



Women Entrepreneurs after Receiving Certificates and Award with Honorable Minister Ms. Pampha Bhusal

Women Entrepreneurs Get Honored

On the occasion of the 20th Annual General Assembly of South Lalitpur Rural Electric Cooperative Ltd. (SLREC), Women Entrepreneurs (WEs) from Lalitpur district of Bagmati Province were honored by SLREC for promoting diverse enterprises led by women in Lalitpur district. Among the 64 WEs, 10 were honored with the "Best Entrepreneurs" award.

Similarly, Sarangidada Mahila Krishi Sahakari Ltd was also awarded for the initiation of group business promotion in lapsi (Hog Plum) processing. For this, the cooperative also received financial support from the municipality as well as ward office. The three members of the cooperative who are leading the processing business are also the WEs supported by ADB TA 9334-NEP and Empowering Women Engendering Energy in Nepal (EWEE Nepal).

In addition to this, Mr. Rajendra Ghimire, Officer of CRT/N who worked as Enterprise Development Coordinator under ADB TA 9334-NEP Project in Lalitpur district was also awarded with Letter of Honor for his outstanding enactment to promote women led enterprise in Lalitpur district. All the awards and certificates were presented by the Honorable Minister of Energy, Water Resources, and Irrigation Ms. Pampha Bhusal.

The ADB TA 9334-NEP and EWEE Nepal project is led by ENERGIA/Hivos and implemented by the Centre for Rural Technology, Nepal (CRT/N), Practical Action Consulting (PAC), and the National Association of Community Electricity Users Nepal (NACEUN). It is funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and co-funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).

The list of awardees (WEs):

SN	Name of WEs	Type of Business
1.	Ms. Til Kumari Phuyal	Poultry and Fresh House
2.	Ms. Rabina Moktan	Poultry
3.	Ms. Anna Kumari Dhakal	Boer Goat Farming
4.	Ms. Sangita Ghimire Dhahal	Bakery
5.	Ms. Sharmila Lama	Bamboo Craft
6.	Ms. Chini Maya Negi	Dhasingare/ Lokta Processing
7.	Ms. Purnima Ghalan	Hotel and Groceries
8.	Ms. Meena Sanjel	Dairy
9.	Ms. Kamala Nyasur	Bee Keeping
10.	Ms. Bel Maya Singtan	Electric/Electronic and Repair/Maintenance

Diversifying Renewable Energy Work: Solar Minigrid Project in Khanikhola

Community People After the Handover Ceremony with the President of Khanikhola RM, Project Partner and CRT/N Project Team



Handover of 10kW Solar Mini-grid

CRT/N jointly with Khanikhola Rural Municipality (RM) and Ghatta Owner Association, Kavre has been implementing the project "Solar Electrification of a Remote Village and Promoting Energy Planning Based on Reliable Data Collection in Nepal" in Sourya Bhangtar, Khanikhola RM Kavre of Bagmati Province since July 2020. The project was supported by Siemenpuu Foundation, Finland and EKO energy, Finland. The project had three components, one of which was installation of 10kWp Solar Minigrid to improve access to electricity in Sourya Bhangtar that does not have access to national grid. The Minigrid benefited 96 households by providing domestic lighting and agro-processing facility. The project has also supported in installation of 3 HP capacity agro-processor having rice huller and grinder to process rice, wheat and maize produced within the beneficiary village.

The Minigrid was inaugurated by the President of Khanikhola RM, Mr. Krishna Bahadur Khulal on 24 November 2021. Following the inauguration, the system was handed over to the project beneficiary committee.

With the Minigrid system in operation, the inhabitants of Sourya Bhangtar have enhanced their livelihood. The inhabitants are elated with availability of the agro-processing mill. Before, the inhabitants especially female members of the community had to spend almost whole day to travel to nearby villages to process their agro-produce in diesel mill and/or water mills. Having mill in the village has enabled inhabitants to process their agro-produce within 1-2 hours. To address the sustainability of the energy system, the selected inhabitants have been provided with the repair and maintenance training and suitable tariff rate has been established for domestic lighting and milling service.

Project Updates: Solar Minigrid- CRT/N Stepping into Municipal Energy Planning (MEP)

Mr. Subash Lamichhane from CRT/N with a Respondent During the HH Energy Survey



What is MEP ?

"The MEP is a five-year periodic plan that enables the Municipalities to set targets for energy programmes, support data-driven energy analysis and evidence-based planning, make informed decisions for policy making & investment and facilitate monitoring of the progress. MEP also encompasses necessary activities and measures that need to be carried out by the municipalities to achieve the energy vision, mission, goals, and objectives within a stipulated period of time"

(Source: RERA/GIZ & AEPC)

Baseline Data Collection for MEP of Khanikhola RM, Kavre

With this project CRT/N also initiated MEP process to develop five-year periodic energy plan that enables the Municipality to set targets for energy programmes. The project started on July 2020 and is supported by Siemenpuu Foundation, Finland and Ekoenergy, Finland.

For the MEP process, energy baseline data from 428 households, 16 institutions and 21 enterprises, and 5 infrastructures were collected from all 7 wards of Khanikhola RM. The energy baseline survey was conducted between 22 October to 22 November 2021. CRT/N will develop the municipal energy plan by the end of March 2022.

Orientation Program on Renewable Energy

The project had three components, one of which was to facilitate and support Khanikhola RM to develop Municipal Energy Plan (MEP). As a part of facilitation and support activity, CRT/N organized Renewable Energy Technologies (RETs) orientation workshop on 23 November 2021 at Khanikhola RM. The objective of the workshop was to sensitize the executive committee members of the rural municipality about the available renewable energy technologies. Following the orientation, CRT/N facilitated to identify stakeholders for the MEP process and briefed the participants about need and process of developing Energy Development Sub Committee (EDSC).

The President of Khanikhola Rural Municipality Mr. Krishna Bahadur Khulal speaking during the closing



Mr. Khulal, President of Khanikhola RM Addressing the Closing Session

session of the workshop stressed on importance of orientation on RETs to the executive committee of the RM and has encouraged the municipality to identify and disseminate appropriate renewable energy technologies to improve the livelihood of local communities.

Project Updates: Eco Village Development (EVD)

UNDP GEF/SGP Supported EVD Project

With an objective to orient the project beneficiaries in Bhangala, Kavre of Bagmati Province on climate-friendly off-seasonal vegetable farming, CRT/N organized a three days training on "Organic Vegetable Farming using Plastic Tunnel and Drip-irrigation Technologies" at Bhangala village (Mill-house), Kavre on 9-11 November 2021.

The training was organized under the project "Eco-Village Development through Integration of Renewable Energy Solutions and Climate Friendly Activities for Enhancing Livelihood of Rural Communities in Bethanchok Rural Municipality". The project is supported by UNDP/GEF/SGP.

Mr. Roshan Subedi, Agriculture Researcher was the resource person for the training. The training was focused on familiarizing the participants about tunnel farming, homemade organic fertilizer and drip irrigation system. The participants were also provided with practical session on the aforementioned topics. The training was participated by 38 people (22 female and 16 male).

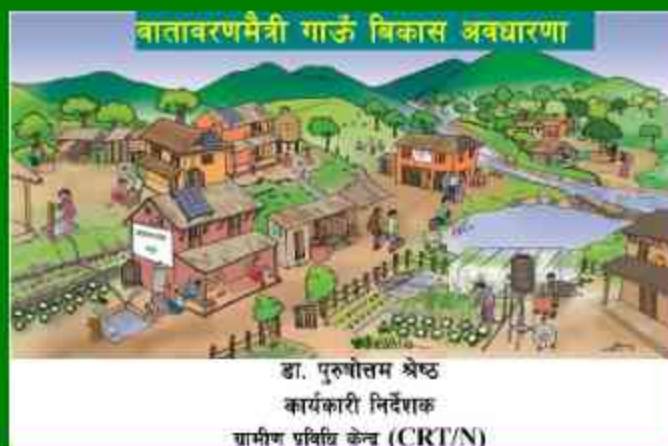


Participants During the Practical Session of Bio-Compost and Plastic Pond



Advocating EVD Concept in Global Social Business Summit 2021

Dr. Purushottam Shrestha, Executive Director of CRT/N delivered a presentation on Self-help Eco Village Development Project being implement by CRT/N and its relevance to the underprivileged communities of rural areas of Nepal in a virtual event "Social Business Summit 2021 Country of Nepal" organized by CSD on 9 November 2021 in association with Yunus Center, Bangladesh



Project Updates: Eco Village Development (EVD)

Centre for Self-help Development (CSD) Supported EVD Project in Barabise-3, Dharpa

CRT/N jointly with Manushi Lagubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd has been implementing Self-help Eco-Village Development in Barabise-3, Dharpa, Sindhupalchowk of Bagmati Province since 2019. Under this project a seven days training on building Improved Cookstove (ICS) was organized between 19-25 December 2021 at Dharpa-3 Barabise municipality. The objective of the training was to train the cooperative's selected members to install, operate, repair and maintain different kinds of mud stoves and encourage trainees to become successful stove promoters.

Mr. Farsa Tandan, Biomass Stove Development Expert was the Resource Person for the training. The training had more practical session but the training also focused on business development and dissemination of ICS. The training was participated by 8 (3 female & 5 male) members of the cooperative.



Resource Person & Participants during the Practical Session

Centre for Self-help Development (CSD) Supported EVD Project in Masine-2, Chandragiri



Participants After the Exposer Visit to Geichi to Observe Grass Nursery

As per the MoU with CSD, CRT/N jointly with Mahila Sahayogi Saving and Credit Cooperative has been implementing Self-help Eco-Village Development in Masine-2, Chandragiri Municipality, Kathmandu of Bagmati Province since September 2021. Under this project Goat Farming training was organized between 29-30 September 2021 at Shree Champa Shikhar Secondary School, Chandragiri-2 Masine village. The objective of the training was to orient the cooperative's members on goat farming and encourage them towards the commercial goat farming to enhance their livelihood.

Mr. Badri Nath Paudel, Ms. Shanta Khanal and Mr. Nawaraj Shrestha, Officers from livestock section of

Chandragiri Rural Municipalities were the resource persons for the training. The training educated the participants about goat farming techniques, importance of forage and fodder management, sources for balanced forage, carbohydrate and protein sources, and goat shed management to encourage farmers to initiate commercial goat farming. The training spanned for three days and the training had both theoretical and practical modules followed by field visit to observe grass nursery development and commercial goat farming. The training was participated by 25 people (24 female & 1 male) from the Masine village.

CLOSING WRITE SHOP MEETING: ADB TA 9334-NEP

CRT/N has organized a write shop meeting of “TA 9334-NEP: Strengthening the Capacity of the Energy Sector to Deliver Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Results” and Empowering Women Engendering Energy in Nepal (EWEEN Nepal) project on 7-8 August 2021. The meeting was jointly facilitated by CRT/N, PAC and NACEUN. As the project completes in August 2021, therefore in order to develop final project completion report, consolidating project progress, capturing best practices, lessons learnt and recommendations from all the team members especially from the Enterprise Development Coordinators (EDCs), the meeting was organized. Along with report writing, certificate of appreciation was also distributed to the EDCs as recognition of their hard work and dedication even in the COVID-19 pandemic situation.

TA 9334-NEP: Strengthening the Capacity of the Energy Sector to Deliver Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Results” project is piggy backed to the loan project, ‘Loan 3542-NEP: Power Transmission and Distribution Efficiency Enhancement Project’. It is funded by ADB with support from the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR) to ensure GESI mainstreaming in the loan project.

The scope of the project covers three key outputs, while consortium of CRT/N, PAC and NACEUN is implementing Output 2 of the project led by ENERGIA. Output 2 of the project is a dedicated output for promoting uptake of productive use of clean energy technologies and services by poor and vulnerable households.

The major activities and target under the output includes livelihood skills training need assessment for poor women of at least 15 EUCs from seven districts; business orientation training targeting 500 women; training of 500 EUC women members from poor and marginalized groups in energy-based livelihoods and related technical skills; and post-training support for linkage to accessing finance and market for such enterprises.



The Project Team During the Workshop

NETWORK UPDATES: INFORSE and GEWNet

We are happy to share that the International Network for Sustainable Energy (INFORSE) Nepal Network welcomed two new member organizations to the network. The new members are Prakriti Resource Center (PRC) and Nepal Energy Foundation (NEF).

CRT/N is the National Focal Point of INFORSE in Nepal and managing the network since 2004. CRT/N is endorsing INFORSE Nepal Network as a knowledge and experience sharing platform for the members of energy fraternity in the country. The network is encouraging network members and other development organizations to establish new partnership and contribute in development of energy sector of the country.

With this objective, CRT/N organized and facilitated two webinars on 13 September and 10 December 2021 with the INFORSE Nepal network members and other development partners from energy sector to strengthen the network going forward.

In the 1st episode, Mr. Gunnar Boye Olesen, INFORSE-Europe Coordinator, briefly presented about INFORSE network and its activities which was followed by presentation by Mr. Dilli Ghimire, Managing Director and Ms. Rojina Sharma, Senior Officer from Nepal Energy Forum (NEF) on "Mini/Micro Hydro:

Means of Sustainable Energy and a Path to Climate Change Mitigation".

The presentation covered introduction of NEF and their contribution to develop energy sector of the country. The presentation also highlighted role of micro-hydro in mitigating climate impacts and generating carbon credits.

In the 2nd episode, Dr. Ramesh Man Singh, Team Leader of Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) Project implemented by Centre for Energy and Environment Nepal (CEEN), made a presentation on "Production of Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) from Municipal Solid Waste". The presentation highlighted the municipal waste management practices and conversion process of plastic waste to energy in Nepal. Such derived fuel source has high potential to be used in pottery and brick kiln industries. The RDF project team is also performing different tests to check the efficiency of the fuel. The test has shown that the RDF fuel is better in terms of efficiency when compared to fuelwood as energy source for the bricks kiln.

The webinars were attended by participants from different organizations representing academia, civil societies, government organization and private sector.

On 12 August, 2021, Gender, Energy and Water Network (GEWNet) organized a webinar on "MKCL Intervention for Modernization of Nepalese Agriculture". Mr. Ram Sharan Timalina, Senior Manager of Muktinath Krishi Company Limited (MKCL) delivered the presentation. He gave a brief introduction of his company which was established by Muktinath Bikas Bank in 2018 with the motto to provide end to end solution in agriculture. He stated that the company adopts agriculture value chain development from seeds, fertilizer, farm equipment and marketing for farm produce. He explained that there is a little improvement and advancement in Nepalese Agriculture on modern technology and practices

and this comes as a result of increase in the demand for sustainability and achievement of food security goals.

Speaking about the mechanization usage in agriculture, he highlighted that the technology has transformed agriculture to increase productivity and quality of yields and the strength of modern farm machinery has transformed the agricultural industry to the next level of improvement.

Further, he also highlighted the benefits of modern technologies for women entrepreneurs. By using such technologies, they can foster their business which can directly link with improvement of livelihood and nutrition.

Experts from different fields, academicians, GEWNet members and consortium partners participated in the webinar.

Recognition of CRT/N's Contribution



CRT/N Family with Received
Token of Appreciations

We are honored to share that CRT/N along with Senior Advisors Mr. Ganesh Ram Shrestha and Mr. Lumin Kumar Shrestha has been acknowledged and awarded with Token of Appreciation by Alternative Energy Promotion Centre (AEPCC) for the special contribution to the renewable sector of Nepal. CRT/N has been working in the field of renewable energy since 1989.

The award was presented by the Honorable Minister of Energy, Water Resources, and Irrigation Ms. Pampha Bhusal during the occasion of Silver Jubilee of AEPCC on 2 November, 2021.

Similarly, acknowledging CRT/N's contribution and cooperation to "Institutional Development and Community Rural Electrification Project", National Association of Community Electricity Users Nepal (NACEUN) honored CRT/N with a Letter of Honor on the Sixth National General Convention. On behalf of CRT/N, Dr. Purushottam Shrestha, Executive Director of the CRT/N received the Letter of Honor from the Chairman of NACEUN, Mr. Narayan Gyawali. The Convention was organized with the theme "Transparency, Responsibility, Institutional Governance, Community friendly Policy, Act, Tariff fixation" on 9-10 December 2021.



Dr. Shrestha Receiving the Letter of Honor from Mr. Narayan Gyawali, Chairman of NACEUN

New Projects

ADB Funded: TA 6526-NEP

After the successful completion of the TA 9334-NEP and EWEE Nepal project, CRT/N with ENERGIA/Hivos and NACEUN is moving forward to implement the second phase of the ADB TA 6526 project in the Province two.

For the project implementation a contract agreement between Hivos/ENERGIA and CRT/N has also been signed.

CECI Funded: Assessment of National Climate Policy

The assignment is supported by CECI and will be conducted in collaboration with T-HELP, Nepal in Patalekheta, Kavrep of Bagmati Province. An assessment of the women group from the target area will be conducted to know their level of understanding about the climate change impacts in their agro-practice agriculture.

CSD Funded: EVD Project in Chandragiri

Expanding the CSD supported EVD project, CRT/N jointly with Mahila Sahayogi Saving and Credit Cooperative Limited has started to implement the Self-help EVD project in Masine, -2 Chandragiri Municipality, Kathmandu. The project will focus in supporting the rural livelihood by providing need based climate smart solutions, business development opportunity and renewable energy technology to improve existing indigenous knowledge and hereby their livelihood.

UNDP/GEF/SGP Funded: Supporting Indigenous Practices and Entrepreneurship

CRT/N will be collaborating with United Youth Community Nepal (UNYC), Bardiya to provide consulting service. CRT/N will be coordinating with UNYC to conduct baseline survey, need assessment to identify appropriate renewable energy technologies, climate solutions, and livelihood opportunities for the inhabitants of Bargadahi village, Bardiya.

Centre Rural Technology, Nepal (CRT/N)



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**Happy New Year
2022**

*Wishing You a Happy New year
Full of Joy and a Great Year*