Project Summary

Project Background
The French cooperation in Afghanistan commissioned a "Survey of access to energy (electricity) in the District of Sorobi and the Province of Kapisa" in November 2009. The survey identified present and future demand for electricity and existing and potential power supply.

Project Objectives
The overall objective of the project was to improve living conditions in the selected project areas through provision of electric power as one key factor for an economic development of the rural area with resulting generation of income possibilities.

Project Activities
- Provision of electricity through the renovation and the construction of 20 Micro Hydro Power Stations (MHPS) in Nijrab district;
- Extension of the transmission line from Mahmood e Raqi to Nijrab;
- Connection of 7 villages along the transmission line Mahmood e Raqi to Nijrab;
- Identification of the optimum supply system for Tagab district;
- Capacity building of operators and consumers on energy use.

Implementation Features
The project implementation was based on the following methodological approaches:
- Coordination and implementation as close as possible with the local population, the local Shuras and the administrative units at district and province level;
- Procurement of equipment under this contract will be made in compliance with acknowledged rules and regulations (e.g. GTZ, EU, ADB);
- The construction works will be organized and conducted by using local workforce to the greatest extent possible to leave as much benefits as possible in the project area. This will be achieved by setting up of minimum employment rates for local workers by the contractor;
- Intensive training programmes at all levels will contribute to the sustainability of the project impacts and will itself create positive impacts. Such measures include:
  - Training of operators will improve operation and maintenance of the power stations and distribution systems, will provide power of better quality and quantity and will contribute to the extension of the project’s lifetime;
  - Training of consumers (especially women) will improve knowledge about electricity in general and of safety and health aspects in particular and will lead to lower peak demand and lower accident rates;
  - Supporting measures in productive use will speed up the economic development of the project areas.

Services Provided
- Establishment of a priority list of MHP to be rehabilitated
- Rehabilitation of power stations
- Training of operators, introduction of adjusted tariff and billing systems
- Selection of villages along the transmission line
- Tender preparation and construction supervision
- Conduct load flow analyses for various supply options
- Conduct business trainings in all villages and district centres
- Support new entrepreneurs in establishing of business
- Establish electricity information centres in district centres and larger villages