Information Sharing – Renewable Energy Initiatives and Role of Women

Second Application Workshop on Efficient Energy Management and Renewable Energy
November 17–19, 2008

Jalajakshi C K
The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)
Content

- 1. Situation in rural areas
- 2. Case study – 1
- 3. Case study – 2
1.1 Situation In Rural Areas

- Biomass is the main source of energy
- Poor have limited access to Kerosene and LPG
- Direct use of biomass as a fuel leads to health problems
- Scarcity of biomass also leads to economic pressure on poor families
- 1.6 billion people lack access to electricity, 33% live in India alone
2. Why we did?

- Empowerment of women through a) enhancement of knowledge and skills in energy management b) increase in income level of the SHG members
- Knowledge transfer on technologies to the critical mass will have a multiplier effect in, information trickling down to the masses
- Users are the best managers of rural technologies and also can efficiently manage their local resources
- Energy efficient biomass technologies help in efficient management of local resources.
- Self Help Groups can be an effective channel for dissemination of technologies.
2.1 Process of change

- To bring about a positive change in the rural energy scenario
- Change can take place only if the people take the decision to adopt the improved technology
- The way to make them take this step is through empowerment
2.2 How to empower?

- increasing the social and economic strength of the people
- Confidence levels should be increased to enable access to services
- This process is more effective when it is done on the level of the community
2.3 Partnership

- Empowered CBOs are aware of their needs and also capable of identifying solutions to their problems

- They have certain strengths which make them valuable in project management

- It is necessary for them to become partners in the process of project planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation
2.4 Partners

- Research Institute
- NGO
- CBO
2.5 What to Ensure?

- TECHNOLOGY – should cater to the felt needs of the community; should be user-friendly, easy to maintain and economically sound to operate.

- PEOPLE – should be made aware of the technology and its advantages to generate interest.

- The people should be FINANCIALLY CAPABLE of purchasing, owning, and maintaining the technology.
2.6 What we did?

Stage 1 – process stage
- Awareness
- Involvement
- Organization of work
- Learning and further planning

Stage 2 – tech. amalgamation stage
- Identification of needs
- Choice of technology
- Pilot demonstration
- Enhancement of skills of CLA members
- Development of market linkages

Stage 3 – dissemination stage
- Strategy for technology dissemination through knowledge sharing
3.

- Started with the premise of entrepreneur development of women
3. 1 Partners

- Research Institute
- NGO
- University
- Market Facilitating and Enterprise Development Organization
- Women Entrepreneurs
3.2 Process

- Selection of women entrepreneurs
- Capacity building on technical, entrepreneurial and Institutional aspects
- Market Development
- Solar charging stations