

Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Ministry of Higher Education
Higher Education Development
Program (HEDP),
Academic Department
Funded by: World Bank



جمهوری اسلامی افغانستان
وزارت تحصیلات عالی
برنامه انکشاف تحصیلات عالی
مدیریت اکادمیک (HEDP)
تمویل توسط: بانک جهانی

Report on SIDP Progress Meeting

August 29, 2017

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INTRODUCTION:

According to the aid-memoire, Kabul Polytechnic, Heart, and Balkh universities were supposed to prepare their 5 year Strategic Institutional Development plans (SIDPs) for the years 2017-2021. However, the Strategic Planning and Research Component of HEDP in collaboration with OMST took the initiative of supporting additional 7 universities (Kandahar, Nangarhar, Shaikh Zayed, ANASTU, Kardan, AUAF, Bakhtar) in 2017 to develop their SIDPs. Thus in 2017, a total of 10 universities (7 Public and 3 Private) are working on their university Strategic plans. The goal is that these universities prepare SIDPs that could improve quality of the universities in different areas and that the SIDPs of the universities contribute to the National Higher Education Strategic Plan two (NHESP-II).

In order to make sure that the universities achieve the above objectives, on August 29, 2017, a SIDP Progress update Meeting was conducted by the HEDP Strategic Planning and Research Component for the above-mentioned universities. In addition to the representatives of the 10 universities, the meeting witnessed the representatives of MoHE and KU, KEU, and KMU universities too.

The Progress Meeting chaired by H.E. Prof. Abdul Tawab Balakarzai was an opportunity for the universities to share the progress of their SIDPs with MoHE and HEDP. In the meeting, all the 10 universities shared their SIDP progress with the participants and they also had a discussion on how to prepare well-developed plans.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING:

- 1 To have the universities inform MoHE regarding their SIDP committees and their planning and work for developing SIDPs so far.
- 2 To have the universities give an update on where the SIDPs stands with respect to its schedule and any issues affecting progress.

LOCATION AND PERIOD:

The SIDPs Discussion Meeting was held in HEDP Conference Room. The conference room was well equipped and was big enough to accommodate all participants. The SIDP Progress Meeting was held on Tuesday, August 29, 2017, from 8:30 am – 3:00 pm.

ATTENDEES:

The meeting was attended by 30 participants, including Deputy Minister for Academic Affairs, Prof. Abdul Tawab Balakarzai, MoHE Policy and Plan officials, HEDP team, representatives from KU, KMU, and KEU, Kabul Polytechnic, Heart, Balkh, Nangarhar, Kandahar, ANASTU, Shaikh Zayed, Bakhtar, AUAF, and Kardan universities.

The Progress Meeting Sessions:

1.1 OPENING REMARKS:

The meeting started with warm welcome and recitation of a few verses from the Holy Quran by HEDP team. First, Mr. Sarfaraz Nawabzada, Senior Strategic Planning and Research Manager, educated the participants regarding the overall all aim of Strategic Institutional Development Plans (SIDPs) and the universities developed their plans last year. Later on, Prof. Abdul Tawab Balakarzai, the deputy minister for Academic Affairs, MoHE, took the podium. His Excellency first extended his gratitude and warm welcome to the participants and thanked HEDP and universities for their efforts in preparing the SIDPs. Later on, His Excellency talked about the goals and objectives of NHESP-II and the importance of the SIDPs for universities in a very short way. His Excellency emphasized on the participants that while making the universities strategic plan, they should try that the goals and objectives of the NHESP-II are reflected in their relevant SIDPs. Afterwards, His Excellency emphasized on the representatives of all the universities to fully take the ownership of the SIDPs and make sure that they are implemented for the sake of achieving their university goals and objectives as said in their plans.

1.2 PRESENTATIONS:

After the opening remarks of H.E. Prof. Abdul Tawab Bala Karzai, each university was given a chance to give a short presentation on the progress of their SIDP. According to the meeting agenda, 9 universities share their SIDP progress with the participants except for American University of Afghanistan (AUAF), which's representative could not participate in the meeting due to some security issues for AUAF. During the presentations, it was disclosed that all the universities are doing well in preparing their SIDPs. According to the presentations, Kandhar, Kardan, KPU universities have already completed their first draft plans. Heart' Balkh and ANASTU universities' plans are in their final stages and will soon be completed. Nangarhar, Shaikh Zayed, and Bakhtar universities have also done more than 70 % of the work and will soon share their draft SIDPs with HEDP. In short, all the universities are well set to complete their SIDPs till October 2017 and share their first draft plans with HEDP and MoHE through a discussion meeting, which will take place by the end of October or at the beginning of November 2017.

As there were 10 universities presenting their SIDP progress, the presentations were set in three sessions. In each session, three universities presented their presentations and after each presentation session, the participants had a discussion over the SIDPs of the three universities. During the discussion, the university SIDP teams were provided with some feedback and comments for further improvement of their university plans. Some of the most important discussion points from the meeting are listed below.

1.3 Important Discussion points:

- As it is obviously known that the Strategic plan of MoHE is yet not finalized, so MoHE should let the universities to develop their plans according to their values, needs, and resources.
- All the universities should review their goals and objectives and make sure they are reliable and achievable.
- SIDP is the ownership of a university and every university should take it seriously for its development not just for the sake of a formality and prepare work for HEDP and MoHE.
- All universities are not the same; every university has its own priorities, so universities should consider their own priorities in their plans.
- The SIDP committees inside the universities must have strong planning not only for preparing the SIDP, but also for implementing it.
- Preparing SIDPs is not only the duty of the SIDP committees. The entire university even students must get involved in SIDP preparation.
- The 10 universities developing their plans for the year 2017-2021 should share their experience with each other.
- SOWT analysis is one of the important parts of the SIDP, therefore the universities must have a broader area of SWOT, and they should investigate and add more points of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats to their SWOT analysis part of the SIDPS.
- The goals and objectives should be set according to the resources of the university.
- If the universities divide their goals into Short term and Long term goals, it would make the goals realistic and easy to achieve.
- Private universities must set a goal of how to have full-time lecturers, instead of all visiting lecturers.
- All the 10 universities developing their plans during this year must have collaboration and should share their SIDPs with each other before finalizing and publishing them on the MoHE Website.
- If a university faces any problem in preparing or in implementing their SIDP, they should openly ask other universities, HEDP, or MoHE for support and help.
- The Plan and Policy Directorate of MoHE should contact the universities time to time and hear from them about their problems and progress in Strategic Planning.
- Financial and budget plans are two important parts of SIDPs, which should be prepared very carefully.
- SIDP gives an opportunity to universities to identify their stakeholders, so the SIDPs must have a portion identifying the stakeholders of the university.
- The SIDPs of the universities should reflect their willingness toward OBE/SCL, QAA, and Research
- The SIDPs must have reasonable budget and cost estimates for their activities.

- The universities must add plan for female students' orientation in their plans.
- The meeting was well organized, however, we would like the deputy minister for Academic Affairs should have sat here till the end of the meeting.
- The universities should have internal meetings and SIDP presentations inside their universities before finalizing and posting the plans.

Conclusion:

At the end of the meeting OMST thanked the participants for their participants and asked the universities to consider the suggestions and feedback important. Furthermore, the universities were told that HEDP will organize a one day discussion meeting by the end of October 2017, where the universities will present their first draft SIDPs to MoHE and will receive comments and feedback for further improvement. After the discussion meeting, HEDP, in December 2017, will organize another one day meeting for Finalizing and Publishing the university SIDPs on the MoHE and university Websites.

Annex:

Annex 1: Discussion Meeting Agenda:

STRATEGIC INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (SIDP) PROGRESS MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday 29 August, 2017

8:30 am – 3:00 pm

MoHE-Kabul

Objectives:

1. To have the universities inform MoHE regarding their SIDP committees and their planning and work for developing SIDPs so far.
2. To have the universities give an update on where the SIDPs stand with respect to its schedule and any issues affecting progress.

Chaired by: H.E Deputy Minister for Academic Affairs, Abdul Tawab Bala Karzai,

Facilitated by: Higher Education Development Program (HEDP/MoHE)

Venue: HEDP Conference Hall

08:30 am – 09:00 am

Registration and Reception

HEDP Team

In this session the participants will be registered and they will be handed over meeting agenda and other handouts.

09:00 am – 09:05 am

The Holy Quran Recitation

09:05 am – 09:35 am

Opening Remarks- Key Notes address

National Higher Education Strategic Plan-II

H.E Deputy Minister for Academic Affairs, MoHE

In this session, H.E will explain the goals and objectives of the NHESP-II and explain how the universities can better align their SIDPs so that the goals of the ministry are achieved.

10:00 am – 10:15 am

Tea- Break

10:15 am – 11:00 am

SIDP progress updates (Group 1 Presentations)

Kabul Polytechnic, Kandahar, Nangarhar Universities

In this session the representatives of the 3 universities will each give a 15 minute presentation on their turn. They will briefly update MoHE and the meeting participants regarding their university Strategic plan committees, process, Planning, activities, challenges, and the work they have done in SIDP preparation till the meeting day.

11:00 am – 11:15 am

Group Discussion #1

All the Meeting Participants

	In this session all the participants will share their point of views on the presentations of the above 3 universities and will share their suggestions and comments as well.
11:15 am – 12:15 am	<p>SIDP progress updates (Group 2 Presentations) <i>Shaikh Zayed, Herat, Kardan, Balkh Universities</i></p> <p>In this session the representatives of the 4 universities will each give a 15 minute presentation on their turn. They will briefly update MoHE and the meeting participants regarding their university Strategic plan committees, process, Planning, activities, challenges, and the work they have done in SIDP preparation till the meeting day.</p>
12:15 am – 12:30 am	<p>Group Discussion #2 <i>All the Meeting Participants</i></p> <p>In this session all the participants will share their point of views on the presentations of the above 4 universities and will share their suggestions and comments as well.</p>
12:30 am – 1:30 pm	Lunch and Prayers Break
1:30 pm – 2:15 pm	<p>SIDP progress updates (Group 3 Presentations) <i>ANASTU, Bakhtar, AUAF Universities</i></p> <p>In this session the representatives of the 3 universities will each give a 15 minutes presentation on their turn. They will briefly update MoHE and the meeting participants regarding their university Strategic plan committees, process, Planning, activities, challenges, and the work they have done in SIDP preparation till the meeting day.</p>
2:15 pm – 2:30 pm	<p>Group Discussion #3 <i>All the Meeting Participants</i></p> <p>In this session all the participants will share their point of views on the presentations of the above 3 universities and will share their suggestions and comments as well.</p>
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm	<p>Closing Remarks and SIDP Timeline <i>Fayaz Ahmad Sayar. Director of Planning and Policy, MoHE</i></p> <p>In this session, the director will summarize the meeting and will educate the universities representatives about the SIDP timeline and future follow up action plan.</p>

Annex 2: Photos of the event



H.E DEPUTY MINISTER FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, ABDUL TAWAB BALAKARZAI CHAIRING THE EVENT



KABUL POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY (KPU) DESCRIBING THE SIDP OF KPU.



MEETING PARTICIPANTS



PARTICIPANTS GIVING THEIR COMMENTS ON THE SIDP OF ONE OF THE UNIVERSITIES