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Key Policies And Plans To Promote Green Growth

Nepal feels strongly that the three pillars of sustainable development - the economy, society and the environment - need to be further strengthened and integrated in order to promote Green Growth. Implementation is taking place to mainstream these three pillars into the development process.

Climate Change Policy (NCCP):
Approved in 2011, this policy aims to improve livelihoods by mitigating and adapting to the adverse impacts of climate change, and adopts a low-carbon emissions socio-economic development path. The policy’s objectives are to:

• Establish a Climate Change Center as an effective technical institution to address issues of climate change and strengthen existing institutions;
• Implement climate adaptation-related programmes that enhance positive impacts and mitigating adverse impacts;
• Promote the use of clean energy, increase energy efficiency, and encourage the use of green technology;
• Enhance the capacity of local communities for optimum utilization of natural resources and their efficient management; and
• Develop capacity for identifying and quantifying present and future impacts of climate change.

Nepal Climate change Program (NCCSP):
With financial support of the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and the European Union, Government of Nepal has initiated the Nepal Climate Change Program (NCCSP). One of the focuses of NCCSP is to support Government of Nepal to formulate LCEDS.

Low Carbon Economic Development Strategy (LCEDS):
The Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment (MoSTE) and National Planning Commission (NPC) are leading preparation of the LCEDS, and the Alternative Energy Promotion Centre is designated to manage the work of LCEDS formulation. The LCEDS will be finalized by December 2013. The LCEDS will identify the key approaches and interventions to drive Nepal toward a low carbon growth path that fosters optimum economic development. This approach is expected to enable Nepal to access additional finance for climate change.

Possible sectors of focus include:

• Agriculture (e.g., cropping, livestock, soil management, land-use)
• Forestry (e.g., land use management, cooking energy, forest management)
• Energy (e.g., electricity and energy supply mix)
• Industry (e.g., clean technologies, process efficiency, energy efficiency, alternative fuels)
• Transport (e.g., fuel type, mode of transport)
• Green Cities (e.g., efficient public lighting, efficient residential appliances, improved waste management)
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The main goal of the District Climate and Energy Plan (DCEP) is to create an implementation plan for accelerating the dissemination of renewable energy technologies (RETs) at the district level, contributing to development goals. Opportunities where renewable energy can contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation and gender and social inclusion (GSI) are systematically addressed.

Nepal piloted DCEP in three districts: Ilam, Makwanpur, and Mustang.

DCEP Process

- Collect data and assess climate change vulnerability, GSI, energy needs, resources, technologies, and institutional arrangements at the district level;
- Identify opportunities and interventions for increasing access to RETs;
- Identify priority RETs, considering available energy resources, technology cost, and benefits for climate change and GSI issues;
- Establish a baseline and develop scenarios where RETs are adopted;
- Develop a detailed 3-year implementation plan, financial plan, and monitoring and evaluation plan, with clear roles and responsibilities of stakeholders; and
- Outline capacity development needs and recommend potential improvements to institutional arrangements to improve dissemination of RETs.

Pilot DCEP in Ilam

The district of Ilam identified the following priority RETs and measures in its DCEP:

- Improved cook stoves
- Biogas units
- Solar home systems
- Micro and pico hydro
- Improved water mills
- Capacity training

Ilam is now following its 3-year implementation plan to fund, introduce, and monitor benefits of these RET interventions.

Lessons Learned

Best practices and lessons learned in the three pilot districts have been synthesized into a guidebook, “DCEP Preparation Guideline”. The guidelines offer:

- A systematic process and tools to create plans that integrate climate change and GSI into energy planning; and
- Ideas on assessing vulnerabilities of energy resources, and opportunities created by climate change.

What’s next?

DCEP provides a framework for decentralized energy planning. DCEP can be placed within a broader framework that encapsulates national plans for coordination and consistency.

The Asia LEDS Partnership is a regional, voluntary network that serves as a platform to promote low emission development. The partnership supports peer-to-peer learning, knowledge sharing, and improved coordination and cooperation among governmental and non-governmental partners working to advance low emission growth in Asia. The Asia LEDS Partnership is a regional platform of the LEDS Global Partnership. For more information, see: http://en.openei.org/wiki/LEDSGP, or email: asialedspartnership@lowemissionsasia.org

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