

Strengthening the Policy Framework for Sustainable and Rational Use of Energy and Alternative/Renewable Sources of Energy

Programme Area: Environment and Sustainable Development		
Budget: 2010 – GBP 90,000	Project Number: 00070942	Duration: 2010 – 2012
	Funded by: British Fund: GBP 149,930	
	Partners: Ministry of Oil and Gas of Turkmenistan	
	Executing Agency: UNDP Turkmenistan	

Background:

Since election in 2007, the President of Turkmenistan, on numerous occasions urged the government to revise and develop energy efficiency policies of the country and prioritise the use of alternative and renewable sources of energy such as wind and solar power that have huge potential for development in the country. As stated by the President, the issue of rational use of energy at the domestic level and prioritization of alternative and renewable sources of energy is becoming even more acute, as the country increasingly expands its gas export potential to boost the socially oriented economic growth of Turkmenistan. The government is currently in the process of formulating a socio-economic strategy of Turkmenistan until 2030. This creates a favourable opportunity to take advantage of the comprehensive reforms that the government is currently undertaking to provide targeted technical assistance in achieving sustainable energy policy framework. UNDP Turkmenistan has already proven itself as an important partner of the government through advisory and technical assistance in the form of advocacy and preparatory work for introducing carbon finance projects and trading schemes in Turkmenistan. As a result of this cooperation, national authority for the Clean Development Mechanism was designated in early 2010.

Project objectives:

The project will help Turkmenistan to enhance its policy framework for energy efficient practices and renewables in the country through engaging all the energy sector key players and stakeholders and bringing in best international practices, experiences and standards. Key problems that the project aims to address are:

- (i) Strengthening Turkmenistan's capacity to introduce effective legislation on renewable energy; and
- (ii) Supporting Turkmenistan in ensuring that the legislation on renewables is in line with international standards.

Main Activities

Energy working group (EWG), including but will not be limited to representative of the Ministries of Energy, Oil and Gas, Economy, Finance, Nature Protection, Turkmen Gas, Turkmen Oil, Turkmen Statistics, Union of Economists, Solar Research Institute, International Organizations, Major Businesses and other relevant sectors/entities, was formed in 2009. The EWG will focus on developing the draft law on the rational use of energy and renewable sources by the end of 2010. Technical assistance would be provided for undertaking a comprehensive assessment of Turkmenistan's energy sector and its potential for use of alternative and renewable sources of energy; providing analysis of the existing energy related legislation, regulations and policies; and determining capacity development needs and providing relevant measures for increasing local knowledge and expertise on energy efficiency and use of alternative/renewable sources of energy. National forum at the level of decision-makers representing the energy and development sector will be organised to discuss the global priorities for ensuring energy security through energy efficient policies and technology and use of alternative and renewable sources of energy. Several high level workshops and round tables would be organised by the project with participation of international experts, with an objective to develop and agree upon a draft text of the law text on rational and sustainable use of energy and renewables based on international best practices. Technical assistance would be provided for the development of national sustainable strategy and action plan, which would focus on revising the domestic energy supply policies, strengthening national energy pricing methodologies, institutionalizing the use of renewable sources of energy and other priority interventions.

Project Contact Information	
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