



Islamic Republic of Afghanistan  
Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation & Development  
National Area-Based Development Programme



PRESS RELEASE

**NABDP provides electricity to Wakhan District of Badakhshan Province**

**Kabul, Afghanistan (09 June 2010)**

The Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), through the National Area-Based Development Programme (NABDP), has implemented a 60 kW micro hydro scheme in the Wakhan district of Badakhshan province which was commissioned in 30 May 2010.

The Project is benefitting 380 households of Khanduz and Yezak villages by providing electricity in their households. The power is generated with a design discharge of 220 litre per second from Khanduz river and head of 55 meters from forebay to powerhouse. The length of the headrace canal is only 50 meters long, diverted from the river by intake construction and a temporary weir in the river.

After the electrification in that area, the community people are eager to utilise the available energy for other end-uses, including installation of a bakery to prepare "Naan". This project was implemented by the community with ERDA technical support, and community mobilisation was an integral component of project implementation, thereby the community will take on the ownership and management of the plant.

One person from the community was provided training for operation of the plant in coordination with GTZ. The total cost of the project was Afs 6,423,793 in which NABDP contribution was Afs 5,742,535 and the community contributed Afs 681,258 for implementation of the project. Besides this support, NABDP/ERDA provided Afs 600,000 for end-use promotion and Afs 300,000 for DDA support for monitoring and technical supervision of the project.

With support from the international community, NABDP has been actively contributing to a sustainable reduction of poverty and an improvement of livelihoods in rural Afghanistan through establishment of District Development Assemblies (DDAs), enabling a rural population of more than 13 million to actively take part in their development, and lead in the implementation of 1,974 rural development projects.

Started as one of the MRRD priority programmes in 2002, NABDP continues its work in phase III (July 2009 – 2014) with a focus on local governance and DDA institutionalization, sustainable livelihoods through productive rural infrastructure services, and stabilization through enhanced economic livelihoods.

**For further information:**

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