

Proceedings(Abridged)

First Regional Seminar of the INforSE South Asia Capacity Building Project of the NGOs

Held in New Delhi-April 18-24,2006 at New Delhi YMCA

Session I : Day 1: April 19th 2006

Inauguration and Short introduction to project and plans

Welcome

Mr. Gunner extended a very warm welcome to the participants to the first regional seminar. He noted with deeper satisfaction that partners from Nepal-Sri Lanka –Bangla Desh –India –NGP partners and INSEDA-RSU team have been able to make it. He also welcomed the special invitees to this important seminar. In his brief welcome address he expressed his hope that the joint deliberations on such vital issue of global significance will yield specific results and pave the way for renewed commitment to reach the poor with affordable renewable energy solutions/practices.

Mr. Raymond Myles in his capacity as a Regional Co-ordinator of INFORSE as well as the Local host welcomed the participants. He briefed the group about the inception of the project and the activities carried out in one year. He mentioned that INFORSE, mainly started with South Asian countries in April, 2005 and have now completed one year of its operation and it is right time to take a closer and critical look of the progress made. He stated that today all are talking about Renewable energy resources/ development but practically not reaching to the poor. Thinking on the same line INFORSE thought of Capacity Building of the Trainer of Trainees and use their power through capacity building for poverty reduction. It will be our effort to reach to the poor through capacity building and Renewable energy. He mentioned that it is the realisation that renewable energy technologies are not reaching the poor and which are primarily intended for the rural masses and therefore it was stressed in the project to build the capacity of the NGOs and develop trainers in the NGOs. Also to reach the poor they need to be empowered and therefore the three manuals are being developed for the purpose in the project. Here we need to see which technologies are relevant for the poor and then to look into resources. Apart from training, financing is important to empower and therefore a financial manual was necessary. He said that during this seminar three important manuals i.e. 1) Technology on Renewable energy manual 2) Financial manual 3) Training manual for NGO's on Project planning and implementation with its draft /broad framework will be discussed thread-bear and all the participants are expected to give their valuable comments / suggestions to help prepare the pre-final draft for further polishing / additions / editing before it is finalized. He urged the participants for maximum input to finalize the manuals.

Appointment of Rapporteurs and logistic arrangements

Mr. Myles suggested the names of Ms. Milli Chaturvedi and Mr. Sanjiv Nathan to be the rapporteurs during the seminar, this was accepted by the members.

Mr. Myles also announced that his colleague and a RSU team member Mr. Prakash Manwar, who has been in touch with the members, is also sharing the responsibility of providing all the local logistic facilities for the participants and seminar. The participants were requested to contact him in any case of need who is also occupying one of the rooms at NDY.

Introduction of the participants

The seminar initiated with an introduction session of all the attending participants, The participants were requested to introduce themselves they shared in brief about their organizations, objectives and respective focus of their activities.

Mr. Myles informed the house that Fr. Mathew, SDA would not be able to attend the seminar as he had met with an accident. The participants wished Fr. Mathew a speedy recovery.

Introduction of the Programme by Mr. Gunnar

Mr. Gunnar using projector, explained the participants about the development objectives of the project where focus is on to reduce poverty. He briefly mentioned specific objectives, the success criteria and the activities as mentioned in the project document. He also referred to the training material with focus on the use of sustainable energy to reduce poverty, positive cases, financing and income giving activities with RETs so that each of the draft documents would be taken up for discussions during the seminar. He suggested the participants to critically study /analyse the documents in the light of practicality, affordability and the deadlines set before us. The speaker further pointed out to the participants the main objective is to finalize all the above mentioned manuals and to make manual in use at local level and for local and national advocacy. He further added that the inputs will go for policies, developing training and information material in Sustainable Energy

Technologies (SET's) and success of SET's. He while emphasizing on the training material said that present participants from various areas will support the NGO's in practise with Sustainable Energy as part of poverty reduction. The training manual will be in english and later on can be translated in other required languages. It will also be in CD and in the websites also for easy accessibility.

In particular he mentioned about the Grameen Shakti experience and said that we can learn a lot from their practical concept as elaborated in their financial manual. The third manual he mentioned on training material for NGOs on how to work with sustainable energy for poor.

He further the specific project objective is to finalyze all the above mentioned manuals and to make manual in use at local level and for local and national advocacy. he further explained the success criteria and various activities to be carried out during action, which starts with meetings and baseline survey, inputs **for policies, developing training and information material in Sustainable Energy** Technologies (SET's) and success of SET's.emphasizing on the training material he said that present participants from various areas will support the NGO's in practise with Sustainable Energy as part of poverty reduction. The training manual will be in english and later on can be translated in other required languages. It will also be in CD and in the websites also for easy accessibility.

He explained the various training manuals and its contents; the first training manual

training manual 1: will give

- Guidelines to choose the best SET solution locally (area specific)
- Overview of solutions that can be used
- Technical and Organizational solutions

training manual 2: will give

Financial and income giving activities on Renewable Energy Technologies (RET's) it will give the financial models of Sustainable Energy solutions and access to the Energy. It will mainly concentrate on Micro Finance

training module 3 :

It will be on Training manual for NGO's on how to work with Sustainable Energy for poverty Reduction.

Initial comments after the First Session:

Mr. Paul emphasized on considering the time for the follow -up of the programme. Mr. Myles added that during the implementation we should have workshops at the national level for brainstorming and presentations for the logical framework.

Ms Soma said that monitoring and evaluation is important factor and we need to see that M7E is sensitive to poverty , gender and environment aspects. She also mentioned that we need to give references in the manual. She also mentioned about the financing models of SELCO. She suggested to refer Energy planning manual by K V Ramani which may be available in TERI library.

other comments included:

- monitoring and evaluation schemes have to be used for measuring the progress and reference has to be given in the manual that has been given as a reference material of seminar.
- as far as Financial model is concerned it should emphasize on how it works/ed, in what specific situations. At the same time indicators have to be jointly developed in monitoring and evaluation processes for new learnings.

(some of the references given for this material as Teri library books by KV Ramani and some books also available at Asia Pacific Development Center (APDC).

Session 2: Presentation and discussion on manuals

The Agenda

The draft Agenda for the meeting was then projected for discussion and understanding so as to proceed during the seminar with the provision that the agenda may have to be revised based on the direction of deliberations. With this the draft agenda was accepted.

Discussion on the Technical Manual

- 1) Biomass Technologies
 - a) Improved cook stoves

It started with the sharing of the Biomass technologies described in the manual. First it discussed about the improved cook stove and various models in the manuals were discussed

summarization after the session:

The Anagi improved cook stove model from Sri Lanka was discussed, the participants from Sri Lanka explained about their model and also their benefits in the community. They said that initially there was extensive use of firewood but now due to use of Anagi it has stopped. women used to face respiratory problems, eye diseases, asthma but now due to ICS it has reduced. this stove can be easily maintained, easily used and smoke goes out of the house. It has also brought social changes, initially the lower caste people were not allowed to construct the ICS but now they are the major promoters. they have included lower caste people from 16 districts for construction and also achieving major success as income generating activity. training are given to promoters and now they are making their own association.

Comments after the presentation:

- **Mr. Gunnar** emphasized that from the various models given in the manual it has to select those which are maximum used, positive points of each model along with their costs has to be mentioned and also the reasons for its success should be given.
- **Nepal** participants said that many times the chimneys have stopped working so people are going back to traditional models thus monitoring, care and maintenance should also be emphasized in the manual.
- **Soma** suggested that mention in the manual why these models are used and why we have selected these models for manual.
- **Sohard** suggested that meeting with the local women users is also necessary before finalising it.
- at the end it was decided to include those models in manual that are extensive in use.

the manual should give the criteria, principle for cooking. INSEDA will consult and decide the priorities for selecting the design for Improved cook stove (ICS). Sri Lanka will give the summary to INSEDA on its experiences with ICS and also comments from all are required.

Discussion on Sustainable Energy Manual

Each technology was discussed as per the sequence which was decided during inception meeting in Sri Lanka. Under each heading the points discussed are being mentioned. Since the draft manual was prepared on the basis of technologies, it was suggested to reorganize the manual as per the need and relevance to the poor, which was decided in the inception meeting.

Improved Cookstoves

- Introduction about cookstoves required.
- Under biomass, cookstove should come first and then briquetting
- Reference of contact organization required where more information will be available
- Technical manual of ICIMOD can be looked into.
- Price and how many in use need to be mentioned
- ARECOP Manual to be referred

Presentation by CRT Nepal

The representative made the presentation and stated that earlier lots of fuel wood was being used in Nepal and now firewood collection is restricted and need user group permission. Apart from this, women have adverse health affect due to smoke using traditional stoves. Therefore CRT has tried to improve the traditional stoves and now the kitchen is smoke free and it is clean. They are not facing health problem, are saving the wood fuel and thus going to forest is reduced. The project is successful and every one is using that. Local partners and field technicians were trained. Trainings were conducted to promote the solutions for the rural communities. Women were also trained but as is the men folks dominate and as it is difficult for women to go long distances. In Nepal as there is caste system the lower castes are not allowed by higher castes, therefore selection of promoters was done on the caste basis. This has however now changed

and high caste people are inviting lower caste people for chulha construction as the workmanship is better in making quality chulhas. This has brought in a big change and CRT alone has promoted 1,22,000 chulhas since 2002. These are made of clay and rods are used for pot holes. This costs few rupees and there is no subsidy while promoter also charges for his service. The cost may vary from Rs 50 to Rs. 500. The role of CRT is to provide training. The promoters have also formed associations. The users are also called for mass meetings. There are ICS networks also where experiences are shared. He stressed for good monitoring since many return to traditional stoves when they do not get support.

Mr. Niranjana Sharma, SOHARD mentioned that in one village they selected few families for smokeless stove but the women said that if the chapatti can not go inside the chulha then we can not use it. The other designs were then shown to them and finally selected the design which they recognized that their practical problem was taken care of. The potter (Kumhar-local artisans) families were selected for training. CRT also agreed that in higher altitude of Nepal, these are not much accepted as

- It was mentioned that ARTI, Pune has done lot of work on smokeless stoves.
- Similarly Swati, Bangalore from TIDE also can be contacted.
- We need to give basic principles and criteria for design selection.
- It was suggested that INSEDA will have consultation with IDEA, CRT and AIWC for finalizing this part.
- Mentioning the numbers being used shows that these are not experimental but are in actual use.

Biogas

Mr. Myles briefly explained about the biogas. He said that the capacity and size of digester are perceived differently in each country. In India the size of biogas is defined by the gas produced in a day, while in Nepal actual volume of digester defines size. A 2 cum plant in India will have 4 cum digester volume in plains and 5.5 cum digester volume in hills. This depends on Hydraulic Retention Time (HRT) which is 40 days in plains and 55 days in hills. For 40 days HRT, a 2 cum plant will have 50 kg dung and 50 lts water daily i.e. $100 \times 40 = 4000 \text{ lts} = 4 \text{ cum}$. During the discussion it was observed that the probably biogas plants in Nepal are designed on higher HRT say 60 to 65 days. It was therefore thought that is necessary to ascertain the design variables in different countries for the purpose of the manual.

Mr. Myles from INSEDA discussed about the various types of BGP. It was discussed

as per given in the manual. he explained various models like KVIC developed in 1960 made of drums but not that much success. Then is the BGP made of bricks called Janata model developed in 1978 and costs 30% less than KVIC. Next is Deen Bandhu developed in 1985-86 which is most popular and costs 20% less than Janta model and than the Grameen Bandhu BGP developed in 1995-96, this is again 10% less costly than Deen Bandhu BGP.

Comments after the presentation:

- it was decided it is appropriate to use the BGP in the manual as per the capacity of the BGP (how much gas is produced per day from how much raw material) and on the basis of size of the digester.
- the introduction of the BGP in manual should clear the model as per the country use and according to the size of digster and its capacity.
- INSEDA will write details for the BGP, various models as per its use, various sizes, costs, animals needed, cost of materail and manual costs required for construction. It will be in euro and in Indian currency
- manual should have short description on types of bgp, fixed dome is the standard model so emphasize on it. in end give others types also and all should be described in chart type presentation in manual.
 - It was suggested to give a box text for basic information.
 - The cost of technologies in the manual to be given in Euroes in English version and in local currency in local language versions.
 - Since KVIC is not in much use can be just mentioned and highlight models in use such as Deenbandhu.
 - Fixed dome can be elaborated
 - Other types like tunnel shaped can be jus mentioned
 - We should stress micro-finance based
 - Manure can be stressed as if we go through micro finance, we can help reducing poverty
 - We need to use simple language and avoid using things like $J/cm^2/day$

Solar cooker

Various types and models given in the manuals was discussed and comments were taken from participants

- Include principles of solar cooker
- Ms Lalita mentioned about a solar cooker where we can cook inside instead of standing in the sun the price is Rs. 2,500
- It was suggested that Mrs. Lalita Balakrishnan will find out availability and cost and also number of people using
- Questions were raised on solar baking unit – whether it is in use. Mrs. Balakrishnan mentioned that many people are using and this is income generating. Need to find out how many are using and its price.
- We also need the numbers in use in other countries.
- Some figures can be available at MNES website.

Comments:

- in the maual, on solar cooker session following has to be done: solar cooker panels has to be involved in manual, give sketches of solar cookers, introduction has to be shorter, prices of

various models, start with solar box cookers, also check up the availability of cookers, find the places of availability.

- AIWC will find out the manufacturers:also
- exclude the double reflector box type.
- in possible find out the number of people using the solar cookers of various models, along with costs. also cost and use of solar parabolic cooker. add prizes and models which are most commonly used.

1.1 Micro Hydel

1.2 Presentation – A case of Micro Hydro Power Sector

The Nepal- CRT representatives shared their experiences of the micro hydropower in Nepal. It started there in 1996 and 2200 schemes of Micro hydropower plants between 1 KW and 100 KW have been developed. they said that no license is required in Nepal for building and operating such plants and no royalty is imposed on generated micro hydro power plants.

Mr. Krishna Hari Maharjan, CRT Nepal presented a case study of Microhydro power sector in Nepal. In continuation, he also presented case study on Improved water mills.

- The material from CRT need to put in the manual and rest to be deleted

Comments:

Is this section in the manual ok. Nepal will be providing the final manual for this section with the financial manual.

Energy Conservation

Comments:

- Some parts on page 67 is not useful so bring it out from manual. Try maximum to short down the energy conservation part.
- comments on electricity conservation has to be taken from AIWC.
- Mr Gunnar will take summary from AIWC and this part complete.
- The AIWC paper on energy conservation can be kept in the CD but not needed in printed manual
- The part done by Gunnar can remain under this and rest to be deleted

Bio-diesel

Mr. Myles mentioned about pongamia and jatropha and said that Jatropha has more advantages over Pongamia as it can be grown on wastelands/ boundaries and is perennial crop. One plant can give 4 to 5 kg seeds after 3 years which gives 1 lts of oil i.e. 1000 lts oil from 1 ha (Approx). It also gives oil cake which can be used for organic farming. It can provide employment in growing, collecting, and extracting oil. He mentioned about Indian Oil company in Orissa which is buying bio-diesel from Jatropha and about buses in Gurgaon which are running on 5% biodiesel. The oil cake can also be used for biogas production or can be just mixed with manure. He mentioned about simple technique of extracting bio-diesel from jatropha seeds where 10 to

15 % Methyl / Ethyl Alcohol and 10 to 15 % NaOH is used. Glycerin is collected at the bottom of the container.

- On a question he said that vegetable oil can be smoky but pump sets can be run on vegetable oil.
- NABARD is giving jatropha seeds on subsidy
- For plantation training is required
- SHGs need to be trained
- Proper planting is necessary for good results
- www.mnes.nic.in can be checked for its annual report
- The matter needs to be reduced in the manual

INSEDA will take some details about Jatropha and shorten down in the CD

Wind mills

- The matter prepared by Gunnar can remain and rest to be deleted
- Wind mapping is necessary for wind mills
- MNES site can be checked for this
- There are problems associated with the wind pumping

Mrs. Lalita from AIWC explained a brief about the wind energy and said that MNES is using it for farmers subsidy.

Lalitaji will give information on small wind mills from MNES. also its limitations and situation of pumping windmills

Biomass Gasifier

h) Biomass gasification

DESI power for generating electricity is being linked with employment generation.

Comments:

- AIWC gave examples in west bengal for combination of solar and biomass gasification so its useful only in hybrid.
- mr Gunnar:it was decided to turn down the gasifier part from the manual. Put some concerns of noise and maintenance and say that it is less useful and has more limitations
 - Desi power was mentioned who have installed many systems
 - Sagar Islands were mentioned where hybrid system with SPV is installed. Some problems such as noise pollution etc were mentioned.
 - Cutting wood in small pieces is also cumbersome
 - The different types mentioned in the manual can be deleted

Charcoal Briquetting

Experiences were shared by the EVD on briquetting and also from AIWC that how women members are using the waste of the village for fuel. As far as this is concerned it was decided by the participants that it is a good income generation source and waste management in the villages so it is a good option.

- Discussion was held on usefulness and it was observed that it is a good technology
- Becoming popular in Nepal
- Good market is available and is income generating
- Honey comb is better in hilly regions
- Specific clay is required for briquetting for binding
- There are some disadvantages such as smoke
- CRT would provide cost and numbers in use

Hay box- it has to be excluded from manual

Solar dryers

- AIWC- Mrs. L. Balakrishnan will provide us with the CD on this that has to be included

Water solar heaters:

- Mr Myles shared in brief about the solar water purification and distillation equipment. INSEDA and DIB will work on it and give a one page write up

Day 2: April 20 ,2006

Presentation on the energy survey database

S Nathan and Ms. Milli

A small presentation was made on Energy survey database which was prepared by S Nathan for the EVD project of WAFD Bharatpur and later adopted for the INforSE project for household and village survey data. After initial introduction about the database by Mr. Nathan, Ms Milli gave background about the preparation of the database and described how they collected the data in the village. Mr. Nathan then described the database in detail and went through the various pages and fields of the database.

The members appreciated the database and said that it would be very useful for their projects. There was however concern that it was cumbersome and contained too much data which may not be required in the present project. One of the concern was that it contained few fields were irrelevant for other countries such as SC/ST/OBC. In response to that Mr. Nathan suggested that such fields could be left blank. Also that the partners could ignore some of the data fields /tables and collect the data for the fields they thought would be necessary for the project.

Most of the partners expressed their desire to have copy of the database so that it could be used in other projects. It was promised to the partners that the database would be sent to the partners shortly by mail as it blank database was not available at that time.

It was suggested to the partners to collect household data of 10 households atleast so that a comparison could be made. The baseline database is considered important since the activities of the partners will carry on for considerably long period of time in the area to achieve sustainable energy scenario in the project area and at that time the impact can be measured with the baseline data. Also there was requirement from the donor to have energy survey in the village which could also have been to ensure that the partners are actually working in the field for the poor as all the funds are generated for the poor and the database would help in ensuring the same.

Comments:

- Mr Myles said that baseline data is very necessary. it can be taken as a project and funds can be allocated especially for data collection.
- Nepal participants suggested that it has to have changes due to area specific and need specific. It requires revision as per the needs and priorities of the country and geographical locations.
- Sri Lanka have confined their study till Improved cook stove only, and they have the similar baseline for ICS so baseline depends on the need base and try to concise the questionnaire as short as possible covering all the important points of concern.
- Nepal have collected it from secondary data and it is useful for them. Similarly Bangladesh have got information from the local government.
- **Mr sanjeev will be collecting formats from all these countries and compile it in a format.**
- Mr gunnar said that collect data more related to renewable energy and exclude the unnecessary data and awareness questions can be included.

Group Task

The groups work was given to the participants to assess energy need in the village using the baseline data and then choosing the right options. The groups were divided according to the country they represent. One member from India was asked to join Bangladesh group.

Comments on the exercise:

Bangladesh: It was a good example for demand and supply chain. It is useful for NGO's plan for short term proposal and long term proposals. it will help to know the energy consumption and planning.

Nepal: they had done by taking into account 4 districts of Nepal. It will help to know the implementation of energy sources and it helps to know the needs. But we need to list all the conversions factors, then will give perfect results.

India: we have done taking into account an EVD village, we have taken into account all the possible sources of energy required in the village and so it can easily be converted into energy. *This can be included in the national workshops so that they can use in the ground level and take advantage.*

- norms required for converting into KWH for all items for bgp, solar and ICS

- also convert the human energy. cost of human energy has to be linked with human stress and management, so time saved can be used in intellectual activities.

Presentation from Grameen Shakti, Bangladesh

Mr. Zahurul Haque presented three case studies from Bangladesh

Presentation from SOHARD

Mr. Niranjana Sharma shared his experience of promoting solar lights in their project area.

Responsibilities assigned:

- AIWC: write-up on Micro finance
- Private sector part by Nepal
- Micro utility solutions-EVD write up.

Discussion on the Financial Manual

This was followed up by the financial model of Micro finance by Bangladesh Grameen Shakti. They explained the details about linking renewable energy promotion to micro finance. The detailed financial model was distributed in the seminar.

Mr. Haque explained the need and purpose of the programme, the financial details about the rate of interest and its repayment structures, financing part of Grameen Shakti model and skills required for the business along with the various innovative procedures followed by them to make it a success.

Comments on financial manual: changes to be made

- **Remove the RE Technology part since it is not needed and the Grameen Shakti model has to be used in it. Add the Grameen Shakti model in manual.**
- **it will need more practical examples**
- **it should have introduction session and then the characteristics of the Renewable energy, it is more privatized so give space to NGO's also.**
- **add example to make it more readable with success stories and not more like a theory.**
- **small stories from Grameen Shakti**
- **it should be interesting and more easy to understand.**
- **reframe some interesting stories and success and best practices**
- **remove net present value**
- **give clear and potential example, it has to be layman's language.**
- **also take example from Sri Lanka, Nepal**
- **Sohard suggested that it should be easily understood than only it will sustain. this all is poverty reduction and thus we will also need the business tips to improve mechanism and systems.**
- **it should be in simple booklets with little tips on micro finance and RE**

- **training will be required on this and thus be given as reference material.**

Manual 3: Training Material for NGOs on how to work (suggestion: change to project planning and implementation) with sustainable energy for poverty reducing

Mr. Gunnar explained the need for the training material on project planning and implementation. And the division of tasks.

On a query Mr. Gunnar explained that it is to help NGOs how they can make their own proposals and we don't need to write a book on these. Mr. Paul suggested that we should also see which are the funding agencies who are supporting sustainable energy. Mr. Myles said that it would be good to keep this information in financial manual.

It was mentioned that Nepal Govt has brought out poverty education strategy paper and trying to integrate with millennium development goals and development objectives so that we are going in right manner with target groups.

Training curriculum

- How to write best proposal and deal with reducing poverty.
- Implementation and monitoring to be included for NGOs
- All partners should work on fundraising agencies - National / international (UN,EU, Baanks, GVEP, REEPS etc.) and govt agencies
- Private foundations can also be explored
- CDM to be described in financial manual in brief

Session 3: Training manual for NGO's on Project planning and implementation.

Mr Gunnar gave his presentation on the above manual. He said that this will include logical framework analysis, proposals for planning and implementation of projects, baseline data and monitoring. It will be divided into various countries on the above topics like fund-raising, local advocacy, involvement of local communities and women. Together with training and follow up the training material is key for the project objective that will increase the NGO activities.

Comments:

- Mr Paul suggested that along with the methods of proposal making also include where should they submit these projects.
- Manual should deal with training curriculum to write proposals on use of SET's for poverty reduction.
- it should be on websites
- also work on indicators for renewable energy and monitoring

All participants divided into four parts for four countries

- Paul: Project planning and implementation

- INSEDA: Involvement of local community and women
- CRT: Fundraising
- GS: Local advocacy
- Fundraising should have list of partners and sources (private, Govt, NGO's etc that gives funds.

Introduction and purpose of manual 3 to be written by Mr Gunnar and also write content list. Every country should write one case study on how the project is driving force for renewable energy

- BGP from India, Improved cook stove from Srilanka, Nepal on energy planning, local communities and women from INSEDA, AIWC and GS and local advocacy examples from all countries.

Day III-April, 21, 2006

National Seminar

Mr. Gunnar explained about the contents of the National seminar through the presentation. He explained different criteria, selection of participants for the seminar, and mentioned that all interested NGOs should be able to apply. There can be 20 participants (18 from NGOs and 2 from public sector). Members from SriLanka mentioned that more from public sector and Govt will be good on which Mr. Gunnar said that this could be discussed with Srilanka separately. Mr. Haque enquired if there could be 2 persons from one NGO. On which it was suggested that its better to have one person each from each NGO.

It was brought to the notice that Bangladesh and Sri Lanka need to have election for focal point. Members from Sri Lanka mentioned that there are many networks in Sri Lanka.I

Seminar

Training on Planning and Implementation – decentralized electricity/ energy

Mr. Gunnar Briefed about the seminar through a presentation.Regarding the question on the trainers, it was clarified that the trainers from country can be used.

Members from Sri Lanka said that it was not very clear as 2 days will not be enough for such trainings. Members from Nepal suggested for 4 days training and that these should be linked with output. The conduction and strategies should be decided.

There were some discussions on technology manual and it was suggested that we call it only Manual and not Training Manual.

Follow up activities were considered important for the training. Trainees should use of knowledge in systematic way and develop a proposal for which support would be required from National NGOs where Nationla coordinator will have to follow up. It was suggested that each of

the participants should be asked to prepare a proposal for one village. Srilankan members suggested that as follow up, participants to make proposal on activities they can take up.

It was raised if more time could be asked as it was felt that the time might be very less to develop the proposals. It was mentioned here that though time frame could be discussed, however extension may not be possible because of funding limitations.

Advocacy

It was felt that there is lots of scope for advocacy in India. It is necessary to make a statement or rather more statements and that someone has to draft a statement. There was a suggestion from Nepal for additional support so that the project does not suffer as the organization is facing resource crunch as a result of which they had to down size staff strength.

An example was put up of Rajasthan where there is flat rate of electricity there and there is no platform to discuss energy conservation. It was also stressed to have one to one meeting with Govt for advocacy.

Bangladesh Experience

Mr. Haque presented the Bangladesh experience on income generation from solar PV. discussions:

Coming project activities

1. national seminars:

- **this will include identification of participants, practical expericne with poverty reduction working with poor.**
- NGO activity level regarding poverty reduction
- Know-how to include gender and class:1 person that work with the target groups and that can train along with 1 person from organization with gender balance.
- 90% from NGO's and 10% from public authority.
- selection of NGO's can be done through application forms
- develop critiria for selection of NGO;s, use public paper or by websites.

2. training materials should include

- SET for cooking, lightm heating and small bussiness
- adaption to local situations
- financing set for poor

3. Future co-operation among the NGO's

4. election of INFORSE focal point for future in Bagladesh & Sri-Lanka they can create their own list of NGO's for member lists.

5. training in planning and implementation

Discussions were done on that countries require more fouds and clear objectives of these trainings regarding on who will participate in it and will it be useful. It was decided that on first two days of training they will have SET and discuss on manual. and in (5) above mentioned

means the training on sustainable energy solutions regarding renewable energy. It should have energysolutions for poverty reductions.

Planning and responsibilities for trainings:

- Mr Myles will share in all countries except Nepal.
- 2 day general seminar+2 days for elec/energy supply
- 200000 IRP per seminar
- additional budget for preparations+trainings+RM travel

Comments on the session:

- intended output of the training should be there in the manual so it becomes more clear.
- Mr Sanjeev Nathan will carry out the expectations of each training and outcomes should be mentioned in manual so it will guide the designers of the training.

It was decided to be called as a guide rather than a manual.

It was followed by the discussions on the follow- up activities:

Follow-up activities of the seminar

- assistance with additional material and information
- development of proposals and also fund raising so that the project leads to practical results.
- discuss the time table of all these activities
- visit of Mr Myles to Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal

As far as advocacy is concerned

- project partners will advocate for improved political framework for promotion of SETs on poverty reduction
- NGO's will directly talk to policy makers through workshops with the political persons.

Session: On sharing the solar PV of the Bagladesh Grameen Shakti model:

Mr. Haque said that they started in 1996, SPV is a solar lighting components various parts along with solar panel that they get from Japan. There the rural population only 32% are covered by grid electricity so it has good scope for SPV. It deals mainly with poverty reduction through IGP and women empowerment. They have 60000 SPV and 5000 gone for farmers, in saloons, small fish farms, fish feeding activities to women from sewing and income generation, for tea stall and grocery shops. They also have awareness trainings, meetings, customer training and demonstrations and give maintenance trainings and give them ownership so they can care their own battery and panel. They take 15% of total cost as down payment, and its service tax free for one year.

Comments:

- They should add more on solar home system technical and theory
- this part of manual should include solar refrigeration for vaccine and health care
- include solar street light but exclude solar tracking
- Nepal can give case study of battery-cowdung use for lamps case study
- NED should be just mentioned as imp component
- one example of silk rearing by AIEC by SPV
- Nepal can give write up on water purification also.
- remove safe drinking water model from manual

Session :New project activities

1. Sri-Lanka:

- baseline will be done if combined with project so will develop more details
- based on them they will come up with proposals and will be forwarded for funding
- it should have national level surveys

AIWC, CRT, GS will give workplan and future activities. Sri-Lanka said that they will have various capacity building training and get proposals from various NGO's grass-root level and then nodal agencies can help them in funding so they perform well.

2. India

- AIWC: they are working in one village in Haryana for last many years with PRI so they need help for SPV in this village and integrate it with poverty alleviation and reduction programme. Also for Kerala they need for small awareness programmes should be done for taking these techniques in those villages and for demonstration programmes in Allappad Dist. Koilam.
- Jatropha biodiesel promotion programmes in Rajasthan since they have huge waste land
- Project for small generating set for electricity 1 ½ KWH for lighting
- Grameen Bandhu BGP- training as an income generating activity for poor rural women
- Renewable energy promotion through micro finance
- Networking in India, and neighbouring countries, training of NGO's
- Distance education in RET: integration on SET for poverty reduction and use for NGO's

Comments:

- The donor can give projects only after this is completed. They would like to give money to Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri-Lanka. They can give proposal till October South south technology transfer with ICS from Sri-Lanka, Solar dryer from Nepal Micro financing from Bangladesh can be done.

- India will have to once again sit together to decide on which topics will they like to work exactly and prepare the concept notes.

AIWC mentioned Integrated poverty reduction is necessary. They have adopted villages where energy survey was conducted as platinum jubilee village. Panchayat and local govt is involved and they already have established SHGs. A community centre has been established and training on solar has been conducted.

With reference to the national seminar, AIWC mentioned that women are still not aware and need to be made aware about STEs, hence small community programmes for women's awareness is required along with demonstration and training.

There were some discussions on biofels status in India, briquette making, drinking water, generating set for biogas, Grameen Bahdhu training/demo/income generation, solar PV in India from inspiration from Bangladesh, networking, workshop and trainings etc.

Distant Education Integration on SET for Poverty Reduction (DIERET)

A CD was shown to the members on DIERET which is a web based educational material on Sustainable energy technologies. Mr. Gunnar explained the contents of the same and how to use the CD.

Regional Conference INforSE South Asia

The regional conference took place during this session, the proceedings of which are at the end.

Post tea Session

Fuel Wood plantation –

Fr. Chandy

It was suggested to put a concept note for manual with reference of Fr. Chandy and more information on CD.

Improvement of rural Livelihood

Mr. Krishna Hari maharjan CRT Nepal

**Experience sharing on Vermicomposting
by Mr. Niranjana Sharma**

Day IV –April, 22,2006

Financial Reporting

Mr. Gunnar explained in detail the requirements for **financial reporting during project** and the **reporting deadlines** using the projector. He also explained **administrative procedures** and requirements for **final reporting**. The printout of the same was handed over to the members later. On a query he said that if more money is received as a result of conversion rate, average conversion rate should be applied. He stressed that if they don't receive the reports in time then things get delayed.

With regard to final reporting it was brought to the notice that financial year starts from July 15th and audit in September. It was advised to call the auditor specifically for the project and could bill to the project which needs to be budgeted. Special audit from July 15th till end of project.

Final Reporting

Mr. Gunnar explained requirements of final reporting. The copy of the presentation was handed over to the members later.

Tasks to finish manuals and CDs, version 22/4-06

Mr. Gunnar explained the tasks to be finished for manuals and CDs and who is responsible for what. The printout of the same was handed over to the members later. During the session Mr. Haque, Grameen Shakti informed the members that GS was among top 7 for Ashden award (European Solar award) conveyed thanks of the Director to Mr. Myles and Mrs. Lalitabalakrishnan.

The discussions were continued on Manual with SETs etc.

It was suggested that INSEDA would prepare a list of cases and check what is received and what's not. We need to know what goes on CD and what in Manual. The discussion were held on who will do HTML coding. It was suggested to hire external person. The page should have linkages to pdf files. Organisations were also requested to give few detail to go about the organisations involved.

Final preparation of manuals, version 22/4-06

He then explained time table for Final preparation of manuals. The printout was handed over later to the members.

Concluding Session

Mr.Myles concluded the session with thanks and apology for any shortcomings. Members from Srilanka said that there is nothing to complain about and thanked specially Mr. Gunnar for his efforts. Mr. Gunnar said that he was glad about the contributions from partners. Mr. Pradhan, Solve Nepal said that with the help of all partners we can walk a long way together hand in hand and felt assured of getting projects. The four day seminar was closed with announcement regarding the field trip scheduled for next two days.



Proceedings

Regional Conference INforSE South Asia

21st April, 2006 New Delhi YMCA

Mr. Raymond Myles, Regional Coordinator, INforSE South Asia welcomed the members of INforSE South Asia. He mentioned that the members from Pakistan could not attend the conference as there is no fund for travel. He informed that Fr. Mathew has met an accident and therefore Fr. Chandy was representing the SDA.

Ms Lalitabalakrishnan was elected Chairperson for the conference. Ms Lalitabalakrishnen welcomed the delegates and requested regional coordinator to give his report.

Mr. Myles however, invited International coordinator, Mr. Gunnar to say a few words.

Mr. Gunnar expressed his happiness to be present in the conference and briefed the members about the inception of the INforSE network which was initiated in 1992 during Conference in Rio De Jenerio. The lobbying there failed however, NGOs started their network with 15 members and has grown since then. He said that the network was supported by Danish Govt. for 10 years and a major activity was Sustainable Energy News which has published 52 volumes so far. Work at regional level also started and regional activities were focussed in South Asia, East Asia, America and Europe. He mentioned about some of the activities INforSE had carried as a network He expressed need for fundraising so that more people can attend the conferences.

Mr. Myles, Regional Coordinator, INforSE Sout Asia, then mentioned that at the time of inception in Rio, there were no funds and then Danish Govt supported small activities where Mr. Gunnar was part of that. However, Danish Govt later stopped funding and hence there was no coordination for some time. He mentioned about 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development where they mobilized some funds. It was suggested to provide voluntary work but later thought of a project for capacity building. The project became too big as Africa and Asia were initially included but had to be made smaller. The project was rejected twice, however got funds for a workshop which was organized in 2000. other meetings were organized in 1994 and 1996. Later one meeting was planned in Nepal but due to emergency situation in Nepal, the meeting had to be called of just a day before. The present meeting is therefore being held here after a long time as there was opportunity because of the workshop.

He stressed on the need of increasing the number of members and requested focal points in Bagladesh, Nepal and Srilanka to encourage NGOs. He mentioned that coordination was difficult in Bangladesh and SriLanka, therefore Grameen Shakti and IDEA were contacted to coordinate and they agreed.

Mr. D K Manvalan, Executive Director AFPRO, said that the Sustainable Energy News is giving good information but raised a query how to link the same to the activities and how organizations have bilateral interconnectivity. He also said that the news letter follws important international events. He stressed on the need for action network and collecting active NGOs. He feared that

many NGOs don't see that INforSE stands in climate negotiations. He said that its important to link the activities to climate change. The second point he said that lots of people are manufacturing solar systems etc. and taking help from them those people should come and interact which will be important for advocacy. He also stressed for pro-poor approach. He mentioned about the increasing share prices of Suzlon indicate that general public is aware about the importance, but questioned how to link with the public. He expressed concern that the grid electricity passes through villages but it is not accessible to villagers. He questioned that as hydrogen will be important for energy in 2020 but where do we stand.

Ms Balakrishnan mentioned that IREDA publishes good magazine, which gives a lot of information. They also need inputs and we can provide some inputs for the magazine. She mentioned about Clean Energy Forum initiated by Mr. Gyan Chaudhry. There were 8 to 10 participants from parliament who became member. There were 2 or 3 meetings held to focus renewable energy law etc. and parliamentarians can be influence from that.

Discussions were held on status of promoting biogas in the India, where difficulties being faced from MNES was mentioned. Mr. Gunnar said that instead of subsidy approach, Grameen Shakti approach or grant based approach need to be used for technical services so that they can pay which should be definitely possible.

Lots of research has been done on biogas but we have stuck on Govt side. There is need for technical people and research mode such as slurry use. These are also cases for CDM since what we are doing is contributing to CDM but we are unable to encash the same.

Discussions were held on small hydro power, on its strength and weaknesses.

Mr. Manvalan mentioned about solar drying technology developed by CFTRI and said that there is need for linkages. He also mentioned that there is big funding available for Tsunami affected area and that we can work together for South Asia.

Ms Lalitabalakrishnan said that they have women power at grassroots and we can do a lot in short time. She also said that AIWC is doing promotion of solar drying but they need funding to work more.

Fr Chandy mentioned that marketing has been a problem and need to do systematically otherwise remuneration will not be in time and therefore stressed on linkages. He said that some NGOs are doing well but many are not. We need to remember PPM, i.e., Process, production and marketing.

AIWC gave example of their product "Aam Papad" ad said that there is even demand in USA. However it needs license, ISI mark etc for food products.

Mr. Myles said that the research work carried out in the institutions is not reaching the poor. He mentioned that they took janta biogas model from Institution and tested the same and then propagated. Later CAPART funded the research and we could develop Deenbandhu and promote the same.

Mr. Manvalan said that Networking is important. We should test the technologies in the field and then share with the Govt. and then we can get support from others.

Mr. Niranjan Sharma, SOHARD mentioned that they started activities only with biogas and have now established themselves.

It was mentioned that TERI is doing some networking. There is however need for a mechanism so that learning testing and training and simplifying is done and then showing that the technology is viable. Organisations like AFPRO can be nodal organizations. Producers also need support who can get employment.

With regard to point mentioned by someone for taking support from KVIC, it was mentioned by AIWC that it is big organization but they had bad experience with KVIC.

Mr. Rajendra mentioned about the SARI project being implemented in Nepal where Mrs. Lalitalakrishnan is also associated in 4 States in India. With regard to solar drier, he mentioned that the technology is nice and that mango pulp can not be made in any other drier and there may provide opportunity but access is the problem.

It was mentioned that one SHG took it as Income generating activity where women come in a queue for drying. If it is subsidized, demand will increase and there will be a great impact.

It was mentioned that in Nepal, solar drier of less cost and less capacity (5,200NRp) is promoted as people wanted to have as household system but we have no funding. Earlier there were fixed type but now it can be dismantled and can be taken anywhere. The inside temperature is 70 when outside temp is 18 to 20 and the product is hygienic.

It was therefore stressed on focus on success of technology and then demand will increase.

Mr. Manvalan Stressed on the need for subsidy for SHGs since these have added benefits such as hygiene, time saving, energy, environment and income generation. This could also be revolving fund. Our objective should be that people could visualize that they can earn by use of the technology.

It was mentioned that solar driers are not popular in Srilanka and are more interested in Biomass and improved chulha.

It was again reminded to the country focal points for enrolling more members as India is waiting for Srilanka, Bangladesh and Nepal to have more members so that the number is balanced.

Mr Haque assured that they will work on networking. He also said that if we exchange the information such as solar drier etc., there is possibility.

Mr. Maharjan said that many activities can be highlighted and we have to show options. But if we only make decisions then they are dependant on us.

On membership issue Mr. Amerasekara said that promoting members is not difficult and we can have many members but raised that what do the members expect and what we can do for them also what the INforSE get from them in return is to be clarified.

Mr. Rajendra Pradhan said that we should give short notice for meetings so people come as they may be curious to know what's going on. He suggested that INforSE should also be able to respond to their needs such as training, small projects, linking with donors and these things should be clear.

Mr. Manvalan said that marketing should also be part of it. INforSE has database but many NGOs may not have computer. On this issue, It was informed that Newsletter is in printed form because of this reason, however accepted that English may be a problem for many NGOs.

Fr., Chandy mentioned about e-choapals which are provided by ITC which has reached many villages and could be used for information sharing. This was started in MP and has spread now. Tata – educational programme is popular and we can share our experience. Students should be taught about the technologies. We can also share models and experiences such as that of Grameen Shakti. He also suggested for using village development centres and share biomass, solar PV, drying etc.

Mr. Myles mentioned that we have expertise but are not channeling it properly. We should promote atleast two proven and pro poor technologies in the countries by preparing trainers, i.e., cadre building and let them prepare models.

Mr. Rajendra Pradhan said that in Nepal we can not be in research. But he said that they invited food technologist who had perfect knowledge of processes and they dried leaves in the drier. The leaves returned to original colour when dipped in water for some time giving them storage opportunity. He said that not only technologies but how to apply the technology is also important. He then stressed on packaging which is also equally important aspect? He said that they have MOUs with Universities who are doing research where we give them nominal expenses to 4 students every year which comes to total of NRp 40,000/- which is not much but enough for a student.

Mr. Paul, DIB said that people in villages are under heavy loan, they are losing lands and agriculture is going in loss while we are often lost in technical details. We should remember that its only a tool to lift capacity. Lots of energy goes in manufacturing, cooling/ heating houses, and there are even poor in the cities. We could also give more emphasis on building material and saving energy as brick kilns are damaging environment.

Mr. Maharjan, CRT Nepal mentioned about trainers for solar drier where 50 enterprises are giving 10 products and the focus is on marketing, as CRT can not support all the activities. But stresses on improved packaging and linking with empowerment. He said that political awareness is crucial and women are claiming their rights. He also appreciated the knowledge development centre which they can also follow in Nepal. Some items like pickles, dry fruits packets are there and markets could be created which will give employment to people.

Mr. Paul raised that pricing of produce is important as prices are controlled by middlemen. Processing gives opportunity for holding the produce such as tomato ketchup chips etc.

Mr. Niranjana Sharma said that their project area falls in mustard growing belt in Rajasthan where the market systems are changing. The rates are quoted in News papers and the testing of quality of produce is done by computer/ machines. He said that they asked the University if they could develop small equipment so that they could test the quality. This could not become possible as most of the farmers have installed oil expeller and are now selling oil.

Someone mentioned about the book on Rural Marketing by Pradeep Kashyap which could be useful.

Mr. Manvalan said that farmers are always on losing side as the middlemen can hold the produce and sell it when the rates are high.

Mr. Maharjan mentioned about transfer of technology such as potato chips machines with solar drier. It was mentioned here that CFTRI has also developed process for ginger candy on solar drier.

The discussions were held on palleting machines. It was mentioned that these could be useful in poverty reduction.

We also need to consider food security, value addition and for these we need to collect information.

It was mentioned that biomass is available in many places and we can use biomass gasification for power generation. Some of the members were skeptic about this as it is burning of biomass and need to be cautious while cooking as it produces CO and Hydrogen.

Selection of Regional Coordinator

It was unanimously agreed that Mr. Myles should continue as Regional coordinator and the members requested Mr. Myles for the same.

Mr. Gunnar mentioned the following points for Mr Myles to follow up

- reminded for Statement for National seminar
- New way for innovating financing
- Indian Govt involvement
- CDM – we didn't come in detail and need to assist in this
- Subsidy – if we do not do in right way we may suck in this.
- CS15 – May 2007

- Network (UN)

There were some further discussions on CS15 etc. and funding sources as well as other climate conferences. The session was concluded with the comments that there are different political groups but INforSE is down to earth network



The List of enclosures to be attached with final draft of the proceedings.

- Draft Agenda and revised agenda
- List of Participants with full address- phone Nos- E-mail ID
- List of draft Documents (dft manuals- case studies- SET and revised drafts)
- Comprehensive Financial and reporting procedures and deadlines
- List of Project sites visited on 23-24 April, 2006