

HAPPYNESS KEEPS YOU SWEET, TRAILS KEEP YOU STRONG, SORROW KEEP YOU HUMAN, LIFE KEEP YOU HUMBLE

ENTERPRISES DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

With the objective of developing trained entrepreneurs at local level in line with the target of implementing the Innovate Livelihoods Package, REDP has conducted four (4) days long training programme at Budhathum VDC, Dhading from 12 to 15 May, 2009. Altogether 27 potential entrepreneurs from community have participated in the training. During the training, participants were trained on theoretical and practical knowledge and skills on different aspects of business development such as identification of locally available resources, collection of markets information and preparation of business plans for their selected enterprises. The training programme was facilitated by the resource person Mr. Lekh Nath Iteni.

It is envisaged that the Micro Hydro Functional Group (MHFG) will provide soft loan from the end use support fund to the selected entrepreneurs based on the technical and financial viability.

RURAL ENERGY FOR RURAL TOURISM

In order to support the GoN's auspicious endeavor to promote rural tourism in upper Gorkha, the REDP has given priority to promote rural energy for rural tourism. Started operation in Gorkha district from January 2008, the programme has implemented its activities in three VDCs of upper Gorkha, namely, Gumba, Lapu and Uiya. These VDCs have high tourism potential as the main trekking routes pass through them. There exist high potentials for the promotion of micro / mini hydropower systems in the area as there are numerous streams and rivulets criss-crossing these VDCs.

Electricity is the basic infrastructure required not only for the promotion of livelihood related activities but also for conservation, enterprise development and tourism promotion. The electricity is required to provide basic services in hotels, lodges, restaurants, cyber café, communication centers etc. Further, the electricity helps establish essential services providing enterprises such as rural carpentry, rural bakery, poultry farming and crafts making in the locality to support the tourism industry. The development of micro hydro plants will help to generate decentralized electricity needed for these services.

The hotels and restaurants also need other forms of modern energy services for cooking and space heating. For this, the programme will encourage for the installation and operation of solar water heaters in the hotels, lodges and individual households. Toilet connected biogas plants will also be promoted. Other potential technologies that will be promoted in these VDCs include Bbayupankhi improved cookstove, passive solar energy, solar cookers and electric pressure cookers. *(Based on information provided by SRESDA Mr. Thakur Raj Devkota.)*

WORKSHOP ON EFFICIENT ENERGY MANAGEMENT AND RENEWABLE ENERGY



Rural Energy Advisor of REDP Ms. Tara Shrestha has participated in the "Efficient Energy Management and Renewable Energy" workshop held at Washington DC, USA from 12 - 20, May, 2009. The workshop was organized by the United States Energy Association (USEA) with support of USAID as an executive exchange programme for SAWIE (South Asian Women in Energy). The main objective of the event was to exchange knowledge and experiences on the renewable energy development in USA and developing countries such as Nepal, India and Bangladesh. The participants got opportunities to learn about the efficient and effective management and latest technological development of renewable energy, namely smart grid, solar, wind and green architecture. During the event, representatives of different countries have presented the papers on their respective organizations.

