Working Group Solar & Wind

Energy Facility Seminar

Brussels

26 -27 April 2012

The objective of the section was to discuss implementation, ownership and sustainability of Energy Facility project.

A) Presentation

1. Presentation from *Fasil Tsegaye Abebe* –
   Plan International Ethiopia - project CMRE

2. Presentation from *Sandrine Duchaine* –
   Fondation Energies pour le Monde – project RESOUTH

3. The presentations were followed by questions and answers

B) Outputs on the thematic questions

Technology

- **What are considered to be the key technical vulnerabilities of wind and solar technologies in developing contexts (in term of sustainability, adaptability, common problems) ?**
  - Maintenance: have a defined strategy to cover the costs
  - Provision of equipment – rules of origin. It is possible to have a derogation.
    Suggested to have clear consistent written documentation enabling the project to ascertain if a product / supply is compliant with the rule of origin.
  - Provision of technical training to the beneficiaries, possibly by the supplier when possible (examples of a) European supplier having local partner agencies – b) appropriate division of lots – c) strategic partnership with competent companies able to install and or train and or maintain).

- **What are socio-economic and cultural dimensions that affect how the technology is adopted and managed?**
  Some illustrative examples could be discussed
  - Involve local private sectors to a) be part of the action and b) provide unexpected solutions
  - Some examples of involvement of local sector managing the supplies of services
  - Take into account that spare parts / small parts to be later purchased by the beneficiaries will more likely not ACP rules compliant and often of poorer quality
  - Importance of 'prior' consultation with the recipients about their needs and preferences is crucial….balance on the modalities to do consultations is necessary.

- **How do we encourage safe disposal of solar batteries?**
  - Possible solution may be to introduce in the specification of the procurement process the responsibility of the potential supplier to take care of the disposals. This is not always possible.
  - A mitigation activities could be to put the old batteries in concrete blocks

Ownership

1. **What are the three most important things to remember during project design implementation and after completion to ensure ownership?**
    1. Have written agreements about management (including securitiy) / ownership with the final beneficiaries.
    2. Have a clear contribution strategy from the beneficiaries (monetary or work) for the management and or repayment of the assets provided. Written agreement. Have an appropriate estimation of the real capacity to contribute in line with the real benefits given.
    3. Involvement of the local government offices

1. **How to ensure a high level of ownership of the project by beneficiaries and how will it likely be after the end of external support?**

Affordability and tariffs

1. **What are the pros and cons of various payment methods for use of energy from the project (electricity / lighting / other) from the point of view of both the supplier and the consumer?**
   E.g. subsidies for investment costs, community funds for maintenance, etc.

Not considered due to lack of time

Incentives

1. Can a project influence the creation of new businesses in productive activities as opposed to non-productive activities?

Not considered due to lack of time

1. How can we ensure that consumer usage does not exceed available capacity? How can we encourage responsible usage of energy once we have highlighted the incentives to connect?

Not considered due to lack of time

Thanks