

### Outcome 1:

**Study:** The community managed systems use the common resources and its management is affected by social, political, economic structure in the society. It is envisaged that the quality and reliability of energy supply is key to sustainability of the technological options adopted for enhancing energy access. The sustainability of the system and its economic viability depends upon the amount of return and contribute to the livelihoods that it can generate from providing energy services. In this regards, AEPC/RERL and SEforALL are collaborating with University of New South Wales (UNSW), Australia for carrying out the study, which will help to provide basis for devising suitable policies and strategies for the AEPC to clearly spell out the tiered energy access concept and provide support to rural communities and households to engage in economic activities and help uplift their livelihood. The consultant has already visited the study areas and is preparing analytical report.

**Electrification Guideline:** Electrification Master Plan preparation methodology is being drafted in house. The Master Plan preparation starts at the Ward level; it identifies the status of electrification in the ward and the least cost alternative among grid extension, mini/micro hydro and solar PV. Aggregation of Ward level plans will be the Municipal Electrification Mater Plan, which will be GIS based and easy to comprehend.

**ENERGIA Strategic Planning:** A Strategic Planning of ENERGIA was held from 18 to 21 April 2017 at Kathmandu. The main objective of the planning meeting was to bring together ENERGIA's implementing partners, members, key stakeholders and donors. Mr. Muhan Maskey, Policy Institution Strengthening Advisor and Ms. Sunjita Pradhan, GESI Focal Person of RERL shared experiences on women's role in expanding energy access in rural areas of Nepal.

**Nepal's Renewable Energy in Federal Context:** After the promulgation of the constitution in 2015, RERL has been supporting AEPC to define its roles and responsibilities in the federal context. In this regards, a half day workshop was organized by RERL and Nepal's Engineer's Association (NEA) on 1 April 2017. Member of Parliaments (MPs) from Nepali Congress and Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist Centre), senior government officials, RE experts, academicians, private sector representatives, donor agencies representatives and RE students participated actively in the workshop.

RERL supported AEPC to draft a document highlighting AEPC's role in the federal context to promote renewable energy in the country. The document was prepared based on the roles and responsibilities of different levels of government as defined in the Constitution of Nepal 2015. AEPC/RERL will help draft Local Governance and Operations Act that will clearly spell out the mandates of the local governments.



### Outcome 2:

**Financing Model for Financing Community-based Mini-hydro Projects:** RERL is supporting CREF for carrying out a study on Establishing Sustainable Financing Model for Financing Community Based Mini Hydro Projects through Local Financial Institutions (LFIs). The objective of the study is to develop a viable and sustainable financing model for financing community-based MHPs by using network and strengths of the LFIs. The study will review existing practices, willingness of LFIs, challenges and legal provisions on such financing mechanism.

**Financial Closure of Bagaune Khola:** RERL provided technical assistance through CREF for financial closure of the 92 kW Bhagaune Khola Micro Hydro Project at Rolpa. After the completion of this project it is expected that more than 573 households and rural enterprises will have access to electricity. The total cost of the project is NPR. 30.12 million, out of which NPR 3 million has been provided by the Mega Bank as loan. The project is expected to be completed by July 2017.

**Revision on Deprived Sector Lending Ceiling:** RERL supported AEPC/CREF to prepare documents on deprived sector loan for mini hydro and organized several meetings with Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB) with the objective of revising the deprived sector lending ceiling for mini hydro. Nepal Rastra Bank has revised deprived sector ceiling for mini-hydro projects from NPR 10 million to NPR 30 million leading to qualification of the most of the mini hydropower projects supported by AEPC for loan under this provision.

**Orientation on Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) Formation:** RERL carried out an orientation program on formation of SPV for the beneficiaries of the 368 kW Tara Khola Mini Hydro Project on 3-4 June 2017. The main objective of training was to clarify the strengths and weaknesses of cooperative and companies as SPV for undertaking mini hydropower projects.

**Giri Khola Mini Hydro Project:** RERL is supporting SASEC/AEPC to promote the 200 kW Giri Khola MHP located at Tatopani Municipality, Jumla. RERL and SASEC personnel visited the project site, interacted with the beneficiary communities, local financial institutions, newly elected municipality officials, banks, electricity distributor located at the district headquarters, local governmental officials and technical institute.

**Relief and Rehabilitation:** Under relief and rehabilitation, RERL supported to install 36 institutional solar systems in schools, health post and public offices in earth quake affected districts. Similarly, RERL is also supporting rehabilitation of 5 MHPs with the total installed capacity of 98kW.



### Installation of Solar PV Systems at Snake Bite Treatment Centers:

RERL provided technical and financial assistance to install solar PV back up system at Snake Bite Treatment Centers at Letang, Morang and Itahari, Sunsari army barracks. The 1.5kWp systems provide electricity to power fridge to store anti snake venom vaccines, which has to be stored between 2° and 8°C, fans, lights and nebulizer. Besides RERL's financial assistance, DDC Morang and Sunsari and respective municipalities also provided financial support. More than 1500 snake bite cases are treated by the Center in Itahari every year and the Center at Letang has treated more than 6000 cases since its establishment in B.S 2068.



1.5 kWp Solar System in Snake Bite Treatment Centre at Letang, Morang

### Outcome 3:

**Commercial Operation:** In order to enhance the institutional capacities of the large-scale micro hydropower projects for commercial operation of the system, RERL is working with PEUC to support the beneficiary communities for institutionalization of their organization and help strengthen their capacities for commercial operational of large scale micro hydropower plants in Achham, Bajura, Baglung and Dolakha districts. Recently new ToR has published for commercial operation for 5 MHPs (60 over) in Rolpa and Rukum district.

**Training for Women Entrepreneurs:** A five days long training on Entrepreneurship Development was held in Biratnagar from 30 May to 03 June 2017 for women entrepreneurs from the Easter Development Region supported by AEPC. The training aimed to provide various skills on business development and operation, marketing, accounting, etc. The participants benefited through both practical and theoretical knowledge. Altogether 20 women from Trerathum, Dhankuta, Taplejung, Morang, Panchthar, Sankhuwashaba and Bhojpur districts participated in the training.



Women Entrepreneurship Development Training



## Outcome 4:

**Social Mobilization Training:** A training on Community Mobilization for Renewable Energy Promotion for Social Mobilizers was organized by RERL and SASEC from 12 to 17 April 2017. The training focused on social mobilization process, cooperative rules and regulation, business plan, concept of enterprise development and business opportunities assessment. After the training, the SMs prepared action plan for six months to mobilize the community in their respective project areas. A total of 28 participants including 3 female actively took part in the training.

**Micro Hydro Operator Training:** A 5 days long training on the “Mini/Micro Hydro Operation” was held at Dolakha from 2 to 6 May 2017. The training aimed to BUDILD UP the capacity of operators who are operating the rehabilitated MHPs destroyed by the earthquakes of 2015. The training consisted of both practical and theoretical knowledge and skills on various aspects of micro hydro operation, electricity distribution and regular maintenance. Altogether 17 participants from Dolakha, Ramechhap, Sindhuli and Okhaldhunga districts attended. RERL is planning to organize a similar training for operators from other districts in June/July 2017.

**Mason Training:** RERL organized basic mason training for selected participants from the catchment area of Simrutu Khola Mini Hydro Project in Rukum. The 12 days long training was organized from 1 to 12 June 2017. The training aimed to develop skilled manpower in local community to work in the mini hydro project. Altogether 15 participants benefitted from the training.



House Wiring Training at Biratnagar

**House Wiring Training:** RERL has organized 10 days long training on house wiring for 15 technicians from Eastern and Central Region. The main objective of the training was to develop technical manpower to undertake house wiring in the project area. It is expected that the trained technicians will carry out house wiring in Solar Wind Mini Grid Project sites.

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