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THE USAID CASA-1000 SECRETARIAT ACTIVITY FACT SHEET

Central Asia South Asia (CASA)-1000 will enable seasonal hydro-power surpluses from Central Asia to serve growing electricity demands in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

OBJECTIVES

Some countries in Central Asia enjoy a surplus of electricity during the summer season. The Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan have some of the world's most abundant clean hydropower resources. By contrast, in nearby South Asia, Afghanistan and Pakistan have substantial and growing commercial and residential electricity demand. CASA-1000, a new high-voltage electricity transmission system connecting four countries in Central and South Asia, will help alleviate energy shortages and encourage economic growth by facilitating trade of electricity between countries in Central and South Asia. The CASA-1000 construction project is supported by several donors and international financial institutions.

USAID provides assistance to the CASA-1000 project through its support for a Secretariat. The Secretariat provides technical assistance to coordinate and accelerate the procurement, construction, and establishment of the CASA-1000 power transmission infrastructure. The Secretariat also assists with establishing critical commercial arrangements that will facilitate regional, cross-border electricity trade between Central and South Asia. The CASA-1000 project serves as a critical first step toward deepening regional energy cooperation and establishing stronger prospects for cross-border electricity trade.

NUREK HYDRO POWER PLANT IN TAJIKISTAN/ USAID

COUNTRIES AND ACTIVITY PROGRESS

Field construction activities are well underway on all ten construction contracts in the four CASA-1000 countries: The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and the Republic of Tajikistan. Steady progress on the \$1.2 billion infrastructure project continues with a commercial start date expected in 2024.

OUR WORK

USAID has provided the funding and institutional support for the project's Inter-Governmental Council CASA-1000 Secretariat since 2014. The CASA-1000 Secretariat plays a vital role in facilitating and accelerating completion of this large-scale international infrastructure project. The Secretariat also facilitates establishing commercial and institutional arrangements to enable regional electricity trade. USAID has also provided funding to a donor trust fund to help finance the project.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The 1,300 km CASA-1000 project is designed to link the power systems of four contiguous countries in Central and South Asia. When complete, it will provide the capacity to move 1,300 megawatts (MW) of electricity to meet the growing demand for power in South Asia using the clean hydropower resources of Central Asia thereby increasing regional trade and encouraging regional autonomy.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

The CASA-1000 Secretariat continues to assist all CASA countries with construction progress and has initiated next phase commercial implementation activities. Recent activities include:

- Constructing transmission lines in the Kyrgyz Republic with excavations for 97 transmission towers completed. In total, 1,241 towers will need to be installed in the Kyrgyz Republic.
- Civil construction for the critical Sangtuda high voltage direct current (HVDC) Converter Station site in Tajikistan is over 90 percent complete, with total construction now over 50 percent complete.
- Continued construction of transmission towers in Afghanistan with excavations for 680 transmission towers have been completed; 164 towers have been erected.
- Assistance provided to help finalize the HVDC Technical Code required for commercial operations to align the grid codes of each CASA-1000 country for power trade.
- Construction initiated at the Nowshera Converter Station site in Pakistan, with all private land compensation payments completed.

CONTACT

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