

	digital services			
	Connectivity			
	Tags: transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	people2people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	digital connectivity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reduction of Inequalities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Covid-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
12. Amounts concerned	Budget line: NDICI geographic pillar for Asia and the Pacific Total Estimated cost: 15 000 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution: 15 000 000			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
13. Type of financing ¹	Direct management through: - Procurement - Grants			

1.2. Summary of the Action

The National Development Strategy (NDS) of the Republic of Tajikistan covering 2016-2030 aims to improve the population's living standards based on sustainable economic development through energy security and efficient use of electricity, integrated management of water resources, productive employment and exit from connectivity limitations.

The Government of Tajikistan (GoT) plans to achieve the energy objectives through reduction of electricity consumption by means of energy efficiency (EE) measures and diversification of the energy sources, including use of renewable energy. An additional objective is to increase energy exports within the framework of an integrated regional grid.

The ongoing reform of the power sector of Tajikistan aims to create an open power market and facilitate power trade with the neighbouring countries both inside and outside the Central Asian region, primarily with Uzbekistan, Afghanistan and Pakistan. The National Electricity Company, Barki Tojik (BT) was split up into separate companies responsible for generation, transmission and distribution in the end of 2019. However, the re-allocation of assets among the newly created companies is still incomplete. This has in turn, delayed the introduction of targeted cost-reflective tariffs.

The impact of poor quality and unequal power supply has been particularly severe on the poorest population groups, mainly employed in agriculture and living in remote areas, affecting their food security and nutritional status and lowering their living standards. Women, who make up a substantial part of the agricultural workforce and take the lead role in household, energy, water, waste management and childcare, have borne the brunt of this. Especially, the shortage of water and sanitation puts a particular burden on women and girls under 15 years of age as the primary collectors of water and cleaners of the sanitation facilities in rural households.

Although they both come under the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources (MEWR), the power and water sectors do not collaborate effectively to create a workable Water-Energy-Food Nexus² approach in strategic planning as a means for power and water intensity reduction in the country's economy.

¹ Art. 27 NDICI

² Addressing the strong nexus between water, climate, energy and food is essential to achieve the objectives of the European Green Deal, which aims at making the EU's economy sustainable by turning climate and environmental challenges into opportunities across all policy areas