**Project Summary**

**Project Background**
Rural power supply in Afghanistan depends mainly on very small and isolated generation systems. Especially the micro hydro stations do not meet any appropriate standards for rural electrification in most cases. Thus, sustainability in terms of life time is consequently low and the systems do not contribute much to the envisaged target of the Afghan Government.

**Project Objectives**
The objective of the project is to improve the quality of life of rural communities through the provision of electricity services supplied by mini hydropower plants (MHP) with generating capacity below 1,000 kW.
The project outputs are the identification, planning and establishment of a maximum of four off-grid MHPs, each with an installed capacity in the order of magnitude of 500 kW. Target areas are district centers which are not planned for grid connection in the foreseeable future or are being supplied through expensive and unreliable diesel generation. Communities will receive support to establish income-generating activities during the day-time (i.e. off-peak hours).

**Project Activities**
- Commissioning up to four MHPs, each with installed capacity of around 500 kW totalling up to 2.0 MW
- Supply of cheap and reliable electricity to up to 5,000 households (400 W/household)
- Propagation of small enterprises in the supply area
- Capacity building of Ministry of Energy and Water (MEW) and DABS staff in the implementation and operation of the MHPs.

**Implementation Features**
- Provision of affordable and stable electricity
- Increase in rural commercial activities from establishment of enterprises using electricity
- Increased employment opportunities
- Reduction of indoor pollution caused by the use of indigenous sources of energy, and
- Capacity building in small hydropower development.

**Services Provided**
- Selection and Design of Mini Hydropower Subprojects: (i) a desk study, (ii) site visits, (iii) preliminary design, (iv) site selection and (v) detailed design and procurement.
- Implementation and Project Management: (i) construction of up to four MHPs, and (ii) project management.
- Capacity building and support for community based organizations: (i) capacity building of staff of MEW and DABS, and (ii) support for community based organizations to assist in the day-to-day O&M of MHPS and to promote the establishment of small enterprises.

**Afghanistan**

**Development of Mini Hydropower Plants in Badakhshan and Bamyan Provinces**

**Client**
Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat (DABS)

**Duration**
01/2011 - 12/2013

**Personnel**
- Pool of international Experts (61,5 PM)
- Pool of national Experts (176,5 PM)