Major Strategies**

1. Construction of new schools and restoration of existing education facilities.
2. Establishment and construction of Madrasas (religious schools) throughout the district, and incorporation of religious culture into the education curricula.
3. Modernisation and standardisation of the education system in the district.

## **Health**

### **Situation Analysis**

The residents of Takhtapol District have relatively limited access to basic healthcare services, with only few clinics, health posts, malaria treatment units, private pharmacies, vaccination programmes and public health awareness campaigns in the area. Moreover, the local health personnel lack adequate salary scale, experience and professionalism, the district has shortage of health clinics, pharmacies, vaccination centres, essential medical equipment and supplies. In addition, the local health sector fails to conduct public health awareness programmes concerning birth spacing and prevention of infectious diseases, and establish a health inspections unit to monitor the area private pharmacies for health regulations conformity and investigate violations of medical malpractice.

## **Goal**

To raise the quality of healthcare services, establish more health centres in the district, and contain and prevent the spread of infectious diseases.

### **Major Strategies**

1. Construction of health clinics and a district hospital, with provisions of modern medical equipment and professional and technical staff.
2. Establishment of public health awareness campaigns concerning environmental safety, hygiene and sanitation.
3. Prevention and control of the spread of infectious diseases.
4. Establishment of pediatrics and maternity wards in major health centres.

## **Agriculture and Rural Development**

### **Situation Analysis**

A large majority of the district residents are involved in agricultural activities, with access to ample irrigable lands, karizes, irrigation systems, water reservoirs, and safe drinking water wells. However, the agricultural production levels in the district are low due mainly to lack of access to improved seeds and chemical fertilisers and extended droughts that have caused deterioration in the irrigation systems, canals, karizes and deep water well.

### **Goal**

To encourage and promote agricultural and livestock activities, to improve the level and quality of agricultural productions, and to develop safe drinking water supply schemes.

### **Major Strategies**

1. Construction and restoration of water dams, irrigation systems and canals.
2. Establishment of agricultural research farms and improvement of the quality and quantity of agricultural productions.
3. Provision of agricultural mechanisation equipment and micro-credit programmes for farmers, and establishment of a local agricultural development bank.
4. Establishment of veterinary clinics and provision of animal and plant disease prevention remedies.
5. Establishment of safe drinking water sources.

## **Social Protection**

### **Situation Analysis**

Among the returnees and the internally displaced residents, there are some educated and skilled individuals whom have the potential capacity to establish vocational training centres, however, the local Government fails to provide the necessary resources and funds. Moreover, the district lacks social services, financial assistance programmes, and residential settlements for vulnerable groups such as returnees, widows, orphans and the disabled. It also lacks employment opportunities, special education programmes, and flood protection walls around agricultural and residential areas to mitigate the damage and devastation caused by floods.

### **Goal**

To raise the living standards of the district and provide social services, Government public housing, financial support and employment opportunities for vulnerable groups.

### **Major Strategies**

1. Establishment of settlements for returnees and the internally displaced.
2. Establishment of a social services department for orphans and families of martyrs.

3. Establishment of vocational training centres and employment programmes for vulnerable groups.
4. Construction of flood protection walls and establishment of a natural disaster information centre and an early warning system in the district.

## **Economic Governance and Private Sector Development**

### **Situation Analysis**

The District of Takhtapol has vast natural resources such as talc mines and potential oil reserves, and local productions of handicrafts such as carpets and rugs. However, the local Government and the private sector fail to create employment opportunities through the exploitation of these resources. Moreover, due to the local Government's reluctance to promote economic development and its obscure trade policies, the private sector and national business community has yet to invest in the area by establishing production factories and handicrafts markets.

### **Goal**

To establish profitable marketing systems and a trade centre, create employment opportunities, and promote economic independency and private sector development.

### **Major Strategies**

1. Promotion of small industries and establishment of production factories.
2. Establishment of vocational and technical training programmes and promotion of handicrafts productions and markets.
3. Promotion of business investments and private sector development in the area.

### **Prioritized Projects Ideas**

After having developed strategies and activities, the DDA and other participants identified and prioritized 22 project ideas of various sectors 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.