



**ESCWA**

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

# **Milestone Achievements**

## **ESCWA's Project "Capacity Building on Climate Change Mitigation for Poverty Alleviation in Western Asia"**

**Regional Conference on "Renewable Energy and Sustainable Development in Rural Areas of the ESCWA Region"**

**26 - 28 November 2013, Rabat, Morocco**

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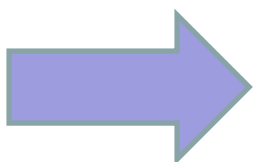
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# Background



- In many ESCWA countries, a large percentage of population lives in remote rural areas with poor energy access
- Lack of energy services aggravates the cycle of extreme poverty in these rural areas
  - ❖ poor socio-economic conditions
  - ❖ negative impacts on water supply, health care, education, access to media and communication
- High potential for renewable energy resources (solar and wind) in ESCWA countries



**Development of a “Capacity-building project on climate change mitigation for poverty alleviation in Western Asia”**

# Project's Overview



Project officially came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2011

**Funding:** US \$ 547,200

**Duration:** Till end of December 2013  
(extension provided till June 2014)

**Partners:** UNESCO's Regional Office/Cairo, ESCAP and ECA

# Project's Objectives



Build the capacity of policymakers, civil society and the private sector in the field of renewable energy technologies

Enhance energy security and improve access to energy services and socio-economic development in poor rural areas

# Expected Accomplishments



EA1: Enhanced capacity to develop effective policies and programmes to scale up use of renewable energy

EA2: Development and application of policy measures on establishing public-private partnerships through collaboration among existing institutions and centers of excellence

EA3: Increased use of locally available renewable energy resources, such as energy from waste, small hydro, solar and wind, through the development of pilot systems and initiatives based on public-private partnerships

# Main Activities 2011



- **Inception meeting between partners**
  - 18 April 2011 at UNECE in Geneva.
- **International Conference on “Practices for Adoption and Implementation of Renewable Energy (RE) Policies Leading to Deployment of these Technologies in Developing Countries” 4 - 5 May 2011, El Jadida, Morocco**
  - UNESCO’s Regional Office in Cairo, ESCWA among key participants, and one of event’s supporters



# Main Activities 2012



- **Training and Skills Development Workshop on:  
“Scaling up the use of Renewable Energy (RE) in rural areas in ESCWA Member Countries” , 1- 2 February 2012 in Beirut**
  - In collaboration with UNESCO/Cairo, and RCREEE  
 Disseminating RE technologies applications
- **Arab Forum on “Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency/Building Financing Partnerships” , 23-24 April 2012, LAS premises, Cairo, Egypt**
  - In collaboration with European Commission in Cairo, RCREEE, ESCWA, and MED-ENEC and MED-EMIP projects funded by European Union  
 Funding mechanisms to promote RE and EE



# Main Activities 2012

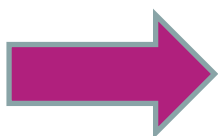


- **Regional Workshop on “Enhancing South – South Cooperation and Public – Private Partnerships in Renewable Energy Projects for Rural Development ”, 27 November 2012, Beirut, Lebanon**
    - In collaboration with the Lebanese Association for Energy Saving and Environment (ALMEE)
-  Attraction of investors to promote RE applications in rural areas and PPPs

# Main Activities 2013



- **National workshop on “Appropriate Renewable Energy Applications for Rural Areas”, 17-19 June 2013, Muscat, Oman**
- In Collaboration with the General directorate for SMEs at the Omani Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Omani Green Help Desk



Capacity building, economic feasibility of RE projects and mechanisms of implementation

# Main Activities 2013



- Development of educational material and training modules
- Regional Conference on Renewable Energy and Sustainable Development in Rural Areas in the ESCWA Region, 26-28 November 2013, Rabat, Morocco
- Acquiring operational models of different renewable energy technologies to be used as hands-on training tools
- Renewable Energy Training/Educational Center where operational models will be exposed

## ► Project's Evaluation

# Project's Main Beneficiaries and Implications



Main beneficiaries: local government officials, rural municipalities, private sector, civil society, students

Positive impact expected on member countries through knowledge sharing and dissemination in the field of renewable energy technologies

Enhancing capacity to develop and adopt policies for renewable energy technology applications in rural areas, for poverty alleviation, sustainable development, and climate change mitigation

# Renewable Energy Training/Educational Center



## **The concept**

- To expand the use of RE resources available locally, promote awareness, develop the national capacity, attract the interest of the small scale investments and enhance the related R&D activities.

## **The objectives**

- Operational models of appropriate RE applications that will be used as hands-on training tools, educational purposes, running models and show cases in seminars, workshops, ..., and
- A platform for technology transfer, R&D related activities and public awareness.

## **The approach**

- To achieve sustainability, targeted categories for capacity development, related fields/areas of interest and regional cooperation.

# ESCWA's Methodology for the Selection Process



## Stage 1

- **Coordination with MCs**
- info note
- invitation to the MCs, to send their hosting proposals, via FP' CoE.
- Proposals were received (9 proposals from 6 MCs).

## Stage 2

- **Evaluation process**
- Forming an internal concerned team from ES' staff
- Contracting an external consultant from ESCWA roaster
- Assessment cycle (criteria, conditions and related scores,...).

## Stage 3

- **For more transparency and clarity, 2 days meeting was held**
- Some FPs from MCs that did not submit proposals were invited,
- PPPt by representatives of the entities that submitted proposals (7 rep.)
- A joint meeting was held between consultant, FPs and the ES concerned team to finalize the process.



# A Brief on the Renewable Energy Center and Next Steps



- The Agricultural Research and Education Center (AREC) of AUB was chosen to host the RE center.
- The RE models list includes PV panel, SWHS, Anaerobic digester and Geothermal system.
- ESCWA avails US\$129000 to equip and prepare the center to be operational.

## Next steps

- Nov. 2013, a Funding Agreement and an MoU between ESCWA and AUB are being signed.
- Installation and commissioning process will be finalized during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2014.
- Official inauguration expected to take place in May/June 2014.
- Program of activities at national and regional levels and a follow-up mechanism will be coordinated between ESCWA and AREC.



# Envisaged Prospects



## At the National Level

- Capacity-building and information-sharing among all stakeholders
- A special focus on improved participation of the local municipalities.
- Educational programs for students (designing , implementing , O&M, ..)
- R&D field activities
- National events (seminars, workshops, .)
- Enhancing related local knowledge and productivity in rural areas

## At the Sub-Regional & Regional Levels

- Technical visits and capacity building for MCs (training, public awareness campaigns, )
- Policy options and Sharing information, expertise, lessons learnt,...
- Joint activities (seminars, workshops,...)
- Joint R & D activities related to appropriate RE applications.
- enhancing knowledge & awareness towards the issues of RE and CC mitigation

## At the UN/Regional Commissions Level

- Exchange expertise and lessons learnt between different regions
- Sharing information, success stories, etc.
- Organizing joint events (tech. visits, training workshops, ...).
- Networking
- Response towards “energy for all” initiative

# Impacts of RE Application (PV Systems) on a Remote Community in the ESCWA Region



أحد التجمعات المعزولة في الصحراء الغربية



نفس التجمع بعد استخدام نظم PV

# Considerations for Rural Renewable Energy Policies



## Rural Energy Policy

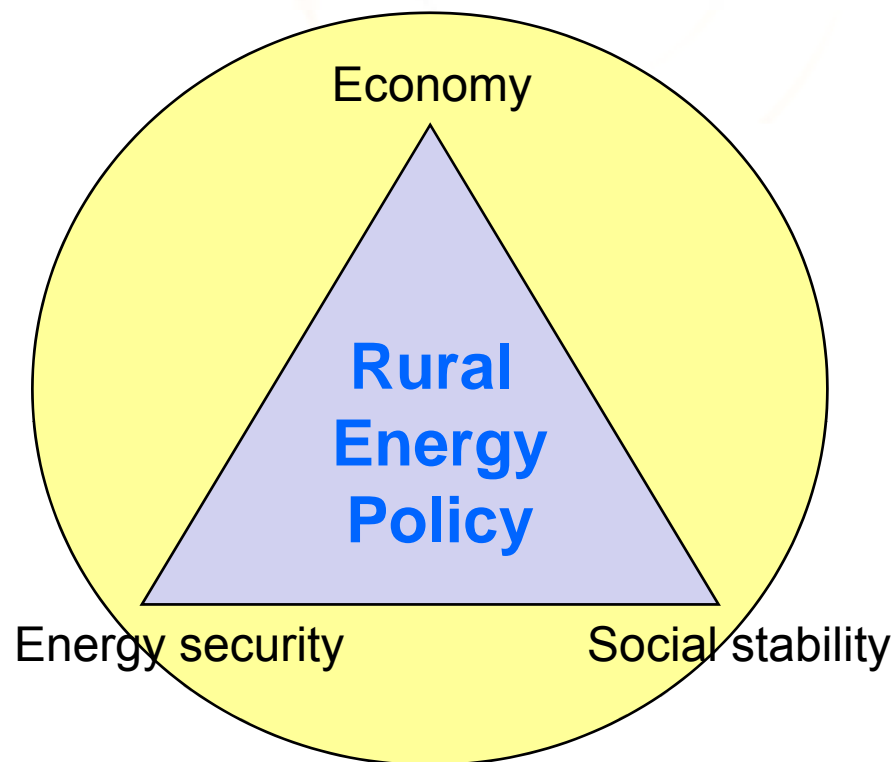
- ❖ Accessibility
- ❖ Affordability
- ❖ Availability

## Rural Development:

- ❖ Economic activities,
- ❖ Services (health, education, potable water, sanitation, ..),
- ❖ Increased income,
- ❖ Job opportunity, ...

## Rural development and RE

- ❖ High potential & appropriateness
- ❖ Matured various applications,
- ❖ An opportunity to encourage SMEs,
- ❖ The environmental dimension,...



Source: MED-CSP study, DLR,

**Scaling up RE use in rural areas necessitates synergy of state, public sector, private investments, municipalities, NGOs & CSOs, individuals from the local society, regional/international cooperation,...**

# Thank you