



SEED Awards 2011

for entrepreneurship in sustainable development

GENDER EQUALITY WINNER

supported by UN Women

Solid Waste Management Programme : Nepal

Turning household waste into energy and additional income

Project description

The initiative seeks to enhance environmental conservation while generating income from recycled household waste, mainly in Kathmandu Valley. Women are provided with business and waste management training and access to micro-credit loans, and are encouraged to form conservation groups across the country.



Business model

Operated solely by women, the initiative collects household waste and generates income by recycling it using efficient techniques. Organic waste is separated from the rest and turned into compost and bio-gas, often locally at the sites where the waste is generated. Paper is remoulded into craft products.

The initiative organises public events on waste management and the environment and supports the establishment of “eco-clubs” in schools. It also provides consultancy and training related to waste management.

Scaling up activities in 2012

- Promote the use of biogas and recycled paper in local communities, and increase the efficiency of biogas production and the paper recycling process
- Increase the volume of organic waste composted by households and communities
- Raise the number of active women’s groups from 30 to 60, and the number of “eco-clubs” in schools from 51 to 100
- Develop an efficient education, research and training centre for solid waste management

Immediate needs

- Financial support for the scaling-up of biogas technology and compost production
- Financial support for the purchase and upgrading of equipment for the collection, segregation and composting of waste
- Financial support for increasing the number of educational facilitators and the amount of educational material available
- Professional assistance for expanding recycling technology





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Partnership

- ❶ **Women Environment Preservation Committee (WEPCO)** a local NGO, provides financial and technical support for the initiative
- ❷ **Lalitpur Sub Metropolitan City** provides financial and technical input and represents the initiative's interests at a government level
- ❸ **UNDP-GEF SGP Nepal** provides working capital for increasing waste collection campaigns, community activities and biogas production
- ❹ **The Asia Foundation Nepal** provides funds and facilities for training in addition to legal advice
- ❺ **Local communities** support the initiative through the formation of "eco-clubs" which promote environmental awareness and active involvement in the community



Social, environmental and economic impacts

Social impact: The initiative plans to increase the number of women's groups from 30 to 60, and of number of "eco-clubs" in schools from 51 to 100. Thousands of women will be trained on environmental issues and waste management.

Environmental impact: The initiative will increase the efficiency of the existing biogas model to that it controls for more GHG emissions. It will also increase the volume of recycled organic waste. More households will be

encouraged to engage in bin composting: the goal is to raise the number of such households from 400 to 1,000. A Recycle Centre and Showroom will also be established.

Economic impact: The targeted increase in profits will help the initiative to create employment for local women, secure a stable income for local waste collectors and provide more training in developing new products.

Contact

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SEED Partners

SEED's founding partners are the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) and SEED is hosted by UNEP-WCMC. Other current partners are the governments of Germany, India, the Netherlands, South Africa, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States of America; the European Union; Conservation International; and SEED's corporate partner, Hisense.

About the SEED Initiative

The SEED Initiative identifies and supports promising small scale social and environmental entrepreneurs around the globe, entrepreneurs that while working towards a greener economy also tackle poverty, marginalisation and social exclusion.

SEED provides these social entrepreneurs with know how and networks, taking the lessons learnt at local level up to decision-makers to promote evidence-based policy making.

More information: www.seedinit.org

SEED Secretariat

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