

## NO MATTER HOW FAR YOU HAVE GONE ON WRONG ROAD TURN BACK – TURKISH PROVERB

### REDP in the United Nations Climate Change at Bali Conference

Climate change is affecting all of us. Droughts, floods, hunger, and disease make the Millennium Development Goals much harder to reach. It is the poor who walk with the lightest carbon footprint, facing the heaviest impacts. Collective action is the only option to achieve an equitable climate deal by 2009. We must bring emissions down while, at the same time, bring clean and affordable energy to 2.6 billion global citizens. Sustainable human development must be our moral compass and practical goal.

Perhaps it was in Baglung province in Nepal where I saw the true symbiosis of our common endeavor. The simple 40kW generator using run-off water from the Himalayas provided electricity to 450 households, transforming the lives of women, children and men. *(Source: Excerpt from the speech of UNDP Associate Administrator Ad Melkert, UNFCCC COP 13, Indonesia, Bali, 13 December 2007)*

### Energy Village in offing

The scantily lit and sparsely populated hilly villages across Baglung are expected to illuminate by 2009, if a plan to turn the district into a model energy village succeeds. According to Rural Energy Development Programme (REDP), several micro hydro projects are being set up to generate more than one mega watt hydro power the largest quantity generated under one programme (REDP), several micro hydro projects are being set up to generate more than one mega watt hydro power the largest quantity generated under one programme in a district in Baglung within this year.

After the successful completion of this initiative works for the development of mini-grid in other pockets would be carried out. Baglung is the model district for the promotion of rural energy systems, particularly the micro hydro. As several micro hydro schemes have been developed in some natural geographical areas, the concept of development of Urja Arc, Urja Upatyaka, Urja Strip and Urja Gaon energy valley, energy belt, energy village has emerged as a new dimension that proves that if planned deliberately and specifically to meet the rural energy needs, the decentralized rural/renewable energy systems could fulfill the objectives, relieving the necessity of extension of national grid into the area. *(Source: The Himalayan Times, 13 July, 2008)*

### REDP's Intended Outputs and its Specific Targets

The Rural Energy Development Programme Phase III (REDP-III) is to contribute to the peace process by building local capacity for sustainable, community-managed, and equitable rural energy service delivery for poverty alleviation, livelihood promotion and environmental protection. This objective supports objectives of the Government of Nepal (GoN) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in line with the existing United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF, 2002-2007) as well as the new UNDAF (2008-2010). The intended outputs are: i) lessons and best practices of REDP and other experiences are used for design of new model and continuous learning in rural energy and poverty alleviation in Nepal; ii) local level has capacity built to increase energy access through community management model in 40 districts iii) local level has capacity built to link energy services to poverty alleviation through productive and other end uses, including for women and socially excluded, in 40 districts; iv) Support to AEPC for energy planning in line with the key elements of an operational/functional Rural Energy Policy and local level environment mainstreaming started in 75 districts and national levels; and v) innovative approaches for long-term micro-/mini hydro and RETs sustainability are piloted, including developing micro-hydro projects as a Clean Development Mechanism project. Over a two and half year period from 2007-2009 the project will deliver 1.7 MW of community-managed micro-/mini hydropower, 2,200 toilet-connected biogas plants, 9,000 improved cook stoves, and 550 solar home systems to 20,000 households in 40 districts of Nepal through a holistic community development model and integrated rural energy planning.

