The Orientation-Cum-Training Programme on Mini- and Micro-Hydropower Development in the HKH Region

Edited by
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and inaccessible mountainous areas, mini/micro-hydropower plants have had tremendous success, in others it have been very limited. In 1993, ICIMOD initiated a project on "Design and Testing of a Regional Training Programme on Mini- and Micro-Hydropower for Mountain Development" with the financial assistance of the Royal Norwegian Government. An Orientation-cum-Training (O&T) Programme was accordingly organized in an effort to demonstrate government planners and decision-makers the appropriateness and achievements so far of MMHP.

The course was designed for senior decision-makers and planners from government departments involved in or overseeing strategy formulation, implementation and monitoring. The programme was organized in two levels of training were undertaken: Level 1, lasting for two days, for top level decision makers, included the policies, status, institutional aspects, achievements and advantages of MMHP, and a more detailed Level 2 course was conducted for second or third level decision-makers, with direct experience of energy options for mountain development. During the planning, implementation and monitoring of the programme, Mr. S. Grongstad of NORPLAN, Norway, Mr. Bikash Pandey of ITDG, Nepal, and Dr. Adam Harvey of ITDG, U.K., were instrumental in the training manual and making the orientation and training programme. Dr. A. A. Junejo coordinated the programme on behalf of ICIMOD. I extend my sincere thanks to all those who helped to make the meeting a success and I am looking forward to a successful follow-up.

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**Edited by
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Background: A traditional *ghatta*, Melamchi, Nepal

Inset: MHP powerhouse in the Mustang area, Nepal

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Foreword

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The living conditions of the people inhabiting the vast regions of the Hindu Kush-Himalayas have, until recently, been neglected by mountain development initiatives. While mountain people are deprived of basic facilities such as potable water, sanitation, health care, transportation, and energy supplies, the areas they inhabit are rich in untapped natural resources, the most significant among them being hydropower potential.

Large and medium hydropower plants have received a fair amount of development focus, but the potentials of mini-/micro-hydropower for remote and inaccessible mountain areas have not been fully tapped. In some areas mini-/micro-hydropower plants have had tremendous success, in others they have been unsustainable. It is for this reason that, in 1993, ICIMOD initiated a project on "Design and Testing of a Regional Training Programme on Mini- and Micro-Hydropower for Mountain Development" with the financial assistance of the Royal Norwegian Government. An Orientation-cum-Training (O&T) Programme was accordingly organised in an effort to demonstrate to government planners and decision-makers the appropriateness and achievements so far of MMHP.

The course was designed for senior decision-makers and planners from government departments involved in or overseeing strategy formulation for implementation of such programmes in rural mountain areas. Two levels of training were undertaken: Level 1, lasting for two days, for top level decision-makers, included the policies, status, institutional aspects, achievements, and advantages of MMHP, and a more detailed Level 2 course was conducted for second or third level decision-makers, with direct experience of energy options for mountain areas and overseeing the planning, implementation, and assessment of MMHP. Participants were from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan.

Sincere thanks are due to the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD). Thanks are also due to those who helped organise the Orientation-cum-Training Programme, in particular Mr S. Grongstad of NORPLAN, Norway, Mr. Bikash Pandey of ITDG, Nepal, and Dr. Adam Harvey of ITDG, U.K, who were instrumental in preparing the training manual and making the orientation and training programme a success. Dr. A. A. Junejo coordinated the training programme on behalf of ICIMOD. I extend my sincere thanks to all those who helped to make the meeting a success and I am looking forward to its successful follow up at national and local levels.

Egbert Pelinck
Director General