

# **Capacity Development Program for Afghan Women**

## **Course Overview**

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**Nandita Mongia**

### **Course Overview:**

This course has been designed to expose the participants to both theory and practices that help increase clean energy access their daily lives, be it for household or productive end uses, as planners or practitioners, as home makers or entrepreneurs, in several cases doing both or more!

The technical issues will be explained first, through the morning presentations by resource persons, complemented by hands on demonstrations and site visits in the afternoons. Most afternoons are reserved for site visits and interactive sessions. Frank and free discussions and questions raised will be responded to with the best of our abilities. The resource persons are well known experts in their fields and have come from far and near; within India and outside of India, as far as the USA!

This will be a mutual learning experience for all of us participants ...reinforcing our strengths and identifying gaps there in and learning from it. We have a good mix of theoreticians, practitioners, practical hands on trainers, manufacturers and social groups. In an ideal situation all these aspects make things happen on the ground....but do not always come together in reality.

The course starts of with short presentations on decentralized energy sources that can be alternate to usual grid based electricity: Micro hydro , wind, biomass, biogas, and of course solar energy .This is followed by their applications and all relevant end uses be it for lighting or pumping or for green buildings.

Highpoint of hands on exposure will be the demonstration of energy efficient appliances at the EMC in Kerala and by the manufacturers of solar equipments at the TATA BP Solar in Bangalore .These equipments are increasingly being used in our daily lives and maintenance tips will be shared with you.

Often it is not just a technology but a whole packaging of how it is sourced, manufactured; delivered and finally used that will impact women's well being when it relates to energy services. The course has been designed so as to share with you during the next few days examples of best practices, experiences of comprehensive packaging of energy services delivery by experts on the ground, active women's groups and entrepreneurs.

We began this session by listening to South Asian Women in Energy ( SAWIE ) thematic team leaders :

- of the roles that they themselves or their organizations have played - as champions for clean energy access impacting the livelihoods and quality of life of women, children and their families
- of how gender considerations have been linked in their activities of practices and technologies that you can apply locally

All of the above we hope will act as the building blocks for participants for becoming champions of clean energy use once back in Afghanistan:

- Equip you with tools and approaches for analyzing energy issues and energy technology options, especially through the gender lenses

- Help you learn to select and specify appropriate energy technologies and practices from alternate renewable energy sources and their applications at house hold level viz cooking, heating, water pumping, lighting,
- Help you learn to work within communities to build support for new clean energy approaches
- Help you learn to work with donors, governments and businesses
- Introduce sources of expertise and assistance and help you create and can continue to maintain networks.

By the mid stream of the training course, the participants will group themselves in relevant thematic groups and start an internal discussion of the areas of future strengthening that you may need support for. On the last and final day of the session, before moving to Bangalore, your presentations and feed back will help us design future partnerships with Afghanistan per the needs you identify .It will also go a long way in designing support activities to be undertaken by the WISER Centre in future.