



Increasing Access to Electricity and Community Development: Khimti Neighborhood Development (KiND) Project in Nepal

Providing access to electricity is one of the most potent ways to fuel individual and community development. UNDP and Himal Power Limited, a private power producer company in Nepal, launched a partnership project (2007-2010) to increase electricity access to villages near the Khimti Hydropower Plant (60MW) site. The Project is being implemented by the Alternative Energy Promotion Centre, a government body under the overall framework of another UNDP-assisted project called the Rural Energy Development Programme.

The KiND Project will supply electricity to about 3100 hitherto marginalized households by constructing a 400 kilowatt mini-hydro power plant and establishing rural electrification and distribution grids. At the same time, various initiatives will be undertaken to build essential infrastructures, promote local entrepreneurship, and foster community development. These initiatives will tap on the expertise of other UNDP-assisted projects, including the Micro-Enterprise Development Programme, to achieve synergy. Additionally, KiND will support the institutional capacity of the Khimti Rural Electric Cooperative Limited to ensure the sustainability of the hydropower-based community development.

This \$3.85 million-project, \$200,000 of which is contributed by UNDP and the rest by the Government of Norway and Himal Power Limited, is expected to improve the standards of living in the households of 10 Village Development Committees spread over Dolakha and Ramechhap districts.

In view of the Project's initial success, a similar project to electrify rural areas and foster community development is also under consideration in the larger Tamakoshi Basin in Nepal.

Please click [here](#) for details of the Khimti Neighborhood Development Project.

Contact persons:

Tek Gurung (Email: tek.gurung@undp.org) and Nabina Shrestha, UNDP Nepal. (Email: nabina.shrestha@undp.org). More information about UNDP activities in Nepal can be found on <http://www.undp.org.np>.