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Regional Workshop
on
Women, Energy and Enterprise Building

April 4-7, 2011
Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
India

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Why this workshop among practitioners

- Energy applications and services worldwide are largely viewed as gender-neutral. But evidence and experience suggest otherwise
- Pilots or demonstration projects/ programs face limitations and not usually scale able : what constraints and challenges sustainability?
- Once grant funding or subsidies are reduced do decentralised renewable energy projects get a “life of their own ?”
- How do all the above questions respond when women as a user group or producer of energy services come into picture?

Format

- Sharing of experiences across South Asia
- Learning from *‘what worked? what did not work? what are the key lessons?’*
- Is there potential for replication?
- What are the conditions for replication and scaling up?
- Roadmap for promoting women’s entrepreneurship in energy technologies, applications and services



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Participating Organizations

- Policy Session: **Regional and country perspective**
- Lessons from Practice : **Solar Home Lighting**, six organizations
- Lessons from Practice: **Cooking Solutions**, five organizations
- Lessons from Practice: **Productive Applications of technologies and employment generation**, six organizations
- Lessons from Practice: **Access to clean and modern home appliances**, three organizations
- Policy and Funding perspectives of **multilateral and bilateral organizations**, three organizations



How to present the field experiences

- Each group has received a set of leading questions to be responded to while making their presentations.
- The presentations are less about the organizations per se and more about the process or the journey they took to reach where they are today
- The field experience of reaching (or not reaching) sustainability is of critical importance to the workshop's output and lessons .

Workshop' Objective

The aim is to develop a roadmap and recommendations for

- interventions in capacity building,
- technical support and
- financing women's entrepreneurship in clean energy applications and services

This is to be done through critical review and synthesis of relevant energy projects and practices across South Asia in the next few days



What to look at while using a gender lens

- **Energy source/ technology application**
 - Do both men and women understand it? Who decides?
 - Who does the installation?
 - Who does the maintenance and repairs?
- **Market assessment/ market development**
 - How is demand estimated?
 - Who makes the decisions?
 - Value chain assessment
- **Financial mechanisms**
 - How are resources raised?
 - Who is involved and who decides?
 - Who contributes what?
 - Who takes loans? Who repays?

Way forward

The exchanges are between representatives of field organizations, technology support and donor organizations, government and the corporate sector from the South Asian region.

Individually, each participant is a resource person to be engaged in :

- Group discussions after every thematic session between thematic team members
- Group presentations
- Synthesis of the findings and recommendations to inform WISER's future activities and partnerships



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Thank you for
your time,
expertise and sharing of
experience!