

**Municipal plans for development as a mechanism for achieving local development in shadow areas in Algeria - A case study of Ain Taghrouit, B.B.A. state -**

المخططات البلدية للتنمية كآلية لتحقيق التنمية المحلية بمناطق الظل في الجزائر - دراسة حالة بلدية عين تاغروت ولاية برج بوعريريج

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**Abstract:**

This study aims to highlight the role of the Municipality Development Plan (MDP) in achieving local development in shadow regions in Algeria, using the municipality of Ain Taghrouit in the state of Bordj Bou Arreridj as a case study.

The study concludes that Ain Taghrouit municipality has placed significant importance on the Local Development Plan as a funding source for development projects in shadow regions, aiming to achieve local development. The municipality has funded 20 development projects in various sectors through the Local Development Plan, reflecting its commitment to relying on such plans for the comprehensive and sustainable development of the local community in shadow regions.

**Keywords:** municipal development plan, local development, shadow areas, Ain Taghrouit municipality.

**JEL Classification Codes:** R58, R59, Z13.

ملخص:

تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى إبراز دور المخطط البلدي للتنمية (PCD) في تحقيق التنمية المحلية بمناطق الظل في الجزائر، آخذين بذلك تجربة

بلدية عين تاغروت ولاية برج بوعريريج كعينة لإجراء هذه الدراسة.

توصلت الدراسة إلى أن بلدية عين تاغروت قد أولت أهمية كبيرة للمخطط البلدي للتنمية كمصدر تمويل للمشاريع التنموية بمناطق الظل بهدف

تحقيق تنمية محلية بها، حيث تم تمويل 20 مشروعا تنمويا في مختلف القطاعات من برنامج المخطط البلدي للتنمية، الأمر الذي يعكس توجه البلدية في الاعتماد على هذا النوع من المخططات في تنمية المجتمع المحلي المتواجد بمناطق الظل في إطار شامل ومستديم.

كلمات مفتاحية: المخطط البلدي للتنمية، التنمية المحلية، مناطق الظل، بلدية عين تاغروت.

تصنيفات JEL : R58 ، R59 ، Z13 .

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## **INTRODUCTION:**

The Algerian state has adopted several development programs with the aim of promoting local development, particularly focusing on national development as a whole. The latest initiative is the Economic Revitalization Support Program (2020-2024), aimed at creating sustainable and comprehensive local development, especially in population clusters and areas experiencing significant development delays, referred to as shadow regions. A dedicated program, named the Shadow Regions Program, has been allocated for these areas. However, the perennial challenge remains the funding of these development programs, particularly given the limited self-resources of municipalities.

Municipal development plans are considered crucial funding sources for various development projects endorsed by the state, involving both municipalities and provinces. Municipalities, as the local foundation, play a fundamental role in any form of development, especially local development. Thus, these plans are a significant source of financing for projects in shadow regions. For instance, the 2021 Finance Law allocated a financial amount of 50 billion DZD within municipal development plans for the development of shadow regions on a national level.

Ain Taghrout municipality, situated in the province of Bordj Bou Arreridj, is among the municipalities where several shadow regions have been identified and documented. These regions lack development and exist on the margins due to neglect by the relevant authorities, especially the scattered villages and rural areas throughout the municipality. This situation has prompted the municipality to expedite the planning of numerous priority development projects for these areas within the framework of the municipal development plan.

### **Problem Statement:**

The problem addressed in this research is encapsulated in the following main question: **What is the role of municipal development plans in activating and achieving local development in shadow regions? And what is the reality of this in Ain Taghrout municipality, Bordj Bou Arreridj province?**

The following sub-questions fall under this problem:

- How is the municipal development plan prepared and implemented?
- What is the role of the municipal development plan in achieving local development in shadow regions?
- Does Ain Taghrout municipality rely on the municipal development plan to achieve local development in isolated and marginalized shadow regions?

### **Study hypotheses:**

To address the posed problem and its derived questions, the following hypotheses are considered:

- The municipal development plan is registered in the municipality's name and involves its preparation. Despite being a decentralized program, its preparation and execution are subject to central authority, especially concerning financial allocations and oversight.
- The municipal development plan contributes to achieving local development in shadow regions by prioritizing development projects for local residents and involving them in decision-making regarding essential life necessities such as water, electricity, gas, public lighting, health, and education.

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- Ain Taghrouit municipality heavily relies on the municipal development plan as a funding source for development projects registered in shadow regions to create local development and improve living conditions for the population.

**Study Objectives:**

Through this study, we aim to achieve several objectives, including:

- Understanding the objectives of the municipal development plan and how it is prepared and executed.
- Understanding the role of the municipal development plan as an external funding source in creating and achieving local development in shadow regions.
- Understanding the role of Ain Taghrouit municipality in achieving local development in shadow regions through development projects registered within the municipal development plan.

**1- Conceptual framework of the municipal plan for development (MPD)**

The municipal development plan appeared in 1973 through Decree 73-136, relating to the conditions for the management and implementation of municipal development plans, with the aim of ensuring the achievement of the local development desired by local communities.

**1-1- The concept of municipal development plan (MDP)**

The MDP is a vital tool for managing public expenditure at the state level, allowing municipalities to materialize their developmental projects. These plans directly impact and immediately address citizens' essential needs and development priorities, enhancing their living standards and achieving local development, especially in areas slated for improvement (Darousi and Quidari, 2021, p. 1048).

Furthermore, the Municipal Development Plan is a comprehensive blueprint for municipal development, emphasizing decentralization at the local community level. It encompasses investments related to municipal infrastructure, agriculture, and development facilities, aligning with national development guidelines. Its mission is to fulfill the essential needs of citizens (Obaidia, 2019, p. 114).

The MDP is also defined as the legal and financial means enabling municipalities to assess and implement their economic, social, and cultural development policies. (Qadid, and Bouknadel, 2015, p. 234), the Municipal Law No. 90-08 emphasizes the municipality's role in developing short, medium, and long-term development plans in line with regional and urban planning goals. (Loi n°90-08, 1990)

Municipal Law No. 11-10 also referred, under Chapter Two, Municipal Powers, and within Chapter One, Preparation and Development, specifically in Article 107 thereof, to the Municipal People's Council preparing its various annual development programs corresponding to the term of its , the them, and ensuring their implementation in line with the powers granted to it by law, Within the framework of the national plan for the preparation and sustainable development of the region, as well as the guiding plans for the region. (Loi n°11-10, 2011)

In summary, the Municipal Development Plan is a collection of projects and developmental programs aimed at community development. It involves various factors to create local development based on decentralized developmental planning, with municipalities actively participating in the preparation and execution of their developmental programs.

**1-2- Types of municipal development plans (MDP):** The types of municipal development plans are as follows: (Sahib, 2015-2016, pp. 106-107)

**1-2-1- Ordinary Municipal Development Plans:** Prepared by municipalities annually in a routine and systematic manner, following established procedures

**1-2-2- complementary Municipal Development Plans:** Designed to enable municipalities to benefit from additional funding from the supplementary budget for municipal development plans, whether for new projects or to complete stalled projects.

**1-2-3- Emergency Municipal Development Plans:** Developed in exceptional cases, such as natural or industrial disasters, and urgently funded by the state.

**1-2-4- Rural and Semi-Rural Municipal Development Plans:**

Targeted at deprived and isolated regions like high plateaus and deserts. this category includes:

- **Municipal Development Plans under the Southern Regions Development Program:** Covering 10 southern states, with an allocation of 4.7 billion DZD.

- **Municipal Development Plans under the High Plateaus Development Program:** Covering 9 states, with an allocation of approximately 10 billion DZD. These plans aim to enhance living conditions, provide electricity, safe drinking water, and essential public facilities.

**1-2-5- Municipal Development Plans under the Economic Revitalization Support Program (2001-2004):** Extending from 2001 to 2004, allocating 114 billion DZD, equivalent to 21.71% of total investments for municipal development plans.

**1-2-6- Municipal Development Plans under the complementary Program for Growth Support (2005-2009):** Allocating 200 billion DZD, with 15,000 operations registered under these plans

**1-2-7- Municipal Development Plans under the Five-Year Development Program (2010-2014):** Recorded within this program, focusing on economic growth consolidation, involving 27,000 operations with a financial amount of 4705 billion DZD;

In addition to the municipal development plans within the framework of the Economic Recovery Support Program (2020-2024), which were registered within the framework of the Shadow Areas Program, which targets the development of isolated and marginalized areas.

Additionally, there are Municipal Development Plans under the Economic Revitalization Support Program (2020-2024), registered within the program for shadow regions, targeting the development of isolated and marginalized areas

**1-3- Areas of application of municipal plans for development (MPD)**

Financial allocations for these programs are directed towards the following areas: (Bin Amer, 2020, p. 131)

**1-3-1- Water Supply and Sanitation:** Consideration is given to the percentage of access to safe drinking water, the capacity to mobilize water resources, and the percentage of connection to the sanitation network;

**1-3-2- Roads and paths** Factors include the length of roads and paths, as well as the condition of different networks;

**1-3-3- Urban Planning and Environment:** Support for urban planning takes into account deficiencies in public lighting and road development, as well as the capacity and condition of public parks and green spaces.

**1-3-4- Education, training, health and hygiene:** Assistance in this field is provided after counting the number and condition of primary education classrooms and their capacity, as well

as the number and condition of healthcare facilities and their capacities;

**1-3-5- Youth, sports, culture and entertainment:** Enumeration includes play areas and their capacities, the number of youth camps, and the number of local sports facilities;

**1-3-6- Municipal Buildings and Direct Municipal Use in Areas Requiring Improvement:** Granting programs is based on the status of municipal buildings and administrative annexes, as well as their capacity;

**1-3-7- Post, transportation, and local markets: Enumeration** involves the number and condition of post offices, postal density, and the number of local markets.

## **2- Diagnosing the reality of local development in the shadow areas in Algeria**

The rehabilitation and promotion of shadow regions in Algeria represent one of the most important and challenging tasks faced by the Algerian government in achieving economic and social development, considering it a strategic goal the Algerian state is striving to accomplish.

### **2-1- Concept of Shadow Regions and Challenges Faced**

#### **2-1-1- Concept of shadow Regions**

Shadow regions are defined as marginal areas spread across the entire national territory lacking development. They may exist in major cities, described as chaotic neighborhoods, or in isolated areas, especially in rural regions, characterized by the absence of public facilities and essential life necessities. (Ben Morsli and Bonasser, 2021, p. 172), Shadow regions are also known as remote, isolated, mountainous, and rural areas surrounding cities, suffering from neglect and deprivation, with residents facing difficult living conditions due to the lack of vital infrastructure and basic necessities like water, electricity, gas, schools, and employment opportunities. (Haddouch and Bassa, 2021, p. 11)

#### **2-1-2- Challenges Faced by Shadow Regions**

Shadow areas face several challenges, which we summarize below: (Lahouazi & Khouildat, 2021, pp. 180- 181)

- **Social challenges:** These regions have few public services (employment, hospitals, transportation) and limited social and economic activities, with residents often engaged in farming, craftsmanship, livestock, mechanics, but lacking opportunities for youth in various fields of training;
- **Economic challenges** Most families lack the financial resources to cope with tough living conditions, and the majority of the population works locally or in nearby areas;
- **Transport challenges:** Many rural areas still lack adequate transportation, causing difficulties for residents, impacting economic activities. Insufficient public or private transport in shadow regions is explained by low population density and geographic dispersion, making it challenging to organize communal and commercial transport networks, requiring significant investments;
- **Digital challenges:** Digital infrastructure, including mobile phone networks and internet access (ADSL and fiber optics) in these isolated areas, is either non-existent or poorly covered, with the absence of operator networks;
- **Education Challenges:** The education level in shadow regions is relatively high in elementary stages but low in secondary and high school stages due to the absence or closure of schools, leading residents to pursue practical life.

- **Local Healthcare Challenges:** Difficulty in attracting healthcare professionals to isolated shadow regions contributes to the spread of medical desertification. Healthcare coverage is extremely weak, negatively affecting local healthcare and medical recovery.
- **Electricity and Gas Challenges:** Shadow regions lack electricity and gas distribution networks, exacerbating the hardships for residents in these areas.

## **2-2- Concept of local development and its foundations**

### **2-2-1- Definition of local development**

Several definitions have been presented for local development, including the following key ones:

-Local development is a process undertaken by local actors through participating in the preparation of future development plans. It is a participatory process that encourages and facilitates partnership among local residents, stakeholders, enabling them to design and implement various strategies relying on competition and utilizing local resources for the community's benefit, aiming to create sustainable job opportunities and economic activities at the local level. (Adda & Benhamida, 2020, p. 501)

- Local development involves improving the living standards and creating local social progress through active and positive community involvement and self-initiatives, alongside governmental efforts. It is a process of change carried out within a local public policy framework that reflects the needs of the local unit, utilizing local resources and convincing local citizens to participate with the goal of raising the living standards of the local residents. (Samir, 2008, pp. 19-20)

- Local development is the process through which collective decisions are reached, by taking actions that will work to enhance social and economic well-being in the local community. (Khalaf Saqr, 2019, p. 29)

### **2-2-2- The foundations of local development**

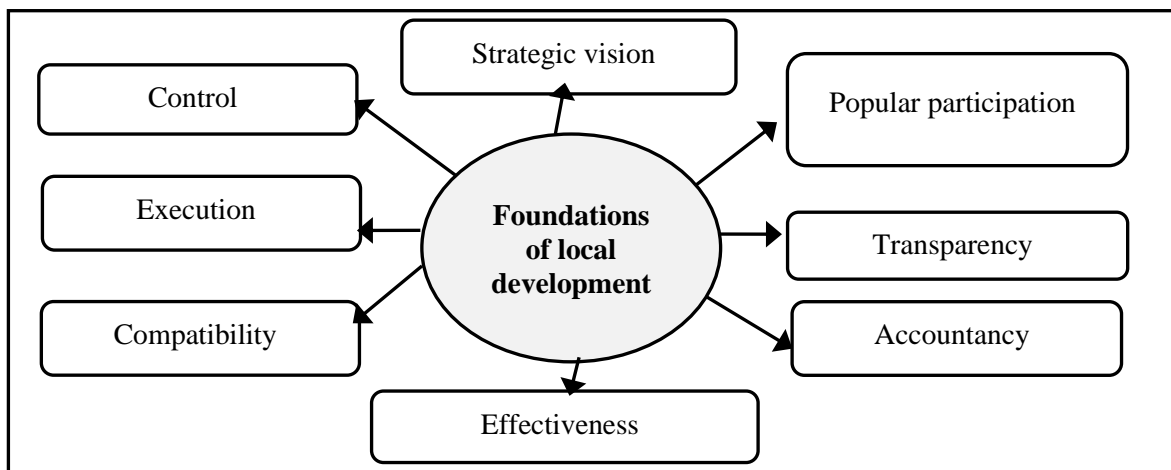
The lack of sound management of growth at the local level (urban and rural areas) results in the destruction of natural and environmental resources, affecting available resources that constitute opportunities for development and improvement of living standards for individuals in rural and urban areas. Therefore, local development projects should be formulated based on local characteristics, adopting popular participation in determining goals that reflect citizens' aspirations. This involves relying on the following foundations: (Bonqab, 2017-2018, pp. 22-23)

- **Strategic vision:** The development project should aim to empower the presence and viability of local citizens and broaden their choices.
- **Popular participation:** Various components of the local community should participate in shaping the project, considering expertise for effectiveness. Public participation, in general, involves the contribution of citizens and civil society organizations in shaping and implementing public development policies, either through their own efforts or in collaboration with administrative units of central and local government.
- **Transparence:** Information exchange among stakeholders is crucial to ensure accurate diagnosis, practical planning, and precise evaluation.;
- **Accountability:** Local development projects entail mutual commitments to achieve common results and goals. Any deviation from these commitments harms the overall project.

- **Effectiveness:** The effectiveness of local development projects depends on the degree to which the expected results empower residents with basic capabilities and expand their economic options, considering efficiency, quality, and productivity.
- **Compatibility:** The alignment of stakeholders is a pillar for the success of any development project, whether involving elected councils, presidents, members, or local stakeholders. It is a natural result of active participation in diagnosis, planning, consultation, and implementation.
- **Achievement:** Proximity, consultation, collaboration, decentralization, and communication are essential conditions for ensuring achievement based on competence, transparency, quality, and minimizing resource waste.
- **Control:** The development plan must be linked to a monitoring plan involving all concerned parties in the region, embodying the desired alignment and serving as an inevitable result of the significant responsibility towards future generations.

The foundations of local development can be summarized in the following figure:

**Figure N° (01): Foundations of local development**



**Source:** Prepared by researchers, based on the above

### **2-2-3- Realities and Prospects of Local Development in Shadow Regions of Algeria**

The rehabilitation of deprived and isolated regions facing developmental delays stands as a major priority in the presidential program of Algeria. Emphasizing that the construction of a new Algeria is dependent on the upliftment of these areas and achieving sustainable local development, the government, in 2020, identified over 13,000 shadow areas nationwide. These areas were assessed for deficiencies, with 43,705 developmental projects targeted towards local development, totaling DZD 548 billion.

The governmental efforts, initiated in March 2020, involved mobilizing 310 billion DZD from various funding sources, including the state budget, municipal development plans, non-centralized sectoral programs, the Solidarity and Guarantee Fund for Local Communities, and contributions from local budgets for states and municipalities. This funding facilitated the implementation of 24,093 developmental projects across 9,805 shadow areas, spanning 1,343 municipalities, representing more than 55% of the identified projects. (République algérienne démocratique et populaire, 2021, p. 69)

In 2020, financing extended to 12,841 developmental projects in various sectors, such as water supply, sanitation, electricity and gas connections, improving school conditions, public transportation, isolation alleviation, public lighting, community health, recreational spaces, combating sand encroachment, security coverage, and natural disaster risks. The funding amounted to DZD 188.42 billion, with diverse financing sources, primarily municipal development plans. (République algérienne démocratique et populaire, Le plan d'action du gouvernement pour mettre en œuvre le programme du Président de la République, 2021, p. 53).

As of September 2021, 12,532 developmental projects have been completed in shadow regions, aiming to foster local development. This represents 52% of funded projects, benefiting 4 million residents across 6,709 shadow areas. The complete projects cover various aspects, including:

- 4,177 projects related to water supply and sanitation.
- 2,926 projects addressing isolation alleviation.
- 2,035 projects focused on electricity and gas connectivity for households.
- 1,631 projects aimed at improving school conditions for students.
- 859 projects for the establishment of public lighting networks.
- 408 projects targeting community health improvement.
- 377 projects dedicated to creating play areas and recreational spaces.
- 119 projects for public transportation, essential administrative structures, and security-related initiatives.

The Algerian government aims to achieve the following for genuine development in shadow regions, as outlined in the Government Action Plan for the President's Program in 2021: (Democratic and People's Republic of Algeria, the government's action plan to implement the program of the President of the Republic, 2021, pp. 70-71)

- **Continued Funding Mobilization:** The ongoing effort to secure the necessary funding to realize the outlined program.
- **Program Reframing:** A precise refocusing of the program by prioritizing key initiatives, involving the affected population.
- **Addressing Urgent Needs:** Provision of alternative and swiftly implementable solutions to address urgent needs expressed by the population, while awaiting programming and funding for more significant operations.
- **Incremental Project Implementation:** Implementation of projects in small increments to facilitate fund accumulation, streamline procedures, and involve local institutions.
- **Continuous Project Monitoring:** Ensuring constant and meticulous monitoring of ongoing projects, expediting the resolution of obstacles that may hinder developmental programs.
- **Comprehensive Development Activities:** In addition to infrastructure-related aspects, the government aims to leverage and continue accompanying institutional initiatives through various agencies.
  - Creation of job opportunities and economic development specifically tailored to these regions.
- **Renewal of Social Integration Activities:** Renewal of contracts for social integration activities and the implementation of a community development program.
- Agricultural and Livestock Development:



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- Development of tree planting and livestock breeding, especially beekeeping, along with support for young entrepreneurs in the agricultural sector.
- Continuation of National Microcredit and Entrepreneurship Development Agency Programs.
- Continued monitoring and implementation of programs initiated by the National Microcredit Management Agency and the National Entrepreneurship Development Agency.
- **Prompt Handling of Loan Applications:** Swift processing of pending loan applications from residents in the concerned areas and expanding the list of projects funded by the National Entrepreneurship Development Agency to align with the specific needs of these regions.
- **Continuation of Activities, Especially Events:** Ongoing activities, particularly the organization of events that showcase products derived from family work and facilitate their marketing.
- Development of a Shared Coordinated Sector Framework:
- Development of a real framework in a coordinated joint sector to provide all data related to the projects and activities implemented for the benefit of the residents of shadow regions.
- Monitoring the development of key economic and social indicators in these regions to create sustainable and comprehensive local development, ultimately achieving regional balance.

**3- The Role of the Municipal Development Plan in Achieving Local Development in the Shadow Areas of Ain Taghrout Municipality**

Ain Taghrout Municipality in the province of Bordj Bou Arreridj is actively working towards recording and preparing priority development programs for citizens within the framework of municipal development plans. The aim is to achieve comprehensive and balanced local development, particularly in deprived and isolated areas commonly referred to as shadow areas.

**3-1- Survey of Shadow Areas and Recorded Deficiencies in Ain Taghrout Municipality, Bordj Bou Arreridj Province**

We will identify the number of shadow areas in Ain Taghrout Municipality, along with the recorded deficiencies, within the framework of the urgent program initiated by the President of the Republic. This will be accomplished through the following elements:

**3-1-1- number of shade areas in the municipality of Ain Taghrout, Bordj Bou Arreridj Province**

The table below clarifies the number of shadow areas in Ain Taghrout Municipality as part of the urgent program initiated by the President of the Republic in 2020:

**Table N°01: Survey of Shadow Areas in Ain Taghrout Municipality within the Urgent Program of the President of the Republic in 2020**

Municipal	Shadow area	Distance from the municipality headquarters / km	Number of population/people
<b>Ain Taghrout Municipality</b>	Sabri village	1	150
	Etablette	9	32
	Eldjarda	3	40
	Ouelad mousli	6	863
	Ksir Igoul	8	1090
	Oulad bouneb	3	1106
	Eldjawahir	5	435
	Al-ouinat	7	642
	Awashriya	10	560
	Elhuisi	8	120
	Elka'ah	6	430

**Source:** Compiled by researchers based on information provided by the relevant municipality.

Through the table, it is observed that 11 shadow areas in Ain Taghrout Municipality, located in the province of Bordj Bou Arreridj, have been surveyed within the framework of the urgent program initiated by the President of the Republic in 2020. The majority of these areas consist of isolated and marginalized villages that have not received their share of development under various national-level local development programs. Examples include Sabri Village, Ouled Mousli Village, Oulad bouneb Village, Laouacheria Village, Eldjawahir Village, Al-ouinat Village, and Al Qa'ah Village.

### **3-1-2- Recorded Deficiencies in Shadow Areas of Ain Taghrout Municipality, Bordj Bou Arreridj Province**

The table below illustrates the recorded deficiencies in the shadow areas of Ain Taghrout Municipality as part of the urgent program initiated by the President of the Republic in 2020:

**Table 02: Survey of Recorded Deficiencies in Shadow Areas of Ain Taghrout Municipality in 2020**

Recorded deficiencies								Number of shadow areas	Municipal
School transportation	School heating	Overcrowding of departments	School feeding	Sanitary disinfection	Gas	electricity	water		
06	07	05	05	08	09	09	07	11	<b>Ain Taghrout</b>
Recorded deficiencies								Number of shadow areas	Municipal
dangers	Playground s	security	health	lighting	Sand encroachment	Roads	Public transportation		
03	10	11	09	11	00	11	10	11	<b>Ain Taghrout</b>

**Source:** Compiled by researchers based on information provided by the relevant municipality.

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From the previous table, it is evident that several deficiencies and needs were recorded in Ain Taghrout Municipality in 2020, totaling 121 projects across various sectors. These include irrigation and sewage (07 water projects and 08 sanitation projects), electricity and gas (09 electricity projects and 09 gas projects), education and school transport (05 school feeding projects, 05 projects for classroom overcrowding, 07 projects for school heating, and 06 projects for school transport), public transportation (10 projects), lighting and roads (11 lighting projects and 11 road projects), health (09 projects), stadiums and recreational facilities (10 projects), security and hazards (11 security projects and 03 projects for various hazards).

All these deficiencies and needs represent life necessities for the residents of these areas. Therefore, Ain Taghrout Municipality must work on upgrading these areas to create local development and lift them out of marginalization, deprivation, and poverty.

**3-2- Development Projects Recorded in the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) in Shadow Areas of Ain Taghrout Municipality, Bordj Bou Arreridj Province**

The operations recorded in the shadow areas of Ain Taghrout Municipality within the Municipal Development Plan are outlined in the following table:

**Table N°03: Operations recorded in the shadow areas of Ain Taghrout Municipality within the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) as of December 31, 2021.**

Education and formation		Paths and tracks		Drinking Water Supply		Municipal
Value DA	Number	Value DA	Number	Value DA	Number	
1 498 000.00	01	55 748 000.00	09	19 292 000.00	06	<b>Ain Taghrout</b>
Sanitation		Health and hygiene		Urban planning		Municipal
Value DA	Number	Value DA	Number	Value DA	Number	
5 027 000.00	02	00	00	11 341 000.00	02	<b>Ain Taghrout</b>

**Source:** Wilaya of Bordj Bou Arreridj: public investment programs registered under the PCD in shadow areas - registration 2020-2021, directorate of budgetary programming and monitoring, 2022.

Through the previous table, several development projects have been recorded within the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) covering various sectors in Ain Taghrout Municipality. Notably, there are 09 road and rural path development projects with a total value of 55,748,000.00 DZD, 06 projects for potable water with a total allocation of 19,292,000.00 DZD, 02 urban development projects totaling 11,341,000.00 DZD, 02 sewage projects with a total value of 5,027,000.00 DZD, and one education-related project with a value of 1,498,000.00 DZD.

However, it is noteworthy that there is a lack of recorded development projects in some sensitive and vital sectors, such as the health sector, despite registering deficiencies requiring 09 development projects. Similarly, in sectors like games and entertainment, no development projects are recorded, even though there are identified deficiencies requiring 10 development projects. This calls for increased efforts from the municipality and other local authorities to register additional development projects in shadow areas throughout the entire municipality. The goal is to foster development, lifting these areas out of the cycle of underdevelopment, poverty, and deprivation.

**3-3- Contribution of the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) to Achieving Local Development in Shadow Areas of Ain Taghrout Municipality.**

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The contribution of the municipal development plan to achieving local the contribution of the Municipal Development Plan to achieving local development in the shadow areas of Ain Taghrout Municipality can be illustrated through the registered development projects within this program. Details are presented in the following table:

**Table N°04: Registered Development Projects in Ain Taghrout Municipality for the Development of Shadow Areas as of December 2021**

comments	Finan cial compl etion rate	Mate rial comp letion rate	Price DZD	Date of Registrati on	The Prog ram	The Project	Shadow Area
Expired and closed on 2020/10/24	%100	%100	7 902 000,00	2019/02/17	MDP	Completion of Ouled Bounab East roads, at a distance of 01 km	<b>Oulad Bounab village</b>
Expired and closed on 2020/12/09	97.81 %	%100	6 992 000,00	2019/02/17	MDP	Urban development for the Uwainat population center	Laouinat village
Expired and closed on 2020/03/29	99.97 %	%100	9 371 000.00	2019/07/14	MDP	Completion of roads on the southern side in Oulad Mosli	Oulad Mousli village
Expired and closed on 12/31/2020	%100	%100	4 349 000.00	2021/04/21	MDP	Renewal of public lighting for the villages of (Qasir El Ghoul - Oulad Mousli - Oulad Bounab - Lawashria - Lajaher - Al-Sabri village - Laouinat - Qaa))	Several villages in the municipal ity
Finished works	%100	%100	4 304 000.00	2020/04/15	MDP	Completion of the public unloading road Oulad Lakhdar	Oulad Lakhdar
Finished works	%100	%100	3 318 000.00	2020/05/07	MDP	Expanding and renewing the potable water network for the village of Oulad Mosli	Oulad Mousli village
Project in progress	%00	%60	4 363 000,00	2020/04/21	MDP	Completion of the roads of Sabri village	Sabri village
Finished works	98.47 %	%100	4 102 000,00	2020/06/30	MDP	Completion of the road leading to Oulad Bouafia	Oulad Bouafia
Finished works( To pay)'	%00	%100	3 154 000,00	2020/08/16	MDP	Expanding and renewing the disinfection network in Sabri village	Sabri village
Expired and closed	-	%100	4 524 000,00	2021	MDP	Expanding and renewing the potable water network for the village of Oulad Mosli	village of Oulad Mosli
Expired and closed	-	%100	2 010 000,00	2021	MDP	Completing and renewing the potable water network for Al-Hala village	Al-Hala village

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Expired and closed	-	%100	2 153 000,00	2021	MDP	Completion and renewal of the potable water network for the village of Laouinat	village of Laouinat
Expired and closed	-	%100	4 160 000,00	2021	MDP	Expanding and renewing the potable water network for the village of Oulad Bounab	village of Oulad Bounab
Project in progress		%00	3 127 000,00	2021	MDP	Completion of a potable water network for the Faroura Mashtat - Jarda -	Faroura Mashtat - Jarda -
Expired and closed	-	%100	1 873 000,00	2021	MDP	Completion of the disinfection network for Al-Hala village,	Al-Hala village
Expired and closed	-	%100	3 179 000,00	2021	MDP	Paving the road linking the village of Sabri to the national road	Sabri village
Expired and closed	-	%100	5 227 000,00	2021	MDP	Ending the village roads of Lajaher	Lajaher village
Expired and closed	-	%100	8 609 000,00	2021	MDP	Finish the Finish the qa'aa ways	Al qa'a village
Expired and closed	-	%100	8 691 000,00	2021	MDP	Ending the road to the village of Lawashria	Lawashria village
Finished works	-	%100	1 498 000,00	2021	MDP	Restoration of Al-Naili Bin Ashour School	Al-Naili Bin Ashour-

**Source:** Wilaya of Bordj Bou Arreridj: public investment programs registered under the PCD in shadow areas - registration 2020-2021, directorate of budgetary programming and monitoring, 2022.

Through the previous table, it's evident that all the projects aimed at achieving local development and improving living conditions in the shadow areas of Ain Taghrouit Municipality, totaling 20 development projects, were funded through the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) with a total amount of 92,906,000.00 DZD. This significant and considerable amount reflects the crucial role played by the Municipal Development Plan in developing and integrating these shadow areas into the trajectory of development within the province and at the national level.

The programmed projects for the development of isolated and marginalized areas in Ain Taghrouit Municipality under the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) cover various vital and strategic sub-sectors. These include potable water supply, sanitation, electricity connection, improving education conditions, public lighting, road repair, and breaking isolation in these areas. This emphasizes the municipality's special attention to deprived and isolated segments of the population.

Also notable is the registration of 03 development projects in the shadow areas of Ain Taghrouit Municipality under the title of the year 2019. These include the completion project of the eastern Ouled Bounab roads with a value of 7,902,000.00 DZD, the urban development project for the Ainat population center with a value of 6,992,000.00 DZD, and the road construction project in the southern part of Ouled Mousli with a value of 9,371,000.00 DZD. It's worth mentioning that the term "shadow areas" was officially introduced in Algeria in

February 2020, and these projects, recorded in 2019, were accelerated and registered under the umbrella of shadow areas due to the urgent program initiated by the President of the Republic to address the needs of these areas promptly.

Additionally, the financial allocations dedicated to the development of various shadow areas in Ain Taghrouit Municipality under the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) are substantial. The top-ranked project is the completion of roads in the southern part of Ouled Mousli, situated in the shadow area of Ouled Mousli Village, with an allocated amount of 9,371,000.00 DZD. Following this is the project to complete the road in Laouacheria Village, with a financial allocation of 8,691,000.00 DZD, and the project to complete the roads in Al Qa'ah, located in the shadow area of Al Qa'ah Village, with an allocated amount of 8,609,000.00 DZD, having been completed 100%. The project with the lowest financial value is the restoration project of Nailly Ben Ashour School, allocated 1,498,000.00 DZD, and is also completed.

**Conclusion:**

Urban development plans play a prominent role in achieving local development in deprived and marginalized shadow areas. This was evident in the experience of the municipality of Ain Taghrouit in the province of Bordj Bou Arreridj. Through studying and analyzing various components of this research paper, we present the following results and suggestions:

**- Results:**

1. Municipal development plans are non-centralized strategies aimed at financing various development projects in municipalities, especially those with limited internal resources.
2. Local development involves transitioning the local community from stagnation and backwardness to progress and prosperity by meeting basic needs through citizens' self-efforts and central government participation.
3. Municipal development plans are crucial tools for achieving local development by involving municipalities in decentralized local planning, considering the priorities of local citizens in development.
4. State funding through the province supports municipal development plans, encompassing various economic and social sectors.
5. Shadow areas face economic, social, security, educational, and technological challenges hindering the progress of directed development programs, contributing to developmental imbalances and social disparities among citizens.
6. The Algerian state places significant importance on rehabilitating isolated and marginalized areas, reintegrating them into comprehensive national development through the Urgent Program for Shadow Areas. Over 13,000 shadow areas have been surveyed, with 43,705 development projects programmed, totaling DZD 548 billion.
7. The municipal development plan holds great importance in the development of shadow areas within the municipality of Ain Taghrouit. Twenty development projects across various sectors have been funded, reflecting the municipality's reliance on such plans for sustainable community development.
8. Significant financial allocations, amounting to DZD 92,906,000.00, have been earmarked within the municipal development plan for Ain Taghrouit, aimed at developing and revitalizing shadow areas, breaking their isolation, and reintegrating them into local development activities.

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**- Suggestions:**

1. Ain Taghrouit municipality should expedite the completion of ongoing projects in shadow areas and propose other development projects that have an immediate positive impact on the local population, especially in the health sector.
2. The municipality should seriously consider finding self-funding sources for its development projects, moving away from state subsidies.

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