

IMPROVED ENERGY ACCESS

HYDRO POWER IN TAJIKISTAN & AFGHANISTAN



In this region of Tajikistan, civil war left 220,000 people in energy poverty. Diesel generators used to power community infrastructure frequently failed in winter, forcing schools, clinics and small businesses to close. The environment also suffered as people collected wood for cooking and heating, destroying almost 2/3 of the local forest cover. In addition, smoke exposure from cooking on open fires and rudimentary stoves damages health, with women and children most affected.

This two-turbine 14MW hydroelectric power project generates around 94,000MWh of clean, reliable energy every year. This project is protecting local forests, cutting carbon and re-invigorating the local economy. For the first time in 15 years, the region's homes, schools, government administrative buildings and businesses have uninterrupted power. Output has increased to the extent that energy is now exported to 3,500 homes and businesses in neighbouring Afghanistan, with more exports planned in the future.

The stunning Pamir Mountains of south-east Tajikistan and northern Afghanistan are known collectively as the Roof of the World. Residents say that now, a light is being shone on the roof of their world, thanks to this complete overhaul of the electricity grid. Watch this inspiring [video](#) made after having been awarded the prestigious Ashden Award in 2017.

DELIVERING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



For the first time in 15 years, the region is being provided with uninterrupted power, providing a fundamental poverty-reducing service



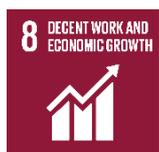
Local clinics can provide reliable and more extensive healthcare services



Students can study longer, schools can stay open throughout the cold winters, and new internet access aids learning



Hydro power has replaced high emission diesel generators



889 jobs have been created at the plant, and the 20% increase in opening times at local businesses and bazaars is providing a further boost to economic growth



225,000 people now enjoy access to a reliable electricity grid, and newly constructed electricity infrastructure in Afghanistan has reached a further 28,500 people



25,000 tonnes of carbon reduced each year



Less demand for fuel wood reduces pressure on local forests

TESTIMONIAL

DOCTOR HOJIFAZ, BASHOR MEDICAL CENTRE :

“It is impossible to imagine surgery without electricity. Until recently, in remote areas of Afghanistan, doctors could not imagine working with equipment that was only available in Kabul. Simple operations were impossible. Many, many people, especially children, died. Today we can diagnose with confidence and carry out effective treatment.”



NISSO ATOBEKOVO, BAKER, KOROG



“Of course it wouldn't be possible [to grow the business without the hydro power plant] for example we couldn't take a lot of orders in the winter. Now we can always take orders and we always have products available.”

OLIMNAZAR MAMADNAZAROV, CHESS TEACHER, AGA KHAN LYCEUM.

“Power provides us with the opportunity not only to play chess, but to use computer equipment, prepare homework using the internet, heat houses and have lights.”



IMAGE GALLERY

Credit: Pamir
Hydro/ClimateCare

