

IF YOU WANT OTHERS TO BE HAPPY, PRACTICE COMPASSION, IF YOU WANT TO BE HAPPY, PRACTICE COMPASSION – Dalai Lama

BRIGHT NEPAL CAMPAIGN: FISCAL YEAR 2066/2067 BUDGET

On 14 July, 2009, the Government of Nepal has announced the Fiscal Year 2066/067 budget in the parliament. The clauses related to the rural energy sector as elaborated under the **BRIGHT NEPAL CAMPAIGN** are presented below.

Clause No. 181: The micro hydro systems upto one Megawatt capacity will be promoted in the rural areas. A total of 27,480 households of remote villages will access the electricity services from the additional power of 2,748 kW generated from these systems. The budget of Rs. 601,400,000 is allocated for micro hydro systems being implemented through Alternative (Rural) Energy Programme. The continuation is given to the Solar Energy Programme.

Clause No. 182: While continuing the Rukum Ujyalo Programme, the Bright Nepal Campaign will be implemented by expanding similar programme in other districts. The Wind Energy generation will be initiated in the feasible places through the participation of the private sector.

Clause No. 183: Additional 18,000 biogas plants will be constructed targeting to the poor, Dalits, conflicts affected and marginalized groups as well as ethnic communities through the increment on the prevailing subsidy.

Clause No. 184: The Jathropha cultivation and processing industries will be promoted for the production of bio-diesel from the Jathropha within the country as the alternative to the imported petroleum products. The emphasis will be given to the R&D of other options of the bio-fuel.

KiND PROJECT EXECUTIVE BOARD (PEB) MEETING

The 7th PEB Meeting of KiND project was held on Friday 10 July, 2009 at AEPC/REDP meeting hall Khumaltar, Lalitpur. The meeting was attended by ED of AEPC and NPD of KiND Dr. Narayan Prasad Chulagain, DCD of UNDP Mr. Jorn Sorensen, ARR of UNDP Mr. Vijaya Singh, PR Specialist of SN Power/HPL Mr. Suman Basnet and Chairperson of KREC Mr. Narayan Dhoj Khadka. Other participants included PO of UNDP Ms. Anupa Lamichhane, NPM of KiND Mr. Kiran Man Singh, Engineer of AEPC and Focal Person of KiND Mr. Bipin Karki, REA Keshav Pradhanganang, KiND CTL Rup Narayan Yadav and REDP staffs.

The NPM Mr. Singh made a brief presentation on progress made by KiND in second quarter, 2009 annual work plan revision, third quarter work and backward planning of major activities. Then after free and frank discussion, interactions were held among participants and received valuable comments and suggestions. Among others, the meeting endorsed the second quarter progress report, third quarter work plan and 2009 work plan revision.

ONE MORE FUNCTIONAL GROUP REGISTERED INTO A COOPERATIVE

The Girindi Khola Micro Hydro Functional Group of Dagatundada VDC, Baglung has registered into a Micro Hydro Cooperative Ltd. It is envisaged that the micro hydro cooperative can play a lead role towards the system sustainability and livelihood enhancement of the rural community people. The members of both male COs and female COs are legally registered as the share holders of the cooperative.

REDP has facilitated the process in the VDC in line with the initiation of its one of three innovative livelihoods packages. Though at the initial stage of implementation, the main focus of the planned livelihood promotion activities is to facilitate the cooperative to diversify. Its functions and services leading towards the sustainable growth based on equality and equity. Among others, emphasis will be given to the smooth operation of micro hydro system through the promotion of energy based enterprises, revenue collection and benefits sharing among the members.