



German Cooperation with Afghanistan

+++ Press Release +++

Power Supply for 14,000 People in Hazar Sumuch District in Takhar

Taloqan, Takhar, 29th August 2018 – Yesterday, Takhar's Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat (DABS) and the Afghan-German Cooperation signed the contract for transmitting power supply to the district Hazar Sumuch in Taloqan, Takhar. More than 14,000 residents from the villages Gunbad, Kunjak and Hazar Sumuch will benefit from the project once it has been realised in about 14 months. The Afghan-German Cooperation's Regional Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) supported DABS to identify the project and will now fund its implementation at a total cost of AFN 124 million.

At the contract-signing ceremony, Takhar's Governor Dr Fazlullah Mujaddedi stated: "We are thankful for the continuous cooperation with the German government regarding development activities in our province. I therefore ask the contractor to carry out these construction works at a high quality level. This will ensure us having a reliable infrastructure". "This project will lighten homes and people will get rid of oil lamps and diesel generators. It will create opportunities for many small businesses in the area", DABS' provincial director added.

The villages Gunbad, Kunjak and Hazar Sumuch currently have no access to electricity. Thus, the project will extend the already existing power distribution system in Taloqan to these three villages. Construction works will include 13 kilometres of transmission lines. Five transformer substations will distribute electricity to about 1,600 customers.

Economic and urban development heavily depends on infrastructure. Electricity supply in this area will significantly improve living conditions of all residents. Public services, schools, markets, health clinics, police stations and other government offices will benefit from the project. Employment opportunities will also occur for a number of residents.

In addition to constructing this new power supply network, the RIDF will also offer on-the-job training, coaching and mentoring sessions for engineers and managers of DABS in Takhar. These activities aim at strengthening DABS' ability to identify, manage, implement and maintain similar projects independently in the future.

The Regional Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) is being implemented by KfW Development Bank on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The programme aims at improving economic and social infrastructure in Northern Afghanistan while enabling provincial administrations to plan and implement development programmes independently. In the past 7 years, the programme has funded, constructed or rehabilitated more than 160 kilometres of roads, 50 kilometres of irrigation canals and 11 protection dams against flooding or erosion in the provinces Balkh, Kunduz, Baghlan, Takhar, Badakhshan. In Samangan, RIDF is currently implementing two school rehabilitation projects. At the same time, the programme has organised about 900 job-specific on-the-job training, coaching and seminars for more than 3,000 engineers and governmental employees facilitating the independent realisation of future infrastructure projects.