

WHEN THE PEOPLE BECOME GOOD, THE WORLD WILL BECOME GOOD – Shree Satya Sai Baba

NATIONAL CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP ON “SMART” SUBSIDY



With an objective to disseminate the findings obtained from a study on “Pro-poor Smart Subsidy Mechanism with Adjustment/Extension in the Existing Subsidy Policy and Sustainable Institutional Mechanism” conducted in the year 2008-09, AEPC/REDP organized a National Consultative Workshop on ‘Implementation of “Smart” Financial Mechanism’ on Thursday June 11, 2009 at Hotel Everest, Kathmandu. The study was conducted by Dr. Govind Koirala from SAPPROS-Nepal with the technical and financial assistance of the REDP/UNDP. Invitees from government organizations, donors, elected bodies, private organizations and media had participated in the workshop that was chaired by Executive Director of AEPC Dr. Narayan Prasad Chaulagain.

Senior Officer of AEPC Mr. Mangal Das Mahajan delivered the inaugural welcome that was followed by brief remarks by UNDP ARR Vijaya Singh and REDP NPM Kiran Man Singh. Similarly, Senior Officer of AEPC Surya Sapkota reflected upon the evolution of subsidy policy in Nepal. Then after, Dr. Govind Koirala made an elaborative presentation based upon the study findings with pertinent recommendations. Finally, three national experts Dr. Govind Nepal, Dr. Jagdish Chandra Pokharel and Dr. Laxmi Prasad Devkota presented their individual views on the existing subsidy policy in Nepal. During the discussion session, the participants put forward their comments and suggestions. While responding to the queries, Dr. Koirala also agreed to incorporate the relevant suggestions while finalizing the report. Finally the workshop Chairperson Dr. Chaulagain reiterated the importance of this study, thanked all participants for their interests, active participation with recommendations and adjourned the workshop.

The REDP will submit the final report to AEPC for adopting the recommendations into the RET subsidy policy in order to make “Smart”, “Effective” and “Pro-poor” for accessing energy services to remote locations of Nepal within a short time frame. *(Information provided by Aruna Pant, MCO)*

STUDY ON GENDER AUDIT

The national consulting firm Rural Women's Development and Unity Centre (RUWDUC) has been carrying out a "Gender Audit" for REDP with the objective of gender tracking of the programme at the institutional level as well as in the field level for making recommendations for modifying the policy, strategy and actions to further enhancing the gender mainstreaming in the rural energy sector of Nepal. The study team led by Consultant Ms. Shova Basnet has concluded the field visits to some communities with REDP supported micro hydro systems in Kavre, Dhading and Tanahun districts. Likewise, interactions have also been made with key stakeholders at local and central levels.



REDP has been practicing its community mobilization with its six basic principles. The vulnerable community empowerment is one of them. Emphasis has been given for women empowerment with impressive results. The focus has been given to supporting the peace-building at local levels through the promotion of modern energy services to poorer and more remote areas benefiting women, the poor, and socially excluded groups.

DISTRICT ENERGY PLANNING WORKSHOP

DDC:DEES Tanahun has been organized a "District Energy Planning Workshop" on 4 June, 2009 at Damauli. The programme was aimed to (1) orient VDC secretaries and other energy related stakeholders on RETs and (2) make them aware of the importance of rural energy planning process. There were altogether seventy (70) participants. The event was inaugurated by the Local Development Officer (LDO) Mr. Hari Prasad Dahal. Among others, REDP's REA Ms. Tara Shrestha made a presentation on REDP linking with the Rural Energy Policy 2006. Other key topics that were discussed in the workshop included the overview on DDC:DEES with its overall progress status, Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and the energy targets of GoN's three years interim plan.