



Project Information Sheet The AGS Building Complex and the AETC

Restoring Capacity - Building the Afghan Geological Survey (AGS) Complex and the Afghan Energy Training Center (AETC)

Implementing Partner	UNOPS
Project Start Date	September 2005
Anticipated Finish Date	July 2006

Objective

Afghanistan is an energy deficient country, with one of the lowest energy use per capita in the world. However, there are significant untapped hydro and hydrocarbon energy reserves in the country that could be developed. The AGS serves as the repository for scientific information on these resources.

To cope with the demand for energy in Afghanistan, many projects have been planned and are in the process of being built. Unfortunately, the lack of energy infrastructure in the country is also accompanied with a lack of a trained workforce in this field. To succeed in implementing energy infrastructure projects as well as their operation and management, there is a need for filling the gap of trained human resources. Thus, the AETC was planned.



Main Building external plaster works



A view of the completed section of the building

Project Description/Purpose

The complex will house both the AGS information center and the AETC. AETC will provide technical training to Afghans working in the energy field, especially in the power system.

As part of its assistance to the development of the natural resources of Afghanistan, USAID has committed to refurbishing the AGS building complex, to accommodate both the staff of the AGS as well as the AETC operations.

AETC will occupy two lower floors of this 5-story building. This center after the completion would operate under the auspices of the Ministry of Energy and Water (MEW) for training the technical personnel and workforce needed for energy infrastructure projects development, operation and maintenance for the entire country.

Progress to Date

Work started on the buildings of the AGS Complex on Sept. 10, 2005. The Annex was the first building to be renovated, which was substantially completed on November 30, 2005. AGS staff shifted temporarily into the Annex in December 2005.

Retrofit and renovation work is in progress on the Main Building and Museum Block. Work on renovation of the Kindergarten building will commence on March 15th, 2006.

The expected completion date for renovation of the entire AGS Complex is July 2006.