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Empowering People through Enlightenment

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THE ENERGY SECTOR CAN PLAY A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN REDUCING ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE AND OTHER HARMFUL EFFECTS

ILLUMINATION IN REMOTE VILLAGES OF PARBAT

Remote villages of Parbat have been illuminated with the generation of electricity easily from the local rivers and rivulets. While the national grid has electrified the district headquarter and adjoining areas, presently the villagers have produced the example of electrification from their own efforts by utilizing water of rivers flowing nearby their villages.

The residents of more than half dozen VDCs of Parbat have adopted the options of micro hydro electrification by mobilizing their own labor contribution and cash collection along with Rural Energy Development Programme, Alternative Energy Promotion Center, District Development Committee and Village Development Committee. As of now, in Parbat district, a total of 156 kW has been generated by 11 micro hydro systems in the eight (8) VDCs. Altogether 1600 households are directly benefited from them. The micro hydro electrification is used in southern Pangrang, Bachha, Saraunkhola, Huwas and Bhorle VDCs including far-northern Kyang, Bhukatangle and Bhoksing. The consumers are attracted to micro hydro electrification for utilizing electricity generated from their own efforts locally in villages where it would take years to reach the national grid.

Villagers are engaged in income generating activities by operating various micro enterprises at local levels from micro hydro electrification. Mr. Ganesh Poudel of Energy Development Section said that villagers have sold different items from fruits like Lapshi and peach that are sold at cheap price due to lack of processing skills. The consumers have operated various enterprises that include rice mill, candy jam industry and cable network.

The consumers have expressed that the development has been felt in rural settlements that are far from the access of the government due to the promotion and dissemination of rural energy technologies that are proven to be appropriate from the environmental perspectives as well as elimination of load shedding and environmental problems. Though Nepal has the potential of 80 Megawatt of electricity generation from the micro hydro plants, only 10 Megawatt have been produced so far. Likewise, the general public is encouraged to use other modern energy technology after the implementation of Rural Energy Development Programme.

The EDO of DEES Ms. Manju Shilakar said that the demand for the construction of Improved Cooking Stove, Solar Home System and toilet attached Biogas plants. She added further that DEES has been providing financial and technical supports to villagers for activities such as community nursery establishment and forestation with the objective of environmental sustainability. (*Source: Annapurna Post, 26 Baishak 2066*)

TWO MICRO HYDRO SCHEMES COMMISSIONED AT EASTERN REGION

With the hard slog and strong commitment of villagers as well as the financial and technical support of REDP, two micro hydro schemes have been completed successfully in Eastern Region.



The 20 kW Subuwa Khola Micro Hydro Scheme (MHS) is situated in Hangpang VDC of Taplejung.

The scheme was completed on 24 July, 2009. A total number of 200 households have been directly benefited by the scheme.

Similarly, 12 kW Nibu Khola III MHS at Aangsarang VDC of Panchthar district has been commissioned on 26 July, 2009. The scheme has directly benefited 116 households of the community. After completion of the both schemes, respective community people are actively engaging in the process of establishing various end-uses such as agro processing mill, saw mill and cable TV network.

REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON MAINSTREAMING GENDER IN ENERGY PROJECTS

Rural Energy Advisor of REDP Mr. Narendra K.C has participated in the "Asia Regional Workshop on Mainstreaming Gender in Energy Projects". The workshop was held at Sri Lanka, Colombo from 13 – 16 July 2009. The workshop was organized by ENERGIA- International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy. The main propose of the event was to share experiences and knowledge on Mainstreaming Gender in energy projects. The workshop has given participants a deeper understanding of gender mainstreaming in energy projects and how they can integrated into a holistic development of the projects. During the workshop it has been circulated the draft handbook of ENERGIA Methodology to mainstream gender into energy projects which has included best practices of various countries as well. A total of 15 participants from seven (7) countries participated in this workshop. The participants got opportunities to learn and share about the "Best Practice" experience in this event.