

Project Summary

Projekt Background

Some 89 percent of the rural population of Afghanistan have no access to modern sources of energy and are heavily dependent on inefficient use of fossil fuels. The three programme components of the cooperation project are:

- Energy for rural development,
- Energy planning at the provincial level, and
- Energy policy advisory services at the national level.

With its focus on rural areas, the project fulfils an important function, as up to now the government and other donors have concentrated primarily on improving the power supply to Kabul and other urban centres. Much of the rural electrification effort has to date been limited solely to providing infrastructure, and has neglected the supporting measures needed to ensure the sustainable operation and productive use of energy. This constitutes the point of departure for the project, which demonstrates approaches for ensuring sustainable operation, establishes and improves appropriate framework conditions, and promotes productive energy use.

Project Objectives

Institutional and personnel capacities at the national and provincial levels for promoting rural energy supply by using renewable energies have improved.

Project Activities

In a joint effort with Financial Cooperation, several small hydropower projects designed to supply medium-sized cities with electric power are to be promoted, with funding coming from KfW while GTZ provides the appropriate services, e.g. establishment and reinforcement of operation and management structures, productive use of energy.

The supply of electric power generated from renewable energy sources will be improved in one pilot region.

Implementation Features

Four communities in the pilot region will be provided with electricity generated from hydro; households will be connected. The productive utilization of electric power generated will be promoted.

In order to improve the conditions for the use of renewable energies a new concept for promoting rural electrification using renewable energies that considers gender-specific aspects will be introduced and the partners should be able to use new techniques and instruments for energy planning. As a result plans for power generation in the pilot province foresee a major share of renewable energies.

Energy policy advisory services will contribute to the scaling up of the framework conditions for renewable energies also at the national level.

Services Provided

- Construction supervision of three small hydropower plants and electrification of four communities
- Sustainable operation & maintenance systems
- Realization of business trainings
- Promotion measures for productive use of electricity
- Information and advice on technological issues
- Policy advice at regional and national level
- Support in networking of actors and capacity building activities
- Project management

Afghanistan

Energy Supply in Rural Areas of Afghanistan (ESRA)

Client

German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ)

Duration

03/2008 - 03/2010

Personnel

- 1 internat. LTE (Team leader)
- 8 PM pool of internat. STE
- 10 PM pool of national STE

