

Asia Regional Network for Promotion of Sustainable Energy Technologies

Paper presented at the

Asia Regional Workshop on Solar Cooking and Food Processing

held at Kathmandu, Nepal on April 16 & 17, 2007

Raymond Myles

Secretary General-cum-Chief
Executive

And

INFORSE Regional Coordinator for
South Asia

What is Network and Networking

- Network can be defined as an informal association or coming together of a group of people or organizations or both, for the purpose of achieving common goal and objectives.
- Networking can be loosely defined as the operational aspect of the Network

Understanding of Network and related Groups and Association

- Network can be understood differently by different groups/actors/stakeholders.
- Broadly speaking a Network could be promoted or/and established for some of the following purposes:
 - a). Promoting and transferring of a given technology in a systematic manner, for large scale dissemination,
 - b). Sharing of information and learning about common issues from wide group of stakeholders, to achieve desired result in an effective manner,
 - c). Lobbying for achieving a defined goal or objectives,
 - d). Acting as a pressure group for desired policy change,
 - e). Securing/mobilizing funds from funding agency (ies) to implement a large scale project (s) in a decentralized manner.

Types of Network

- Single technology based Network (e.g. Biogas, Improved Cook stoves, Solar cookers, etc.),
- Issue based Network (Lobbying for policy change in favour of SETs),
- Thematic Network (Water, Sanitation, RETs etc),
- Funding based Network:
 - a). Starting a network/ association on a single issue/theme/technology,
 - b). Helping small NGOs doing good work with credibility with the local people but lack specialized technical, managerial and financial management expertise & skills to implement and technical oriented projects, and require capacity up-gradation, and on-going assistance.
 - c). Reduce overhead and administrative cost for large size project involving number of small players/ operating in a decentralized manner in different geographical region or countries.
 - d). Many overseas donor and government agencies want to only deal with one recognized agency which has already established creditability with them to develop several grassroots agencies and channel funds and provide all the required services to such groups on their behalf

Advantage of Network/ Networking

- Autonomy of each group/individuals,
- Flexibility of operation,
- Joining and dropping out of the Network is easy,
- Sharing of ones idea with a large group of stakeholders,
- Facilitating of large fund by interested donor involving number of smaller NGOs who have no capacity to initially handle large funds,
- Small NGOs working at the grassroots level can get access to important information relevant to them as well as share their good work with like minded agencies.
- No obligation or commitment or pressure on the members,
- Voluntary nature of the functioning,
- No financial obligation of any kind

Network and related groups and Association for Sustainable Energy Technology (SETs)

- In the last 10-20 years several national, regional and global network/association has been formed in related to SETs/RETs-Some of them are:
- INSEDA (National- Indian)-Established in 1995
- INFORSE (Global)- Established in 1992,
- WCRE (International)- Established in 2000
- SCIA (International)
- ENERGIA (International)
- GVEP (Global)- Established in 2002,
- JREC (International)- Established in 2002,
- REEEPS (International- Established in 2002,
- CURES (Global)- Established in 2004 and
- REN21- Established in 2004

Brief Information about some of the Networks

- WCRE (world Council of Renewable Energy)
- WCRE is an International Network, started in during an International Conference on RE, held in Berlin in 2000, initiate by Dr. Harmann Scheer, MP, German Parliament and Chairman, Eurosolar & Winner of Alternate Nobel Prize
- Among other things, one of the main aims of WCRE is to lobby with the different governments to establish IRANA, International Agency for Renewable Energy on the lines of International Atomic Agency.
- WCRE has 5 Chairman, and Dr. Harmann Scheer is the General Chairman.
- WCRE along with Eurosolar organizes international Conference each year in Germany which is attended by Politicians, Policy makers, administrators, NGOs, Scientists, Academicians, RE Designers, implementers and also Multilateral Agencies.
- WCRE also disseminates important informations related to policies in REs as well as Conference reports

Brief Information about some of the Networks-Contd....

- CURES (Citizen United for Renewable Energy and Sustainability)- It is a global network of NGOs, established in 2004 (just before the Renewable2004 held in Bonn. It has members from a wide cross-section of International, National and local NGOs.
- CURES became operational as a network after the election of 22 Coordinators during a two days meeting of NGOs held just before the called by the Renewable2004
- CURES Secretariat is situated in Bonn, under the umbrella of Forum of German NGO on Environment.
- CURES is using network to share information related to policy issues in REs and also does lobbying through the preparations of statements and getting feed back from its members and widely circulating comments through the Internet

INSEDA (Integrated Sustainable Energy and Ecological Development Association)

- The INSEDA had been operating as an informal network of grassroots NGOs involved in the promotion and implementation of biogas and other RETs, since 1980 (for 15 years) before the members decided to establish INSEDA as a formal body (national level India organization) in Nov 1995.
- INSEDA is a membership organization, at present having about 50 Indian NGOs as its members.
- INSEDA members (as informal network till October 1995 and then as INSEDA members) have built over 150,000 household biogas plant in India till date and trained over 10,000 rural mason to build fixed dome biogas plants through out the country, under the national project on Biogas development (NPBD), Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (MNES), and now as the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy Source).



International Network for Sustainable Energy

The INFORSE (International Network for Sustainable Energy) is a world-wide NGO network formed at the "Global Forum of NGOs" organized as a parallel event of NGOs the United Nations' International Conference on Environment (commonly referred as "Earth Summit") in June 1992 at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.



International Network for Sustainable Energy

- INFORSE is a Network of independent NGOs, working in praxis and in theory for sustainable energy solutions. It can be considered as the forum and meeting point for NGOs, working at the grass roots, block, district, zonal, national, regional and international levels, all united on a common strategy for long-term sustainable energy development with phasing out of fossil energy usages.
- The INFORSE works towards finding solutions for the practical implementation of sustainable energy. This is done by exchange of information, awareness creation, formation and implementation of sustainable energy strategies at all levels and lobbying with international bodies.



International Network for Sustainable Energy

INFORSE, when formed had 7 regions.

- With effect from **January 1, 2003**, the **INforSE** has **11 Regions**:
- a). **Eastern AFRICA** (CDI, Uganda),
- b). **Western AFRICA**. (ENDA, Senegal),
- c). **Southern AFRICA** (ELA, South Africa),
- d). **South ASIA** (INSEDA, India),
- e). **South East ASIA** (SENT, Thailand),
- f). **Far East Asia & Pacific** (SPENA, Japan),
- g). **Western EUROPE** (OVE, Denmark),
- h). **Eastern, EUROPE** (FAE, Slovakia),
- i). **Latin AMERICA- I** (REJIMA, Argentina),
- j). **Latin America- II** (LIMA, Brazil) and
- k). **North AMERICA** (to be elected).



International Network for Sustainable Energy

- **The International Secretariat is hosted by OVE, Denmark and facilitates as well as provides support to these 11 INforSE Regions.**



International Network for Sustainable Energy

- **INFORSE CHARTER**

- Based on experience gained, feed-back received from members as well as for responding to new and emerging challenges of the new millennium, the INforSE Charter underwent major revision, and after getting members' endorsement, was finalized in 2000.
- The "New INforSE Charter" clearly enumerates the Vision & Mission statement, giving emphasis on poverty reduction without gender biases, empowerment of women, capacity building and institutional strengthening & reforms for promoting people centred eco-friendly and environmentally sound renewable energy programmes with main focus on sustainable human development (SHD) with equity and social justice.

- The INforSE International Coordinator (**IIC**) is responsible for overall coordination, advocacy & lobbying at the international level and mobilizes funds as well as assists & supports the Regional Coordinators (**RCs**) in mobilizing funds for undertaking appropriate programmes, projects, activities, workshops and meetings etc., by INforSE regional secretariats.
- The Regional Secretariats are responsible for the coordination of activities in their respective regions. The Regional Coordinators (**RCs**) work on the regional action plans, securing cooperation from the respective National Focal Points (NFP) of INforSE as well as by directly interacting with INforSE members in the region. The respective RC also interacts directly and networks with other INforSE Regional Coordinators (**IRCs**) and the International Secretariat (Denmark).



International Network for Sustainable Energy

- INFORSE has developed a scenario and a vision to achieve sustainable development of the energy system by the year 2050, by following the environmental & social imperatives.
- To realize this vision, the INFORSE is facilitating practical and political exchange of experiences amongst NGOs, liaising with concerned Multi-lateral agencies, creating political and public awareness about sustainable energy solutions, and seeking support for NGO activities.



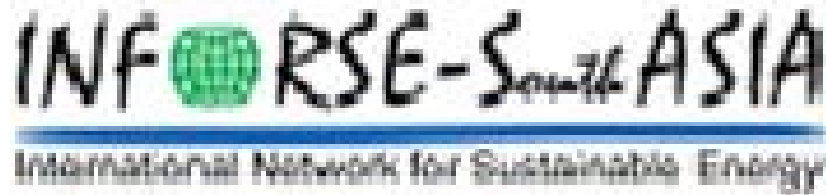
International Network for Sustainable Energy

- For exchange of experience INforSE publishes a quarterly newsmagazine, the 'Sustainable Energy News- **SEN**'.
- INforSE is also engaged in international campaigns on 'Sustainable Energy for Social Development', focusing on job-creation and livelihood improvements. INforSE International Secretariat (housed at OVE, Denmark) is in regular contact with UN agencies, multilateral banks and other international bodies that are active in the energy field.

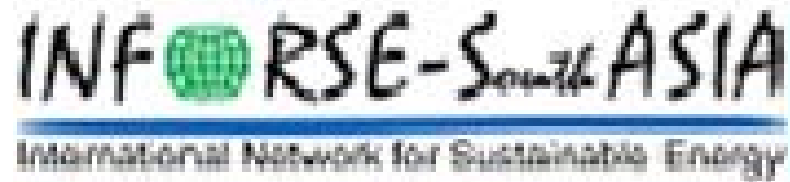


International Network for Sustainable Energy

- The regional activities are the most important activities to realize the overall aim and thrust of INforSE. In each of the **11** regions, the respective Regional Coordinators (**RCs**) and Member NGOs carry out activities.
- In addition each country where there are 5 or more INFORSE members, could elect one INforSE National Focal Point (**NFP**) for facilitation and effective coordination of INFORSE activities in that country.



- Compared to other regions, at present two regions are more active- INFORSE Europe and INFORSE South Asia Region.
- The INFORSE Regional Coordinator, is INSEDA
- The INFORSE South Asia Region has five National Focal points as follows:
 - Grameen Shakti (Bangladesh),
 - CRT/N (Nepal),
 - IDEA (Sri Lanka)
 - AIWC (Gender)-India
 - SDA (General)- India



- The Regional Secretariat for the INforSE South Asian Region (IN-SAR) is hosted by INSEDA at its National HQs., New Delhi, India.
- Even though, IN-SAR includes all the 7 SAARC Countries, but at present it is more active in **India** and **Nepal**, as both these countries have National Focal Point (**NFP**) for promoting the INforSE objectives in these two countries.

INFORSE National Focal Points

- The INFORSE South Asia Region has five National Focal Points as follows:
- Grameen Shakti (Bangladesh),
- CRT/N (Nepal),
- IDEA (Sri Lanka)
- AIWC (Gender)-India
- SDA (General)- India

INFORSE Project on Capacity Building of NGOs in RETs for Poverty Reduction in Asia

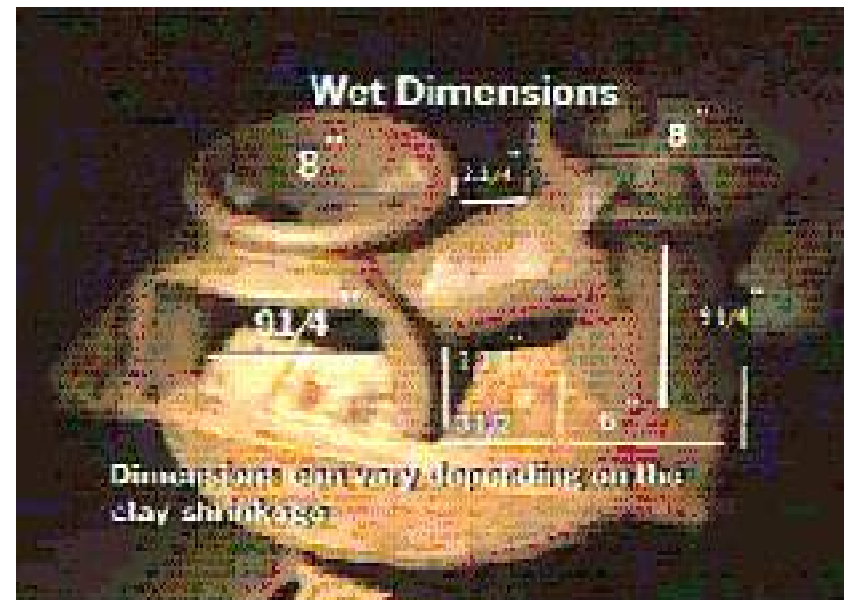
- INFORSE has launch a Project in South Asian region involving the INFORSE Regional Secretariat and the five National Focal Points-They are:
- INSEDA (Regional Coordinator and Project Director)
- Grameen Shakti (NFP-Bangladesh)
- AIWC (NFP-Gender-India)
- SDA (NFP-General-India)
- CRT/N (NPF-Nepal)
- IDEA (NFP-Sri Lanka)

Promotion of local, sustainable solutions

- INFORSE South Asia collected Regional experiences (Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka)
- Manual to introduce sustainable energy solutions for poverty reduction & choose the right solutions
- Manual will be published in CD in 5 languages
- Financial manual for Micro Credit based sustainable energy solutions for poverty reduction in South Asia
- INFORSE South Asia will undertake national dissemination in 2007 with partners (Grameen Shakti in Bangladesh; INSEDA, AIWC & SDA in India; CRT in Nepal; and IDEA in Sri Lanka)
- The first National Trainers Training Workshop will organised by CRT/N on April 19 and 20, 2007

Anagi cook stove in Sri Lanka

ANAGI Improved stove promotion in Sri Lanka



Improved cook stoves in Indian villages



Cooking with briquettes made from biomass wastes in Nepal

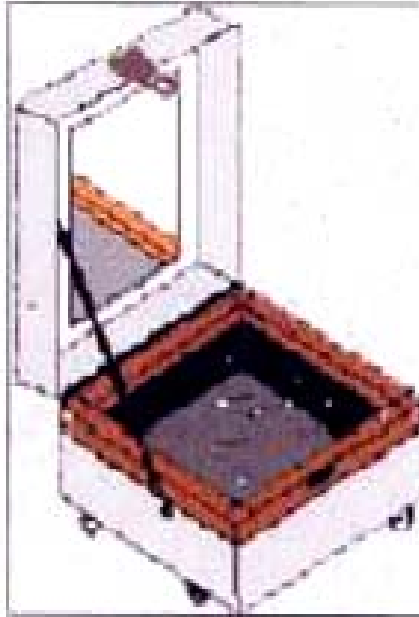


Different stages of construction of Grameen Bandhu biogas plant

Employment to poor rural women in their own villages in spare time and at their convenience for weaving bamboo structures for building bamboo reinforced Grameen Bandhu biogas model



Cooking with box type and parabolic solar cookers in South Asian Countries



Solar Dryers for vegetable and fruit drying



Solar PV operated decentralized water purification unit for round the clock drinking supply in non-electrified/ uncertain power supply villages

Being promoted by INSEDA in Indian villages for sustainable drinking water supply for Community.

2500 Liters water (removes Bacteria & Virus)/day

800-1,000 people get safe drinking water each day



THANK YOU