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Nepal Energy Efficiency Programme

An Introduction

When compared with international standards, energy consumption in Nepal is relatively high in relation to its gross domestic product (GDP). A major reason is that Nepal does not have an energy strategy in place that effectively addresses the promotion of sustainable, efficient energy consumption neither for the power sector nor for biomass, the most significant source of primary energy in the country. This becomes even more critical during the dry season in the country: long hours of load shedding negatively impact industries and households. In cognizance of the severe energy exigencies in Nepal, the national development plan has set as its objectives the construction of new hydropower plants, the extension of the national electricity grid, and access to electricity for areas not previously served. Energy efficiency has until now, not played a role.

Within the framework of bilateral development cooperation between Nepal and the Federal Republic of Germany, the joint implementation of Nepal Energy Efficiency Programme (NEEP) has been agreed upon in 2009. The Nepali-German programme NEEP is executed by Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS) and supported by German Development Cooperation - GIZ on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) with an eight-year horizon and a first phase ending in 2014 to promote energy efficiency in households, commercial and, industrial enterprises.

Significant international experience demonstrates that not only does the efficient consumption of energy result in tangible savings to end-users but it also helps to ensure a stable energy supply and to reduce environmental impacts. NEEP envisages the realization of these potential benefits at four different levels;

Energy Efficiency in National Energy Strategy

NEEP supports the Nepalese government in the design and development of a national energy strategy that emphasises the promotion of energy efficiency and sustainable use of biomass. The programme also supports establishment of national energy information system for managing and making energy related data easily accessible.

Energy Efficiency in Households

Energy efficiency standards and labels would enable consumers to make educated decisions regarding the purchase of domestic appliances taking into account energy consumption and operational costs for such appliances. In a number of countries, the introduction of energy consumption labels has resulted in diminishing demand for inefficient appliances especially when suitable alternatives vis-à-vis price and energy consumption are available. NEEP supports national institutions in the development of such energy efficiency standards and labels for domestic appliances.

Energy Efficient Biomass Cooking Stoves

In collaboration with non-governmental organizations and the private sector, NEEP aims at expanding the product range of energy efficient biomass cooking stoves, developing a maintenance system, and supporting marketing activities for the wider dissemination of these improved cooking stoves. The goal is to extend the coverage area and to accelerate the dissemination of the energy efficient cooking stoves.

Energy Efficiency in Industry

NEEP collaborates with the private sector for the establishment of an Energy Efficiency Centre (EEC) under Federation of Nepal Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FNCCI). An important initial task is the training of qualified Energy Auditors that will offer advice to industrial enterprises and banks to support entrepreneurs in the planning, implementation, and financing of measures to increase energy efficiency

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