Project Summary

Project Background

Some 85 per cent of the rural population of Afghanistan have no access to modern sources of energy and are heavily dependent on inefficient use of fossil fuels. Electrification of the major cities has improved while rural electrification continues to be hampered due to lacking capacities of decision makers and energy planners, poor quality in implementation and insufficient capacities in management, operation and maintenance.

Based on its involvement in the GIZ ESRA programme (phase 1, 2008 – 2010) INTEGRATION was assigned to develop two decentralized mini hydro power grids in selected rural areas on behalf of the Sustainable Rural Livelihoods programme in North-east Afghanistan.

Project Objectives

The objective of the project was to induce rural development through quality rural electrification. Based on infrastructure projects of the Development-oriented Emergency and Transitional Aid (DETA) programme of the GIZ which has helped to establish basic public services in the area (“backbone projects”). It was aimed to accelerate rural social and economic development through the provision of decentralized power.

Project Results

INTEGRATION has planned and implemented two mini hydro power schemes with capacities of 125 and 280kW. They supply approx. 37,000 people in Yaftal e Sofla. Local operators were trained in the management, operation and maintenance of the plants and networks. In order to ensure the sound and sustainable use of power INTEGRATION has promoted productive uses through local micro enterprises as well as the efficient domestic use with a gender sensitive approach.

Services Provided

- A conflict sensitive planning has been conducted;
- Labour intensive implementation of two mini-hydro power stations with a significant local content through “cash for work” and local procurement;
- Two power stations built and commissioned:
  - Fargambowl, 280 kW, two Francis turbine units, commissioned 05/2011,
  - Nalan, 125 kW, one Francis unit, commissioned 03/2012;
- Two decentralized mini-grids including 57 km HV transmission line, 18 transformers, 38 km distribution line have been established;
- Customers connected: Households: 2,661, Businesses: 566 Public buildings: 69, total No. of beneficiaries: 37,404
- 11 Members of operating crews trained;
- A gender balanced training on efficient and safe electricity use been developed;
- Productive uses were promoted in cooperation with the local plant operators.

Afghanistan

Strengthening Livelihood Systems Project (SLS) – Yaftal E Sofla

Client

German International Cooperation (GIZ)

Duration

01/2011 - 07/2012

Personnel

- 4 internat. STE (8 PM, project manager, rural electrification expert)
- 5 regional / national STE (24 PM)