



German Cooperation with Afghanistan

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Water for Justice – New Water Supply System for Samangan’s Department of Justice

Aybak, Samangan, 16th February 2017 – Good work performance requires good working conditions. This also applies to Samangan’s Department of Justice (DoJ) and its provision of services. Since the inauguration of the DoJ’s office in Aybak in 2011, employees did not have access to water at their offices. Today, the Afghan-German Cooperation’s programme to promote the rule of law (RoL) handed over a new water supply system to the DoJ.

Up until today, the lack of proper access to water inhibited the DoJ’s work. Trucks had to deliver water to the building which interrupted the workflow. Water shortages reduced the efficiency of employees, who found it hard to concentrate – particularly on hot summer days. “First of all, I am very happy that part of the Afghanistan governmental staff will be benefited of water. I congratulate the mutual cooperation of Department of Economy and Department of Justice about sharing the water and I express my thanks to GIZ – Promotion of the Rule of Law which underwent the financial supports of the water supply system”, said Mr. Akhtar Mohammad Khairzadah Acting Governor of Samangan province.

It is very important though that the DoJ can perform its tasks properly, as the assigned duties are essential for safeguarding the rule of law: Residents from Northern Afghanistan receive advice on legal questions and huquqs from the entire province receive support for their daily work and technical processes. The better working environment enables the DoJ employees to offer improved services to the people. Mr. Sayed Rafiullah Safawi Head of Department of Justice added: “Thanks from Promotion of the Rule of Law Program that despite of providing technical supports, helps Afghanistan Justice Sector with the infrastructure facilities. This water supply really is another step for better harmony and sympathy between government institutions.”

On behalf of the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the Afghan-German Cooperation has been working together with the Afghan government to promote rule of law in Afghanistan. Since 2003, the project has been supporting the Ministry of Justice of Afghanistan in its efforts to ensure access to justice for all citizens. This is done through supporting better access to justice as well as improving the professional capacity of justice sector staff and . At the same time, legal awareness of citizens is strengthened. The program also focuses on the networking between the relevant ministries to ensure equal rights and a better cooperation amongst each other.