

Advocacy toolkit case studies

IMPROVING INFRASTRUCTURE IN AFGHANISTAN

THEMES:

Governance
Water, sanitation and hygiene

ADVOCACY APPROACH:

Government officials: meeting with

One of Tearfund's partners in Afghanistan operates in a very difficult cultural and political environment with ongoing security concerns. They often have to demonstrate enormous courage and overcome significant risk just to be able to operate, let alone speak out in advocacy.

In one particular district, community members worked together to make a plan for their incomplete electric project. Community representatives negotiated with government officials to gain the permission required to connect their area with the city power grid. It was not easy, as the officials were reluctant to engage. However, they persevered and permission was granted, so that the district is now connected to the city power grid.

As a result, a group that previously did not agree with the partner's work in the area had a change of heart after witnessing for themselves what happened through the negotiations with the government. The group approached the partner for assistance in preparing to meet with the government to negotiate a drainage line to their community. Group representatives had to overcome fear to approach the relevant government officials, but their meetings were successful, and they ended up working together on constructing the drainage line.