



*NSP Success Story*

Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

جمهوری اسلامی افغانستان

Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development

وزارت احیاء و انکشاف دهات

National Solidarity Programme

برنامه همبستگی ملی



### **The NSP Working in the Mountain Ranges**

The Ashnoh village, related to Nijrab district of Kapisa province is located among a chain of mountains on the border between Kapisa and Panshir provinces. The distance of the village from the district center is some 3 kilometers. Most of the residents in this village earn their living from livestock and agriculture. As the climate is year-round cold at this point of the country, most of agricultural lands are single crop yield. The crops largely produced here include wheat, maize, beans and clover.

For a very long time there has been increasingly long-standing disputes and disunity among the residents of Ashnoh village causing many difficulties and deterioration of a peaceful and secure environment in the community. There was a major river, flowing away from the community. As enmity, disagreement and destitution were on the increase, it was difficult for the villagers to utilize the river water for irrigation purposes.

Fortunately soon after this village came under the coverage of the National Solidarity Programme of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD/NSP), a Community Development Council (CDC) through transparent election process came into existence. As a result of the CDC members' innovative approaches and day and night efforts, the villagers gave up hatreds and became more united. The other motive behind people's reconciliation and unity was gaining access to irrigation water that was necessary for cultivation satisfying their needs. Taking villagers' priority needs into consideration, the CDC has decided to excavate and extend the irrigation canal down to their lands.

The irrigation canal has been constructed at a sum of AFN 1,600,000 (equivalent to USD 32,000) financed by NSP including 10 percent community contribution (AFN 177,777 equivalent to USD 3,555). The irrigation canal have the capability of watering 130 acres of land and play a vital role in agricultural and economic growth of Ashnoh village.

Abdul Qayum, a villager said: "Before our village was covered by NSP, there were deeply ingrained animosities and seclusion between villagers at every corner of the community. As we did not have agriculture, people were obliged to live in poverty with great difficulties. However, our lands have now been blessed with enough water. Our productivities have dramatically been increased as well as the hostilities which existed among the villagers have been replaced with lifelong friendship and fraternity."

