

## Energy – the Key to Development



Frequent power cuts and rationing are an everyday occurrence for the Afghan people. Around 70% of households in large metropolitan areas have an electricity supply, compared with just 20% of households in rural regions, where three quarters of the population live. Under such circumstances, companies' production capacity is limited, which means that barely any new jobs are being created and the economic growth so important to the country is failing to materialise.

A large proportion (over 60%) of Afghanistan's electricity is imported; the country produces very little electricity of its own. Given the country's plans for rapid electrification and low prices abroad, importing energy is currently the best option. And yet this situation also creates political dependencies. In the long term, it is necessary to strengthen Afghan electricity production and leverage the great potential of renewable energy to this end.

Since 2003, the German Government has been assisting Afghanistan to develop a sustainable energy supply. The focus in this context is on development and expansion, on rehabilitating the electricity infrastructure and on building systems for energy production from renewable resources. As well as seeking to expand the grid to encourage electricity imports, the Afghan Government's national energy programme aims to boost national energy production from hydro, solar and wind power in future. At political level, support is also being provided to Afghanistan in the areas of strategy development, standardisation, training in the use of renewable energies and improvement of decentralised energy supplies using renewables.

### PROJECT NEWS

- Improving Energy Supply: New Electricity Infrastructure Benefits 90,000 Balkh Citizens (<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/en/news/3173>)  
31.05.2018 | Press release
- Hydropower Plant for 60,000 People in Feyzabad (<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/en/news/3141>)  
08.05.2018 | Press release
- Sustainable Energy (<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/en/news/2901>)  
01.12.2017 | Press release

### READ MORE

- Fact sheet: Energy – the Key to Development (<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/2017-%20Energy-KfW-EN.pdf>)
- Fact sheet: Energy as an Economic Factor (<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/sites/default/files/2017-IDEA-EN.pdf>)

For further information about our work in the priority area of energy, please see the project descriptions and the [‘Stories’](#) section.

## OUR WORK IN THIS SECTOR



### Hydropower: Providing Reliable Energy to the Capital

In order to keep increasing the security of the electricity supply to the Afghan population, the German Government is assisting Afghanistan to rehabilitate its electricity infrastructure and energy production facilities, such as hydropower plants.

(<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/en/news/1789>)



### Renewable energy for Afghanistan

In order to ensure that Afghanistan’s electricity supply operates sustainably and efficiently in the long term, the German Government is assisting Afghanistan with building decentralised electricity generation facilities

based on renewable energy.

(<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/en/news/1785>)



### **Energy as a Driver of Development in Northern Afghanistan**

In Afghanistan, the electricity supply situation varies greatly between urban and rural regions. In order to ensure that Northern Afghanistan's rural population also has secure access to energy, the German Government is supporting work to expand grid-based infrastructure.

(<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/en/news/1783>)



### **Energy as an Economic Factor – Creating a Legal Framework and Facilitating Investment**

In the long term, the German Government is assisting Afghan institutions and companies to increase the energy supply throughout the country and create investment incentives. As a result, all processes will in future be coordinated by Afghans themselves at both provincial and national level.

(<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/en/news/1781>)



### **Electricity in Northern Afghanistan – Promoting Economic Growth and Reducing Poverty**

In order to ensure a reliable energy supply and the associated economic growth, the German Government is providing support for the construction of electricity transmission and distribution grids in rural regions of Northern Afghanistan,

(<http://germancooperation-afghanistan.de/en/news/2079>)