

## **L. Capacity-building on climate change mitigation for poverty alleviation in Western Asia**

### **Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, in collaboration with the ECA, the ESCAP, and the DESA(\$547,200)**

#### **Background**

63. In many developing countries, more than 70 per cent of the population lives in isolated rural communities, where they depend mainly on biomass in the form of firewood and charcoal to meet their energy needs. Lack of energy services has exacerbated the cycle of extreme poverty in these rural areas, resulting in poor social and economic conditions and has had an adverse impact on basic issues such as food security, water supply, health care, education, communication, and overall development. Uncontrolled use of biomass has also resulted in deforestation, land degradation, increased emission of greenhouse gases directly impacting climate change.
64. The proposed action is a delivery-oriented sustainable capacity-building programme and a nucleus for small business start-ups for the promotion of renewable energy technology applications that could spur development in rural areas, and expedite the deployment and implementation of these applications for sustainable development, climate change mitigation, and poverty alleviation.
65. ESCWA and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) are in the process of establishing a Renewable Energy Education Park that is intended to host a series of activities at different levels in the field of renewable energy technologies. In this context, the Park is planned to be used as a venue to implement the proposed action through national capacity-building and information-sharing among all stakeholders in the area of renewable energy promotion, with a special focus on improved participation of the local government authorities in rural municipalities. Hence the project seeks to build capacity of governments and other stakeholders for promoting renewable energy services in rural areas. The UNESCO African Global Energy Education and Training Programme will be used as one of the training modules.
66. Special regional technical capacity-building and education programmes in the area of designing and implementing the renewable energy technology pilot systems will be implemented to target college students and technical personnel in the field. Among others, the pilot systems will include 10-25 kW wind turbine designs, thermal solar collectors and Photovoltaic (PV) cells and water pumps, a hydrogen electrolyser and a fuel cell, small hydropower demonstration. The project will focus on countries with special needs taking into account lessons learned and experiences from different regions. Through regional and subregional networking, policy options, good practices and lessons learned will be shared among all participating countries. The renewable energy technology pilot systems will then be used for raising public awareness in the area.
67. Collaboration with ESCAP and ECA will be sought in the development of guidelines and a set of training modules on enabling the environment for establishing public-private partnerships and criteria for selection of appropriate partnership models responsive to specific development needs. Collaboration will also include setting up interregional workshops and working groups to share best practices and raise

awareness of policymakers. Engaging the private sector in providing energy services in rural areas through public-private partnerships is seen as a viable strategic option. It will enhance government's capacity to develop integrated solutions, facilitate creative and innovative approaches to utilize the private sector's capital, technology skills and share risks.

<p><b>Objective of the Organization:</b> To build capacity of policymakers, civil society and the private sector in the field of renewable energy technologies to enhance energy security and improve access to energy services in the poor rural areas.</p>	<p><b>Summary budget</b> (Thousands of United States dollars)</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>General temporary assistance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">80.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Consultants</td> <td style="text-align: right;">62.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Travel</td> <td style="text-align: right;">48.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Contractual services</td> <td style="text-align: right;">19.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating expenses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">15.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Workshops</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>323.0</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>547.2</b></td> </tr> </table>	General temporary assistance	80.0	Consultants	62.0	Travel	48.0	Contractual services	19.2	Operating expenses	15.0	Workshops	<u>323.0</u>	<b>Total</b>	<b>547.2</b>
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<p><b>Relationship to the strategic framework for the period 2010-2011 and the Millennium Development Goals:</b> ESCWA subprogramme 1 (Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development); ESCAP subprogramme 4 (Environment and development); and Millennium Development Goals 1, 7 and 8.</p>															

<b>Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat</b>	<b>Indicators of achievement</b>
<p>(a) Enhanced capacity of target groups to develop effective policies and programmes to scale up the use of renewable energy for integrated rural development and enhance energy security and improving access to renewable energy services in rural areas of developing countries for poverty reduction</p>	<p>(a) At least 50 per cent of the policymakers, local government authorities, the civil society and the private sector who have participated in project workshops/capacity-building activities demonstrate that they have acquired knowledge and capacity about best practices to enhance energy security and improving access to energy services in rural areas</p>
<p>(b) Development and application of policy measures with regard to establishing public-private partnerships for better access to energy services through collaboration among existing regional and subregional institutions and centres of excellence</p>	<p>(b) Increased number of policies/initiatives promoting the use of renewable energy resources with focus on integrated rural development planning and implementation</p>
<p>(c) Increased use of locally available renewable energy resources, such as biomass, small hydro, solar and wind, through the development and demonstration of pilot systems and initiatives on public-private partnerships</p>	<p>(c) Increased number of regional and subregional institutions and centres of excellence networking and participating in project implementation, including the renewable energy technology pilot systems and capacity-building</p>

### Main activities

68. The main activities of the project will include:
- (a) Holding an inception meeting, including mass media outreach programme for project visibility;
  - (b) Acquiring (through donations and/or procurement) the operational models of the different renewable energy technologies (fuel cell with an electrolyser; different 10-25 kW wind turbine designs, small hydropower development demonstration, thermal solar collectors and Photovoltaic cells with pumps);

- (c) Organizing a regional technical capacity-building activity on the design and installation of the different renewable energy technologies pilot systems;
- (d) Organizing a regional workshop to promote best practices and South-South cooperation to increase public-private partnerships as well as active participation for small business development in the areas of implementing renewable energy projects for rural development. Mass media outreach programme to increase project visibility will be considered. Several other workshops will be co-organized with ESCAP and ECA;
- (e) Conducting a national training workshop for local government officials from 15 rural municipalities. A replica of the UNESCO African Global Energy Education and Training Programme will also be implemented.

<b>I. Improving disaster risk preparedness in the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific region</b>		
<b>Implementing entities:</b> ESCAP		<b>Duration:</b> 2011 – 2014
<b>Objective:</b> To strengthen Government capacities in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action through the use of standardized statistical and geographic information tools for the implementation of disaster risk preparedness and timely early recovery efforts in the Asia-Pacific region		
<b>Summary budget</b> (Thousands of United States dollars)	<b>Detailed budget (US dollars)</b>	
	<b>General Temporary Assistance</b>	24 000
GTA 24.0	1 temporary assistant to facilitate the organization of workshops, maintain an on-line network and other administrative tasks (in support of activities (a) (b) (d) and (f)) (12 work-months x \$2,000 per month)	
Consultants 104.0		
Expert groups 112.0		
Travel 36.0		
Equipment 78.0	<b>Consultants</b>	
Study Tours 30.0	<u>International consultants</u>	
Operating Expenses 9.0	2 international consultants for preparing technical and substantive content of training materials and holding workshops, (in support of activities (a), (c), (d) and (f)) (2 consultants x 4 work months x \$4,000 per month) and (\$18,000 for consultant(s) travel)	50 000
Contractual Services 21.9		
Workshops 207.0	1 external evaluation consultant (\$4,000 per month x 2.5 months) and consultant's travel to review the project outputs (\$2,500 per country x 4 countries)	20 000
<b>Total 621.9</b>		
	1 international consultant for developing communication/training materials (in support of activities (c), (d), and (f)) (1 consultant, x 1 work month x \$2,000 per month x 3 publications)	6 000
	<u>National consultants</u>	
	4 local consultants for preparing case studies for workshops (in support of activities (a), (b), (c) and (d)) (2 work months x \$2,000 per month x 4 countries) and (\$12,000 for internal travel)	28 000
	<b>Expert groups</b>	96 000
	2 expert group meetings to assess data needs and gaps related to disaster preparedness and post-disaster assessment, advise on the development of a standardized information system and related policy issues (in support of activities (a), (b), and (c)) (12 experts of the region x \$4,000 per expert per meeting x 2 meetings)	
	Travel of 2 experts from ISDR and OCHA to participate in 2 expert group meetings (in support of activities (a), and (b)) (\$4,000 per person x 2 meetings x 2 persons)	16 000
	<b>Travel</b>	36 000
	<u>Regional Commissions' staff/other UN staff</u>	
	Travel to facilitate the planning of an early warning system, a network of experts, and the	

	<p>development of a standardized information system (in support of activities (a), (b), (c), and (e)) (\$3,000 per person x 12 individual missions)</p> <p><b>Equipment</b> Provision of a server and GIS and database software to project countries for the implementation of a geo-referenced data holding system (in support of activities (b) and (c)) (\$6,000 for a server and other hardware and \$7,000 for software per country x 6 countries)</p> <p><b>Operating Expenses</b> Communications - In support of activities (a), (b), and (e). Printing - In support of activities (a), (d), and (f).</p> <p><b>Contractual Services</b> Contractual Services in support of all activities (\$21,900)</p> <p><b>Study Tours</b> <u>Regional study tours</u> Regional study tours to strengthen the capacity of government officials by exchanging experiences among 3 sub-regions (in support of activities (b), (d), (e) and (f)) (\$3,000 per study tour x 10 study tours)</p> <p><b>Seminars and Workshops</b> 2 training workshops in the region (in support of activities (a), (b), (c) and (d)) (\$3,000 per participant) x (22 participants) x (2 workshops)  1 regional workshop in the region (in support of activities (b) and (f).) (\$3,000 per participant x 25 participants)</p>	<p>78 000</p> <p>4 000 5 000</p> <p>21 900</p> <p>30 000</p> <p>132 000</p> <p>75 000</p>
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