

# Centre for Rural Technology, Nepal (CRT/N)

## E-News

### MoU Signing between CRT/N and Manushi Nepal

Centre for Rural Technology, Nepal (CRT/N) and Manushi Nepal have signed MoU on August 2, 2019, to work in joint collaboration for promoting women-led enterprises in the ongoing and upcoming projects/ programmes to be implemented by CRT/N and its consortium partners. Mr. Ganesh Ram Shrestha, Executive Director of CRT/N signed the MoU on behalf of CRT/N, while Ms. Padmasana Shakya, Chairperson of Manushi Nepal signed for Manushi Nepal.

CRT/N is a professional non-governmental organization established in 1989, engaged in developing and promoting appropriate rural technologies effective in meeting the basic needs and improving the livelihood of rural people. CRT/N provides technical support and services in the field of rural energy, environment conservation, climate change and Gender equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) in the energy sector. In addition, CRT/N is working in mainstreaming gender in

rural energy through women's entrepreneurship development by the productive use of clean energy.

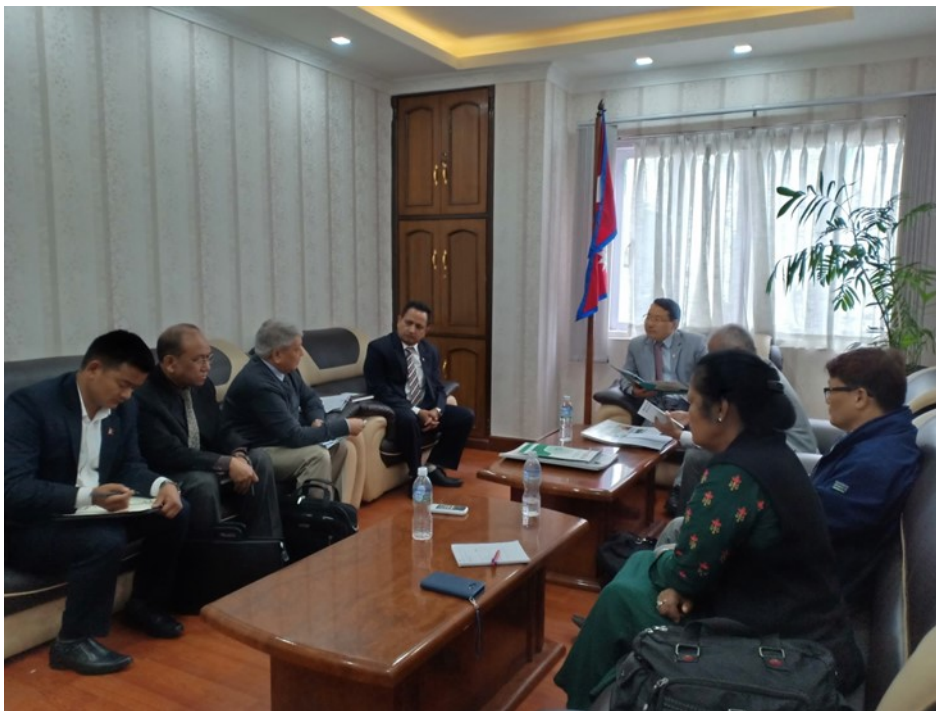
Whereas, Manushi is non-profit/non-government organization initially established in 1991, to promote gender equality and economic empowerment. Manushi is a Guaranteed Fair Trade Organization recognized by World Fair Trade Organization (WFTO) that follows a social business platform grounded in the objective of improving the economic conditions of poor, disadvantaged and marginalized producers, primarily women through sustainable development. Manushi is promoting traditional Nepali arts and craft, Manushi has grown into Fair Trade leader through the diversification of its activities, incorporating, management and skill training with entrepreneurship development and micro-financing.

### Meeting with Honorable Minister Mr. Barshaman Pun, MOEWRI

On September 30, 2019 Green and Inclusive Energy (GIE) programme team of CRT/N had a meeting with Honorable Minister Mr. Barshaman Pun, Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation Ministry (MOEWRI), Singha Durbar, Anamnagar. The meeting was an opportunity for GIE Programme team to brief activities of GIE and to advocate for integrating GESI in Energy Policies. This project in Nepal is implemented by consortium of National Association of Community Electricity Users-Nepal (NACEUN) and Nepal Forum for Environmental Journalist (NEFEJ); Renewable Energy Confederation (RECoN) and Indoor Air Pollution and Health Forum (IAPHF) led by CRT/N.

Mr. Ganesh Ram Shrestha, Executive Director, CRT/N highlighted about the CRT/N and the technologies it has been promoting for example- ICS, Hydraulic Ram Pump, Improved Water Mill. Mr. Shrestha also highlighted the issues and gaps at local level due to the absence of energy officer. He furthermore stated the need to promote green energy and technologies for development of green economy. He also stressed on capacity development of gender units of local government. and highlighted the school support initiative of GIE Programme.

## Continue...Meeting with Barsha Man Pun



*Mr. Ganesh Ram Shrestha, ED, CRT/N Briefing during Meeting*

Dr. Purushottam Shrestha, Senior Director briefly highlighted the objective of GIE programme and how it has been advocating/ sensitizing for Renewable Energy and GESI at Central, Province and Local level. He also indicated the gaps of gender in energy policy.

Dr. Indira Shakya, Project Manager highlighted the need of Gender Indicator on gender budget in every programme and activity in order to monitor gender progress.

Honorable Former Minister Ganesh Shah, Environment, Science and Technology Ministry, who facilitated the meeting emphasized on 4 A's: Accessibility, Affordability, Availability and Acceptability of Renewable Energy Technologies (RETs).

Honorable Minister Mr. Barshaman Pun and Mr. Dinesh Kumar Ghimire, Secretary committed to integrate GESI in all the energy policies and programmes and coordinate with Small-scale Renewables Financing Facility (SREF), AEPC regarding policy revisions.

## MoU Signed with ADBL



*Group Picture of Participants in the MoU Signing Ceremony*

Centre for Rural Technology, Nepal (CRT/N), National Association of Community Electricity Users Nepal (NACEUN) and Agricultural Development Bank Ltd. (ADBL) has signed Tripartite MoU to work in joint collaboration to provide access to finance for enterprise development of Women Entrepreneurs trained under Output 2 "TA 9334-NEP: Strengthening the Capacity of the Energy Sector to Deliver Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Result and Empowering Women Engendering Energy – Nepal" project. This project has been

## Continue...MoU Signed with ADBL

jointly implemented by Centre for Rural Technology, Nepal and Practical Action Consulting (PAC) with National Association of Community Electricity Users Nepal as strategic partner, supported by ADB and ENERGIA/Hivos. The project will support 500 women entrepreneurs under 15 Electricity Users Committees (EUCs) in Chitwan, Dhading, Lalitpur, Kavre, Sindhupalchowk, Dolakha, Ramechhap and Sindhuli districts.

The MoU signing ceremony took place in the Head Office of Agricultural Development Bank Ltd., Ramshahpath, Kathmandu on October 20, 2019 (Kartik 3, 2076). CRT/N's Executive Director, Mr. Ganesh Ram Shrestha signed the

MoU on behalf of CRT/N, NACEUN's Chairperson Mr. Narayan Gyawali signed the MoU on behalf of NACEUN and Mr. Anil Kumar Upadhyay, Chief Executive Officer signed the MoU on behalf of ADBL.

It was agreed that with recommendation of the concerned Electricity Users Committee (EUCs) as instructed by the NACEUN and coordinated by CRT/N, Bank as per its prevailing policies, procedures and guidelines will give priority to provide credit to bankable Women Entrepreneurs (WEs) trained by the above project against collateral or without collateral base/subsidized loan scheme 2075 B.S

Mr. Anil Kumar Upadhyay, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of ADBL expressed that this mutual agreement is expected to be a milestone to support for

economic empowerment of small and medium women entrepreneurs living in the remote areas, through increasing their income, augmenting financial literacy and access to the Bank.

Mr. Ganesh Ram Shrestha, Executive Director (ED) of CRT/N said that this cooperation will be a big support to improve the economic status of women entrepreneurs who otherwise could not expand their business due to lack of financial support.

Mr. Narayan Gyawali, Chairperson of NACEUN highlighted that this new initiation will make all of us more responsible and visionary towards women's economic empowerment in Nepal.

## Exhibition on the Occasion of 40th Social Service Day of SWC

On September 23, 2019 Social Welfare Council (SWC) celebrated its 40th social service day at Bhrikutimandap Exhibition premises with Development Exhibition programme. Where, CRT/N had also placed its stall showcasing its IEC materials reflecting organization and its activities. Video documentaries were displayed showing its activities. Two technologies: Improved Cookstoves (ICSs) and Hydraulic Ramp

Pump were also displayed during the exhibition which were the major attraction of the stall. Vice President the Rt. Hon'ble Mr. Nanda Bahadur Pun addressed the ceremony and also visited the stall. Other visitors were from Government Agencies, Non-Government Organizations and Community-Based Organizations and various other visitors visited the exhibition.



*Visitors in the Exhibition*



## Teachers Training at Bethanchowk, Kavre

In coordination with Rural Municipality and Resource Person, school teachers training on importance of REs/RETs for empowering rural women and livelihood, green & process of gender/social inclusion in energy planning was conducted from October 24-25, 2019 at Parbati School of Dhunkharka at Bethanchowk. From all Secondary Schools the head teachers and subject teachers actively participated in the training. All the participated teachers were interested

to play a source of informant role to reach out the mass people through students to bring awareness about significant importance of renewable energy, role of technology to improve health and energy use practices. It will be supportive to create conducive environment to formulate the Green and Inclusive energy policy through local government which will contribute to “Clean Energy & Healthy Homes”.

At the end of the



*First day of ToT at Opening Sessions*

training every school developed implementation plan to create a green, clean and healthy school environment, which was aligned with Rural Municipality's Policy & Strategies Paper, 2076.

## New Project on EVD Approved

Project titled “Strengthening the Eco-Village Development concept: Affordable local climate actions for sustainable development in South Asia” is approved by Civil Society in Development (CISU), Denmark. Project will be implemented from September 2019-February 2020 and will be implemented at Marin Rural Municipality of Sindhuli district. The objective of this project is to enable a larger implementation of Eco-Village

Development (EVD) in the same area in the future without losing the momentum gained through the two previous projects. This will lead to tangible strengthening of the capacities of the South Asian including CRT/N partners and their networks, which will help us in our current scale-up activities and in preparation of larger scale-up activities. Like in earlier EVD projects, project partners are Danish International

Human Settlement Service (DIB), International Network for Sustainable Energy (INFORSE), Integrated Sustainable Energy and Ecological Development Association (INSEDA), India, Integrated Development Association (IDEA), Srilanka, Grameen Shakti, Bangladesh, Climate Action Network South Asia (CANSA).

## Financial and Technical Support to Students for the Research



*Student Conducting Survey*

GEWNet conducted two student researches with the objective to provide practical exposure for students and identify GEWNet as a knowledge hub itself. Two students from Naya Aayam Multi-disciplinary Institute (NAMI) College carried out the study in Chyasingkharka -05, Bethanchok the Rural Municipality (RM) of Kavre district listed under province 3 of Nepal.

### Student 1

Ms. Rashmita Raut on “An Assessment on the Performance Evaluation of Cookstoves in Chyasingkharka, Bethanchok, Kavre, Nepal”

The main aim of the study is to find out the efficiency of different Cookstoves via 20 HHs survey via random sampling methods:

- To access performance of two traditional and two improved cook stoves using Water Boiling Test (WBT) protocol
- To compare WBT result of traditional and improved cook stoves
- To evaluate the impact of traditional cook stoves on women drudgery, health and climate.

### Student 2

Ms. Shanti Maya Tamang on “An Assessment on Effectiveness of Renewable Energy for Cooking to Improve Environmental Condition and Livelihood of the people living in Chyasingkharka-05, Bethanchok, Kavre, Nepal”



*Efficiency Testing of TCS*

The study was carried out with an objective to investigate the available two Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) were carried out with different comparative benefit of groups of people in the research area.

Traditional Cook Stove (TCS) with Improved Cook Stove (ICS) from gender perspective in terms of indoor pollution, health, education, drudgery, water, employment, enterprises and economic empowerment. The study also focuses to analyse the role of renewable cooking energy in reducing climate change impacts. To meet the objectives, household survey was performed in 40 households (HHs). Random sampling method was adopted in two clusters of Chyasingkharka. In addition two Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) were carried out with different groups of people in the research area.

## Pilot Study under GEWNet

Gender, Energy and Water Network (GEWNet) pilot study is an initiative technically coordinated by the Centre for Rural Technology, Nepal (CRT/N), GEWNet Secretariat under GIE Programme study's with the financial support from International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy (ENERGIA/Hivos).

The survey was conducted in 100 households of Chyasingkharka ward number 5, Bethanchok Rural Municipality, Kavre District, Nepal. The objective of pilot study is to review and analyse the water, energy, and gender nexus of study the area with a comprehensive reporting mechanism to inform policy-making in the energy and water sectors. This study presents straight 360 degree

view from the field observation to distinguish if the community really has a proper access of water and energy services which support their livelihood enhancement.

The survey findings show that:

- Water: 99% of the respondents stated they have proper access to water and

it is safe to drink directly from the tap and 98% respondents answered there



*Respondent using TCS*



*Interacting with Respondent in Field*

## Continue...GEWNet Pilot Study

- is enough access of water
  - Cook stoves: 68% of HHs used traditional wood or LPG rather than improved cook stoves or rocket stoves for energy source (2 -4 hours to collect fuel wood)
  - Energy: 100% regular, efficient and affordable access to electricity (except when disaster occurs)
  - Gender: Women domination being clearly observed although almost 85% HHs task are done by women
  - Health: 98% respondents are aware of about water borne and smoke related diseases
  - Financial Institutions: 78% respondents are involved in financial/ credit institutions, mostly female
  - Climate Change: 31% of respondents lack sufficient knowledge about climate change and (38%) its impact
- positive thought, search and action
- Landslide/ Earthquake Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) preparedness project is required with emergency funding and saving thought, search and action.
  - Implementing with no subsidy modality and authority to make decision for supporting poorest of the poor
  - Integrating health, education, nutrition, environment with basic behavioural build-up mechanism
  - Need advocacy to make the women friendly financing policy for Women Empowerment.
  - Work on model concept
- With further analysis, the overview of the energy and water sectors presented in this pilot report could be used to improve sector indicators of progress. In order to improve the situation the following key recommendations emerged from the study
- Capacity Building for women economic empowerment with

## Way Forward: Eco-Village Development Concept to Adopt Self-Help Modality



*Participants of Interaction Meeting*

After nearly 5 years of experience in developing approach and strategies to promote EVD concept in rural Nepal, CRT/N has formed an official consortium with Center for Self-help Development (CSD) and Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha (Manushi Micro-Finance Institution) to develop “Model

Self-help Eco-Village” in Dharpa-3, Barhabise Municipality in Sindhupalchowk district. For this consortium, CRT/N will embrace role of technical partners. Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha will provide micro-financing services and facilitate community mobilization while CSD will provide

initial funding and play more of facilitative role to establish link between technical and micro-financing partners. Unlike in previous experience, this consortium has prioritized self-help mechanism to develop sustainable eco-village model through linkage with financial institutions. In this noble



## Continue...Way forward

approach, financing institution will be linked with beneficiary households from Dharpa-3 village such that identified EVD solutions for individual households are owned or purchased by accessing loans as per need. Contrasting to foreign donor driven approach, linking financial institutions to adopt EVD concept will provide additional impetus to achieve sustainability aspect of the concept. Nevertheless, subsidy is good and needed as long as any project concept or initiatives are in their embryo stage and requires intensive promotion campaign to create whim among relevant stakeholders. Within last five years, the EVD concept has moved beyond its embryo stage and has gained recognition among various development partners within the country.

As an inception, the consortium participated in an interaction meeting organized by Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha, a micro-

financing organization working in rural Nepal. This organization had been providing credit and saving facilities for Dharpa-3 community since a decade ago. The meeting was held at Narayan Primary School premises in Dharpa-3 village. The interaction meeting was participated by Mr. Tek Bahadur Bhandari, Ward Chairman-Ward No. 3, Barhabise Municipality, Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha, Chairman-CSD, Mr. Ganesh Ram Shrestha, Executive Director-CRT/N and Ms. Shobha Bajracharya, CEO-Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha and Mr. Yadav Prasad Acharya, Barhabise Branch Of Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha and members of Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha from Dharpa-3 village. Altogether 70 members from three Barhabise branch centers of Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha made their presence feel through warm welcoming gestures towards guests from their ward, CSD, CRT/N and Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha.



*Welcoming Gesture from Dharpa-3 Community*



*Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha, Chairman, CSD, Interacting with Community*

## Closing Workshop of Pico-Hydro Project

CRT/N jointly with Ghatta Owners' Association, Kavre organized a closing workshop on November 5, 2019 of the project "Improving Rural Livelihoods in Nepal with Pico-Hydro Electrification and Improved Water Mill" after successfully installing 7.5 kilowatt at ward no. 6 of Khanikhola Rural Municipality of Kavrepalanchok district. The project was supported by Siemenpuu Foundation and EKO energy and implemented in Kavre and Makwanpur District. During the closing workshop, Mr. Ram Hari

Subedi, Honorable Member of Provincial Assembly- 3, expressed gratitude for not only including installing pico-hydro but also capacity building of local people to conduct enterprises. He also expected support from CRT/N for future projects like in eco-tourism. Similarly, Charing the workshop Dr. Purushottam Shrestha, Senior Director, CRT/N empathized on the sustainability and continuation of project with support from local government after the project is phased out.



*Mr. Ram Hari Subedi, Honorable Member of Provincial Assembly- 3 Speaking during Workshop*

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Centre for Rural Technology, Nepal (CRT/N) is a professional non-governmental organization engaged in developing and promoting appropriate rural technologies effective in meeting the basic needs and improving livelihood of rural people. It provides technical support and consulting services in the field of rural energy, environment conservation, climate change and GESI in energy. Its working priority areas are: Total Access to Energy (Improved Cook Stove, Improved Water Mills, Hydrum, Solar Dryer/ Cooker), Household Air Quality, Gender and Social Inclusion in Energy, Community Water Management, Climate Change (Adaptation and Mitigation), and Productive use of Energy (Employment and Income Generation) and Women-led, Energy-based Enterprise Development. CRT/N was registered under Company Act in August 1989 but later in October 1998, it was re-registered as Non-Government Organization (NGO).