



AEPC



KU

## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)**

BETWEEN

**ALTERNATIVE ENERGY PROMOTION CENTRE (AEPC)  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

AND

**KATHMANDU UNIVERSITY (KU)**

FOR

**Research and Development of Renewable Energy  
Technologies in Nepal**

**March 2008**

## 1. BACKGROUND

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This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is made and entered into by and between the **Alternative Energy Promotion Centre** (hereinafter referred as "AEPC"), Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology, Government of Nepal (GoN) and the **Kathmandu University** (hereinafter referred as "KU"). AEPC and KU are hereinafter jointly referred to as "the Parties".

KU ([www.ku.edu.np](http://www.ku.edu.np)) established in 1991 started its engineering education programs from 1994. It is the first educational institute in Nepal to start undergraduate and graduate level degree programs in mechanical, electrical, electronics and computer engineering studies. The education system of the School is especially focused on projects and applied research works where undergraduate students from the very first semester undergo practical training and produce creative engineering models.

AEPC is a semi autonomous government institution mandated for promotion and development of renewable (rural/alternative) energy technologies in Nepal. AEPC not only provides direct financial and technical support in terms of subsidy and capacity building support for managing rural energy systems at the community level, it also encourages partnership with the community based organizations, private sector, non governmental organizations and other institutions for maintaining energy systems at affordable level, meeting basic quality standards, and maximizing use of energy for income generation activities. AEPC is presently executing Energy Sector Assistance Programme (ESAP) supported by Danish and Norwegian Governments, Rural Energy Development Programme (REDP) supported by the World Bank and UNDP, Biogas Support Programme (BSP) supported by KfW and SNV/N, Improved Water Mill Programme (IWMP) supported by SNV/N, and Renewable Energy Project (REP) supported by EU.

This MoU sets out the general terms and principles (mutual support, complement one another and add value) of the institutional collaboration between the Parties regarding research and development and implementation of renewable energy technology promotion interfaced with poverty alleviation and environmental protection activities. This MOU is agreed to guide, regulate and harmonise the relationship and partnership between KU and AEPC in our joint engagement in the "Research and Development of Renewable Energy in Nepal".

## **2. PURPOSE OF THE MOU**

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The main purpose of this MoU is to;

- Work together for expanding R&D activities so that problems relating to rural energy technologies and the energy needs of the rural population could be addressed by providing appropriate technological solutions.

## **3. MAIN AREAS AND WAYS OF PARTNERSHIP**

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- 3.1 The Parties agree that energy is one of the vital inputs to livelihood and prerequisite for socio-economic development of Nepal. Hence, the parties will work together to identify appropriate renewable and alternative energy solutions for the rural population of Nepal and assist in achieving Government of Nepal (GoN) targets on rural/renewable energy by optimum utilization of natural resources.
- 3.2 The Parties recognize each other's comparative advantages and complementarities of their respective programmes and activities to produce synergistic impacts especially in developing appropriate technologies and finally field level implementation.
- 3.3 The Parties agree to collaborate together regarding the research and development of renewable energy systems - biomass energy technologies, micro-hydro, solar energy, wind energy, biogas technologies, improved water mill and other rural energy projects, in common working areas targeted for poverty reduction and improvement in health and environment.
- 3.4 The Parties may develop together a common agreed mechanism for their resource mobilization for research and development in renewable energy technologies to enhance access of rural energy technologies.
- 3.5 The Parties agree to publicize the purpose of MoU and its content, and to inform any third party of interest and concerned about it, only after an agreement on this matter reached between the Parties. Any such publicity material has to be mutually agreed by the Parties.
- 3.6 Any reference to this MoU regarding undertaking joint projects/sub-projects or future initiatives shall be done only with the prior consent of the Parties. The Parties will not make any commitments or take any positions on behalf of each other without a written consent.
- 3.7 Executive Director of AEPC and Registrar of KU will be directly responsible for implementation of this MoU. They or their designees shall meet regularly and coordinate activities pointed out under this MoU.

#### 4. TARGET GROUP

As this MoU is a guiding document for mutual cooperation, collaboration and coordination in relevant projects of both the parties, there are no specific target groups in this MoU.

#### 5. PERIOD OF AGREEMENT AND MODIFICATION / TERMINATION

- Terms of this MoU shall commence on the date of signature by the Parties and it will remain for a period of five years unless otherwise agreed.
- Any difference of opinion concerning this MoU will be resolved through amicable dialogue between the Parties. Both parties agree to review and update the MoU every year. The 1<sup>st</sup> review will be on February 2009.
- Any modifications to this MoU will only be done by mutual agreement and formally signed by each party.
- This MoU may be terminated at any time by prior written agreement or if one or both parties are in breach of agreed terms of the MoU.

#### SIGNED

On behalf of Alternative Energy Promotion Centre

On behalf of Kathmandu University



*Govind Raj Pokharel*  
 Dr. Govind Raj Pokharel

Executive Director  
 Alternative Energy Promotion Centre (AEPC)

March 2008

Witness

*Niels Juhl Thomsen*  
 Mr. Niels Juhl Thomsen

Chief Adviser  
 Energy Sector Assistance Programme (ESAP)

March 2008



*Kiran Man Singh*  
 Mr. Kiran Man Singh

National Programme Manager  
 Rural Energy Development Programme (REDP)

March 2008



*Bhadraman Tuladhar*  
 Prof. Dr. Bhadraman Tuladhar

Registrar  
 Kathmandu University (KU)

March 2008



*Bim Prasad Shrestha*  
 Dr. Bim Prasad Shrestha

Assistant Professor and Head of Department (Mechanical)  
 Kathmandu University (KU)

March 2008

